



# NEWS RELEASE

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July 29, 2019

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## Repurposed building is Town's first recreation space *Open house for 'The 407 Rec Center' set for Aug. 7*

PROSPER (July 29, 2019) When looking up the word "repurpose" in the dictionary, one might someday see a photo of the building at 407 E. First Street in Prosper. The one-story building, situated in the shadow of the Town's old water tower, has recently been repurposed as "The 407 Rec Center."

Serving the recreational needs of Active Adults aged 55 and over, as well as area youth, the building was recently dedicated to its latest purpose, after having some walls removed, receiving a new coat of paint, new flooring, appliances, and cabinetry. While it's the first fully-dedicated facility for Parks and Recreation programming in Town, it's only the storied building's latest repurposing.

It was originally built to serve as the Town's only fire station, staffed by an all-volunteer fire department, until the Central Fire Station was completed in 2004. Following the departure of the firefighting equipment, the building was repurposed, serving as office and meeting space for the Town's Development Services department. The relocation of those employees to Town Hall last year virtually emptied the building, making it available for its latest repurposing. The Town's Parks and Recreation Board seized the opportunity to establish "The 407 Rec Center" at their June meeting.

"We're delighted to begin this new chapter in recreational programming," says Dudley Raymond, Director of Parks and Recreation. "The 407 Rec Center is the first building in town to be used solely for recreational activities. The capability to offer a dedicated space for youth and Active Adults is a culmination of vision and hard work and we look forward to getting started."

To celebrate the opening of the new facility, the public is invited to an open house on Wednesday, Aug. 7, from 2 p.m. to 4 p.m. Refreshments will be served, and staff will be on hand to answer questions.

Two inaugural classes begin in August for Active Adults: Beginner Chair Exercise, and Strength-Core-Balance. Each class focuses on improving strength, balance and conditioning for those age 55 and older. Online registration, along with the monthly calendar of all activities, is available at [www.prosperparksandrec.org](http://www.prosperparksandrec.org). Time slots are also slated for cards and games, including Canasta, 42/Dominoes, and Mahjong. Youth options are coming soon.

A survey is being conducted by the Parks and Recreation Department to gauge the wants, needs and desires of the Prosper Active Adult community. To access the survey online, visit <https://www.prospertx.gov/residents/parks-recreation/programs-sports/>. Paper surveys are available at the Parks and Recreation Administration office, 409 E. First Street. The Town is dedicated to building programs and offering activities that enrich daily life in Prosper and the survey results will provide valuable information into the direction of future programming.

A full listing of the year's recreational activities is posted at [www.prosperparksandrec.org](http://www.prosperparksandrec.org). The latest parks and recreation news can also be found on Facebook by searching for Prosper Parks and Recreation.

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**ABOUT THE TOWN OF PROSPER** – The Town of Prosper is a fast-growing suburb with small town charm, located 30 miles north of Dallas at the crossroads of U.S. 380, Preston Road and the Dallas North Tollway in Collin and Denton Counties. Prosper sits on 27 square miles and is home to more than 25,000 people. A home-rule municipality, governed by a council-manager form of government, the town has full-time fire and police departments, including its own dispatch service. As the Town grows to its projected build-out population of 70,000 residents, Prosper's vision is to remain a "Place Where Everyone Matters."