



# MAINSTREAM

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### November 2017

- 4** International Games Week. Enjoy pizza, puzzles and board games, noon - 4 p.m., at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive. 972-216-6220.
  - 6, 20** City Council meetings at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. 972-216-6244.
  - 11** Harvest Festival Barn Dance, 6 - 8:30 p.m., at the Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 711 E. Kearney Street. 972-216-8132.
  - 11** Mesquite Recycles Day, 8 a.m. - noon, at Poteet High School, 3300 Poteet Drive. Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay).
  - 18** Ask a Lawyer program, 10 a.m. - noon, at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive. Attendees must arrive no later than 11 a.m. to have the opportunity to seek free legal advice. 972-216-6220.
  - 30** Historic Mesquite, Inc. instructional class on the art of greenery wreath-making, from 6 - 8 p.m., at Opal Lawrence Historical Park. Cost is \$25 each. Reservations required. 972-216-6468.
- For information 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 2017-2018 budget

The City of Mesquite’s fiscal year 2017-2018 budget was approved on September 5. For the tenth consecutive year, no increase in the property tax rate for general operating costs was included. However, an increase in residential and commercial water and sewer rates was necessary due to an increase in the cost of water from the City’s water supplier, the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD). These new rates became effective October 1. On average, Mesquite residential and commercial customers will experience a six percent increase in their monthly utility bills.

This increase in water rates is a direct result of funds required by the NTMWD to operate, maintain and expand the entire regional water system. This includes expanding and improving four of the district’s primary water treatment plants in Wylie and constructing two new water projects: Trinity River Main Stem Pump Station and the Lower Bois d’Arc Creek Reservoir.

The City of Mesquite and three other NTMWD member cities are parties to an appeal pending before the Public Utilities Commission of Texas (PUC), seeking fairness and equity in the rates set for all water utility customers. Even with a positive outcome from the PUC, member cities will continue to experience increased water rates over time due to the growth of the region. For more information on this issue, please visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/WaterRates](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/WaterRates).

Residential and commercial customers can help reduce their utility bills through water conservation. Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/ConservationTips](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/ConservationTips) for indoor and outdoor water conservation tips and classes, as well as videos on proper lawn irrigation.

### 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
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



Stan Pickett  
Mayor



Jeff Casper  
Mayor Pro Tem,  
Place 2



Dan Aleman  
Deputy Mayor Pro  
Tem, Place 4



Robert Miklos  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Bruce Archer  
Councilmember  
Place 3



Greg Noschese  
Councilmember  
Place 5



Tandy Boroughs  
Councilmember  
Place 6



## MAYOR'S CORNER

As the City of Mesquite prepares for Mesquite Recycles Day on November 11, I want to remind all residents about the City's Residential Recycling Program. I encourage all residents to take advantage of this program and make recycling part of their daily lives. Recycling is an easy way to keep valuable natural resources out of the landfill.

The Residential Recycling Program is part of the City's commitment to waste reduction and environmental stewardship. Green 18-gallon recycling bins are available to Mesquite residents on a request basis to provide citizens an opportunity to recycle. Recyclables are collected once a week and all items are placed in the same bin. There is no need to separate recyclables.

To request a green bin and learn more about the City's recycling program, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/recycling](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/recycling) or call the Solid Waste Division at 972-216-6972.

Stan Pickett  
Mayor

## Mesquite Firefighters participate in 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb

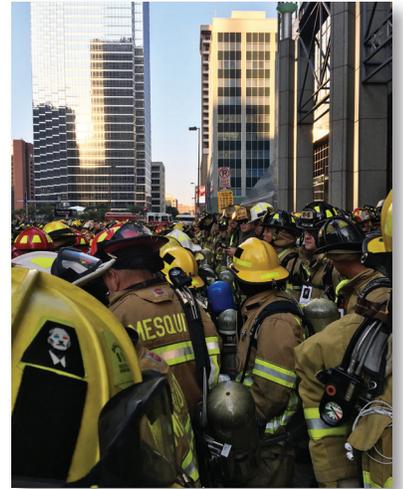
On September 9, 19 members of the Mesquite Fire Department participated in the 7th annual Dallas 9/11 Memorial Stair Climb honoring the 343 firefighters, 70 law enforcement officers and nine emergency medical technicians (EMTs) that perished at Ground Zero with the collapse of the Twin Towers on September 11, 2001.

When first responders climbed the stairs of the 110-stories of the Twin Towers on 9/11, they attempted the largest rescue and high-rise firefighting operation in history. They also made the climb in 40 - 60 pounds of personal protective gear, plus 20 - 30 pounds of additional firefighting equipment.

In tribute, active duty firefighters, police officers and EMTs climb 110 stories in full gear each year at Renaissance Tower in Dallas. Each participant is given a lanyard with the picture and name of the person they are climbing to honor. At 8:46 a.m., a moment of silence is observed marking the time that Flight 11 hit the North Tower.

At 9:59 a.m. and 10:28 a.m., the moment each tower fell, each firefighter activates a distress alarm. The climbers stop their ascent and taps is played. Once climbers reach the top, they place their accountability tag on a board and ring a bell indicating the individual they have climbed for has made it to the top.

