

60 YEARS



CLASSIC SUBURBAN EXCELLENCE



PRAIRIE VILLAGE CELEBRATES 60 YEARS

Incorporated as a City of the Third Class under the laws of Kansas in 1951, Prairie Village celebrates its 60th Anniversary this year. At the time of incorporation there were approximately 2,500 residents. In 1953 Prairie Village became a City of the Second Class and in 1957 a City of the First Class.

Prairie Village city limits once belonged to the Kansa, Osage, and Shawnee Indians, who moved into the Kansas Territory from Ohio and Missouri. The land eventually became farmland and was first settled by the Porter family. The Prairie Village Shops are located where the Porter homestead once stood. Real estate mogul J.C. Nichols purchased the Porter farmland and began the development of Prairie Village. He had visions of transforming the rolling hills into a well-planned community of beautiful homes and neighborhood shopping centers. By 1949, more than 1,000 homes had been built in Prairie Village.

Prairie Village was awarded a first place rating by the National Association of Home Builders in 1950 as the "Best Complete Community Development in the United States." The City continues to receive awards. In 2005, Prairie Village was named one of the five best suburban cities in the region by the Kansas City Star. In 2006, it was named one of the five most efficient cities in the entire region by the Kansas City Star.

To recognize the City's 60th Anniversary, celebrations will take place at the 15th Annual VillageFest Celebration on July 4th from 7:30 am – 1:30 pm at 7700 Mission Rd. Join us for a day of fun celebrating the history of our city and the history of our nation.

(Portions of this article were taken from Prairie Village Our Story)

FEATURES:









MAYOR'S MESSAGE



Greetings,

Prairie Village is now 60 years young. Incorporated as a City on February 19, 1951, the City has only improved with age. Turning sixty definitely deserves a celebration and the VillageFest Committee has planned special anniversary events that will be incorporated in our VillageFest celebration on July 4th. So please plan to come and celebrate two significant

milestones in Prairie Village history. See pages 5-7 for more information.

On looking back, it is amazing that we have a number of residents and businesses who have made Prairie Village their home for 50 years or more. That is one of the things that makes Prairie Village unique. On my street, we have a number of neighbors who have become life-long friends over the 23 years we have lived on Homestead Drive.

Even though summer is a busy time, I would encourage you to get to know your neighbors by having a block party in celebration of the City's 60th Anniversary. The relationships that are created help to make Prairie Village a better place by fostering community and continuing the tradition of our City as a village. Contact Byron Roberson at 913-385-4617 to find out more information on sponsoring a block party.

As the City continues to celebrate our heritage as a classic suburban community, we strive to ensure that we are good stewards of this image by making sure that we meet the needs of the residents. The City continually looks at ways to enhance our community, such as the recently completed improvements at Franklin Park, the proposed improvements to Weltner Park, creation of walking and biking trails throughout the City, and making sure we continue to invest in the maintenance of our streets and other public infrastructure.

In addition, the City is pleased with the new restaurants and businesses which have chosen to make Prairie Village their home. Over the past year, the City has seen a commitment by local entrepreneurs to create truly unique places to eat, shop and transact business in Prairie Village. Please take the opportunity to support these local establishments who, in cooperation with residents, help to keep Prairie Village a viable and exceptional place to live and work.

After 60 years, Prairie Village continues to be a classic suburb focused on excellence. Our community spirit and pride are still as strong today as they were 60 years ago when the City was founded. It makes me proud to be Mayor of Prairie Village, as I know you are just as proud to call PV your home.

Happy 60th Anniversary to Prairie Village, and have an enjoyable summer.

