

Mary Montello Receives the Distinguished Service Award

On Monday, February 19th, at a reception held at Homestead Country Club, Mayor Shaffer presented the Distinguished Service Award to Mary Montello. Mary has lived in Prairie Village with her husband, Sam, since 1954. While raising four daughters, Mary was involved in several different school related activities. She was a classroom tutor, President of the Shawnee Mission East High School PTA, and for many years served as a Girl Scout Leader and is admired by her peers for taking a group of 16 and 17 year old Girl Scouts on a canoe trip to Canada. Mary didn't limit herself to just her community. She also worked with students at Swinney and Volker Elementary Schools in Kansas City, Missouri helping them develop poetry, vocabulary and language skills for many years. Of course, Mary loves her neighborhood and over the years has enjoyed many, many hours maintaining the island at 64th and Delmar.



Mary has also been instrumental in bringing recycling to Prairie Village. In 1989 she organized the Environmental/Recycling Ad Hoc Committee. This committee implemented a pilot program for recycling. The program became citywide in 1991 followed by composting collection. The Environmental/Recycle Committee became an official city committee in 1996 with Mary as its Chairman.

A few years later, commercial recycling started and a sub-committee began promoting working on recycling within the schools. In 1998, Mary was presented with the "Environmental Excellence Award," by Bridging The Gap, in recognition of steps taken to improve the environment. The following year she was named a "Prairie Village Star." Today, Mary joins company with five other outstanding Prairie Village citizens. Her name has been added to the Distinguished Service Award Plaque displayed inside the Municipal Building. Congratulations Mary!

Youth Volunteers Remind Us to Buy Recycled

We should all be very proud of our Prairie Village teens. A committee of high school students led by students **Jared Cole** and **Jeanne Firth** has already implemented a successful school recycling program for paper, glass, and aluminum.

Their most recent project is in conjunction with the Prairie Village Environment/Recycle Committee. With the generous cooperation of five stores (Hen House grocery stores at the Prairie Village Shops and Corinth Square, Price Chopper at 95th & Mission Road, Corinth Westlake Ace Hardware, and Ranchmart Ace Hardware) the students have monitored, shelf by shelf, packaged products in these stores, and then attached small green labels identifying shelves with products packaged with either 100% recycled materials or some recycled materials.

So the next time you're shopping in one of these stores, be sure to look for those green tags and support the students' work by considering the conservation value of choosing to purchase products packaged in recycled materials.

Don't Throw Away Your 2000 Prairie Village Pool ID Cards!—Recycle Them!

If you buy a 2001 membership to the Prairie Village pool you will again be able to use your pool ID card from last year. This will allow you and your family to register for your pool membership by mail this year, thus avoiding any potential delays registering at City Hall. This is how it works:

All 2000 season pool memberships expired on September 4th last year. The City's membership registration system keeps your photo and contact information from last year in its database. If you buy a pool membership for 2001 your card will be "reactivated" and you will be able to use it to enter the pool. If you do not purchase a 2001 membership your 2000 pool ID card will not be accepted at the pool. If you lost your 2000 pool membership card or threw it away, don't panic. New cards can be printed at City Hall and mailed to you. If you did not have your picture taken for a 2000 season pool ID card you will need to register at City Hall.

Mayor's Message

This winter has been a definite struggle for everyone, with temperatures below zero degrees and periods of snow, sleet, and freezing rain. The Midwest has been very lucky over the past few years to have had unseasonably warm winters, but we knew it would catch up with us, and it has.



There have been 10 winter storm events and a period when temperatures only reached single digit highs for 20 days. Three of those days the temperature dropped to below zero degrees. To help keep the City's streets clear this winter, Public Works crews have braved this weather, and have done a tremendous job. To date, they have worked over 1,000 hours during winter storms, 400 of these were overtime hours at night or on weekends. During this time, they plowed and salted 8,466 miles of streets. Think about this – the distance from Boston to San Francisco is 3,100

miles, so Public Works crews have almost crossed the country three times, just in Prairie Village!

Many times I find myself taking for granted that streets in Prairie Village will stay clear during winter storms. But the streets don't clear themselves, our City's crews do. The next time you see a Public Works truck in your neighborhood, wave. Or better yet, stop and

say thank you.

Happy Spring!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Ron".

