

MAINSTREAM



Mayor's
Corner



Dear Mesquite Resident,

I want to take this opportunity to invite you to enjoy this year's Real. Texas. Festival.

This is the second year the City has put together this event and, judging by the early interest, I think it will be something you will be coming back to for years to come. We have partnered with the Mesquite Championship Rodeo to put together a bash that brings music, food, fun and is an attraction for the entire region.

This year's festival will also have something different. The City has partnered with the Hispanic Forum of Mesquite to create a multi-cultural experience for festival attendees – complete with Latino music, ethnic foods and a charreada (Mexican rodeo) inside Resistol Arena. There will also be a gunslinger show, a paintball shooting gallery, a car show and barbeque competition.

I know I am looking forward to taking my grandchildren to the festival this year to enjoy the carnival rides, turkey legs and live music set for the three-day event. I am proud this is something we can offer them and you. I hope to see you there.

John Monaco
Mayor

MESQUITE ARTS CENTER

A R T I V I T I E S

The following activities are funded in part by the City of Mesquite hotel-motel occupancy tax revenues. The Mesquite Arts Center is located at 1527 N. Galloway. For updates, check www.mesquiteartscenter.org.

APRIL

- 1 – 5/3** The **Mesquite Arts Council** presents *Japan & India Faces & Places*, an exhibit by Cecelia Feld in the Main Gallery. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. and during performances. 972-216-6444
- 4 – 12** **Mesquite Community Theatre** presents *And Then There Were None* in the Black Box Theatre. Ten people, each with a deadly secret, find themselves trapped on an island where they become the subjects of a cruel game. Tickets range from \$8 to \$12. 972-216-8126
- 5** A reception for artist *Cecelia Feld* will be held in the Main Gallery from 6 to 8 p.m.
- 6** **Texas Area Artists** hosts its monthly meeting at 2 p.m. featuring an artist demonstration. 214-566-8269
- 14** The "Monthly Paint-In" begins at 10 a.m. All artists are invited to bring their projects and share with others. 214-566-8269
- 14** **Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meetings begin at 7 p.m. and feature an artist demonstration. 972-463-6004
- 18** **Art@Lunch** tours the *Dallas Contemporary* in the heart of the urban loft scene in the Wilson Historic District. The tour starts at the Mesquite Arts Center at 11:30 a.m. and includes lunch in the Main Gallery of the Mesquite Arts Center. The cost is \$20. 972-216-6444
- 21 – 23** **Mesquite Community Theatre** holds auditions for *Our Miss Brooks* from 7 - 9 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. 972-216-8126
- 27** **The Chamber Singers** are in concert with *And All Laughter* at 3:15 p.m. Tickets are available at the door for \$5. 972-216-6444

FREQUENTLY CALLED CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Main Number	972-288-7711
Animal Services	972-216-6283
Building Inspection	972-216-6212
Environmental Code	972-216-6276
Parks and Recreation	972-216-6260
Planning and Zoning	972-216-6216
Trash Collection/Recycling	972-216-6284
Street/Alley Repair	972-216-6282
Water Billing	972-216-6208
Water Leaks/Sewer Back-ups	972-216-6278

MESQUITE

T E X A S
Real. Texas. Flavor.



Mainstream is an official publication of the City of Mesquite to inform and advise citizens of municipal activities.

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MAINSTREAM

Real. Texas. Festival.



Approximately 15,000 people attended last spring's City of Mesquite Real. Texas. Festival, presented by Dodge. The event was so successful it left organizers with an obvious question: What do you do for an encore?

The City will respond with year two of the event, which is scheduled for April 25-27, 2008 at Rodeo Center Plaza.

This year's festival will be bigger, longer and will capitalize on what made the festival special in 2007 – carnival fun, the Texas music jam featuring national and regional recording artists, the Mesquite Championship Rodeo and the Mesquite Independent School District Foundation's kick-off gala event on April 24.

Tickets went on sale February 15 and one of the goals of festival organizers was to create an event that provides the best attractions for the buck. A \$5 general admission ticket buys you admission into the festival and all concert areas, the Customs Car show, the Real. Texas. Marketplace, and performances of the Mesquite Championship Rodeo.

