New GP Restaurants, Hotels and Fun!

Explore EpicCentral, 2951 S. SH 161, and enjoy great new restaurants open now and coming soon:
- Vidorra Cocina de Mexico is scheduled to open in fall 2023.
- Serious Eats Pizza, Sliders and Shakes will open in late 2023.
- The Dippy Egg is scheduled to open in early 2024.
- The Finch Grill & Raw Bar is now open, featuring steak, chicken, fish and more.
- Loop 9 BBQ is open.
- Hilton Garden Inn, Homewood Suites and a new convention center will open in late 2023.

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

Other new development:
At the Epic Grand Crossing development east of SH 161 near Arkansas Lane, Einstein Bros. Bagels plans to open in November 2023, Pizza Patron and Frost Bank plan to open soon, and Pei Wei and Crumbl Cookies plan to open in 2024.
- Shake Shack will open in October 2023 just west of Raising Cane's on 1550 Mayfield Road and Esplanade.
- Andretti Indoor Karting and Games plans to open in December 2023 at 1670 S. Forum Dr.
- Bass Pro Shops plans to open in May 2024 at 3720 S. SH 161.
- Big Shots Golf will be under construction soon at 1015 Ikea Place.

Holiday Garbage Collection

There will be no garbage collection on Thursday, Nov. 23. If your garbage collection day is Thursday, please set out your garbage on Friday, Nov. 24.
- If your garbage collection is normally on Friday, please set out your garbage on Saturday, Nov. 25.
- The normal garbage and recycling schedule will resume on Monday, Nov. 27.

For more information, visit gptx.org/garbage.

Prairie Lights 2023

Thursday, Nov. 23-Sunday, Dec. 31
Opens nightly at 6 p.m.
Lynn Creek Park on Joe Pool Lake
5610 Lake Ridge Pkwy

Be dazzled by Prairie Lights as you drive through 4 million lights set along 2 miles of path. Hundreds of all-new displays in shapes of all kinds line and arch over the roads. Halfway through the drive, get out of your car for a stop at Holiday Village, where you will find food, gifts, Santa, and Lighted Walk-Through Forest. The show’s finale is the world’s largest light tunnel!

For details, pricing, and to purchase tickets, visit PrairieLights.org.
**Prairie Lights Sneak-a-Peek 3 Mile Run/Walk**

Saturday, November 18  
(Runners & Fast Walkers)
Sunday, November 19  
(Walkers & Strollers)
Lynn Creek Park on Joe Pool Lake  
5610 Lake Ridge Pkwy.

Early Registration  
(September 8 – October 20)
Late Registration (October 21 – November 17)

Be the first to see all new displays at Prairie Lights as you run, jog, walk or stroll through the lighted park. Registration is limited each night.

Visit PrairieLights.org for more information.

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**Downtown Happenings**

**Farmers Market**
Open Saturdays, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.
Market Square, 120 W. Main St.
The Grand Prairie Farmers Market features locally grown fruits, vegetables, plants and more. Call 972-237-4599 or visit GrandFunGP.com/FarmersMarket.

**Bike Drive**
Saturday, Dec. 2, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
City Hall, 300 W. Main St.
Benefiting Santa Cop
Donate a new bicycle for a Grand Prairie child in need.

**Annual Sock Drive**
Saturdays, Nov. 18, Nov. 25, Dec. 2 and Dec. 9
Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St.
Bring new socks, underwear and T-shirts for Grand Prairie children in need. Items will be distributed by the Grand Prairie ISD Resource Center.

**Downtown Ice Rink - Free**
Open Dec. 1-26 • City Hall, 300 W. Main St.
Watch gptx.org for more information.

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**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

**Texas Legends Tribute - ZZ Tex with Stevie Ray's Vault**
Saturday, Nov. 18
Doors Open: 6:30 p.m., Showtime: 7:30 p.m.

**White Christmas**
Presented by the Grand Prairie Arts Council
Dec. 8-10, 15-17 • Doors Open: 6:30 p.m., Showtime: 7:30 p.m.

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**Grand Holiday Craft Fair**
Thursday, Dec. 7, 2 p.m.- 7:30 p.m.
Veterans Center, 925 Conover Dr,
Come to the Grand Holiday Craft Fair where you will be able to purchase fun holiday crafts from vendors and make DIY bath bombs. Bring your family & friends to take pictures with Santa, eat holiday cookies and drink hot cocoa!

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**See your actual water use online 24/7 at gptx.org/H2Know.** Find when you are using the most water and adjust accordingly as needed. Identify high use and suspected leaks with precise meter readings.
**Veterans Day Celebration**

Saturday, Nov. 11  
Gather at 9:30 a.m.  
Service begins at 10 a.m.  
Veterans Memorial, 925 Conover Dr.

Join us as we take this time to honor the service of our veterans and their families who have sacrificed to protect and defend this country. Lunch will be provided by the Rotary Clubs of Grand Prairie in the Veterans Park Event Center immediately after the service. All are welcome. Come in person or watch live at facebook.com/GrandFunGP.  
For info., visit GrandFunGP.com.

