



MAINSTREAM

www.cityofmesquite.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

May 2016

- 2, 16** City Council meetings at City Hall, 7 p.m., 757 N. Galloway Ave. 972-216-6244.
- 7** Texas Smartscape Plant Sale at Ron's Organics, 1820 S. Beltline Rd., in partnership with the Water Conservation Office. Discounts available on select varieties of low-water use plants. Call 972-329-8300 for more information.
- 16** The Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Dr., is starting a new Book Club for Teens. First meeting to be held at 4:30 p.m. in the meeting room at the Main Library. "Paper Towns" by John Green will be discussed.
- 21** A Local Author's Fair will be held, 2 - 4 p.m., at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Dr. Local authors interested in promoting their work must submit an application for consideration to the Main Library by 6 p.m., April 30. Call 972-216-6220 for more details.
- 26** Native and Adaptive Plants Workshop offered by the Water Conservation Office, 6 - 7:30 p.m., Mesquite City Hall training room, 767 N. Galloway Ave. Register online at www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities or call 972-329-8300.
- 28** Teen Lego Club begins at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Dr., at 3 p.m. A different theme or challenge will be featured each month. Open to youth ages 11 - 18. Call 972-216-6220 for more details.

For information on City services impacted during holidays, please visit www.cityofmesquite.com/holidays.

Municipal Election to be held May 7

The annual Municipal Election is scheduled for Saturday, May 7, 2016, to elect Councilmembers for Places 3, 4 and 5. Early voting will be conducted in Mesquite at Lakeside Activity Center, 101 Holley Park Dr., as follows:

Monday, April 25 - Friday, April 29, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Saturday, April 30, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Sunday, May 1, from 1 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Monday, May 2 - Tuesday, May 3, from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Dallas County registered voters on Election Day can vote only at their precinct polling location from 7 a.m. - 7 p.m. Voters can find their precinct polling location at www.dallascountyvotes.org under Election Day Information.

On Election Day after 7 p.m., results can be accessed on Dallas County Election Department's website at www.dallascountyvotes.org and on the city's website at www.cityofmesquite.com.



 www.facebook.com/mesquitetexas

 www.pinterest.com/cityofmesquite

 www.instagram.com/cityofmesquite

 www.twitter.com/cityofmesquite

 www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas

 www.nextdoor.com



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

Spring has always been a time of growth and prosperity, and I am excited to report our city is experiencing similar changes. Repairs to the first 26 residential streets selected in the Real. Texas. Roads. program are underway. Status updates will continuously be provided online at www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads and in the Mainstream until repairs to all 100 miles of Grade 4 residential streets have been completed.

The Helping Others in Mesquite Everyday (HOME) program is also off to a great start with the inaugural project completed last month. Over 60-feet of fencing was removed and replaced for a homeowner with a significant hardship thanks to community donations and the hard work of several off-duty firefighters. More projects will follow soon!

Enhancements and progress is being made at the Animal Shelter as well. The shelter's live outcome rate has steadily risen from 66 percent in 2014 to 77 percent year-to-date, and we expect this percentage to rise with the new feral cat holding room and upcoming Trap-Neuter-Return pilot program.

Stan Pickett
Mayor

Mesquite Police Officers get body-worn cameras

Beginning September 1, 2016, the State of Texas requires all peace officers in enforcement assignments to wear body-worn cameras. The Mesquite Police Department, however, began investigating the use of body-worn cameras long before the passing of this law. These cameras are already in the field and being tested. Body-worn cameras provide better evidence documentation and increase transparency.

The program was funded by seized drug money at a cost of approximately \$500,000. No taxpayer dollars were used. Costs included City Hall infrastructure modifications, the purchase of primary and backup servers for storage, body-worn cameras and related equipment.



Mesquite Recycles Day

Keep Mesquite Beautiful and the City of Mesquite present "Mesquite Recycles Day," on Saturday, May 14, 8 a.m. - noon in the front parking lot of Potteet High School, 3300 Potteet Dr. Vehicles should enter the event through the front entrance on Galloway Ave. For a complete list of items accepted, go to www.cityofmesquite.com/MesquiteRecyclesDay.

Talkin' Turf with Travis

Here are landscaping tips from Travis E. Sales, the City's Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation and Municipal Arborist. If you have questions or concerns about your landscape, please contact Travis at tsales@cityofmesquite.com or go to www.cityofmesquite.com/Travis for more tips.

Rose Rosette Disease

Rose rosette is a relatively new disease to North Texas that is spreading profusely. This disease, also called "witch's broom" because of the spindly appearance it leaves behind, is a virus carried and spread by the eriophyid mite. Grafting and pruning can also spread the disease. Infected roses can be identified by excessive thorns, crinkled leaves, and deformed buds with multiple red-hued shoots.

Unfortunately, there is no cure for rose rosette, but you can take steps to help prevent it from spreading. First, apply a select insecticide to eliminate populations of the eriophyid mite. Then cut the infected plants back to 12 inches above ground. When the plants begin to generate new growth, you will know if the virus has migrated to the root system by the amount of thorns at the buds. If excessive thorns persist, the entire plant should be removed including the root system.





Meander actors tell it like it was

Historic Mesquite, Inc.'s (HMI) sixth annual Mesquite Meander will be held Friday, May 13, and Saturday, May 14. Local actors from the Mesquite Community Theater tell the city's history from the pioneers' perspectives, portraying those who moved to the fledgling township and were laid to rest in Mesquite Cemetery.

Tickets are \$10 each and available during business hours at the HMI office, 711 E. Kearney St.; by phone at 972-216-6468; by mail at P.O. Box 850137, Mesquite 75185-1037; or at the gate while supplies last. Call 972-216-6468 for more information.

