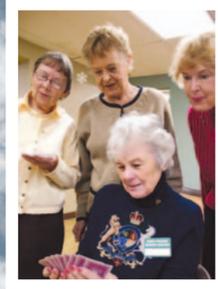


L I F E I N T H E P R A I R I E

Fuulin Zhang rides bikes with his daughters Michelle and Crystal.



Ruth Dover examines her car models at Senior Center.

Ella Haley and her mother Lisa skating at Crestwood Park.



FEBRUARY 2005

Eden Prairie Brands Itself

After months of study, focus groups, revisions and introductions to key decision-makers, the City of Eden Prairie has a new brand identity. Some people will ask: "Don't you mean a new logo?" The answer to that question is yes, and much more. The new logo, featuring prairie grass, a rising sun, a soaring bird and the tagline "Live • Work • Dream" will be the most visible portion of our new brand identity.

"This whole branding process really represents what makes the City of Eden Prairie unique..."

Each part of the design was thoroughly thought out; the yellow and orange colors were chosen because the sunrise speaks to the future and the

black represents stability. The soaring bird represents individuals in the community, while the prairie grass harks back to the city's roots.

The brand itself is based on extensive research that the City, Baker Associates and local residents undertook. City and advisory staff helped strategize and provide background and direction to the professional marketing staff. Further insight came from focus groups made up of a cross-section of Eden

Prairie residents, students, retired people, homeowners, and renters. Additionally, because nearly 60,000 people work in the city each weekday, the City talked with men and women who live elsewhere but work in Eden

Prairie. A number of branding ideas were presented to the focus group. The result: people believe Eden Prairie is the place to "Live, Work, and Dream".

The City's research also found people think of the City more as "Eden" today than "Prairie." This led to the word Eden being much larger than Prairie on the final design.

The City of Eden Prairie has already incorporated the brand and the tag line into its new website which was unveiled January 1. The new website, www.edenprairie.org, is designed



www.edenprairie.org

for residents and visitors to access City information with as few "clicks" as possible. The City is excited about the enhanced features, new links, and easy Search function.

In the very near future, residents and visitors will begin to see the new logo on letters and other City correspondence. Other places, such as police cars, signs at local parks and elsewhere will see the new look in stages as the budget allows.

Scott Neal, Eden Prairie City Manager, said, "This whole branding process really represents what makes the City of Eden Prairie unique. It will be used in a myriad of ways and will last for a long time so that people across the metro area, the state and even beyond will instantly recognize Eden Prairie and its many attributes."

The City is pleased to show you the new branding for Eden Prairie and hopes you'll continue to help us make the City an even better place to Live • Work • Dream.



EDEN PRAIRIE

LIVE • WORK • DREAM

The Road to Progress 2005 Road Projects

Several major road projects that received funding through a legislative bonding bill will make new progress in 2005.

New Highway 212 Expansion

The new Highway 212 expansion will transform existing Highway 312. The project will extend Highway 312 eleven miles into Carver County.

The new highway will have four freeway lanes with exits on Eden Prairie Road, Dell Road, Highway 101, Powers Boulevard, Highway 41, County Road 10, and County Road 147. Once the project is completed the roadway will be renamed Highway 212. The project construction will start in summer 2005 and is expected to be completed in 2008.

Interstate 494

The ongoing project to build a 494/694 beltway system looping around the metro area continues into 2005. Highway 5 north to Interstate 394 is expanding to become a six lane freeway. Bridge and interchange work will also be made as part of this project. The road project started in summer 2004 and is expected to be completed in 2006.

Highway 169

The current signal light intersection at and Highway 169 & Anderson Lakes Parkway will be transformed into a freeway interchange. The project will start and finish within the year.

The City also plans several local projects, including a partial rebuild at the intersection of existing Highway 212 and Prairie Center Drive.

"Capacity at the intersection will be improved with new double left-turn lanes," says Assistant City Engineer Rod Rue. "From every direction the intersection will be able to handle more vehicles and move them through more efficiently."

Existing Highway 212 and Prairie Center Drive intersection construction will start and finish within the year.

