

CINCO DE MAYO FIESTA MAY 3

Join the fun at Grand Prairie's 21st Annual Cinco de Mayo celebration



**Saturday, May 3, at City Hall Plaza
(300 block of West Main Street)**

The city's largest annual parade will kick off activities at 10:30 a.m., at East Main and NE 14th Street, proceeding west on Main to City Hall Plaza. Free entertainment will be staged from noon to 6 p.m., with more than 25 Grand Prairie ISD performing groups, mariachi bands and vocalists.

The festival will also feature arts and crafts booths, informational exhibits, kiddie rides and, of course, plenty of Tex-Mex food favorites. For more information call 972-237-8100, or go to www.GrandFunGP.com.

CELEBRATE SPRING AT MAYFEST

Saturday, May 10, 9 a.m.-3 p.m.

Kirby Creek Park and Natural Science Center, 3400 Corn Valley Road

This year's theme, "Mayfest—A Celebration of the Trinity River," will focus on water-related activities. Mayfest goers will enjoy a wide variety of aquatic demonstrations, exhibits and conservation tips, information on summer camps, swimming pools, golf courses and other programs. The Grand Prairie ISD fine arts students and faculty will provide musical and dramatic performances. Arts and crafts vendors, a solar telescope demonstration, festival foods and more will all be part of Mayfest. For more information call 972-264-8729.

GRAND PRAIRIE AIRHOGS MINOR LEAGUE BASEBALL TEAM

Season Opener – May 16, 2008

Get your tickets now!

www.airhogsbaseball.com or 972-504-9383



LONE STAR PARK BEGINS THOROUGHBRED SEASON

Lone Star Park in Grand Prairie kicks off their Spring Thoroughbred Season, Thursday, April 10. The 2008 season will be filled with action packed racing and activities for everyone. Music lovers can enjoy live music at Party at the Park every Friday night. This May, Kentucky Derby Day falls on Saturday, May 3. Wear your most creative Kentucky Derby Hat for the annual Kentucky Derby Hat contest. Other big event days in May include Lone Star Derby Day on Saturday, May 10, Preakness Stakes Day on Saturday, May 17 and Lone Star Million Day, on Monday, May 26. Tickets are on sale now and can be purchased in advance by calling 972-263-PONY. For more information, go to lonestarpark.com. The horses are ready...are you!

MEMORIAL DAY SERVICE

Monday, May 26

**Grand Prairie Veteran's Memorial
(Behind the Senior Citizen Center,
925 W. Conover)**

The program will begin at 10 a.m., and will include a tribute to the men and women who have made the ultimate sacrifice to preserve our freedom. A bagpiper-led processional, 21 gun salute, color guards, a vintage aircraft flyover and memorial begonias will all be part of the memorial service.

A screening of videos of previous Veterans Day and Memorial Day service members, a display of photos of the veterans inscribed on the Memorial columns and a free All-American lunch will take place in the Senior Center following the program.

The Memorial Day Service is presented by the Grand Prairie Parks and Recreation Department, the Metro Rotary Club of Grand Prairie, the Grand Prairie Rotary Club and the Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens and Mausoleum. For more information call 972-237-8100.



MASTER COMPOSTER CLASS

Learn how to make composted soil using your own grass and leaves. Master Composter training is a three-day class at the city's Development Center, 206 W. Church St.

Thursday and Friday,

May 29-30, 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

Saturday, May 31, 9 a.m.-5 p.m.

The cost is \$10 for Grand Prairie residents and \$20 for non-residents. Call 972-237-8061 or email mbell@gptx.org for more information and to register.

GENERAL ELECTION MAY 10, 2008

On Saturday, May 10, 2008, a General Election will be held in Grand Prairie at which the following will be on the ballot

Council Member, District 1, for a three-year term

_____ Mark Hepworth

_____ Harry Englert

ONLY VOTERS IN DISTRICT 1 WILL BE ELIGIBLE TO VOTE IN THIS ELECTION.

