



# MAINSTREAM

www.cityofmesquite.com

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**4, 18** **March 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 Metro Airport breaks ground on an air traffic control tower

The City of Mesquite recently held a ceremony to celebrate the construction of a \$3 million dollar air traffic control tower at Mesquite Metro Airport. The 80-foot-high tower will include seven floors and the tower cab. It will be staffed by Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) air traffic controllers. The tower is scheduled to be completed by the end of the year. The construction of the tower is 90 percent funded through FAA grants. Mesquite Metro Airport was ranked the second busiest general aviation reliever airport in the Dallas-Fort Worth region by the Dallas Business Journal in 2011 with more than 150,000 take-offs and landings each year. The Airport has one runway which is 5,999 feet long. There are currently more than 250 aircraft based at the airport.

During the ground breaking event Mesquite Mayor John Monaco stated, "This is another step forward in the level of service and safety we can provide our tenants and customers at the airport. We are excited about this major project and expect it will be a great benefit for our city and the airport."



-  [www.twitter.com/cityofmesquite](http://www.twitter.com/cityofmesquite)
-  [www.facebook.com/mesquitetexas](http://www.facebook.com/mesquitetexas)
-  [www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas](http://www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas)

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John Monaco  
Mayor



Stan Pickett  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Place 3



Shirley Roberts  
Deputy Mayor  
Pro Tem, Place 4



Bill Porter  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Al Forsythe  
Councilmember  
Place 2



Greg Noschese  
Councilmember  
Place 5



Dennis Tarpley  
Councilmember  
Place 6



# MAYOR'S CORNER

Recently, I was honored to help recognize many of our staff during the annual Employee Service Awards. The program reminded me of how dedicated our employees are to the public service we provide to our citizens and the overall community. The awards program honors staff who have reached certain employment anniversaries. This year, we recognized 179 employees who had have given anywhere from five years to 30 years of their professional life to the City of Mesquite. That is simply amazing when you consider that in September, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported the median number of years that wage and salary workers had been with their current employer was only 4.6. The average tenure with the City of Mesquite is 10 years which is more than double the national average!

On behalf of the entire City Council, I want to publicly thank all our employees for the tireless devotion they give every day to providing quality public service to those who work and live in the City of Mesquite.

*John Monaco*  
John Monaco, Mayor



Mayor Monaco congratulates Mesquite Police Officer Don Williams for 25 years of service.

## Mesquite to launch new traffic signal program

The Public Works Department will begin a new program called “Night Flash,” in which traffic signals at six major intersections and local streets will be switched to flashing lights during times of low traffic volume. The goal is to improve traffic flow and safety at intersections. The following intersections will have flashing traffic signals from 11:30 p.m. to 5 a.m. as part of the program:



Major street signals flashing yellow; motorists should proceed through intersection without stopping.	Neighborhood side street signals flashing red; motorists should yield to traffic.
E. Cartwright Road	at Bear Drive
E. Cartwright Road	at Twin Oaks Drive
E. Cartwright Road	at Wilkinson Road
W. Cartwright Road	at Stoneleigh
Bryan-Belt Line Road	at Newsom Road
Bryan-Belt Line Road	at Gross Street

The 60-day trial period for this new program will begin in March. This type of program is already in place in other North Texas cities including Allen, Frisco and Plano.

## Mesquite Animal Services reminds pet owners of vaccination requirements

Vaccinating pets against rabies and other diseases protects both your pet and your entire family. City ordinance requires each cat or dog over four months of age to be vaccinated against rabies and annually registered with Animal Services. Although human cases are rare in the United States, rabies is a deadly disease spread by



contact with an infected animal’s saliva such as through a bite or scratch. In Texas, rabies is primarily found in coyotes, foxes, raccoons, skunks and bats. Cats and dogs that come into contact with these animals are at risk of being infected by rabies. All Mesquite veterinary clinics provide rabies vaccinations year-round. Pet owners who fail to vaccinate or register their cat or dog can be fined up to \$500 per animal. For more information on vaccination and registration requirements, contact Mesquite Animal Services at 972-216-6283 or visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/animal/](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/animal/).

## Library offers spring break programs in March

The Mesquite Library System has a variety of activities planned for children and teenagers during March. For more information on these programs, locations and times, call the Main Branch at 972-216-6226 or the North Branch at 972-681-0465.

