

Safety Corner

Signs of Summer

There are many different signs that Summer has arrived in Prairie Village: hot days, lemonade stands, and **bicycle thefts**. Bicycle thefts?

Yes, bicycle thefts, a sign of Summer we all could do without. Each Summer Prairie Village experiences an increase in bicycle thefts. This Summer is no different. Many bikes are taken from front yards, driveways and open garage doors that are insecure. Bicycle theft is a crime of opportunity and can be deterred or prevented with a few simple solutions.

The Crime Prevention Unit has a few suggestions that may deter a would-be bike thief from making you his or her next victim:

- Never leave your bike unattended whether at home, school or play.
- Lock your bike to a fixed object at all times even if it is only for a few minutes.
- “Weave” the bike cable or chain through the bike frame, not just through the front or rear tire.
- Place your bike in a secure garage where it is concealed from a would-be thief or burglar.
- Engrave your bike frame with a set of identifiable letters you can use to identify your bike if it is stolen.
- Copy down the model number and serial number of your bike and keep it in a safe place in your residence.



Dawn Clausius

By using the above suggestions we can strive to reduce this “sign” of Summer in Prairie Village and deter the thefts of bicycles.

For questions or comments contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 913-385-4613.

US Presidents Christmas in July

Christmas will arrive early this year in the Prairie Village Municipal Offices’ R.G. Endres Gallery. The **Prairie Village Arts Council** is proud to celebrate a piece of Hallmark history with a lot of Christmas spirit. The *Hallmark Presidential Christmas Cards* will be exhibited throughout July.

It all started back in 1953 when President Dwight D. Eisenhower decided to send the first official presidential Christmas card. President Eisenhower turned to Joyce C. Hall, founder of Hallmark Cards, Inc. Since that time, Hallmark has made 32 official presidential Christmas cards, at least one for each administration since President Eisenhower.

The Eisenhowers had Hallmark create an official presidential Christmas card that was traditional. During each of their eight years in the White House, they would look over designs from Hallmark artists, selecting a more

formal one featuring the presidential seal for their official card and a light-hearted, humorous design for their personal card.

Each President’s style and taste is evident in this exhibit. There is a lot of history behind each Christmas card. Most of them chose a more traditional and historical print to be featured on the cards. The most recent presidential cards made by Hallmark have featured the works of artists commissioned by the presidents.

Hallmark Presidential Christmas Cards will be on display in the R.G. Endres Gallery located at the Prairie Village Municipal Offices, 7700 Mission Road until July 31st. Gallery hours are **Monday - Thursday 8am - 7pm and Friday 8am - 5pm**. If you miss this exhibit, other *Hallmark Presidential Christmas Cards* are also on display at the Hallmark Visitor Center, located at 2501 McGee Street, Kansas City, Missouri.

Prairie Village Notes

Moonlight Swim

On **July 21st** and **August 11th** the Prairie Village Pool will stay open until 10:00 p.m. This is a great opportunity to get together with friends and enjoy an evening at the Prairie Village Pool.

Let’s Keep Prairie Village Clean

Prairie Village is a great community to live in and it’s great because we have such wonderful citizens. In helping to keep Prairie Village clean, please do not throw brush and grass clippings into creeks, drainage channels, or storm drains. Maintaining creek banks is the responsibility of the property owner adjacent to the creek. Keeping the creeks clean will help prevent foul odors and keep small animals away. Helping to keep Prairie Village clean makes it a great place to live!

Everyone May Participate

If any individual requires an accommodation to participate in public meetings, contact the City Clerk’s Office at 913-381-6464 (TDD 1-800-766-3777) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time, if possible, to make arrangements.



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HOT WEATHER TIPS FOR ANIMAL LOVERS

Here are some good tips from the ASPCA:

1. Overheating can kill an animal. Never leave an animal alone in a vehicle, even with the windows open or parked in the shade. A parked car, truck or van can quickly become a furnace.
2. Don’t force your animal to exercise after a meal in hot, humid weather. Always exercise him in the early morning or in the evening.
3. In extremely hot weather, don’t leave your dog standing on the street, and keep walks to a minimum. He is much closer than you to the hot asphalt and his body can heat up quickly. His paws can burn since they are not protected by shoes.

4. Always provide plenty of shade for an animal staying outside. A properly constructed doghouse serves best. Bring your dog inside during the hot time of the day and let her rest in a cool part of the house. Provide plenty of water. Keep cats indoors.

5. Be sensitive to old and overweight animals in hot weather. Snub-nose dogs (especially Bulldogs, Pekinese, Boston Terriers, Lhasa Apsos and Shih Tzus) and those with heart or lung diseases should be kept in air-conditioned rooms as much as possible.

For more hot weather tips, please contact Prairie Village Animal Control at 913-385-4898.



