# THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE

**June / July 2015** 



(PRAIRIE VILLAGE CITY HALL GROUNDS)

7700 MISSION RD

Villagerest

Come celebrate Independence Day at the City of Prairie Village's 19th Annual VillageFest Celebration on Saturday, July 4th. Admission is free and all activities are held on the Municipal Campus at 7700 Mission Road.

The festivities begin with a pancake breakfast hosted by Chris Cakes from 7:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at the Harmon Park Pavilion. The Patriotic Service will be held at 8:30 a.m. with Prairie Village resident and Kansas City Symphony Chorus member Kristy Lambert singing the National Anthem.

You won't want to miss our new attraction, Frozen in the Village! Kids will love playing in the faux snow and meeting "Princess Elsa."

If you like baking, you'll want to enter our annual Pie Baking Contest for the chance to win a prize and bragging rights for the best pie. Register at www.pvkansas.com/piebakingcontest.

The Headstrong for Jake Bike Rodeo will be returning again this year. The bike rodeo is designed to teach bicycle riding skills, as well as, educate both children and their parents regarding the importance of always wearing a properly fitted bike helmet. New bicycle helmets will be provided for the first 350 participants by the Jake Clough Headstrong Foundation, 501(c)3. All participants need to bring their own bicycle to the bike rodeo.

Other activities throughout the day run from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and include: a children's parade, live music; children's crafts; bounce houses and other inflatables; petting zoo and pony rides; craft fair; face painters; living history exhibit; and much, much more.

Everyone is invited to VillageFest 2015; bring your family, friends, and neighbors! The schedule of events and map are on pages 4 and 5 of the newsletter. Save the enclosed flyer and bring it to the event on the 4th!

## **FEATURES:**









## MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Greetings Prairie Village Residents:

Your City Council and staff have been working diligently on a number of projects and priorities.

This spring, the City Council reviewed the five year Capital Improvement Plan and determined that Mission Road from 71st Street to 75th Street was a priority due to resident safety concerns. One idea being considered includes narrowing the identified portion of Mission Road from four lanes to two lanes, with a center turn lane to allow more space for a better pedestrian experience. I welcome your thoughts and suggestions at our first open house public session on June 29th from 5:00-7:00 p.m. at City Hall.

After significant work and compromise, I am pleased to announce that the Tutera Group and the Mission Valley neighbors have agreed to terms on a new senior living plan for the former Mission Valley school site. The proposed plan is smaller, removes skilled nursing, and adds several town homes to the property. The plan will be reviewed by the Planning Commission on July 7th and City Council in the coming months.

We continue to establish a balanced budget for 2016, with the goal of providing outstanding city services at the best value possible and maintaining our aging infrastructure. As always, I welcome your input and encourage you to attend one of our upcoming council meetings. Our budget will be finalized in August.

City staff and I have been actively involved in issues in the Kansas Legislature related to "home rule." Unfortunately, the state continues to take away cities' rights to make decisions that are in the best interests of our residents despite opposition from communities across the state. These laws are being passed without proper public notice, input, research or testimony which is bad government. Recent actions include moving our local elections to the fall of odd numbered years starting in 2017, and limiting cities' rights to determine property tax rates without a public election. We are still determining how the new law will negatively impact our budget process and AAA bond rating.

On a positive note, there is still much to celebrate about living in Prairie Village! The recent Prairie Village Arts Fair was a huge success, the pool is open, our shops and restaurants are busy and our parks look great! Remember to join us July 4th at the 19th annual VillageFest. This event is free to all attendees and is a festive and fun Prairie Village tradition. I hope to see you there!

Sincerely,

Laura Wassmer, Mayor

## **ELECTED OFFICIALS**

MAYOR Laura Wassmer	
WARD I Ashley Weaver	
Jori Nelson	
WARD II Steve Noll	
Ruth Hopkins	
WARD III Eric Mikkelson	
Andrew Wang	
WARD IV	
Brooke Morehead	913-642-4793
	bmorehead@pvkansas.com
Sheila Myers	
MADD V	
WARD V	
David Monison	dmorrison@pvkansas.com
Dan Runion	
	drunion@pvkansas.com
WARD VI Terrence Gallagher	
Ted Odell	913-575-9068
	todell@pvkansas.com

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# **COMMITTEE SPOTLIGHT**

## Get a Taste of JazzFest

Join us for a beer tasting fundraiser to support JazzFest! When: Friday, July 10, 5 p.m. – 9 p.m. Where: Johnny's Tavern, 8262 Mission Road Cost: \$15.00 at the door includes a 5 beer tasting flight & light appetizers.

