



City Offices Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday

City offices will close at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, November 23rd and will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 24th & 25th in observance of the Thanksgiving Holiday. 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 Thanksgiving holiday which falls on Thursday, November 24th. If this is your normal pick-up day, your solid waste, yard waste, and recyclables will be collected one day later that week.

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.



Shop Prairie Village for the Holidays!!

Start your holiday shopping early with the **Prairie Village Gift Card** – the perfect gift for any occasion. Redeemable at over 100 locations, the Prairie Village Gift Card lets you share Prairie Village with friends, family, and colleagues. Besides, using the **Prairie Village Gift Card supports local merchants.**

Gift Cards are on sale at the Municipal Offices, 7700 Mission Road, the Prairie Village Merchants Association in the Prairie Village Shopping Center, and on-line at www.pvkansas.com.

To learn more about the Prairie Village Gift Card, call 913-381-6464 or send an email to Doug Luther at dluther@pvkansas.com.

Your Holiday Lights May Require a Permit

If your holiday decorating includes stringing lights across city streets, public rights-of-way, or storm drainage channels, please contact the Public Works Department first. A right-of-way permit is required for electrical and traffic safety.

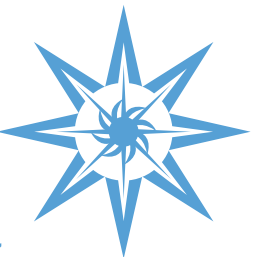
For more information, contact the Public Works Department at 913-385-4640 or send an email to publicworks@pvkansas.com.

Prairie Village Municipal Office
7700 Mission Road
Prairie Village, KS 66208



November, 2005

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



Village Vision Update

On September 13th and 14th over 200 Prairie Village residents met to shape our community's future.

Community Choices Workshop

On September 13th, participants reviewed the Village Vision goals and principles for development. They also learned about some of the issues and challenges facing Prairie Village as it attempts to plan for future development and redevelopment. These include:

- Declining population -- Since 1970, the City's population has fallen from 28,135 to 21,667, a 23% drop.
- Aging housing stock -- Many of the homes in Prairie Village were built in the 1940's and 50's. These are great homes, but many don't offer the amenities sought by today's homebuyers.
- Stable, but aging commercial areas -- Shopping opportunities are available in several retail areas. Keeping these commercial centers strong is essential to our community's future.

Through the Village Vision Strategic Investment Plan, the City can help prepare our community for the future while maintaining the unique character that has made Prairie Village attractive to residents for over 50 years.

Village Vision Open House

On September 14th, residents met again to get a glimpse of what future development in Prairie Village might look like. To illustrate, the planning consultants identified several locations where redevelopment could improve both the appearance of the community and more efficiently provide the housing, business, and shopping opportunities sought by individuals in a variety of age and income groups. The scenarios include:

- 75th Street Corridor
- City Entrance or Gateway Redevelopment
- Neighborhood-Scale Mixed Use Redevelopment
- Corinth Square Shopping Center

To view the materials presented at the workshops, visit www.pvkansas.com. The Village Vision is still a work in progress, and no final decisions will be made without additional study and public input. However, the plan will likely be presented to the City Council early next year. To learn more about the Village Vision, visit www.pvkansas.com, send an e-mail to villagevision@pvkansas.com, or contact Doug Luther at 913-381-6464.

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The Rock Creek Watershed

The critical need to restore and protect the Rock Creek watershed has become an issue for many area cities, including Prairie Village. A watershed is generally defined as all the land area that drains to a given point in a water body. The Rock Creek watershed knows no political boundary, and each city plays a vital role in the protection and management of the watershed. By considering the creek from an entire watershed standpoint, cities are able to work together to find mutually beneficial solutions to managing and improving the watershed.

Mission has embarked on this task through the formulation of the Rock Creek Watershed Committee. The Committee consists of members from each of the Rock Creek Watershed cities, namely, Mission, Fairway, Mission Hills, Overland Park, Prairie Village, and Roeland Park. The Committee's purpose is to promote the use of best management practices (BMPs), especially regarding development and redevelopment, and educate citizens in the watershed on water conservation and quality issues. The Committee will follow the Watershed Restoration and Protection Strategy (WRAPS) guidelines for achieving these goals, which include identifying watershed needs, establishing goals, creating a cost effective plan for achieving the goals, and implementing the plan.

As the cities in Northeast Johnson County work on a regional scale, you can also play an integral part in watershed protection by creating a rain garden or using rain barrels for watering plants in your yard or home. Rain gardens are similar to bioretention areas, just smaller in size. Rain gardens can absorb 30% more water than the same size area of lawn. Native plants to the Kansas City area include Prairie Blazing Star, Black-Eyed Susans, Cardinal Flower and Copper Iris and can be planted in your rain garden. Another fantastic way to promote good watershed management is by building a rain barrel. Rain barrels are incredibly simple to make and can hold about 50 gallons of stormwater runoff from your roof for later watering of plants. By harvesting and using water in this way, less water goes into the drainage system during a storm, and your water bill will be reduced, especially in the dry summer months. This water also has a higher mineral content than tap water, and is not chlorinated.

