

PRAIRIE PULSE

June 2022



Thank you to Public Works, Parks, Arts & Recreation, the Employee Recognition Committee and WOW Committee for a fantastic Equipment Road-E-O!

What's Inside

Municipal Complex Dedication

New Monument Honors Tom Hart

Cybersecurity Awareness

Mandatory Training Coming Soon

Need a Summer Beach Buddy?

Foster a Pet from Prairie Paws

Upcoming Events

See What's New in June

EpicCentral Update

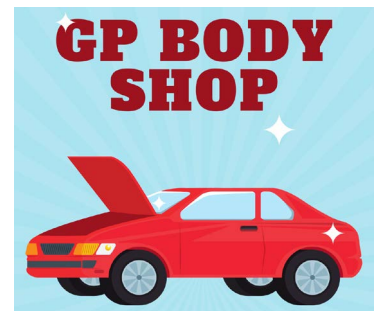
Loop 9 BBQ to Open in 2022

Message from the Manager

From City Manager Steve Dye

GP Body Shop - Men's Health Fair

Fellas! In observation of Men's Health Month, the WOW Committee is hosting an all-new Men's Health Fair just for you on June 28 and June 29! Save the dates and prepare to participate in a biometric screening, PSA test, injury assessments and receive information handouts and more! Set reminders on your calendar for one of the dates that works best for you:



Tuesday, June 28, 11 a.m.-4 p.m.

Service Center Break Room, 1821 SH 161

Wednesday, June 29, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.

Public Safety Building Community Room, 1525 Arkansas Ln.

June Wisdom Wednesday Video

Gerald Hodges, Assistant to the City Manager, interviewed Don Smarto this month for a message about learning from life experiences.

Watch the June 2022 [Wisdom Wednesday video](#)

Upcoming Events

Thursday, June 2

Music on Main Concert
Double Ace - Rock & Roll Band
Free - Bring a lawn chair
6 p.m., Farmers Market
120 W. Main St.

Friday, June 3

September Moon Concert
7:30 p.m., Epic Theater
2960 Epic Place
\$15 in advance
\$20 at the door
[More info.](#)

Saturday, June 4 (Every Saturday)

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

Saturday, June 4

Crawfish Boil
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Farmers Market
120 W. Main St.
\$10 per pound includes
potatoes and corn

Tuesday, June 7

(Tuesdays until Aug. 30)
Zumba
7 p.m., Warmack Library
760 Bardin Rd.
Free
Email [Josh Rudd](#) to register.

Wednesday, June 8

Lynn Creek Marina Ribbon
Cutting and Open House
4-7 p.m., Lynn Creek Marina
5700 Lake Ridge Parkway
Tour the renovated marina, dine
in the restaurant, enjoy food
trucks and Kona Ice.
[More info.](#)

City Hall Complex Named for Former City Manager Tom Hart



The City Hall Municipal Complex was dedicated to former City Manager Tom Hart on Tuesday, May 17. Pictured l-r: Mayor Ron Jensen and City Council members; Mike Del Bosque, Jeff Copeland, Kurt Johnson, Jorja Clemson, Former City Council Member Dennis King, Council Member John Lopez, Tom Hart and City Manager Steve Dye.

[Watch video of dedication event](#)

Help Out Prairie Paws - Foster a Beach Buddy!

Prairie Paws Adoption Center is always in need of individuals or families who can foster an animal in need. As a foster parent to a Prairie Paws animal, you help prepare a pet for a forever home and directly assist in creating a better future for our community's animals and the families that who love them.



If you are interested in becoming a foster volunteer, please fill out the [Foster Program Volunteer Form](#). Once Prairie Paws staff receives the application, we will review it and someone from the Prairie Paws team will contact you.

Cybersecurity Awareness Training

State and local governments have become prime targets for cyber-criminals more than ever. In 2019 more than 50 Texas municipalities were hit with a ransomware attack that locked access to critical computer systems. You may recall that Grand Prairie was also a victim of such an attack in April of that year. We were fortunate enough to recover quickly, but other agencies were not so lucky.



With more than 90 percent of all cybersecurity attacks caused by human error, a strong Cybersecurity Awareness Training program must be in place to keep us safe. The IT Department's goal is to help employees protect themselves and the City against cyber attacks and threats. Cybersecurity Awareness Training empowers employees with knowledge on recognizing and mitigating security threats that can negatively impact our mission-critical systems.

