



A farewell letter from Chief Gary Durkee

BRANDON-FAIRWATER POLICE DEPARTMENT



To the residents of Brandon and Fairwater:

Recently, I have struggled with some rather significant medical issues. As a result, with a very heavy heart and great sadness, I have come to terms with the fact that I can no longer do the job I love and have accepted that it is time for me to retire.

I have enjoyed every single minute of my time in Brandon and Fairwater and hope I have served the Villages well as your Police Chief. It was important for me to build trust and relationships within the Villages by being professional and compassionate in responding to your needs. Each of you helped me to achieve my goals as your Police Chief and for that, I say "Thank You". I would like to give a special thanks to Sherry Laper and Corinne Vande Zande as both were instrumental in my success. I also appreciated that each board member I interacted with through the years were there to offer their support and for this, Brandon and Fairwater should be proud of their leaders.

Brandon has a bright future and will be contracting it's police protection services with the County. Please welcome your new officer to this area as you did me. Fairwater is in the process of determining the direction of their police protection services.

My career would not be complete without the chapter written as the Police Chief for Brandon-Fairwater. Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving as your Police Chief. God bless each and every one of you. My last day of patrol will be June 2, 2023.