

VOICE

The Star of Kansas



PROJECT UPDATE

Construction season has arrived in Prairie Village! 2010 will usher in dozens of improvement projects throughout the City. In late 2009, the City Council recognized the benefits of the current construction market and issued municipal bonds to accelerate the five year capital improvement plan. The City's sound financial situation and low debt level enabled this opportunity. Funds were borrowed at a rate of 1.88% and the low construction costs allowed more projects than anticipated to be completed – and sooner. A majority of the bonds will be repaid within five years.

O'Donnell and Son's Construction was awarded the construction contract after a competitive bid process. O'Donnell crews are making every effort to start and complete the work in a timely fashion. With good weather the contractor can accomplish significant work. Recently the contractor placed one mile of curb and gutter in one day on Fontana Street between 75th Street and 79th Street. On Saturday, the next day, they replaced all of the driveway approaches on Fontana Street.

Two streets, 80th Terrace (Rosewood Drive to 81st Street) and 79th Terrace (Nall Avenue to Rosewood Drive), have already been reconstructed with new pavement, curbs, sidewalks, and driveway approaches – and the projects were substantially completed by mid-April. Three other streets are under construction: Fontana Street (79th Street to 75th Street), El Monte Street (north of 75th Street) and Canterbury Street (north of 79th Street). Utility work is ongoing at three other locations.

Drainage work continues in and around Franklin Park as construction crews replace aged metal pipe with concrete pipe. Franklin Park renovations will begin in early summer and include a wider path, restroom facility, pavilion, additional parking and a "nature-play" area.

City officials understand the impacts to residents during construction work and your patience is appreciated as the improvements are completed. For a complete listing of projects and their status, visit the Orange Barrel Report at www.pvkansas.com under Public Works.



FEATURES:

4 Village Fest



5 Waste Management Changes



7 50 Plus Program



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Ron Shaffer

At various times, we at the City feel it is important that our citizen leaders share their views on issues which are important to each of us. We feel this is the time.

Over the last couple of years the State Legislature has looked at ways to reduce their budget based on the current economic conditions. This year the Kansas Legislature is trying to close over a \$500 Million shortfall for the 2011 state budget. Given the importance of education in our community, I asked Superintendent Dr. Gene Johnson to provide an update on the Shawnee Mission School District. Thank you Dr. Johnson for this important information.

Ron Shaffer, Mayor



Gene Johnson

The Shawnee Mission School District serves fourteen cities within its boundaries. The City of Prairie Village has long been a strong supporter of the school district. Shawnee Mission East High School; Indian Hills and Mission Valley middle schools; and Belinder, Briarwood, Corinth, Trailwood, Highlands, Tomahawk and Prairie elementary schools serve Prairie Village students.

During the past 15 years, residents of the city have offered ongoing support for capital bond elections that have provided important school renovations, improvements, and new school facilities totaling a third of a billion dollars. Unfortunately, in the last two years the school district has been negatively affected by challenging economic conditions. In spite of that, our students continue to achieve at levels far and above those of other students in Kansas and across the nation. Last year, Shawnee Mission students achieved a five-year high on the American College Test, and our graduation rates continue to be extremely strong. In 2009, high school seniors attending our five high schools earned more than \$43 million in scholarship offers. The district's staff and students continue to work hard to achieve great success despite the economic conditions.

The reduction in funding for public education in Kansas has hit the Shawnee Mission School District very hard. Last year, the district made reductions totaling \$10.6 million which included reducing more than 100 staff members across the district. To date, the school district has received \$17.8 million in funding cuts from the state. To address these significant reductions, another \$10 million in reductions for the 2010-2011 school year has been recommended to the Shawnee Mission Board of Education. These reductions include a loss of another 127 staff members. Based on the current school finance formula, the district continues to rank in the bottom 10 percent in available funding from the state. To address this issue, our community has fully supported the local option budget which allows district residents to support our schools with local taxes that equate to thirty-one percent of our general fund budget. Without this exemplary support, the school district would not

ELECTED OFFICIALS

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be able to offer the programs for students that our community expects.

On behalf of the Board of Education, I ask for your continued support as we work to continue to provide outstanding opportunities for our students in these challenging times. Quality K-12 education in our school district and in districts across the State of Kansas is essential. We must work together to advocate for adequate funding so that we can continue to provide educational experiences for our students that will prepare them to be contributing adults and future community leaders.

