



# MAINSTREAM

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### November 2018

- 5, 19** City Council meetings at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. 972-216-6244.
- 10** Mesquite Recycles Day, 8 a.m. - noon, at Poteet High School, 3300 Poteet Drive. Proof of residency required. Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay).
- 10** Harvest Festival Barn Dance, 6 - 8:30 p.m., at the Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 711 E. Kearney Street. 972-216-8132.
- 10** Veterans Day Memorial Service, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m., at City Lake Park, 200 Parkview St. 972-216-6260.
- 10** 2018 Amazing Santacolor 5K, 7 - 10:30 a.m., Town East Mall. 972-882-7513.
- 10, 24** The Marketplace in Mesquite, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., Downtown Mesquite, 150 W. Main Street. 469-275-9616.
- 22, 23** Thanksgiving holiday. All City offices and facilities closed. No trash or recycling collected on November 22. No recycling collected on November 23, but trash will be collected. Collection will occur on residents' next scheduled collection day.  
  
For details on City services impacted during holidays, please visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/Holidays](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Holidays).  
To learn about the different ways to stay informed on city news, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/StayInformed](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/StayInformed).

## City adopts 2018-2019 budget and property tax rate

The Mesquite City Council approved the City's 2018-2019 fiscal year budget on September 4 and property tax rate on September 17. The property tax rate was increased from \$0.684 to \$0.734 per \$100 in property valuation. The rate increase is necessary to finance the second half of the Residential Street Bond program, known as Real. Texas. Roads., approved by voters in November 2015.

The City has not increased the property tax rate for maintenance and operation for ten years. Of the \$7,472,000 in new property tax revenue, \$3,499,645 will be used to pay debt service from the residential street bond program. Payment of this debt will ensure the City can issue future bonds to complete the \$125 million bond authorization program.

The remaining additional revenue will help fund new public safety positions in both Police and Fire services, enhanced street maintenance, a Residential Solid Waste Rear Loader Tipper Pilot Program and other budget initiatives supported by the City Council.



The City of Mesquite is committed to transparent government operations. Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/Transparency](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Transparency) for more information on how the City uses sales and property tax revenues.

### Frequently Called City Phone Numbers

Mesquite Municipal Center	972-288-7711
Animal Services	972-216-6283
Building Inspection	972-216-6212
Environmental Code Hotline	972-216-6276
Main Library	972-216-6220
Parks and Recreation	972-216-6260
Planning and Zoning	972-216-6216
Police Non-Emergency	972-285-6336
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

## Versión en español en [www.cityofmesquite.com/MainstreamEspanol](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/MainstreamEspanol)



Stan Pickett  
Mayor



Dan Aleman  
Mayor Pro Tem,  
Place 4



Tandy Boroughs  
Deputy Mayor Pro  
Tem, Place 6



Robert Miklos  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Jeff Casper  
Councilmember  
Place 2



Bruce Archer  
Councilmember  
Place 3



Greg Noschese  
Councilmember  
Place 5



## Council Community Focus

Job creation has long been a City Council goal and continues to be a top priority for 2018-19. We are excited that this goal is being realized and Mesquite is emerging as one of the hottest job markets in the Dallas – Fort Worth region.

Offering a competitive labor force of nearly one million employees with a 30-minute commute, Mesquite is an ideal location for business. Mesquite is attracting big business, offering a diversified selection of jobs in manufacturing, distribution, retail, healthcare, hospitality, service and the public sector.

Ashley Furniture Industries is on target to open its new 877,000 square-foot southwest regional warehouse distribution hub in early 2019. Located at 4000 Scyene Road, Ashley will be hiring approximately 325 new employees in addition to the 350 plus that work in the current facility located on Samuell Drive.

Also in development, more than 100,000 square feet of new industrial space will be opening this fall at 3325 Innovative Way. The new facility will house the 67,000 square-foot expansion of both Gardner Telecommunications and The Pickle Juice Company, adding at least 25 new jobs to Mesquite. Another 33,000 square-foot space is for lease and will bring further new jobs to Mesquite, which will be announced once a new tenant is secured.

For more information on recent economic development in Mesquite, view the Quarterly Development Activity Reports at [www.cityofmesquite.com/DevelopmentHighlights](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/DevelopmentHighlights).

## Mesquite Police Department offers Halloween safety tips

The Mesquite Police Department wishes everyone a happy Halloween and offers the following safety tips for trick-or-treating.

- Wear highly visible clothing which can be detectable during night time hours or use reflective tape for costumes and trick-or-treat bags.
- A responsible adult should accompany all young children on their neighborhood rounds.
- Carry flashlights with fresh batteries or glow sticks to increase visibility.
- Plan and review an acceptable route with older children if they are trick-or-treating without an adult and agree on a specific time to return home.
- Only go to homes with a porch light on and never enter a home or car for a treat.
- Remain on well-lit streets and always use the sidewalk. Never cut across yards or use alleyways.
- Cross the street as a group in established crosswalks. Never cross between parked cars or out of driveways.
- Do not assume motorists will stop. Motorists may have trouble seeing trick-or-treaters.
- Carry a cellphone for quick communication.
- Notify the Mesquite Police Department immediately of any suspicious or unlawful activity.

Motorists are also reminded to stay alert and be mindful of their speed. More traffic safety tips are available at [www.drivelikeyourfamilyliveshere.org](http://www.drivelikeyourfamilyliveshere.org).