## Recycling... plus Fests, Gardens & Forums

The Prairie Village Environment/Recycling Committee" (PVERC for short) is a 12-member City 'lifestyle' committee. We are Prairie Village residents, like you, who work to provide input to the City Council on topics including recycling, rooftop solar panels, curbside kitchen waste composting, park grounds free of chemicals, singleuse plastic bag recycling, our Community Gardens, and more.

PVERC also organizes public events that are informative, educational and fun! At VillageFest on July 4, the younger kids will love our fishing game: Using traditional bamboo fishing poles, children "fish" for items from a brimming wading pool and identify whether their "catch" can be reused, recycled, or has to go to the landfill. And every child wins a prize. We also have a pedalpowered energy-efficiency demonstration that shows kids 4 and up just how hard you have to work to light a 60-watt bulb and how easy it is to light an LED light. While the kids are fishing or pedaling, please take a minute to talk with one of our volunteer members about ways we can all help make PV an even better place to live. On the west side of the municipal campus, just north of the tennis courts at Harmon Park, you'll find one of two Community Gardens, now in its fourth season! You'll see a half dozen different tomato support systems and an innovative framework for peas and a bounty of vegetables and flowers! A portion of produce from garden plots is shared with families and children in need right here in our community. And be sure to say hello--our gardeners love to talk about what they do.

On Thursday, October 1, please consider attending the Community Forum on Kansas Environmental Issues at Village Presbyterian Church. This year, we'll discuss environmental challenges in rural Kansas and how we suburbanites can help. The program begins at 7 PM and you can purchase a delicious seasonal supper at 5:30 PM. Save the date!

We also host the annual Prairie Village Earth Fair at Shawnee Mission East High School, a fun and educational event for the entire family. Next year's event is scheduled for Saturday, April 30th, and we look forward to seeing you there.

## Save the Date for JazzFest

Mark your calendars now for the 6th Annual Prairie Village Jazz Festival on Saturday, September 12th at Harmon Park. For more information visit www.pvkansas.com/JazzFest or contact Joyce Hagen Mundy at 913-385-4616 or jhmundy@pvkansas.com.





Calling all artists! Enter the State of the Arts exhibition on display in October with more than \$3,000 in awards. Visit www.pvkansas.com/SOTA for more information.

## **July - Senior Arts Council**

The Senior Arts Council founded in 1977 is an organization of Artists over 50 years of age. The exhibit includes oil, acrylic, and watercolor artists and photographers. The group puts on a number of exhibits each year throughout the area. Please come and enjoy this multi-talented group of artists.

A reception will be held on July 10, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

### **August - Wayne Wilkes**

Art is a form of communication – a universal, visual language that transcends communication barriers. For me, it has always been a vehicle for creative problem-solving. By making the intangible tangible, art has purpose. Color is an important element in my work - it is subjective and influences its surroundings while adapting and changing itself to be a part of the whole. I constantly try and work the whole canvas, using color within colors to form a cohesive bond between the shadows and the highlights. I start with rough blocks of dark and light color, slowly refining but never losing a raw type of energy and movement. Broad thick brushstrokes, similar to an impressionistic approach, give way to implied detail while capturing the energy and emotion of the moment.

A reception will be held on August 14, 2015 from 6:30 p.m. -7:30 p.m.

Mark your calendar now to view these upcoming exhibits at the R.G. Endres Gallery and attend opening receptions honoring these talented artists. Gallery hours are Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. Gallery is located in City Hall at 7700 Mission Rd.

# **PV HAPPENINGS**

## Pool Memberships Go Half Price July 16th

Pool Season is in full swing at the Prairie Village Pool. Regular hours are 11:00 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. The daily fee is \$7. Reduced hours begin on August 10 with the pool opening at 4:30 p.m. on weekdays and closing for the season on September 7. Get your pool membership for ½ price starting July 16 (excludes 10 Swim Cards and the Super Pass).

- July 4 Free swim for all Prairie Village residents
- July 10, 17 and August 7 Moonlight Swim, pool remains open until 10:00 pm
- September 7 Pool Closes for the season at 6:00 p.m.

