



MAINSTREAM

www.cityofmesquite.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

January 2015

- 1** City Holiday, City facilities closed.
- 18** City Holiday, City facilities closed.
- 4, 19** (Tue.) City Council Meetings at City Hall, 7 p.m., 757 N. Galloway Avenue. 972-216-6244.
For information on City services impacted during holidays, please visit www.cityofmesquite.com/holidays.

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

- www.facebook.com/mesquitetexas
- www.pinterest.com/cityofmesquite
- www.instagram.com/cityofmesquite
- www.twitter.com/cityofmesquite
- www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas
- www.nextdoor.com

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City Council launches aggressive street bond repair calendar

Fresh off the heels of the successful \$125 million bond election to repair more than 100 miles of residential streets, the City Council has announced a calendar to keep the community informed. Although the calendar is subject to change, here is a look at the plans:

December 7 Bond Reimbursement Resolution Approval

The City Council will consider a bond reimbursement resolution allowing the City to begin work on the residential street bond project with the intention of reimbursing City funds with bond proceeds once the bonds are issued.

January 4 Project List of Residential Streets Identified

The City Council will finalize the first list of residential streets to be repaired during fiscal year 2016.

January Bids for Street Bond Projects Advertised

Staff will advertise the bids for the first round of streets to be repaired in fiscal year 2016.

February 1 Notice of Intent to Issue Bonds Approval

The City Council will consider the publication of a Notice of Intent to issue the Street Bonds. The first notice will be published on Thursday, February 4, 2016 and the second notice will be published on Thursday, February 11, 2016.

February 16 Bond Rating Meeting

Staff will meet with the bond rating agency to review the status of the City's financial condition and intention to issue bonds. The bond rating agency will deliver their rating for the bonds on Wednesday, March 2, 2016.

February Bids Received and Contracts Awarded

Staff will review and score vendor responses to the advertised bids for the Street Bond project and award contracts. A construction plan will be developed with a timeline for all streets involved.

(continued on page 2.)



Stan Pickett
Mayor



Greg Noschese
Mayor Pro Tem,
Place 5



Bruce Archer
Deputy Mayor Pro
Tem, Place 3



Bill Porter
Councilmember
Place 1



Jeff Casper
Councilmember
Place 2



Shirley Roberts
Councilmember
Place 4



Dennis Tarpley
Councilmember
Place 6



MAYOR'S CORNER

As we enter a new year, I want to promote a few volunteer opportunities the City of Mesquite has to offer its residents.

First, the Council is always seeking interested citizens to apply to serve on one of our 24 boards and commissions. This is a great way to get involved and help plan for the future of our community.

Second, we are looking for more youth groups to participate in our City Council meetings by leading us in the Pledge of Allegiance. This is a wonderful opportunity for organized groups such as clubs and sports teams. Also, we welcome parents who wish to get the "neighborhood kids" together and join us for the unique experience. Our City Council meetings are the first and third Mondays each month and begin at 7 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance is near the beginning of the meeting, so the volunteers would be free to leave the meeting by about 7:15 p.m.

To apply for a board or commission, or to register a youth group to lead the Pledge of Allegiance, please contact the City Secretary's Office at 972-216-6244.

Stan Pickett
Mayor

Street bond repair calendar

(continued from page 1.)

March Construction Work Begins!

Construction will begin on the residential streets identified for repair during fiscal year 2016.

March 17 Bond Sale

Staff will work with the City's Financial Advisor and Bond Underwriters to price and sell the street bonds.

March 21 Authorization to Issue Bonds

The City Council will consider an ordinance authorizing the issuance of the street bonds based on the pricing and sale of the bonds on March 17, 2016.

To get the most updated information on the progress of the Street Bond project, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/streetbond.

Mesquite Animal Services offers tips to pet owners

An important part of pet ownership is establishing a relationship with a full service veterinarian. Although low-cost sterilization and mobile vaccination clinics can be an easy alternative for some pet owners, these services often do not include a regular physical exam to detect possible health issues or address preventative care. If your pet becomes ill or is injured, only a full service vet or animal hospital can provide the necessary care your pet needs. For a complete list of veterinary clinics in the Mesquite area, please visit www.cityofmesquite.com/PetOwnerResources.