 [www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-mesquite](http://www.linkedin.com/company/city-of-mesquite)

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

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

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

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

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

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

## Defend your drains

Defend your drains and pipes by properly disposing your leftover grease and food scraps. Fats, oils and grease (FOG) are residues left over from cooking meats, cooking oil, butter, shortening, lard, as well as food products such as mayonnaise, salad dressings, and sour cream. FOG and debris poured down drains can build up in pipes and cause backups in both private and the City-maintained sewer system. Here are some tips to avoid expensive plumbing repairs and damage to the sewer system:



- Scrape or wipe cooled fat or grease from all cookware and dishware and dispose in the trash.
- Pour or scrape grease into a sturdy closed-lid container, like a coffee container, and dispose in the trash.
- Recycle large amounts of cooking oil or grease at the Dallas County Household Hazardous Waste facility, 11234 Plano Road in Dallas.

Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/Utilities](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Utilities) or [DefendYourDrainsNorthTexas.com](http://DefendYourDrainsNorthTexas.com) for more tips and information.

## Help prevent theft with Take. Lock. Hide.



The Mesquite Police Department reminds motorists that taking three easy steps can reduce the risk of vehicle break-ins or theft: take your keys, lock your car doors and hide your valuables. It only takes a vehicle owner 10 seconds to prevent theft, and a criminal 20 seconds to break into the car.

In Mesquite, 20 percent of all crimes involve theft of or from a vehicle, with 40 percent of those vehicles being left unlocked by the operator. According to national figures, more than 1.85 million auto thefts and vehicle break-ins occur annually. These crimes have resulted in the theft of more than \$1.2 billion in personal property.

## Real. Texas. Roads. update

At the time of the Mainstream's publication, crews were completing the second year (2017) list of streets and continuing localized concrete repair on the 2018 list of streets. Miscellaneous repairs and cleanup is underway on Bamboo Street. Localized concrete repairs are complete on Moon Drive, Rockne Lane, Morgan Drive, Morgan Circle, Royal Crest Drive, Upland Lane, Pebble Creek Lane, Red Mill Lane and Green Leaf Lane. Localized concrete repairs are still in progress on Sidney Drive, Statler Drive, Shorewood Drive, Evans Drive, Cascade Street, Mark Drive, Greenhill Drive, Chapell Drive and Embassy Drive.

For more information or to view an Interactive Road Map, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads).

# 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).

### Turkey Camp

Send your kids for a day or week of fun at Turkey Camp during the Thanksgiving break. Two camps are available at Dunford Recreation Center, 1015 Green Canyon Drive, or Rutherford Recreation Center, 900 Rutherford Drive, from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m., November 19 - November 23 (no camp will be held on Thursday). The fee is \$16 per day or \$60 per week.

### Tennis Free Play Days

Join us for Tennis Free Play Days for children ages 10 and under, November 10, from 10 a.m. - noon. 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+ programs at Evans, Goodbar and Rutherford Recreation Centers. Highlights in November include a trip to First Monday in Canton on November 2 and a Zip Line Adventure Day on November 8 at Rorie-Galloway Day Camp, 3100 Lawson Road. For more information about these and other events, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/50Plus](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/50Plus) or call 972-216-6260.

### Christmas on the Square



Join us on November 27, from 6 - 8 p.m., for the annual tree lighting event at Heritage Square, 223 W. Davis Street. The lighting of the tree will take place at approximately 6:15 p.m. In addition to the complimentary

cookies and hot cocoa, Pap's Barbecue will be available for purchase. The event will also feature free children's craft activities and pictures with Santa. Please remember to bring your camera.



## Mesquite Arts Center Activities

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

For details on events, programs and facility reservations, call 972-216-6444 or visit [www.mesquiteartscenter.org](http://www.mesquiteartscenter.org).

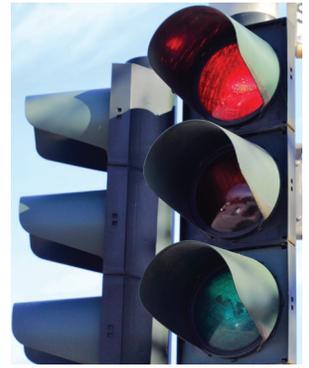
Texas Visual Artists Association Exhibition, weekdays November 5 - 30, from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the Main and Chamber Galleries. This event is free.

Mesquite Community Theatre presents *Curious Savage*, weekends October 26 - November 11. For more information or to purchase tickets, visit [www.mesquitecommunitytheatre.com](http://www.mesquitecommunitytheatre.com).



Harvest Festival Barn Dance, featuring live music by House Special, November 10 from 6 - 8:30 p.m. at the Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 711 E. Kearney St. For more information or to purchase tickets, call 972-216-8132.

## 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 [photonotice.com](http://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.

## Community Snapshots



On August 15, an ice cream social was held at Goodbar Senior Center in honor of the Mesquite Police Department. Mayor Pro Tem Dan Aleman helped serve.



On August 18, Mesquite Animal Services placed 89 animals in new homes during the Clear the Shelters adoption event. Adoption fees were waived for the day as part of the nationwide event.



On September 11, the City of Mesquite held a ceremony at Freedom Park in remembrance of those that lost their lives on September 11, 2001, as a result of a terrorist attack.