

# LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

## Who's Sledding at Staring Lake Park?

5 1/2-year-old Jack Thurk

Maria & Charlie Alleman who are almost 4

20-month-old Ashley Thurk and her dad, Paul

11-year-old Candice Nevin

FEBRUARY 2007



New Mayor Phil Young is a happy man as he takes the oath of office with his wife, Mona, and their four children at his side. The kids, Konrad, Patrick, Ian and Riley, all appear quite ready to help their dad lead the City.

## “Raise your right hand...”



City Attorney Ric Rosow officiates as Kathy Nelson is sworn into office as a new City Council member. Kathy's husband, Rick, and one of her daughters, Kristen, look on.



Jon Duckstad, new City Council member, is joined by his wife, Carol, as he takes the oath of office on Jan. 2.

## The Comprehensive Guide Plan and You

The City's Planning Commission, which meets the second and fourth Monday of each month at 7 p.m. at the City Center, has reserved its second meeting each month to review progress and hear from interested parties on the Comprehensive Guide Plan update. Specific portions of the 2008 Comprehensive Guide Plan will be reviewed each month.

The 2008 Comprehensive Guide Plan is an overall policy framework designed to set a course for the City to meet its long-term goals and objectives. The plan identifies a vision and specifies the strategies needed to achieve it.

The updating of the comprehensive plan provides a unique opportunity for members of the community to think about the future character and identity of Eden Prairie.

Twenty-five years from now, how will people get around Eden Prairie? Where will they work, go to school, experience the outdoors, visit friends and enjoy entertainment destinations? How will people and transportation systems interact with the environment and natural resources?

Eden Prairie residents, business people and others are encouraged to provide their ideas to the Planning Commission during the first six months of 2007.

Community members may also visit the City's Web site, [edenprairie.org](http://edenprairie.org), to review updated reports, maps and other materials. In addition, those interested can submit comments that will be integrated into the process and official public record.

Comprehensive Guide Plan Meetings	
MEETING DATES	TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED
Jan. 22	Transportation – Airport, Housing, Demographics
Feb. 26	Land Use Chapter, Housing Chapter
March 26	Redevelopment and Economic Development Chapter, Utilities Chapter
April 23	Transportation Chapter
May 28	Community Facilities Chapter, Implementation Chapter
June 25	Action for Council Approval of Document

## Eden Prairie Liquor Plans Expansion

On your next visit to the Eden Prairie Liquor store located near Cub Foods, be prepared for some major changes. The liquor store is expanding to make for a more pleasant shopping experience. However, to get to that point, there will be some inconvenience for shoppers.

The space between Eden Prairie Liquor and Hollywood Video has been undergoing a transformation for the past couple of months.

“At the end of January, the wall between the new space and our current store is scheduled to be torn down,” said Mitch Dean, liquor operations manager. “The remodeling of the existing space will begin and that will mean for a short time our selection of products will be a bit limited at this location.”

Dean said that in addition to expanding the size of the store, which will make it less crowded and easier to navigate, an expanded selection and new store features will make it stand apart.

“We're creating a unique ambiance and introducing a



Mitch Dean, liquor operations manager, checks on the space where the liquor store will be expanding.



Above and below Renderings of the remodeled liquor store.

wine-tasting area,” he said. “I think the first time our clientele shop in this store after the project is finished, they will definitely be ‘wowed.’”

The store near Cub Foods was chosen to be the first of the City's three stores to be remodeled because the space is owned by the City.

“I want to stress that while there will be some short-term inconvenience at this location, there will be no disruption at the other Eden Prairie Liquor stores during this project,” said Dean.



## City to Begin On-Site Electronic Deposit for Checks

When paying by check for City services, including water and sewer, dog licenses and building permits, the check will now be converted to an electronic debit. This means the City will no longer need to physically bring a check that it receives to the bank for deposit. Instead, the check will be scanned and the amount will be transferred directly from the checking account to the City's account.

This same process is being used by many utilities, retail stores and credit card



companies, and has proven to be safe, reliable and effective. The new system will reduce the need for data entry and eliminate a daily trip to the bank.

For those who are concerned about checks being converted to an electronic debit and want to learn about other payment options, please contact the City's billing department at 952-949-8382.

## Apply to Serve on a Commission

After reviewing the information about City commissions in last month's *Life in the Prairie*, are you ready to take the next step and apply to serve on one of the commissions? If so, please read on.

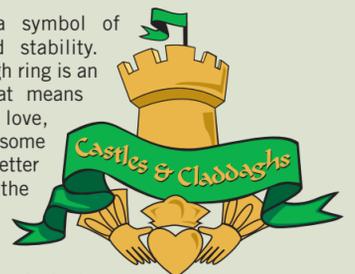
There will be openings on all commissions this year except the Flying Cloud Airport Advisory Commission. The other commissions are Arts and Culture; Conservation; Heritage Preservation; Human Rights and Diversity; Parks, Recreation and Natural Resources; and Planning.

The first step is to complete an application and questionnaire. Applications are available at City Center, on the City's Web site, or at the Commission Open House which will run from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., Tuesday, Jan. 23 at City Center.