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**Cyclin’ and Strollin’ with the Mayor**

Saturday, Oct. 14  
Celebrate Breast Cancer Awareness Month with Mayor Ron Jensen on a 2-mile walk downtown. There will be vendors, characters, face painting, Kona Ice, and more! Don’t forget to wear your favorite pink gear!  
Farmers Market, 120 W. Main St.  
Community Fair at 9 a.m. The walk begins at 9:30 a.m.

**Monday, Nov. 20**

Join Mayor Ron Jensen for the Prairie Lights ride, where you are encouraged to dress festive and ride with your bike decorated. The 2.8-mile route will take you along a trail lit by over 4 million holiday lights to enjoy with your family!  
Lynn Creek Park, 5610 Lake Ridge Parkway  
Meet at 6 p.m. Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.

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**Free Electronics Recycling**

Saturday, Dec. 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.

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**Household Hazardous Waste Collection**

Saturday, Dec. 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.

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**Once-a-Month Brush Pick Up**

For the convenience of Grand Prairie residents, the Streets Department operates a Brush Pickup Program. This program is for residents only. The Streets Department does not pick up at businesses or religious facilities.

This once-per-month service provides curbside pickup of tree limbs and brush that are not bundled or bagged, no larger than 10 inches in diameter, no longer than 5 feet in length and the pile is no larger than a VW Beetle. This is for brush and tree limbs that are too large for the city’s twice weekly trash collection, which must be bundled, weigh less than 50 pounds and be no more than 6 feet long. This service is for residents who trim their own brush and limbs. For residents who hire a contractor or tree service, the vendor must haul away what they trim. The City of Grand Prairie does not provide brush pickup services for private gated communities or private mobile home communities.

Place your brush at the curb (no alley pickup) by 7 a.m. on your designated Monday. You may place brush out up to one week early.

The Brush Service Crew will not pick up grass clippings, leaves, weeds, flowers, wire, landscape timbers, fencing, plastic bags, or other foreign materials. Brush must be neatly piled (not scattered) at least 2 feet from utility poles, low hanging trees, fences, Continued on page 4
Flood Insurance and Community Rating System - How They Work Together

According to the National Flood Insurance Program’s Community Rating System, Grand Prairie is one of the best rated cities in Texas for reducing flood losses and providing flood insurance savings for residents. The City of Grand Prairie achieves the high rating by voluntarily participating in floodplain management activities such as:

• Higher standards for development in flood prone areas.
• Ongoing drainage system improvements throughout the city that are designed to reduce structural flooding and stormwater pollutants.
• Protection of wetlands.
• Public outreach.

In addition to the CRS program, the City of Grand Prairie participates in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP). The rate that the city receives in the CRS program qualifies our residents to receive a discount on flood insurance rates. The better the city’s rating in CRS, the higher percentage discount our residents can receive on flood insurance rates. Residents who live in a FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA)/Floodplain are required to buy flood insurance if they have a mortgage from a federally regulated lender, but following the 2015 Grand Prairie flood events, 90 percent of flood damages reported to the city were outside the FEMA Special Flood Hazard Area (SFHA). Approximately 25 percent of structures that flood each year belong to people whose properties are not located in a SFHA. Not all insurance agents offer the flood insurance rider. Those who do offer the rider have agreed to provide the insurance coverage at a specific rate determined by FEMA. This means you do not have to “shop around” to get the best deal. The cost will be the same no matter which insurance company you choose.

Flood Insurance Facts:

• Typically, a 30-day waiting period is required when purchasing a new policy.
• Flood insurance is sold through private insurance companies and agents and is backed by the federal government.
• Insurance rates are based on your property’s flood zone and its risk of being flooded.
• Standard homeowner insurance policies do not cover damage from floods. A specific FEMA flood insurance rider must be purchased through an insurance agent to obtain this protection.
• Because the City of Grand Prairie participates in the NFIP, Flood insurance is available for all properties located in the city.
• If you’re renting a home or apartment, flood insurance contents coverage is available from the NFIP to protect your valuables and belongings.

More information on the City of Grand Prairie’s flood management activities is available at gptx.org/floodplain, and more information about obtaining flood insurance can be found by contacting your insurance agent or visiting: fema.gov/nfip.

Celebrate the Holidays with Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark

2970 Epic Place

November 2-13: Fill the FLEX Canned Food Drive

Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark is partnering with LifeLine for Families to collect and donate canned goods for the upcoming holidays, and we need your help!

November 25: Epic Tree Lighting

Tree Lighting Ceremony and Live Epic H20Idays Kick-off Show

For more information, daily admission tickets, season passes, and annual passes, visit EpicWatersGP.com.

Snow Ho Ho Ho

Saturday, Dec. 2, 11-12:30 p.m.
Warmack Library  •  760 Bardin Rd.

Children and their families are invited to enjoy arts and crafts, airbrush tattoos, cookie decorating and more. Meet Santa and take a ride on the Polar Express.

Brush Pick Up from page 3

gas/water meters, fire hydrants, mailboxes and sprinkler heads, along with any other obstacles that would prevent collection. Brush cannot at any time block sidewalks, right-of-way, or the view of oncoming traffic. Brush will not be picked up if parked vehicles or other obstructions are present. Zoned pickup weeks and program details are on the city's website: gptx.org/brushpickup.