

Challenger Sports Skill Builder Camps Return

From the people who brought you "British Soccer Camps" now comes the same teaching approach, camp atmosphere and professional staff in more traditional and up-and-coming American sports. Let your children develop new skills through fun, educational, and age appropriate camp programs.

A "Fundamentals" camp will be offered this Summer where 5 - 8 year olds can play and learn baseball/softball, basketball, and soccer skills from 9 - noon each day for one week. A "Girls Only" soccer camp is also available to help 8 - 14 year old girls improve their soccer techniques and skills from 1 - 4 in the afternoon for an entire week. The cost for each camp is \$76 per child.

Both camps will be held at Meadowlake Park the weeks of June 19th and July 24th. For more information or to sign up, call Challenger Sports at 913-599-4884.

Trash Tips

How can you keep trash and recyclables from blowing around the neighborhood on trash day? Well, neither the City nor Deffenbaugh can control the wind, but, as residents, we can take a few easy steps to keep the problem of blowing trash to a minimum.

1. Package your newspapers separately for recycling, or weight them down with heavier items such as glass, tin cans, etc.
2. Put your trash in bags before placing it in the garbage can and keep garbage cans covered.
3. Use trash cans rather than placing loose trash bags at the curb. This will help keep the bags from being ripped open by animals or when they're picked up for collection.



Thanks for your cooperation.

Celebrate TV Turn-Off Week: Read a Book!



April 24th - 30th, 2000 is National TV Turn-Off Week. So bring the family to the Corinth Library at 8100 Mission Road and check out a book for yourself and your children. Or better yet, check out a book and read it to or with your children.

LARGE ITEM PICK-UP IS APRIL 15TH



Just a reminder - the City's annual large-item pick-up will be on Saturday, April 15th. This is a great time to get rid of those old appliances, pieces of furniture, and other bulky items that cannot be hauled away with your regular trash. For more information about large item pick-up call 913-381-6464.

In order for Deffenbaugh to pick up brush or tree limbs, they need to be bundled in four foot lengths and tied, just as they would be for regular pick-up.

And remember - your items must be at the curb by 7:30 a.m. to be collected.

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THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE Voice

April 2000

School Recycling Program Underway

The Prairie Village Environment/Recycle Committee strikes again!! The group that brought curbside and yard waste recycling to Prairie Village, corrugated paper recycling to the Corinth and Prairie Village Shopping Centers, and Buy-Recycled notices in local stores has now helped bring a comprehensive recycling program to Prairie Village schools.

Seven of the eight public schools in Prairie Village have started the Paper Retriever Program offered by Donohue Recycling, a Texas-based paper mill. Virtually all paper used in the school can be recycled through this program, including office, fax, any color construction paper, magazines, envelopes, sticky notes, newspaper, file folders, and more. Recycling couldn't be easier. The program was described to school representatives and Environment/Recycle Committee members by Delores Walton, the project manager for Donohue Recycling. She also visited individual schools to explain this exciting recycling program in detail.

One of the best parts about this program is that there is no financial investment from the schools or parents. In fact, the program pays each school for paper recycled at the school, making recycling a fund-raising activity.

All that is required is active participation and organization from the students and teachers. Donohue Recycling supplies the green and yellow collection bins and schedules weekly pick-up of the paper. The program is scheduled to continue through this Summer.



Note to Prairie Village residents - Anyone can put corrugated cardboard in the bins at any participating school. But please, don't include corrugated paper that had food in it, such as pizza boxes.

The Environment/Recycle Committee is excited about this new program and is proud to recognize the following schools which are participants in the project:

- Shawnee Mission East High School
- Indian Hills Middle School
- Mission Valley Middle School
- Belinder Elementary
- Briarwood Elementary
- Corinth Elementary
- Somerset Elementary

United States Census 2000 Respond to the Census - Prairie Village Counts United States Census 2000

By now you should have received a Census 2000 form in the mail. If you haven't already done so, please take a few minutes to complete the Census form and mail it back. Your responses are vital for maintaining government funding for schools, roads, and other programs. Census population totals help determine eligibility and distribution of more than \$180 billion a year in federal funds to state and local governments, to reapportion seats in the U.S. House of Representatives

and, within states, to redraw the boundaries of state legislative districts and even some local voting districts. And, your responses to Census questions are completely confidential.

Responding to the Census only takes a few minutes, and the benefits to our community are great. If you haven't received a Census form, please call the Kansas City Census Bureau Office at 913-321-9232.

Mayor's Message

One of the aspects about being Mayor I enjoy most is the opportunity to speak to citizens about current events in the City. Sometimes these conversations come in the form of a phone call, while waiting in line at the grocery store, or at other events in the community. These discussions not only highlight the interest Prairie Village residents have in the community, they also bring out some common questions such as:

- How much of the City's revenue comes from property taxes?
- Is the crime rate in Prairie Village going up or down?
- How much does the City spend on streets and storm drainage projects?

One of the ways the City attempts to answer these questions is through the Annual Report, a document which summarizes the City's activities and accomplishments, and provides financial information about how the City spends *our* money. The Annual Report also provides elected officials, City employees, and citizens with a reference guide to questions about Prairie Village.