Together, we can all do our part to protect area streams and waterways.

Ron Shaffer, Mayor

Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting Nov. 28

Make plans now to attend the annual Mayor's Holiday Tree Lighting Celebration from 6:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. on Monday, Nov. 28th at the Municipal Offices, 7700 Mission Road.

This annual event is sponsored by the **Prairie Village Municipal Foundation** to support the **Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund**. Trees in various parts of the City will be lit as a reminder that there are people in our community who are not able to pay their utility bills or make repairs to their homes. To assist our fellow citizens, the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation makes an annual appeal for contributions to the Fund. If you would like to make a tax-

deductible contribution, cut out the donation form below and return it to the Municipal Offices.

Have a happy and safe holiday season.

Yes, I want to help! Enclosed is my tax-deductible contribution to the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Home Phone #: _____

Work Phone #: _____

Amount Enclosed: \$ _____

Please make checks payable to: **Prairie Village Municipal Foundation**
and mail with this form to: **Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund**
City of Prairie Village, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS 66208



Sister City Committee Seeking Artists and Committee Members

The Prairie Village Sister City Committee is sponsoring the **2006 Showcase of Young Artists**. Artwork inspired by the theme **"What does Global Citizenship Look Like?"** may be submitted by Prairie Village residents age 13 to 18 to enter the local competition. As in previous years, two-dimensional artwork will be accepted. A second category, **Short Film/Documentary**, has also been created this year.

Prizes will be awarded to the top three winners. The winning entry will be submitted to Sister Cities International, Inc. to be entered in the international competition.

For more information or to pick up an application form, contact Josh Farrar at 913-381-6464 or e-mail Jfarrar@pvkansas.com. The entry deadline is February 10, 2006.

Sister City Committee Seeking New Members!!!

- Do you have an interest in other countries or cultures?
- Are you or your ancestors from another part of the world?
- Are you interested in building relationships with people across the globe?

If you answered yes to any of these questions, the Prairie Village Sister City Committee may interest you. Please feel free to attend the Committee's public meetings on the second Monday of every month at 7:00 p.m. in the Multi-Purpose Room of the Prairie Village Municipal Offices, 7700 Mission Road. For more information, contact Cindy Dwigans, Committee Vice Chairperson, at 913-381-9165.

City Council Approves "Open Ignition" Ordinance

On October 3rd the City Council approved an ordinance specifically designed to reduce the number of vehicles stolen from private driveways and public property. The ordinance was prompted due to the large number of vehicles stolen during the winter months while they were left running, unattended and unlocked. In the first three months of 2005, 11 of the 16 vehicles stolen in Prairie Village were left in that condition. Many of these vehicles may have been used in the commission of other crimes as in one instance -- the stolen vehicle was recovered with several bullet holes in it. It is clear this type of crime is one of opportunity and there is substantial public safety concern associated with stolen vehicles used in criminal activity.

The newly enacted Open Ignition Ordinance prohibits persons from leaving a vehicle unattended and unlocked, either on

private or public property, with the vehicle running or where the keys are clearly visible inside the vehicle. The Ordinance allows vehicles to be left running as long as they are locked or the owner or person in charge of the vehicle is in the immediate vicinity in order to have direct control of any access to the vehicle.

The goal of the new ordinance is to further public safety by restricting the accessibility of vehicles that are left running and unattended. Other cities across the nation have successfully used this type of ordinance to reduce auto thefts in their communities.

If you have any questions concerning the new Open Ignition Ordinance, please contact the Prairie Village Police Department at 913-642-6868 or send an e-mail to Sgt. Curt Winn at cwinn@pvkansas.com.

Arts COUNCIL Prairie Village

PRESENTS

While you're out and about, stop by the Municipal Offices' R.G. Endres Gallery to view the work of several talented artists. Many of the pieces on display in the Gallery are available for sale.

NOVEMBER THE MIDAMERICA PASTEL SOCIETY

These little gems, only 8" x 10" in size, include landscapes, still lifes, florals, figures and wildlife. The Society works to provide networking and exhibit opportunities in support of local pastel artists. This exhibit will be on display from November 1st - 30th.

DECEMBER PHOTOGRAPHS BY JULIE JOHNSON

Exploring nature has always been one of Julie's favorite activities, and in the early 1990's she began capturing that enjoyment on film. Light, composition and color are the most important features of her photographs. Julie uses filters, multiple exposures, a "slide sandwich" or unusual film to achieve the looks that most delight her. This exhibit will be on display from December 1st - 29th.

Gallery hours are Mon - Fri
8:00am - 5:00pm.