



August 12, 2016



Monthly sales tax report

The State Comptroller's Office reported a 6.3 percent increase in the City's sales tax collections for the month of August, which marks the eighth consecutive month of positive sales tax collections for the City. In terms of the City budget, the City collected \$185,000 more this month than the same period last year. Overall, sales tax collections are up 3.8 percent for the year and are an indicator of a stable

and healthy local economy. For more detailed information on how the City uses its sales tax revenue, visit the City's website at www.cityofmesquite.com.



Mesquite Freedom Park rises from ground

The progress on construction of Mesquite Freedom Park, located on the North Lawn of the Mesquite Arts Center, is continuing as walls and other features were started this week. The park will feature a 15-foot, 575-pound beam from one of the twin towers of the World Trade Center (WTC) destroyed in the September 11 attacks. One of the park

features includes tridents similar to those on the first floor of the WTC. A public dedication ceremony for Mesquite Freedom Park will be held at 3 p.m. on Sunday, September 11.



Mesquite offers reduced fee back-to-school immunizations

The Mesquite Public Health Clinic will offer reduced fee immunizations and extended hours of operation from August 15 - 26 to help meet the need for back-to-school immunizations. Vaccinations will be administered at \$14 per child for children ages 18 and under without insurance

coverage or with insurance coverage that does not include immunizations. Vaccinations are free of charge for children with Medicaid coverage. Extended hours will be held Monday - Friday from 8 a.m. - 4 p.m. Regular hours of operation will resume on Monday, August 29. The clinic is located at 1616 N. Galloway Ave. Call 972-329-8326 for more details.



School zone flasher testing to begin

The Traffic Engineering Division will begin testing school zone flashers next week in preparation for the start of the school year. School zone speed limits will not become effective until the first day of school on August 22.



Mesquite receives Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award

The City of Mesquite has earned the 2016 Annual Achievement of Excellence in Procurement Award from the National Procurement Institute. The city is one of only 28 agencies in Texas and one of only 72 cities in the United States and Canada to receive the award. Mesquite has earned this honor for fourteen consecutive years. Criteria for the award are designed to measure innovation, professionalism, e-procurement, productivity, and leadership attributes of the procurement

function. Visit www.npiconnection.org for more information.



“Back the Blue, Bring a Book” drive produces over 700 donations

The Mesquite community donated over 700 books to the “Back the Blue, Bring a Book” drive held on August 9. The one-day event was an extension of the "Books & Badges" program launched this summer by Mesquite Police

Resource Officers who read with students at MISD libraries. The book drive was also held in support of the Mesquite Independent School District’s (MISD) early reading program and Back to School Fair. Donations of new or used books were dropped off in specially marked collection bins at both Mesquite Public Libraries.



Mesquite staff and Marlins Swim Team members featured on WFAA Channel 8

After being recognized at the August 1 City Council meeting, the Mesquite Marlins Swim Team was contacted by WFAA Channel 8 and invited to appear on the August 12 News 8 Daybreak - Party on the Plaza segment. Four of the team

members; Jack Nolan, Noah Stucky, Nicholas Cordero and Gabriel Cordero along with their coach, Dustin Holland, were featured. These swimmers won medals in their respective

events at the Texas Amateur Athletic Federation (T.A.A.F.) Regional Meet held in Frisco on July 16. The boys went on to represent Mesquite in the T.A.A.F. Summer Games of Texas held July 28 - 30 in McAllen, Texas. Additionally, WFAA recognized Mesquite's Lifeguard of the Year recipients, and Recreation Marketing Specialist Jessica Larson promoted Doggie Splash Day to be held on August 13. The segment can be viewed on the City's Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MesquiteTexas.



Mesquite announces its Lifeguards of the Year

The City of Mesquite has announced its Lifeguards of the Year. Recipients are: Chase Harmon of Town East Pool, a junior at Poteet High School; Dylan Pfannenstiel of Vanston Pool, a senior at John Horn High School; and Randy Jim of City Lake Aquatic Center, a Texas A&M University-Commerce incoming student. City Lake Aquatic Center Supervisor Jared Travis was also honored for his ten years of service to our community. Councilmember Bill Porter, who worked as a lifeguard at Mesquite's first swimming pool in 1955, presented the awards.

More than 50 lifeguards took the stands this summer to protect the 79,000 swimmers who visited Mesquite's three pools. Vanston Pool closed for the season on August 12. Town East Pool closes on August 21, while City Lake Aquatic Center will remain open until September 5. For more information, call 972-216-6260.



Mesquite Police Department receives banner from Heavenly Hands quilting group

On August 9, the Heavenly Hands quilting group of First United Methodist Church presented a beautiful banner to the Mesquite Police Department. The group created the banner by hand and church members signed individual leaves attached to the quilted tree to show their love and support for our men and women in blue.



Register now for Recreation After School Program

Registration for the Recreation After School Program (RASP), for children in kindergarten through sixth grade, is now open. The program operates in conjunction with the Mesquite Independent School District calendar. RASP runs Monday through Friday from 3 - 6 p.m. and is available at Achziger, Beasley, Florence, McKenzie, Rutherford, Shaw and Thompson Elementary Schools. The fee is \$90 per month and includes supervised activities, arts and crafts,

snacks and homework time.



Registration for The First Tee of Dallas begins August 15

The instructional golf program is held at the Mesquite Golf Club, 825 Interstate 30, and runs September 10 through October 8 on Saturdays. Children ages 7 - 10 practice from 10 - 11:30 a.m. Youth ages 11 - 17 practice from 12 - 1:30 p.m. The fee is \$50 per golfer. Scholarships are available. For more information or to register, go to www.thefirstteedallas.org.

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