

CITY CELEBRATES PARK RENOVATIONS



City Council, Park Board and community members celebrated the newly renovated Mi Familia Park with a ribbon cutting on Dec. 11, 2023.

The Grand Prairie Parks, Arts & Recreation Department recently celebrated improvement projects at three city parks cherished by generations of residents. Renovations at each park included:

Turner Park

A new playground and shade, park entry gateway, picnic pavilion, park entry gateway, loop trail, benches and restroom. Improvements were also made to the parking lot and a tribute was added at the site of the former baseball field.

Mi Familia Park

A new multi-level playground, extensive walking trails, a dedicated food truck area, updated restroom facilities and signage, pavilion repairs, and landscaping and irrigation upgrades. A fitness court will be added soon.

Tyre Park

Improvements to the basketball pavilion, swimming pool, and restrooms. A new group pavilion, a new park sign, Dalworth and Juneteenth history plaque were installed. The park pond was dredged, the park received new furnishings, landscape and irrigation enhancements were completed.

ENJOY NEW GP RESTAURANTS AND RETAIL

Explore EpicCentral, 2951 S. SH 161, experience the Vegas-style water show Illuvia, and try great new restaurants in our city open now and coming soon.

- **Serious Eats Pizza, Sliders and Shakes** will open in early 2024.
- **The Dippy Egg** is scheduled to open in early 2024.



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**MAYOR PRO TEM
JOHN LOPEZ
TOWN HALL MEETING**

Thursday, Feb. 8, 6-8 p.m.
Moseley Elementary School
1851 W. Camp Wisdom Rd.

Join Mayor Pro Tem John Lopez for a City Council District 4 Town Hall Meeting to address community interests

concerning the City of Grand Prairie. Scan the QR code to attend the meeting virtually via Zoom.



THE BIG EVENT

Saturday, March 23



The Big Event is a one-day, city-wide day the City of Grand Prairie celebrates commUNITY by matching volunteers with service projects, neighbors helping neighbors. All Big Event jobs are outdoors, do not require the use of power tools and can be completed within a few hours. Sign up now with your volunteer group, or job request at gptx.org/bigevent. Deadline to register is March 1, 2023.

UPTOWN THEATER

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

Rhythmic Souls Tap Company's "A Day in the Life"

Monday, Feb. 19, noon and 2 p.m.

The Zeppelin Project

Saturday, Feb. 24, 7 p.m.

GPFAA Jazz Band Winter Concert

Thursday, Feb. 29, 7 p.m.

9 to 5: The Musical - Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council

March 15-24



PLEASE REFRAIN FROM PUTTING GARBAGE OUT TOO EARLY

Putting garbage or recyclables at the curb too early for garbage collection is a city code violation. Placing these items out days before scheduled times causes litter to scatter, attracts animals and is aesthetically displeasing. All garbage and recycling must be put out by 7 a.m. on your scheduled collection day but no earlier than 8 p.m. the night before your collection day.

City Code Sec. 26-111 (4)

DADDY DAUGHTER DANCE

Friday, Feb. 9, 6:30-8:30 p.m.

(Dinner served 6:30-8 p.m.)

Ruthe Jackson Center, 3113 S. Carrier Parkway

This memorable night will include a dinner, dance and a gift for daughters. Limo rides and photos will be available for an additional cost. Tickets are \$30 in January and \$35 in February.



For Tickets:

Visit Charley Taylor Recreation Center, 601 E. Grand Prairie Rd. or call 972-339-3770 to register before tickets sell out. Tickets will not be sold at the Ruthe Jackson Center.

NEW RESTAURANTS AND RETAIL *Continued from page 1*

- **Vidorra Cocina de Mexico** is now open.
- **The Finch Grill & Raw Bar** is open—and features steak, chicken, fish and more.
- **Loop 9 BBQ** is open.
- **Hilton Garden Inn, Homewood Suites and a new convention center** will open in early 2024.

For more information about the EpicCentral development, visit EpicCentral.com.

Other new development:

At Epic Grand Crossing east of SH 161 near Arkansas Lane:

- **Einstein Bros. Bagels** is open.
- **Frost Bank** is open.
- **Pizza Patron** will open soon.
- **Pei Wei** will open in early 2024.

The "Epic Quarter" of projects along SH 161 welcomes:

- **Shake Shack**, now open just west of Raising Cane's at 1550 Mayfield Road and Esplanade.
- **Andretti Indoor Karting and Games** plans to open in early 2024 at 1670 S. Forum Dr.
- **Bass Pro Shops** plans to open in May 2024 at 3720 S. SH 161.

MAY 2024 MUNICIPAL ELECTION

A municipal election will be held on May 4, 2024 for the following seats:

- Council Member District 5
- Council Member District 6
- Council Member Place 8
At Large

Candidates can file for a place on the ballot starting Wednesday, Jan. 17 through Friday, Feb. 16, 2024 by 5 p.m. with the Office of the City Secretary, City Hall, 300 W. Main Street.



TAX HELP

Volunteers from the AARP (American Association of Retired Persons) will provide free tax help for seniors and low-income residents from February 5 through April 15. Help sessions will be by appointment only, at the Veterans Event Center on Mondays and Wednesdays between 10 am and 3 pm.

