



*The Star of Kansas*

*The Prairie Village*

February 2009

# Voice

**CODE RED**

A service of Emergency Communications Network

## CODE RED EMERGENCY NOTIFICATION SYSTEM

On December 16, 2008, the Police Department sent the first message using the "CODE RED" emergency notification system, to notify residents and businesses of a recent increase in stolen autos and residential burglaries. We received many positive responses and appreciation for making our community aware of the issues in a timely and informative manner. This message reached nearly 70 percent of all numbers in the database, and did so in less than thirty minutes! If you did not receive a message, it is likely your number may not be registered, or that you may have a call blocker feature on your phone. We respect your privacy, and suggest consideration of adding a cellular number instead of a home number if privacy is an issue.

We also learned a few people were unaware of this technology upgrade that enables the Department to complete emergency notifications through telephone contact. The high-speed system is capable of making up to 60,000 calls per hour to warn the public about such things as evacuations, missing child alerts, critical incidents, or other information that should be relayed without delay. To ensure no one is omitted, we encourage all individuals and businesses in Prairie Village and Mission Hills to log onto the City's website, [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com), and follow the CODE RED link to the "CODE RED Residential and Business Data Collection" page. Those without Internet access can call Communications Supervisor Tim Kobe at 913/385-4620 and leave the following information to be added to the database: first and last Name, physical address (no PO Boxes), city, state, zip code, and primary phone number, additional phone number if available such as a cell phone (optional). Remember, it must be a Prairie Village or Mission Hills address to be accepted into the system. If you have any questions, please call Tim Kobe at 913/385-4620.

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Municipal Office | 7700 Mission Road | Prairie Village, Kansas 66208 | 913-381-6464 | [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com)



# Mayor's Message

On January 12th, the 2009 session of the Kansas Legislature began in Topeka. For the next few months, Representatives and Senators from across the state will be considering the State budget and issues which will affect the lives of all Kansans, including those of us in Prairie Village.

For over 19 years I have had the honor of serving Prairie Village residents, first as a council member serving Ward 1 and, since, 1999, as your Mayor. During this time two of the most important things I've learned regarding the State Legislature are that bills can be proposed, debated, and passed very quickly, and that your state Representatives and Senator value your opinion and would like to hear from you.

There are several ways to stay abreast of developments in the Statehouse. You can follow the Legislature's activities in local newspapers and on the Internet. The Legislature's web site, [www.kslegislature.org](http://www.kslegislature.org), provides a wealth of information about bills that have been proposed and their status in the legislative process. The site also provides links to the full text of bills, state statutes, and links to your state legislators. You can even listen-in live to the Legislature while it's in session. A toll-free Legislative Hot-line is also available by calling 1-800-432-3924.

Your state legislators take your opinions and concerns seriously, and would like to know what you think about the issues. All can be contacted by either phone or e-mail.

- Sen. David Wysong (R) - District 7  
785-296-7369  
[wysong@senate.state.ks.us](mailto:wysong@senate.state.ks.us)
- Rep. Kay Wolf (R) - District 21  
785-296-7655  
[wolf@house.state.ks.us](mailto:wolf@house.state.ks.us)
- Rep. Lisa Benlon (D) - District 22  
785-296-7643  
[benlon@house.state.ks.us](mailto:benlon@house.state.ks.us)
- Rep. Terrie Huntington (R) - District 25  
785-296-7667  
[huntington@house.state.ks.us](mailto:huntington@house.state.ks.us)

Becoming and remaining an educated and active citizen requires some effort, but is very rewarding. Each of us should do our best to stay informed about the issues and communicate our thoughts with our elected representatives at all levels of government. Thank you for your interest; it will be welcomed.

Sincerely,  
Ron Shaffer, Mayor

## Adopt A Monument Save Outdoor Sculpture!

A local monument preservation organization, Adopt A Monument, will offer free hands on training to any Prairie Village Homes Association that would like to participate and learn how to maintain outdoor public sculpture on the islands in their neighborhood. The workshops will be offered this spring on Fridays or Saturdays upon request.

Adopt A Monument, part of the national Save Outdoor Sculpture! (SOS!) project, is sponsored locally by the City of Fountains Foundation. Through their efforts, over \$200,000 has been committed to repair and annually maintain local outdoor public sculptures and fountains. The group trained maintenance staff from the City of Prairie Village in 2006, using the bronze sculpture in front of City Hall as a model.

Paul Benson, a conservator at the Nelson-Atkins Museum, a member of the Kansas City Adopt A Monument committee and a Prairie Village resident, is available to show volunteers from the Homes Associations how to properly clean stone or bronze monuments. If your Homes Association would like a training demonstration this spring, please call Joanie Shields at 913-908-7840.

## Brick Order Deadline April 1st

The Prairie Village Arts Council continues to sell personalized bricks for the Community Center patio. If you would like to order a brick for yourself or a loved one, your order must be received by April 1st for the brick to be installed in time for VillageFest 2009. Individual bricks are priced at \$35, with a portion of

the amount being tax-deductible. Corporate sponsorships begin at \$100.

For more information, contact Jeanne Koontz at 913-381-6464 or send an email to [jkoontz@pvkansas.com](mailto:jkoontz@pvkansas.com).

Order forms are available at City Hall or [www.pvkansas.com/aboutpv/Pave\\_the\\_Patio.shtml](http://www.pvkansas.com/aboutpv/Pave_the_Patio.shtml).



