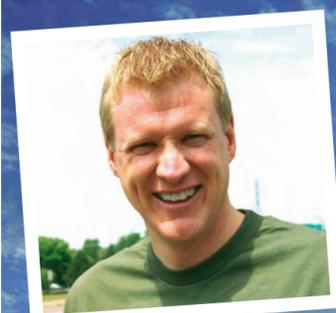


L I F E I N T H E P R A I R I E



Steve Jerve of Tampa, Florida enjoys his visit to Eden Prairie.

14 year old Luc Duzan, from Toulouse, France, is spending a few weeks this summer visiting Eden Prairie.



Suresh Bhujle reads a book in the shade at Miller Park.

AUGUST 2006

Transitway Study to Choose Preferred Route and Transit Mode

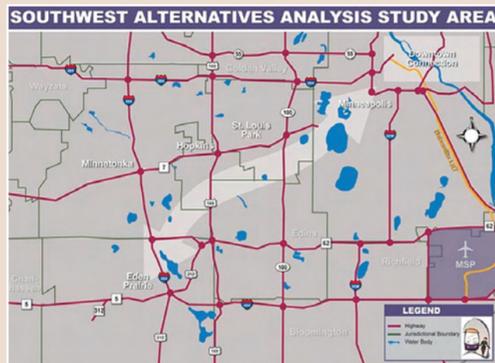
The "Southwest Transitway" is a proposed high frequency transit line that would connect Eden Prairie to downtown Minneapolis via Minnetonka, Hopkins and St. Louis Park.

An "alternative analysis" has been underway since January of last year to identify and compare the benefits, costs and impacts of three transit modes, eight light rail alternatives, two bus rapid transit routes and an enhanced bus service alternative.

The Southwest Policy Advisory Committee, which is made up of county commissioners, city officials and business leaders, wants to hear from residents about their preferences, interests and transportation needs.

"The future of transit is an extremely important issue. Eden Prairie residents should be sure that their thoughts, concerns and ideas are heard and considered as part of this Transitway study,"

—Mayor Nancy Tyra-Lukens



Residents can learn more about the study in a number of ways:

Visit the www.southwesttransitway.org website to review the information and send your comments.

Attend one of the open houses that will be held this October.

Hennepin County staff can attend meetings of interested citizens or groups; simply send a request for a presentation on this information using the website or by calling 612-348-9260.

The Transitway Study is scheduled to be completed in December of this year.

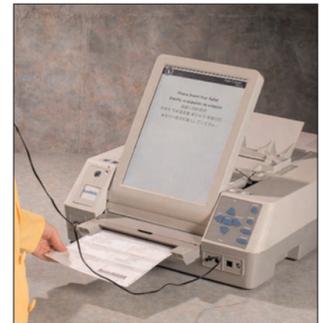


New Ballot Marking Equipment Will Assist Disabled Voters

When disabled voters go to their voting place this fall they will be able to vote privately and independently, thanks to new ballot marking equipment that will be in place. Each polling place in Eden Prairie will have an AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminal.

All voters will receive the same paper ballot when they go to the polls. Those who choose to, may use the AutoMARK system which is designed to provide privacy, accessibility and independence to voters who are blind, vision impaired or have a condition that makes it difficult to mark the ballot.

Voters using the ballot marking device will be able to make their choices using a touch screen, touch pad or a sip/puff tube. The machine has the voter review his or her selections before the machine fills in the chosen ovals. The marked



ballot is then returned to the voter so that it is cast in the regular way.

The AutoMARK system will be demonstrated at City Center during the month of August. A link to more information on the AutoMARK Voter Assist Terminal is available on the City Clerk's page of the City's Website edenprairie.org.

Filing Period for Fall Election to Open

Residents interested in becoming a candidate for City Council or Mayor of Eden Prairie need to file their candidacy between:

**Tuesday, August 29
and 5 p.m. on
Tuesday, September 12**

The November 7 General Election in Eden Prairie will fill two of the four City Council seats and the Mayor's chair.

There is a five dollar filing fee. Additional information and the proper forms can be obtained from the City Clerk.

Leaders In Training Program Study is First Step in Controlling Carp



Teens under 16 often find that job opportunities are limited to mowing a neighbor's lawn or babysitting. But in Eden Prairie, the Leaders in Training program allows teens between 13 and 15 to earn some money, acquire a work ethic and have some fun.

