



# MAINSTREAM

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### April 2015

- 6, 20** **City Council Meeting**, 7 p.m., City Hall, 757 N. Galloway 972-216-6244
- 11** **Plant Swap**, co-presented by Mesquite Master Gardeners and Water Conservation Office, 9 - 11 a.m., First United Methodist Church. 972-329-8300

### 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

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## Real. Texas. Festival. is April 24 - 25

The ninth annual Real. Texas. Festival. returns to Mesquite Rodeo Center, 1818 Rodeo Drive, on Friday, April 24 (5 - 11 p.m.) and Saturday, April 25 (12 - 11 p.m.), with country superstars Thompson Square, Kevin Fowler and Wade Bowen.

West Mesquite High School graduate and winner of "The Voice," Craig Wayne Boyd, will make his homecoming on April 25 at 5:30 p.m. "We had been working on this for a while, and I am just so glad I can get back to my home state and my hometown," Boyd said. "I am super excited about seeing all my family and friends."

The festival will also include the Cowboys and Chrome Car Show, Real. Texas. BBQ Cook-off, Mesquite Championship Rodeo, Kids Korral, a carnival midway and more.

Lip sync and selfie contests will be April 1 - 17 for a chance to win prizes, including backstage passes. For contest details, visit [www.RealTexasFestival.com/contest](http://www.RealTexasFestival.com/contest).

The \$15 presale tickets will be available March 2 - April 17 at [www.ticketmaster.com](http://www.ticketmaster.com) or at the City of Mesquite Municipal Center (cashier's window) at 1515 N. Galloway Avenue. Tickets are \$20 at the gate with a \$3 discount for attendees who donate a non-perishable food item to the "Mayor's Canned Food Drive." All attendees 14 and under are admitted free. Parking and shuttle service is complimentary.

Sponsors such as Coca Cola, Mesquite ISD and Union Pacific Railroad make this event possible and we thank them for their continued support. For more information, visit [www.RealTexasFestival.com](http://www.RealTexasFestival.com) or call 972-216-6499.



John Monaco  
Mayor



Al Forsythe  
Mayor Pro Tem,  
Place 2



Greg Noschese  
Deputy Mayor Pro  
Tem, Place 5



Bill Porter  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Bruce Archer  
Councilmember  
Place 3



Shirley Roberts  
Councilmember  
Place 4



Dennis Tarpley  
Councilmember  
Place 6



## MAYOR'S CORNER

I would like to ask for the public's help with our annual Real. Texas. Festival. set for April 24 and 25. The festival is one of the premiere events in North Texas. Although our staff does a wonderful job of organizing the event, it takes a tremendous number of volunteers to stage all the activities. So, I am asking our community and civic groups to consider being a part of the volunteer force. Volunteers receive complimentary admission tickets and a festival T-shirt. Additionally, we will host a Volunteer Appreciation Dinner on April 20 at 6:30 p.m. at the Mesquite Arena BBQ Pavilion. Volunteers must be 16 years or older. To register, visit [www.realtexasfestival.com/volunteer](http://www.realtexasfestival.com/volunteer).

John Monaco, Mayor

## Did You Know?

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

Did you know that the legal limit of grass height in Mesquite is eight inches? Grass season is just around the corner and it's time to start getting out those mowers. If you have questions please call Code Enforcement at 972-329-8704.

## Online Language Program Available From Library

The Mesquite Public Library has recently added a new online language learning program called Rocket Languages. The program uses a combination of listening, reading and other interactive methods. The program offers courses in Chinese, French, German, English for Spanish speakers, American Sign Language and more. For more information, call 972-216-6220.



## Be Pet Friendly

Here are some friendly reminders about how to be "pet friendly" in Mesquite. Pets must be confined by a fence or tether (leash) of sufficient strength to prevent the animal's escape. If kept outdoors, pets must have access to water and shelter at all times. Animals found confined in a cruel manner may be detained by Mesquite Animal Control Officers. Any pet in an unconfined yard or being walked within a public street or a park must be on a leash and in control by the owner at all times. For more information, call Animal Services at 972-216-6283.

## Two Steps, One Sticker

As a result of House Bill 2305 being passed during the 83<sup>rd</sup> legislative session, the State of Texas will stop issuing inspection stickers and transition to a "Two Steps, One Sticker" vehicle inspection and registration program. Beginning March 1, vehicles will no longer be issued an inspection sticker. Your registration sticker will serve as a combined proof of registration and inspection. For details, visit [www.twostepsonesticker.com](http://www.twostepsonesticker.com).



