

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

Look who's enjoying Eden Prairie's Fourth of July Celebration!



Finn Woerner, 11 months



Nicole and Paul Lainhart, Caleb, 2 and Tristan, 4



Ratna Ingle enjoys the nice day as she waits for the fireworks

AUGUST 2007

Council Member Profile:

Kathy Nelson



Kathy Nelson

Although she has been serving on the Eden Prairie City Council for just six months, **Kathy Nelson** is not a new face in City politics.

Before running for City Council, Nelson served on the Planning Commission for six years and also was a member of the Board of Adjustment and Appeals.

Nelson said she has always had an interest in the City and after her friends took notice, they suggested she run for the Council. After a lot of considering and convincing, Nelson went for it.

When Nelson isn't busy with her City Council duties, she still has a lot on her plate. Nelson has made a career out of being a homemaker, community activist and stay-at-home mom for her two daughters.

But she always made sure she remained actively involved with the City. Whether it was with school committees, City committees or bringing food to church funerals, Nelson was always willing to help out.

A University of Minnesota communications graduate, Nelson has lived in Eden Prairie with her family for the past 15 years. She said the good schools and abundant parks drew them in and kept them around.

"This is quite clearly home," Nelson said. "We have no plans of moving."

And that's good news for the City since Nelson has some big plans for her tenure on the Council. She's very interested in the Major Center Area and some of the other new developments in the City, but stresses her desire to keep plenty of green space in the process. Energy efficient buildings are also high on her list of priorities.

"I want to make sure buildings will last 50 years," she said. "They need to stay competitive for the next generation of buildings."

Nelson is also anxious to see 20-40-15, the City's recently announced energy-efficiency initiative, take off and produce results.

With all of the issues coming before the Council in the first six months of her four-year term, Nelson said she's been trying to familiarize herself with her new surroundings.

"Being new, you need to take time to learn about what all City departments are doing; there's a certain amount of prep work you have to do," she said.

When she's not listening to citizen input during Council meetings, she goes out looking for it by just talking to people.

"The biggest thing for me is to make sure peoples' concerns get heard and considered when you're making decisions, regardless of the issue. That's important," Nelson said.

It's Official: Purgatory Creek Park

After months of brainstorming and debating, and even a plea to residents for suggestions, the Purgatory Creek Recreation Area is now officially named **Purgatory Creek Park**. The new name was approved at a recent City Council meeting.

The reason for the name change was prompted by a request from the Veterans Memorial Committee to rename the area for the memorial. This request brought about much discussion over what the park should be called.

The **Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources Commission** made several recommendations to the City Council based upon research and public input, and in the end the name Purgatory Creek Park won out over several others including: Purgatory Creek Conservation Area, Celebration Park and Purgatory Creek Memorial Park.



Lambert Pavilion at Purgatory Creek Park

If you're wondering how the word "purgatory" ever became attached to the creek, here's a brief history lesson. Back when this area was settled, the story goes, the mosquitoes were so heavy near the creek that someone said they must all be in hell. But another settler said that since they were alive, they must actually be in purgatory. And that's how the creek's name came to be.

Community Center Update and EPHS Parking Permits



Community Center Construction

The **Community Center** expansion project is well underway and on schedule. This photo was taken on July 6.

Parking permit registration forms for Eden Prairie High School students will become available Aug. 1. The forms will be available at edenprairie.org on the Community Center page and at the Community Center. Permits can be purchased at the Community Center beginning Wednesday, Aug. 15 on a first-come, first-served basis.



Eden Prairie law enforcement officers participating in the 2007 Torch Run for Special Olympics on June 21.

Aug. 7 is National Night Out

On Tuesday, Aug. 7, Eden Prairie's finest – police officers, fire fighters, elected officials and even McGruff – will be out to visit National Night Out gatherings throughout the City.

This is the 24th year for National Night Out. The evening is designed to bring neighborhoods and communities together across the nation to heighten drug and crime awareness, get involved in anti-crime programs and send a signal to criminals that our City doesn't tolerate crime of any kind.