NOTE: Bill Thorn, Council Member, District 3, for a three-year term and Ruthe Jackson, Council Member, Place 7, at large, for a three-year term, were both unopposed and were declared elected at the March 18, 2008 City Council meeting.

Early voting by personal appearance will be conducted at the following locations in Grand Prairie:

City of Grand Prairie Development Center

(Dallas County and Tarrant County voters)

206 W. Church Street

Garner Elementary School (Dallas County voters only)

145 Polo Road



In addition to the above sites, registered voters in Dallas County may vote early at any Dallas County polling location in Dallas County. Tarrant County may vote at any early voting polling location in Tarrant County. For more information regarding these additional locations, contact the Dallas County Elections Department at 214-819-6300 or www.dalcoelections.org; or contact the Tarrant County Elections Department at 817-831-8683 or www.tarrantcounty.com/eVote.

Dates and times of early voting are as follows:

April 28 – May 2

(Monday through Friday) Dallas and Tarrant County 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

May 3 (Saturday) Dallas County 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Tarrant County 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

May 4 (Sunday) Dallas County 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Tarrant County 11 a.m. - 4 p.m.

May 5 – May 6

(Monday and Tuesday) Dallas and Tarrant County 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Voters who are qualified to vote by mail may apply directly to the following:

- Dallas County voters may make application for mail ballots directly to the Dallas County Elections Administrator, 2377 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 820, Dallas, Texas 75207;
- Tarrant County voters may make application for mail ballots directly to the Tarrant County Elections Administrator, 2700 Premier Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76111.

Applications for ballots by mail must be received no later than May 2, 2008.

Polls will be open on Election Day, May 10, from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. Check the newspaper, or the websites listed above for election day polling locations.

The last day to register to vote in the May 10, 2008 election is April 10, 2008. If you have questions regarding the May 10 election, please call the City Secretary's Office at 972-237-8035.

STATE PROGRAM OFFERS VOUCHERS FOR OLD CARS

The Drive a Clean Machine program provides qualifying owners of older, high-polluting vehicles with vouchers worth up to \$3,500 toward the purchase of qualifying new, cleaner-running vehicles.

To qualify for the program, an applicant's vehicle must be 10 years old or older, or have failed state emissions tests and live in Tarrant or Dallas county.

The Drive a Clean Machine program will provide the following incentives to qualifying families willing to purchase a new vehicle:

- \$3,000 for a car, current model year or up to three model years old.
- \$3,000 for a truck, current model year or up to two model years old.
- \$3,500 for a hybrid vehicle, current or previous model year.

To qualify, a household must meet income guidelines. For other qualifications and for more information go to www.driveacleanmachine.org or call 1-800-913-3321.

CAMP COUNSELORS NEEDED

Bowles, Charley Taylor and Dalworth Recreation Centers are looking for hard-working, dedicated individuals to work in our Summer Camps June-August. Visit the City of Grand Prairie website at www.gptx.org/jobs from April-May to apply.

Love Em

Tag Em

Fix Em



Prairie Paws Adoption Center

2222 West Warrior Trail

972-237-8575.

Open Tuesday - Friday 9 a.m. - 6 p.m.
and Saturday 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Elección General – 10 De Mayo De 2008

El sábado, 10 de mayo de 2008, se realizará una Elección General en Grand Prairie en la que se elegirá:

Miembro del Concejo, Distrito 1, para un mandato de tres años

_____ Mark Hepworth

_____ Harry Englert

Solamente votantes del Distrito 1 son elegibles para votar en esta elección.

NOTA: Bill Thorn, Miembro del Consejo, Distrito 3, para un mandato de tres años y Ruthe Jackson, Miembro del Consejo, Distrito 7, en general, para un mandato de tres años, ninguno recibo oposición y fueron declarados elegidos en la junta de Consejo de la Ciudad que se llevo acabo el 18 de Marzo del 2008.

