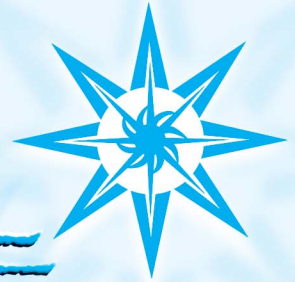


September 2004

# 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

## Recreational Program Wrap-Up

All four Prairie Village recreational teams had successful 2004 seasons!

The Prairie Village **Piranhas Swim Team** had 154 members this year. They completed their season with a fourth place finish at the All-City Swim Meet, led by head coach Kevin Ryan and assistant coaches Cathy Houts, Mary Wyrsh, and Chris Darby. The Piranhas won ten events. Individual and Relay event winners were: Katie Brown – 18 & under girls 50 Freestyle and 50 Butterfly; Amchelle Clendenin – 9 & under girls 50 Freestyle and 50 Butterfly; Stacy Coffyn – 13 & under girls 50 Breaststroke; Kayleigh Koster – 15 & under girls 50 Freestyle and 50 Backstroke; Darcy Letourneau – 15 & under girls 50 Butterfly; Taylor Meny – 13 & under boys 50 Freestyle and 50 Butterfly and 50 Backstroke.

The Prairie Village **Synchronized Swim Team** finished their season with the 45<sup>th</sup> Annual Water Show. The Water Show was a success. The coaches for this year's team included: Jennifer Holland, Head Coach, and Laura Arthur and Cassidy Creek, Assistant Coaches.

The Prairie Village **Dive Team** had a great year. Coach Nichole Cameron led the 25 Dive Team members

through the highs and lows of the team's first season since 1987. A number of individual team members scored well throughout the meets, and the team as a whole competed admirably.

The Prairie Village Kansas City **Junior Tennis League Team** finished fifth in the large club division. Every team, with the exception of 18 & under girls, competed in the Aces Division. Jeff Straub won the Boys High School Division singles championship; and placed second in the doubles championship with partner Eric Waldon. Justin Anderson was also a semi-finalist in the Boys High School Division. Matt Hill was a semi-finalist in the boys 13 & under division, and also finished second in the doubles tournament with teammate John Petterson. Overall it was a very successful year for the tennis participants.

The teams would like to express their gratitude to all of the parent volunteers who worked tirelessly and dedicated so much of their time to help make each team's season a success. Without the support of volunteer parents, these opportunities would not exist.

## INSIDE:

[Mayor's Message](#)

[Keep School Areas Safe When Driving](#)

[Council Sets 2005 Budget](#)

[Environmental Forum](#)

[New D.A.R.E. Officer](#)

[Senior Arts Council Returns](#)

## ON THE BACK:

[Storm Drain Stewardship](#)

[Prairie Village Notes](#)





# MAYOR'S MESSAGE

The City of Prairie Village is teaming up with Harvesters Community Food Network to sponsor the 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Peanut Butter Week food drive from September 20<sup>th</sup>-24<sup>th</sup>.

Harvesters estimates there are 141,000 people in our metropolitan community that are food insecure or at risk of being hungry. As members of a caring community, Prairie Village residents want to help others in need. This year, Peanut Butter Week provides a convenient way to help relieve hunger in our community.

There are several ways you can donate to Harvesters during Peanut Butter Week:

- Bring jars of peanut butter to City Hall between September 20<sup>th</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup>. The City Hall offices are open from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Monday – Thursday and from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. on Friday.
- Complete the contribution form in this issue of the *Prairie Village Voice* and mail it in, along with your contribution, to 7700 Mission Road.
- Contribute on-line at [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com) or [www.harvesters.org](http://www.harvesters.org).

Hunger is a persistent problem in our community, including some residents of Prairie Village. With your help and the hard work of organizations like Harvesters, we can work together to improve the lives of our neighbors in need.

Ron Shaffer  
Mayor



Please complete this form if you wish to make a monetary contribution to Harvesters.

Name \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Contribution Amount \$   
**Make check payable to Harvesters**  
 Mail to: City of Prairie Village  
 Attn: Peanut Butter Week  
 7700 Mission Road  
 Prairie Village, KS 66208

## Keep School Areas Safe When Driving

Now that school has begun and routines have been established, I would like to take this opportunity to remind everyone about traffic regulations surrounding our City's schools. Each school in our City has its own unique qualities and safety concerns. Complaints concerning traffic problems arise throughout the school year, including parking, speeding vehicles, cross walks, and seat belt usage.



The Prairie Village Police Department has taken a proactive, educational approach to address each of these issues, and has made a commitment to increase visibility and enforcement in school areas. The Department is enforcing speed limits, parking violations, seat belt violations, as well as child safety restraint, and all other traffic violations necessary to keep our streets safe.

The majority of complaints received by the Department are parking complaints such as vehicles parked in disabled parking spaces and disabled access areas, parking or standing in areas prohibited by ordinance, and parking or stopping in crosswalks. The Department is seeking your cooperation in reducing the number of parking complaints and violations that occur around schools.

While maintaining safe environments around our schools, you may be inconvenienced from time to time. The Department asks for your patience and cooperation as we make our schools a safer place for our children.