An Historic Opportunity Cummins-Grill House For Lease

The City of Eden Prairie is considering proposals to lease the historic Cummins-Grill House property. The property was built in 1879 and is located within Staring Lake Park on Pioneer Trail. It sits on more than 5 acres of land and is eligible for federal tax credits. The City is looking for a developer that will preserve the historic nature of the property and bring significant private investment for its renovation. For information and a showing call David Lindahl 952-949-8484



Eden Prairie Sweet Spots

Celebrate Valentines Day with the help of one of these Eden Prairie sweet spots!

Mrs. Fields Bakery
Eden Prairie Center
952-942-5853

Amy's Hallmark
Eden Prairie Center
952-944-3507

Bella Donna Florist of Eden Prairie
8252 Commonwealth Drive
952-942-0489

Krispy Kreme
12950 Technology Drive
952-914-9511

Cold Stone Creamery
582 Prairie Center Drive
952-943-9538

Panera Bread Bakery
8251 Flying Cloud Drive
952-944-1750



Making Strides for Eden Prairie Girls

When the state gathers to honor outstanding girls and women in sports this month, special honors will go to two shining stars from Eden Prairie. City Recreation Coordinators Beth DeGree and Nicole Weedman will be given the *Breaking Barriers Award* at the National Girls and Women in Sports Day celebration February 8, at the State Capitol.

DeGree and Weedman brought the national *Girls on the Run* program to Eden Prairie in fall 2004. *Girls on the Run* is a non-profit prevention program using interactive curriculum and running to encourage development of healthy lifestyles in preteen girls.

"We really feel strongly about the need to educate and prepare girls in Eden Prairie for a lifetime of self-respect and healthy living," says DeGree, "They're really facing a lot of new challenges these days and this gives them a good base for healthy activity and sense of self."

DeGree and Weedman spearheaded the effort to start a *Girls on the Run* chapter in Eden Prairie and went through special training to coach the team. The *Breaking Barriers Award* honors their leadership and ability to be exceptional mentors to Eden Prairie girls.

"We worked really hard to bring the program to Eden Prairie so this is a special honor for us," explains Weedman, "We're really proud of how it's already making a difference in the lives of many wonderful girls."

To learn more about the *Girls on the Run* program call the Eden Prairie Parks and Recreation Department at 952-949-8447.



Beth (on right) and Nicole (on left) with team at 5k fun run.

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

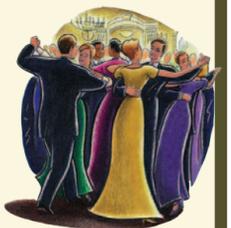


Eden Prairie Foundation to hold 24th Annual Ball

The Eden Prairie Foundation has raised more than \$800,000 since it began to help community organizations and projects. One of the major sources of those funds for nearly a quarter of a century has been the Annual Eden Prairie Foundation Ball.

This year's Ball will be held Saturday night, February 26 at the Minneapolis Marriott Southwest in Minnetonka. The evening begins at 6 pm with a social hour and silent auction. Dinner will be served at 8 pm and a raffle and live auction will also begin. Dancing starts at 9:30 pm and for those who want to make a complete night of it, the Marriott is offering rooms for \$99.

Tickets for the Eden Prairie Foundation Ball are \$125 (with \$65 being tax deductible) and are available by calling Kathie Case at 952-949-0915 or via email at: kcaser@mn.rr



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

Life in the Prairie published by:

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952-949-8434
www.edenprairie.org

Just for the Fun of It!

A PUBLICATION OF THE EDEN PRAIRIE PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT

Upcoming Events CALENDAR

JANUARY

- JAN. 22 Winter Family Fun Day**
Free family event. 1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Staring Lake Park. 952-949-8450
- JAN. 25 Make & Take**
Leisure Education program for children with special needs ages 2 - 6 and their father. 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Staring Lake Outdoor Center, 13765 Staring Lake Parkway. \$5 Advance registration required. 952-949-8457
- JAN. 26 Early Childhood Music Education for Adults**
7:00 - 9:00 p.m.; Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$12 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- JAN. 28 Snow Jam**
7:00 - 11:00 p.m. Garden Room. \$6 at the door. 952-949-8456
- JAN. 31 Income Tax Assistance**
Every Monday AARP-NRTA will offer free income tax assistance to low-income non-seniors and older persons by appointment at the Senior Center from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. 952-949-8475

