



# MAINSTREAM

[www.cityofmesquite.com](http://www.cityofmesquite.com)

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

2, 16

### December 2013

**City Council Meeting**, 3 p.m.,  
Council Chambers, 757 N. Galloway,  
972-216-6244

### 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 Christmas in the Park set for December 5 - 7

The City of Mesquite Parks and Recreation Department is proud to announce the 27th Annual Christmas in the Park. The event will be held Thursday, Friday and Saturday (December 5 - 7) at Westlake Park, located at 600 Gross Road. Kick-off festivities take place at 6 p.m. on Thursday, highlighted by the tree lighting ceremony and the arrival of Santa Claus, and conclude at 9 p.m. Friday and Saturday hours are 6 - 10 p.m.

The park will be filled with festive lights, holiday cheer and fun for all ages. Some of the free or low-cost events will include music and dance groups on the main stage, food vendors, a live nativity scene, hayrides, hot drinks, Mrs. Claus' cookies, letters to Santa, a Yule log and much more. There will also be costumed holiday characters greeting the crowd. And no Christmas celebration is complete without Santa Claus, who will make his appearance each evening of the event. Pictures with Santa are also available for a small fee. All activities are outside, so dress accordingly and don't forget your camera!

[www.facebook.com/mesquitetexas](http://www.facebook.com/mesquitetexas)

[www.twitter.com/cityofmesquite](http://www.twitter.com/cityofmesquite)

[www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas](http://www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas)

[www.pinterest.com/cityofmesquite](http://www.pinterest.com/cityofmesquite)



Christmas in the Park will be December 5 - 7.

### In this Issue

- Mayor's Column
- Did You Know?
- Community Snapshots



John Monaco  
Mayor



Shirley Roberts  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Place 4



Al Forsythe  
Deputy Mayor Pro  
Tem, Place 2



Bill Porter  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Stan Pickett  
Councilmember  
Place 3



Greg Noschese  
Councilmember  
Place 5



Dennis Tarpley  
Councilmember  
Place 6



## MAYOR'S CORNER

In October, the City of Mesquite hosted its 9<sup>th</sup> annual Addressing Mesquite Day. This year the one-day community service project brought together more than 800 volunteers who worked on 72 homes of residents in need. These volunteers performed minor home repairs, landscaping and other improvement projects. The majority of these volunteers come from our local churches. However, there are many civic clubs and corporations that also provided volunteers and funding. I wanted to take a moment to thank everyone who pitched in this year. In the nine years of this program we have had more than 5,000 volunteers work on more than 500 homes in this community. The success of this program reminds me of a quote by the founder of McDonald's Ray Kroc who famously said, "None of us are as good as all of us."

*John Monaco*  
John Monaco, Mayor



## Library hosts holiday programs

Children will have the opportunity to showcase their creativity at several programs being held at the Mesquite Public Library System during December.

- December 6  
4:30 p.m. - Main Library  
Decorate Christmas cards for soldiers
- December 13  
4:30 p.m. - Main Library  
Winter craft
- December 19  
4 p.m. - North Branch  
Christmas craft
- December 19  
4:30 p.m. - Main Library  
Come build with Legos at Library!
- December 27  
4:30 p.m. - Main Library  
Kwanzaa craft



Library will host special programs in December.

Special Christmas storytimes are also scheduled December 10 - 12. Please check the events calendar at [www.cityofmesquite.com/library](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/library) for the age appropriate storytimes and for other activities throughout the year.

## Mesquite announces new Stage 3 water restrictions

At the request of the North Texas Municipal Water District, new Stage 3 watering restrictions are being implemented due to the critical water shortage. From November 1 to March 31, lawn and landscape watering is only allowed twice monthly based on customer's address as follows:

Addresses Ending in	Day of Week	Week of Month (Nov-March)
0 or 1	Monday	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>
2 or 3	Tuesday	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup>
4 or 5	Wednesday	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>
6 or 7	Thursday	2 <sup>nd</sup> and 4 <sup>th</sup>
8 or 9	Friday	1 <sup>st</sup> and 3 <sup>rd</sup>

Additional restrictions include:

- Swimming pools may not be drained and refilled without a variance.
- Overseeding with cool season grasses, hydroseeding, hydromulching or sprigging is prohibited.