Mayor's Message



Summer is now upon us. And before long, the days will become shorter, the temperatures will drop, and it will be time to head back to school. What does this mean? It means we need to make the most of the Summer, especially the opportunities to get some exercise and fresh air.

Whether you're looking for sun, sport, or shade, you will find it in one of the City's parks.

By now many of you know that the new and improved Prairie Village Pool is open. Hopefully you've had an opportunity to try out the new pools and slides, or spend an afternoon in the sun lounging in a chair or in the pool. If not, please stop by. Pool memberships are on sale in the City Clerk's Office, or you may pay the daily admission fee.

If tennis is your game, stop by the courts at Harmon, Windsor, Meadowlake, or McCrum Parks. The courts in Harmon, Windsor, and Meadowlake Parks are lighted, so you can play in the cooler evening hours. And if you want to improve your game, John Morris, the Prairie Village Tennis Pro, will be glad to help you out. You can call John at 913-381-6464, ext. 4284 to schedule private, semi-private, or group lessons.

For those who walk (or our four-legged friends who *are* walked) paved paths are available in Harmon, Franklin, and Porter Parks to help you exercise out of the way of traffic.

And, while you're visiting the Prairie Village Shops, stop by our newest addition, **Brenizer Park**, in honor of our City's first Mayor, located on Tomahawk just West of Mission Road. This "pocket park" which was recently landscaped by our Public Works crews, offers benches and some shade to help you relax after visiting the Prairie Village Shops.

Let your Prairie Village parks help you make the most of your Summer. . . . It will be over before we know it.

Ron Shaffer
Mayor

Budget Hearing August 7th



A public hearing will be held on **Monday, August 7th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building to invite public comments and suggestions about the City's budget and programs for 2001.

If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this public hearing or any other City meetings, events, or programs, contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 or TDD 1-800-766-3777 at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to make arrangements for the accommodation.

Volunteers Needed

The City is currently seeking volunteers to serve on the Prairie Village **50th Anniversary Celebration Committee** and various 50th Anniversary sub-committees. Committee volunteers will need to attend monthly meetings and will be asked to perform other duties as assigned by the committee. The first meeting will be on **Thursday, August 24th at 7:00 p.m.** at the Municipal Offices. If you are interested in helping Prairie Village celebrate its golden anniversary, please call 913-381-6464.

Code Corner

Lawn Maintenance



Keeping your lawn in shape takes lots of work, but it improves the appearance of your home and your entire neighborhood. City ordinances require that grass and weeds not exceed eight inches in height. This includes weeds along creek banks, fencelines, and easement areas. If a property owner fails to keep his or her yard in compliance with City Codes, the

City has the authority to cut the weeds and grass, assessing the cost to the property owner.

Prairie Village Welcomes New Pool Staff

With all of the remodeling at the Prairie Village Pool you may not have noticed one of the most important changes at the pool this Summer. The pool has expanded its staff to accommodate more swimmers this year. 57 lifeguards are on staff for this Summer. Twenty-five of these lifeguards are Prairie Village veterans, returning after working at the Prairie Village Pool last year.

To meet the increased need for new lifeguards, the City joined forces with the American Red Cross of Greater Kansas City to provide training classes for new lifeguards. The City provided meeting rooms and partnered with Shawnee Mission East High School to provide pool time. The City was then able to recruit lifeguards directly from these classes.

In addition to lifeguards, the City was able to recruit Assistant Managers from the Red Cross. The Prairie Village Pool management staff possesses a collective total of 39 years of experience in aquatics.

The pool staff is one more feature that makes the Prairie Village Pool so great.



(L to R) Andrew McCann, Assistant Pool Manager;
Kim Cobb, Pool Manager;
Kevin Ryan, Assistant Pool Manager.



Challenger Sports Offers Skill Building Camps

Challenger Sports is offering two sport camps in Prairie Village this Summer. These camps will help children develop their skills through fun, educational and age appropriate camp programs.

The **Fundamentals Camp** is for ages 5 to 7. The children will play baseball/softball, basketball and soccer. The camp runs from 9:00 a.m. to noon for one week.

Or send your daughter to the **Girls Only Soccer Camp** for ages 8 to 14. The girls will improve their techniques, skills and tactical play. The camp runs from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. for one week. The cost for each camp is \$76.00 per child.

The camps will be held at Meadowlake Park (79th and Aberdeen) from July 24 - 28. For more information or to sign up call (913) 599-4884.

School Recycling Program is a Success

After just one month of participating in their new recycling program, two Prairie Village schools won awards in a competition against 330 schools in the metro area.

In an award ceremony at Science City on May 13th, Donohue Recycling awarded Somerset Elementary an Internet Filter System for being first in its district. Mission Valley Middle School won \$500 for third place in pounds collected overall. **Congratulations!**

All schools participating in the program have made significant contributions to help promote the importance of recycling. This program will continue through the Summer. Any resident can help out by recycling paper in the nearest school bin.