FEBRUARY

- FEB. 1 Public Rental** of Outdoor Center begins for April and May. Contact Bob Lanzi at 952-949-8471 for all Park Facility Rentals.
- FEB. 1 Alaskan Cruise Travel Show**
Preview the trip being offered in the summer. 9:30 a.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. 952-949-8475
- FEB. 1 Music, Movement & Voiceplay**
Leisure Education program for individuals with special needs. 10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$120 Advance registration required. 952-949-8457
- FEB. 2 Music, Movement & Voiceplay**
10:00 - 10:45 a.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$120 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 4 Father & Daughter Sweetheart Dance**
7:00 - 9:30 p.m. Garden Room. \$25 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 5 Saturday Night Out**
Adaptive Recreation program for individuals with special needs ages 13 - 22 on six Saturdays. 6:00 - 9:00 p.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$45 Advance registration required. 952-949-8457
- FEB. 5 Create A Heritage Photo Album**
9:30 a.m. - Noon; Cummins House. \$12 Advance registration required. 952-949-8450
- FEB. 7 Little Tigers**
Self-defense and martial art skills for kids ages 3 - 6. Four Mondays. 11:30 a.m. - 12:15 p.m. Community Center, 16700 Valley View Road. \$46 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 7 Animals on Parade**
Parent and child ages 3 - 6 art making activities. 6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$20 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 8 Jazzercise**
Leisure Education program for individuals with special needs ages 13 - 22 on eight Tuesdays. 3:45 - 5:30 p.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$30 Advance registration required. 952-949-8457
- FEB. 10 Seniors Valentine's Breakfast**
9:00 - 11:00 a.m. Hennepin Technical College. \$10 Advance registration required. 952-949-8475
- FEB. 10 Volleyball Leagues**
Mens or Womens leagues begin in March. Register team by February 10. 952-949-8438
- FEB. 11 Around Town**
Leisure Education program for individuals with special needs ages 13 - 22 on six Fridays. 6:00 - 10:00 p.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$55 Advance registration required. 952-949-8457
- FEB. 14 Color a White World**
Art program for ages 6 - 12. Two Mondays. 6:30 - 8:00 p.m. Senior Center, 8950 Eden Prairie Road. \$36 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 18 & 19 I Remember Mama**
7:00 p.m. Performance at the High School. 952-949-8450
- FEB. 19 Berry Bonanza with Strawberry Shortcake**
Picnic fun program for kids ages 3 - 6 with adult. 9:15 - 10:15 a.m. Eden Prairie Shopping Center, Community Room. \$10 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 21 City Center and Senior Center Closed**
- FEB. 21 Open Swim at Oak Point Pool**
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.
- FEB. 21 Planet Spirit Cheer Clinic**
For boys and girls ages 7 - 15. 10:00 a.m. - Noon Eden Prairie Shopping Center, Community Room. \$25 Advance registration required. 952-949-8456
- FEB. 22 Make & Take**
Leisure Education program for children with special needs ages 2 - 6 and their father. 6:00 - 7:00 p.m. Staring Lake Outdoor Center, 13765 Staring Lake Parkway. \$5 Advance registration required. 952-949-8457
- FEB. 25 & 26 I Remember Mama**
7:00 p.m. Performance at the High School. 952-949-8450
- FEB. 26 Flick-N-Float**
Bring your inflatable raft and watch the movie "Shark Tales". 6:30 - 8:30 p.m. Community Center, 16700 Valley View Road. \$3 at the door. 952-949-8470
- FEB. 27 I Remember Mama**
2:00 p.m. Performance at the High School. 952-949-8450

SNOW JAM

Friday, January 28
7 - 11 p.m.

Garden Room at City Center
8080 Mitchell Road
High School and Middle School bands will perform.
\$6 at the door.
A SoulFire Event.
Contact Nicole Weedman at 952-949-8456 for more information.



