



Dawn Clausius

## Bicycle Safety

For children, bicycles can be the first step to independence and freedom. They can ride over to their friends' houses after school, or down to the Prairie Village Shops without their parents. Bikes give children their first taste of self reliance, but with freedom comes added responsibility.

Below are some topics parents should discuss with children prior to giving them the responsibility of a bicycle:

- ❖ **Parents need to teach basic traffic safety laws and review them often.** For questions regarding these laws, contact the Crime Prevention Officer.
- ❖ **Parents need to review the safest routes to and from common locations their children will be visiting.** This will assist parents in knowing which route their child will be taking and encourage children to tell their parents if they are going to take a different route.
- ❖ **Riders should wear helmets at all times.** Parents should set a good example by wearing a helmet, too. Helmets should fit properly and can be fitted professionally at a cycle shop.
- ❖ **Children need to be reminded to follow all posted signs regarding bicycles on private property.** If it is posted, "No Bicycles On Sidewalk," children need to obey the property's rules.
- ❖ **Children should be responsible for their bicycle and keep it locked and secured when it's unattended.** Many unsecured bicycles are stolen from front yards and bicycle racks all over Prairie Village. Police Officers routinely stop at homes and move bicycles from the front yard closer to the house.
- ❖ **Parents should record the model and serial number of their child's bicycle in case it is stolen.** These numbers are important in order to track, recover or return the bicycle.



In order to keep your children safe and their bicycle secure, please review these safety tips with them. Please contact the Crime Prevention Officer at 913-385-4613 with any questions or concerns. You can also send an e-mail to [dclausius@pvkansas.com](mailto:dclausius@pvkansas.com).

## Best of Species and Champion Trees of Prairie Village

The **Prairie Village Tree Board** is now accepting nominations for Best of Species and Champion Trees located in Prairie Village. Residents may submit their nominations to the Tree Board at 3535 Somerset Drive, Prairie Village, KS 66208, or email to [publicworks@pvkansas.com](mailto:publicworks@pvkansas.com), or call 913-385-4647.

The nomination must contain the street address, species of tree and location on the property, i.e. back yard, side yard or front yard. Additionally, the name, address and phone number of the nominator is helpful for future contact. After receiving nominations, the City will take measurements and pictures of the tree for the Tree Board selection. **The deadline for nominations is September 15th.**



## Fall Tree Seminar— October 1st

The **Prairie Village Tree Board** is planning its annual **Fall Tree Seminar** for October 1st, at 7:00 p.m. in the Community Center. The program will include the giving of Champion Tree awards and a discussion by a State Forester on services provided by the State of Kansas. Refreshments will be provided and drawings will be held for shrubs and trees.



# Mayor's Message



Preparations for the City's 2004 annual budget began this February when Council members met in a day-long goal setting session. At that time, elected officials knew 2004 would be a very difficult budget year. With the loss of over \$300,000 in revenue from the State of Kansas, the Council recognized that balancing the City's 2004 budget would be a major challenge. Faced with this dilemma, the City Council identified essential City services, agreeing that some items not be compromised in an effort to balance the 2004 budget. These services are:

• Police Patrol  
• Code Enforcement  
• The City's Capital Expenditure Program for street and storm drainage work.

From March through May, City Department Managers prepared program budgets in an effort to produce a balanced budget while maintaining essential services. Budget worksessions began on June 2nd, and have been held every Monday night since, to ensure the City's 2004

budget will continue to maintain the high quality services Prairie Village residents demand and deserve.

In the March issue of this column, I asked Prairie Village residents to help the staff and City Council set priorities for 2004. From discussions with neighbors and friends, it seems clear we all enjoy living in Prairie Village and want to maintain the "Village lifestyle" we've all come to enjoy.

Prairie Village residents will once again have an opportunity to provide input regarding the City's proposed budget. A public hearing will be held on Monday, August 4th at 7:30 p.m. in the City Council Chambers. All Prairie Village residents are welcome to attend and participate in this public hearing.

Residents may request an overview of the proposed budget by contacting the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 or by sending an e-mail to [cityclerk@pvkansas.com](mailto:cityclerk@pvkansas.com). A summary of the proposed 2004 City budget will also be made available at [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com) by August 1st.

Ron Shaffer  
Mayor

## Put a Lid On It

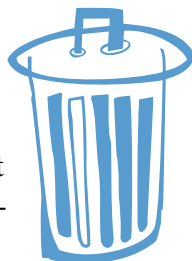


Prairie Village's ever-present crows seem to make a habit of searching through trash containers for a meal, making a mess along the way. To help keep Prairie Village neighborhoods looking clean, keep these tips in mind

when setting your garbage out for collection.

- Set your trash at the curb no earlier than the night before collection.
- Place your trash in barrels or cans rather than bags.
- When possible, bag your trash, then place the bags in the trash can.
- Cover trash barrels and cans with tight-fitting lids.

Keeping these tips in mind can help keep critters out of your trash and prevent trash from blowing around your neighborhood on windy days.



## Arts COUNCIL Prairie Village

### The Prairie Village Arts Council Presents...Sandy Schaffer

Take a vacation this July at the **R.G. Endres Gallery** with watercolor artist, **Sandy Schaffer**.

Using her travel experiences as the subjects in many of her works, this award-winning artist will transport you to a place where the pace of life is slower and the colors are vibrant. After attending watercolor workshops in San Miguel, Mexico, Sandy began entering local and national art shows.

