



MAINSTREAM

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

3, 17

February 2014

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

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Mesquite earns financial recognitions

The City of Mesquite recently earned two financial recognitions for efforts by its Finance and Budget Departments.

The City's Fiscal 2012 Comprehensive Annual Financial Report qualified for the Government Finance Officer Association's (GFOA) Certificate of Achievement for Excellence in Financial Reporting. This is the City's 34th consecutive year receiving this award. Also, the Government Treasurer's Organization of Texas awarded the Certificate of Distinction to the City for its Investment Policy. The award is good for a two-year period ending in November of 2015. This is the first time the City has been recognized for this achievement.



Dana Dotson of the Budget Department and Myra Rogers of the Finance Department were recently selected as quarterly Employee Service Champions. Their efforts helped the City achieve the awards.



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

Last month, the entire Dallas-Fort Worth region was hit with an ice storm. Like many communities, Mesquite was faced with several challenges which included power outages, tough road conditions, downed trees and more. I want to take a moment to publicly commend the employees of the City. Our professional staff was out prior to and immediately following the storm to serve our community in various capacities. From public safety to public works, our employees were working to provide excellent customer service. Despite the impacts the storm had on their personal lives, our employees were at work to assist in the recovery efforts. On behalf of the entire City Council, I want to thank our employees for their dedicated service during those very trying times.

John Monaco, Mayor



City employees were out immediately following the ice storm to provide public services.

Mesquite Library to celebrate 50 years

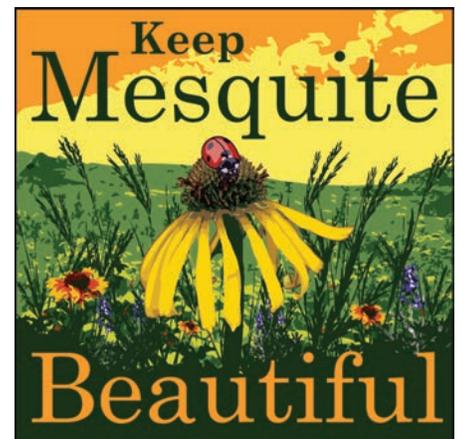
To celebrate the Library's 50th anniversary as part of the City of Mesquite, a public reception will be held on February 18, from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive. The public is cordially invited to attend. In December 1961, a bond election was passed with a proposition for a library building and books. The first library budget was approved by the City Council in September 1963 and the new 6,300-square-foot library held its grand opening on Saturday, February 15, with J. Frank Dobie, noted Texas folklorist, as a special guest. The Library officially opened for business on Tuesday, February 18, 1964. Throughout the month of February the Library will have special programs and other activities to mark this special occasion. For more information about what the Library offers or details about February activities, call 972-216-6220 or visit www.cityofmesquite.com/library.



The Mesquite Main Library will celebrate its 50th anniversary with a public reception on February 18.

Keep Mesquite Beautiful earns a grant

Keep Mesquite Beautiful (KMB) and its student organization, Youth Environmental Leaders (YEL), received a \$1,950 grant from Keep Texas Beautiful to present an Earth Day workshop to area Boy Scouts and Girl Scouts. The grant, which is made possible through a partnership with HEB and Central Market food stores, is offered to Keep Texas Beautiful affiliates each year for projects to promote environmental education and responsibility. YEL is comprised of local high school students who offer award-winning programs and environmental efforts to engage students on a peer-to-peer level. To get involved, students may call KMB at 972-329-8331.



Community Snapshots



On November 12, Councilmember Bill Porter helped plant landscaping during Mesquite's 500th Addressing Mesquite Day project.



On November 21 at the annual Chamber of Commerce Awards Luncheon, Parks and Recreation Director Cliff Keheley presented Athletic/Aquatics Supervisor Nikki Sassenus with the Chamber's Jack Nelson Festival Award.