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COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT

FRANKLIN PARK UPDATE

Considered by many to be the “crown jewel” of the Prairie Village park system, Franklin Park is celebrating its thirtieth year with a facelift. Purchased in March 1980 from Betty Calvin with bond proceeds and a substantial grant awarded by the Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks, Franklin Park is named for former Mayor William E. Franklin (1973 – 1979).

Once completed, Franklin Park quickly became one of the most attractive and frequented parks in the area. Since that time, the City has maintained the park to a very high standard but very little has changed within the park. As part of the recently completed Parks Master Plan process which included a series of public meetings and interviews with visitors at the parks, Franklin Park was identified as one of the city parks that would benefit greatly by some updates and enhancements. The Parks & Recreation Committee took those recommendations to heart and chose Franklin Park as the first park to kick off the implementation of the plan. Key improvements to the park include the widening of the park trail to 8’, additional parking, the addition of a new park shelter, restroom facilities and nature-play elements that allow children of all ages to interact with their natural surroundings.



These new enhancements will truly make Franklin Park special and renew the strong sense of pride we all have for our parks. Unfortunately these improvements will also be highly disruptive to residents that frequent the park throughout the coming year. The perimeter trail has already been affected this spring by the stormwater upgrades occurring as part of the bonded Public Works projects. In addition, the northern baseball fields are out of commission for the season while irrigation and drainage improvements occur. Most

noticeably unavailable this summer will be the central portion of the park that contains the current play equipment, sand boxes and parking lot. This is the area of the park that will receive the bulk of the enhancements and therefore be completely inaccessible for the duration of the summer. The city will work with the contractor to minimize the time the park amenities are unavailable. The project is scheduled to last into early fall. We apologize for the inconvenience this causes and thank you for your patience and steadfast support of our parks.

For more information please visit www.pvkansas.com or contact Chris Engel at cengel@pvkansas.com or 913-381-6464.

Arts COUNCIL Prairie Village

Mark your calendars now to view these exhibits and attend opening receptions honoring these talented artists. Gallery hours are Monday – Friday, 8:00 am – 5:00 pm.

MAY

Join us for an evening with two extraordinary State of the Arts’ artists, Rod Atteberry and Otto Miller, whose experiences will take you on a visual journey to lands far away. A reception will be held on May 14th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.

JUNE

Capturing nature in all its glory is the inspiration behind the art of Marearl Denning. Best known for her photography, Marearl returns to the R.G. Endres Gallery for yet another exhibit. Those familiar with her talents know she holds a degree in Fine Arts & Graphic Design from Fort Hays State University and has actively pursued sharing her vision of nature with the general public. A reception will be held on June 11th from 6:30 to 7:30 pm.



By Marearl Denning

PV HAPPENINGS

VillageFest 2010

July 4th is quickly approaching and planning for **VillageFest 2010** is underway. Make plans to stay in Prairie Village for the holiday and attend this FREE event on the 4th of July. Activities will include: Chris Cakes Pancake Breakfast, Live Music, Children's Parade, Inflatables, Petting Zoo and Pony Rides, Puppet Shows, Headstrong for Jake Bike Rodeo, Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove and the Hiccups!, and MUCH MUCH MORE.

Students in Prairie Village elementary and middle schools are invited to participate in the **Annual VillageFest Poster Contest**. Those who wish to participate should depict "July 4th" on 11" x 17" paper or poster board. Posters should include the child's name, age, school and phone number. Prizes will be awarded for contest winners. All posters must be submitted by May 30th to: City of Prairie Village, Attn: VillageFest Student Poster Contest, 7700 Mission Road, Prairie Village, KS 66208. Questions, contact Ed Roberts at 913-722-6185.

Events and entertainment for all ages means there are many **volunteer opportunities** available. We need volunteers between the hours of 7:00 am and 2:00 pm on July 4th. Two-hour shifts are available for the following jobs: Kiddie Ferris Wheel, Traffic Control, clean up and general help. Lunch is provided for all volunteers by Johnny's Tavern. Contact Nici Flinn at niciflinn@gmail.com to volunteer.



