

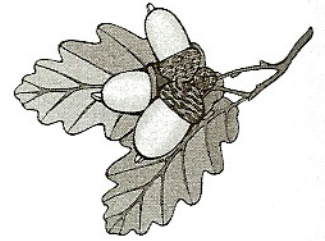
N E W S L E T T E R  
*Prairie Ridge*



*Fall 2007*

*Proud to be on the historic Santa Fe Trail in the heart of Prairie Village*

*Message from the President*



Hello Friends and Neighbors,

There have been a few changes to your Homes Association Board since the annual meeting. I now have the privilege of serving as your President. In previous years I have served on the board as Treasurer, and as Vice President. It will be difficult to follow our immediate past president, Margie Lundy, but I will try my best. I have a truly great team of board members to work with and we will act together to help with all matters of the Prairie Ridge Homes Association

You may have read about the new joint initiative between the City of Prairie Village and the various Homes Associations regarding building codes. The goal of the Homes Association Committee is to keep home remodeling and building within deed restrictions set forth by the J.C. Nichols company.

The most recent newsletter from the city has a more complete explanation of the committee. Please refer to that for your convenience. Together we can keep Prairie Village the very best it can be for now and the future.

Now for some fun stuff! The shorter daylight hours and cooler evenings are easing us into the fall and winter seasons. Soon, a lot of our free time will be spent harvesting leaves from our lawns and gardens. If your neighbors are out enjoying the same exercise it's a great time to wave and say hi.

Some neighborhoods had block parties this summer but fall is also a great time to get together. Try pulling the grill into the driveway and invite the neighbors to roast hot dogs and marshmallows while everyone is raking and cleaning up. Crank up the radio a little and listen to the Chiefs game while tossing the football around. Talk to one of the board members about (limited) Block Party funds available through the Homes Association.

I enjoy walking for exercise and you may have seen me out and about your neighborhood. I am constantly aware of what a wonderful community we live in. Great homes, lovely yards, and families of all ages come together to make Prairie Ridge a major component of Prairie Village. We can be proud of our efforts.

Please let your board know if we can be of help with any questions or concerns you might have regarding Prairie Ridge.

## *Rain Garden!*

Prairie Village has its first official city rain garden! Check it out on the west side of the Harmon Park tennis courts.

According to Tom Trienens, Manager of Engineering Services at Public Works, this rain garden was scheduled as the Storm Drainage Repair Project for 2007. The consulting firm of URS on College Boulevard handled the plans for its implementation.

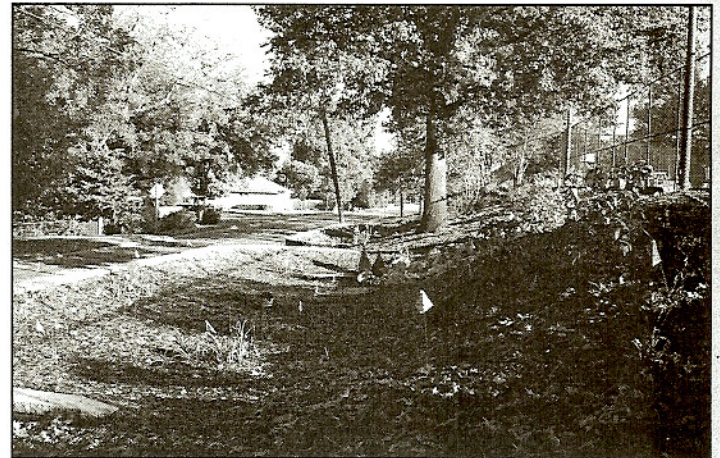
As some of you may have noticed, this section of land washed away quite a bit each time there was a heavy rain. The purpose of a rain garden is to decrease surface run-off and filter pollutants. They were first created to mimic a natural retention area – before an area is developed – that collects water in depressions in the land and percolates slowly through the earth instead of running off – and were first used residentially in the 1990's in Maryland.

Rain gardens are designed to catch what is called the "first flush" from a rain in a depressed basin. The water then percolates through a sandy soil layer and into under-drains so that it is released at a much slower rate. You will notice there are cutouts in the stone walls of each garden, sometimes referred to as weirs, that allow spillover of water.

The plantings are those that can tolerate a wet environment. Prairie Village has used butterfly milkweed, Prairie Blazing Star, purple coneflower, black-eyed Susan, daylilies, Little Bluestem and Prairie coreopsis, among others. These plants are native to Kansas and do well in any of our gardens.