Mayra Salcedo named Mesquite's Court Clerk of the Year

As part of Texas Municipal Court Week held in November, the City of Mesquite Municipal Court launched a new award program to annually name a Court Clerk of the Year. The inaugural recipient of the award was Mayra Salcedo. Selected by court clerks, supervisors, prosecutor, and the Municipal Judge, Mayra was recognized for many attributes including her customer service, teamwork and positive attitude.



Red light camera violators could have vehicle registrations withheld

The City of Mesquite will begin working with the Texas Department of Motor Vehicles and the Dallas County Assessor's Office to place a hold on motor vehicle registration renewals for outstanding red light camera violations which are more than 90 days past due, more than \$75 past due and are a registered to a vehicle in the State of Texas. If a person has an unpaid red light camera violation which meets that criteria they should contact Redflex Traffic Systems Inc. to pay the outstanding violation as soon as possible. Redflex's contact information is: Customer Service Call Center 817-5959-5760 or Toll Free Number 877-245-2422, on-line payment service at www.photonotice.com

Mesquite Police Department provides holiday safety tips



The Mesquite Police Crime Prevention Unit offers these safety tips to consider during the holiday season:

Shopping

- Shop with a friend whenever possible.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. A credit card or check will be safer.
- Be extra careful with purses and wallets. Carry your purse tightly under your arm and do not leave it unattended even for a minute. Waist packs (fanny packs) are better than purses because they are harder to get off.

Home

- Do not display gifts where they may be seen through a window or doorway.
- Lock doors and windows when you go out - even for a few minutes.
- After the presents have been opened, fold up the boxes not needed for storage and put them in a trash bag where they cannot be seen. If others do not know what presents have been given by looking in your trash, they will not be tempted to burglarize your home.

Vacation

- If you go away, have a neighbor watch your home and pick up newspapers and mail.
- Get an automatic timer for your interior and exterior lights. Lighting is the best deterrent to nighttime crime.
- Play an all talk radio station to make it appear that someone is at home.
- Have a neighbor place trash in your trashcans or park their vehicles in your driveway while you are gone to make it appear that there is someone home.

Holiday Grease Roundup

A reminder from the City of Mesquite Water Conservation Office to not pour your holiday cooking grease down the drain. Instead, recycle it for free at one of the following locations: Dallas County Home Chemical Collection Center, 11234 Plano, Road, Dallas, TX 75243 or Eastfield College (only from Nov. 30-Dec. 11) at the southeast corner of W2 parking lot, 3737 Motely Drive, Mesquite, TX 75150. For more information, call the Water Conservation Office at 972-329-8300.

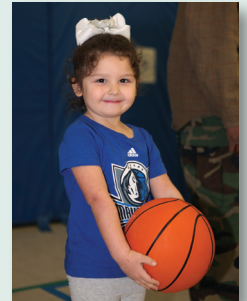


Parks and Recreation Corner

For more information on any of these programs, please call 972-216-6260 or visit www.cityofmesquite.com/pard.

Silver Stompers: Adults 50+ have fun and dance with the Silver Stompers on Thursdays from 12:30 - 2 p.m. at Evans Senior Center. This fun filled day will give you the opportunity to learn and perform at various events.

Little Rookies Basketball: Registration for Little Rookies Basketball, an instructional program to teach your children ages 3 - 4 the basics of Basketball, is from December 7 - January 9. The program will begin on January 9 at Dunford Recreation Center. Three sessions are available 9, 10 or 11 a.m. The fee is \$35 per player and parent participation is required.