To make an appointment, call 972-237-5740 (the Shotwell Library). The Veterans Event Center is located at 925 Conover Drive, next door to the Main Library.

HOOPS FOR HISTORY BASKETBALL GAME

Thursday, Feb. 29, 5:30-8 p.m.

Dalworth Recreation Center, 2012 Spikes St.

The Dalworth Recreation Center basketball team will take on the Grand Prairie Police Department in a awesome night of fun and fellowship. Don't miss the fun and excitement at this free event.



KEEP GRAND PRAIRIE BEAUTIFUL

Scan the QR code and register to volunteer at the following event:

Adopt-a-Stream Johnson Creek with Nottingham Neighbors

Saturday, Feb. 10, 9 a.m.-noon



A HISTORY OF THE AFRICAN-AMERICAN EXPERIENCE IN GRAND PRAIRIE

Book Debut and Signing Event

For the first time in Grand Prairie's more than 150 year history, this new book pulls together and documents the history of the African-American experience in Grand Prairie. The city contracted with author and resident Warren Landrum to research and write the book, which he did in 2023. Now is your chance to meet the author and have the opportunity to buy the newest history book of Grand Prairie:

The History and Perspective of the African-American Experience in Grand Prairie, TX: From Then Until Now

At these three events in February:

- Book debut on Saturday, Feb 3, 2-4 p.m. at the Epic Theater in the Epic, 2960 Epic Place
- Thursday, Feb 15, 6:30 - 8 p.m. at the Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Rd.
- Wednesday, Feb 21, 6:30-8 p.m. at the Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Combining interviews; review of historic videos, documents and newspapers; and submittals of family histories, author Warren Landrum spent most of 2023 gathering and writing about the African-American history of Grand Prairie. The book will be on sale at the Grand Prairie Tourist Center, 2170 N. Belt Line Road; Main and Warmack Libraries; and Grand Prairie Historical Museum, 1516 W. Main St., while supplies last beginning Feb. 5, 2024.

STATE OF THE CITY

The State of the City presentation and dinner will be March 7, 2024 hosted by the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce. Info.: 972-264-1558.

GET CONNECTED TO

Your City!

SIGN UP TO RECEIVE ALERTS ABOUT YOUR CITY!

TEXT "GRANDPRAIRIE" TO 91896.

LOOKING FOR CITY INFO OR NEED TO REPORT AN ISSUE? SAVE TIME ON PHONE CALLS.

SIMPLY TEXT "HI" TO 972-640-4789.

GET THE MYGPTX APP NOW. AVAILABLE ON THE APPLE STORE. INSTANTLY ACCESS CITY INFORMATION, SUBMIT SERVICE REQUESTS, REPORT ISSUES, AND MORE—ALL AT YOUR FINGERTIPS. AVAILABLE SOON ON GOOGLE PLAY.



More info at www.gptx.org/TextMyGov.





Did you know that about 30% of Grand Prairie is comprised of floodplain areas? After the flooding event of May 2015, Grand Prairie received more than 20 inches of rain in less than one month. In fact, in that flooding event alone, the state of Texas received enough rain to cover the entire state with 8 inches of water. According to the Texas Flood Insurance group, flash flooding is the number one natural hazard threat to Texas residents? Below are some emergency preparedness tips that you can follow to help prepare for flooding and other hazards:

- Build an emergency kit to stay safe, fed, and comfortable after a disaster. Please refer to the ready.gov/kit website for tips.
- Make an evacuation plan in case of an emergency. Determine who you will contact, where you will meet. Then be sure to practice the plan!
- Keep important documents in a safe and waterproof place.
- Itemize and take pictures of possessions.
- Purchase renters' insurance (if you rent a property) and flood insurance.

Please refer to floodsmart.gov for more information and note that Grand Prairie residents receive a 30 percent discount on flood insurance based on the city's participation in FEMA's Community Rating System.

For more information on disaster preparedness, contact Emergency Management at 972-237-8333 or by email at oem@gptx.org. For more information on floodplain management and flood insurance, contact the Engineering Services Department at 972-237-8321 or by email at floodplain@gptx.org.

FREE ELECTRONICS RECYCLING

Saturday, March 2, 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, March 2, 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.



HEART HEALTHY ART CONTEST



Raise awareness about heart health by entering the Get Fit GP Healthy Heart Art Contest!

The contest is open to all ages with prizes awarded to 1st, 2nd and 3rd place winners in all age categories. One grand prize winner will receive a \$100 gift card and a Fuji Instax camera. All artwork must be submitted by mid-March. For details, visit gptx.org/getfitgp.

LIBRARY UKULELE CLUB



Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Road

Select Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Feb. 1, Feb. 29, March 28, April 25
Children and teens ages 8 and older

Participants are expected to know basic chords and strumming for this intermediate program. Registration is required – contact Camille at cplemmons@gptx.org.

Shotwell Library, 2750 Graham St.

Select Thursdays at 6 p.m.

Jan. 18, Feb. 15, March 14, April 11, May 9
Children and teens ages 8 and older

Participants are expected to know basic chords and strumming for this intermediate program. Registration is required – contact Camille at cplemmons@gptx.org.