"Leaders in Training is a program that has been around for more than a decade," said Jenny Nashlund, the coordinator of the program. "It's great because it gives teens the opportunity to work in their community and get job experience to help them prepare for their next job."

Each summer the City chooses 30 teens to participate in the program. Most teens work with the parks and recreation programs as golf aides, tennis aides and playground aides. The others work at the outdoor center or help with the park and maintenance crew.

Chelsea Crutcher, 13, is in the Leaders in Training program for the first time this summer, "The most important thing I have learned so far is tolerance. Sometimes the kids are

full of energy when I am not, so I have learned how to interact with them and with the others I work with."

During the program the teens attend classes to learn about writing resumes, interview techniques, disability awareness, and curriculum planning.

They also learn the basics of having a real job. Program supervisors encourage teens to have a good work ethic, be on-time and learn how to interact with their employer.

"I encourage the teens to call me and talk directly to me," Nashlund said. "I don't want them to just have their parents call."

Each teen is required to fill out a time card every two weeks in order to get reimbursed between \$2 and \$2.25 an hour. Every two weeks the program supervisors evaluate the teens and give them feedback on their performance.

Besides the money the Leaders in Training earn, they are rewarded with "Fun Fridays." Each Friday, the group travels to places such as the Water Park of America or Crystal Caves in Wisconsin. The City pays for half the cost of each teen to participate in these activities.

Both parents and kids highly recommend the program because the participants not only gain valuable work experience and earn some spending money, but because they have fun doing it. Crutcher summed up her experience saying, "Spending time with the kids, seeing them smile and have fun, has really been a joy."

Carp. These fish have often been the subject of jokes, but they are not funny when they take over a lake.

Peter Sorensen, a University of Minnesota professor, is leading a multi-year study to find out basic information about carp. "Carp really fascinate me. They are smart, cunning and have a resistance to harsh conditions, but no one really knows anything beyond the very basic information about these fish," Sorensen said.

The study is taking place in Riley Lake, Lake Susan and the Rice Marsh. The study got underway earlier this year when 49 carp (20 females & 29 males) had radio transmitters implanted so they could be tracked.

For the past few months, Research Associate Przemek Bajer, a native of Poland, has been on one of the study lakes nearly every day gathering information about the carp. "We track their movements to gather information about such things as when and where they are spawning, the water temperature and the condition of the lake."

In Europe carp are sport fish and Bajer would fish for them, but here in Minnesota he has seen the other side of the carp, "It's just unbelievable how many there are and the damage they can cause."

"When we first moved here, I would see these big fish literally jumping out of the water and thought wow, this is great" said Eden Prairie resident David Florenzano who lives on Lake Riley. "It wasn't until I started talking with my neighbors that I found out those fish were carp. It was a let down."

The multi-year study is in need of additional funding. Thus far it has been funded by the DNR, Minnesota Legislative Commission for Minnesota Resources and the Lake Riley Improvement Association. Some additional funding has come from the Australian government where carp have taken over lakes and rivers in that country's Outback region.

When the study is completed it's hoped that the information gathered will lead to an integrated control program that will help keep the common carp in check.



Troops Say Thanks To Eden Prairie Residents

"It is very comforting to all of us when people back home send things to help us out, thanks for everything." That's what Sgt. Josh Klinkhammer, a Sauk Rapids resident serving our country in Iraq, had to say after receiving a "CARE" package from Eden Prairie.

This past May senior citizens from the Senior Center collected items such as books, lip balm and toiletries to send, along with personal letters, to soldiers in Iraq.

Sgt. Julie Feragen wrote a quick Email thanking everyone

for the feminine products that were included "These boxes of product were perfect. We appreciate it very much."

Chad Keiffer, a 25 year-old from Sauk Rapids wrote, "I want to say thank you to all the nice people that put letters in the boxes. It's nice to know that people care about us over here and support us."

The Woodchucks group from the Senior Center organized the event and Mary Keating of the city's Housing and Human Service division made sure the packages reached Iraq.

National Night Out is Fast Approaching

There's still time to register your block party

Tuesday, August 1 is National Night Out and again this year Eden Prairie police officers, firefighters, and elected officials will be visiting events throughout the City.

These groups split up and try to reach every block party, cookout and neighborhood an event that evening. To let them know there's an event, you need to complete a registration form that is available on the city's website (edenprairie.org). Registration needs to be completed and returned by July 28.



Since its beginning in 1984, National Night Out has grown each year. Nationwide more than 34 million people took part in 2005. In Eden Prairie nearly 80 groups, representing more than 3,500 residents took part in last year's events.