La votación anticipada presencial se realizará en los siguientes lugares de Grand Prairie:

City of Grand Prairie Development Center

(votantes del Condado de Dallas únicamente)

206 W. Church Street



Garner Elementary School (votantes del Condado de Dallas únicamente)

145 Polo Road

Además de los lugares anteriores, los votantes registrados en el Condado de Dallas podrán votar en cualquier lugar de votación anticipada del Condado de Dallas. Los votantes registrados en el Condado de Tarrant podrán votar en cualquier lugar de votación anticipada del Condado de Tarrant. Para obtener más información sobre estos lugares, comuníquese con el Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Dallas al (214) 819-6300 o visite www.dalcoelections.org, o bien comuníquese con el Departamento de Elecciones del Condado de Tarrant al 817-831-8683 o visite www.tarrantcounty.com/eVote.

Las fechas y horarios de las votaciones anticipadas son:

28 de abril – 2 de mayo (lunes a viernes)	Condados de Dallas y de Tarrant	8 a.m.-5 p.m.
3 de mayo (sábado)	Condado de Dallas Condado de Tarrant	8 a.m.-5 p.m. 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
4 de mayo (domingo)	Condado de Dallas Condado de Tarrant	1 p.m.-6 p.m. 11 a.m.-4 p.m.
5 de mayo – 6 de mayo (lunes y martes)	Condados de Dallas y de Tarrant	7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Los votantes que reúnan los requisitos para votar por correo pueden solicitar sus boletas electorales para envío por correo directamente al Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Dallas: Dallas County Elections Administrator, 2377 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 820, Dallas, Texas 75207; los votantes del Condado de Tarrant pueden solicitar sus boletas electorales para envío por correo directamente al Administrador de Elecciones del Condado de Tarrant: Tarrant County Elections Administrator, 2700 Premier Street, Fort Worth, Texas 76111. Las solicitudes de boletas electorales para envío por correo deben recibirse, a más tardar, el 2 de mayo de 2008.

El último día para registrarse para votar en la elección del 10 de mayo de 2008 es el martes, 10 de abril de 2008. Si tiene preguntas acerca de la elección del 10 de mayo, llame a la Oficina del Secretario de la Ciudad al 972-237-8035.

YARD OF THE MONTH CONTEST BEGINS



Get recognized for the hard work you put into making your yard beautiful! Be a part of the annual Yard of the Month Contest sponsored by the Civic

Committee of the Grand Prairie Chamber of Commerce, Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful and Home Depot. For this contest, the city is divided into areas to be judged for the most impressive Yard of the Month.

A winner is chosen in each area for the months of May, June and July. From the monthly winners, a Yard of the Year will be chosen. To nominate a yard, please call the Chamber at 972-264-1558 or email your nomination to: info@grandprairiechamber.org

Nominations do not guarantee a win, but they do guarantee consideration for the award.

HOUSEHOLD HAZARDOUS WASTE COLLECTION

Has your spring cleaning unearthed unwanted household chemicals? If so, you can bring them to the next Household Hazardous Waste Collection Event on Saturday, May 17. The event will be held at the Development Center, 201 NW 2nd St. (next to City Hall) from 9 a.m. until 11:30 a.m. Register by calling 972-237-8055 or on-line at www.gptx.org/WQ/HHW.

We will accept household and automotive batteries, pharmaceuticals, motor oil, cooking oil, paint, aerosol cans, fluorescent

bulbs, and household, landscape, and pool chemicals. We will **not** accept explosives, gas cylinders, fire-

works, medical waste, radioactive materials, or municipal trash. **No commercial waste** will be accepted.



