

September, 2005

THE PRAIRIE VILLAGE VOICE



A Newsletter published for the residents of the City of Prairie Village
Municipal Office | 7700 Mission Road | Prairie Village, Kansas 66208 | 913-381-6464 | www.pvkansas.com

Prairie Village Recreational Program Wrap-Up

All four Prairie Village recreational teams had successful 2005 seasons!

The **Swim Team** boasted nearly 175 competitive and non-competitive swimmers, and finished 6th in the All City Swimming Championships. **Stacy Coffyn** was the sole All City Champion as she won the 13 and Under Girls 50 Meter Breaststroke. However, the team featured depth across all age groups, and several team records were broken throughout the summer. Congratulations to all the athletes on the Prairie Village Piranhas Swim Team for another tremendous season.

The **Synchronized Swim Team** finished its season on July 31st with the 46th Annual Water Show. This year's theme was "A Night in the Jungle". The team, consisting of 35 swimmers, performed several routines, all synchronized to music. Many veteran team members also performed in small ensemble routines. The coaches for this year's team were Jennifer Holland, Head Coach, and Laura Arther, Assistant Coach.

The **Dive Team** finished sixth at All-City this year. From learning new dives to improving mechanics, all team members made great strides. This year featured the first home dive meets held in Prairie Village in more than a decade. The head coach was Cathy Jones.

The **Junior Tennis League Teams** performed very well throughout the

season. The team improved in almost every age group and placed fourth among clubs. Prairie Village had its best year yet in the KCJTL Tournament, with several members playing on the final day in the championship matches. **Megan McMahon** and **Sam Waeckerle** won the 13 & Under Aces doubles tournament, and Megan was also a semi-finalist in the singles tournament. **Reed Waldon** and **John Petterson** won the consolation in the 13 & Under Aces doubles tournament. John was also the winner of the singles consolation. In the 11 & Under tournament, played at PV, **Ian Wiseman** placed second, and **Nick Pirotte** was also a semi-finalist. **Aidan Conley** placed second in the consolation draw. In High School Girls, **Tatiana Ambrose** was successful in singles and doubles. Teamed with **Mary Kate Gude**, she won the consolation doubles, and in singles, placed second in the main draw. Mary Kate also was successful in singles, winning the consolation draw. Overall, it was a very strong year for the tennis participants, and each of them should be very proud of their accomplishments.

The teams would like to thank all of the parent volunteers who worked tirelessly to make each team's season a success. Without parental support, these teams would not exist.

INSIDE:

[Mayor's Message](#)

[Environmental Information & Resources Available at Corinth Library](#)

[Johnson County Community Festival, Sept. 17](#)

[Environmental Community Forum](#)

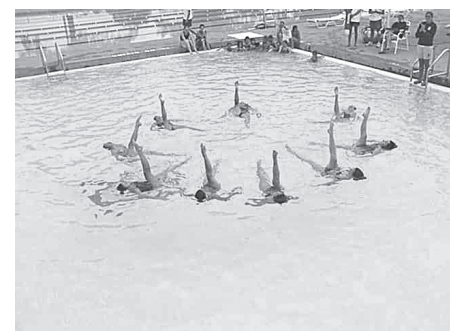
[Prairie Village Arts Council](#)

ON THE BACK:

[Dan Robles Returns to Crime Prevention Unit](#)

[Farewell to Kay Wolf](#)

[Tree Board - Annual Fall Seminar, October 5th](#)



MAYOR'S MESSAGE



As summer fades, students return to school, and another season of road construction draws to a close, here are a few things we should all keep in mind after reflecting on the past few months in Prairie Village:

Safety is a top priority – Earlier this year the City Council authorized the creation of 25 mph speed zones in areas surrounding elementary and middle schools on Mission Road. Drivers will soon see new signs and flashing beacons identifying school speed zones. The City Council also authorized the creation of a traffic unit within the Police Department. The unit will include two officers on motorcycles and one in a marked patrol vehicle. These officers will focus their attention on enforcing speed limits in school zones and throughout our community. Speed limits have been established for a reason – enhancing the safety of both motorists and pedestrians.

