Beaver's landmarks make it a hotspot for Pokemon Go users

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Taking Pokemon to a new level

BEAVER -- Everyone seems to be talking about Pokémon GO, the free app that has smartphone owners exploring the outdoors and interacting with other people in real time.

Through access to GPS settings on phones, the gaming app displays Pokémon characters in nearby areas. The object of the game is to catch as many characters as possible, battling with other players for power and experience.

Everybody needs to train their player at a gym so they get stronger and can capture more characters, said Phil Arrigo, 19, of Chippewa Township. Many of these gyms are located at historical markers and churches, making Beaver a particularly opportune gathering place for Pokémon GO players.

While the original Pokémon game has been around for years, Pokémon GO takes the game's design to a whole new level through virtual reality.

Nick Zuchelli, 18, of Chippewa Township, said that's the reason he thinks many people between the ages of 18 and 25 are playing; Pokémon is nostalgic, and the real-life game design makes it addicting to travel to diverse towns and meet people they wouldn't normally meet.