SPRING FERTILIZING - GREEN TIPS FOR A GREEN LAWN

Fertilizers may help you achieve your ideal lawn and garden, but they may also be hazardous to your family and pets and cause environmental problems for our streams and wildlife. Once in our waterways, fertilizers stimulate excessive algae and plant growth which can result in fish kills. If you are planning on fertilizing your lawn this spring, please remember these important tips:

- Keep it on the plants. When fertilizers spill onto paved areas it is carried to our waterways via storm drains. If any fertilizer is spread on sidewalks or driveways, sweep it back onto your lawn before watering.
- Do not apply fertilizer immediately before it rains and never over water. Both may result in the fertilizer washing off of your lawn, making the application ineffective for its intended purpose.
- Do not dump or wash off excess fertilizer into storm drains or sewers.
- Follow the label directions and never over fertilize. Heavy fertilizer leads to more growth on the top of grass at the expense of the roots, which can make your lawn more vulnerable to disease and pests.
- Avoid pesticides if possible. Opt for natural pest control methods. If you must use pesticides, separate the pesticides from the fertilizers. "Weed and Feed" combined products often add unnecessary herbicides to your lawn.
- Use compost as an alternative to fertilizer. Compost contributes organic matter and gradually releases nutrients to the soil.
- Leave grass clippings on your lawn. Mulching returns important plant nutrients to the soil thereby reducing the need for fertilizer by as much as 50 percent.
- Dispose of toxic lawn and garden chemicals safely. For more information on hazardous waste disposal, please call the City of Grand Prairie Environmental Services Department at 972-237-8055.



HOW TO DISCARD YOUR OLD COMPUTER

Are you wondering what to do with your old computer? Here are some options:

- **Purchase from manufacturers and retailers that have "take back" programs.** Go to www.earth911.org for a list of companies.
- **Buy green products** designed with their environmental impact in mind. Go to www.coopamerica.org/pubs/greenpages or www.gsa.gov/enviro.
- **Donate your computer to the less fortunate or to someone you know.** Go to www.giftsinkind.org or www.ealworks.org to find out how.
- **Donate to nonprofit organizations.** They can benefit by either selling your electronics to raise funds or giving them to those in need. For the specifics on donating, go to www.epa.gov or www.techsoup.org.
 - **Recycle your old computer.** Go to www.timetorecycle.com or www.gptx.org/recycle. When recycling, almost all companies vow to mechanically shred your hard drive. For help deleting your data go to <http://symantec.com> for Windows PCs and Macs, www.webroot.com for Windows.
- **Bring your electronics to the landfill.** Operating hours are Monday-Saturday 7 a.m.-4:30 p.m. On the last Thursday of the month, we close at 3 p.m. A \$1 fee is charged for each computer. And, of course, we recycle all of the computers we receive.



Call the Recycle Grand Prairie office for more information: 972-237-8061.

GARDEN CLASSES AT CHARLEY TAYLOR

The Spring Gardening Classes at Charley Taylor are returning and the following dates and classes have been set for this session. All classes are FREE and



will meet on Thursdays at 6 p.m. at Charley Taylor Recreation Center:

- May 1 – Landscape Design #2
- May 15 – Annuals

Call Charley Taylor Recreation Center at 972-264-6890 for more information or visit www.GrandFunGP.com.

CINCO DE MAYO FESTIVAL AT CHARLEY TAYLOR

Come out for some exciting fun from 6:30 p.m.-9 p.m. with a piñata, carnival games, face painting, lots of candy and a whole lot of fun at Charley Taylor Recreation Center, 601 E. Grand Prairie Rd. The event is FREE and open to all in the community. Call 972-264-6890 for more information or visit www.GrandFunGP.com.

FREE TOURS OF THE COPELAND HOME

Noon – 4 p.m. Saturday, May 3
125 SW Dallas St.

Docents will give tours and answer questions about the quaint, beautifully restored 100-year-old home in which Dr. Horace V. Copeland lived with his family. Dr. Copeland helped birth more than 4,000 Grand Prairie babies during his career. To get to the home, from Main or Jefferson streets in Grand Prairie, turn south on SW 2nd Street, and travel east on SW Dallas Street. The tours are free, compliments of the Grand Prairie Historical Commission and Grand Prairie Arts Council. Info: 972-237-8086.