

## Carney Awarded Department Recognition and Bronze Award of Valor



Detective James Carney (left)  
with Chief Grover

Detective James Carney was honored with the Prairie Village Police Department's highest honor, Department Recognition, at the City Council meeting on November 5th. Department Recognition acknowledges situations where an employee knowingly and purposefully exposes himself to an extraordinary risk of personal harm to accomplish a meaningful police, civic or humanitarian goal. He was also awarded the Kansas City Metropolitan Chiefs and Sheriffs Association's Bronze Award of Valor on November 29th at a luncheon at the Downtown Marriott. The Bronze Award of Valor recognizes an individual who has performed an exceptional act of duty which brings credit to that person and his or her agency.

On June 8, 2001, a good Samaritan was driving through mid-town Kansas City, Missouri, and offered transportation to a former co-worker who was walking along the street. The Samaritan soon found himself the victim of an armed robbery and kidnapping. The suspect forced the victim at gun-point to drive from Kansas City to the Capitol Federal Savings, located at 75th and State Line.

The suspect was unstable, and the victim feared for his life. Upon arrival in the bank parking lot, the suspect exited the vehicle, along with the victim. The victim activated the automatic door locks after both men had closed their doors, then started yelling for help. This startled the suspect who, in turn, fled across State Line Road into a residential neighborhood.

Detective Carney arrived within moments and gave pursuit after the fleeing suspect, while the closest back-up unit was still a few minutes away. Det. Carney pursued the suspect alone because of the potential threat posed to the community. Det. Carney found the suspect and successfully apprehended him by himself.

We are proud to have a member of the Prairie Village Police Department receive these commendations for knowingly and courageously placing himself at risk of personal harm, while protecting and serving the citizens of our community.

## License Your Pet For 2002

If your pet is currently licensed with the City, you will receive renewal registration cards in the next few weeks. If you are renewing pet licenses, please complete the registration card you will receive in the mail.

There are a few changes this year! The City's animal licensing regulations have been amended to allow the licensing of pets if their rabies vaccination is current at the time of licensing. **This means your pet's rabies vaccination no longer has to be current through the end of the year.** This change will enable all pet owners to license their pets without changing the date for their animal's annual rabies vaccination and renew their 2002 animal licenses in January and February of 2002 without incurring a penalty.



Please remember that City ordinances permit each household to have a maximum of four pets, but no more than three dogs or three cats. The license fee for spayed or neutered pets is \$6, the fee is \$12 if your pet has not been spayed or neutered.

If you have any questions, contact the City Clerk's office at 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to [cityclerk@pvkansas.com](mailto:cityclerk@pvkansas.com).

## Mayor's Message



The recent annual lighting of the Mayor's Holiday Tree signals that the holiday season is upon us. As we celebrate these special times, we should also reflect on events of the year nearly behind us, both good and bad. The highlight of Prairie Village's year was the celebration of our 50th Anniversary. However, these events were tempered by the tragedies of September 11th. Our parade the following weekend demonstrated our pride in our citizens, country and community and displayed our renewed sense of patriotism. We were reminded to value our families and our community.

We are fortunate to live in a city that recognizes the spirit of family and community and rejoices in their value. Let's make an effort to continue the current feeling of goodwill into the New Year and beyond. This holiday season, I encourage everyone to spend time with their families and enjoy the holiday activities.

The City Council and I wish you all a safe and happy holiday season!

Ron Shaffer  
Mayor

### Ballfield Reservation Applications Due

Baseball Spring training will be here before you know it, and ballfields in Prairie Village are always in demand. Make plans **NOW** to reserve a field for your team.

The City of Prairie Village allows reservations of ballfields for soccer, baseball, and softball practices. Prairie Village teams (those with a majority of players who are Prairie Village residents or attend school in Prairie Village) will be given priority for field reservations, but any team may apply to reserve a field. Teams can reserve two practice times per week for up to 1 1/2 hours. Fields are available in Porter, Franklin, Windsor, and Meadowlake parks.

If your team reserved a field during 2001, your coach should receive a 2002 application form soon, or you may obtain one at the Municipal Offices, 7700 Mission Road. The deadline for submitting applications is January 18, 2002.

If you have any questions, contact the City Clerk's office at 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to [cityclerk@pvkansas.com](mailto:cityclerk@pvkansas.com).

## New Zoning Regulations Adopted

The City Council recently adopted changes to the City's Zoning regulations relating to lot coverage, grade, and building elevations in residential areas. The intent of this new ordinance is to help prevent the "overbuilding" of residential lots and minimize the negative impacts of residential redevelopment on neighboring properties.

Here's a summary of the new ordinance requirements:

### Lot Coverage

- The maximum amount of a lot which may be covered by a structure (house, outbuilding, deck, etc.) is 25%, excluding the first four (4) feet of projecting roof eaves.

### Grade, Elevation, and Building Height

- The height of a building will be measured from grade (the lowest point within five feet of the building). Residential structures may not be more than thirty five (35) feet in height.
- The first floor elevation of the new structure or addition must be at the same or lower elevation than the original structure, or side yard setbacks must be adequate to separate the project from adjacent properties. Planning Commission review and approval of new homes and residential room additions may be required.

In order for Codes Administration staff to verify compliance with these new regulations, contractors and residents applying for building permits for the following projects must submit a site plan, as well as construction documents, with their permit applications:

- Demolition of residences
- New residential construction
- Residential Additions
- Decks
- Outbuildings

The site plan must include:

- The perimeter dimensions and area of the lot.
- The perimeter dimensions and area of all existing structures, including decks and outbuildings.
- The perimeter dimensions and area of all proposed structures, including decks and outbuildings.