You can get your neighborhood involved by having a block party, cookout, contest or get-together, and your gathering will most likely receive a visit from

City officials. The City's **Public Works Department** will even provide barricades to block off sections of a street or cul-de-sac if needed – for FREE. Other traditional ways to celebrate National Night Out include displaying outdoor lights and front porch vigils.

So get your neighbors together and learn how to become a safer community. Last year City officials made it to every single community activity and they hope to do the same again this year.

To register, fill out an online form at edenprairie.org by Wednesday, Aug. 1. For more information about the event, visit nationalnightout.org.



Lone Oak Center Businesses Open

The new business hub on Mitchell Road is attracting a variety of tenants providing services ranging from dining to banking.

Beacon Bank was the first to open its doors in **Lone Oak Center**, and has since been joined by **Kid Create Studio**, **Golden Glow Tanning** and **Crumb Gourmet Deli**.

Kid Create Studio is a new retail concept that focuses on art education for children ages 18 months – 12 years. The center offers classes and camps, and is also available for birthday parties.



Crumb specializes in sandwiches using all-natural and organic foods. The deli also provides catering services offering up its best sandwiches, salads and desserts.

Soon these new businesses will be joined by **Anytime Fitness**, which is currently under construction.

Located just south of Hwy. 5 on Mitchell Road, the businesses at Lone Oak Center are easily accessible and ready to serve those who live and work in Eden Prairie.

Public Safety Reminder

It's important to always remember to close your garage doors. Garage theft is a very common crime during the summer, and items such as golf clubs, grills and bikes can become attractive targets. One easy way to prevent thefts is to simply always keep your garage door closed, even if you are home.

Young Resident Raises Awareness About Littering

With warm months upon us, Eden Prairie's parks have become popular hangouts for kids, and unfortunately trash. Littering is bothersome to many people, especially in a community that prides itself on having beautiful parks and outdoor areas. But one person is fed up and is doing something about it.

Laura Lindberg, an 11-year-old park frequenter

and Eden Prairie resident, has become increasingly concerned with the littering in City parks. In fact, Lindberg's frustration with the issue influenced her to write a letter to Mayor **Phil Young** begging that something be done about the problem.

Her concerns about littering are valid, and everyone should remember to always use the provided trash cans and pick after themselves,

and sometimes others. Keeping the City litter free is a group effort.



You can hear more about Lindberg's campaign in the near future. Her plea for a cleaner City will be the focus of a new public service announcement that will air on EPTV 16.



Laura Lindberg

YOUR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

MAYOR
Phil Young
952-426-1931

COUNCIL MEMBERS
Brad Aho
952-944-5955
Sherry Butcher
952-829-5351
Jon Duckstad
952-903-0274
Kathy Nelson
952-941-6613

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE IS PUBLISHED BY:

City of Eden Prairie
Communications Division
8080 Mitchell Road
Eden Prairie, MN
55344-4485

952-949-8434
edenprairie.org



Creating Community

Through People, Parks and Programs

AUGUST 2007
Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation

Upcoming Events CALENDAR

Call the Community Center
at 952-949-8470
for registration information.

This calendar represents only a sample of
Parks and Recreation programs and events.
To learn about other programs,
visit edenprairie.org or call 952-949-8441 to request
the current Parks and Recreation program brochure.

JULY

- July 26** **Riley Lake Beach Party**
See Advertisement
- July 27** **Fridays at Purgatory Creek**
Zinghoppers – Children's Music
Fun for all ages
Noon – 1 p.m.
Purgatory Creek Park
13001 Technology Drive
FREE
- July 27, 29** **Starring at Staring Concert Series**
7 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre
14800 Pioneer Trail
FREE
July 27 – *Beth Moberg Trio* – Jazz
July 29 – *Eden Prairie Community Band*
- July 31** **KidStock**
Jack Pearson, Mr. Song Strummin Storyman
Fun for all ages
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre
14800 Pioneer Trail
FREE
- July 31** **Adult Archery Lessons Begin**
Ages 16 to adult
Tuesdays and Thursdays
7:30 – 8:30 p.m.
Staring Lake Park Archery Range
Cost: \$60
Registration code: 21476
Questions? Call 952-949-8456