Mayor Ron Shaffer

Public Works Deals with Salt Shortage

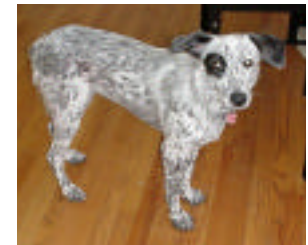
Public Works has received several inquiries regarding the use of sand on the roadways this Winter. When the temperature drops below 15 degrees, salt begins to lose its effect at melting ice and snow. Public Works was also running low on salt supplies, so its use was limited to critical areas. After a few days of icy roads, the inventory on salt became critical.

At the time, the only material readily available was a sand/salt mixture. Consequently, Public Works ordered 400 tons and has been using this mixture on the streets ever since. Winter weather can be unpredictable, and sometimes it's necessary to adapt.

If you have any questions about the City's snow removal policies or procedures, contact Public Works at 3535 Somerset Drive, Prairie Village, KS 66208, call 913-385-4647, or send an e-mail to publicworks@pvkansas.com.

Attention Pet Owners

On **April 1st** the fee for licensing your cat or dog will increase to **\$8** for neutered/spayed pets and **\$16** for pets that have not been neutered or spayed.



On **May 1st** the fee will increase to **\$18** for neutered/spayed pets and **\$26** for pets that have not been neutered or spayed. Contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 if you have any questions.

Large Item Pick-Up is APRIL 21st

Spring has sprung, and it's time for some Spring cleaning. The City's annual large-item pick-up will be on **Saturday, April 21st**. This is a free service to Prairie Village residents, so take advantage of it. This is a great time to get those old appliances, pieces of furniture, and other bulky items that cannot be hauled away with your regular trash and that are taking up space in your garage or basement. 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.

All items must be at the curb by 7:30 a.m. on April 21st for collection.



Distinguished Service Award Recipients

When Mary Montello received her award on February 19, 2001, she joined with several other Prairie Village residents who have received the award. The Prairie Village Distinguished Service Award was established in memory of Loren J. Newton. This award is given to citizens of Prairie Village for dedication and commitment resulting in significant contributions enhancing the quality of life, improving the performance of government, enriching the spiritual or cultural environment, or otherwise benefiting the citizens of Prairie Village.

Recipients of the Prairie Village Distinguished Service Award have been citizens of Prairie Village during the period for which the recognition was given.

Only five citizens have received this prestigious award since it was created. The first recipient, **Mr. Loren J. Newton**, was elected to the City Council in 1971 and became chairman of the Public Works Committee in 1973. He provided the leadership needed to develop the City's first storm drainage plan and the bond issue which financed the plan. The plan was awarded the Kansas Engineering Award in 1980.

In 1987, **Mr. Thomas Leittem** became the second recipient of the award. Mr. Leittem was first appointed in 1961 to the Planning Commission. Tom chaired that commission for twenty years and during that time became the driving force that led to development and implementation of the City's first Comprehensive Master Plan. After serving the Commission for 35 years, Tom resigned in 1996.

In 1991, **Mr. Robert Bennett** was honored with the award. Mr. Bennett was a City Council member from 1955-1957, elected the third Mayor of Prairie Village in 1957 and served until 1965. He represented Prairie Village in the State Senate from 1965 to 1975. He became the 39th Governor of Kansas in 1975 and served until 1979. He returned to private practice with the law firm he founded in Prairie Village: Bennett, Lytle, Wetzler, Winn and Martin, until his death in 2000.



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.



Eleanor and Oscar Eggers received the award in 1994 for their work in the restoration of the natural area known now as the Harmon Park Addition. This portion of the park includes a segment of the Santa Fe Trail, the only surviving Santa Fe Trail wagon ruts in the City.

Audrey Langworthy received the award in 1996. Audrey served on the Prairie Village City Council from 1981 to 1984 and represented Prairie Village in the Kansas State Senate from 1984 to 2000. Senator Langworthy championed legislation that resulted in a shift in allocation of County sales tax revenue amounting to more than \$300,000 for cities in northeast Johnson County. Prairie Village sales tax revenue from the County tax increased almost \$150,000 annually. In 1994, Audrey was presented the "Inter-Governmental Leadership" award by the League of Kansas Municipalities for her outstanding work on behalf of local government.

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