City Hall, 1953. Photo from Library archives.


Main Street, 1956. Photo from Library archives.

Grand Prairie Airshow, 1929. Photo submitted by Shirley Reed Wilkins.

Fill ‘er up, 1942. Photo from Library archives.

Roy Reed’s Grocery, Center and Main, 1939. Photo submitted by Shirley Reed Wilkins.

Ladies baseball team, 1900’s. Photo from Library archives.

Frank Robertson and his trick horse. S.E. 3rd and Main St., 1800’s. Photo from Library archives.

Grand Prairie’s Cotton Gin, 1926. Photo from Library archives.
Grand Prairie really scored several home runs in 2008. From the AirHogs inaugural season of minor league baseball to the city being named a “Best Place to Live” by Money Magazine, Grand Prairie continues to grow and prosper, yet maintain our friendly, easy going way of life. And, we have a lot to look forward to in 2009:

- Celebrate the city’s 100 years of incorporation, with 100 events for 100 years, including the main festival March 28, 2009. This calendar is just one of the ways we’ll celebrate our history in 2009.
- Open the new outdoor event garden at the Ruthe Jackson Center.
- Build a new Market Square and farmers’ market downtown.
- Break ground on the new Prime Retail Outlet Mall on I-20.
- Open the Warrior Trail connection from Carrier to SH 161.
- Ask voters to revote the 1/4 cent sales tax for street improvements.
- Open new joint fire station with Cedar Hill.
- Build Hill Street through to Randol Mill Road.
- Cut Kingswood through to SH 360 from Great Southwest.
- Punch Crossland across State Highway 161.

Thank you for helping us tell the world how great Grand Prairie is.

Sincerely,

Charles England
Mayor

---

**Demographics**

- Land Area: 81.4 sq. miles
- Population: 166,654
- Median Age: 32
- Avg. Household Income: $50,181

**Development**

- New Single Family Building Permits Issued: 642
- Value of Average Single Family Permit: $232,464
- New Apartment Units: 328
- New Commercial/Industrial Sq. Ft. (projects underway): 1,955,506
- Number of New/Retained Jobs: 973

**Top Ten Taxpayers**

- Bell-Helicopter-Textron
- Prologis/Catellus
- Oncor Electric
- Republic Beverage
- Hanson Pipe & Products, Inc.
- Duke Realty
- Towns of Riverside
- Cardinal Health 200 Inc.
- Lockhead Martin
- First Industrial Texas LP

**Property Tax Rates**

- Per $100 Assessed Property Value: $0.669998
- City of Grand Prairie: $0.669998
- Grand Prairie ISD: $1.465000
- Arlington ISD: $1.272000
- Cedar Hill ISD: $1.500000
- Mansfield ISD: $1.450000
- Dallas County: $0.228101
- Tarrant County: $0.264000

**Retail Sales Tax Rates**

- City: 1.00000
- AirHogs Ballpark: 0.12500
- Active Adult Center: 0.12500
- Parks Improvements: 0.25000
- Street Improvements: 0.25000
- Crime Control District: 0.25000
- State: 6.25%
- Total Sales Tax: 8.25%

**Grand Prairie’s Top Employers**

- Grand Prairie ISD: 3,200
- Lockheed Martin Missiles and Fire Control: 2,600
- Poly-America, Inc.: 1,400
- Bell Helicopter- Textron: 1,300
- Lone Star Park at Grand Prairie: 1,200
- City of Grand Prairie: 1,200
- Vought Aircraft Industries: 700
- Siemens Energy & Automation, Inc.: 600
- Hanson Pipe & Products, Inc.: 500
- Walmart: 500
- American Eurocopter: 500
- Pollock Paper Distributers: 500
- Arnold Transportation Services: 500
- SAIA Motor Freight Line, Inc.: 500

**Operating Budget (2007-2008)**

- General Fund: $97,576,519
- Water/Wastewater: $47,688,002
- Other: $48,227,534
- TOTAL: $193,492,055

**Municipal Employees**

- Police/Fire Civil Service: 416
- General Employees: 867
- Total Full-Time: 1,127
- Seasonal/Part-Time: 156

**Libraries**

- Main Library Total Collection: 149,177
- Warmack Branch Total Collection: 43,087
- Bowles Branch Total Collection: 10,844

**Parks and Recreation**

- Acres of Park Land: 5,002
- Number of Parksites: 56
- Rounds of Golf Played: 71,673
- Ruthe Jackson Center Events: 1,105
- Loyd Park Campers: 18,691
- Lynn Creek Park Attendance: 343,952
- Cemetery Spaces Sold: 247

**Utilities**

- Water Production (Avg. Gallons/Day): 25.1 million
- Fire Hydrants: 7,010
- Miles of Water Lines: 800.05
- Collection Line: 752 miles
- Customer Accounts: 43,739

