

VERGIL ORTIZ JR. SLATED FOR BOXING TITLE

Going undefeated in 19 professional bouts has opened the door for Grand Prairie’s Vergil Ortiz Jr. to his challenge World Boxing Association secondary welterweight champion Eimantas Stanionis for the title on April 29 in the main event at the College Park Center on the University of Texas at Arlington campus. Vergil has held the World Boxing Organization International welterweight title since 2021. As an amateur, he was a seven-time national champion and was the winner at the 2013 Junior Olympics. He was named 2019 *The Ring* magazine Prospect of the Year. He began his career at five years old when he was introduced to the sport by his father.

MEMORIAL DAY CELEBRATION

Monday, May 29 • Gather at 9:30 a.m.
Ceremony begins at 10 a.m.
Veterans Memorial, 925 Conover Dr.



Join us along with guest speaker Dr. Vern Alexander to pay tribute to the Grand Prairie service men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom. The dedicated Brass Honor Bell will be rung after the reading of each name of Grand Prairie service personnel lost during the many battles for our freedom. The Grand Prairie Police Honor Guard will honor our service personnel with a 21-gun salute and Taps played. Upon conclusion of the ceremony, an All-American Lunch of hot dogs and lemonade will be provided by the Grand Prairie Rotary Clubs. For more information, visit GrandFunGP.com.

SUMMER READING CLUB KICK OFF

Saturday, June 3, 10 a.m.-noon
Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Come out to the Main Library for the Summer Reading Club Kick Off Party. Have fun with face painters, photos with favorite characters, crafts, activities and so much more.

CYCLIN' WITH THE MAYOR

Join Mayor Ron Jensen for a 5-mile bike ride. Riders of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to join the casual ride. Meet at 6 p.m. Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.

Thursday, April 20

Grand Peninsula Ride
Meet at Daulton Elementary, 2607 N. Grand Peninsula

Thursday, May 18

Lone Star/Campion Trail Ride
Meet at Action Park Grand Prairie, 1002 Lone Star Parkway



FARMERS MARKET



Open Saturdays
Market Square, 120 W. Main St.

The Grand Prairie Farmers Market features locally grown fruits, vegetables, plants, tamales, salsas, eggs, honey, soaps, candles and more. Call 972-237-4599 or visit GrandFunGP.com/FarmersMarket.

CRAWFISH BOIL



Saturday, June 4
8 a.m.-1 p.m.

(Crawfish will be available promptly at 10 a.m. until sell out)

Market Square, 120 W. Main St.

Grand Prairie’s annual Crawfish Boil features live music, local vendors, games, and of course, crawfish. Tasty authentic crawfish prepared by Dustin Clement’s Heads or Tails Cajun. Crawfish will be sold by the pound and accompanied with potatoes and corn. Visit GrandFunGP.com.

MAY 6, 2023 ELECTION

Election day is Saturday, May 6 and early voting is April 24, 2023-May 2, 2023. For more information, visit gptx.org/election.

UPTOWN THEATER

Enjoy spectacular shows at Grand Prairie's Uptown Theater, 120 E. Main St. For tickets and information, call 972-237-8786 or visit uptowntheatergp.com:

Murders & Moontowers

Friday, May 26, 7 p.m.

A murder-mystery musical comedy based on true events in 1880s Texas. A new mayor tries to stop a rash of crimes in the capital city. Facing a love triangle, a restless mob and his own mysterious past, he hopes to stop crime with enormous "Moonlight Towers" over the city.

School of Rock

Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council

June 16-25

Dewey Finn, a failed, wannabe rock star decides to earn an extra bit of cash by posing as a substitute teacher at a prestigious prep school. There he turns a class of straight-A pupils into a guitar-shredding, bass-slapping, mind-blowing rock band. But can he get them to the Battle of the Bands without their parents and the school's headmistress finding out?



OVERSIZED VEHICLES IN RESIDENTIAL AREAS



Did you know the City of Grand Prairie, as well as most cities in the country, prohibits or limits the parking of oversized vehicles in all residential districts or areas used for residential purposes? Our ordinance governing this prohibition is in place for a variety of reasons, most importantly neighborhood safety. A hazard is created when an oversized vehicle blocks or impedes traffic on the street or a driver's or pedestrian's visual ability to recognize hazards. Also important are the aesthetics and welcoming appearance of a neighborhood and maintaining the quality life for everyone in our city.

