

# LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

## Celebrating National Night Out



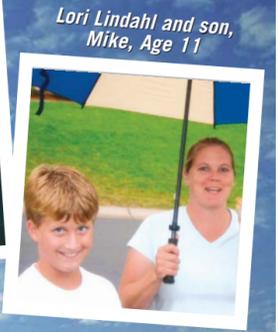
Anne Lindahl  
Age 11



Evan Monhan, Age 2,  
and dad, Mike



Virginia Macken  
Age 2-1/2



Lori Lindahl and son,  
Mike, Age 11

SEPTEMBER 2006

## Eden Prairie Continues to Add New Residents

It's true; Eden Prairie was the sixth fastest growing City in the Metropolitan region between 2000 and 2005. Not bad for a City that many people think is fully developed.

The Metropolitan Council recently released its list of the region's 10 fastest growing cities and at number six, with more than 6,000 new residents in that time period, is Eden Prairie.

Much of the new growth in Eden Prairie has come about because of multi-unit residential developments. These new residences include not only apartments but townhouses as well.

The publicity the City has received from being named the 10th "Best Place to Live" in America by MONEY magazine will likely result in even more new residents.

### EDEN PRAIRIE

Population: ..... 60,955  
Households: ..... 23,282

### Twin Cities Region's Fastest Growing Cities

City	Population added 2000-2005
Blaine	9,006
Shakopee	8,767
Lakeville	8,594
Maple Grove	8,055
Woodbury	7,628
<b>EDEN PRAIRIE</b>	<b>6,054</b>

Source: Metropolitan Council Estimates

## Eden Prairie is 10th "Best Place to Live" in America

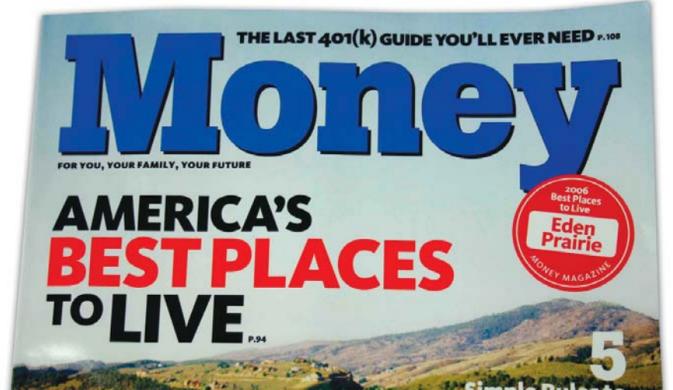
"I really wasn't surprised, but I am very pleased." That was Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens' reaction to the news that MONEY magazine had named Eden Prairie the 10th "Best Place to Live" in America.

The mayor and City Manager Scott Neal had the inside track that MONEY was considering the City for one of the top spots on its annual list of Best Places to Live. A reporter and researcher for MONEY had paid a visit to the City in early June.

"Our residents are the ones who truly deserve the credit for this honor," said Tyra-Lukens. "They're the ones that have elected and led the decisions of the City Councils over the years that have made Eden Prairie an outstanding place to Live, Work and Dream."

The reporter from MONEY not only talked with both Tyra-Lukens and Neal, but went beyond those talks and visited with business leaders and residents of the community.

Starting with an initial list of 745 places that have populations above 50,000, MONEY's team of editors and writers undertook several months of research, reviewing data on a wide range of economic and quality-of-life indicators. Working with data provider Onboard of New York City and consultant Bert Sperling of



BestPlaces.net, MONEY's team narrowed the list and then visited cities across the country, interviewing residents, community leaders and local officials before compiling the final rankings.

This is not the first time Eden Prairie has been recognized as an outstanding city. Earlier this year the book "50 Fabulous Places to Raise your Family" listed Eden Prairie as one of only two Minnesota cities. In 2005, MONEY magazine ranked Eden Prairie as the sixth "Hottest" City in the Central Region of the United States for cities with a population under 100,000. Also in 2005, Parents magazine named Eden Prairie the "Best Suburban City to Raise Kids."

"Our residents are the ones who truly deserve the credit for this honor."

—Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens

## Senior Survey Data Presented

Eden Prairie's seniors appear to be healthy and active according to the results of a survey conducted by the City earlier this year.

The survey, which was developed by The Minnesota Board on Aging, was distributed to some 1,000 residents age 55 and older in March. Nearly 200 people returned the survey which covered five topic areas — housing, transportation, senior services, getting around in Eden Prairie and support for families who are caregivers.

City Manager Scott Neal, commenting on the survey results, said, "Our seniors are, as a whole, an independent group that appears to be in relatively good health."