During winter months outdoor watering is usually not necessary. The Mesquite area normally receives adequate precipitation for landscapes in the winter. It is best to keep automatic irrigation controllers in the off position and operate them in the manual mode only on days permitted under the new restrictions. Do not water during rain or freeze events. For a complete list of Stage 3 restrictions, email [stage3@cityofmesquite.com](mailto:stage3@cityofmesquite.com) or visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities).

# Community Snapshots



City employees have teamed up to host various events which have raised more than \$6,500 this fall as part of the United Way Kick-off Campaign.



The City's Parks and Recreation Department hosted the annual Pumpkinfest at City Lake Park.



The City of Mesquite and Town East Mall recently celebrated the new marquee sign at the mall.

The City of Mesquite, Dallas County and the City of Balch Springs partnered to make major improvements to Pioneer Road.



City Solid Waste employees Todd Sanders and Cameron Price were presented a special commendation by City Manager Ted Barron for assisting the Mesquite Police Department in solving a residential burglary.



## Parks and Recreation Corner

For more information on any of these programs, please call 972-216-6260 or visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/pard](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/pard).

### Drop and Shop

Need some time to get your holiday shopping done? Drop the kids off with us for some holiday fun! Participants will enjoy holiday crafts and fun games and activities. Please pack a sack lunch or dinner.

#### Dunford Recreation Center

Friday, December 13

6 - 9 p.m.

\$10 per child

Saturday, December 21

11 a.m. - 2 pm

\$10 per child

### Beasley Family Karate

The program is designed to provide physical fitness, self-defense, discipline and effective martial arts training. It is also structured so that the whole family can participate at the same time. When one family member joins, the next member can join half price.

#### Dunford Recreation Center

Mondays

\$30 a month

7 - 9 p.m.

December 2 - 23

## Mesquite Arts Center Activities

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](http://www.mesquiteartscenter.org), or call 972-216-6444.



The Mesquite Symphonic Band will be in concert December 7.

### December

- 7-15 **Mesquite Arts Council** presents "*Greetings.*" Performances are December 7 (7 p.m.), 8 (1 p.m.), 13 (1 p.m. and 7 p.m.), 14 (7 p.m.) and 15 (1 p.m.) For tickets call 972-216-6444.
- 7 **Mesquite Symphonic Band** is in concert with "*A Night of Christmas Cheer.*" 7 p.m. 972-216-8125.
- 9 **Monthly Paint-In** 10 a.m. All artists are invited to bring their projects and share successes with others. 214-566-8269.
- 21 **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** is in concert with "*Music of the Season.*" For tickets call 972-216-8127 or visit [www.mesquitesymphony.org](http://www.mesquitesymphony.org).

## Did You Know?

*This is a monthly section to give readers a brief insight into the City's operations, services and programs.*

Did you know that the City of Mesquite has houses for sale? As an entitlement community, the City was awarded \$2 million in Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP) funding under the Housing and Economic Recovery Act of 2008. These funds have helped with the purchase and rehabilitation of foreclosed upon and vacant single-family homes within designated NSP target neighborhoods and surrounding areas: Casa View Heights, Truman Heights, Mesquite Park, Sherwood Forest and areas of Creek Crossing. Since the NSP program started, the City's Community Services Department has rehabbed and sold 12 homes. Currently, one home is under contract and there are eight homes remaining that are to be rehabbed in the next few months. All profits made from the home sales are used to rehab the next home. Eligible homebuyers must meet certain income requirements and the City can provide a homebuyer assistance loan of up to 6% of the sale price that can be forgiven after five years. For more information, please contact Manager of Housing JoAnn Rodriguez at 972-329-8350 or at [jrodrigu@cityofmesquite.com](mailto:jrodrigu@cityofmesquite.com).



Mesquite's NSP has been a great success.