Sincerely,

Ron Shaffer, Mayor

ELECTED OFFICIALS

	MAYOR Ron Shaffer	831-0907 vkansas.com
	WARD I Al Herrera. aherrera@p Dale Warman dwarman@p	<u>vkansas.com</u> 236-9730
	WARD II Steve Noll	<u>vkansas.com</u> 384-0165
>	WARD III Michael Kelly Andrew Wang awang@p	vkansas.com
	WARD IV Laura Wassmer lwassmer@p Dale Beckerman dbeckerman@p	<u>vkansas.com</u> 341-0520
Stefe	dmorrison@p Charles Clark	1.00
	Diana Ewy Sharp	648-2459 vkansas.com 383-2291 vkansas.com

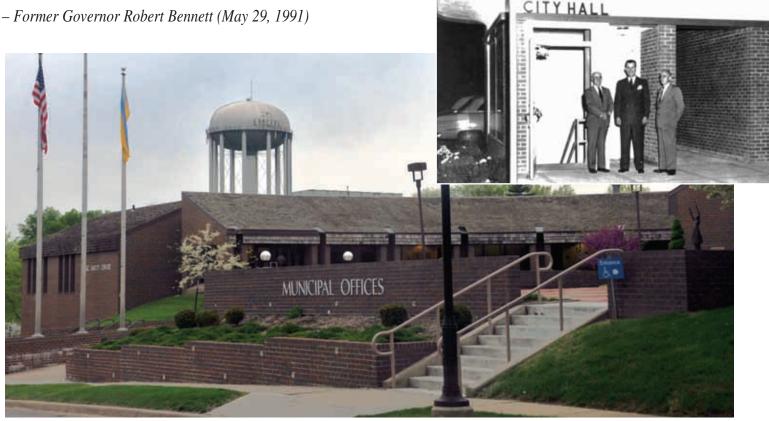
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(CITY ACCOMPLISHMENTS)

"I think the one thing that set Prairie Village apart from many other cities was a high degree of volunteerism - and in a large part, still is."



Grand Opening of the first Prairie Village City Hall - pictured from left to right are Ralph Grant, J.C. Nichols Co. - Martin Ziegler, County Commissioner - Frank grant, J.C. Nichols Co., October 1951: Current Municipal Offices.

Prairie Village, a Community Involved

- 10 individuals have served as Mayor
- 160 individuals have served on the City Council
- 62 volunteer committees
- 1,141 individuals who have volunteered on a committee
- Former Governor of Kansas Robert F. Bennett
- Former United States Senator James Pearson
- Former United States Representative Larry Winn, Sr.

- Former State Senators Audrey Langworthy and Robert F. Bennett
- State Representative Kay Wolf
- Former State Representatives Barbara Allen; Sue Storm: Robert McCrum and Gary Blumenthal
- Former County Commissioners Sue E. Weltner; Gary Anderson and Bill Franklin

Prairie Village, a City of Firsts

- First Planned Shopping Center in Johnson County
- First City to adopt Solar Energy Regulations 1981
- First City to telecast "live" City Council Meetings on Cable Television
- First City to adopt "No Smoking" ordinance
- First City to establish a City-wide Recycling Program
- First Johnson County City to obtain international accreditation from the Commission on Accreditation of Law Enforcement Agencies

ADWARDS

National Association of Home Builders Names Prairie Village as

"The Best Planned Community in America" (1949)

"Prairie Village rated most efficient" (1993)

Prairie Village rated 1st in Public Safety & Public Works Services and 4th Overall in Kansas City Star Rankings (2006)



THEN AND NOW

CATEGORY	1951	2011	
POPULATION: Qualified Electors % of Children	1,360 769 40%	21,227 16,581 21%	
RESIDENTIAL PARCELS: Homes Associations	463 2	9,243 40	
GENERAL BOUNDARIES	North: 67th Street East: Mission Road South: 69th Terrace West: Roe Avenue	North: 75th/63rd/71st Street East: Mission/State Line Rd South: 83rd/95th/Somerset West: Lamar/Nall	
GOVERNMENT	Mayor & 5 Council members City of the 3rd Class	Mayor & 12 Council members City of the 1st Class	
BUDGET Revenue Expenditures # of Employees Personnel Costs	\$8,133.16 \$1,976.62 1 \$600	\$21,012,913 \$22,849,862 130 \$8,529,376	
# SCHOOLS	1	10	
# CHURCHES	6	18	

CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

CITY HALL & MUNICIPAL COURT

7700 Mission Rd Quinn Bennion, City Administrator Dennis Enslinger, Assistant City Administrator

Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director Bettina Jamerson

Court Administrator

PUBLIC SAFETY

7710 Mission Rd Wes Jordan, Chief of Police

PUBLIC WORKS

3535 Somerset Dr Bruce McNabb Public Works Director

913-381-6464

info@pvkansas.com www.pvkansas.com





BACK TO THE 50'S!