For more information on the event, visit [www.dallasstairclimb.com](http://www.dallasstairclimb.com).



## Santa Cop

This year's Mesquite Police Santa Cop Toy Program will run from November 10 - December 13. The annual program began in 1975 to provide assistance to disadvantaged children and families served by the Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) during the Christmas season. Families are selected by MISD counselors and Mesquite patrol officers. In 2016, the program provided gifts for more than 760 children.

Anyone wishing to submit an application for assistance from the Santa Cop Toy Program this year should contact the school counselor at their child's school. Applications need to be returned to the school counselor by November 10.

Anyone wishing to make a donation to the program can drop off new, unwrapped toys at the Mesquite Police Department lobby located at 777 N. Galloway Avenue, or send a monetary donation by mail to the Mesquite Police Department, c/o Santa Cop, P.O. Box 850137, Mesquite, TX 75185-0137. Donations can also be made online at [www.cityofmesquite.com/Donations](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Donations).

MESQUITE POLICE DEPARTMENT  
SANTA COP TOY PROGRAM



## 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.



## 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

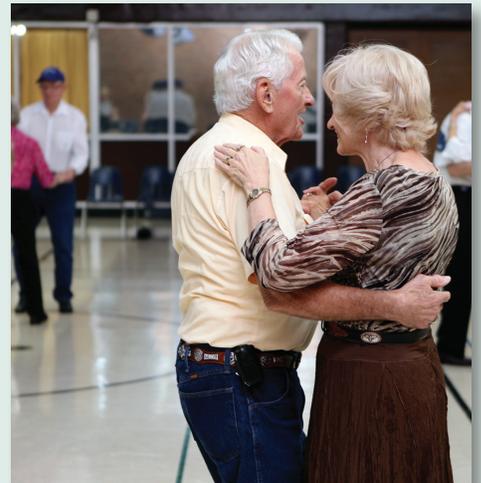
During Thanksgiving break, send your kids for a day or week of fun at Turkey Camp. Two camps are available at Dunford Recreation Center, 1015 Green Canyon Drive, and Rutherford Recreation Center, 900 Rutherford Drive, from 7:30 a.m. - 6 p.m., November 21 - 25 (no camp will be held on Thanksgiving Day, November 23). The fee is \$16 per day or \$60 for the week.

### Futsal

Mesquite Parks and Recreation is offering futsal, a modified form of indoor soccer. Two leagues are available, an adult co-ed league and a youth league for teens ages 15 - 18. Registration for the youth league runs from October 30 - November 26. Registration for the adult league runs November 13 - 26.

### Adults 50+ Dance

Enjoy live music, dancing and light refreshments at the Mesquite 50+ dance from 7 - 9:30 p.m. on Friday, November 10, at Evans Recreation Center, 1116 Hillcrest Street. Lone Star Express will be performing. The cost is \$6 per person. Free dance lessons begin at 6 p.m.



## 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)

**Mesquite Creative Artists Gallery Art Exhibit**, November 1 - 27, weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the Main and Chamber Galleries. The event is free.

**Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** performs "Foes and Heroes" at 7:30 p.m. on November 4 in the Concert Hall. Tickets available at [www.mesquitesymphony.org](http://www.mesquitesymphony.org).

**Comedian Al Fike** performs in the Black Box Theatre on November 17 from 7 - 9 p.m. Tickets are \$15.

**Just for Kids: Canvas Creations** from 10 - 11:30 a.m. on November 18. The event is free.



## Real. Texas. Roads. update

At the time of the Mainstream's publication, repairs to the first set of residential streets were complete with 26 streets reconstructed. In addition, construction has started on the second list of residential streets. The following streets are in the second phase of repairs, localized concrete repair: Sandpiper Lane, Spiceberry Lane, Bobwhite Boulevard, Sesame Drive, Mockingbird Trail, Skylark Drive, Catalina Drive, Emily Drive, Mayda Drive, Lou Ann Drive, Wise Drive, Hula Drive and Bonita Vista Circle. Streets nearing completion with only miscellaneous repairs and clean up remaining include: Palm Drive, Bahamas Drive and Emerald Drive. In addition, repairs to Canary Circle, Starling Drive, Bluebird Lane, Whiporwill Drive, Cardinal Court, Sesame Place, Harlan Drive and Byrd Drive have been completed.

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



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



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

## Community Snapshots



On September 6, Mesquite community leaders helped celebrate the grand opening of one of the largest McDonald's in the State of Texas, 1817 N. Beltline Road. A donation of \$2,000 was also presented to the Mesquite Police Department by SLI Enterprises Inc., McDonalds.



On September 11, the Mesquite community gathered at Freedom Park in remembrance of 9/11. The ceremony included remarks by Mayor Stan Pickett and prayers by Police Chief Charles Cato and Fire Chief Mark Kerby. Students from Black Elementary School also lead the Pledge of Allegiance.



On September 14, the City Council welcomed Walmart Mesquite's new Divisional Training Academy, U.S. Highway 80 East, and congratulated 74 graduates. The academy is only one of six nationwide.