

JOHNSON AND EZEONU ELECTED TO CITY COUNCIL

On June 5, 2021, Kurt G. Johnson was elected to serve as City Councilman for District 6 and Junior Ezeonu was elected to serve as City Councilman for District 8-At Large. The councilmen were sworn into office on June 15 and will serve three-year terms.

For more information about the Grand Prairie City Council, visit gptx.org/council.



Kurt G. Johnson
District 6



Junior Ezeonu
District 8- At Large

REGISTER YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD FOR NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

The Grand Prairie Police Department is excited to announce that this year's National Night Out will be going back to the block.

From contests to giveaways, music, and games, you and your family won't want to miss this fun, community event. Mark your calendars, National Night Out will be on Tuesday, Oct. 5.

To register, visit grandprairiepolice.org/nno



CITY CALENDAR PHOTO CONTEST

Grand Prairie residents are invited to enter the 2022 City Calendar Photo Contest. Entries accepted through Oct. 1, 2021.

Photo must feature Grand Prairie and be suitable for publication. Photos will be used in city publications. Credit will be attributed in calendar, but may not be possible in other publications and uses. Winning photos will be published in the calendar. No cash awards will be offered.

Entrants must include name, address, email address and phone number with entry. Winners will be notified in November 2021. The calendar will be printed in December 2021.



CYCLIN' WITH THE MAYOR

Join Mayor Ron Jensen for 5-mile bike rides. Riders of all ages and skill levels are encouraged to join the casual ride. Meet at 6 p.m. Ride begins at 6:30 p.m.



Back the Blue Ride

Tuesday, July 27, 6 p.m.
Loyd Park, 3401 Ragland Road

Nottingham Ride

Tuesday, Aug. 24, 6 p.m.
Larson Elementary, 2620 E. Avenue K
For info.: gptx.org/getfitgp

HATCH CHILE FEST AT FARMERS MARKET



Saturday, Aug. 14
8 a.m.-2 p.m. (or sold out)
Market Square, 120 W. Main St.

Grand Prairie Farmers Market's annual Hatch Chile Festival will feature fresh and roasted, hot and mild Hatch chiles sold by the pound as well as live music, local vendors, games, and more!

The Grand Prairie Farmers Market at Market Square is open 8 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturdays through mid-December. Call 972-237-4599 or visit gptx.org/farmersmarket.

SUMMER READING BACK TO SCHOOL BASH

Saturday, Aug. 7 at 11 a.m. | Virtual Program via Facebook Live

Grand Prairie Libraries will close out the summer with a few final activities for kids that encourage fun and adventure in the great outdoors. Kits will be first come, first served and will be available starting July 26 at all three library branches:

Main Library, 901 Conover Dr.

Warmack Library, 760 Bardin Road

Shotwell Library, 2750 Graham St.



MOVIES ON THE LAWN AT EPICCENTRAL

Thursday, Aug. 12, 6-10:30 p.m. - Free
GrandLawn at EpicCentral, 2960 Epic Place

Make your Summer epic and come out for Movies on the GrandLawn located behind The Epic and Epic Waters. Outdoor laser tag will be available from 6-8 p.m. Other pre-show activities include vendors, face painting, lawn games, and more! The movie will begin at sunset.

Thursday, July 15, 7-8 p.m. - *Moana*

Thursday, Aug. 12, 6-8 p.m. - *Star Wars (1977)*

Visit EpicCentralGP.com for more information.

MOVIES ON THE BEACH AT LOYD PARK

Saturdays • Loyd Park, 3401 Ragland Road
\$15 Vehicle Entry (\$20 on holiday weekends)

Movies start at sunset (about 9 p.m.) and it is free to watch, but vehicles must pay park entry fee. Bring a chair. Concessions will be available for cash purchase. Check GrandFunGP.com for fun activities planned before the movies.

Aug. 7 - *Playing with Fire*

Aug. 14 - *Cool Runnings*

Aug. 21 - *Inside Out*

Aug. 28 - *The Lego Movie 2*

Sept. 4 - *Sonic The Hedgehog*

Visit GrandFunGP.com for more information.

