

## Prairie Village Needs. . . YOU

**Volunteers make Prairie Village work!** Through a network of over 20 advisory committees, Prairie Village residents have the ability to help make an impact on their community. There are currently vacancies on the City committees listed below. If you would like more information or are interested in applying for membership on one of these committees, contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 for an application form.

- Board of Code Appeals (1 vacancy)
- Communications (1 vacancy; 1 youth position)
- Prairie Village Arts Council (1 vacancy; 1 youth position)
- Park & Recreation Committee (2 committee vacancies- Ward 1 and Ward 2; 2 youth positions)
- Sister City Committee (2 vacancies)
- Tree Board (1 vacancy - Ward 1; 1 vacancy, Ward 2; 2 youth positions)
- 50th Anniversary Committee - Anyone interested in helping the City celebrate its Golden Anniversary is welcome.

## School Recycling Program is Still a Success

As you may recall, last year seven of the eight public schools in Prairie Village started the Paper Retriever Program offered by Donohue Recycling. This allows almost all paper used in the school to be recycled.

An extra congratulation goes out to the students, faculty, and staff of **Somerset Elementary School** for their efforts. Somerset finished ninth out of 285 schools in a contest last year, and it is one of the smallest schools in the contest. The recycling program has brought a sense of pride to students, as well as funds for their K-3 French program.

Remember, the Paper Retriever Program isn't just for students. Anyone can put paper or corrugated cardboard in the bins at participating schools.

## Another Successful Year for the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund

The Prairie Village Municipal Foundation sponsors the lighting of the Mayor's Holiday Trees as a reminder of the holiday season and to remind us to help our neighbors in need. Money donated to the Holiday Tree Fund goes to Prairie Village residents in need by paying their utility bills and providing home maintenance assistance throughout the year. Through the generosity of Prairie Village residents and others, over \$8,000 was raised last year for this worthy cause.

Although the holidays have ended, the need remains. Contributions to the Holiday Tree Fund are welcome any time of the year. If you would like to contribute to the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund, send or bring your tax-deductible donations to the Prairie Village Municipal Building, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208. Checks should be made payable to the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation.

For more information, call Lori Draves at 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to [ldraves@pvkansas.com](mailto:ldraves@pvkansas.com).



# Mayor's Message



The 2001 Kansas Legislature is now in session. During Governor Bill Graves' State of the State address he said that, throughout the past year, there have been many achievements as well as challenges, and Legislators should not be guided by politics or personal agendas, but by a vision of a better

Kansas. It is the Legislators' responsibility to work together to provide Kansans a better future.

During this year's legislative session, there will be several timely and critical public policy issues considered. Besides making education a high priority, Governor Graves also spoke about issues such as the Kansas laws relative to closely contested elections, safety on roads and highways, allowing law enforcement officers to make stops for seat belt violations, and trust

funds for prescription drugs for low-income seniors.

Decisions made by the Legislature in Topeka affect all of us here in Prairie Village. I encourage you to follow the issues in Topeka during this legislative session. In order to make the best decisions for the State, your Legislators need to know objective information, facts and figures. They also need to know how the public feels about an issue before making a final decision. As a citizen of the state of Kansas, each of you has the right to contact your Legislative representative to inform him or her of your views. To learn more about issues that may effect you, visit the Kansas website at [www.accesskansas.org](http://www.accesskansas.org).

Your voices are important!

Ron Shaffer  
Mayor

## Come to a Council Meeting!



City Council meetings are held on the first and third Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m. in the Municipal Offices. At the beginning of each meeting, residents and others wishing to address the Council may participate in the public portion of the meeting. If you have issues you would like to share with your Mayor and City Council, or questions you would like to ask, please come to a meeting and make your voice heard.

City Council meetings for the next few months will be held on:

- February 20th - (Tuesday)
- March 5th
- March 19th
- April 2nd
- April 16th

## Learn About Prairie Village History

Want to learn more about PV history? The PV 50th Anniversary Book Committee is looking for volunteers to research, write, edit and contribute their time and talents to help create a book about PV's first 50 years. Please call or e-mail Jan Marsh 913-262-7335; 913-530-9187; [janmar@msn.com](mailto:janmar@msn.com) to learn more.

## Share Your Opinion



Please join us for a public meeting to discuss swimming pool membership fees, swim team fees, synchronized swim team fees, and JTL fees for the 2001 season on Wednesday, February 14th, at 7 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room at the Prairie Village Municipal Building.

## Ward III Town Hall Meeting Scheduled for February 27th

Ward III City Council Representatives Roy True and Robert Pierson invite residents and business owners in Ward III to attend a Town Hall Meeting at Brighton Gardens on Tuesday, February 27th, at 7:00 p.m. The Town Hall Meeting is a forum for citizens to ask questions and make their opinions known to their City Council representatives and City staff. Short presentations on Strategic Planning, Economic Development, Public Safety, City Infrastructure, Parks and Pools, and Code Enforcement will be made by City staff members. Brighton Gardens is located at 7105 Mission Road. For more information call Tom Kirk at 381-6464.



