

December 2004

THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE VOICE



A Newsletter published for the residents of the City of Prairie Village
Municipal Office | 7700 Mission Road | Prairie Village, Kansas 66208 | 913.381.6464 | www.pvkansas.com

2005 Brings Changes to the Newsletter

The *Prairie Village Voice* is changing. **Starting in January residents will receive the newsletter bi-monthly.** The *Voice* will be published during the months of January, March, July, September, and November. The Park and Recreation brochure will continue to be published in May.

We hope you will continue to enjoy receiving the *Voice* and find the information helpful. Between newsletters, visit www.pvkansas.com to learn about the latest news and events in Prairie Village.

Car Seat Installation

The Prairie Village Police Department will begin installing infant and toddler car seats for Prairie Village residents on Tuesdays at the Public Safety Center from 9:00am to 3:00pm. To make an appointment, contact Crime Prevention Officer Steve Steck at 913-385-4613 or send an email to ssteck@pvkansas.com.



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2005 Animal Licensing Begins Soon

2005 animal registration forms will be mailed shortly. City ordinance requires the annual licensing of all cats and dogs residing in the City. The ordinance also requires proof of a current rabies vaccination for licensing.

NOTE: The vaccination does not have to be valid throughout the calendar year, but must be valid at

the time of licensing. THEREFORE, ALL PETS CAN BE LICENSED IN JANUARY AND FEBRUARY before late fees are assessed. The license fee for a spayed or neutered pet is \$6. The fee for an animal that has not been spayed or neutered is \$12. Additional information is available at www.pvkansas.com or you can contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 or send an email to cityclerk@pvkansas.com.





MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Prairie Village is known for its neighborhoods. But our City is also known for its business community. Both independent businesses and national chains thrive in Prairie Village. You might recall that a few months ago the City Council and I recognized three businesses for 50 years of continuous operation in Prairie Village. These long-standing members of our business community have certainly made an impact on Prairie Village and its residents over the years.

But Prairie Village is also home to new businesses. Over the past three months, over 25 new businesses have moved to Prairie Village, including restaurants, health care providers, professional service firms, and others. These may be new companies that have decided to begin their operations in the City, or they may be established business operations that have been successful and moved to Prairie Village in order to allow their businesses to grow. Whatever your business, we're glad you've chosen to call Prairie Village home.

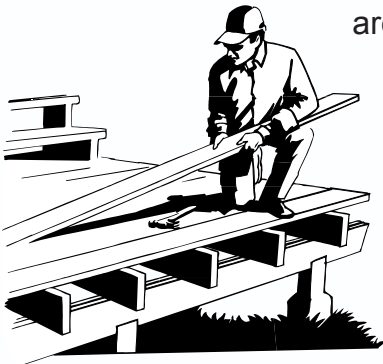
As you're visiting Prairie Village businesses this holiday season, take a moment to say "thank you" to the owner or manager. Businesses and consumers rely on each other, and a few kind words will help assure business owners they've made the right decision to locate in Prairie Village.

Have a happy and safe holiday.

Ron Shaffer
Mayor

A Friendly Reminder About Home Improvement Projects

Before making home repairs or improvements, please contact the Codes Administration Department. Many home improvement projects, especially those involving structural changes or projects that change your home's electrical system require permits. The City's Codes Administration staff are available to answer your questions as you plan your project.



City Codes also require that contractors, such as general contractors, electricians, plumbers, and mechanical contractors performing work on your home, obtain a City business license. A simple phone call can verify that your contractor has obtained a City license.

The City's construction codes are designed with safety in mind. Permits allow a City inspector to monitor your contractor's work to help ensure the work being performed complies with City Codes.

For answers to questions about building permits or other construction matters, call 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to Jim Brown, the City's Building Official, at jbrown@pvkansas.com.

The Perfect Holiday Gift

Does last minute holiday shopping have you stressed out? Don't worry. Finding the perfect gift is easy with the **Prairie Village Gift Card**. The card can be used at business locations throughout the City.

Prairie Village Gift Cards may be purchased at:

- Prairie Village Municipal Offices
- Prairie Village Merchants Association – Prairie Village Shopping Center
- By mail or fax



For more information, call 913-381-6464 or visit www.pvkansas.com.

Ball Field 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 2004, your coach should receive a 2005 application form soon. You may also obtain one at the Municipal Offices or on-line at www.pvkansas.com/parks. There is a \$50 reservation fee per team that must be submitted with your application.

The deadline for submitting applications is January 14, 2005.

If you have any questions, contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 or email to cityclerk@pvkansas.com.

Holiday Tree Recycling Program

The City will once again sponsor a Holiday Tree Recycling Program for Prairie Village residents. Trees may be placed in the designated areas of **Porter, Franklin, and Meadowlake Parks**, and in the **Harmon Park parking lot near the water tower**. The trees must

be free of all lights, ornaments, stands, and any metal nails, etc. as these items will damage the chipping machine. Residents may take the chips for their own use.

The program will continue until Monday, January 17th.

Arts

COUNCIL Prairie Village Presents

Jim Hamil

The Prairie Village Arts Council is excited to welcome back local artist and perennial favorite Jim Hamil to the Municipal Offices' R.G. Endres Gallery.

His exhibit will include original paintings and prints from a whimsical scene in a formal garden in Kansas City to a lighthouse on the shores of Maine.

The exhibit will be on display from December 2nd - December 30th.

The Gallery is located in the Prairie Village Municipal Offices at 7700 Mission Road and is open Monday through Thursday 8: a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Fridays until 5:00 p.m.





City Offices Closed for Christmas & New Year's Holidays

City offices will close at noon on Thursday, December 23rd and will be closed on Friday, December 24th in observance of the Christmas Holiday. City Offices will also be closed on Friday, December 31st in observance of the New Year Holiday.

As always, Emergency Services will remain available by calling 9-1-1.

Your trash pick-up will not be affected by the holidays.

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 1-800-766-2777) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time, if possible, to make arrangements.



Holiday Safety Tips

Holiday festivities tend to distract us from safety and security practices. Burglars and thieves know this as they too prepare for the holiday season. Open garage doors, unlocked cars and houses are just a few of the ways burglars and thieves can put a damper on your holiday festivities.

The Crime Prevention Unit wishes you and your loved ones a safe holiday season. Here are some safety tips and suggestions to assist you.

- When running errands remember to stay alert and be aware of your surroundings and try not to have your hands too full in case of an emergency.
- Lock your car even if you're only going to be away for a few minutes.
- Place packages in the car trunk where they are out of sight.
- Always lock your car doors when traveling.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash, and be careful when using an ATM.
- Always lock your home's windows and doors, even if you're gone for only a few minutes.
- Avoid placing large displays of gifts and packages near windows.
- If you're traveling this holiday season, be sure to use automatic timers, or have a neighbor watch your home and pick up newspapers and mail.

For more information about protecting yourself and your family from crime, the Crime Prevention Unit at 913-385-4613 or send me an e-mail at ssteck@pvkansas.com.

Officer Steve Steck
Crime Prevention Unit