The City continues to invest in infrastructure – As we all know, streets have been under construction throughout Prairie Village this summer. While drivers once again experience delays along Mission Road, Prairie Village's "Main Street," the work is necessary and reflects the City's ongoing commitment to its streets and storm drainage systems. The City's 2005 budget contains over \$3,000,000 for infrastructure improvements. Some of the projects either completed or underway this year include:

- **Mission Road** – 71st to 75th St. and Somerset Drive to 83rd St. – Replacement of pavement, curbs, sidewalks, and pedestrian ramps, including brick crosswalks.
- **Street resurfacing** – including pavement, curbs, gutters, and sidewalk replacements in various locations in the City.
- **Storm drainage improvements** – During the 2005 construction season the City will do seven stormwater management projects with a total cost of over \$600,000. These projects will help maintain the stormwater management investments of the past

and help address localized flooding problems.

- **Concrete Repair Program** – Public Works crews and City contractors have focused their attention on the northeast part of the City (63rd to 67th Streets, Mission Road to Roe.) Repair projects in this area will include repairing or replacing damaged curbs, sidewalks, and pedestrian ramps.
- **Crack Seal/Slurry Program** – One of the best ways to keep Prairie Village's streets in top shape is to fill cracks in asphalt and provide a sealant to neighborhood streets to extend their life. 23 street segments throughout the City are included in this year's program.

Road construction, by its very nature, is disruptive and inconvenient. However, keeping the City's streets and drainage systems in good repair is essential. If there is construction in your neighborhood, please be patient. The Public Works Department regularly posts project updates on-line at www.pvkansas.com/pubwork/capital.shtml.

Highs and Lows at the Skatepark - On June 7th the Harmon Park Skatepark opened with a celebration and much fanfare. The skatepark's construction was a significant achievement for the City and the hundreds of individuals who participated in the fundraising efforts which made the park a reality. Unfortunately, after only a few weeks, the park was closed after repeated vandalism. I know the vast majority of skaters love the skatepark and want it to be available for everyone. While that is our goal, everyone must remember that respect and common courtesy are expected from all who use the skatepark. As we all know, it only takes a "few bad apples" to spoil the bunch. So skaters, treat your park with respect. And, if you see damage or vandalism, report it to the Police Department immediately.

Ron Shaffer, Mayor



Environmental Information & Resources Available at Corinth Library

Want to know how to: create a hummingbird or butterfly garden, make your home toxic free, find the best hiking trails in Kansas, or learn about genetically engineered food?

Answers to these and many more environmental and ecological questions can be found in the special reading rack in the lobby of Corinth Library, 8100 Mission Road, according to Anne-Marie Hedge of the Prairie Village Environment/Recycle Committee.

Hedge, who keeps the rack full of timely information, says the committee also has a smaller, portable rack that is available for locations on request by calling 913-648-1280.



Johnson County Community Festival September 17

A "Johnson County Community Festival" is set for Saturday, September 17, at Shawnee Mission Park to commemorate the county's 150th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the creation of the Johnson County Park and Recreation District.

Booths will showcase many area nonprofit organizations, historical groups, Johnson County government, and the park district. Other booths offering a wide assortment of food, souvenirs, and sesquicentennial merchandise also are planned.

The joint countywide celebration, with **free admission**, is being organized as an all-day family event for all ages. It will begin at 10:00 a.m. and end at 4:00 p.m. in the Theater in the Park area of Shawnee Mission Park at 77th Street and Renner Road, Shawnee.

Children's activities, interactive programs, story-telling sessions, a petting zoo and pony rides are also being planned with involvement by Wonderscope, Johnson County Library, Park and Recreation District, and other groups.

Activities will include a folk art festival featuring performances and presentations of visual and performing artists such as dance groups and local entertainers, along with historic reenactments, a historical baseball game, and other community presentations.