On December 4 at the Women's Council of Realtors-Dallas Metro East Annual Awards, Mayor John Monaco and Councilmember Greg Noschese helped present Councilmember Shirley Roberts with Entrepreneur of the Year recognition.

2014 SPECIAL EVENTS

Daddy Daughter Dance Feb 7	Mother Son Dance April 4	Rodeo Parade April 5
Breakfast w/ the Bunny April 12	Spring Campout April 12-13	Real. Texas. Festival. April 25-26
Movies in the Park 5/9, 6/13, & 7/11	Pitch, Hit & Run April 12	Hero Run May 10
Kid Fish May 17	National Trails Day June 7	Parks & Rec Month July
Doggie Splash Day Aug 16	Back to School Bash Aug 22	Haunted Campout Oct 11-12
Punt, Pass & Kick Oct. 15	Pumpkin Fest Oct 18	Christmas in the Park Dec. 4-6

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 972.216.6260



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, or call 972-216-6444.

February

3- 3/2 Mesquite Arts Council presents an exhibit by the students of the Mesquite Independent School District in the Main Gallery. Hours are weekdays 8 a.m.- 5 p.m. and during performances. Elementary student exhibit is February 3-16 with a reception on February 11, 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m. Middle School student exhibit is February 17 - March 2 with a reception on February 25, 5:30 p.m. - 7 p.m.

- 1 Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** is in concert with MSO Pops! Movie Stars featuring music of great movies. 7:30 p.m. Call 972-216-8127 for tickets.
- 2 Texas Area Artists** monthly meeting and artist demonstration at 2 p.m. 214-566-8269.
- 10 Monthly Paint-In** will feature artists sharing their projects. 10 a.m. 214-566-8269.
- 10 Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meeting and artist demonstration. 7 p.m. 214-771-5473.
- 17-19 Mesquite Community Theatre** will hold auditions for "Dearly Departed." 7 - 9 p.m. 972-216-8126.
- 14-3/1 Mesquite Community Theatre** presents "Steel Magnolias." Call 972-216-8126 for performance times and reservations or visit mesquitecommunitytheatre.com.

Steel Magnolias

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 an airport? Mesquite Metro Airport, located at 1340 Airport Boulevard, has one runway which is 6,000 feet long. There are currently more than 250 aircraft based at the airport. The airport is also home to a flight school and aircraft maintenance companies. Fuel sales at the airport have increased by 48 percent in the past year. The airport was ranked second among general aviation reliever airports in the Dallas-Fort Worth region by the Dallas Business Journal in 2011 with more than 150,000 take-offs and landings each year.



Mesquite Metro Airport recently held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate its new air traffic control tower.

Talkin' Turf with Travis: Knockout Roses (Proper Care and Pruning)

This column is offered by the City of Mesquite to help educate residents about landscaping and pruning tips. Please contact Travis Sales, Certified Arborist, 972-216-8121 or tsales@cityofmesquite.com with any questions.

The "Knockout Rose" was first introduced in 2000 and hailed as a "breakthrough shrub rose" by All-American Rose Selections because of its exceptional disease resistance and hardiness. Here are some basic tips for caring for this rose:



1. Whenever the soil is dry, water thoroughly in the root zone to a depth of one inch.
2. Watering established plants too frequently can promote root disease, especially in poorly drained soils.
3. Drip irrigation is a much better watering method for plant health and water conservation.
4. Remove dead, diseased or broken branches to help promote plant health.
5. Replenish the mulch as needed to maintain a three-inch layer. 6) Rose pruning should be done just as buds break dormancy, around late February or early March.
6. Knockouts grow vigorously, so trim them down two feet below the height you want them to reach during the growing season.
7. If you find that your rose bush has become too large and unruly, cut the entire bush down to about 1 or 2 feet high in the spring.
8. Bypass pruners, which cut like a pair of scissors, are much better for pruning roses than anvil-type pruners. Thrips (tiny, slender insects with fringed wings) can cause bud and flower distortion so use a general insecticide specifically labeled for Thrips.