Adult Co-ed Volleyball, Basketball, Dodgeball: Registration for Adults Co-ed Volleyball, Basketball and Dodgeball runs from January 11 - 24. Volleyball games will begin Tuesday, February 2. The fee is \$260 per team. Basketball games will begin Sunday, February 7. The fee is \$400 per team. Dodgeball games will begin Sunday, February 7. The fee is \$180 per team. For those who do not have team, free agent registration is available at: www.TeamSideLine.com/mesquite

Introduction to Archery: Calling all kids ages 6 - 15. Learn Archery for free at Westlake Sports Center Saturday, January 9 from 1 - 2 p.m. A certified instructor will teach target archery, safety, rules and proper form of a re-curve and compound bow. No prior experience is needed. All equipment is provided.

Bow Hunting: Learn bow hunting techniques including how to build your shot, clearing a shooting lane, and other information at Westlake Sports Center Saturday, January 16 from 9 a.m. to noon. The class is for children ages 8 - 16 and is \$10 per person.

Tennis FREE Play Days: Join us Saturday, January 9 from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. for Tennis Free Play Days, in instructional program teaching the basics of tennis to kids ages ten and under at Westlake Sports Center.



All Day RASP (Dunford and Rutherford Recreation Centers): Monday, January 18 from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. an All-Day Recreation After School Program is available during the MISD school closure for all elementary students at Dunford and Rutherford Recreation



Centers. The fee is \$16 per child. Payment is due Thursday, January 14 or a \$10 late fee is applied. Participants must bring a water bottle and sack lunch.

Mesquite Arts Center Activities

The Mesquite Arts Center is located at 1527 N. Galloway.

For details on events, programs and facility reservations, call 972-216-6444 or visit www.mesquiteartscenter.org

Valise, January 8, 8 p.m., Mesquite Arts Center Black Box

Theater: Valise, an upcoming indie-rock band from Mesquite, is certainly a band to look out for. Their first EP, "Dreamcatcher," was featured on Spotify's New Music Tuesday playlist.



Tatiana Mayfield, January 29, 7 p.m., Mesquite Arts Center Black Box Theater: Refreshing and beautiful are how many have described the voice and persona of Tatiana "LadyMay" Mayfield, a jazz vocalist, musician and educator from Fort Worth, Texas.

Mesquite Arts Council's: Just For Kids features "Imperial Brass: Brass Around The World," January 23 at 10 a.m., Mesquite Arts Center Black Box Theater: Brass Around The World teaches students about the International Language of Music. This is a FREE program.



Talking Turf with Travis

Here are landscaping tips from Travis E. Sales, the City's Manager of Park Services and Municipal Arborist. If you have questions or concerns about your landscape, please feel free to contact Travis at tsales@cityofmesquite.com or check out more tips at www.cityofmesquite.com/travis..

Question: Is proper pruning the key to a healthy tree?

Answer: First and most importantly at no time should a tree ever be topped for any reason, including Crape Myrtles. If a tree needs to be topped, then it needs to be cut down completely. A simple acronym to help you remember the reasons why you should ever need to trim a tree is "DUCFOOT." That stands for: D- dead or diseased wood, U- uprights, C- crossing branches, F- forks, OO-over the other, T- thinning. Trees should primarily be pruned during the dormant season when all leaves have dropped off the trees, unless there is a hazardous situation that needs to be resolved immediately. The only exception is the Oak species which should only be trimmed during November through January. February through June is off-limits to pruning this species because of the potential spread of Oak Wilt through a beetle that is active during this time period. Tree pruning paints are no longer recommended unless you are trimming the Oak species to help prevent the potential spread of Oak Wilt.



Community Snapshots



On October 27, Mayor Stan Pickett presented a proclamation to recognize Alpha Delta Kappa Month in recognition of the international honorary organization for women educators.



On November 6, in celebration of Arbor Day and Mesquite's 25th year as a Tree City USA participant, the City of Mesquite gave trees to local residents during a ceremony at Hanby Elementary.



As part of Municipal Court Week November 2 - 6, Mesquite Municipal Judge Steve Crane was a guest on KEOM's "On the Job" segment. To listen to the interview and other City employees who have been featured, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/OnTheJob.