VillageFest is made possible through funding from the City, corporate sponsors and **Friends of VillageFest**. If you would like to support this annual event, tax-deductible contributions may be sent to:

Prairie Village Municipal Foundation
 Friends of VillageFest
 7700 Mission Road
 Prairie Village, KS 66208

For more information about corporate sponsorships, contact Jeanne Koontz at 913-385-4662 or jkoontz@pvkansas.com.

Check out www.pvkansas.com and the next issue of the Village Voice for a detailed schedule of events. Make your 4th of July special by attending VillageFest!

Pool Opens May 29th

The Prairie Village Pool Complex opens May 29th at 11:00 am. Regular hours are 11:00 am to 8:30 pm. Joel Rios will be returning as the Pool Manager for 2010. Now is the time to purchase your pool membership and register for the City's swimming, diving and tennis teams. Aquatic team registrations are due by May 21, 2010. Visit the City Clerk's Office at City Hall to purchase your membership for 2010 and your Super Pass or visit <http://pvkansas.recware.com> to register online (The Super Pass can only be purchased at City Hall). The City Clerk's Office will be open for extended hours (8:00 am to 7:00 pm) to purchase memberships on May 24, 25, 26, 27 and June 1, 2 and 3.

UPCOMING EVENTS

| <u>DATE</u> | <u>EVENT</u> | <u>TIME</u> | <u>LOCATION</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|----------------|------------------|
| May 31st | Memorial Day | Offices Closed | |
| May 3rd | Council Meeting | 7:30 pm | Council Chambers |
| May 17th | Council Meeting | 7:30 pm | Council Chambers |
| June 7th | Council Meeting | 7:30 pm | Council Chambers |
| June 21st | Council Meeting | 7:30 pm | Council Chambers |

Prairie Village Jazz Festival

The Prairie Village Jazz Festival is looking for potential sponsors and vendors. If interested please see the web site at www.pvkansasjazz.org for more information.

Prairie Village Jazz Festival's Kick-Off Party!

Celebrate the newest art event in Prairie Village!

You're invited to the Prairie Village Jazz Festival Kick-Off Party! Sponsored by US Bank, the Prairie Village Jazz Festival will hold its Kick-Off Party on Friday May 21st, 7:00 PM till 9:00 PM at US Bank located at 6940 Mission Road in Prairie Village. This FREE event will include food, libations and a live jazz performance by a special guest. The celebration is a fundraiser for the first annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival which will be held on September 11, 2010.



What: The Prairie Village Jazz Festival Kick-Off Party!

When: Friday May 21st, 7:00p.m.

Where: US Bank, 6940 Mission Road Prairie Village KS 66208

For more information visit us at www.pvkansasjazz.org

WASTE MANAGEMENT

May 3rd brings changes to Waste Management

Changes to the Waste Management Contract between the City and Deffenbaugh Industries begin May 3, 2010. Our new contract with Deffenbaugh Industries, Inc. is the result of long negotiations, thorough assessment of our solid waste, recycling, and composting needs, and pending changes in our regions regulations. Please note if your homes association currently provides trash services you should check with your association to see if any changes have been proposed to your service.

By now, Deffenbaugh has provided each household with either a 65 gallon or 35 gallon trash cart and recycling cart. Below is a list of changes. Overflow stickers may be purchased at City Hall, Euston's Hardware at the Prairie Village Shops, Westlake Hardware at the Corinth Shops and from Deffenbaugh. If you have questions regarding the changes, please contact Dennis J. Enslinger at 913-385-4603 or denslinger@pvkansas.com.

Changes to Regular Trash Collection

- Solid waste (regular trash) will be limited to what fits in the trash cart. Items must be placed in a plastic bag.
- Any excess can be set out in standard trash bags but will require an overflow waste sticker at a cost of \$1.25 per bag (sold in sheets of 10).
- Remember to not set your trash out earlier than the night before pick-up and by 7:00 a.m.

Changes to Recycling Collection

- Recycling will continue to be unlimited. You should use the cart provided.
- You may place excess recycling in your old recycling bin, or any other container labeled with the word "recycling" or the universal symbol for recycling.