If you have any questions regarding these new requirements, please contact the Codes Administration Department at 913-381-6464.

## Twin Sisters Are Torchbearers for the 2002 Olympics



Morgan (left) and Madison Stock

Prairie Village residents **Morgan and Madison Stock** were selected to carry the Olympic torch through the Kansas City/St. Joseph area while on its way to the 2002 Winter Games in Salt Lake City, Utah.

However, there is much more to this story. Morgan and Madison are 12 year old twin sisters and attend the 6th grade at Briarwood Elementary. They were born 3 1/2 months early and both had brain hemorrhages immediately following birth. Madison suffered from a grade IV ventricular brain hemorrhage, the severest grade. This resulted in optic nerve atrophy. She has cerebral palsy and limited use of her right arm and hand. Morgan suffered from a grade III ventricular brain hemorrhage which also resulted in optic nerve atrophy.

Morgan nominated Madison after watching a Lance Armstrong commercial on television that asked for nominations of individuals who have inspired others and why they should carry the Olympic torch. Morgan completed the nomination form and mailed in her essay explaining how Madison had overcome adversity.

Morgan wrote her essay explaining how Madison had inspired her. Although Madison has limited use of her right arm and hand, that doesn't stop her from doing anything. She has been on the swim team, soccer team, softball team, basketball team and plays the trumpet. She never gives up!

Both girls were chosen to be part of the "inspirational pairs program" and each will jog with the torch 1/8th of a mile. They are scheduled to jog through the Kansas City/St. Joseph area on January 9, 2002. If inclement weather occurs, the alternate date will be January 10, 2002.

When asked what they looked forward to the most from being a torchbearer, Morgan responded that she will be getting to do this with her sister, and Madison stated that it's a once in a lifetime opportunity.

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## Go to the Johnson County Museum with the Prairie Village Arts Council

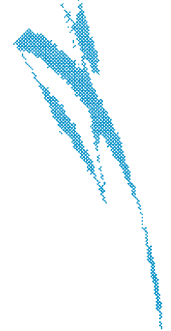
On Friday, December 28th, the Prairie Village Arts Council will host a trip to the Johnson County Museum to visit the "Seeking the Good Life" exhibit. The exhibit features over 500 artifacts highlighting Johnson County's history from 1880 to the present. The trip will also include a tour of the 1950's All-Electric Model House. A bus will leave from Prairie Village City Hall at 10:00 a.m. and return around 2:00 p.m.

The fee of \$2.00 includes refreshments, transportation to and from the Museum, and admission to the 1950's All-Electric Model House.

If you're interested in joining the Prairie Village Arts Council on this trip through Johnson County's history, contact Doug Luther at 913-385-4603 or send an e-mail to [dluther@pvkansas.com](mailto:dluther@pvkansas.com).

For more information about the Johnson County Museums, call 913-631-6709 or visit them on the web at [www.jocoks.com](http://www.jocoks.com).

**Arts**  
COUNCIL  
Prairie Village



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## Order Your Brick for the Holidays!!!

Personalized bricks make great holiday gifts for those who have everything! The Prairie Village Arts Council is still selling personalized bricks, which will be installed in the patio of the Community Center. Prices for individual bricks are \$35, and corporate sponsorships begin at \$100. Funds raised through the "Pave the Patio" project will cover the costs of engraving and installing the bricks, and help support continued cultural arts programs for the community. For further information or to receive an order form call Lori Franke at 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to [lfranke@pvkansas.com](mailto:lfranke@pvkansas.com).

## Upcoming Trash Holidays

Deffenbaugh, the City's solid waste collection and recycling contractor, will be observing the following holidays during December, 2001 and January, 2002. If your regular trash day falls on one of these holidays or after, your trash and recycling will be picked up one day late.

- Christmas, December 25th
- New Year's Day, January 1st
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday January 21st



## 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.



## Cold Weather Equals 'Hot' Opportunity



Dawn Clausius

As the temperature drops, the number of automobile thefts in Prairie Village and the surrounding metro area increases. With the return of colder weather, many residents will be tempted to warm up their cars in their driveways and leave them unattended. Don't do it! It could be a costly mistake.

Every year, people leave their cars running unattended in driveways and parking lots, only to return and discover they have been stolen. Thieves specifically drive through neighborhoods and business areas to target vehicles that are left running and unattended. Most vehicles are unlocked and are magnets for would-be thieves.

Below are some tips to help prevent you from becoming a victim of this crime of opportunity:

- Never leave your vehicle running and unattended for any amount of time. It only takes a few seconds to steal your vehicle.
- Never leave your child in your vehicle while it is running and unattended. This could result in not only the theft of your vehicle, but your child getting hurt.
- Keep your vehicle locked at all times.
- Remove valuable property from your vehicle.
- Know your vehicle information such as your license plate number, make, model and Vehicle Identification Number (VIN) if possible. This will assist the police if your vehicle is stolen.
- Report suspicious activity in your neighborhood when you see it.

These crimes of opportunity can be prevented. Don't be left out in the cold this Winter by auto thieves; lock your car and don't leave it unattended and running for any amount of time.

For questions, feel free to contact the Prairie Village Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at 913-385-4613.

## Colorado Spruce Needed

Are you planning on remodeling your property or making landscape changes? If so, the City is seeking the donation of a large (preferably 15 foot or taller) Colorado Spruce to decorate for the holiday season. If you plan to part with a Colorado Spruce this Winter and would like to donate it to the City, please contact Bob Pryzby at 913-385-4647 or send an e-mail to [bpryzby@pvkansas.com](mailto:bpryzby@pvkansas.com).

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