



Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation Donates \$50,000 to Village Park Project in Menomonee Falls

GMFF invests in Village Park for new gathering space to promote healthy outdoor events for families of all ages and abilities



MENOMONEE FALLS, Wis., December 5, 2022 – The Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation (GMFF) announced a \$50,000 donation toward the Village Park project in downtown Menomonee Falls. The donation names the new gathering space, the “Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation Pavilion.”

The project is part of Village Park’s Phase II redesign to better meet the needs of the growing community. Phase I featured a recently completed amphitheater, plaza, and great lawn. The reimagined park has already attracted dozens of new events to this long-time community hub.

Phase II of the project redesigned nearly three acres and added new amenities, including:

- Village’s first All-Inclusive Children’s Play Area for children and families of all ages and abilities
- A Splash Pad with LED lighting features
- Renovated tennis and dedicated pickleball courts
- Updated trails, parking, outdoor lighting, and seating areas

Established in 1991, the GMFF provides a charitable giving platform for investing in community projects and their donation is a key contribution for the “Discover Village Park” capital campaign. The fundraising campaign is led by the Optimist Club of Menomonee Falls to create the Village’s first destination inclusive play area. This builds on a \$2.2 million Village investment in Phase I of the park. The \$1.15 million private fundraising campaign complements a \$2 million public investment to fully fund Phase II. Construction is already completed, and the park is open. An official Grand Opening is slated for spring 2023.

Randy Newman, GMFF Board President shares, “We believe the renovated park can breathe new life and reenergize historical and cultural center in the Village. We have no doubt this will encourage families, friends and neighbors to gather and continue to build the great community that makes the Falls the place to be and raise your family. To that end, the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation has committed \$50,000 to this wonderful project. We are proud to invest in this generational transformation of our beloved Village Park.”

Per Mark Fitzgerald, Village Manager of Menomonee Falls, “For nearly 100 years, Village Park has been the heart of our community – a place for us to come together, be active and celebrate. The new spaces are a testament to the truly

remarkable community support and enthusiasm for the project. The park has already welcomed thousands of visitors and is a destination for our regional economy. I am humbled by the incredible generosity – individuals, families, foundations and businesses – we all are working together to support a vibrant future for Menomonee Falls.”

"On behalf of the Optimist Club of MF" said Don Eisenhower, "we wish to thank the Greater MF Foundation for not only helping to lead the charge of gift giving with their generous donation of \$50K but also for their three decades-plus of charitable giving to our community! We also need to thank Mark Fitzgerald (Village Manger), Tyler Zwagerman, their team, and the Village Board for their inspiring vision of this downtown gem of a park. The Optimist Club jumped at the opportunity to partner with the village to help bring this unique and wonderful gathering place to life, especially the all-inclusive playground. As we begin to celebrate 50 years of service to the children and families of Menomonee Falls, we are all very excited to see friends and families gathering together to make memories at Village Park for decades to come."

To learn more about the Village Park project: <https://fallsoptimistclub.org/about-us/discover-village-park-campaign/>

About GMFF:

Established in 1991, the Greater Menomonee Falls Foundation is a charitable organization that provides an opportunity for citizens to invest in their community through donations or estates. To increase the impact on community needs, the Foundation pools and invests donors' gifts. Annual grants are given to civic groups who are striving to keep the Menomonee Falls strong and vibrant. For more information, visit www.fallsfoundation.org.

About Village Park in Menomonee Falls:

For nearly 100 years, Village Park has been the central gathering space for Menomonee Falls. Coupled with the revitalized downtown, the park is firmly at the heart of the community—a place for the community to come together, be active, and celebrate.

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For more information contact:

Tyler Zwagerman, Village Planner, tzwagerman@menomonee-falls.org | 262-532-4278
Julie Cotter, Campaign Director, jcotter@discovervillagepark.org | 262-745-7387