Get out and meet your neighbors, know who they are and let them know who you are also. This is one way to make your neighborhood an even safer place for you, your family and your neighbors.

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

EDEN PRAIRIE
LIVE • WORK • DREAM

**L I F E
I N T H E
P R A I R I E**

Life in the Prairie published by:
Pat Brink
Communications Manager
Jessica Brennan
Communications Intern
Afton Treanor
Communications Intern
The City of Eden Prairie
8080 Mitchell Road
Eden Prairie, MN 55344-4485
952-949-8434
www.edenprairie.org

Creating Community

Through People, Parks and Programs

AUGUST 2006
Eden Prairie Parks & Recreation

Upcoming Events CALENDAR

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

JULY

- July 21** **Dance Art Center**
Free performance. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- July 21** **Kid Power with Rachael (children)**
Free concert. Noon - 1:00 p.m.
Purgatory Creek Recreation Area.
- July 23** **Jazz on the Prairie (Big Band)**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- July 25** **Wiggle Jiggle Jam**
Free kids entertainment. 10:30 a.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- July 26** **EP String Academy**
Free performance. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- July 26** **Eden Prairie Reads**
Discussion group on the book "Population: 485"
10:00 a.m. Senior Center.
- July 27** **Beach Party**
5-8 p.m. Riley Lake Park
- July 28** **Twin Cities Hot Club (Gypsy Jazz)**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- July 30** **Lehto & Wright (Celtic/American Folk)**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- July 31-Aug 4** **From Books to Drama Camp**
Kids ages 4-7 will create drama from popular stories.
9:30 - 11:30 a.m. Community Center.
\$102 Advance registration required. #18873

AUGUST

- Aug 1** **Senior Center Welcome Coffee**
Come meet seniors and learn about the Senior Center programs. 10:00 a.m.
Please RSVP at 952-949-8475.
- Aug 1** **Jack Pearson**
Free kids entertainment. 10:30 a.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 2** **Eden Prairie Community Band**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 2-28** **Tae Kwon Do - Karate**
Ages 5 to adult. Mon/Wed 5:30 - 6:30 p.m.
\$59 Advance registration required. #18957
- Aug 4** **Fun Tyme Jammers**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 6** **Temporary Heroes (Pop Orchestra)**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 8** **Ross Sutter**
Free kids entertainment. 10:30 a.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 9** **Glory Land Gospel Band**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 11** **EP Youth Drama Camp Production & Minnesota Zoomobile**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 13** **EP International Festival**
Celebrate world cultures with food, entertainment and activities. Free family fun. 3:00-9:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 14 - 17** **Lynch Tennis Camps**
Openings for ages 8 - 14 for tennis lessons.
10:00/11:00 a.m. Miller Park
\$48 Advance registration required.
- Aug 14-17** **Pop Art Extravaganza**
Kids ages 6-12 will use every day objects to create art. 9:00 - 11:30 a.m. Community Center
\$116 Advance registration required. #19521
- Aug 14 & 21** **Thomas and the Train Friends**
Kids ages 3-6 can draw, color and paint a Thomas storybook. 1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Senior Center.
\$32 Advance registration required. #18946
- Aug 15** **The Wonderful World of Woody**
Free kids entertainment. 10:30 a.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 16** **15th Annual Senior Golf Classic**
Dahlgreens Golf Club 10:00 a.m.
\$35 includes green fees, cart, lunch and prizes.
Register by August 9. #19752
- Aug 16** **Northern Gael**
Free entertainment. 7:00 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre.
- Aug 17** **Dora's Farm Adventure**
Kids ages 3-6 with their parent can play games and make crafts with Dora.
1:00 - 2:00 p.m. Senior Center.
\$12 Advance registration required. #18954
- 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** **Glitter & Glamour Party Pizzazz**
Girls ages 5-12 will create a craft, get your nails and hair done and sing and dance to songs.
1:00 - 2:30 p.m. Senior Center.
\$20 Advance registration required. #18960
- 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 **FREE.**
- 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 **FREE.**
- Aug 22-24** **Expression and Book Art**
Use art materials to create artistic pages.
10:30 a.m. - Noon Senior Center.
\$54 Advance registration required. #18979
- Aug 23** **Senior Center Barbecue**
Brats and hamburgers picnic dinner and entertainment. 5:00 p.m. Senior Center
\$6 Register by August 16. #19751
- Aug 23-27** **BWCA Canoe Trip**
Five day adult trip. \$125 includes food, equipment, transportation and leadership.
Registration deadline and pre-trip meeting on August 9, 7:00 p.m. at Outdoor Center.

