



The Star of Kansas

The Prairie Village

June 2007

# Voice



## VillageFest 2007

Come celebrate Prairie Village's **11th Annual Independence Day Celebration, VillageFest 2007!** The fun begins at 7:30 am on **Wednesday, July 4th**. Admission is **FREE** and all activities will be held on the Municipal Campus, 7700 Mission Road.

The festivities will begin with a pancake breakfast hosted by Chris Cakes. Other activities throughout the day will include a Patriotic Service, a Children's Parade, live music, a Family Creativity Center, inflatables for children, and displays and demonstrations by the Prairie Village Police Department, Prairie Village Public Works, and Consolidated Fire District #2.

**NEW THIS YEAR:** The **Elite Frogs Parachute Display Team** which is

### PRELIMINARY 2007 VILLAGEFEST SCHEDULE

- 7:30 am - 11:00 am Pancake Breakfast hosted by Chris Cakes (\$5 adults; \$4 kids)
- 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Train Show
- 9:00 am - 2:30 pm Quilt Show
- 9:00 am - 2:00 pm Family Creativity Center
- 9:30 am - 10:00 am Dino O'Dell
- 10:00 am - 11:00 am Jim Cosgrove
- 10:00 am - 2:00 pm Inflatables
- 10:00 am - 2:30 pm Beaks N Wings
- 10:00 am - 2:30 pm Petting Zoo & Pony Rides
- 10:30 am - 2:30 pm HyVee Food Station
- 11:15 am - 11:30 am Children's Parade
- 11:30 am - 12:00 pm Marching Cobras
- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Appearance by Slugger
- 11:00 am - 1:00 pm Appearance by Sizzle
- 12:00 pm - 1:15 pm Patriotic Service with the Jim Funkhouser Orchestra
- 12:00 pm - 2:00 pm Appearance by KC Wolf
- 10:20, 11:20, 12:45, 1:20 Puppet Shows

compri sed of U.S. Navy SEALs will be jumping

at 11:00 a.m. and a Chinook helicopter will make a landing at 9:00 a.m. You don't want to miss this!

Everyone is invited to VillageFest 2007! Bring your family, friends, and neighbors! If you need assistance or a reasonable accommodation to participate in VillageFest, please contact the City Clerk's office at [cityclerk@pvkansas.com](mailto:cityclerk@pvkansas.com), 913-381-6464 or TDD 1-800-766-3777 by July 1st to make arrangements.

**All events are tentative and subject to change.** Visit [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com) for details or call 913-381-6464.



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# Mayor's Message

## It's Summertime in Prairie Village!!

Temperatures are rising, children are out of school, and families throughout Prairie Village are spending more time outdoors working and playing in their yards. The Pool Complex is open, the City's parks are busy, and the Skatepark once again serves as a gathering place for our city's youth.

This summer, I challenge Prairie Village residents to make the most of this season. Enjoy the time outdoors with family and friends. Enjoy the pride that comes from working in the yard or garden. And, most importantly, use this time to connect with your neighbors.

Strong neighborhoods are a defining feature of Prairie Village, as are the city's many homes associations. They contribute to our sense of community, and can even help improve safety when neighbors look out for each other.

Sponsoring a block party is a great way to get to know your neighbors. A block party will let you close off the street, providing more room for you and your neighbors to enjoy each other's company, as well as a large, safe area for children to play.

In order to close the street, you'll need to obtain a block party permit, and the City will provide the barricades. The permit is free, and you can often get members of the Police and Fire Departments to stop by and join in your neighborhood celebration.

Block party permit forms are available from the City Clerk's Office and on-line at [www.pvkansas.com/police/BlockParty.shtml](http://www.pvkansas.com/police/BlockParty.shtml).

Have a safe and enjoyable summer!

Ron Shaffer, Mayor

## Municipal Foundation Donations Serve Many Purposes

Many Prairie Village residents are aware of the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation, which supports a variety of charitable causes, including the Mayor's Holiday Tree Fund. What you may not know, however, is that Prairie Village residents may make contributions to the Municipal Foundation to honor a loved one or help beautify public areas.

Prairie Village residents have utilized the Municipal Foundation to plant trees in City parks, install bricks in the Community Center patio, and the following major items:

- Skate Park
- Tex Mount Memorial Rock in Porter Park
- Fountain at City Hall in memory of Bette Philips
- Rose Garden at City Hall

- R.G. Endres Gallery
- Playground Equipment at Franklin Park
- Rose Garden at Franklin Park in Memory of Dan Hollub
- Playground Equipment at McCrum Park
- Mayor's Holiday Trees
- Stone benches in Franklin Park in memory of Ralph McGowan



Contributions to the Foundation are tax-deductible. If you would like to learn more about how to designate a gift to the City through the Prairie Village Municipal Foundation contact Barbara Vernon, City Administrator, at 913-381-4601 or email [bvernon@pvkansas.com](mailto:bvernon@pvkansas.com).

## Volunteers Needed

**The Insurance Committee** is seeking volunteers with experience and knowledge of commercial insurance. The committee meets as needed to monitor and discuss insurance issues relating to the City, and to recommend insurance bid awards when applicable.