Olive Larson is a senior citizen who has been a leader

in the Eden Prairie senior community for more than two decades. "I think the City has done a very good job for seniors," said Larson. "I don't think they ever said "no" to anything seniors have asked for. We have a great facility in the Senior Center."

Survey respondents generally rated the City high on its Senior Center, sidewalks, and available parking for seniors and handicapped individuals. Areas that scored lower included addresses on buildings being well marked, the lack of enough benches and the timing of traffic signals for pedestrians.

This survey was a follow up to the Senior Issues Task Force which issued its report in January. As a result of that report, there is a link to the City's Senior Center on its



Olive Larson has been an integral part of the Eden Prairie Senior Center for more than two decades.

home page. The Senior Center Web pages now also include links to services the City provides as well as links to other organizations that assist seniors.

## Explorers Win National Awards

It's not your usual team competition. In this competition, young people interested in law enforcement careers compete in search and arrest techniques, crime scene investigation, bomb threat response and hostage negotiations. The Explorer team representing Eden Prairie and Edina showed off its law enforcement skills by taking home three honors, including a first place finish.

Brandon Carlston, Adam Schroeder, John Krull and Ashley Massahos made up the team that brought home first place hardware in the Crime Scene Processing category. These are four of the eight members of Explorer Post 925 who attended the biennial National Explorers Conference in Flagstaff, Ariz. this past July. The four other members who went to the conference were Sam Mack, John Eidem, Kate Johnson and Brett Lawler. Eden Prairie police officers Eric LeBlanc and Erica Halverson attended as well.

The team from Post 925, which is comprised of young men and women ages 14 to 21 from Eden Prairie and Edina, competed against more



Explorers Post 925 brought a first place trophy home from the group's National Conference.



than 300 other Explorer teams from across the country.

In addition to the first place finish, the team placed fifth in the search and arrest category. Individual honors were attained by John Krull as he placed among the top 20 shooters in the country.

"Explorers is an awesome opportunity for ninth graders through college age to learn about police work," said Officer Eric LeBlanc, co-leader of Post 925.

For more information on becoming an Explorer contact Officer Halverson at 952-949-6200.

## Senior Safety and Resource Fair

"The world has changed for seniors," says Carla Kress, recreation coordinator for the City's Senior Center. Technology such as computers that have been assimilated by much of the population can still be a concern for seniors. In addition, seniors are living longer, and in many cases living alone.

For these reasons and many others, the City's Senior Center staff along with the police and fire departments are hosting a Senior Safety and Resource Fair on Thursday, Oct. 5 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. The event will take place at the Pax Christi Catholic Community Church located at 12100 Pioneer Trail.

The fair will feature speakers discussing a wide variety of topics including identity theft prevention, online scams targeted at seniors, fall prevention in the home and other topics that will help seniors stay safe and sound.

Additionally, agencies that assist seniors will be on hand to provide information about their services.

There is a \$5 fee to attend the event, and that fee includes lunch. Those interested in attending the Senior Safety and Resource Fair may register by calling the Senior Center at 952-279-8051 or through e-mail at ckress@edenprairie.org.



Enjoying the last days of Summer

The Eden Prairie Skate Park at Round Lake Park has been around for five years. It's a great place for kids of all ages to try out their skateboards, inline skates or even scooters. On a recent summer afternoon 13-year-old Connor Nelson (left) and 16-year-old Joe Hall (right) "caught some air" while five-year-old Chase Anderson concentrated on his scooter.

### YOUR ELECTED CITY OFFICIALS

**MAYOR**  
Nancy Tyra-Lukens  
952-937-1898

### COUNCILMEMBERS

Brad Aho  
952-944-5955  
Sherry Butcher  
952-829-5351  
Ron Case  
952-949-0915  
Philip Young  
952-949-2451



## LIFE IN THE PRAIRIE

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# Creating Community

Through People, Parks and Programs

SEPTEMBER 2006  
Eden Prairie Parks & Recreation

## Upcoming Events CALENDAR

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

### AUGUST

- Aug 17-20** **The Spell of Sleeping Beauty**  
Summer Children's Theater Camp production. 2:00 p.m.; also 7:00 p.m. on Friday and Saturday. Pay at the door: \$5 adults, \$2 students. Riley-Jacques Barn, 9096 Riley Lake Road. 952-949-8450
- Aug 18** **Park In Movie**  
The movie "All Dogs Go To Heaven" will be shown at Staring Lake Amphitheatre; 8:30 p.m. Hotline: 952-949-8449 #5
- Aug 19** **Park In Movie**  
The movie "The Princess Bride" will be shown at Staring Lake Amphitheatre; 8:30 p.m. Hotline: 952-949-8449 #5
- Aug 25** **Twilight Special**  
Barn Dance featuring Pigs Eye Landing and caller Sue Hulsether. 7 - 9 p.m. Riley-Jacques Barn. Admission at the door: \$5 Adults, \$3 Students and Seniors
- Aug 26** **Swimming Level Assessment**  
Certified staff will help assess the appropriate lesson level for your child. 12:30 - 1:30 p.m. Community Center Pool. Free.