New Year's Resolutions Fitness Options

Did you make a New Year's Resolution to get in shape? Well, what are you waiting for? Parks and Recreation offers lots of choices to get you off the couch and into some physical fun!



- The newly renovated fitness center at the Community Center offers great new cardio equipment to add variety to the "same old" routine. The new fitness center also has TVs which makes any workout go more quickly, and a fresh, new atmosphere.
- The Community Center has personal trainers on staff who can set you up with a program to help you reach your specific goals.
- There are seventeen group fitness classes offered each week at the Community Center, which adds great variety to your workout.
- Get your friends together and join a team. Adult Athletics has leagues in volleyball, broomball, softball, bocce and more.
- Drop-in Open Gym time is a great way to get you moving. Adult Basketball is offered on Monday nights and Saturday mornings; and Adult Volleyball is offered on Saturday mornings.
- Adult swimming lessons are offered for the novice to the advanced swimmer.
- Eden Prairie has over 100 miles of walking trails to enjoy year-round. Take a stroll around a lake, or through the woods.
- Our Minnesota 'winter wonderland' provides ice skating, cross-country skiing and sledding opportunities.
- Line Dance or Salsa Dance Lessons are a fun way for all ages to exercise.

No more excuses! For more information contact the Parks and Recreation Department at 952-949-8442.

Winter Family FUN Day

FEATURING...

- Ice Skating
- Sledding
- Horse-drawn Wagon Rides*
- Face Painting*
- Toast Marshmallows by the Fire
- Musical Entertainment by "Blizzard" Bob the Beachcomber
- Snowshoeing - weather permitting *Nominal Fee



FUN FOR THE ENTIRE FAMILY!

Saturday, January 22; 1- 4 p.m.

FREE FAMILY EVENT

Staring Lake Park, 14800 Pioneer Trail

Weather Permitting. Call 952-949-8449 x5

Create a Heritage Photo Album

Saturday, February 5; 9:30 a.m. - Noon
Cummins House, 13600 Pioneer Trail

Learn how to select the proper materials to preserve your photos, proper mounting techniques, journaling tips and ways to enhance your pages. Bring a pack of photos. \$12 fee includes workbook and archival materials to complete your own album page.

Advance registration required.
For more information contact 952-949-8450.

eConnect Registration # 16898

Father & Daughter Sweetheart Dance

Friday,
February 4
7:00 - 9:30 p.m.

Garden Room
at City Center
8080 Mitchell Road

Girls (ages 7 to 12) attend a dinner and dance with dad (or significant male figure, grandfather, stepfather, uncle).
\$25 per person
Registration Deadline: January 28
Contact Nicole Weedman at 952-949-8456 for more information.



eConnect Registration # 16848

Eden Prairie Senior Center VALENTINE'S BREAKFAST

Thursday, February 10
9 - 11 a.m.

Hennepin Technical College
Gourmet Dining Room
9200 Flying Cloud Drive

Enjoy a delicious breakfast with friends.
Eggs Benedict, Waffles, Hash Brown Potatoes, Sausage, Bacon, Fresh Fruit, Sweet Rolls, and Beverages will be served.

\$10 Advance registration required before February 3.
Van transportation available, call 952-949-8475.

eConnect Registration # 16933

The Eden Prairie Players present I Remember Mama

Feb 18 & 19 at 7 p.m.

Feb 25 & 26 at 7 p.m.

Feb 27 at 2 p.m.

This comedy is about a Norwegian family whose central figure is the wise, loving, enduring matriarch who, with her husband, an uncle and three aunts bring to life a tight-knit family that sticks together even in the most dire circumstances.

Eden Prairie High School
Auditorium (north entrance)
17185 Valley View Road

General Seating Tickets before February 14
\$8 or \$6 for seniors/students

At the Door
\$10 or \$8 for seniors/students

Register for tickets using one of the four registration options or call 952-949-8441. Tickets will be at the will call table at the performance.

Groups of ten or more, contact 952-949-8450 before February 14 for special price.

REGISTRATION IS EASY!

There are four easy ways to register:
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.