## Talkin' Turf with Travis: Turfgrass and Landscape Fertilization Tips

*This is a quarterly column on landscape tips offered by Manager of Park Services and Municipal Arborist Travis E. Sales.*

The month of March is one of the most important months of the year to get your landscape and turfgrass ready for the long hot summers in Texas. Fertilizer plays an important role in any turfgrass and landscape maintenance program. The first application should be applied when your yard is starting to turn green in late March. For the recommended fertilization rates and amounts, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/travis](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/travis). For questions, contact Travis at 972-216-8121 or [tsales@cityofmesquite.com](mailto:tsales@cityofmesquite.com).





# 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).



## Mother-Son Dance

The annual Mother-Son Dance will be held Friday, April 17, from 7 - 9 p.m., at the Mesquite Convention Center. Boys ages 4 -12 and their moms will enjoy this fun-filled evening with fabulous music, light refreshments, door prizes and dancing. Presale tickets are available at all recreation centers for \$15 or \$20 at the door.

## Boy's Flag Football for Ages 5-17

Registration is March 23 - April 19. Practice begins May 7, with games kicking off May 21. The cost is \$65 per player and a birth certificate is required for registration.



## Little Rookie Volleyball for Ages 5-6

Registration is March 9 - April 11, with two available sessions (9 or 10 a.m.). The program begins on Saturday, April 11 at the Dunford Recreation Center. The cost is \$35 per player and parent participation is required.

## Family Night Out

On Friday, April 17, 6:30 - 8 p.m. bring the family to Florence Recreation Center for a free night of games!

## Rentals

Looking for a location to host your next event, a high school graduation party or a wedding reception? Choose from several different types of venues and many convenient locations with Mesquite Parks and Recreation. For details on each venue, visit [www.CityofMesquite.com/Reservations](http://www.CityofMesquite.com/Reservations).

## Class Schedule

Check-out the new online view of our full list of ongoing classes at [www.CityofMesquite.com/Classes](http://www.CityofMesquite.com/Classes).



## National Weather Service seeks volunteers

The National Weather Service is looking for volunteers to participate in the Community Collaborative Rain, Hail & Snow Network (CoCoRaHS) program. Volunteers collect and provide information that is used for many applications such as severe storm warnings. For more information or to volunteer for the CoCoRaHS Network, go to [www.cocorahs.org](http://www.cocorahs.org) or email [oem@mesquitefire.org](mailto:oem@mesquitefire.org).

## 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](http://www.mesquiteartscenter.org)

### N'Awlins Gumbo Kings

April 3, 7:30 p.m. Tickets are general admission at \$12 for adults and \$6 for children. A New Orleans-style brass band that brings its own unique flavor of Dixieland.



### Just for Kids

Peeler and Rose - Unidentified Funny Objects Marionette Show, Saturday, April 11, 10 a.m. The free, all-musical variety show is filled with novelty songs and trick puppetry that will keep the children laughing, followed by demonstrations and photo-ops.

### Mesquite Community Theatre

"Forever Plaid," April 10, 11, 17 and 18. Performances start at 8 p.m. Visit [www.mesquitecommunitytheatre.com](http://www.mesquitecommunitytheatre.com) or call 972-216-6444 for details.

### Monthly Poem

#### Gumbo – By Definition

by Amy Sandberg

*Steeping in the tradition of New Orleans  
blending lively styles and sounds fit for Kings and Queens  
The N'Awlins Gumbo Kings play through their  
musically dexterous muscle  
by using their own savory and saucy mix  
mingling jazzy and sassy with fizz and pizzazz  
dishing out spice and diversity of sound to delight the  
crowd.*

## Community Snapshots



At the annual State of the City Address, Mayor John Monaco presented First Presbyterian Church of Mesquite Pastor, Dr. Tom Wilbanks, the "Jeann Wisenbaker" Pillar of the Community Award.



On February 6, the City hosted the annual Daddy-Daughter Dance at the Mesquite Convention Center.



In February, City of Mesquite employees gathered at Mesquite City Hall to show their support for the Go Red for Women campaign.



At the City Council meetings held in February, the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association and the Fire Corps both led the Pledge of Allegiance.