### SEPTEMBER

- Sept 5** **Mens 3-on-3 Basketball Registration Deadline**  
Wednesday evenings for 6 weeks. \$75/team.
- Sept 6** **Tae Kwon Do - Karate**  
Ages 5 to adult. Mon/Wed through September 27 5:30 - 6:30 p.m. \$59.
- Sept 7** **Co-Rec Volleyball Registration Deadline**  
Leagues begin September 18 on Monday evenings for twelve matches. \$345/team.
- Sept 9** **Cannon River Canoe Trip**  
Ages 12 to adult. 7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. \$25 Advance Registration Required. #20224
- Sept 9** **Prairie Jam**  
Free entertainment for middle school and high school students. 6 - 10 p.m. at Riley-Jacques Barn
- Sept 9/11** **Swimming Lessons Begin**  
Saturday morning or Monday/Wednesday evenings. 8 lessons \$48.
- Sept 10** **Sunbonnet Day**  
Free family fun. Riley-Jacques Barn from 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.
- Sept 11** **Star Watch**  
Ages 8 - adult. 8:00 - 9:30 p.m. Staring Lake Outdoor Center. \$5 Advance Registration Required. #20199
- Sept 11** **Adult Golf Lessons**  
Ages 16 and older. Five Mondays at Round Lake Park. 6:00 p.m. for Beginners, 7:00 p.m. for Advanced Beginners. \$70.
- Sept 11** **Tennis Lessons**  
Ages 5 to 16 tennis lessons. 6 classes on Mon/Wed afterschool at Miller Park. \$40/\$49.
- Sept 11** **Junior Golf Lessons**  
Ages 7 - 12 beginner golf lessons. Five Mondays from 5:00 - 6:00 p.m. \$60.
- Sept 11/12** **Girls on the Run**  
Ages 8-12 meet M/W or T/Th from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. for exercise program. 8 weeks. \$60.
- Sept 11/16** **Ice Skating Lessons**  
Saturday mornings or Monday evenings for 6 or 12 weeks.
- Sept 12** **Girls on Track**  
Ages 12 - 14 meet T/Th from 4:00 - 5:30 p.m. for exercise program. 8 weeks. \$60.
- Sept 12** **IMAX - Sharks 3D**  
Adult trip from 8:45 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. \$10 Register by September 5 #19784
- Sept 12** **Adult Beginner / Adult Strokes**  
Learn to swim or improve your strokes. Tuesday evening classes for 8 weeks. \$52.
- Sept 13** **Memoir Writing**  
Adult class on Wednesdays at 1:30 p.m. until October 18. \$60 #19779
- Sept 16** **Water Safety Instructor Aide**  
Ages 12 and up. 4 Saturdays from 9:00 a.m. - Noon. \$60 #20002
- Sept 16** **Hawk Ridge Birding Trip**  
Adult trip to see over 10,000 hawks. 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m. \$35 Advance Registration Required. #20211
- Sept 16** **Kayak Tour on Lake Waconia**  
Adult trip. 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. \$25 Advance Registration Required. #20226
- Sept 19** **Eden Prairie History Tour**  
5-8 p.m. Family trip leaves from Community Center. Registration Deadline is September 14. #20275
- Sept 23** **Chippewa River Canoe Trip**  
Ages 12 to adult. 7:45 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. \$25 Advance Registration Required. #20225
- Sept 22-24** **Superior Trail Backpacking**  
Three day adult trip. \$150 Registration Deadline and Pre-trip meeting on September 13. #19617
- Sept 22, 23, 29 & 30** **A Collection of One Acts**  
Comedy and drama one act plays. 7:30 p.m. Riley-Jacques Barn \$15 952-903-9464.
- Sept 24 & Oct 1** **A Collection of One Acts**  
Comedy and drama one act plays. 2:00 p.m. Riley-Jacques Barn \$15 952-903-9464.
- Sept 28** **Mens 5-on-5 Basketball Registration Deadline**  
Wednesday evenings through March 7. \$680/team.
- Sept 28** **Womens / Womens Volleyball Registration Deadline**  
Womens play on Tuesday evenings, Mens on Thursdays for fifteen weeks beginning October 10/12. \$440/team.
- Sept 29** **Coffee Concert**  
Adult trip to hear Mendelssohn Violin Concerto. 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. \$22 Register by September 1 #19785