Candidate interview night is scheduled for Tuesday, Feb. 23, and appointments will be announced at the City Council meeting on Tuesday, March 6. Those named to the commissions will begin work April 1.

## Annual Fund-Raising Event on St. Patrick's Day

Castles are a symbol of strength and stability. The Claddagh ring is an Irish tradition that means friendship and love, and it dates back some 500 years. What better way to celebrate the Eden Prairie Foundation's Annual Ball, to take place St. Patrick's Day, than with symbols of strength and friendship.



The Annual Ball is the single major fund-raising effort for the Eden Prairie Foundation each year. Proceeds from the event are used to make grants to community groups.

“The money generally goes for items that will make things a little easier or a little better for the people helped by the particular group,” said Roy Terwilliger, the Foundation's executive director.

Tickets to the March 17 black-tie event at the Sheraton Bloomington are \$135 each if ordered by Valentine's Day. Should tickets to the event remain after that time, the price goes up to \$150.

To make your reservation, contact Tammy Brooks, reservation chair, at [tammyteach@gmail.com](mailto:tammyteach@gmail.com) or 952-937-8205. If you have general questions, contact Mary Jo Sherwood, ball chair, at [msherwood@btwpress.com](mailto:msherwood@btwpress.com) or 612-669-0450.

### 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](http://edenprairie.org)

# Creating Community

Through People, Parks and Programs

**FEBRUARY 2007**  
Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation

## Upcoming Events CALENDAR

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

### JANUARY

- Jan. 20** **Rock on Ice**  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
Miller Park  
FREE  
Bring the family out for a fun-filled evening of ice skating and rock 'n' roll.
- Jan. 24** **Registration Deadline for Raptor Center and Marjorie McNeely Conservatory Adult Trip**  
Wednesday, Feb. 7  
9 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Leave from Senior Center  
Cost: \$42  
Questions? Call 952-279-8050  
Registration code: 20356
- Jan. 25** **Registration Deadline for Father and Daughter Sweetheart Dance**  
See Advertisement
- Jan. 28** **Winter Fun Day**  
See Advertisement

### FEBRUARY

- Feb. 1** **Registration Deadline for Men's and Women's Spring Volleyball Leagues**  
Women's league begins Feb. 13  
Cost: \$290 per team  
10 matches  
Men's league begins Feb. 15  
Cost: \$345 per team  
12 matches  
Questions? Call 952-949-8438
- Feb. 3 – 24** **Water Safety Instructor Aide Training Begins**  
Ages 12 and older  
Saturday  
9 a.m. – noon  
Eden Prairie Community Center Room C  
Cost: \$60  
Questions? Call 952-949-8447
- Feb. 3 – 24** **Lifeguard Training Begins**  
Ages 15 and older  
Saturday  
9 a.m. – 4 p.m.  
Eden Prairie Community Center Room C  
Cost: \$180  
Questions? Call 952-949-8447
- Feb. 5** **Monday and Wednesday Evening Swim Lessons Begin**  
Eight classes  
Oak Point Pool  
Advanced registration requested.  
Cost: members, \$42; non-members, \$48  
Questions? Call 952-949-8447
- Feb. 5** **Star Watch**  
Ages 8 to adult  
5:30 – 8 p.m.  
Staring Lake Outdoor Center  
Come learn about our planets!  
Cost: \$5  
Questions? Call 952-949-8479  
Registration code: 20626
- Feb. 6** **Registration Deadline for Senior Center Welcome Coffee**  
Tuesday, Feb. 13  
10 a.m.  
FREE  
R.S.V.P. to the Senior Center at 952-279-8050
- Feb. 8** **Registration Deadline for Senior Valentine's Brunch**  
See Advertisement
- Feb. 15** **Registration Deadline for New Guthrie and Library Adult Trip**  
Thursday, March 1  
8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.  
Leave from Senior Center  
Cost: \$44  
Questions? Call 952-279-8050  
Registration code: 20357
- Feb. 16, 17, 23 – 25** **Barefoot in the Park Performances**  
See Advertisement
- Feb. 17** **Cross-Country Ski Clinic**  
Ages 12 to adult  
1 – 3 p.m.  
Staring Lake Outdoor Center  
Cost: \$25  
Questions? Call 952-949-8479  
Registration code: 20634
- Feb. 18** **Winter Fun Day**  
See Advertisement
- Feb. 19** **Monday Ice Skate Lessons Begin**  
Six classes  
Eden Prairie Community Center  
Cost: Members, \$36; Non-Members, \$42  
Questions? Call 952-949-8471
- Feb. 19** **Wild, Wild Winter**  
Ages 6 – 10  
10 a.m. – 3 p.m.  
Staring Lake Outdoor Center  
Cost: \$15  
Questions? Call 952-949-8479  
Registration code: 20642
- Feb. 19** **City Offices and Senior Center Closed; Community Center Open**
- Feb. 22** **Extended Adult Trips Travel Show**  
10 – 11 a.m.  
Senior Center  
For more information or to R.S.V.P. contact the Senior Center at 952-279-8050.
- Feb. 22** **Fly Fishing in the Prairie Dome**  
Adults  
9 – 10 p.m.  
Eden Prairie High School Prairie Dome  
Questions? Call 952-949-8479  
Cost: \$100  
Registration code: 20630
- Feb. 24** **Swimming Level Assessment**  
12:30 – 1:30 p.m.  
Community Center Pool  
FREE  
Questions? Call 952-949-8447
- Feb. 27** **Registration Deadline for Chanhassen Dinner Theatre's Easter Parade**  
Wednesday, March 14  
10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m.  
Leave from Senior Center  
Cost: \$45  
Questions? Call 952-279-8050

