

January 2004



THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE VOICE

January Emergency Preparedness Tip

During these winter months it is important to be prepared for an emergency. The most dangerous winter situation is a winter storm. Of all deaths related to winter storms, about 70% occur in automobiles. Most people know to take it easy during the winter months while driving, but would you be prepared if you were caught in your car during a winter storm? Here are a few things that should be kept in your car during the winter months:

- Windshield scraper with broom attachment.
- Blankets.
- Flashlight with extra batteries.
- First Aid Kit.
- High-calorie non-perishable food.
- Tool kit.
- Booster Cables.
- Compass and Road maps.

These are just a few of the items that will make you better prepared in case you're caught in your car during a winter storm. This information, along with tips on how to prepare yourself, your family and your home from all types of disasters can be found in the *Emergency Prepared Neighborhood* workbook prepared by the Johnson County Department of Emergency Management and Homeland Security. To pick up a copy of the workbook or for more information contact Joshua Farrar at (913) 381-6464 or send an e-mail to jfarrar@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 **Sunday, January 18th**.



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VillageFest 2004

The VillageFest 2004 Planning Committee will have its first meeting on **January 22, 2004 at 7:00 p.m.** in the Multi-Purpose Room at Prairie Village City Hall. The Committee will continue to meet monthly on the fourth Thursday of each month.

If you would like to participate in planning the event or would like additional information please contact Joshua Farrar at (913) 381-6464 or e-mail to jfarrar@pvkansas.com.



MAYOR'S MESSAGE

With the holidays behind us, it's now time to greet the new year and undertake the annual tradition of making New Year's Resolutions. Some of the most common resolutions involve losing weight, exercising, and getting organized. These are all great ideas. Here are a few other New Year's Resolutions to consider for 2004.

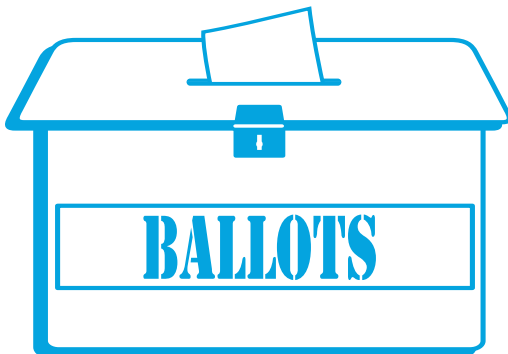
Get to Know Your Neighbors – Prairie Village prides itself on being a city with strong neighborhoods. We should all do our part to welcome new residents and lend a helping hand to our neighbors who may need assistance from time to time. So the next time you return home, step outside and strike up a conversation with one of your neighbors before pulling your car into the garage and closing the door behind you.

Get Involved – Volunteering provides an opportunity to serve others and make our community a better place to live. The pay isn't great, but the rewards are priceless. Participate in your homes association. Volunteer on a city committee. Spend time helping out at your child's school. Join a service club or volunteer for a non-profit organization.

Spend Time with Family and Friends – We all lead busy lives, but it's important to slow down and simply enjoy life. If enough snow falls, take your children sledding or build a snowman in the yard. On a sunny day, enjoy a walk in one of the City's parks. Just because it's Winter doesn't mean we have to stay inside. Fresh air is important any time of year. Whatever you choose to do, you will be enjoying yourself and spending time with people who are important in your life. The activity might even help with your weight loss and exercise resolutions, too.

Happy New Year

Ron Shaffer
Mayor



City Council Filings

City Council elections will be held for all Wards in April, 2004. Persons interested in filing for office should contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to cityclerk@pvkansas.com. Filing deadline is noon, January 27, 2004.

Another Successful Year for the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund

The **Prairie Village Municipal Foundation** sponsors the annual lighting of the Mayor's Holiday Trees as a reminder of the season and to remind us to help our neighbors in need. Money donated to the Holiday Tree Fund goes to Prairie Village residents needing help paying their utility bills and helps provide home maintenance assistance throughout the year. Through the generosity of Prairie Village residents and others, over \$7,000 has been raised for this worthy cause this holiday season.