The Real. Texas. Festival, presented by Dodge hopes to accomplish two objectives: (1) provide the citizens of Mesquite a family venue, and (2) raise the profile of the City of Mesquite to the surrounding area.

There are three ticket options available at the gate or through the festival Web site. Go to www.realtexasfestival.com to find out more.

MESQUITE
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www.cityofmesquite.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

- APRIL**
- 5** **Trash Bash** – Volunteers needed for Trash Bash litter pickup and beautification events! For more information: www.keepmesquitebeautiful.org or 972-329-8331.
- 7** **City Council Meeting** – All meetings are open to the public and start at 3 p.m. in the council chambers located at 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 12, 26** **Historic Florence Ranch Homestead** is open every second and fourth Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 1424 Barnes Bridge Road. For special tours call 972-613-7547.
- 21** **City Council Meeting** – All meetings are open to the public and start at 3 p.m. in the council chambers located at 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 26** **Opal Lawrence Historical Park's S.D. Lawrence House** is open for tours every fourth Saturday from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. 701 E. Kearney St. 972-216-6468
- 25-27** **Real. Texas. Festival.** event held at the Rodeo Center Plaza. www.realtexasfestival.com

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Family Focus at the Festival

Families are a major part of the Real Texas Festival, presented by Dodge, and festival organizers are building on that strength and focusing efforts to make the festival even more family friendly this year.

To help meet the family friendly goal, the kids-get-in-free promotion has been extended this year. Last year the first day of the festival was kids-get-in-free day; however, the 2008 version will offer kids-get-in-free day every day of the event.

Festival organizers are working with the Mesquite Independent School District to send festival passes home with Mesquite school district students. Passes are also available for Mesquite private school students, home school students and students from surrounding districts.

In addition, festival organizers are pursuing a fully integrated kid korral area. New attractions geared toward children include a chalkapalooza sidewalk chalk drawing exhibition, the regular calf scramble and Muttin Bustin' events inside Resistol Arena as part of the Mesquite Championship Rodeo and the Old West re-enactments by the Brazos River Gunslingers.



R.T.F. Headliners

The Real Texas Festival wouldn't be much without music. That's why show organizers have been hard at work putting together three days of acts for your entertainment.

The most significant addition to this year's lineup is the expansion of the festival to three days. Sunday will be a multi-cultural experience with Tejano and Latino programming appearing on the Dodge Real Texas Music stage. In addition, a charreada will be held inside Resistol Arena on Sunday afternoon. The charreada is a Mexican cultural experience with horsemanship events, pageantry and costuming. The charreada will be mixed in with traditional rodeo contests.

Chris Cagle is the Friday night, April 25, headlining concert. One of his most well known hits is "Wal-Mart Parking Lot," a small-town tale of coming of age. The Kildares and L'Angelus take stage that night with fiddle-driven Zydeco music and New Orleans influenced R&B.

Saturday is the night for Texas natives to perform. Stoney Larue will headline April 26, with his emerging style of music which blends country, blues and soulful rock. He may be best known for his hit "Oklahoma Breakdown". Also on stage Saturday are: Shut Down Town, Keith Anderson, Mark McKinney and Maren Morris.

Sunday the Real Texas Festival mixes Texas tunes with sounds from south of the border featuring a lineup of Tejano music artists. Two-time Grammy winner Little Joe y La Familia



Visit www.cityofmesquite.com

Call For Volunteers

There is a sure fire way to get into the Real Texas Rodeo for free this year - Be a volunteer! Event organizers are seeking volunteers to help out in virtually all areas of the festival. For more information: volunteers@ci.mesquite.tx.us or 972-329-8331.



Familia takes top billing April 27. Little Joe is one of the most popular Tex-Mex bands in the music industry. He has been entertaining for more than 35 years and also helped pioneer "Tejano" music. Little Joe secured his eighth Grammy nomination this year. Roberto Pulido, Los Reyes de Dallas Mariachi Band and Ambixion are also set to perform throughout the day.

