



The Star of Kansas

The Prairie Village

May 2008

Voice

VillageFest 2008 Preview



July 4th is quickly approaching, and planning for VillageFest 2008 is underway. Make plans to stay in Prairie Village for the holiday and attend this FREE event on the 4th of July.

This year's Independence Day celebration will include:

- A pancake breakfast featuring Chris Cakes
- Mascots from areas sports teams
- Live Music
- Children's Parade
- Free Swim for Prairie Village residents at the pool
- Wacky Banana Inflatables
- Clowns, Magicians, Face Painters, and Uncle Sam
- Petting Zoo and Pony Rides
- Puppet Shows
- Beaks-N-Wings Bird Display
- Chinook Helicopter Landing
- Jim "Mr. Stinky Feet" Cosgrove & the Hiccups!
- Dino O'Dell & the Veloci-Rappers!

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Headstrong for Jake Bike Rodeo VillageFest, July 4, 10 am – 12 pm

The bike rodeo is designed to teach participants bicycle riding skills, tune-up each bicycle and provide new bicycle helmets to all registered participants. Volunteers from the Prairie Village Police Department, JoCo Med-Act, TREK STORE of Kansas City and the Jake Clough Headstrong Foundation, 501(c)3 will be on hand to help make this bike rodeo a successful event.

New bicycle helmets provided for the first 350 registered participants by the Jake Clough Headstrong Foundation, 501(c)3.

All participants must bring their own bicycle to the bike rodeo. Remember that all participants will be required to wear a bicycle helmet during the bike rodeo - no exceptions. Parents or guardians will be required to sign a bike rodeo permission slip on the day of the event.

Community volunteers needed: please contact 913-638-5966



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



Mayor's Message

I invite you to join me, the City Council and other residents to create a vision for the 75th Street Corridor. The City of Prairie Village adopted the Village Vision Strategic Investment Plan in May of 2007 to help guide future decisions regarding land use, development and redevelopment goals. One of the main goals of Village Vision was to further study the 75th Street Corridor.

The 75th Street Corridor serves as a major commuter and transportation route within our community and for the larger metropolitan area. This corridor also plays a vital role in the overall visual perception of Prairie Village. Village Vision identified issues related to current conditions and provided some initial thoughts regarding improvements along the corridor. The next step is to create a clear and cohesive vision and strategy for the 75th Street Corridor.

The City has engaged HNTB to help with the development of the 75th Street Corridor Plan. The first kick-off meeting for the study was held on April 22nd and provided a starting point by identifying additional issues and ideas. Over 100 individuals attended the first workshop and shared their ideas. Visit www.villagevisions75.com for a summary. Over the coming months, the City will be hosting a number of additional public workshops to gather public input and help create a unified and cohesive vision for 75th Street.

REMAINING 75th STREET PUBLIC WORKSHOP SCHEDULE

Public Workshop #2: Plan Alternatives*

Tuesday, June 17, 2008 (7pm to 9pm)
Thursday, June 19, 2008 (7pm to 9pm)
Saturday, June 21, 2008 (9am to 11am)

Public Workshop #3: Preferred Plan*

Thursday, September 11, 2008 (7pm to 9pm)
Saturday, September 13, 2008 (9am to 11am)

Public Workshop #4: Final Plan

Tuesday, October 14, 2008 (7pm to 9pm)

Note: All Workshops will be held at Asbury United Methodist Church in Hager Hall, 5400 West 75th Street.

**To provide a greater opportunity for public input, Public Workshops #2 and #3 have multiple sessions; you may attend one or all sessions.*

The next public workshop will identify plan alternatives and will be held several different days and times. I hope you will be able to attend one of these sessions to share your ideas, and vision for this important corridor.

As the community begins to implement the ideas, visions, and strategies identified in the Village Vision Strategic Investment Plan, I encourage you to stay engaged in the process and provide your valuable input to further guide the city into the future.

