



# MAINSTREAM

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### November 2016

- 7, 21** City Council meetings at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. 972-216-6244.
- 8** Town Hall Tuesday at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. The topic will be City Council goals.  
[www.cityofmesquite.com/TownHall](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/TownHall)
- 12** Mesquite Marketplace, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 150 W. Main Street.
- 12** "Sit, Stay, Read!," Children, kindergarten through third grade, are invited to read to a canine visitor from Heart of Texas Therapy Dogs at the North Branch Library, 2600 Oates Drive, at 11 a.m. 972-681-0465.
- 12** Ask a Lawyer program, 10 a.m. - noon, at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive. Attendees will have the opportunity to seek free legal advice. 972-216-6220.

For information on City services impacted during holidays, please visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/holidays](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/holidays).

## Mesquite Freedom Park dedicated on 15th anniversary of 9/11

On September 11, the City held a dedication ceremony for the new Mesquite Freedom Park located on the North Lawn of the Mesquite Arts Center, 1527 N. Galloway Avenue. The ceremony included guest speaker Genelle Guzman-McMillan, the last civilian survivor rescued from the twin towers, as well as presentations by Texas Senator Bob Hall, Texas House of Representative Cindy Burkett and Texas House of Representative Kenneth Sheets. Complimentary refreshments were served by the Mesquite Fire Corps, which included ice cream donated by Blue Bell Creameries of Mesquite.



In 2011, the City was entrusted with a historic piece of steel from one of the 9/11 attacks that challenged our country's freedoms. This 15-foot, 575-pound twisted beam recovered from the World Trade Center is the centerpiece of Mesquite Freedom Park. The park is a place to celebrate the freedoms of art, music, education and assembly. It also offers the opportunity for the public to touch a piece of world history and to remember the significance of 9/11 as well as other attacks on our country's freedoms. For more information, visit [www.MesquiteFreedomPark.com](http://www.MesquiteFreedomPark.com).

### 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

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

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

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

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

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

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



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

On September 6, the City Council finalized the second list of residential street repairs to be funded by the \$125 million bond election passed by voters in November 2015. These repairs will be made in the next fiscal year, and will be part of the Real. Texas. Roads. program. I am pleased to report repairs to three of the first set of streets approved for the program are nearing completion. These streets are Barbara Street, Andrew Street and Northridge Drive. A complete list of the streets selected for repairs in the next fiscal year is available at [www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads).

The City Council also recently adopted the City's annual operating budget for the next fiscal year. In the spirit of transparency, the City Council Budget Workshop held on August 6 may be viewed at [www.cityofmesquite.com/WatchCouncilMeetings](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/WatchCouncilMeetings). All department budget proposals presented to the City Council can be viewed as well at [www.cityofmesquite.com/BudgetPresentations](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/BudgetPresentations).

Stan Pickett  
Mayor

## Defend your drains to avoid plumbing repairs

The City of Mesquite reminds residents to keep leftover grease and food scraps out of household drains. Fats, oils and grease residue left over from cooking can build up in pipes and cause backups in both private and city-maintained sewer lines when poured down drains. Help avoid expensive plumbing repairs and damage to the sewer system with the following tips.

- Scrape or wipe cooled grease or fat from all dishes and cookware, and place the waste in the trash.
- Pour or scrape grease into a sturdy closed-lid container, such as a coffee can, and dispose of it in the trash.
- Recycle large amounts of cooking oil or grease at the Dallas County Household Hazardous Waste facility located at 11234 Plano Road, Dallas, TX.

## New mobile app links citizens to City services and programs

Now citizens can access City of Mesquite services, programs and news anytime and anywhere with the new Mesquite mobile app. The name of the free app is MesquiteTX. Citizens can receive information and connect with the City across all mobile devices. This includes registering for e-news/text alerts, reporting service issues, linking to City Council content and much more.

To download the mobile app, citizens can search MesquiteTX in the app store located on their smart device. Additional information and links to download the app can also be found at [www.cityofmesquite.com/app](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/app).



## Real. Texas. Roads. update



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

In addition, the City Council finalized the second list of residential streets to be repaired with bond funds on September 6. Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads) for more information. This webpage offers an Interactive Road Map with real-time status updates as well as contact information for project inspectors when you click on a street being repaired. If you have any questions or notice a problem with a street, please contact the inspector.

## Real. Texas. Business. news

*Real. Texas. Business. news is a monthly feature of the Mainstream highlighting new development activity in Mesquite. For more information, contact Kim Buttram, Assistant Manager of Economic Development, at [kbuttram@cityofmesquite.com](mailto:kbuttram@cityofmesquite.com).*

What is over 340,000 square feet and will be reviving the former Big Town Mall site at the intersection of Interstate 30 and U.S. 80? The answer to this Real. Texas. Business. question is a new FedEx Ground facility. The station will be a part of the FedEx



Ground network of more than 560 facilities nationwide. The facility is expected to be operational by fall 2017 and will initially create approximately 260 new jobs. The Mesquite station will boost daily package volume and further enhance the speed and service capabilities of the FedEx network.