**Solid Waste**

- Tons of Garbage Disposed: 180,585
- Tons of Commercial Recycling: 30,697
- Tons of Residential Recycling: 106,890
- at the Landfill: 4,362
- at the Curb: 4,247
- at Drop Sites: 1,253

**Transportation**

- Municipal Airport Takeoffs/Landings: 101,090
- Grand Connection Bus Passengers: 42,469

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**Visit us online at www.gptx.org**

---

**Mayor Charles England and Grand Prairie First Lady Janice England**

---

**GRAND PRAIRIE CITY COUNCIL**

Mark Hoppworth
Place 1

Jim Swafford
Place 2

Bill Thorn
Place 3

Richard Fraga
Place 4

Tony Shotwell
Place 5

Ron Jensen
Place 6

Rick Sala
At Large

Ruthe Jackson
At Large

---

**City Manager’s Office (l to r): Mike Foreman, Assistant to the City Manager; Andy White, Assistant to the City Manager; Cathy DiMaggio, City Secretary; Anna Doll, Deputy City Manager; Tom Hart, City Manager, Tom Cox, Deputy City Manager**
Top 10 Accomplishments of 2008

Opened the historic Uptown Theater to rave reviews.

Opened the Belt Line Overpass at Main and Jefferson.

Saw the 1/4 cent sales tax for parks complete the 3.2-mile Lone Star Trinity Trail in the entertainment district; opened Wide World of Parks mega-playground at QuikTrip Ballpark; celebrated the 5-mile Good Link Trail between Mike Lewis and Waggoner parks; installed the Fish Creek playground on Allegro Lane; updated outdoor swimming pools with mega-slides; and added a diving board at Kirby Creek Indoor Pool.

Broke ground on the new Public Safety Headquarters and Active Adult Center.

Built QuikTrip Ballpark and enjoyed a successful first season of the Grand Prairie AirHogs minor league baseball team, American Association Southern Division Champions.

Invested $4.5 million through the 1/8 cent sales tax for street improvements on 12 streets, three alleys and 53 leveling projects to pave the way to smooth driving.

Periodical and News Media Recognition

Named a “Best Place to Live” by Money Magazine.

Awarded “Best in Nation” status for our Parks, winning prestigious Gold Medal Award from the National Recreation and Parks Association.

Grabbed “Playful City USA” designation.

Received credit rating upgrade from Standard & Poor’s and Fitch to “AA+” and “AA positive outlook.”

2008 Awards

Awarded “Best New Ballpark in America” award for QuikTrip Ballpark from Ballpark Digest.

Received the coveted “Good Sam Park” designation at Loyd Park camp grounds.

Received the 2008 National Public Communications Award from the American Water Works Association.

Named “Best New Wellness Program” from the Champion in Health Workforce Wellness Coalition.

Continued to make strides in public safety: for the first sustainable time in a decade, Police were fully hired; added filing police reports online for citizens; appointed new Gang Unit; shifted police to 12-hour workdays, putting more police officers on the street; and added a second police dog, Sara, who specializes in narcotics.

Launched a new weekly news show, GP Update, on GPTV Channel 16 and gptx.org.

Opened the historic Uptown Theater to rave reviews.

Built QuikTrip Ballpark and enjoyed a successful first season of the Grand Prairie AirHogs minor league baseball team, American Association Southern Division Champions.

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**January 2009**

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**City Council Meeting**

6:30 p.m.

Uptown Theater – The Marvelettes

Valentine’s Day

“Fish Creek Trail” Photo by Bradley Barton

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<th>JANUARY</th>
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1930’s gas station photo submitted by Vida Jones Bearden. Background photo by Derek Townsend.

www.gptx.org

February 2009

Lynn Creek Park Opens

1930’s gas station photo submitted by Vida Jones Bearden. Background photo by Derek Townsend.
City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.
Uptown Theater – Pinetop Perkins and Big Daddy Knox

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7 p.m.

St. Patrick’s Day
City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.

Daylight Saving Time Begins
Spring Forward

1950 Grand Prairie State Bank photo submitted by Angela Giessner. Background photo by Rennie Gentry.

www.gptx.org

1570 Grand Prairie State Bank photo submitted by Angela Giessner. Background photo by Rennie Gentry.

“National Gold Medal Parks”
Photo by Kelly Eddlemon

www.gptx.org
<table>
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<tr>
<th>Sunday</th>
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<td>Thoroughbred Racing Begins Lone Star Park</td>
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<td>GPISD/AISD/ MISD Holiday</td>
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<td>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission Meeting 7 p.m.</td>
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<td>“1/4 cent sales tax for streets paves the way”</td>
<td>Photo by Amy Sprinkles</td>
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### May 2009