## Adult Basketball

Wednesday Evenings  
Central Middle School Gym

Mens 3-on-3 Basketball with upper and lower divisions are played on half-court, un-refed, and last 40 minutes. Six weeks of games begins September 13. Register by mail before September 5. \$75/team

Mens 5-on-5 Basketball teams can register to play full-court basketball. Divisions include high, middle, and lower. Sixteen weeks of play begin October 25. Register by mail before September 28. \$680/team

New teams should contact Lyndell Frey at 952-949-8438, or LFrey@edenprairie.org to request a registration form.

## SENIOR Safety Workshop

Sponsored by the  
Eden Prairie Senior Center Advisory Council,  
the Eden Prairie Police  
and the Eden Prairie Senior Center



**Thursday, October 5**  
**Pax Christi Catholic Community**  
**12100 Pioneer Trail**  
**Check-in: 8:30 - 9:00 a.m.**  
**Workshop: 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.**

Learn about Identify theft, personal safety tips, 911/What do to before help arrives, scamming, and fire extinguisher and alarm safety tips.

Cost of workshop is \$5 per person and includes lunch. Transportation is available, call the Senior Center at 952-949-8475 to arrange. Registration deadline is Monday, October 2. Registration Barcode #20265

## A Collection of One Acts

Sept 22, 23, 29 & 30 - 7:30 pm  
Sept 24 & Oct 1 - 2:00 pm

Tickets \$15  
Call 952-903-9464 for reservations.  
Tickets also available at the door;  
however, reservations strongly recommended.

Enjoy an appetizer and dessert buffet along with a collection of comedy and drama featuring the following one act plays:

<b>The Actor's Nightmare</b> by Christopher Durang	<b>Sure Thing</b> by David Ives
<b>The Sandbox</b> by Edward Albee	<b>Are We There Yet</b> by Kent Ribowin
<b>Visitation</b> by Rebecca Reynolds	

Performed by the Eden Prairie Players  
www.edenprairieplayers.org



## PARKS & RECREATION BROCHURE

The Parks & Recreation Fall 2006 Brochure was mailed to all Eden Prairie residents this week. Additional copies are available at the Community Center, Senior Center and at City Center.

Registration for classes, trips, lessons, and programs begins August 22.

### Use eConnect

Register for programs on-line. Call 952-949-8470 or use the "Live Help" feature to get your family information into our software and get a family account number and a PIN. Then you can register for programs from the convenience of your computer. Go to edenprairie.org - eConnect.



## PRAIRIE JAM

SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 9  
6 - 10 P.M.

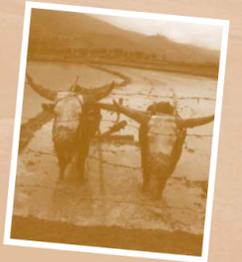
RILEY-JACQUES BARN  
9096 RILEY LAKE ROAD

High School and Middle School students are invited to a free performance by local high school bands. Concessions will be available.

## Eden Prairie HISTORY TOUR

Sunset on the Farms  
in Eden Prairie

Tuesday, September 19  
5 - 8 pm



Just a little more than 35 years ago, farms dotted the landscape of Eden Prairie. Today, there are just three active farmers in Eden Prairie. Visit with farmers and learn about their families and how they have adapted to be successful farmers. The tour will conclude with dessert at the Historic Dunn Brothers coffee shop.

Bus will leave from and return to the Community Center  
Adults \$7  
children 13 and under \$4  
Registration Deadline - September 14  
Registration Barcode #20275

## Eden Prairie's 27th Annual Sunbonnet Day

Sunday, September 10  
12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Riley-Jacques Farmstead  
9096 Riley Lake Road

NEW LOCATION

Join your neighbors for an Old-Fashioned Day of Fun at the Riley-Jacques Farmstead. Enjoy country entertainment and special events!

- \* Musical Entertainment by Charlie Maguire and Pert'near Sandstone Bluegrass Band
- \* Pony Rides and Horse-drawn Wagon Rides
- \* "Country" Costume Contest for all ages
- \* Tour the Dorenkemper House
- \* Tales from on the farm by Bob Gasch
- \* Old Fashioned games for kids of all ages
- \* Concessions-hotdogs, popcorn, ice cream, pie, lemonade & more
- \* Farmer's Market display featuring Eden Prairie farmers

A special day of fun for the whole family!  
Volunteers contact 952-949-8450.

## REGISTRATION IS EASY!

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



\*Register using eConnect via the internet at www.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.