## SENIOR Valentine's Brunch

Thursday, Feb. 15  
9:30 a.m.  
Pax Christi Catholic Community  
12100 Pioneer Trail (Door 1)

Come reunite with good friends and meet new people at this wonderful Valentine's celebration. Enjoy a delicious breakfast and great conversation sponsored by the Senior Center.

Questions? Contact the Senior Center at 952-279-8050.  
Registration deadline: Monday, Feb. 12  
Cost: \$13  
Registration code: 20676

**BREAKFAST MENU**  
Homemade Quiche  
Hot Apple Pancakes with Syrup  
Sausage Links  
Bacon  
Sweet Breads with Honey Butter  
Fresh Fruit  
Beverages

## FATHER AND DAUGHTER SWEETHEART DANCE

SATURDAY, FEB. 3  
5:30 – 7:30 P.M.  
EDEN PRAIRIE CITY CENTER  
GARDEN ROOM  
8080 MITCHELL ROAD



Dad, sign up to dance the night away with your daughter(s) this February! This activity allows girls ages 5 to 12 to attend a special dinner and dance with dad, or other significant male figure.  
Fee includes dinner, dancing and a special valentine for mom.  
Come enjoy an evening with your little girl you both will never forget!

Cost: \$20 per person  
For more information contact Nicole Weedman at 952-949-8456 or nweedman@edenprairie.org  
Registration deadline: Jan. 25  
Registration code: 20509

### EDEN PRAIRIE PLAYERS PRESENT

## Neil Simon's Barefoot in the Park

Eden Prairie High School Auditorium  
17185 Valley View Road  
North Entrance

Feb. 16, 17, 23, 24  
7:30 p.m.

Feb. 25  
2 p.m.

Paul Bratter, a conservative young lawyer, and his vivacious new wife, Corrie, are living in a laughably small apartment in Greenwich Village, New York, located on the fifth floor of a building with no elevator. Exploring the troubles that newlyweds face, this story follows the young couple as they learn to live and love together while their highly passionate relationship descends into comical discord.  
Cost: adults, \$10; seniors and students, \$8  
Tickets may be purchased at the door or by calling 952-903-9464.

## FITNESS CLASSES

Eden Prairie Community Center  
Room C

Get in shape for the New Year with walk-in fitness classes at the Community Center!

### Power Toning

Mondays and Wednesdays  
12:15 – 12:45 p.m.  
Cost: \$3

Take a break from your busy day and join us for some power toning and Pilates workout.

### Step 'N' Tone

Mondays and Wednesdays  
5:30 – 6:30 p.m.  
Cost: \$5

A great cardio and strengthening class for the beginning to advanced exerciser!

### Mix it up!

Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays  
9 – 10 a.m.  
Cost: \$5

A combination of Pilates, kickboxing and toning segments make this one great class!

For questions or pricing information call the Community Center at 952-949-8447.



## Adult Summer Softball Registration

Gather your team and join the fun all summer long!  
Last summer 182 teams participated in 17 divisions!

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

### MANDATORY

New Team Organizational Meeting  
Tuesday, March 13  
7 p.m.  
Eden Prairie City Center  
8080 Mitchell Road

Summer Registration Begins  
Returning Teams: March 1 – 7  
New Teams: March 13 – 16



## No School Days Art Activities Series



Ages 6-12  
10:30 a.m. – noon  
Eden Prairie Senior Center  
Room 203  
Cost: \$18

### ART EXPRESSION

Monday, Feb. 19  
Celebrate President's Day by creating Free Form Art!  
Registration deadline: Feb. 12  
Registration code: 20511

### STAR WARS WORKSHOP

Monday, Feb. 26  
Use pencils, oil pastels, colored pencils or metallic paint to create your own Star Wars memorabilia!  
Registration deadline: Feb. 19  
Registration code: 20512

### HARRY POTTER WORKSHOP

Tuesday, Feb. 27  
Explore illustration methods and a variety of art materials to depict your favorite magical characters!  
Registration deadline: Feb. 20  
Registration code: 20513

## WINTER FUN DAY

Ages 5 to adult  
Saturday, Jan. 28; Sunday, Feb. 18  
1 – 3 p.m.  
Staring Lake Outdoor Center  
14800 Pioneer Trail

Winter can be a lot of fun if you really know how to enjoy it!

Join us for an afternoon of winter family fun including snowshoes, kick sleds, snow snakes, snow sculptures and even ice drilling!

Dress for the weather.  
Cost: \$5  
Questions? Call 952-949-8479  
Registration code: 20641



## REGISTRATION IS EASY!

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.