How to remove a Vehicle Registration Hold for a red light camera violation

Registered motor vehicle owners with outstanding red light camera violations from Mesquite, Texas that are over 90 days past due will not be able to renew their motor vehicle registration until the outstanding violations and related fees are paid in full (*Texas Transportation Code, Section 701.017*). To obtain a proof of payment document to remove the hold, present your notice of violation, violation number, or license plate number along with full payment online, in person, or by mail. Instructions for each payment option are as follows:

- Online, go to www.photonotice.com and enter city code: MSQTTX. Credit card (Visa or MasterCard) payments only.
- In Person, go to Redflex Traffic Systems, 1200 Commerce St., Ste 117, Plano, TX, 75093, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Personal check, money order, credit cards (Visa or MasterCard) accepted. Make check or money order payable to "Mesquite Photo Enforcement Program."
- By mail, send to Mesquite Photo Enforcement Customer Service Center, PO Box 76940, Cleveland, OH, 44101. Personal check or money order only. Make check or money order payable to "Mesquite Photo Enforcement Program."

For more information, contact the Customer Service Call Center at 972-422-7900 or call toll free at 877-245-2422, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. CST.

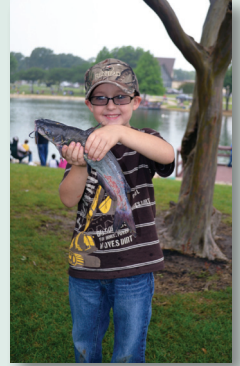


Parks and Recreation Corner

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

KidFish

Grab your fishing poles and join us for Kidfish, Saturday, May 14, 8 a.m. - noon at City Lake Park, 403 S. Galloway Ave. This is a free tournament for children 16 and under.



Movies in the Park

Join us for The Good Dinosaur a free Movie in the Park event, Friday, May 20. Pre-show activities begin at 7 p.m. The movie begins at dusk in City Lake Park, 403 S. Galloway Ave.

Tails on Trails

Tails will wag at Tails on Trails Saturday, May 21, 9 - 11 a.m. at Valley Creek Park, 2482 Pioneer Rd. The event will include a walk, agility course and more. This is a free dog-friendly event.

Swim Lessons

Pre-registration for swim lessons is April 30 from 9 a.m. - noon at Town East Pool.

Registration begins May 2. Swim sessions run from June 6 to July 30. Fees are \$50 per session for weekday lessons or \$35 per session for weekend lessons.

Marlins Swim Team

Registration "try-out" for the Mesquite Marlins Swim Team is Saturday, April 30 from 9 a.m. - noon at Town East Pool. Team fee is \$140 per swimmer.



Bow Hunting

Learn bow hunting techniques on Saturday, April 30, 9 a.m. - noon. Class open to all ages. Children ages 8 years and younger require adult participation. The fee is \$10 per person.

Adults 50+ Kayaking

Adults 50+ meet at Camp Rorie Galloway on Friday, May 13 at 10 a.m. to kayak in the lake. A hot dog lunch will be provided. Sign up by May 10 at Rutherford Senior Center, 900 Rutherford Dr. The fee is \$5 per person.

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

The **Mesquite Community Band** will host a free concert on Saturday, May 7 at 4 p.m. For more details, go to www.MesquiteCommunityBand.com.

The **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** celebrates the rodeo in concert on Saturday, May 7, 7:30 - 9 p.m., in the Concert Hall. Tickets may be purchased at www.mesquitesymphony.org or at the door.



Mesquite celebrates new CASA weather radar installation

Mesquite is the newest location in North Central Texas to add a state-of-the-art weather radar to help detect tornadoes and severe weather. The new radar is located at the Mesquite Metro Airport, 1340 Airport Boulevard, and will provide lifesaving data earlier and more accurately than radars currently in use. Installation of the radar was made possible by the combined contributions of the cities of Garland and Mesquite, MUTI Towers, Future TeleCom, and Town East Heating & Air.

The Collaborative Adapting Sensing of the Atmosphere (CASA) radar in Mesquite is the seventh radar to be added to the region's existing six-radar network. CASA radars improve resolution, sensitivity, accuracy and timeliness by operating at a short range and scanning the lower atmosphere. CASA "smart scan technology" also transmits data every minute instead of every five minutes like other systems. For more details, contact the Office of Emergency Management at 972-329-8377.

City no longer charging E-check fees

The City of Mesquite no longer charges fees related to electronic payments made by check (E-check). The minimum fee for credit card payments has been reduced to \$1.00. For your information, a revised "Bill Payment Options and Related Fees" schedule can be found at www.cityofmesquite.com/PaymentOptionFees. Refunds have been processed for all E-check fees paid since inception in late January.

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
Main Library	972-216-6220
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

Main Library offers new Saturday computer classes

The Mesquite Main Library now offers free Saturday morning computer classes the first Saturday of each month from 9 - 11 a.m. The current schedule of classes is as follows:

- Saturday, May 7 - Computer Basics
- Saturday, June 4 - Microsoft Word 2013
- Saturday, July 2 - Email for Beginners
- Saturday, August 6 - Microsoft Excel 2013

There is no registration required and seats are offered on a first-come, first-serve basis. For more information, call the Main Library at 972-216-6220.

Community Snapshots



On March 2, the Mesquite Police Department, the Mesquite Fire Department and Mayor Stan Pickett participated in the "National Read Across America" activities at Cannaday Elementary School.



On March 7, new Police Chief Charles Cato took his oath of office during a special ceremony.



On March 8, Mayor Pro-Tem Greg Noschese participated in the "National Pancake Day" ceremonies at the Mesquite IHOP to help raise funds for their charity of choice, the Shriners Hospitals for Children.