# 50+ Offers Spring Schedule

The Johnson County Park and Recreation's 50+ Program will be offering the following classes at the Prairie Village Municipal Building and Community Center. To register or find out more about these classes, call the 50+ offices at 913-236-4343.

Class Name	Time	Start Date	Fee
Low Impact Aerobics	MWF, 8:45 a.m.	Feb. 26/Apr 6	\$51
Low Impact Aerobics	MWF, 8:45 a.m.	Apr. 9/May 18	\$51
Lifestory Writing Workshop	Tuesday, 9:00 a.m.	Feb. 27	\$60
Drawing Upon Creativity	Thursday, 9:00 a.m.	Mar. 29/May 10	\$36
Travel Writing	Friday, 9:30 a.m.	Mar. 30	\$15
Ukrainian Eggs	Wednesday, 1:00 p.m.	Apr. 11	\$9

# Jim Hamil Returns to the R.G. Endres Gallery



The **Prairie Village Arts Council** is excited to welcome back local artist and area resident Jim Hamil this month in the Municipal Offices' R.G. Endres Gallery. His exhibit will include original paintings and prints of the places and landscapes Hamil has seen in his life. He has a way of bringing us back to the serenity and peace that we once knew.

The exhibit will be on display February 1st - February 27th. Gallery hours are 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. Monday - Thursday and 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Friday.

## Safety Corner

### Internet Safety

The Internet can be compared to a busy city. Like a city, there are exciting things to see and do, good and bad areas to visit, and scary things that happen every day and go unnoticed. All this with a click of the mouse. One major difference remains. In the "real" world there are laws to protect us, but on the Internet, legislation is lacking. We should treat the Internet like a city street and teach children to be "Internet smart," just as we teach them to be "street smart."

Here are a few Internet tips that could help keep you and your family safe from Internet dangers.

#### Parents:

- Set reasonable rules and guidelines for your children on Internet usage and monitor what they are accessing and viewing. Post the rules near the computer and explain them to your child.
- Understand what Internet services your children use and know how to access them.
- Get to know your children's "on line" friends just as you get to know any other friends.
- If possible, keep the computer in the family room or a common area of the house. Avoid putting the computer in your child's room. By doing this, you can

monitor your children when they are on the computer.

- Never allow your child to arrange a face-to-face meeting with another computer user without parental permission.
- Teach your children that the Internet is a great source of information both for kids and criminals. Criminals have learned to use the computer to their advantage.



*Dawn Clausius*

#### Everyone:

- When utilizing a chat-room or bulletin board, never give out identifying information such as: a name, address, telephone number or school address. The person on the other end of the computer may say they are one thing but in reality be something different and may be dangerous.
- Never respond to messages that are suggestive, obscene, belligerent, threatening or make you feel uncomfortable. Teach your children to report these types of messages to you. In turn, your local police agency should be contacted to make a report.

By following the above tips, "surfing" the World Wide Web can be a fun and safe family activity.

For questions or comments please contact the Prairie Village Police Department's Crime Prevention Unit at 913-385-4613.

## Sister City Schaerbeek, Belgium to Visit Prairie Village

The Sister City committee is preparing for a visit from our Sister City, Schaerbeek, Belgium, in July. If you're interested in helping the committee plan for this event, call Doug Luther at 913-385-4603 or e-mail dluther@pvkansas.com

## Holiday Office Hours

In observance of the Presidents' Day holiday, City offices will be closed on Monday, February 19th. As always, emergency services will be available by dialing 9-1-1.

## 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) or send an e-mail to cityclerk@pvkansas.com at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time, if possible, to make arrangements.



# Moments In Time - Fifty Years of Prairie Village History

When Prairie Village began, houses were being built at the rate of one every two days to accommodate the demand from returning servicemen and young families transferring to the Kansas City area. Pressure was strong for more schools.

Prairie and Corinth - larger than the original one-room schoolhouses and St. Ann's, which had just opened in 1949, were the only grade schools serving Prairie Village. Expansion came fast.

- Porter School opened in 1951; closed in 1981
- Belinder School opened in 1952

- Somerset School opened in 1953
- Ridgeview School opened in 1955; closed in 1985 and today is home to the K-12 Kansas City Christian School
- Briarwood School opened in 1960
- Shawnee Mission East opened in 1958
- Indian Hills Middle School opened in 1955
- Meadowbrook Junior High (now Mission Valley Middle School) opened in 1958

Monday, February 19th marks the 50th Anniversary of Prairie Village's incorporation as a City.



*Prairie Village School class of 1947.*

PRESORTED STANDARD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
PERMIT NO. 549  
SHAWNEE MISSION  
KANSAS