This year's Annual Cybersecurity Awareness Training will begin in June and end in August. You can log in at any time and start your training.

How to access my Cybersecurity Awareness Training?

1. Go to <https://training.knowbe4.com/>
2. Provide your email address and click "Next"
3. When prompted to login, provide your Raving Fans account password (same username and password you use to login to your computer at work)
4. Complete all 2 items in the program.

EpicCentral Project Blazes Forward



Construction is well underway on the EpicCentral development just west of SH 161 between Arkansas Lane and Warrior Trail. The development will include hotels, a convention center, restaurants and an outdoor open space with a covered stage for events, concerts and programs along with interactive technology for entertainment. At night, visitors will be able to enjoy a water and light show in the adjacent lake. One EpicCentral restaurant is already open—Chicken N Pickle. Hotel and restaurant estimated opening dates are as follows:

- Loop 9 BBQ – opening late summer 2022
- Vidorra Cocina de Mexico restaurant – opening fall 2022
- The Finch neighborhood restaurant and bar – opening fall 2022
- Serious Pizza, Sliders and Shakes – opening winter 2022
- Poach'd breakfast/brunch restaurant – opening early 2023
- Hilton Garden Inn and Homewood Suites – opening late 2023
- 13,000-square-foot convention center – opening late 2023

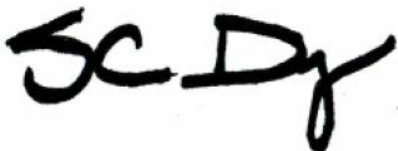
Message from the Manager

Our thoughts and prayers continue to be with the victims and families of last week's evil act of violence in Uvalde. I'm so proud that our employee group has identified ways to help (see memorial fund information below). Many thanks to our Police Department for reinforcing security at our schools in Grand Prairie providing comfort for parents and students as the school year ended last week.

I would like to wish everyone a safe and happy summer as you travel and enjoy summer activities, and if you have children or grandchildren, I hope you are able to spend time with them while they are out of school.

This spring has been busy with new development projects nearing fruition. There are several potential entertainment and retail projects on the land south of IKEA. We're also beginning to see more proposals for the project off of Post & Paddock on the west side of SH 360 and construction begins very soon for a \$13 million renovation of the former AirHogs ballpark that will convert the facility to a Major League Cricket stadium. The city is also reviewing proposals from developers for the former Calvary Baptist Church west of City Hall and the old City Hall Annex and Finance building on Main Street.

June is Men's Health Month. I know it is not fun to go to the doctor, but it is important to be vigilant—take care of your body, and go to your doctor for a checkup so you can be the best family member possible. Thank you for all you do to provide world class service every day.



Steve Dye, City Manager

Robb School Memorial Fund

An account has been opened at First State Bank of Uvalde for the families of Robb Elementary. If you would like to donate, you can do so in the following ways:

Make all checks payable to the "Robb School Memorial Fund."
Please mail checks to:
PO Box 1908
Uvalde, TX 78802

For Zelle donations: robbschoolmemorialfund@gmail.com
If Zelle asks for a first and last name, enter first name: Robb and last name: school.

FSBUvalde.com

Phone: 830-356-2273

Upcoming Events

Thursday, June 9

Movies on the Lawn
Raya and the Last Dragon
6-10 p.m., The Epic Grandlawn
2960 Epic Place
Free admission
Bring a lawn chair or blanket

Tuesday, June 14

Mental Health Support Group:
Stress and Anxiety
6-7 p.m., Main Library
901 Conover Dr.
To register, email:
aholstead@gptx.org

Friday, June 17

Annual Cookout celebrating
Juneteenth
6-8 p.m.
Dalworth Recreation Center
2012 Spikes St.
More info.: 972-237-4760

Saturday, June 18

Juneteenth Parade and
Celebration
Parade line up: 9 a.m. at
City Hall Liberty Bell
300 W. Main St.
Parade begins after 10 a.m. and
ends at Tyre Park, 2327 Tyre St.
More info: 972-237-4760

Saturday, June 18

Family Fishing Day
10 a.m.-2 p.m.
EpicCentral Grandlawn
2960 Epic Place
[More info.](#)

Thursday, June 23

Cyclin' with the Mayor
Fish Creek Ride
6 p.m., Meet at Starrett
Elementary
Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.