Prairie Village celebrates 60th Anniversary at the 15th Annual VillageFest Celebration

On February 19, 1951, Prairie Village was incorporated as a city! Sock hops, poodle skirts, hula hoops, roller skating, and rock and roll were all the craze. Join us this 4th of July, 7:30 am – 1:30 pm at 77th & Mission Rd as we celebrate:



UNITED STATES' 235TH ANNIVERSARY KANSAS' 150TH ANNIVERSARY PRAIRIE VILLAGE'S 60TH ANNIVERSARY VILLAGEFEST'S 15TH ANNIVERSARY

Wow! That is a lot to celebrate this 4th of July!

Our Independence Day celebration features special events that you won't want to miss:

- Twist and Shout to the music of the 50's and 60's with Neon Blue from 12:00 1:30 pm on the main stage.
- Dust of those roller-skates or rollerblades and join in the Children's Parade at 11:00 am.
- Test your skill in the **Hula Hoop Contest** at the Harmon Park Pavilion at 10:00 am!
- History buff? Give it your best shot in the **Prairie Village Trivia** contest during the day at the pavilion!
- Prairie Village: A Retrospective Look at the Past 60 Years! Visit the Council Chambers in City Hall from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm to view historical photos of the City.
- Watch the skies at 9:45 am for the skydive team from **Skydive Kansas City** as they present the United States flag!
- Guys & Gals: **1950's Attire Encouraged!** Poodle skirts & scarves, blue jeans & white t-shirts, leather jackets (and, yes, we do realize it's Kansas in July!)



Find more details about VillageFest on pages 6 and 7! Hope to see you there!

We would like to say a special thanks to our Friends of VillageFest sponsors!

Danda Trouve Investment Management Doris K. Wiegers Food Trends

Kelly H. Toombs, D.D.S.-Orthodontics Corinth Dentistry / Mark W. Wooddy, DDS Quinn & Heidi Bennion

Prairie Village Animal Hospital Homes Associations of Kansas City, Inc. W. Stuart Dexter, DDS

Joe & Grace Zimmerman Robert & Mary McGowan Café Provence

Curtis & Associates, Inc. Steve & Marianne Noll Charles & Virginia Clark Fund

Fry Orthodontics AYC Health & Fitness Gordon Risk MD

A.J. LoScalzo Thomas H. Faerber, MD Lathrop & Gage

60 YEARS OF CLASSIC SUBURBAN ELEGANCE

15 YEARS OF JULY 4TH CELEBRATIONS

Parking

Entrance Closed

Prairie Village Pool Complex Free Swim 11:00-6:00

RESTROOMS

Rodeo

City Hall Parking Lot

Area

RESTROOMS Plaza

City Hall

Water Station

Info Booth & Volunteer Check-In

Police Station RESTROOMS

Food

Vendor

Main Stage Directly Across From City Hall

Children's Parade Staging Area and

Starting Point

Community Center Lawn

Food Vendor

Community Center RESTROOMS

Water Station

HyVee Food Station

Disabled Entrance Only

Pony Rides and Puppet Show

Harmon Park Pavilion

Chris Cakes Pancake Breakfast Patriotic Service

RESTROOMS

Skate **Board Facility**

ADA Parking

Police Department/

Med-Act Display

Skydiver Landing Zone

> CFD#2 Fire Department Display

60 YEARS OF CLASSIC SUBURBAN ELEGANCE

PRAIRIE VILLAGE JULY 4" 2011 VILLAGE FEST

15 YEARS OF JULY 4TH CELEBRATIONS

CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

Monday, July 4th • 7:30 am - 1:30 pm • Prairie Village Municipal Campus • 7700 Mission Road