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

## Mesquite Recycles Day to be held on November 12

Mesquite Recycles Day will be held on Saturday, November 12, from 8 a.m. - noon in the front parking lot of Poteet High School, 3300 Poteet Drive. Vehicles will enter the event through the front entrance on Galloway Avenue. For a complete list of items that will be accepted, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay).

Household hazardous waste will NOT be accepted. All household hazardous waste (i.e. paint cans, pesticides, and motor oil) must be taken to the Dallas County Household Hazardous Waste facility located at 11234 Plano Road, Dallas, TX. For more information, call 972-329-8331.



## 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).

### Sounds in the Square

Delight in food truck fare and the live music of Davis & Rose on Saturday, November 12 during Sounds in the Square. The events will take place from 4 - 5:30 p.m. in Mesquite's historic downtown, 150 W. Main Street.



### Boy Scouts of America

Boy Scouts of America is now offered at three participating Recreation After School Programs (RASP) on the first and third Tuesdays of the month at Dunford or Rutherford Recreation Center from 3:15 - 4 p.m. and Florence Recreation Center from 4 - 5 p.m. The fee is \$8 per year and scholarships are available.

### Turkey Camp

During Thanksgiving break, send your kids for a day or week of fun at Turkey Camp. Two camps are available at Dunford or Rutherford Recreation Center from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., Monday, November 21 through Friday, November 25 (no camp will be held on Thursday). The fee is \$16 per day or \$60 per week.



### Futsal

Mesquite Parks and Recreation is offering a new sports league! Futsal is a modified form of indoor soccer. Two leagues are available, an adult co-ed league and a youth league for teens ages 15 to 18. Registration runs from November 7 to November 20. The fee \$350 per team.

## 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)

**Mesquite Creative Artists Exhibit**, November 1 - 29,  
in the Art Gallery. Free admission.

The **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** performs at  
7:30 p.m. on Saturday, November 5, in the Concert Hall.  
More information at [www.mesquitesymphony.org](http://www.mesquitesymphony.org).

**Castro - The Band** performs from 7 - 9 p.m. on  
Saturday, November 12, in the Black Box Theatre. Enjoy  
the soulful songs of American Idol finalist Jason Castro  
and his two siblings, Michael and Jackie Castro. Tickets  
are \$15 each.



**Mesquite Arts Council's: Just for Kids** presents  
ventriloquist and puppeteer Margaret Clauder from  
10 - 11 a.m. on Saturday, November 19. Free admission.

## Talkin' Turf with Travis

Here are landscaping tips from Travis E. Sales, the  
*City's Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation and  
Municipal Arborist. If you have questions or concerns  
about your landscape, please feel free to contact Travis at  
[tsales@cityofmesquite.com](mailto:tsales@cityofmesquite.com) or check out more tips at  
[www.cityofmesquite.com/Travis](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Travis).*

### Tree pruning tips

Fall is the best time to prune trees. With leaves gone, all  
branches are visible and areas where corrective pruning is  
needed can be easily seen. Trees should be pruned during the  
dormant season unless there is a hazardous situation that needs  
to be resolved immediately. The only exception is the oak  
species which should be trimmed November through January.  
Trimming oaks February through June exposes the trees to  
oak wilt disease due to a beetle that is active during this time  
period. Tree pruning paints are also not recommended unless  
you are trimming the oak species to help prevent the potential  
spread of oak wilt.

When trimming, at no time should a tree be topped and this  
includes crape myrtles. If a tree needs to be topped, it should  
be cut down completely. Common reasons for pruning include  
removing crowded or crossing limbs that may create future  
structural problems, removing dead or diseased wood and  
eliminating hazards. Trees may also be trimmed to reduce wind  
resistance or to increase light penetration. In all cases, trees  
should be trimmed for corrective or preventative issues and not  
for aesthetics. Regardless of how well a tree is pruned, cuts are  
still serious wounds to the tree.

Fun Fact: A reasonable estimate of the lifetime of trees is 100  
- 150 years, but some species in specific regions can live up to  
300 years.

## Community Snapshots



On September 9, Austin Elementary School  
hosted a "Back the Blue" appreciation day.  
Members of the Mesquite Police Department  
were welcomed with refreshments, appreciation  
cards and posters.



On September 10, Mesquite firefighters  
of every rank participated in the 2016  
Dallas Memorial Stair Climb. Participants  
paid tribute to those firefighters that lost  
their lives on 9/11 by climbing 110 stories  
- the same number climbed by the first  
responders at the World Trade Center.



On September 12,  
Councilmember Greg Noschese  
congratulated Mesquite High  
School student Annaliesia  
Salazar for being invited to  
compete in the Nature Valley  
First Tee Open at Pebble Beach.  
Miss Salazar has participated  
in The First Tee program at the  
Mesquite Golf Club since 2008.