More information about the Johnson County Community Festival and other sesquicentennial activities is available at www.jocoks150.org.



Environmental Community Forum

"Wind, Prairie and Kansas Energy" is the subject of the fourth annual Community Forum on Kansas Environmental Issues to be held **Thursday, October 6th** at the Village Presbyterian Church, 6641 Mission Road. The program will begin at 5:30 p.m. with hors d'oeuvres and exhibits by Kansas natural resource organizations, followed at 6:00 p.m. with a community supper catered by Blue Bird Bistro (\$10 donation).

At the Governor's request, Dr. Allison organized a task force to resolve the recent dispute over wind energy in the Tallgrass Prairie areas of the Flint Hills.

This year's Community Forum is sponsored by the Prairie Village Environmental Committee and the Kansas Natural Resources Council.

The program will begin at 7:00 p.m. featuring Dr. Lee Allison, chairman of the Kansas Energy Council and science and energy policy advisor to Kansas Governor Kathleen Sebelius.

To reserve your seat at the Community Forum, contact Kathy Riordan at 913-383-7882 or e-mail Margaret Thomas at mgt84roe@aol.com by September 30th.

Arts COUNCIL Prairie Village

PRESENTS

SEPTEMBER

SENIOR ARTS COUNCIL

This talented group of artists continues to contribute to the community through their unique perspectives of the world brought to life through their art. The Senior Arts Council is a perennial favorite in the R.G. Endres Gallery.

OCTOBER

DR. TED DEFEO

Dr. DeFeo discovered his love for marine life could be captured on film while attending a medical meeting in the Cayman Islands. Upon retirement in 1999, he set out to master the technique and research the equipment needed. The results of his efforts are truly remarkable underwater photographs from around the globe.

Gallery hours are Mon - Fri
8:00am - 5:00pm.

R.G. ENDRES GALLERY SCHEDULE

November 2005

Mid America Pastel Society
Reception to be held Nov. 11th.

December 2005

Julie Johnson - Photography
Reception to be held Dec. 9th.

Receptions are 6:30pm to 7:30pm.



Tree Board Annual Fall Seminar – October 5th

The Prairie Village Tree Board is planning its annual Fall Tree Seminar for Wednesday, October 5th, 7:00 p.m. in the Prairie Village Community Center. The program will include the presentation of the 2005 Best of Species/Champion Tree Awards. Refreshments will be provided and drawings will be held for shrubs and trees. To register for this FREE seminar or for additional information, contact Suzanne Lownes at 913-385-4640 or send an email to slowness@pvkansas.com.

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 1-800-766-2777) at least 48 hours prior to the scheduled meeting time, if possible, to make arrangements.



Dan Robles Returns to Crime Prevention Unit

Hello! My name is Dan Robles. I am the new Crime Prevention Officer for the City of Prairie Village. Crime Prevention is a position I have held before and I look forward to serving the residents of Prairie Village once again.

As a Crime Prevention Officer, some of my duties include business security checks, home security surveys, personal safety talks for all ages, and anything else Crime Prevention related.

I look forward to meeting you whether it be at a Crime Prevention presentation or when I'm "walking the beat" at one of our shopping malls. Please contact me by telephone at 913-385-4613 or e-mail drobles@pvkansas.com with your Crime Prevention questions and concerns. Together we can make Crime Prevention a community effort as we strive to keep Prairie Village a safe place to live.

Thank You and Farewell to Kay Wolf

Congratulations to Council Member, Kay Wolf, who was appointed on July 30th to the Kansas House of Representatives, serving the 21st District. Kay has been a member of the City Council for five years, serving Ward V. She will soon step down from her seat on the City Council to follow her obligations to her new position.

Kay's resignation will create a vacancy at her position on the City Council. If any Ward Five resident is interested in being considered to fill this vacancy, please contact Barbara Vernon at 913-381-6464 or email bvernon@pvkansas.com.

Thank you for all your hard work with the City! Kay, we will miss you.

Prairie Village Municipal Office
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Prairie Village, KS 66208

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