



MAINSTREAM

www.cityofmesquite.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 2016

- 5** Labor Day. All City offices and facilities closed.
- 6, 19** City Council meetings at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Avenue. 972-216-6244.
- 10, 24** Mesquite Marketplace, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 150 W. Main Street.
- 11** Mesquite Freedom Park dedication at 3 p.m., 1527 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 17** Mesquite Trash Bash at 9 a.m. at City Lake Aquatic Center, 200 Parkview Street.

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
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

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Mesquite supports new safety program for students on school buses

There is an average of six school bus violations each day for every 10 buses on the road in Texas. Nationally, more than 400 children have been killed by drivers passing a stopped school bus during the past four decades according to the Institute for Transportation Research and Education. Beginning on Monday, August 22, the City of Mesquite will partner with the Mesquite Independent School District to begin a new program called “Stop on Red. Kids Ahead.”



The program establishes a civil penalty of \$300 for the offense of motorists passing a school bus that has come to a complete stop and has extended its stop arm. The stop arms will be equipped with a camera to detect violations. A Mesquite Police Officer will review each video to confirm the violation did occur. Here is a summary of the “Stop on Red. Kids Ahead” program:

- The program will feature high-resolution cameras that are installed at key locations on the exterior of the school bus.
- When a school bus extends its stop arm, the system will automatically detect if a vehicle passes the stopped school bus within the enforced zone.
- If a vehicle passes the school bus, the cameras capture images and video showing the violating vehicle.
- The images include not only the violating vehicle as it passes the school bus, but also the vehicle’s license plate and the extended stop arm of the school bus. The system also records a video of the violating vehicle as further evidence of the violation.
- Violation data and images are wirelessly uploaded for validation, processing and notice issuance by the vendor, American Traffic Solutions, Inc.

A final review of the violation image and video is conducted by the Mesquite Police Department, which then will approve or reject the violation.



Stan Pickett
Mayor



Bruce Archer
Mayor Pro Tem
Place 3



Jeff Casper
Deputy Mayor Pro
Tem, Place 2



Bill Porter
Councilmember
Place 1



Dan Aleman
Councilmember
Place 4



Greg Noschese
Councilmember
Place 5



Dennis Tarpley
Councilmember
Place 6



MAYOR'S CORNER

Last month, the City of Mesquite announced it earned the prestigious Playful City USA designation for the fourth consecutive year. The national recognition program honors cities and towns across the country for making their communities more playable. Mesquite was recognized for creating innovative ways to engage citizens through various activities. These include our Recreation After School Program (RASP), Mesquite Heritage Trail, our adult 50+ activities and the variety of special events planned throughout the year.

I encourage all citizens to take advantage of the many programs offered that help make Mesquite a great place to live. To watch a video and learn more about Mesquite's Playful City USA designation, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/PlayfulCity.

Stan Pickett
Mayor

Contact Us

Do you have a question or concern the City of Mesquite can address? Contact us! Submit your request at your convenience by using our online citizen request form at www.cityofmesquite.com/CitizenRequest. Your request will be sent to the appropriate department, ensuring you receive assistance as quickly as possible.

The 4 D's of mosquito defense

Prevention is the best defense against West Nile and other mosquito-borne viruses. Remember the four D's when enjoying the outdoors this summer.

- Dusk/dawn are the times of day to stay indoors when infected mosquitoes are the most active.
- Dress in long sleeves and pants when outside.
- DEET is an ingredient to look for in insect repellent. Follow label instructions and always wear repellent when outdoors.
- Drain outside standing water so it does not become a mosquito breeding site.



Visit www.cityofmesquite.com/MosquitoControl for more information on mosquito control and the City of Mesquite's Integrated Mosquito Management Plan.

Real. Texas. Roads. update

Repairs to the first set of residential streets selected for the Real. Texas. Roads. program continue with many streets nearing their final phase of repairs. At the time of the Mainstream's publication, the following streets were in the first phase of repairs, pavement lifting: Richard Street, Diane Drive, Royal Crest Drive, Crestridge Drive, Tam O Shanter Drive, Strayhorn Drive, Demaret Drive, Antilles Drive, Caracus Drive, Sandra Lynn Drive, Sarazen Drive, Rosemont Street, Highland Street and Valley View Street. Streets in the second phase of repairs, localized concrete repair, included: Juanita Street, Crest Park Drive, Hillcrest Street and Belmont Street. Barbara Street, Andrew Street, Northridge Drive, Kiamesha Way, Nabholtz Lane, Hogan Drive and Caribbean Drive were in the third phase of repairs, which is surface reconstruction.

More information and an Interactive Road Map providing real-time status updates of those streets being repaired are available at www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads.