**The Prairie Village Arts Council** is also seeking volunteers.

## New Entrance Signs Installed

Last year, a committee consisting of representatives from the Park & Recreation Committee and Prairie Village Arts Council was formed to explore options for a new entrance sign design to replace the blue metal signs that had become faded and rusted. The committee explored a variety of design and material options. After research and several meetings, this committee recommended and the City Council approved the replacement of all 17 signs.

The new sign is a stamped concrete or "faux stone" material which will be durable, resistant to the elements, and should last for many years to come. After the sign installations are complete, Public Works crews will return to plant grass around the base of each sign.

## Tree Board Honors John and Joan Kemp

As part of the Arbor Day celebration, the Prairie Village Tree Board chose to honor Joan and John Kemp by planting a paper bark maple. The tree honors the long time service of Joan and John to the city. Joan served on the Arts Council for several years and John is a former City Council member. The selection of the tree is part of a program to identify native tree species in the City parks as part of establishing a mini-arboretum in each park.



## VillageFest Community Spirit Awards

It's that time of year again when the VillageFest Committee **seeks your input!** Each year, VillageFest committee members recognize community members with a VillageFest Community Spirit Award. Let us know who to honor this year with a Community Spirit Award by nominating them today! Nomination forms are available online at [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com) or contact Jeanne Koontz at 913-381-6464. **All nominations must be submitted by June 14, 2007.**

# Arts

## COUNCIL

### Prairie Village

## PRESENTS

Mark your calendars now to view these exhibits and attend opening receptions honoring these talented artists.

### JUNE

The month of June brings the long overdue return of "Watercolor Master" **Jack O'Hara**. This local and nationally known artist's works are easily recognized by their panoramic views of landscapes from around the world. Jack takes a very difficult medium to master and makes it look easy with his pinpoint brush marks and attention to detail.

### JULY

**Senior Arts Council**, Mixed Media  
Opening Reception - July 13th, 6:30 pm

### AUGUST

**Shawn Bohs**, Photography  
Opening Reception - August 10th, 6:30 pm

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Gallery hours are Mon - Fri  
8:00am - 5:00pm.  
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**LAWRIN's Legacy Day** was celebrated on May 5, 2007 at the Mission Road Antique Mall to remember, celebrate and honor a Prairie Village Legacy "LAWRIN" the Kansas thoroughbred that won the Kentucky Derby in 1938. LAWRIN's victory launched the careers of two future stars of the horse racing world - jockey Eddie Aracaro & trainer Ben Jones. The day began with a Ribbon cutting ceremony, dedicating the upper level of the antique mall, which was the former living quarters of Ben Jones. The day's events also included a "call to post" every hour, a replay of the race, and displays of memorabilia.

*Left to Right in picture:* **Carol Barta**, Master of Ceremony and Mission Road Antique Dealer; **Andrew Wang**, President of the Prairie Village City Council; **Casey Ward**, Owner/Manager of Mission Road Antique Mall; **Alexis Martin**, Lawrin's Day Event Planner, Mission Road Antique Dealer; **Rob Johnson**, President of the NEJC Chamber; **David Swinehart**, Chairman of the NEJC Chamber.







# Prairie Village Notes



## Public Forum

The Parks and Recreation Public Forum is on Wednesday, June 13th at 7 pm in Council Chambers at City Hall. Let your voice be heard!



## Bike Rodeo

The Headstrong for Jake Bike Rodeo will be from 10:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. during VillageFest on the 4th of July. New bike helmets will be provided by the Jack Clouth Headstrong Foundation for the first 250 children participating in the bike rodeo.



## 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.



# Crime Prevention

with Officer Dan Robles

## Home and Away Vacation Safety Tips

While making plans for your upcoming summer vacation, remember to include plans for the security of your residence. Whether you're away from home for just a weekend getaway or you're planning on an extended vacation make your home part of your to-do check list. In this month's Safety Corner the Crime Prevention Unit suggests the following:

### Home Security

- Tell a trusted neighbor you will be heading out of town and ask they keep an eye on your home and request they collect any mail or newspapers that may be delivered.
- Before leaving make sure all of your doors and windows are locked.
- Remove garage remote controls that may be left in a car parked outside.
- Use interior and exterior lights on timers and motion detection or dusk to dawn lighting.
- Contact the police dispatcher and request a "House Watch" be performed by the police. An officer will periodically check on the exterior of your home as time allows in their shift to make sure the doors are locked on your home while you're away.

### Personal Safety While Traveling

- Always try to be alert to your surroundings and keep a close watch on any baggage or other valuables while traveling; especially at airports and hotels.
- Make up a travel plan so you know where you're going in advance and keep a map and cell phone handy.
- Park in well lit areas and be especially careful when visiting rest stops day or night.

### Hotel and Motel Security

- Always keep your hotel door locked and use the door viewer before opening the door.
- Store valuables in the hotel safe if it is available and avoid leaving valuables unattended when leaving your room for the day.
- Before planning on where you are going to stay, ask the local police or the management about the safety of the neighborhood.

The Crime Prevention Unit wishes you a safe and enjoyable summer vacation season as you travel coast to coast in this great country we live in. Please call me at 913-385-4613 or e-mail me at [drobles@pvkansas.com](mailto:drobles@pvkansas.com) with any questions or concerns.

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