AUGUST

- Aug. 1, 3, 5, 8, 10, 12, 15** **Starring at Staring Concert Series**
7 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre
14800 Pioneer Trail
FREE
Aug. 1 – *Eden Prairie String Academy*
Aug. 3 – *Temporary Heroes* – Pop Orchestra
Sponsored by Thrivent Financial for Lutherans
Aug. 5 – *LaDanse Fatale* – Dance
Aug. 8 – *Triplicate Jazz*
Aug. 10 – *Eden Prairie Drama Camp and Zoo Mobile*
Aug. 12 – *International Festival, featuring Cyril Paul*
Aug. 15 – *Brio Brass* – Jazz
- Aug. 3, 10** **Fridays at Purgatory Creek**
Noon – 1 p.m.
Purgatory Creek Park
13001 Technology Drive
FREE
Aug. 3 – *The Brothers Harrison* – Folk Rock
Aug. 10 – *Bob Walser* – Folk
- Aug. 6** **Star Watch: I'm a Little Teapot:
Finding the Center of the Milky Way**
Ages 8 – adult
9 – 11 p.m.
Outdoor Center
Cost: \$5
Registration code: 21502
Questions? Call 952-949-8479
- Aug. 7, 14** **KidStock**
10:30 – 11:30 a.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre
14800 Pioneer Trail
FREE
Aug. 7 – *Kid Power with Rachael*
Aug. 14 – *Ross Sutter*
- Aug. 8** **Registration deadline and pre-trip meeting
for BWCA Canoe Trip**
Adults
Aug. 22 – 26
Meet at Outdoor Center
Cost: \$175
Registration code: 21442
Call 952-949-8479 if you have questions
about your physical ability.
- Aug. 11** **Basic Flat-water Kayaking**
Ages 16 – adult
7 – 9 p.m.
Outdoor Center
Cost: \$35
Registration code: 21492
Questions? Call 952-949-8479
- Aug. 12** **International Festival**
See Advertisement
- Aug. 13, 20** **Art Skool: Thomas, The Useful Engine**
Ages 3 – 5
1 – 2 p.m.
Senior Center
Cost: \$32
Registration code: 21282
Questions? Call 952-949-8456
- Aug. 15** **16th Annual Senior Golf Classic**
See Advertisement
- Aug. 17, 18** **Park-In Movies**
See Advertisement
- Aug. 17 – 19** **North Shore Family Adventure**
Fun for all ages
Call 952-949-8479 for time
Meet at Outdoor Center
Cost: \$100
Registration code: 21443
Questions? Call 952-949-8479
- Aug. 21** **Senior BBQ**
See Advertisement
- Aug. 24** **Riley-Jacques Barn "Twilight Special"
Barn Dance** Featuring *Pigs Eye Landing*
Fun for all ages
7:30 p.m.
Riley-Jacques Barn
9096 Riley Lake Road
Cost at the door: Adults, \$5;
Children, Students and Seniors, \$3
Questions? Call 952-949-8450

3rd Annual Summer Children's Theatre Workshop

Eden Prairie Players Present

Hansel and Gretel

Co-directed by Liz Michaelson and Peggy Lushine

Aug. 16 – 19, 2 p.m.
Aug. 17 – 18, 7 p.m.

Riley-Jacques Barn
9096 Riley Lake Road

Tickets: Adults, \$5; Students, \$2
Children under 5 get in FREE with accompanying adult
No advance tickets—at the door only!



FREE!

**A Celebration
of Culture,
Art & Food**

A free family event featuring
**Cyril Paul and the
Calypso Monarchs
at 7 p.m.**

**Sunday
Aug. 12
3 – 8:30 p.m.**
Staring Lake Park
and Amphitheatre
14800 Pioneer Trail

- Food • Kids Activities
- Dance • Arts
- Music • Exhibits



Senior Center BBQ

Come enjoy brats, hamburgers, salad,
fruit, dessert, coffee and lemonade.