Sgt. Curtis Winn  
Administrative Supervisor  
Prairie Village Police Department

# Environmental Forum

## October 7th



The **Kansas Natural Resource Council** and the **Prairie Village Environmental Committee** invite you to the third annual **Community Forum on Kansas Environmental Issues** on Thursday, October 7<sup>th</sup>, 6:00 p.m. at the Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road. This year's program is entitled "**Preserving Biodiversity in Northeast Kansas: What You Can Do!**"

The evening will begin with a community supper featuring locally grown food followed by a presentation by Dr. Kelly Kindscher, from the Kansas Biological Survey.

Dr. Kindscher will report on a recent survey of the remaining natural areas containing habitat for rare species in Northeast Kansas. Dr. Kindscher will report on where remaining high-quality remnants of tall prairie grass and woodlands are located, and what we can do to protect them.

The program will also include informative displays by organizations including: Kansas Land Trust, The Nature Conservancy, Mid-America Regional Council, Grassland Heritage Foundation, Johnson County Parks & Recreation District, and Friends of the Kaw.

**If you would like to attend this event, please reserve your seat by October 1<sup>st</sup>** by contacting Kathy Riordan at 913-383-7882 or e-mailing Margaret Thomas at [MGT84Roe@aol.com](mailto:MGT84Roe@aol.com).

There is a charge of \$8.00 (\$5.00 for students) payable at the door.

## Council Sets 2005 Budget

On August 2<sup>nd</sup> the City Council approved the City's 2005 annual budget. Significant features of the 2005 budget include:

- Total expenditures of \$17,179,468, a 2.8% increase.
- Operating costs have increased 4%.
- All capital infrastructure projects in 2005 (\$3.76 million) will be financed with cash, not debt.

- The property tax rate will remain unchanged at \$15.765 mills per \$1,000 of assessed valuation.
- A resident of an average Prairie Village home, valued at \$188,850, will pay \$342 in City property tax.
- City property tax will represent only 16% of your total property tax bill.

For more information download the 2005 Budget in Brief at [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com) or call Barbara Vernon at 913-385-4601.

## New D.A.R.E. Officer

**Officer Troy Johnson** was recently named the City's new D.A.R.E. (Drug Abuse Resistance Education) Officer. Officer Johnson is a 10-year veteran of the Police Department, serving in the Department's Patrol Division. During his tenure with the Department, Officer Johnson has taught classes in the Citizens Academy, served as a Field Training Officer, and also serves as one of the Department's highly trained critical accident investigators.



Officer Johnson will be presenting the D.A.R.E. program to school children from kindergarten through sixth grade. The D.A.R.E. Program provides children with the skills to resist drugs, alcohol, and make good decisions to improve their individual safety.

To learn more about the City's D.A.R.E program, contact Officer Johnson at 913-385-4614 or e-mail to [tjohnson@pvkansas.com](mailto:tjohnson@pvkansas.com).

# Arts

## COUNCIL Prairie Village

### Presents Senior Arts Council

The **Senior Arts Council** returns to the R.G. Endres Gallery with works representing a variety of techniques and media. This talented group of senior citizens is a perennial favorite.

Formed in 1977, the Senior Arts Council is dedicated to showing experienced adults the difference their artistic contributions make to the community. Senior Arts Council members strive to stimulate and encourage the exchange of ideas and talents among all generations.

The exhibit will be on display until September 29<sup>th</sup>.

*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.*



### Come to a Council Meeting

The Prairie Village City Council meets on the **first and third Monday** of each month at **7:30 p.m.** in the City Council Chambers. If you have issues you would like to share with the Mayor and City Council, or questions you would like to ask, please come to a meeting and make your voice heard.

### 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.



# Storm Drain Stewardship

The Prairie Village Public Works Department is participating in a regional campaign promoting storm drain stewardship practices. The campaign is part of the "Good Neighbors Care About Clean Water" initiative that targets household behaviors and their impact on water quality.

While storm drains were designed to divert water from streets, they can become a water pollution conduit when harmful substances flow through them. During rainfall, water runs down streets and through yards, picking up substances along the way. This runoff often contains elements that pollute waterways, harm wildlife, and degrade water quality.

Some common contaminants in storm water runoff include lawn chemicals, pet waste, household chemicals such as paint, and soaps used for washing cars. Small amounts of pollution add up to a big problem for the region. So, remember, we all live downstream. Protect our waters.

Here are a few tips to help you be a good storm drain steward:

- ◆ **Use lawn chemicals safely** - Always follow label instructions and never apply before rain or watering the lawn, unless directed.
- ◆ **Pick up after your pets** - When walking your pet, remember to bring extra bags to pick up and dispose of waste properly.
- ◆ **Recycle used oil** - Never place used motor oil in the trash or pour it down storm drains. Recycle used oil at a [used oil collection facility](#).
- ◆ **Wash your car the right way** - Either wash your car at a car wash that filters the wastewater, or wash your car in a grassy area. Avoid washing your car on a driveway or in the street.
- ◆ **Don't dump** - Never discard trash or yard waste down storm drains or in the street.

To learn more about how you can help prevent stormwater pollution, contact the Mid-America Regional Council at 816-474-4240 or visit [www.marc.org/water](http://www.marc.org/water).

Prairie Village  
Shawnee Mission  
Permit No. 549  
PAID  
U.S. Postage  
Presorted Standard  
Kansas