Although the holidays are over, the need still exists. Contributions to the Holiday Tree Fund are welcome any time of year. If you would like to contribute to the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund, bring or send your tax-deductible donations to the Prairie Village Municipal Building, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas, 66208. Checks should be made out to the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation. For more information, contact Lori Franke at 913-381-6464 or send an e-mail to lfranke@pvkansas.com.

Winter Reminders from the Public Works Department

As Winter sets in, so does the snow and the ritual of plowing and salting streets and shoveling driveways. Winter weather extremes and changes bring a special challenge to Public Works employees who strive to keep your streets usable in the winter months.

When a storm is forecast, Public Works staff develops an operation plan considering time of day, type of weather, temperature, wind, length of storm, etc. Crews work in 12 hour shifts to clear streets using these priorities:

1. Maintain bare pavement on arterial streets
2. Maintain bare pavement on collector streets
3. Maintain public building sidewalks
4. Plow or salt one lane on residential streets
5. Maintain sidewalks at the parks.

The City does not remove ice or snow from private property. Property owners are responsible for removing ice and snow from the sidewalks abutting their property. The best time to do this is after the street has been plowed.

If you have any questions about the City's snow removal program, contact the Public Works Department at 913-385-4647 or send an e-mail to publicworks@pvkansas.com.

Arts

COUNCIL
Prairie Village

**Local
Photographer,
Bob Stewart,
Rings in the
New Year
at the
R.G. Endres
Gallery!**

2004 begins with a signature presentation of photographer, Bob Stewart. Bob accomplishes his unique style by first capturing an image digitally. He then adds his own personal perspective via his computer. Next he incorporates it into a specific background, transforming it into a one-of-a-kind work of art. The exhibit will be on display from January 3 to January 30, 2004.

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



Prairie Village
NOTES

Don't Forget!

City Offices Will Be Closed

City offices will be closed in observance of Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday on **Monday, January 19, 2004**. As always, Emergency Services will remain available by calling 9-1-1.

Upcoming Trash Holidays

Deffenbaugh, the City's solid waste collection and recycling contractor, will be observing the Martin Luther King, Jr. Holiday on **Monday, January 19th**. As a result trash and recycling collection will be **one day late** during the week of January 19th.

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.



New Crime Prevention Officer

For the past four years I have been assigned to the special assignment of Crime Prevention Officer, and have enjoyed serving the community in many ways. Every four years each special assignment rotates back to the Patrol Division and it is that time for Crime Prevention. It is time for another officer to have the great opportunities that were available to me.

As the Crime Prevention Officer, I have thoroughly enjoyed meeting so many members of the community and provide services to businesses and residents. I have had the pleasure of meeting many of you while giving presentations, eating lunch at the Community Center, or by contacting you after you had been victimized. It has been a true pleasure to visit each of your homes each month by way of the *Prairie Village Voice* Newsletter and provide you with useful information to help prevent you from being victimized. I feel very proud to have served this community and will continue to do so in my future assignment.

My successor, **Officer Steve Steck**, will officially be assigned to the Crime Prevention Unit on January 19, 2004. Officer Steck has been with the Prairie Village Police Department since January 2001. Some of you may have met Officer Steck if he responded to your homes when you called for assistance and know what a personable and helpful officer he is.



Officer Steve Steck

Although the personnel may be changing, the services the Unit provides will not change. The Crime Prevention Unit is an excellent resource for information regarding criminal activity, if you need crime prevention tips, or simply if you have a question you would like answered by a police officer.

I encourage you to welcome Officer Steck and make him feel as valued as I did during my four years in the assignment.

If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 913-385-4613 or by e-mail at ssteck@pvkansas.com.



Officer
Dawn Clausius

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