## Nominations Being Accepted for Arbor Day Honoree

The Prairie Village Tree Board is accepting nominations for this year's Arbor Day Honoree. This is an opportunity for the community to recognize the efforts and contributions of outstanding citizens who have made a difference in Prairie Village. Nominees must be current or former Prairie Village residents. Their efforts should have had a positive and lasting impact on the community; they may be living or deceased individuals or couples and may have served the community in any capacity. Nominations will be accepted until February 28, 2009. You may obtain nomination forms online at [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com) or at the Municipal Offices. Nominations received after that date will be considered for the following year. Nominations will be considered for three years before being removed from consideration.

## Part-Time Animal Enumerators Needed

The City of Prairie Village is seeking individuals for temporary employment to conduct a door-to-door animal census within the City. Workers must provide their own transportation and will receive mileage reimbursement. Flexible working hours, including evenings and weekends. Census will be conducted Mid-March to May. Send letter of interest to Human Resources Specialist at 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, Kansas 66208 or email [jobs@pvkansas.com](mailto:jobs@pvkansas.com).

## Lifeguard and Operations Attendant Applications are Being Accepted

The City of Prairie Village is accepting applications for lifeguards and operations attendants for the 2009 pool season. Lifeguard pay starts at \$8.46/hour. Operations attendants begin at \$7.25/hour.

The American Red Cross will once again be offering lifeguard certification courses starting in late winter and early spring. **All Prairie Village lifeguards must be Red Cross certified before they can start.**

Applications are available on-line at [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com). Please contact Chris Engel at 913-381-6464 or [cengel@pvkansas.com](mailto:cengel@pvkansas.com) for further information.

## SHOE RECYCLING PROJECT

The Prairie Village Environmental Committee and The Shawnee Mission East High School Environmental Club are sponsoring a community-wide shoe drive in conjunction with Earth Day.

A photo, by Shawnee Mission East graduate, Amy Gottlieb, now in Africa with the Global Aids Program, has inspired her former high school and hometown to undertake a mammoth shoe collection of gently worn adult and children shoes. (No high heels) The

project will be coordinated by Elite Feet and Soles4Souls who will make sure the donated shoes will be delivered locally, nationally, and internationally.

Collection boxes will be in SME High School, Prairie Village City Hall (beginning March 1st) and Elite Shoe.

Store in Hawthorn Plaza, and in various elementary and middle schools around the City. Donations of money also can be made at the school to offset shipping costs. Collection will be ongoing through the months of February and March, with a central day of collection on April 11 at SME High School in conjunction

# Arts

## COUNCIL

### Prairie Village

#### PRESENTS

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

**January and February**  
During the months of January and February artwork owned by the City of Prairie Village will be featured in the R. G. Endres Gallery. The reception will be held on February 13th at 6:30 p.m.

**March**  
**Deana Winter**  
Mixed Media  
Opening reception March 13th, 6:30 p.m.

**April**  
**Christi Roberts-Bony**  
Oils  
Opening Reception April 10th, 6:30 pm

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Gallery hours are Mon - Fri  
8:00am - 5:00pm.  
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with Earth Day. The community is encouraged to participate. For further questions, please contact Margaret Goldstein, 913-722-4141, or Marilyn Koshland 913-722-6611.





**Prairie Village**

# Notes

## Offices Closed

City Offices will be closed in observance of President's Day on Monday, February 16, 2009.

## 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.

On the Friday before each meeting, an information packet, including the meeting agenda, is available online at [www.pykansas.com](http://www.pykansas.com).

## Tax Forms available at Municipal Building

2008 Kansas State Individual Income Tax and Food Sales Tax Refund and 2008 Corporate Income Tax Forms are available in the lobby of the Municipal Offices, 7700 Mission Road, Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

## Ensuring quality Time Warner Cable service

As part of the company's commitment to quality, Time Warner Cable is beginning neighborhood sweeps to help ensure that Prairie Village customers receive the best possible Cable, Digital Phone and High-Speed Online service. Over the next few months, Time Warner Cable representatives will inspect connections both inside and outside homes and fix any issues. If you have questions about the inspections or Time Warner Cable services, contact John Ferry at 816-215-9000 or [john.ferry@twcable.com](mailto:john.ferry@twcable.com).



# Crime Prevention

with Officer Dan Robles

## Are You a Crime of Opportunity?

When I was reviewing police reports for the past year and looking at patterns and trends of burglaries and other crimes in Prairie Village, I noticed patterns and trends of some of the victims. Read on and see if you may have asked yourself one of the questions below.

- Do you leave your home "for just a minute" with the door unlocked?
- Do you check your home's doors before going to bed to make sure your home is secure?
- Do you "accidentally" leave your garage door open all night long?
- Do you leave your home completely dark when you are not home at night?
- Do you leave your car running, unattended and unlocked outside when it is warming up on cold mornings?
- Do you lock your car door the moment you enter it and make it as important as putting on your seat belt?

- Do you not use the "Buddy System" when out shopping or running errands?
- Do you try to remember to be crime prevention aware?

As you ponder these questions the Crime Prevention Unit wants you to remember to make crime prevention awareness one of your New Year's resolutions. It is always easy to question yourself after being the victim of crime, but it is much easier to ask yourself these questions before it happens. Feel free to contact the Crime Prevention Unit with your comments or questions at 913-385-4613 or e-mail [drobles@pykansas.com](mailto:drobles@pykansas.com).

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