Sincerely,

Ron Shaffer, Mayor

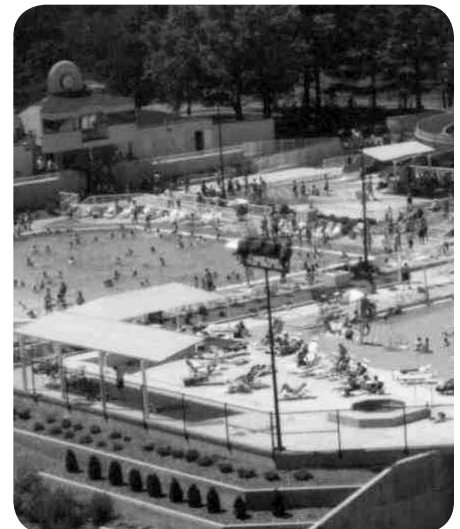
VillageFest Student Poster Contest

The VillageFest Poster Contest is open to students in Prairie Village elementary and middle schools. Those who wish to participate should depict their **“Favorite thing to do on the 4th of July”** on 11” x 17” paper or posterboard. 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 30** 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.

Lifeguard and Operations Attendant Applications being Accepted

The City of Prairie Village is accepting applications for lifeguards and operations attendants for the 2008 pool season. Lifeguard pay starts at \$8.46/hour. Operations attendants begin at \$6.55/hour. All Prairie Village lifeguards must be Red Cross certified before they can start work. Applications are available online at www.pvkansas.com under ‘Job Openings.’ Please contact Chris Engel at 913-381-6464 or cengel@pvkansas.com for further information.

Prairie Village Pool Opens May 24th at 11:00 a.m.



Tree City USA

Have you driven by a little green and white sign indicating that our fair city is a "Tree City USA" and thought...it must have something to do with the Boy Scouts or those funny little "starter trees" someone always seems to be handing out around Arbor Day?

Don't feel alone, but in fact Kansas has been committed to forestry since 1887 and was the fifth state in the nation to establish a forestry agency. Kansas...Forests? Who knew? In fact four Kansas Communities have participated in the Tree City USA program since its conception in 1976, ranking us number one in the nation for the highest number of communities participating for the last 31 years. And in 2006, one hundred and fifteen Kansas communities were awarded Tree City USA status. This represents a state wide investment of 59.5 million dollars in the last 5 years. Over 105,000 trees were planted, 419,000 plus trees pruned, and 49,000 dead and dying trees removed. These communities have planted twice as many trees as they have removed; beating the national average where for every one tree planted, four were removed. Becoming a Tree City USA community is not easy, but it is reachable for any size community. A town or city must meet four standards established by the Arbor Day Foundation and the National Association of State Foresters:

1. Establish a Tree Board, or Department
2. Create a Tree Care Ordinance
3. Establish a Community Forestry Program with an annual budget of at least \$2.00 per capita, and
4. Hold an Arbor Day Observance and Proclamation.



The Prairie Village Tree Board joins with communities across the state as small as Formoso, KS with 125 people and as large as the City of Wichita with 350 thousand residents in donating 26,463 volunteer hours statewide protecting their community tree resources and educating citizens about the importance of the urban forest. While the local, state, and national recognition is amazing, what really counts is that we as citizens benefit by living in a cleaner, cooler, quieter, prettier and more valuable space. The Kansas Forest Service applauds the commitment of the Tree City USA communities and continues to encourage us to place as much importance on the green infrastructure as the grey. "After all it is the green that increases in value and benefits year after year, whereas, the grey has the tendency to depreciate with time." Our street and park trees are valued over 19 million dollars. So as Prairie Village celebrates its 10th year as a Tree City USA let's remember not only to protect our trees, but to take a moment to appreciate their contribution to our fair city.

To learn more visit www.arborday.org, or www.kansasforests.org to donate to the Prairie Village Arboretum, go to www.pvkansas.com/parks and to participate in Prairie Village's Tree City USA programs call Bob Pryzby at 913-348-4640.

Summer Sports Camps

The following sports camps will be offered this summer in Prairie Village parks.

