

PRAIRIE PULSE

April 2024



What's Inside

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE

Be prepared for the event that shadows over all others this year.

2024 Health Fair

Food Trucks, Vendors, Chai Massages, Blood Drive and more!

Vote for Epic Waters!

We need YOUR help to make it to #1!

Message from the Manager

From City Manager Bill Hills

Upcoming Events

April Happenings



Friday, April 26 through Sunday, April 28.

If you work in or around City Hall, you'll see the performance stage and festival set up arrive in City Hall Plaza the week of April 22.

Main Street Fest offers free parking and admission. Concerts on the Main Stage include Mark Chesnutt, Michael Selgado and the legendary George Clinton. Visit [mainstreetfest.com](https://www.mainstreetfest.com) for more info!



Upcoming Events

TUESDAYS, APRIL 2 & APRIL 16

City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.
City Hall, 300 W. Main St.

SATURDAYS

Farmers Market
8 a.m.-1 p.m.
120 W. Main St.

[More info >](#)

SATURDAY, APRIL 6

Mayor's Community 5K
8 a.m. – Farmers Market and Health Fair
9:30 a.m. – 5K begins
10 a.m.-noon – face painting, superhero photo op, health fair and kids activities and more

[More info >](#)

Police & Pups
Dog Walker Watch
9 a.m.
Public Safety Building, 1525 Arkansas Ln.

Cookies and Conversations with Councilwoman Bessye Adams
11 a.m.-1 p.m.
Grand Peninsula Clubhouse, 2603 N. Grand Peninsula
Attend in person or register to attend via Zoom

[Register >](#)

Trash Off
Unlimited trips to the Grand Prairie Landfil for residents
1102 MacArthur Blvd.

[More info >](#)

MONDAY, APRIL 8

Total Solar Eclipse
1:30 p.m.

[More info >](#)

TOTAL SOLAR ECLIPSE APRIL 8, 2024

On April 8, 2024 at approximately 1:42 p.m., Grand Prairie will experience a total solar eclipse that will last an impressive 3 minutes and 35 seconds. Solar eclipse glasses are on sale now at the Grand Prairie Tourist Information Center at 2170 N. Belt Line Road. Check gptx.org/solareclipse for events and safety information.

Dynamic Development Continues

In EpicCentral, **The Hilton Garden Inn** and **Homewood Suites** hotels operated by Concord Hospitality are now open. Both hotels share the **Grand Prairie Events and Convention Center**. A **Residence Inn by Marriott** is also now open just south of Main Event. **Serious Eats—Shakes, Sliders and Slices** is scheduled to open in May 2024 and the **Dippy Egg** will open in fall 2024.

Design work will begin in fall 2024 on **Rosa's Café** on the southwest corner of SH 161 and Mayfield. **Mountain Mike's Pizza** will be open in EpicEast and Asia Times Square will open a **new concert venue, 85c Bakery Café, BB.Q Chicken** and **OMI Korean BBQ**.

Andretti's Indoor Karting and Games will open next to IKEA in May 2024 and **Bass Pro Shops** at Mayfield Groves, just south of IKEA will open in June 2024.



SATURDAY, MAY 4

Parade on Main St. • 10 a.m.
Music, food, & fun to follow.
Find More info at gptx.org/cinco.



Public Health Has Moved to the FAB

Public Health and Environmental Quality is temporarily located in the former FAB building, 326 W. Main St., while their offices in City Hall East are undergoing renovation.

New Juneteenth Employee Holiday - June 19, 2024

The Grand Prairie City Council voted unanimously to support the celebration of Juneteenth and established June 19 as an annually observed holiday for the City of Grand Prairie. For city employees, the first observance of this official city holiday will be Wednesday, June 19, 2024. City administrative offices will be closed. Visit gptx.org in June 2024 to see other city services that will be closed or open on the holiday.



Vote for Epic Waters!

Exciting News! Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark has been nominated for USA TODAY's 10Best "Best Indoor Waterpark in the Nation! We need YOUR help to make it to #1!

Vote TODAY & EVERY DAY from each of your devices until April 22. Let's make waves together!

[VOTE HERE >](#)

WOW
WORKING ON WELLNESS
CITY OF GRAND PRAIRIE, TX

2024 HEALTH FAIR

JOIN US FOR

Vendors | Food Trucks* | Raffle Prizes
Chair Massages | Blood Drive | Screenings

APR 25 2024 | **10AM - 2PM**
RUTHE JACKSON CENTER
3113 S. CARRIER PARKWAY

*1 food ticket per employee, must have city badge.

Message from the Manager

I want to take a moment to thank each and every one of you for your continued hard work and dedication to the goals and future of our great city. Your efforts have resulted in numerous successes in 2024. Together, we are Creating Raving Fans through outstanding service and successfully completed projects.




A special shout out to everyone who supported The Big Event. Your participation in this volunteer clean up initiative made a huge impact on the lives of many residents in our city. Watch more about it in this [video](#).

Speaking of making a big difference, I am excited to share that our Housing, Engineering, Planning and Transportation Departments have been collaborating with Dallas County on an affordable housing project. We are in the process of preparing for the construction of 10 houses at 658 SW 3rd St. with all the engineering, street development and cul-de-sac construction being handled internally. I appreciate these departments for their diligent efforts and seamless collaboration, bringing us closer to the finish line and enabling us to begin the construction phase shortly.

Shifting gears, we are making good progress planning for the 2024-2025 budget. This will be a somewhat tighter year as sales tax predictions are a little off, but we will be just fine. Each department has submitted their budget proposals, and we are entering a second round of reviews stationed for updates as the process continues.

I encourage everyone to come downtown and join the fun of Main Street Fest April 26-28 for fantastic music, food, rides, and everything that makes us Grand Prairie Proud! Enjoy the music of the following feature acts: Mark Chesnutt on Friday, Michael Salgado on Saturday and Parliament Funkadelic featuring George Clinton on Sunday.

Thank you once again for the World Class Service you provide. Your hard work each day is appreciated.



Bill Hills
City Manager

Save the Date - Equipment Rodeo

Thursday, May 23 | 11 a.m.-1 p.m. | McFalls Park, 1501 S. Carrier Pkwy

Test your heavy equipment operating skills and enjoy hamburgers and hot dogs with coworkers. Sponsored by Public Works; Parks, Arts & Recreation; Employee Recognition Committee; WOW Committee.

Upcoming Events

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 10

Coffee with a Cop
9-10 a.m.
Starbucks, Premium Outlet Mall, 2950 W. Interstate 20

THURSDAY, APRIL 11

Cyclin' with the Mayor - Epic Ride
Meet at 6 p.m.
Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.
Epic Waters, 2960 Epic Place
[More info >](#)

SATURDAY, APRIL 13

Fire Truck Pull Benefiting Special Olympics
Opening ceremonies: 8 a.m.
Registration: 9:30 a.m.
First Pull: 9:45 a.m.
The Epic Southwest Parking Lot, 2960 Epic Place

THURSDAY, APRIL 18 -

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Library Book Sale
Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.
[More info >](#)

SATURDAY, APRIL 20

Shred Day
8-11 a.m.
GP Service Center, 1821 S. State Highway 161
\$5 per box
[More info >](#)

Catalytic Converter Etching
8-11 a.m.
GP Service Center, 1821 S. State Highway 161
\$15 per vehicle
[More info >](#)

Earth Day at EpicCentral
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
2960 Epic Place
Free tree giveaway, animal encounters, crafts and more.
[More info >](#)