Fall Adult Athletics Volleyball



Leagues begin September 18 (Co-Rec) and early October (Mens & Womens Leagues) and continue through the middle of December. Games will be played at Central Middle School or Oak Point Intermediate School. Team fees range from \$345 to \$440, depending on total number of matches played. Register by September 7.

Mondays - Co-Rec
Tuesdays - Womens
Thursdays - Mens

For registration information on Adult Leagues, contact Lyndell Frey at LFrey@edenprairie.org, or 952-949-8438.

Prairie Heritage Programs

Little HOUSE on Staring Lake

Learn how the pioneers lived, worked and played. Discover information about the pioneers of Eden Prairie including:



- Pioneer games
- Chores
- Crafts
- Butter making
- Spinning wool

\$5 per student

For school groups, home schoolers, preschools, Kindergarten classes, day care groups and scouts.

Groups may schedule a time Monday through Friday during the fall.

Call 952-949-8479 to reserve your groups time.
Bus parking available.

The Spell of Sleeping Beauty

Directed by Liz Michaelson

The Eden Prairie Players
Summer Children's Theater Camp

Thursday, Aug 17	2 p.m.
Friday, Aug 18	2 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Saturday, Aug 19	2 p.m. & 7 p.m.
Sunday, Aug 20	2 p.m.

Riley-Jacques Barn
9096 Riley Lake Road

\$5 Adults
\$2 Students

Free for children 5 and under with accompanying adult.
Tickets available at the door only.

EDEN PRAIRIE INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL



Celebrate World Cultures

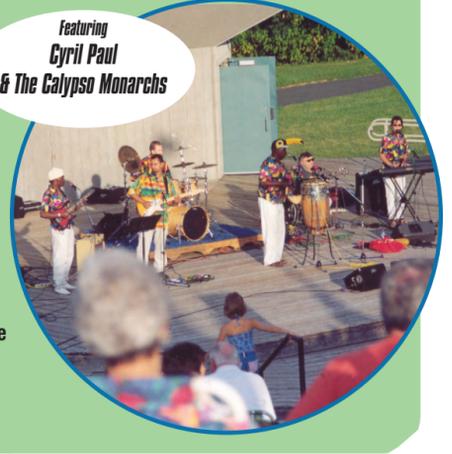
Sunday August 13
3:00-8:30 p.m.

Staring Lake Park
14800 Pioneer Trail

- Food
- Dance
- Kids Activities
- Arts
- Exhibits

FREE EVENT
for the whole family!

Featuring
Cyril Paul
& **The Calypso Monarchs**



PARK IN MOVIE

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

8:30 p.m.
Staring Lake Amphitheatre
Come see a free movie under the stars.

Now Showing:

FRIDAY, AUGUST 18
"ALL DOGS GO TO HEAVEN" - G

SATURDAY, AUGUST 19
"THE PRINCESS BRIDE" - PG

SENIOR BARBECUE

Enjoy brats and hamburgers on the patio with all the fixings, plus live entertainment.

Transportation available call 952-949-8475
Register by August 16



Wednesday, August 23
5:00 p.m.
Eden Prairie Senior Center
8950 Eden Prairie Road
\$6

RILEY-JACQUES BARN TWILIGHT SPECIAL

Riley-Jacques Barn • 9096 Riley Lake Road • 7-9 p.m.



Have a down-home good time with Country-themed entertainment at the historic Riley-Jacques Barn.

Friday, August 25
Barn Dance
Featuring Pigs Eye Landing & Caller Sue Hulsether

ADMISSION AT THE DOOR
\$5 ADULTS
\$3 STUDENTS AND SENIORS

For more information, call Sandy Werts at 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.

Beach Party

Thursday, July 27

Riley Lake Park

5:00 - 8:00 p.m.

FREE Family Fun

Enjoy some beach-side entertainment, try your hand at contests, win prizes and take a swim in beautiful Lake Riley!

- Musical entertainment by Bob the Beachcomber (6:00 - 8:00 p.m.)
 - Hula hoop contest
 - Sand sculpture contest
- Vie for the contents of the piñata
- Concessions available

Event weather pending. Call the weather hotline 952-949-8449 to check the status of the event.