1. **British Soccer** is hosting two Soccer Skills camps led by professional coaches from Great Britain on June 2-6 and July 14-18 at Meadowlake Park. Each camper will go through the British Soccer program of individual skill development, technical and tactical practices, small-sided games and coached scrimmages. The camp includes a free t-shirt and game ball. Register online at www.challengersports.com. For further information contact Mike Parry at 800-878-2167 ext. 227.
2. **Challenger Sports** will facilitate two Flag Football camps at Meadowlake Park on June 23-27 and July 28-August 1. Register online at www.challengersports.com. For further information call Josh Flett at 800-878-2167 ext. 223.
3. **Omega Soccer** will offer camps on June 9-13, 16-20 and July 10-13 at Franklin Park. For more information visit www.omegasc.com.



Arts

COUNCIL

Prairie Village

PRESENTS

Mark your calendars now to view these exhibits and attend opening receptions honoring these talented artists.

May

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 her third exhibition. Those familiar with her talents know she also produces works in clay and will have samples of those as well. She was also one of the finalists of the 2007 State of the Arts exhibit. Opening Reception May 9th, 6:30 pm

June

Steve Karol, Digital Art
Opening Reception June 13th, 6:30 pm

July

Senior Arts Council, Mixed Media
Opening Reception July 11th, 6:30 pm

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



Prairie Village

Notes

Offices Closed

City Offices will be closed in observance of Memorial Day on Monday, May 26, 2008. As always Emergency Services will remain available by calling 9-1-1.

Upcoming Trash Holidays

Deffenbaugh, the City's solid waste collection and recycling contractor, will be observing Memorial Day on Monday, May 26, 2008. As a result, trash and recycling collection will be one day late during the week of May 26th.

Prairie Village Art Show

May 30, 31 and June 1.

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.



Preparing for Storm Outages

(adapted from KCPL's Electrical Storm Outages Brochure)

Before Storm Season

About 70 percent of all power outages are caused by weather-related events. Although typically less than an hour in length, they can be widespread and of longer duration - up to several days. In the Kansas City area, damaging storms are most likely to happen during the first half of the year - January through July. Your best defense is to prepare your home and family in advance.

Here are some things you should consider:

- Develop a list of emergency phone numbers to keep on hand during an outage. Remember that cordless phones won't work if the power goes off, so be sure to have a corded phone or cell phone for back up.
- If you live alone, are homebound, have life-support equipment or live in a secluded area, arrange for a nearby friend, relative or neighbor to check on you during severe weather events.
- Assemble a storm kit that contains a battery-powered radio or TV, flashlights with fresh batteries, a wind-up or battery-operated clock, blankets, candles and other essential items. Keep it centrally located.
- Stock a supply of bottled water and canned foods. Bottled water is especially important if your water supply depends on electricity. Include items like dried fruit, granola, crackers, nuts, canned or bottled juices, and condensed or powdered

milk. Make sure to include a hand-operated can opener.

When Storms Threaten

Stay tuned to local news broadcasts. If your water supply depends on electricity, store as much water as you can for drinking, cooking and washing. Fill your bathtub. You can flush your toilets by pouring a bucket of water into the bowl. If you have small children, keep the bathroom door shut at all times. If you have a basement, shut off power to all basement appliances if you can do so safely.

When the power is out

Locate and check all emergency supplies and equipment to ensure that you are prepared. If the door is kept shut, food will stay frozen in a fully-loaded freezer for 36-48 hours. If the freezer is only half full, the food will keep for about 24 hours. Meat keeps longer than baked goods. Try not to open your freezer or refrigerator until power returns. Opening the door only speeds the thawing process. Disconnect or shut off any appliances that will automatically come on when the power is restored. This includes furnaces, air conditioners, electric ranges, water heaters, refrigerators, freezers and water pumps. Also, make sure electric space heaters, washers, dryers and TV sets are shut off. If a lot of appliances come on at once, they may overload circuits. Leave one or two lamps switched on so you'll know when the power returns, then you can turn your appliances back on one at a time over a period of 15 minutes or so.

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

