

PRAIRIE PULSE

January 2022



What's Inside

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MDLIVE 24/7 Medical Care

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Healthy Eating Zoom Class

Presented by Methodist Mansfield

New Fire Station No. 3

Grand Prairie's new Fire Station No. 3 and training facility at Marshall and State Highway 161 is now in service. The 19,538-square-foot station features four bays for an engine, ambulance, blocker, and Battalion Chief vehicle. It also includes living quarters, adjacent classrooms and offices. The station will house 10-12 firefighters, and three will office on the training side.

This station replaces the original station No. 3 on 1702 Robinson Rd. and features special bricks for retirees on the patio.

Employee Awards Banquet Postponed

Please save the date!

Thursday, Feb. 24 • Doors Open at 5:30 p.m.
Ruthe Jackson Center, 3113 S. Carrier Parkway



Raving Fans Recognitions

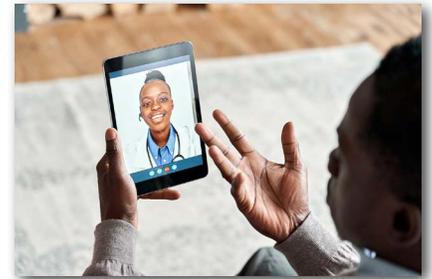
Do you know a fellow employee who provides outstanding service that makes you say "WOW!?" Let us know who has made you a raving fan within our organization by delivering world class service! Describe why the employee should be recognized and sent a Raving Fans notecard accompanied with a \$10 gift card (Target, Home Depot, Whataburger, Smoothie King, Chipotle, Walmart, Chick-fil-a, Starbucks). To make a Raving Fan request, visit the Raving Fans Employee Intranet and select Employee Recognition.



GetFit GP has just the thing to get you out of your creative funk! We invite you to show healthy habits you have started during the pandemic. Contest is open to all ages. All forms of art are accepted. For complete guidelines, visit gptx.org/getfitgpartcontest or call 972-237-8055.

Fast, Hassle-Free Virtual Care

If you're feeling sick, call your doctor. You may be able to schedule a visit by phone or online.



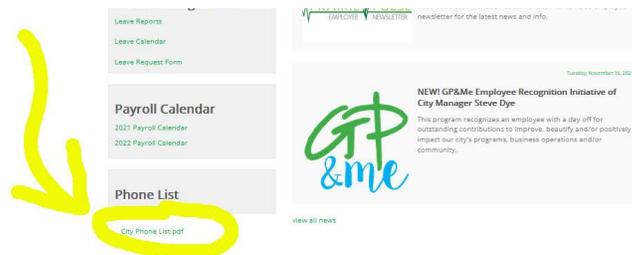
Avoid delays in seeking care by accessing Virtual Visits, available by phone, computer or mobile app. Virtual Visit doctors are specially trained to diagnose and treat many common illnesses. You will pay for each Virtual Visit according to your BCBSTX plan copay or coinsurance amount.

Here are just a few things Virtual Visits can do for you:

- Care from the safety and comfort of home – avoid exposure to viruses and germs
- Less time waiting – Speak with a doctor in less than 15 minutes. Appointments are required to see a behavioral health therapist (this may take up to 7 days)
- 24/7 Availability – Virtual Visit doctors are available nights, weekends, and holidays
- Top quality physicians – board certified doctors have an average of 15 years of experience and are specially trained in virtual care
- Prescription – Your Virtual Visit provider can send prescriptions to your preferred pharmacy and refill existing medications

Download the MDLIVE app today and set up your account for easy access! Or call 800-400-6354. You will need your medical insurance information to create an account or to speak with a provider.

Visit MDLIVE for more information here: <https://mdlnext.mdlive.com/home>



Where's the Printable PDF Employee Phone List?

The printable PDF phone list is available on the Raving Fans site. To access the phone list:

- Scroll to the bottom of the Raving Fans site home page and find Phone List on the bottom left side.
- Click on the green text that says: City Phone List.pdf
- Send directory updates to Damaris Juarez at djuarez@gptx.org

FSA and What You Need to Know

Don't forget to submit receipts on or before March 31, 2022, for qualifying expenses incurred from January 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021. You may visit NAVIA Benefits to begin submitting your receipts today.

To create your account, please use the City's code: CTG

Reminder, the City has opted to allow Flexible Spending Account (FSA) participants to carry over unused FSA funds without penalty. The maximum unused amount from the plan year starting in 2021 allowed to be carried over to 2022 is \$550.