Changes to Yard Waste Collection

- Yard waste may be placed in a biodegradable paper bag or a 35 gallon or less rigid container. Standard bundles of 4 feet in length and less than 18 inches in diameter are also allowed.
- You will be allowed 8 items each week (any combination of bags, containers, or bundles) during the months of January, February, May, June, July and December.
- You will be allowed 12 items each week during the months of March, April, August, September, October and November.
- Any excess can be set out in approved containers, bags, or bundles but will require an overflow waste sticker at a cost of \$1.25 per item (sold in sheets of 10).

Changes to Bulky Item Pickup

- You will be allowed one bulky item each month. Monthly bulky items must be smaller items such as rugs, counter top appliances, or small furniture. Bulky items shall be placed out the first full week of the month on your regular trash day.



- The City will still hold a City-wide annual Bulky item Pickup in April.
- The following items are excluded from bulky item pickup: construction materials, automotive parts, tires, batteries, hazardous waste, etc.
- If you have more than one bulky item you will still be able to schedule a bulky item pickup with Deffenbaugh for a separate fee.

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

CITY HALL & MUNICIPAL COURT

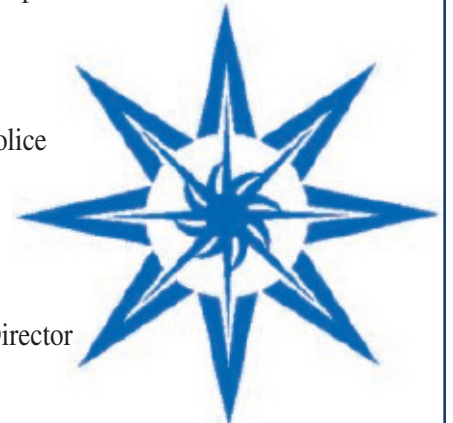
7700 Mission Rd
 Quinn Bennion, City Administrator
 Dennis Enslinger, Assistant City Administrator
 Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk
 Bettina Jamerson, Municipal Court Administrator

PUBLIC SAFETY

7710 Mission Rd
 Wes Jordan, Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS

3535 Somerset Dr
 Keith Bredehoeft
 Interim Public Works Director



913-381-6464 • info@pvkansas.com • www.pvkansas.com

PUBLIC SAFETY

Crime Prevention



Matt Boggs

My name is Matt Boggs and I am the new Crime Prevention Officer for Prairie Village. I graduated from Kansas State University in 2004 and moved to the Kansas City area after graduation. I started my career with the University of Kansas Medical Center Police Department in July of 2005. I have been employed with the City of Prairie Village since May of 2007. Most of my career has

been in the Patrol Division until I was transferred to the Crime Prevention position. As a Crime Prevention Officer, some of my duties include business security checks, free home security surveys, personal safety talks for all ages, contacting victims of crime and anything else Crime Prevention related.

As the weather gets warmer, more people will be outside enjoying the late evening sunlight and tending to their landscape. Temptations

to leave windows and doors open will be high. Burglars see an open window or door and take the opportunity to seize your property. Make sure to shut windows, doors and garage doors when you leave. It only takes a moment to gain entry and steal small items such as car keys, laptops and cameras. Keep these items out of sight of windows.

As I mentioned earlier, one of my jobs is to perform free home security surveys. One of the most common security weaknesses, I have noticed, is that most door frames are the standard wood frame. These frames can be susceptible to being forced open. Many companies offer products to reinforce these standard door frames, and are available online or at your local hardware stores. At a minimum you need a heavy duty, high security strike plate installed with four 3-inch wood screws. This will give you more protection when you have a 1-inch deadbolt.

I look forward to meeting you and keep reading the Village Voice for more Crime Prevention tips. Please contact me by telephone at 913-385-4613 or e-mail mboggs@pvkansas.com with your Crime Prevention questions or to schedule a home security survey. Together we can make Crime Prevention a community effort as we strive to keep Prairie Village a safe place to live.

2010 Census – You Matter

When you fill out the census form, you're making a statement about what resources your community needs going forward.

Accurate data reflecting changes in your community are crucial in apportioning seats in the U.S. House of Representatives and deciding how more than \$400 billion per year is allocated for projects like new hospitals and schools. In addition, residents themselves have used census data to support community initiatives involving environmental legislation, quality-of-life issues and consumer advocacy.