Attractions

AND DESCRIPTION OF STATE OF STATE	
All Day Events	9:00-1:30
Information Booth	
Skate Board FacilityNear Co	ity Hall Parking Lot
R.G. Endres Art Gallery	Inside City Hall
60° Anniversary Slideshow In City	Council Chambers
Food for Purchase	
Chris Cakes Harmon Park Pavilion Hosted by Old Mission Masonic Lodge #1	
C-C Food & Beverage City Hall Parking	Lot 9:00-1:30
Popcorn Man City Hall Parking Lot	9:00-1:30
Hy-Vee Community Center Lawn	10:30-1:30
Displays	
City Committee & Sponsor Displays. Community Center Lawn	9:00–1:30
Police Department/Med-Act Display. City Hall Parking Lot	
Fire Department Display Church Parking Lot	9:00-1:30
Special Events	
60° Anniversary Celebration	All Day
Skydivers West of Skate Park	9:45
Child ID Program (CHIPS) Council Chan	nbers9:00-1:00
Trivia Contest Pavilion	7:30-11:30
Hula Hoop Contest Pavilion	10:00
Bike Rodeo City Hall Parking Lot	10:00-Noon
Free Swim Prairie Village Pool Complex.	11:00-6:00
Children's Parade In Front of City Hall. Bring your rollerskates to help celebrate to Anniversary, or decorate your bikes, trikes meet east of City Hall by 10:45. All are we participate. No registration needed.	he City's 60th and wagons and

, itel motions
Climbing Wall City Hall Parking Lot8:30-1:30
Spin the Apple City Hall Parking Lot8:30-1:30
YMCA Kids Tumbling Area CC Lawn9:00-1:30
Games 2U Mobile Van City Hall Parking Lot 9:30-1:30
Human Hamster Balls North of Main Stage 9:30-1:30
Creativity Center Community Center9:30-1:30
Petting Zoo Community Center Lawn9:30-1:30
Pany Rides South of Community Center9:30-1:30
Beaks & Wings Community Center Lawn 9:30-1:30
Wacky Banana Inflatables CC Lawn9:30-1:30 Registration is required for all inflatables. Visit the Wacky Banana registration table near the Community Center.
Pigment Pie Hair North of Main Stage 10:00-1:00
Sister Act Face Painting N. of Main Stage 10:00-1:00
Entertainment Main Stage - Directly Across From City Hall
Funky Mama9:30-10:00
Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove and the Hiccups!10:00-11:00
Neon BlueNoon-1:30
South of Community Center

Clement McCrae Puppets 10:00, 11:00, 12:00, 1:00

At the Harmon Park Pavilion
Patriotic Service9:00-9:45

- Welcome by Mayor / Pledge of Allegiance
- Susan Lee singing Star Spangled Banner & God Bless America
- · Student Poster Contest Winners
- · Community Spirit Awards

Special Guests

National Guard City Hall Parking Lot.	9:00-1:30
Grego's Balloons City Hall Parking Le	9:30-1:30
Uncle Sam	10:00-Noon
Forever Young Clowns	10:00-1:00

Free Parking:

Shawnee Mission East High School 7500 Mission Road

Mission Road Bible Church 7820 Mission Road

Mission Road Community of Christ Church 7842 Mission Road

Restrooms:

City Hall Police Department Community Center Harmon Park Pavilion Prairie Village Pool Complex

Lost and Found:

Information Booth located in front of City Hall

For More Information:

Call City Hall at 913-381-6464 or find us on FaceBook: Prairie Village VillageFest or visit...

www.pvkansas.com

Day of event – Look for volunteers in VillageFest shirts / vests.

Don't Forget to Bring Blankets or Lawn Chairs!

VillageFest 2011 thanks these sponsors:



THE CITY OF PRAIRIE VILLAGE





















(PRAIRIE VILLAGE BUSINESS)

Plans for the Prairie Village Shopping Center were in the works before the first home was even built – its destiny to serve as the heart of Prairie Village. Payless Grocery and Watkins Drug Store were the first to open. Business boomed and it wasn't long before more merchants followed suit.