Transportation available; call 952-279-8050.

Tuesday, Aug. 21
5 p.m.
Senior Center
\$8
Registration code: 20933
Advanced registration required.

Entertainment by the
Fun-Tyme Jammers.



BEACH PARTY

Dance to the
music of **Bob and the
Beachcombers** from
6 to 8 p.m. Hula Hoop
your way to fabulous prizes
and vie for the contents
of the Piñata!



Sandcastle-
building
contests and
prizes for
the best sand sculpture.

FREE!
Fun for
all ages

Parents and kids of all ages
are welcome. Concessions
available from Ruby's
Barbeque. The beach will
be open for swimming.

**Thursday
July 26
5 – 8 p.m.**
Riley Lake Park
9180 Riley Lake Road

16TH ANNUAL SENIOR GOLF CLASSIC

**Wednesday
Aug. 15
10 a.m.**

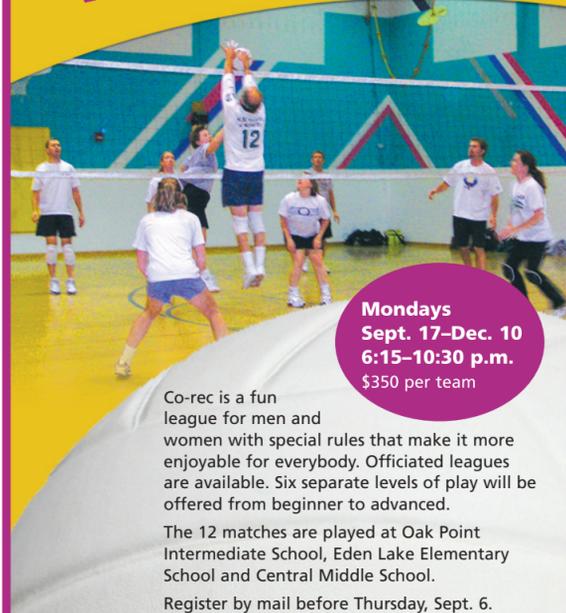
Dahlgreen's Golf Club
6940 Dahlgreen Road, Chaska
\$35
\$12 for Dahlgreen members

Register today to be part of the 16th Annual Senior
Golf Classic. This year will be a "best ball" format, so
get your foursome together now! If you don't have a
foursome, we will pair you up. There will be prizes for
the longest drive, longest putt, closest to the pin and
much, much more. Prizes will also be given away in a
drawing after the round. We will play 18 holes. Fee
includes green fees, golf cart, reservation and prizes.

Questions? Call 952-279-8051



CO-REC VOLLEYBALL



**Mondays
Sept. 17–Dec. 10
6:15–10:30 p.m.**
\$350 per team

Co-rec is a fun
league for men and
women with special rules that make it more
enjoyable for everybody. Officiated leagues
are available. Six separate levels of play will be
offered from beginner to advanced.

The 12 matches are played at Oak Point
Intermediate School, Eden Lake Elementary
School and Central Middle School.
Register by mail before Thursday, Sept. 6.

Questions? Contact Lyndell Frey
at 952-949-8438 or lfrey@edenprairie.org

Just like a drive-in movie, but without a car!

PARK-IN FREE! MOVIE

Come see a FREE movie under the stars!

Now Showing:
**Friday, Aug. 17
Star Wars**
PG

**Saturday, Aug. 18
Liar Liar**
PG - 13

**Showtime
8:30 p.m.**

Staring Lake Amphitheatre
14800 Pioneer Trail



For more information call 952-949-8449, ext. 5

Register for Parks and Recreation programs by:
Internet, phone, mail and in person.



*Register using eConnect via
the Internet at edenprairie.org



*Over the phone at
952-949-8407



Through the mail
to the Community Center



In person at the Community Center
16700 Valley View Road
or the
Senior Center
8950 Eden Prairie Road

*If you need a PIN and Family Account Number,
stop by the Eden Prairie Community Center to
complete a Family Information Form.