COMPOSTING CLASSES

Build Your Own Worm Composting Bin

Saturday, Aug. 7

Indoor vermicomposting bins are a great option for those with limited space or those unable to do traditional composting. Participants are guided through the steps to create their own worm bin to take home. Tarrant Area Food Bank and Keep Grand Prairie Beautiful will provide all the supplies needed for each person to go home to assemble a worm bin. Register at gptx.org/kgpb or call 972-237-4546.

Compost 101

Saturday, Aug. 7

Learn how to make 'Gardener's Gold' from yard waste and kitchen scraps. Includes instructions for building a low-cost composting bin at home. Register at gptx.org/kgpb or call 972-237-4546.

DON'T BAG IT



To help save valuable space in our city landfill, Grand Prairie does not pick up grass clippings from your curb or alley. Between March and September, the volume of residential solid waste increases 20-50 percent because of grass clippings.

By leaving your clippings on the lawn after you mow and allowing them to work back into the soil, you can have a naturally beautiful lawn. Grass clippings also make excellent compost for gardens.

ACCESS YOUR WATER METER ONLINE

The City of Grand Prairie's H2Know online customer portal lets you see your actual water use online 24/7. H2Know measures and transmits hourly water use data. With H2Know you have the power to:

Register at gptx.org/H2Know

EAT BROCCOLI FOR LUNG HEALTH

There is one way what we eat can directly impact air pollution—that's broccoli! Broccoli reduces the inflammation caused by air pollution to our lungs. One more reason to add broccoli to your diet.

For more tips on how to incorporate clean air actions into your life, visit airnorthtexas.org.



FALL YOUTH ATHLETICS

Soccer – Ages 4 to 14

Registration open through Aug. 21

Practices begin Aug. 30

Game days: Saturday

Cost: \$75 per child (includes jersey, shorts, socks, and an end of season award)

Basketball League – GP Middle Schools 6th through 8th grades

Registration open through Sept. 8

Game days: Thursdays, beginning Sept. 23

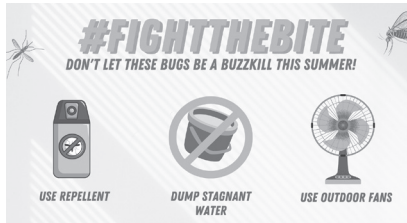
Cost: \$75 per child (includes jersey)

For more information, call 972-237-7529, come by the Tony Shotwell Life Center, 2750 Graham St., or visit GrandFunGP.com/Youth-Athletics.

FIGHT THE BITE

Fight the bite by following these simple tips:

- Use repellent with DEET to protect yourself from mosquitoes
- Dump stagnant water to avoid mosquito breeding.
- Mosquitoes can't fly against a breeze, so using an outdoor fan can be a really effective way of preventing them from coming near you.



FLOWAPALOOZA

August 13-15 • EpicWaters Indoor Waterpark, 2970 Epic Place

FlowaPalooza is a 3-day festival presented by Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark. The event provides a platform for flowboard riders of every level to compete, while also offering flowboard clinics for other riders to learn the fundamentals of riding the wave on the largest FlowRider® surf simulator in the Dallas/Fort Worth metroplex.

With tasty festival food, live music, and tons of entertaining activities for all ages, FlowaPalooza is a one-of-a-kind event that flowboarders and guests from all over won't want to miss!

For more information, visit EpicWatersGP.com.

NOISE COMPLAINTS

To report noise caused by parties or large gatherings, call the Police Department at 911.

BACK TO SCHOOL BACKPACK AND SCHOOL SUPPLY GIVEAWAY



Tuesday, Aug. 7, 10 a.m.-2 p.m.

Tony Shotwell Life Center
2750 Graham St.

The new school year is quickly approaching, and Tony Shotwell Life Center would like to get your child off to a good start of the school year. We will be giving away free backpacks and school supplies to help your child have all the tools they need to have academic success. **Pre-registration required.** For more information contact Tony Shotwell Life Center at 972-237-7532.