The next time you are out for a stroll, take time to check out our newest storm drainage project.

If you like, you can Google rain gardens and the Wikipedia entry there has more interesting information.



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## *Board Members:*

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You may contact any of us with ideas. If you have complaints, please contact either the President or Vice-President.

## Recipe

### Pumpkin Bread

Prep: 20 minutes

Bake: 55 minutes

Oven: 350

Makes 2 loaves



- 3 cups sugar
- 1 cup cooking oil
- 4 eggs
- 3 ½ cups all-purpose flour
- 2 teaspoons baking soda
- 1 ½ teaspoons salt
- 1 teaspoon ground cinnamon
- 1 teaspoon ground nutmeg
- 2/3 cup water
- 1 15oz can pumpkin

1. Grease the bottom of two 9x5x3-inch loaf pans. In a very large mixing bowl beat sugar and oil with an electric mixer on medium speed. Add eggs and beat well; set aside.
2. In a large bowl combine flour, baking soda, salt, cinnamon and nutmeg. Alternately add flour mixture and water to sugar mixture, beating on low speed after each addition until combined. Beat in pumpkin. Spoon batter into prepared pans.
3. Bake at 350 degrees for 55-65 minutes or until a wooden toothpick inserted near the center come out clean.
4. Cool on wire rack and enjoy!

## Please Say Hi to Your New Neighbors

Custen Border 4311 W.78th Terrace

Carole Mosher 4905 W.77th Street

Joseph & Shilby Reck 4911 W.78th Place

Patrick Zwolinski & Kristen Firestone 4800 W.79th St.

Blake & Dale Zogleman 7505 Juniper

Robert & Jennifer McGarry 4310 W.77th Terrace

John & Kara Petrovic 7535 Juniper

Wayne M. Smith 4716 W.77th Place

Michael Plattner 7720 Briar

Greg & Mary Lang 7739 Fontana

Samuel Cargnel 4932 W.78th Terrace

Jason & Amy Taylor 4815 W.77th Terrace

Mike Moore & Mark Moore 4731 W.78th Street

Erik D'Souza 7844 Juniper

Whitney Rice 7612 Juniper

Megan Good 4600 W.78th Street

B.Fehrmann & G. Fewell 4514 W.78th Terrace

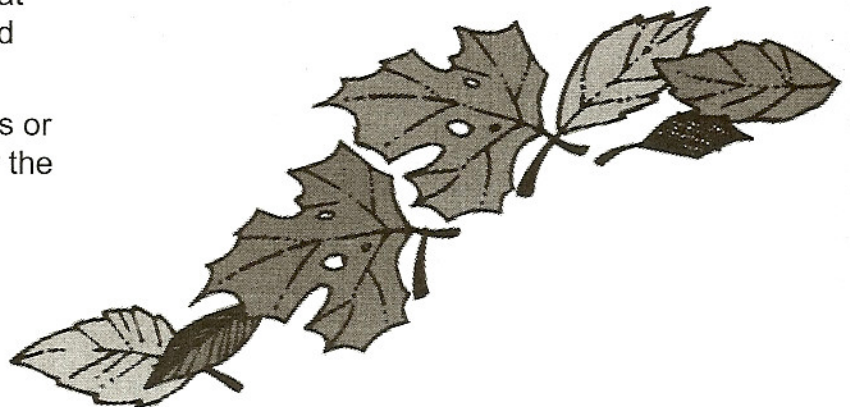
John & Heather Kolin 7720 Rosewood Lane

Craig & Rebecca Brown 4517 W.76th Street

Nicholas Gardner 4833 W.78th Terrace

Eric & Allison Blevins 4700 W.78th Street

Nathaniel & Jennifer Thomas 7724 Briar



## *Fall Reminders*

Please keep the sidewalks in front of your homes clear of debris. This is perfect walking weather and those acorns and gumballs can be treacherous!

Don't forget when walking your pooch to bring along a plastic bag for "poop scooping". It's not right to let your neighbor pick up after your dog!

Daylight savings time is November 4th! (Yahoo—an extra hour of sleep!)

### **Kids don't forget your Halloween safety tips—**

- Stay on the sidewalks or driveways
- Cross at corners or crosswalks
- Only go to houses where there are lights on
- Go with at least one buddy or adult
- Say "thank you" for your treats

*HAPPY TRICK OR TREATING!*