Our ordinance from Chapter 29.139, of our Code of Ordinances, is summarized as follows:

In all residential districts or areas used for residential purposes, no truck-tractor, road tractor, semi-trailer, bus, trailer, commercial vehicle, or truck with a rated capacity in excess of one and one-half (1½) tons according to the manufacturer's classification shall be parked or stored in the street, yard, driveway, or any other area. Travel trailers, campers, recreational vehicles and/or boats, designed for personal use, may be kept in residential districts provided such vehicles are maintained off the street and on an approved driveway so as not to encroach upon the right-of-way.

This ordinance as well as the entire publication of the Grand Prairie Code of Ordinances may be found by visiting gptx.org.

COMMUNITY CATS

Grand Prairie Animal Services (GPAS) wants to help you care for the Community Cats in your neighborhood, even after they have gone through the Trap-Neuter-Return Program. Learn about feeding, sheltering and the overall health of community cats on the GPAS website, gptx.org/outdoorcats. Don't forget to get your cats fixed.



FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Saturday, May 13, 9-11 a.m.

City Hall East, 300 W. Main St.

Registration is required at: gptx.org/electronics-recycling or 972-237-8159

Accepted: computers, laptops, printers, VCRs, DVD players, TVs (no exposed parts please), cellphones

Not accepted: hazardous materials, liquids, broken monitor tubes, yard equipment, air conditioners, refrigerators

Grand Prairie residents can also bring their recyclables to the landfill any time Monday-Saturday 7:30 a.m.-4:30 p.m.



HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Saturday, May 13, 9-11 a.m.

City Hall East, 300 W. Main St.

Registration is required at: 972-237-8055 or online at gptx.org/WQ/HHW.

No commercial waste will be accepted.



MOTHER'S DAY PAMPERING EVENT

Saturday, May 13, 9 a.m.- 12 p.m. • Veterans Event Center, 925 Conover Dr.

All new moms and moms-to-be are invited to a FREE Mother's Day celebration. The first 100 moms in attendance will receive a free package of size 1 diapers (1 per mom.) No registration is required.

Event door prizes include a stroller, a pack and play set, a high chair, and more! For more information, please visit gptx.org/getfitgp

CRIME TIPS

While Grand Prairie enjoys a high quality of life, and is the #9 safest city in Texas as ranked by the FBI, residents are reminded to always be aware of their surroundings. When leaving your bank, put any cash withdrawals in a pocket, wallet or purse. A recent nationwide trend is called "jugging," which occurs when a suspect watches a bank or high-end store and then follows a customer after they leave to steal their money or valuables. You may drive to your next destination, only to find your window broken and goods gone when you return to your vehicle. The same is true for purses, wallets and purchases....conceal them when you are not in your car. It only takes a minute to break a window and steal your stuff, and costs you a bundle to replace the window and your stolen cash and items. Be safe, not sorry.

LIBRARY EVENTS

Late Night at the Library: Pub Trivia

Friday, May 5, 6-8 p.m., Main Library 901 Conover Dr.

Join us for a fun after-hours trivia night to wind down from the week with other adults. All Late Night at the Library events are for ages 21 and up, and there is a \$5 cash-at-the-door cost. Drinks and light refreshments are provided. Email Josh at jrudd@gptx.org to register.

Toddler Tape Town

Wednesday, May 10, 10:30 a.m.-noon, Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Rd.

Rev your engines and join us for this special Toddler Time for ages 2-4 as we travel around our community. Visit a construction site, train station, grocery store, puppet theater, farm and many more destinations. Children are encouraged to bring their favorite vehicle (small size with names printed on bottom) or use one of the library vehicles to travel from place to place.

Streets and Reads

Saturday, May 13, 10-11:30 a.m.

Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Get swept up in reading with the city's streets and water departments as they show us how their heavy equipment works and demonstrate how they keep us safe. See how a streetlight is changed using a bucket truck, watch how tree limbs are picked up and more. This program is for all ages and will be outside.

MOSQUITO SEASON

Mosquitoes live part of their lives in aquatic environments and breed in almost any body of water. As mosquito season approaches, please prepare by eliminating areas with stagnant water and keeping landscaping trimmed and clean.

What you can do to help:

- Keep rain gutters free of debris and leaves
- Use EPA-approved insect repellents
- Repair leaky pipes, outdoor faucets, and ensure proper operation of sprinklers
- Cover or turn upside down any containers that may collect water
- Cover trash containers
- Keep grass cut short and shrubbery well trimmed so adult mosquitoes don't have a place to hide.