HOME REPAIR HELP FOR SENIORS



Seniors age 60 and older who own and occupy their home and meet certain income and other guidelines may qualify for repairs to deteriorated conditions on their home. The program focuses on HUD approved rehabilitation standards and health/safety concerns. Remodeling and cosmetic updates are not allowed. For more information call Housing and Neighborhood Services 972-237- 8173.

CITY MANAGER TOM HART ANNOUNCES RETIREMENT

Grand Prairie City Manager Tom Hart has announced he will be retiring at the end of October 2021, after successfully leading the City of Grand Prairie for 22 years.

Hart has served as Grand Prairie City Manager since 1999. Prior to that, Hart was Assistant City Manager and later City Manager in Euless for 16 years. He was one of the youngest city managers in the history of Texas when he served as City Manager in The Colony from 1978-1981. Known for his attention to world class customer service and innovative management style, Hart created the city's popular and successful mission to "Create Raving Fans by Delivering World Class Service."

During his tenure as Grand Prairie's City Manager, he has overseen reconstruction of the historic Uptown Theater and construction of the Texas Trust CU Theatre, the Ruthe Jackson Center and Gardens, Grand Prairie Memorial Gardens, Tony Shotwell Life Center and Library, Prairie Paws Adoption Center, the Splash Factory, the cabins and lodge of Loyd Park, Alliance Skate Park, the Public Safety Training Center, Municipal Courthouse, the Public Safety Building, the Summit Active Adult Center, Epic Waters Indoor Waterpark, PlayGrand Adventures, downtown façade improvements, City Hall Central and campus renovation, and The Epic Arts, Fitness and Entertainment Center.

During Hart's tenure, Grand Prairie grew in population from 118,000 to more than 200,000; and has been ranked nationally as a happiest city, best place to live, best place to retire, best place for a staycation, best city for jobs, best city for living the American dream, best city in which to raise a family, and safest city.

"I leave the city in capable hands," Hart said. "With Chief Operating Officer and Deputy City Manager Steve Dye, and Deputy City Managers Cheryl DeLeon and Bill Hills, the City of Grand Prairie is poised for greatness for years to come."



EXTREME HEAT AWARENESS

Extreme heat is a period of high heat and humidity with temperatures above 90 degrees for at least two to three days. In extreme heat your body works extra hard to maintain a normal temperature, which can lead to death. In fact, extreme heat is responsible for the highest number of annual deaths among all weather-related hazards.

Remember:

- Extreme heat can occur quickly and without warning.
- Older adults, children, and sick or overweight individuals are at greater risk from extreme heat.
- Humidity increases the feeling of heat as measured by a heat index.

Questions? Contact the Office of Emergency Management at 972-237-8333 or oem@gptx.org



GPISD PRE-K ENROLLMENT OPEN

Grand Prairie ISD offers free and tuition-based Pre-K for the 2021-2022 school year, in which your child will have a unique opportunity to participate in a high-quality Pre-K experience. GPISD maintains high standards to address the developmental and social needs, academic content, and readiness skills that are essential to your child's long-term academic success.

Reserve your child's spot today by visiting GPISD.org/Pre-K or call 972-237-5478. The first day of school is August 11, 2021

INSCRIPCIÓN ABIERTA PARA PRE-KINDER EN GPISD

Grand Prairie ISD ofrece opciones de prekindergarten sin costo y de colegiatura para el ciclo escolar de 2021-2022, brindando a su hijo(a) una oportunidad única de participar en una experiencia de prekindergarten de alta calidad. Cumplimos con estándares altos para abordar las necesidades de desarrollo, contenido académico, y destrezas de preparación esenciales para promover el éxito académico de su hijo(a) a largo plazo.

Reserve un lugar para su hijo(a) hoy visitando www.GPISD.org/Pre-K o llamando al 972-237-5478.

COVID-19 INFO.

The COVID-19 vaccine is available free to everyone age 12 and older. Vaccine sites are available at several locations in Grand Prairie and nearby. For more information, visit gptx.org/covidvaccine.

For COVID-19 testing sites and vaccine information in and around Grand Prairie, visit gptx.org/covid-19.