## 2016 Budget Hearing August 3rd

A public hearing will be held on Monday, August 3rd at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers to hear comments and suggestions about the City's 2016 budget. A copy of the proposed budget is available online and at the City Clerk's office. Please refer to the City's website at www.pvkansas.com for other key budget dates.



# Popular Annual Financial Report

The City of Prairie Village is pleased to announce its third Popular Annual Financial Report (PAFR). The City produces a Comprehensive Annual Financial Report (CAFR) each year, which outline the City's financial position and operating activities and includes audited financial statements; however, due to its length and scope, the CAFR is not a user-friendly document.

In an effort to make financial information more accessible, the Finance Department developed the PAFR which includes a summary of City services, Statement of Net Position, revenues, expenditures, debt and an economic outlook. To view the City's Popular Annual Financial Report, refer to the City's website at www.pvkansas.com.

## **Team Ball Field Reservations Due**

Applications for soccer and baseball fields for the fall season will be accepted until July 15. If you do not receive an application in the mail by July 8, contact the City Clerk's office at 913-381-6464 or visit www.pvkansas.com for more information.

## **New Codes Officer**

The Codes Administration department has hired a new Code Enforcement Official. Derek Wright joined the staff in May. Wright grew up in Ozark, MO and attended college at Missouri Southern State University where he competed in cross-country and track. Following graduation, he was a police officer in Carl Junction before moving to the area. Wright joins Marcia Gradinger, who has been a Code Enforcement Official for 14 years. Wright will be responsible for homes south of 75th Street and can be reached at dwright@pvkansas.com or 913-385-4679. Gradinger will be responsible for homes north of 75th Street and can be reached at mgradinger@pvkansas.com or 913-385-4605

UPCOMING EVENTS				
<u>DATE</u>	<u>EVENT</u>	TIME	LOCATION	
July 3	Independence Day Observed		Offices Closed	
July 4	VillageFest	7:30 am	Municipal Campus	
July 6	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers	
July 20	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers	
August 3	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers	
August 17	Council Meeting	7:30 pm	Council Chambers	



# 2015 CELEBRATION SCHEDULE

Saturday, July 4th ★ 7:30am—1:00pm ★ Prairie Village Municipal Campus ★ 7700 Mission Road

### **Attractions**

#### 9:00AM—1:00PM

Trackless TrainCity Hall Parking Lot
Rock N RollerCity Hall Parking Lot
Tubs of FunCity Hall Parking Lot
Sister Act Face PaintingComm. Center Lawn
Human Hamster BallsEast of Main Stage
Child Craft CenterCommunity Center
YMCA Kids Tumbling AreaComm. Center Lawn
InflatablesCommunity Center Lawn
Petting ZooCommunity Center Lawn
Pony RidesCommunity Center Lawn
Skate Board FacilityNear City Hall Parking Lot
Craft BoothsCity Hall Parking Lot
Frozen In The VillageEast of Main Stage

#### **Entertainment**

Main Stage—Across from City Hall		
Funky Mama9:00-9:30		
Janie Next Door9:30-10:00		
Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove		
and the Hiccups10:00-11:00		
Boogie Wonderland11:30-1:00		
South of Community Center		
Clement McCrae Puppets9:00, 10:00, 11:00, 12:00		
Harmon Park Pavilion		

Award Ceremony......8:30-8:45

- Welcome by Mayor & Pledge of Allegiance

- Star Spangled Banner sung by Kristy Lambert, Resident of Prairie Village & member of the Kansas City Symphony Chorus.
- Community Spirit Awards

Don't Forget to Bring Blankets or Lawn Chairs!

### **Special Events**

Pie Baking Contest Pavilion.....8:30 Submission
Registration Required....10:30 Results
www.pvkansas.com/piebakingcontest
Child ID Program Council Chambers....9:00-1:00
(CHIPS)
Bike Rodeo City Hall Parking Lot.....10:00-Noon
Free Swim Prairie Village Pool Complex...11:00-6:00
Children's Parade Front of City Hall........11:15
Decorate your bikes, trikes & wagons and meet at
City Hall by 11:00. All are welcome to participate.
No registration necessary.

# Displays 9:00AM—1:00PM

### **Food for Purchase**

Chris Cakes	7:30-11:00
	Harmon Park Pavilion
Popcorn Man	9:00-1:00
	City Hall Parking Lot
Treats by Rex Nolan	9:00-1:00
	City Hall Parking Lot
HyVee	9:00-1:00
	Community Center Lawn
Dolce	9:00-1:00
	City Hall Parking Lot
Polar Oasis	9:00-1:00
	City Hall Parking Lot

### **Special Guests**

9:00AM—1:00PM

Mr. Bones.....VillageFest Grounds
Home Depot Kits.....Community Center Lawn

### **Questions?**

Visit the **Information Booth** Located in front of City Hall.