To learn more, please visit gptx.org/fightthebite.



WATER BILL

ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

Donate as little as \$1 per month with your water bill payment to help Grand Prairie families who cannot pay their water bills.



To make your donation, use the QR code above or visit the city website at gptx.org/waterbillassistance, find the Water Bill Assistance Program and click on the donation links. This program is sponsored by the City of Grand Prairie in cooperation with Grand Prairie United Charities. For information, call 972-237-8200.



FLOOD RISK, TURN AROUND DON'T DROWN

Flooding can happen anywhere, and Grand Prairie is no exception. In the last 10 years Grand Prairie has had several flooding events that caused damage. The most common cause of flooding is water due to rain that accumulates faster than soils can absorb it, or rivers can carry it away. The #1 cause of deaths during flooding is drowning. You should never walk or drive through flood waters. It only takes 6 inches of moving water to knock you off your feet. A vehicle caught in swiftly moving water can be swept away in seconds, 12 inches of water can float a car or small SUV, 18 inches of water can carry away large vehicles. Do NOT drive into flooded roadways or around a barricade; Turn Around, Don't Drown! The good news is there are things you can do to protect yourself and belongings from flooding.

Before the Flood

- **Create a Communications Plan** - Identify a safe location and way to communicate with family members
- **Assemble an Emergency Kit** - Have enough food, water, and medicine on hand always to last you at least 3 days in the case of an emergency.
- **Sign Up for Notifications** - Get alerts about emergencies and other important community news by signing up for our emergency alert program AlertGP by visiting the city's website gptx.org
- **Prepare Your Home** - Since standard homeowners' insurance doesn't cover flooding, ensure coverage by contacting your insurance company or agent to purchase flood insurance.
- **Prepare your Family/Pets** - Don't wait until the last moment to gather the essentials for yourself, your family.
- **Charge Your Essential Electronics** - Make sure your cell phone and portable radios are all charged in case you lose power or need to evacuate.
- **Leave** - If it is likely your home will flood.

During The Flood

- **Stay Informed:** Listen to radio, television, and AlertGP notifications
- **Get to Higher Ground:** If you live in a flood prone area or low-lying area, get to higher ground immediately.
- **Obey Evacuation Orders:** If told to evacuate, do so immediately.
- **Avoid Flood Waters:** Don't walk or drive into flooded areas. Turn Around Don't Drown!

After the Flood

- **Stay Informed:** Stay tuned to your local news for updated information on road conditions.
- **Avoid Flood Waters:** Standing water hides many dangers including toxins and chemicals.
- **Avoid Disaster Areas:** Do not visit disaster areas. Your presence may hamper rescue and other emergency operations.
- **Heed Road Closed and Cautionary Signs:** Road closure and other cautionary signs are put in place for your safety.
- **Wait for the All Clear:** Do not enter a flood damaged home or building until you're given the All Clear by authorities. Contact your insurance agent to discuss property damage.
- **Contact Your Family and Loved Ones:** Let your family and close friends know that you're okay so they can help spread the word.

For more information on the flood safety tips, you can visit www.ready.gov/floods or the Stormwater Department at 972-237-8321 or floodplain@gptx.org.

STRAY/LOOSE DOGS



Allowing dogs to roam loose is prohibited in our city.

This includes owned pets off leash on an unfenced property.

For details visit gptx.org/paws or follow Grand Prairie Animal Services on Facebook.

STRICTLY CHEER

Dalworth Recreation Center
2012 Spikes St.

Girls and Boys ages 5-12
\$40/month

Learn the basic components of cheerleading from NCA Certified and Trained Instructor Cherdarian Washington. For more details, contact the Dalworth Recreation Center at 972-237-4760.

OZONE SEASON

Ozone season has begun! Beginning in March through November, ground-level ozone reaches its highest concentration. High levels of ground-level ozone have a negative effect on our environment and human health, particularly on young children and those with respiratory conditions. During ozone action days, it is encouraged to limit outdoor activities or plan activities to be in the morning or in the evening when ozone levels are lower. Here are some clean air actions you can do to help reduce air pollution.



- Carpooling on major commutes
- Fuel your vehicle before 10 a.m. or after 6 p.m.
- Refraining from idling
- Bring your lunch to work

For more information, please visit airnorthtexas.org.