Ask a Prairie Village native to recall his or her favorite childhood memory and chances are, you'll hear about after-school jaunts down to the "Village" for a milkshake at Watkins' soda fountain. Or maybe you'll hear about music lessons at The Toon Shop, buying comic books at the 5 & 10 Store, or tagging along with mom to pick up groceries at Payless. Many special memories were created in our local stores – for residents and store owners.

According to City records, the following businesses have been in Prairie Village since the 1940's and 1950's:

- Toon Shop 1948
- Prairie Village Hairstyling 1948
- Spanglers 1954
- Bruce Smith Drugs 1955

In addition to housing long-term businesses, the City continues to acquire new businesses that point to the strength and viability of the City. Some of the recent noteworthy additions to the City include:

- Tavern in the Village
- Story
- BRGR Kitchen & Bar
- Clique Boutique
- In Clover

During the past 60 years, many stores have come and gone, but one thing remains the same; Commerce is thriving in Prairie Village.

(Portions of this article were taken from Prairie Village Our Story)



PRAIRIE VILLAGE BEGINNINGS



The very first home was constructed on land purchased from the Thompson A. Lewis family, west of Mission Road between 67th and 69th streets. The first homeowner was Charles B. Briggs II, who bought a house at 3913 W. 69th St in September 1941. His son was the first baby born in the city.

We asked for information on the residents who have lived in the City the longest and you responded! The responses with reflections follow:

Residents who have lived in Prairie Village the longest:

- 1. John (Maurice) & Jeanne Brownlee 1949
- 2. Evelyn Little 1950
- 3. Tom Mailliard 1951
- 4. James D & Elizabeth M Carney 1952
- 5. Mrs. Max (Sue) DeWeese 1953
- 6. Charlyne Rothman 1955
- 7. Shirley Murray & Cecile Murray (sisters) 1956
- 8. Mary Gitchel 1957
- 9. Roma Tomlin 1958

Reasons they moved to Prairie Village and remained:

- Friendly neighborhood and central location
- Close to schools
- Great location and quiet neighborhood
- Availability of Veterans loan and G.I. Bill loan
- Notoriety of Sturgeon Taylor Homes
- New attractive houses

Favorite Memories:

- 1996 Torch Relay that went right by the Murray house.
- Watching the fireworks display at Indian Hills Country Club from the roof of the Jones Store. In the 50's, the Jones Store had roof-top parking.
- · Neighborhood cookouts and parties before there were fences or shrubs between properties.
- Woolf farms and the beautiful horses.

(Portions of this article were taken from Prairie Village Our Story)



MAJOR PARK IMPROVEMENTS

Prairie Village has an extensive parks system that cover 64 acres and includes 12 parks and a pool complex. The pool and parks have undergone major improvements over the years.

PARK	YEAR	MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS	PARK	YEAR	MAJOR IMPROVEMENTS Re
Bennett Park	1964	Purchased park land 1983 Implemented Master Plan which included the shelter		1977 1989	Improvements to bath houseplaced two wading pools with one pool Constructed new diving pool and separated lap pool from adult pool
Brenizer Park	2000	Public Works completed renovations to the park		1999	Replaced yard pool from duon pool with new zero depth entry pools, constructed slide pool
Franklin Park	1980 2010	Purchased park land and began development of park land Constructed park pavilion, restroom facilities and nature play area	Porter Park	1960 1981 1985 1997	Purchased land Signed a buy-lease with school district Park Dedication Constructed two pavilions
Harmon Park (previously Prairie View Park)	1955 1969 1974	Purchased park land Purchased additional land Constructed four west tennis courts, parking areas and pavilion Constructed tennis center including 6 additional courts Purchased additional park land	Prairie Park	2003 2005	Moved Prairie Family statue to park Constructed park
	1977 1978		Santa Fe Park	1989 1990 1992	Purchased park land Constructed shelter September 13, 2001 — Santa Fe Trail Dedication— recognized as historical
McCrum Park	1952 Acquired as gift from J.C. Nichols Co. Constructed tennis court, swings, slides and			landmark	
	1971	sand box Purchased additional land	Schliffke Park	1997	Bio-engineering project on Brush Creek
 Meadowlake Park		1971 Purchased land known as Meadowlake Country Club 1972 Renovated Community Center Building 1973 Constructed Tennis Courts & filled in Pool 1978 Constructed Skating Rink 1979 Purchased additional land	Skate Park	2004	Constructed skate park
(previously Prairie Village Community Center)	1972 1973 1978 1979 1983		Weltner Park (previously State Line Park	1955 1975 1993 2011	Johnson County Park & Recreation District (JCPRD) purchased land Leased park land from JCPRD Constructed basketball courts and sand volleyball court; JCPRD deeded the land to the City Street realignment, constructed pavilion, constructed play area
wadi wadi wadi		Constructed bath house, yard pool, west wading pool and diving pool Constructed 50 meter pool, filter house and east wading pool	Windsor Park	1952 1954 1955 1974	Purchased park land Constructed shelter and baseball diamond Constructed tennis court Constructed additional tennis courts