<u>Date</u>	<u>Time</u>	<u>Program</u>	<u>Location</u>
March 6, 13, 20, 27	4 p.m.	Get in the Game***	North Branch (2600 Oates Dr)
March 7	4 p.m.	Science Club**	North Branch
March 9	3 p.m.	Lego Club*	North Branch
March 11	4 p.m.	Movie Time*	Main (300 West Grubb)
March 12	4 p.m.	Games & Gab*	North Branch
	4 p.m.	Spring Craft*	Main & North Branch
March 13	5 p.m.	Popcorn & a Movie***	Main
	4 p.m.	Build with Legos*	Main
March 14	4 p.m.	Dr. Seuss Party*	North Branch
March 15	4 p.m.	St. Patrick's Day Craft*	Main
	5 p.m.	Cookies & Crafts***	Main
	4 p.m.	Game Time*	Main
	4 p.m.	St. Patrick's Day Craft*	North Branch
March 21	4 p.m.	Library Land*	North Branch
March 23	3 p.m.	Lego Club*	North Branch
March 28	4 p.m.	Easter Craft*	North Branch
March 29	4 p.m.	Easter Craft*	Main

*Note: \*Programs geared towards children, \*\*Program geared toward ages 7 - 13, \*\*\*Programs geared toward teens.*

## Community Snapshots

At the January 22 City Council meeting, Mayor John Monaco presented a proclamation to American Heart Association/Mesquite Chapter President Tina Harris in support of the "Go Red Campaign" which brings awareness to the fight against heart disease in women.



On January 24, Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association President Barbara Dunn and Fire Corps Board Member Tony Durant announced their organizations will partner to organize the "Taste of Mesquite" BBQ cook-off at the Real. Texas. Festival. scheduled for April 26 - 27.



## 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 March 1 Mesquite Convention Center

**\$15 person/session**

Boys ages 4 - 12 will enjoy an evening filled with fabulous music, light refreshments and dancing. Purchase tickets at any recreation center, the Parks and Recreation Administrative Office (1515 N. Galloway Avenue) or online at [www.cityofmesquite.com/pard](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/pard) starting February 5.

### Breakfast with the Bunny March 23

**Evans Recreation Center**

**\$5/person (no charge for egg hunt)**

The annual Breakfast with the Bunny will be held from 8 - 10 a.m. There will be an all you can eat pancake breakfast for \$5. Following breakfast, there will be a FREE egg hunt for ages 1 - 9 beginning at 10:30 a.m. Registration for the \$5 breakfast is not required to participate in the free egg hunt activity.



### Spring Break Camp March 11 - 15

**Ages 6 - 12**

**\$75/person**

Spring Break Camp is available at Dunford Recreation Center and Camp Rorie Galloway from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m. each day. Pre-registration is required and is available at any recreation center or the Parks and Recreation Administration Office (1515 N. Galloway Avenue).

## 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.

### March 2013

- 2-31 Mesquite Arts Council** presents "Under the Western Sky: images from West Texas and the Southwest" exhibit by photographer Derrick Birdsall.
- 3 Texas Area Artists** will host their monthly meeting at 2 p.m.
- 11 Monthly Paint-In** begins at 10 a.m. All artists are invited to bring their projects and share successes with others.
- 11 Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meetings begin at 7 p.m.
- 23 Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** is in concert with the annual Not Just For Kids concert, entitled "**Introductions Please.**" 7 p.m.



## 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 offers numerous ways for water utility customers to pay their water bill? These include the following:

- **Online Payments:** To sign up, go to "Online Services" at [www.cityofmesquite.com](http://www.cityofmesquite.com).
- **Check-by-phone:** Call 972-216-6208 and provide your checking account information.
- **Recurring Monthly Bank Draft:** Call 972-216-6208 for information.
- **Interactive Voice Response:** Call 972-216-6208 and select option #6 from the automated phone system to pay by credit card.
- **Fidelity Express:** Go to [www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities/waterpayment-locations.php](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities/waterpayment-locations.php) to find a payment location near you.
- **Payment by Mail:** Return your check or money order for payment in the enclosed billing envelope.
- **Pay in Person:** Payments may be made in cash, check, money order or credit card at City Hall, located at 757 N. Galloway Avenue.
- **After-hours Payments:** Payments by check or money order may be made in the Payment Drop Box located at the City Hall parking exit, 757 N. Galloway Avenue.

For more information on paying a water utility bill, call 972-216-6208.

## Mesquite Golf Course to temporarily close March 3

Beginning March 3, the Mesquite Golf Club will be closed until mid-September for a major renovation project.

Improvements to the course will include reconstruction of greens and tee boxes as well as updating the pro shop and snack bar.

For more information on this project call 972-216-6260 or visit [www.mesquitegc.com](http://www.mesquitegc.com).



Get a handle on leaks

Did you know a leaky toilet can waste over 200 gallons of water a day? Pick up a free toilet dye pack and leak detection guide during Fix a Leak Week, March 18-24th.

Where: Water Billing, City Hall, 777 N. Galloway

Learn how get a handle on leaks at:  
[www.epa.gov/watersense](http://www.epa.gov/watersense).



March 18-24, 2013  
**Fix a Leak Week**  
EPA WaterSense