The 1999 Annual Report was recently published and presented to the City Council. Although the Annual

Report is a document nearly 150 pages long, it is organized in an easy to read format, and an eight page summary can provide useful information to answer many of your questions. Copies of the 1999 Annual Report summary are available at the City Clerk's Office.



By the way:

- Approximately 21% of the City's revenue comes from property taxes.
- During 1999, the crime rate in Prairie Village dropped by 25.9%.
- During 1999, the City spent over \$5.3 million in infrastructure improvements, or 29% of total City costs.

I hope you will take an opportunity to review the City's Annual Report. And as always, if you have any questions about City operations or programs, contact me, your City Council representatives, or City staff.

Ron Shaffer
Mayor

★ ★ Dick "Spud" Haun - A Prairie Village Star ★ ★

Dick Haun is truly a Prairie Village star. He and his wife Eleanor have lived in Prairie Village since 1959. The excellent school system and the friendliness of the people played a large role in their selection of Prairie Village as a place to call home. All five of their children attended school in Prairie Village.

Dick began his career in Kansas by selling potatoes and onions. After nine years, Dick decided to take a risk and open his own business. On Labor Day, 1965 Haun Potato opened in the Kansas City River Market.

Throughout the years, Dick has remained active in the community. Dick is a

great example of sharing his fortune with others. His company has made a practice of donating literally tons of potatoes to charitable organizations such as Project Warmth, the KC Community Kitchen, and Harvesters Community Food Network.

At home, Dick became active in the Prairie Village Homes

Association. He was intent on keeping the islands and statuary beautiful for all to see, so he enlisted the help of neighbors and the Nelson-Atkins museum to maintain and preserve these areas. At age 51 he decided to take up jogging, and was chosen to help carry the Olympic torch through Prairie Village on May 16, 1996 at the age of 71. Dick continues to be active in his neighborhood by serving on the Board of Directors for the Homes Association of the Country Club District.



Why does Dick take such an active role in the community? According to Dick, giving your best brings out the best in others. And what is Dick's secret to such a good life? "The Four G's: Grandchildren, Gardening, Golfing, and Gallivanting."

Dick is truly an inspiration to us all. If you happen to see a little red sports car with the license plate "SPUD", you'll know that you have just caught a glimpse of one great guy.

Has it been 15 Years, Ridgie?



If you were a student or the parent of a student at Ridgeview Elementary school when it closed in May, 1985, you probably remember marching down Mission Road in your red T-shirt to bury the Ridgeview time capsule in front of Prairie Village City Hall. The year

2000 seemed a lifetime away. But remarkably, it is now time to dig up the time capsule and inspect its treasures. On May 28th you will have an opportunity to reminisce with those who helped create the uniqueness and fond memories of Ridgeview - classmates, fellow parents, PTA board members and volunteers, teachers, and staff members.

So mark your calendars for **Sunday, May 28th from 4 - 7 p.m. at Harmon Park** to open the time capsule and enjoy a picnic with old friends from Ridgeview.

For more information or to volunteer your time, ideas, and share the address of your grown-up child, call Sue Davison at 913-642-2493 or Vandra Solomon at 913-383-2317 (vandrasol@aol.com).

Students Teaching Students

On February 26th the Corinth Elementary PTA sponsored a Science & Art Fair which brought students and parents to the school on a Saturday morning to view and participate in art and science workshops dealing with topics from watercolors to wildlife. To the left, Shawnee Mission East Junior Travis White shows off a tarantula and iguana for Corinth students. Travis and other students at East, led by Environmental Education teacher Jim Lockard, also invite



students to the High School to learn about wildlife and the environment.

The Secret of Success: Presented by the Prairie Village Arts Council

During April, the Prairie Village Arts Council is pleased to present The Secret of Success, an eclectic selection of work by students from the **Kansas City Art Institute**, drawing together work from each of the college's departments. The goal of this exhibit is to encourage a visual conversation across various media and approaches.

Arts
COUNCIL
Prairie Village

The exhibit will be on display throughout the month of April in the Municipal Offices' R.G. Endres Gallery. The Gallery is open from 8 - 7 on Monday through Thursday, and from 8 - 5 on Friday.

Happy Anniversary Indian Hills Middle School!!

In the Fall of 1955 Indian Hills Junior High opened its doors at 6400 Mission Road to over 1,000 students. Now, forty-five years later, Indian Hills Middle School and its dedicated administrators, faculty, and staff are still serving the needs of area students. To commemorate the school's 45th anniversary, a celebration has been planned for the weekend of May 6th -7th.

Former students, parents, present and former staff, area residents, community leaders, and anyone else who has been part of the Indian Hills community is invited to an open house and reunion on Sunday afternoon, May 7th from 1 - 4 p.m. at the school. An anniversary program will be held in the gym beginning at 2:00. Other events include the opening of a time capsule from 1975, the reading of predictions about the year 2000 made by Indian Hills students in 1986, and more.

For more information about Indian Hills' 45th Anniversary Celebration, please contact Ed Gould at 913-262-6064.