Sandy has a Bachelor's Degree from the University of Missouri, Columbia, a Master's from CMSU, and is a member of numerous Watercolor Societies nationwide.

The exhibit will be on display through July 31st. Gallery hours are 8:00 a.m. – 7:00 p.m. Monday through Thursday, and 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. on Friday.

# Tennis Anyone?

Tennis courts are available in Harmon, Meadowlake, McCrum and Windsor parks to all Prairie Village residents on a first come, first served basis, free of charge. The courts are always available for your use when they are not reserved for tournaments or lessons.



The tennis located in Harmon Park are reserved for private lessons and by the Junior Tennis League (JTL) as follows:

Dates	Days of the Week	Hours	# of courts
Until July 24th	On Wednesdays	10 a.m. to 11 a.m.	3
Until July 24th	On Mondays and Tuesdays	10 a.m. to 11 a.m.	2
Until July 17th	On Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays	11 a.m. to 2 p.m.	10
Until July 24th	On Mondays, Tuesdays, & Thursdays	8:30 a.m. to 11 a.m.	6
Until July 24th	On Mondays & Wednesdays	5 p.m. to 7 p.m.	2

Also note that the Prairie Village JTL Tournament will be held July 21-July 24 at the Harmon Courts from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. using all ten courts.

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## What Do I Do If I Find a Dead Bird In My Yard?

Prairie Village Animal Control will be tracking dead crows and blue jays that are found in the area between June and October 2003. They **WILL NOT** pick them up! Residents must dispose of the dead birds.

If you find a deceased bird in your yard, call Animal Control at 913-642-6868, extension 4898. They will need to know the date **the bird was found, the location and the type of bird**. Leave a message if no one answers.

Remember Animal Control **WILL NOT** pick up the deceased birds. Use gloves or a shovel to place the dead bird into a plastic bag and then place them in your outdoor trash. There is currently no evidence that West Nile Virus can be spread directly from an infected bird to people.

However, dead birds can carry other diseases and should never be handled with bare hands.

The Health Department is not testing dead birds since the virus has already been found in Johnson County. Contact Johnson County, Kansas Environmental Department for any additional questions about West Nile Virus at <http://jced.jocoks.com/wnv/wnvinfo.htm> or contact the Kansas Department of Health & Environment, toll-free at 866-452-7810, or the Johnson County Health Department at 913-826-1200.

CSO Michele Nees Craig

Prairie Village Animal Control

CSO Tina Howard

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## 44th Annual Synchronized Swimming Show

The **44th Annual Synchronized Swimming Show** will be on **Sunday, July 27th, at 8:30 p.m.** in the meter pool at the Prairie Village Pool Complex. Admission is free. The girls are working very hard to put on a spectacular show. Divided into smaller groups, the team will perform routines in the water, all synchronized to music. This year's theme is "Dancin' in the Moonlight," featuring songs about dancing, such as Moondance, Flashdance, and Twist & Shout. There will be refreshments available for purchase at the show. Be sure to arrive early with your chairs and blankets for a good seat on the hill.

See you at the show!



## Attention Coaches

Applications for Fall soccer and baseball practice times will be received until **August 2nd**. If you do not receive an application in the mail by July 17th, contact the City Clerk's office at 913-381-6464 to have one mailed to you.



## Moonlight Swims

The Prairie Village pool will stay open until 10:00 p.m. on **July 18th and August 8th** for a Moonlight Swim.

This is a great opportunity to get together with friends and enjoy an evening by the Pool.

## Swim Lessons

Swim lessons are still available through Johnson County Parks & Recreation. Call 913-831-3359 for more information.

## 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 1-800-766-3777) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time, if possible, to make arrangements.



## "Prairie Village Money Matters: Did You Know..."

- Approximately 50% of the City's revenue comes from property and sales tax?
- Your City property tax represents only about 14% of your total tax bill?
- The owner of a \$175,000 home pays \$317 in City property tax per year?
- This year, the City will spend over \$2.5 million, or 16% of the entire City budget, on street and stormwater management projects?
- During 2003, cutbacks in funding to cities by the State Legislature will cost Prairie Village over \$300,000?
- When you shop at Prairie Village businesses, more of the sales tax you spend is returned to the City than if you purchased the same item in another city?



## Budget Hearing August 4th

A public hearing will be held on **Monday, August 4th at 7:30 p.m.** in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building to invite comments and suggestions about the City's 2004 Budget.

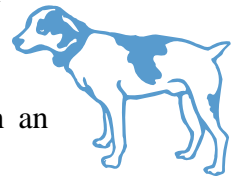
If you need a reasonable accommodation to participate in this public hearing or any other City meetings, events, or programs, contact the City Clerk's Office at 913-381-6464 or TDD 1-800-766-3777 or send an e-mail to [cityclerk@pvkansas.com](mailto:cityclerk@pvkansas.com) at least 48 hours prior to the meeting to make arrangements for the accommodation. A copy of the proposed budget will be available at the City Clerk's office by August 1, 2003.

## Final Call for Animals

**This is your last chance.** Pet owners who have failed to obtain a 2003 Animal License **by July 18th** will be issued citations.

To avoid a trip to Municipal Court, stop by the Municipal Offices at 7700 Mission Road with proof of your pet's current rabies vaccinations. It only takes a few minutes. If you no longer have a pet that was licensed last year and haven't informed the City, please do so by calling the City Clerk's office at 913-381-6464.

For more information about Animal licensing or to obtain an Animal license application form, visit [www.pvkansas.com](http://www.pvkansas.com).



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U.S. POSTAGE  
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