### 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

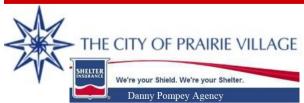
#### Lost & Found

Visit the **Information Booth** Located in front of City Hall.

#### For More Information

Call City Hall at 913-381-6464, Like Us on Facebook—Prairie Village VillageFest or Visit www.pvkansas.com/VillageFest

VillageFest 2015 Thanks the Following Sponsors















**Parking** 

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Entrance Closed

Prairie Village Pool Complex

Free Swim 11:00-6:00 RESTROOMS

City Hall RESTROOMS

Plaza

Children's Parade Staging Area and Starting Point

Info Booth & Volunteer Check-In

Main Stage Directly Across From City Hall

Bike Rodeo

> City Hall **Parking Lot** Area

Food Vendor

**Police Station** 

RESTROOMS

**Community Center** 

Food Vendor

Lawn

Police Department/ Med-Act Display

**Community Center RESTROOMS** 

Water Station

Hy-Vee Food Station

Vendor Entrance Only

**Pony Rides** and **Puppet Show** 

### **Harmon Park Pavilion**

Chris Cakes Pancake Breakfast Patriotic Service Pie Baking Contest

RESTROOMS

Skate Board Facility

Craft Show

CFD#2 Fire Department Display

# **PUBLIC SAFETY**

## **Crime Prevention: Protect your vehicle!**

"You can't have my car or any belongings in it." These are thoughts the Prairie Village Police Department has when there is an increase in the amount of auto theft and auto burglary reports. It can be so easy to leave valuables and other important items lying in plain view inside your vehicle in the fast paced society in which we live.

What typically happens is people become forgetful and do not remember if they locked their vehicle, left their keys in the ignition, or left valuables in plain view for the bad guy to see and steal.

In this month's crime prevention article, we list five simple safety and security tips to check off in your mind prior to calling it a night. This will help deter auto theft, auto burglaries and keep you in possession of your belongings.

- LOCK YOUR CAR. Very simple, but the majority of auto burglary victims leave their vehicle unlocked.
- Never leave your keys in your car when it is unattended, even when it is parked inside your enclosed garage.
- Make it a habit to check your garage door every night.
- Do not store valuables inside your car where they are in plain view.
- If you park your car outside at night, try to park underneath a street light or in a well lit garage entry.

By following these simple and easy automobile security tips, you have a better chance of keeping the auto thief and auto burglar outside your car and you in the driver's seat. REMEMBER: Do not hesitate to dial 911 when you observe suspicious activity.

## **Newly Promoted Officers**

Congratulations to these newly promoted officers at the Police Department.

From left to right:

- Capt. Byron Roberson
- Sgt. Eric McCullough
- Sgt. Jason Kuder
- Cpl. Adam Taylor
- Cpl. Luke Roth



Thanks and have a great summer!

# **PUBLIC WORKS**

## **Boy Scouts**

The 5th Annual Scout Day in the Park was held this spring. Local troops from Village Presbyterian (Troop 91) and St. Ann (Troop 98) spent the day giving back to the Prairie Village Community. The scouts mulched tree and plant beds in Windsor Park. Four truck loads of mulch were spread. Thank you Scouts!



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

**Reader Feedback** 

Please send your comments to: Prairie Village Voice 7700 Mission Rd Prairie Village, KS 66208 info@pvkansas.com 913-385-4662 Presorted Standard US Postage PAID Permit No. 549 Kansas City, MO

### **Prairie Village e-News**

Receive Prairie Village e-News in your inbox. Sign-up at www.pvkansas.com/enews and tailor your preferences to fit your interests.



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### CITY CONTACT INFORMATION

#### CITY HALL & MUNICIPAL COURT

7700 Mission Rd Quinn Bennion, City Administrator Wes Jordan, Assistant City Administrator Joyce Hagen Mundy, City Clerk Lisa Santa Maria, Finance Director

#### **PUBLIC SAFETY**

7710 Mission Rd Tim Swartzkopf, Chief of Police

#### **PUBLIC WORKS**

3535 Somerset Dr Keith Bredehoeft, Public Works Director

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

