

Prairie Crossing at Twenty

May 2015: Interesting Neighbors

By Nathan Aaberg, Prairie Crossing resident & Liberty Prairie Foundation staff member

Unique places like Prairie Crossing attract unique people. In this 20th anniversary insert, we share a sampling of the diverse professions represented here. Please note that because I couldn't list all of the occupations, I've tried to represent the widest diversity. Also, I honestly didn't know how best to refer to mothers and fathers who dedicate themselves to raising their children at home. There are a million creative options (CDOO – Chief Domestic Operations Officer?) but I chose “homemaker” in the end for directness. It's a vital role no matter what its' called. I also apologize in advance where I didn't get things exactly right or if my simplification isn't to your liking. Finally, thanks to everyone who responded quickly and enthusiastically.

Law, Order, Public Service

Community service officer
County board member
Estate planning attorney
Federal judge
Fireman
Insurance defense lawyer
International business attorney
IRS Tax professional
Law professor
Law firm partner
Litigation attorney
Navy reservist
Police officer
Poverty lawyer/advocate
State representative
State senator
Tax attorney

Education

Animation effects instructor
Assoc. dean - medical education & humanities
College president
College articulation and transfer coordinator
Dance instructor
Engineering department chair
English professor
Elementary music teacher
Anthropology professor
English Language Learner teacher
Environmental educator
Facility, campus & safety services assistant VP
History teacher
Math teacher
Middle school director

Montessori school director
Preschool director
School district superintendent
Science teacher
Training and executive training director

Health, Medicine, Science

Arborist
Biologist
Certified doula
Chemist
Clinical pharmacology physician
Clinical research coordinator
Clinical scientist
Dentist
Emergency room physician
Hospice social worker
Internist
Licensed acupuncturist
Massage therapist
Medical editor
Microbiologist
Nurse educator
Nutritionist
Occupational therapist
Pediatrician
Pharmacist
Physician assistant
Protein crystallographer
Psychiatrist
Psychologist
Quantum physicist & reactor physics scientist
Registered nurse
Tai chi instructor

Activists, Creatives, Nurturers

Artist
Author, editor, writer
Choir director
Clairvoyant counselor
Community activist
Costume designer
Craft bread baker
Design and social responsibility director
Ecological restorationist
Energy healer
Episcopal church priest
Foundation executive director
Home kitchen interior designer
Homemaker
Hospice social worker
Interior designer
Life coach
Meditation teacher
Musician (harp, flute, etc.)
Non-profit marketing director
Piano teacher
Seamstress
Social services manager
Storm chasing photographer
Sustainability manager
Wetland specialist

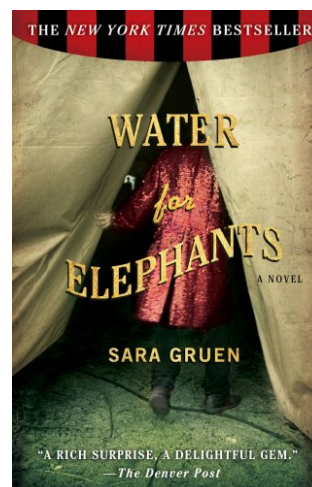
Business & Media

Accountant, auditor
Architect
Bank executive
Business education & training designer
Business simulation developer
Carpenter
Commercial real estate broker
Corporate finance director
Driver
Editor and technical writer
Electrical engineer
Environmental product sales
Executive pastry chef
Executive recruiter
Financial planner
Forensic accountant
Geographic information system analyst
Global marketing
International tax manager
IT test manager
Journalist
Lighting business owner

Machine sales
Manufacturing company president
Marketing manager
Material handling equipment sales
Natural mattress & bedding store owner
Organic farmer
Organizational effectiveness consultant
Nutrition & wellness business owner
Patent agent
Pilot
Produce distributor business owner
Professional trainer & coach
Regulatory and compliance analyst
Remote television audio engineer
Restorative enterprise executive
Rocket engineer
Science textbook sales VP
Sell-side equity analyst
Senior biostatistics manager
Senior living company principal
Senior project manager
Sociologist
Spanish-to-English legal translator
Telecommunications project manager
Television production services bus. owner
Travel agent

Technology & Design

Augmented reality designer
Change management & information security lead
Forensic structural architect
Graphic designer
Industrial designer
IT professional
Library and information technology CIO
Structural engineer
Travel website quality manager



Historical note:

Sarah Gruen wrote the book *Water for Elephants* (that later became a movie and may even become a musical) while living here in Prairie Crossing. At one point, she cleared out a closet for her writing desk to avoid all distractions.