Grand Prairie Library Cards

Grand Prairie library cards are free to all, no matter where you live or work.

There are two ways to get a card:

- Apply for a physical card at any library location. You'll receive your card right away.
- Apply online at gptx.org/library to receive a card number by email within 24 hours. You won't receive a physical card, so be ready to keep track of your card number and PIN. This is a great option for users who mainly want to access the ebooks, eAudiobooks streaming media of our eBranch.

Whatever method you use, your library card enables you to:

- Download eBooks, eAudiobooks, magazines and more
- Place holds on our materials for pickup at any branch or the Lake Parks Book Locker
- Gain access to online tutoring, language learning, classes and research
- Check out books, DVDs and audiobooks

Questions? Call us at 972-237-5707 or visit us at gptx.org/library. There are three branches to serve you:

- Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.
- Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Rd.
- Shotwell Library, inside the Tony Shotwell Life Center, 2750 Graham St.

There are two electronic kiosks:

- Check out books, DVDs and audiobooks at Epic Reads, located inside The Epic, 2960 Epic Place, and available during Epic hours.
- Pick up items placed on hold and return items to the Lake Parks Book Locker, available 24/7 outside the Lake Parks Operations Center at Lynn Creek and Lake Ridge Parkways.



GP Big Event Set for March 26

Volunteer at the Grand Prairie Big Event from 8 a.m.–noon Saturday, March 26, 2022. Teams of volunteers will help residents with qualifying service projects in this one-day city-wide community service project aimed to help those in need. Volunteers are preferred in pre-established groups, but smaller groups and individuals may also volunteer. Jobs may include yard work, spring-cleaning or litter patrol, or other work outside a home that requires no power tools. All jobs are vetted in advance, in Grand Prairie, one-time only. Visit gptx.org/bigevent.

Message from the Manager

As we dive into 2022, I want everyone to know that keeping employees safe and healthy continues to be the priority as COVID-19 cases increase again. We are hoping that this is the final surge after nearly two years of dealing with the virus.

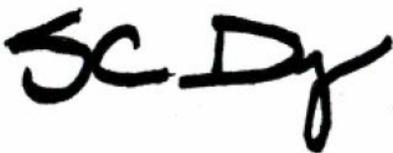
I would like to congratulate Megan Mahan on her promotion to Assistant City Manager. Megan will be a great addition to the City Manager's Office will also continue to serve as our City Attorney.

This year we will focus even more on the Clean Prairie initiative to beautify our city as we forge ahead with many exciting economic development projects including new restaurants, hotels, and great retail opportunities. Equally important will be our focus on redevelopment in the older parts of our city, and business retention efforts. To that end, we're adding a position on our Economic Development team to facilitate a higher focus on these initiatives. One of the starting points will be to enhance and upgrade many of the older retail strip centers to ensure everyone is able to patronize a safe, clean business.

As many of you know, the city is helping to accelerate downtown redevelopment, the heartbeat of our city, as we have purchased the former Bella Vista motel and other properties in the area. To make downtown more pedestrian-friendly, we are working on lane reduction and beautification that we hope will attract more restaurants and businesses.

In Southgate, the farthest southern sector of our city near 287 & 360, we are aggressively working with developers to build a foundation for optimal growth.

Thank you for all that you do to keep our city moving forward toward our goals for the new year.



Steve Dye, City Manager

Tips for Healthy Eating and Weight Loss

A program presented by the WOW Committee and
Mansfield Medical Center -

Door Prize to one lucky winner!

Presenter: Ashley Attaway MSN, APRN-AGPCNP-BC, CBN

Thursday, Jan. 13, 11:30 a.m. • [Via Zoom](#)



Events

Library Book Clearance Sale

All books are 25 cents
Jan. 13-14, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Jan. 15, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

MLK Day

Jan. 17
City Administrative Offices
Closed

Martin Luther King Junior Parade and Program

Jan. 17
8 a.m. - Parade line-up starts at the Liberty Bell, 300 W. Main St. and ends at David Daniels Elementary Academy, 801 ML King Jr. Blvd.
11:45 a.m.- program begins at Dalworth Recreation Center, 2012 Spikes St.

GP Days

Feb. 4-6
Epic Waters Deal benefiting PlayGrand Adventures Epic Waters Indoor Water Park
2970 Epic Place
\$15 single GP resident ticket
\$49 GP resident of 4
epicwatersgp.com

Lunar New Year Celebration

Jan. 21-23 and Jan. 28-30
Asia Times Square
2625 W. Pioneer Parkway
Featuring cultural foods, live performances, kids activities, lion dances and more.