Tickets are \$5 dollars at the gate, \$12 dollars for three days of access and \$50 dollars for the VIP treatment. In addition to the music you gain access to the car show, Wild West shootout re-enactments, the Taste of Texas Barbecue Competition and a paintball shooting gallery.

Performance times for the Dodge Real Texas Music stage:

Friday, April 25

5:30 p.m. - L'Angelus
7:30 p.m. - The Killdares
9:30 p.m. - Chris Cagle

Saturday, April 26

2 p.m. - Shut Down Town
3:45 p.m. - Maren Morris
5:30 p.m. - Mark McKinney
7:30 p.m. - Keith Anderson
9:30 p.m. - Stoney Larue

Sunday, April 27

12 p.m. - Ambixion
12:45 p.m. - Los Reyes de Dallas Mariachi Band
2:45 p.m. - Roberto Pulido
4:30 p.m. - Little Joe y La Familia

www.realtexasfestival.com

Getting Around The R.T.F.

This year's Real Texas Festival includes shuttle and three on-site parking areas. Shuttle parking is free and provides you car-to-gate service from Memorial Stadium at 1000 Scyene Rd. \$5 parking is available along Rodeo Dr. and \$10 paved parking is available along Neil Gay Dr. Special parking is also set up for VIP ticket holders along Neil Gay Dr.



Thank You To This Year's Sponsors And Vendors



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96.7 The Texas Twister
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Al Dia
Coca-Cola
The Dallas Observer

Dallas Regional Medical Center and Women's Hospital
Hampton Inn and Suites
Mesquite Arts Council
Mesquite Championship Rodeo
Mesquite Convention and Visitor's Bureau
Mesquite Independent School District
The Mesquite News
Town East Mall

Municipal Election - May 10, 2008

The annual municipal election is scheduled for Saturday, May 10, 2008, to elect a Mayor and Council Members for Places 2, 3, 4 and 5. The terms for the Mayor and Place 2 City Council seat are for one-year periods to fill unexpired terms and will expire in May 2009. The terms for City Council, Places 3, 4 and 5 are for full two-year periods and will expire in May 2010.

Early voting will be held in Mesquite at Dunford Community Center, 1015 Green Canyon, as follows:

- Monday, April 28 through Friday, May 2
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Saturday, May 3
8 a.m. - 5 p.m.
- Sunday, May 4,
1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

- Monday, May 5 and Tuesday, May 6
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Early voting will also be held at the Dallas County Records Building, 509 Main Street, Dallas, Texas, 75202, and at approximately 34 additional branch locations throughout the county.

Applications for ballots by mail should be mailed to Bruce Sherbet, Dallas County Elections Administrator, 2377 N. Stemmons Freeway, Suite 820, Dallas, Texas, 75207, and must be received by Dallas County no later than May 2.

For additional information regarding early voting or Election Day polling locations contact the City Secretary's office at 972-216-6244.

Parks and Recreation Corner

Movie in the Park
Friday, April 4
Feature starts at dusk
Town East Park
2851 Gus Thomasson Rd.



Jurassic Park will be the feature movie for this year's first Movie in the Park event. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs and picnic fixings for the free family outing. Drinks and snacks will be available for purchase. The event is subject to weather conditions.
972-216-6260

Family Campout
Saturday, April 19
6 p.m. - 10 a.m.
Camp Rorie-Galloway
3100 Lawson Road
\$25 per family



Bring your camping gear, pitch your tents and experience a night of fun and relaxation in a low-stress environment. Outdoor games, campfire cooking, songs, storytelling, and s'mores will provide entertainment throughout the evening. Breakfast will be provided Sunday morning.
972-216-7790

Wellness Expo
Friday, April 18
6 - 10 p.m.
Saturday, April 19
8 a.m. - 12 p.m.
Rutherford Recreation Center
900 Rutherford Drive

The Wellness Expo is about adults living a healthy lifestyle through awareness, information, screenings, exercise and recreation. The two-day event offers health providers, information booths and exercise classes including live music and dancing. Health screenings for cholesterol, diabetes, blood pressure and routine blood work will also be available. Tickets are \$5 and are good for both days.
972-216-7791