Taste and Trade set for September 27

The Mesquite Chamber of Commerce will host Taste and Trade on Tuesday, September 27 from 4 - 8 p.m. The family-friendly event will be held at the Mesquite Convention and Exhibit Hall, 1750 Rodeo Drive. This year's theme is "Deep in the Heart of Texas," celebrating our great state. Local businesses and restaurants will offer door prizes, food samples, information and more! For more information, visit www.mesquitechamber.com.



Mesquite Trash and Recycling App

Never forget your collection day again! Download the Mesquite Trash and Recycling app to your smartphone and receive collection reminders, service updates and waste/recycling tips. Visit www.cityofmesquite.com/SolidWaste and download the free app today.

Historic Mesquite, Inc. to host Treasures Barn Sale

Historic Mesquite, Inc. (HMI) is now accepting items for its annual Treasures Barn Sale to be held October 14 - 15 at Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 711 E. Kearney Street. Tax receipts are available. A preview party and barn bash will also be held this year on Thursday, October 13 in celebration of the organization's 20th birthday. Preview party tickets go on sale September 12. For more information or to donate an item, call the HMI office at 972-216-6468 for drop off days and times.



Parks and Recreation Corner

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

Recreation After School Program (RASP)

RASP is an after school program for children in grades kindergarten through sixth grade. The program operates in conjunction with the Mesquite Independent School District calendar. RASP runs Monday - Friday, 3 - 6 p.m. and is available at Achziger, Beasley, Florence, McKenzie, Rutherford, Shaw and Thompson Elementary Schools. The fee is \$90 per month, and includes supervised activities, arts and crafts, snacks and homework time. Boy Scouts of America is also being offered during RASP and at three locations: Dunford, Rutherford and Florence Recreation Centers. The fee to join is \$24 a year.

Archery

Kids ages 6 - 15 can learn archery for free with certified instructors on Saturday, September 3 from 9 - 10 a.m. at Westlake Sports Center, 601 Gross Road. No prior experience necessary. All equipment is provided.



Aqua Zumba

Aqua Zumba is a low-impact, high-energy aquatic exercise class held on Saturdays from 9 - 10 a.m. at Town East Pool, 2525 John Glenn Parkway, September 10 - October 1. The fee is \$20 per month or a \$5 drop-in rate is available.

Tennis Free Play Days



Join us for Tennis Free Play Days for children ages 10 and under Saturday, September 10, from 10 - 11 a.m. This is a free instructional program teaching the basics of tennis at Westlake Sports Center, 601 Gross Road.

Adults 50+

Mesquite has three active Adult 50+ centers. Some highlights for this month are making fall floral arrangements on September 19. Taking a shopping trip to Bishop Arts District on September 12 or going to Camp Rorie-Galloway to zip line on September 28. All trips have sign-up dates so check your Fun Guides for all the details at www.cityofmesquite.com/FunGuide.

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

Cordelia Bailey Art Exhibit, September 1 – 30, in the
Art Gallery. Free Admission.

The **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** performs at 7:30
p.m. on Saturday, September 17, in the Concert Hall.
More information at www.mesquitesymphony.org.

Lunch cards to be issued for MISD 2016 - 17 school year

Starting with the 2016 - 2017 school year, the Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) Food and Nutrition Department will begin implementing the use of bar code scanners and cafeteria ID cards for better record keeping and faster check-out times in the cafeterias. All students will be required to use these cards for check-out.

Students will receive their first card, similar in appearance to a credit card, with their name, school, grade, and bar code free of charge. If a replacement is necessary, they are entitled to three additional cards per school year at no charge. Any additional replacement cards will cost \$2.00 each. Replacement cards may be purchased at the student's campus cafeteria.

Keep Mesquite Beautiful to host Trash Bash on September 17

Keep Mesquite Beautiful, Inc. (KMB) will host the semi-annual Mesquite Trash Bash on Saturday, September 17. The event is part of the Don't Mess with Texas Trash-off and the Great American Clean-up. Each year, 4 million volunteers across the nation pick up litter from roads, parks and public areas. Volunteer groups are encouraged to register for the Trash Bash

at www.keepmesquitebeautiful.org. Groups can be assigned to a location of their choosing or to an area designated by KMB. Volunteers will receive a free lunch and Trash Bash t-shirt while supplies last. Early registration is recommended. For more details, call the KMB office at 972-329-8331.



Community Snapshots



At the June 6 City Council meeting, Police Officer Johnny Nance (pictured with Mayor Stan Pickett and City Manager Cliff Keheley) was one of several employees honored as Real. Texas. Service. Champions.



On June 30, City Engineer Matt Holzapfel discussed preliminary plans for the reconstruction of Gus Thomasson Road with citizens at a public meeting. Visit www.cityofmesquite.com/GTRoad.



On July 14, campers at Camp Rorie-Galloway hosted our weekly video news program called the Mesquite Minute.