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<td>&quot;New greens of Tangle Ridge&quot;</td>
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<td>Uptown Theater – The Spencer’s Theater of Illusion</td>
<td>Cinco de Mayo Celebration</td>
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<td>Photo by Bradley Barton</td>
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<td>Memorial Day</td>
<td>City Offices Closed</td>
<td>School Holiday</td>
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### June 2009

**Sunday** | **Monday** | **Tuesday** | **Wednesday** | **Thursday** | **Friday** | **Saturday**
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
1 | **City Council Meeting** 6:30 p.m. | **Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting** 7 p.m. | **GPISD/AISD MISD** | **Last Day of Classes** | | 
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14 | **City Council Meeting** 6:30 p.m. | | | | | 
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- **Father’s Day**
- **Juneteenth Celebration**
- **“AirHogs win Southern Division Championship”**
  Photo by Tony Shotwell

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Prairie Trails Parade, 1953. Photo submitted by Randy Sisson. Background photo by Allen Sheffield.
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<td>“Lone Stars and Stripes” Photo by Mike Foreman</td>
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<td>Thoroughbred Racing Ends Lone Star Park</td>
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<td>Photo by Kelly Eddlemon</td>
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2700 East Main Street, early 1920s. Photo submitted by Zelma Adkins. Background photo by Derek Townsend.

www.gptx.org

August 2009

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City Council Meeting 6:30 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting 7 p.m.

First Day of School

AirHogs Last Home Game of Season
City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7 p.m.

Quarter Horse Racing Begins
Lone Star Park

Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7 p.m.
Lions Club cleans Main Street, 1952. Photo submitted by Brenda McCoy. Background photo by Steve Adams.

October 2009

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<th>SUNDAY</th>
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City Council Meeting
6:30 p.m.

GPISD/AISD Holiday
Planning & Zoning Commission Meeting
7 p.m.

“Kirby Creek Indoor Pool”
Photo by Bradley Barton

BOO! Halloween
JFK and LBJ, 1961. Photo from the Grand Prairie Historical Organization.

www.gptx.org

November 2009

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<td></td>
<td>Daylight Saving Time Ends</td>
<td>Full Bank</td>
<td>City Council Meeting</td>
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<td>Veterans Day</td>
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<td>Prairie Lights Opens</td>
<td>Thanksgiving Holiday</td>
<td>City Offices Closed</td>
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<td>Planning &amp; Zoning Commission Meeting</td>
<td>7 p.m.</td>
<td>City Offices Closed</td>
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<td>Quarter Horse Racing Ends</td>
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Photo by Ronnie Gentry
HELPFUL NUMBERS

Airport
(Grand Prairie Municipal) 972-237-7591
Animal Services 972-237-8575
Birth Certificates - Dallas County 214-670-3328
Birth Certificates - Tarrant County 817-871-7399
Building Inspections 972-237-8230
Car Tags - Dallas County 214-653-7811
Car Tags - Tarrant County 817-884-1100
Chamber of Commerce 972-264-1558
City Council and Mayor 972-237-8022
City Manager’s Office 972-237-8012
City Secretary 972-237-8035
Code Enforcement 972-237-8296
Drivers License 972-264-6598
Economic Development 972-237-8160
Engineering 972-237-8141
Environmental Services 972-237-8055
Fire 972-237-8300
911 for emergencies
Graffiti Hotline 972-237-8599
Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens 972-237-3001
Health Clinic 214-819-2000
Housing & Neighborhood Services 972-237-8176
Human Resources 972-237-8192
Illegal Dumping 972-237-8064
Information Technology 972-237-8382
Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful 972-237-8152
Landfill 972-237-4550
Lake Parks 817-467-2104
Libraries
Grand Prairie Library 972-237-5700
Betty Warmack Branch 972-237-5770
Bowles Branch 972-237-7540
Marketing and Communications 972-237-8086
Marriage License - Dallas County 214-653-6077
Marriage License - Tarrant County 817-548-3928
Municipal Court 972-237-8660
Parks & Recreation 972-237-8100
Planning 972-237-8255
Police 972-237-8790
Public Works 972-237-8154
Purchasing 972-237-8269
Recycling 972-237-8061
Ruthe Jackson Center 972-237-7500
Schools
Grand Prairie 972-264-6141
Arlington 682-867-4611
Social Security 800-772-1213
Solid Waste 972-237-8151
Streets 972-237-8525
Taxes
Dallas County 214-653-7811
Tarrant County 817-884-1194
Tourism 972-263-9588
Transit – The Grand Connection 972-237-8546
Transportation 972-237-8139
Water Bills 972-237-8200
Water/Wastewater 972-237-8413

Train depot Grand Prairie, circa 1895. Photo from Grand Prairie Library archives.

Avion Village, 1941. Photo submitted by June and Steve Locke.

WWW.GPTX.ORG
CREATING RAVING FANS BY DELIVERING WORLD CLASS SERVICE
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Event times and dates subject to change. • Photos shown are winners of a calendar photo contest.