By being counted you are standing up for what your community's needs are. During April 2010 and July 2010, Census takers will visit households that did not return a census form by mail. The census taker will ONLY ask the questions that appear on the census form. If a census taker visits you, here's what you should do:

- First ask to see their ID. All census workers carry official government badges marked with just their name; they may also have a "U.S. Census Bureau" bag
- Note that the census taker will never ask to enter your home



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2010

- If you're still not certain about their identity, please call the Regional Census Center to confirm they are employed by the Census Bureau 1-800-923-8282
- Answer the census form questions for your entire household so that the census taker can record the results for submission to the Census Bureau

COMMUNITY CORNER



2010 is the 100th anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America. On Saturday, April 10 over 70 local scouts laid over twelve truckloads of mulch in Harmon and Porter Parks.

Summer Events at the Shops

The **55th Annual Prairie Village Art Show** will take place June 4, 5 & 6, 2010 at the Prairie Village Shopping Center. Over 100 artists from across the country will appear in this year's art show. Street dances will be held on Friday and Saturday nights and activities for the kids will be ongoing the entire weekend. Visit www.prairievillageshops.com for more information.

The second annual **Kids Flea Market** will take place at Corinth Square on June 5th from 10 am – 1 pm sponsored by The Learning Tree. It is an opportunity for your child to resell all his/her gently used toys at a price he/she decides on. All leftover toys will be donated to Operation Breakthrough. Contact The Learning Tree for more information 913-385-1234.

Creation Care Earth Fair

Village Presbyterian Church will host a Creation Care Earth Fair from 11 am-4 pm, Saturday, May 15. Environmental speakers, exhibitors, and vendors will provide loads of information and resources. The Mid-America Electric Auto Association will display electric vehicles in the church parking lot at 6641 Mission Rd., Prairie Village. Admission is Free. For more information, contact 913-262-4200.

Fourth Friday Concerts

Live music and free food will be center stage at the sixth annual Fourth Friday Concerts in the Park series, sponsored by Hillcrest Covenant Church, Hy-Vee (91st & Metcalf), and Boy Scout Troop 284. Due to the expected construction this summer at Franklin Park, our concerts will move for this season to the Harmon Shelter at Harmon Park (77th Place & Delmar) in Prairie Village. Bring a lawn chair and join us on the fourth Friday in June, July and August from 6:30-8:30pm!

Mark your calendar for these 2010 dates:

- June 25 – Recess (rock 'n' roll)
- July 23 – KC Rain Dogs (old country blues, boogie-woogie, and early rock 'n' roll)
- August 27 – Prairie Pocket Pickers (old time and blue grass)

50 Plus Programming

No experience necessary in this absolute **BASIC BEGINNER PAINTING** class for 50 PLUS! Your instructor, Barbara O'Leary, discusses the different painting mediums and how they act and react. Learn to sketch and then paint a work of art. Classes meet at the Prairie Village Community Center Wednesdays at 10AM.

Try **HATHA YOGA** to learn basic yoga poses and reshape your body and mind in one total body workout. Use of light hand weights is optional. Classes meet at the Prairie Village Community Center on Thursdays at 8:30am. Please call 913-826-3160 for more information.

Get **FIT AND FEISTY** with an energizing morning workout of low impact aerobics, Pilates and strength training. Exercises stretch and tone your body while providing an effective cardiovascular workout. Classes meet at the Prairie Village Community Center Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7:30am.

These programs are brought to you by the Johnson County Park & Recreation District 50 Plus Program. Sign up for any program at least a week ahead of time at the Roeland Park office by calling (913) 826-3160.



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

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Experience Prairie Village's premier country club with your neighbors

Prairie Village/Meadowbrook Golf Classic
Wednesday, May 19th

- 11:00AM Registration - 1:00PM Tee Off
- 4 person team scramble - Individuals welcome
- 80 players maximum (20 teams)
- Sign-up deadline: Wednesday, May 12th
- Team captain must be a Prairie Village resident
- Play golf with Mayor Ronald L. Shaffer
- 18-holes, golf cart, lunch, and hors d' oeuvres included

Sign up by email or phone:

golfshop@meadowbrookcc.org
913-642-3161

Entry Fee:

\$320 per 4 person team
(\$80 per individual)



Prairie Village/Meadowbrook
GOLF CLASSIC



For more information go to: www.pvkansas.com or meadowbrookcc.org