MAYORS THROUGH THE YEARS

MAYOR	TERM	ACCOMPLISHMENTS
Ralph A. Brenizer	1951-1955	 City grew to a City of the Second Class Paid Police Department formed Initial City Codes established Issued General Obligation Bonds for park land purchase
Bruce Stultz	1955-1957	 Continued growth — became City of the First Class Purchase of park land and construction of city swimming pool
Robert F. Bennett	1957-1965	 City almost doubled in size with the population more than doubling Purchased additional park land Constructed new swimming pool Council expanded to 10 members
Carl C. Schliffke	1965-1968	 Established a Fine Arts Commission Issued General Obligation Bonds for storm drainage improvements First City Planner hired
Robert D. McCrum	1968-1973	 New Municipal Building and Youth Center "Star of Kansas" established
William E. Franklin	1973-1979	 Council meetings broadcast live New tennis center/program Issued bonds for storm drainage system First City bulky item pick-up Solid Waste program initiated
Austin Harmon	1979-1983	 Major street repairs Awarded federal grant for park improvements
Sue E. Weltner	1983-1989	 Issued Industrial Revenue Bonds to support development Established new ward boundaries Updated Comprehensive Plan Developed last open land for Claridge Court
Monroe H. Taliaferro	1989-1999	 Purchased Santa Fe Trail Park 4-year terms approved for City Council New Public Safety Center City-wide recycling program
Ronald L. Shaffer	1999- Present	 New Aquatic Center Prairie Village Skate Park Issued General Obligation Bonds for Infrastructure Improvements Set stormwater utility fee for drainage repairs



2011 Prairie Village City Council



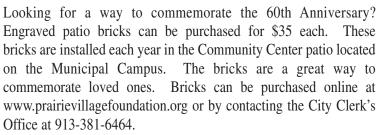
October 1951 - Left to Right; John Middleton, Marshall - Carl Schliffke, Councilman - Stanley Anderson, Treasurer - Bill Atwater, Councilman - Mrs. Suzanne Wiebe, City Clerk - Ralph Brenizer, Mayor - Bob Elwell, Councilman - James Hoover, City Attorney - Harry Roark, Police Judge - Carey Jones, Jr. Councilman.

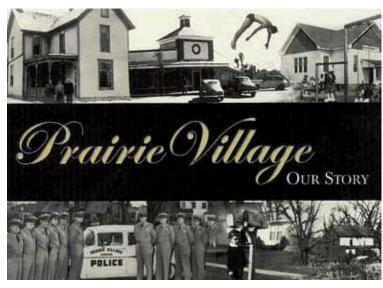
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COMMEMORATE THE 60TH ANNIVERASRY







Interested in learning more about the Prairie Village's unique history? Pick up a copy of *Prairie Village Our Story*. The book was written to commemorate the 50th Anniversary of Prairie Village and includes Prairie Village's early history, its transformation and notable events of the first 50 years as seen through the eyes of the community. The books sell for \$21.65 and are available for purchase at the City Clerk's Office at 7700 Mission Rd.