

COMMUNITY CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 2024

- 2 **Labor Day holiday.** All City offices and facilities closed with exception of the Mesquite Metro Airport and Compost Facility & Convenience Center. Trash will be collected; recycling will not be collected.
- 3, 16 **City Council meetings,** 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. 972-216-6244.
- 7 **Butterfly Ball,** 6-11 p.m. at Mesquite Convention Center, 1700 Rodeo Dr. Fundraising gala hosted by KMB. Tickets and info at www.KeepMesquiteBeautiful.org.
- 7, 14, 21, 28 **Downtown Farmers Market,** 9 a.m.-1 p.m. at Front Street Station, 100 W. Front St. Fresh produce, artisan goods, food vendors, live music and more. For info, visit www.DowntownMesquiteTX.com.
- 11 **Patriot Day event,** 8:30 a.m., at Mesquite Freedom Park, north lawn of the Mesquite Arts Center, 1527 N. Galloway. Brief memorial ceremony to mark the anniversary of terrorist attacks in 2001.
- 14 **Movies in the Park,** 7-10 p.m., at Rorie-Galloway Day Camp, 3100 Lawson Rd. Enjoy a movie outdoors as well as games and concessions for purchase.
- 14 **Teen Turnout,** 6-8 p.m. at Rutherford Recreation Center, 900 Rutherford Dr. For students ages 12-17. Free food, games, music and fun. Visit www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasTeens for info.
- 21 **Hispanic Heritage Health Fair,** 10 a.m.-3 p.m., at Florence Recreation Center, 2501 Whitson Way. Bilingual health-focused vendors and demonstrations and crafts for kids. Attendees will get a free bag and t-shirt while supplies last.
- 24 **Town Hall Tuesday,** 6:30-7:30 p.m., Training Rooms A&B at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway.
- 28 **Trash Bash,** 8 a.m.-1 p.m., meet at Town East Mall marquee. Community cleanup event hosted by Keep Mesquite Beautiful. Info and tickets at www.KeepMesquiteBeautiful.org.
- 28 **Guts & Gory Zombie Experience,** 9 a.m.-12 p.m., at Rorie-Galloway Day Camp, 3100 Lawson Rd. Thrilling obstacle course and team-building challenge to escape "zombies." See Pg. 3.



City urges safe driving as new school year starts

Students across Mesquite return to school in August. Mayor Daniel Alemán, Jr., and all the Councilmembers send best wishes to all students, teachers, administrators and school staff for a wonderful school year.

The City is reminding everyone to pay extra attention in school zones and crosswalks. No texting while driving, no cell phone usage in crosswalks, watch for children when driving near schools, stop for school buses and please, "Drive Like Your Family Lives Here."



Visit www.DriveLikeYourFamilyLivesHere.org to learn more about the City's safe-driving campaign.

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Wilson to retire as Fire Chief

The City of Mesquite has announced that Russell “Rusty” Wilson will retire as Fire Chief on Aug. 31. Wilson has served in the position since November 2020. Under Wilson’s leadership, the Fire Department began construction of Fire Station 2 and began the design and construction process for Fire Station 8 and a new Public Safety Training Facility. Also during his tenure, the Fire Department maintained an Insurance Services Office rating of 1 which is the highest attainable level, hired 77 new firefighters, implemented a peer-to-peer support program for firefighter behavioral health and a health and wellness Initiative to assess firefighters’ health and provide cancer prevention/detection, and instituted promotional and swearing-in ceremonies. While Wilson was chief, the department increased its public fire education for kids with Freddy the Firetruck, deployed Ambulance 6 in full-time service and Ambulance 15 for peak-time service and rolled out an innovative truck-mounted crash barrier called an attenuator into service for firefighters to work on highway incident scenes more safely. The City Manager has begun the hiring process to replace Chief Wilson and expects to have a new chief named by Oct. 1.



Tickets on sale for Mesquite Meander

Tickets are now on sale for Historic Mesquite, Inc.’s Mesquite Meander, an unforgettable outdoor, theatrical living-history tour through Mesquite Cemetery. This annual experience features local actors portraying residents from the community’s past. Tickets are \$15 per person. The Meander offers tours starting every 10 minutes that run approximately 45 minutes to an hour. Tour times on Oct. 11 start at 6 p.m. with last tour starting at 7:30 p.m. Tour times on Oct. 12 start at 5:30 p.m. with last tour starting at 7 p.m. Mesquite Cemetery is located at 400 Holley Park Dr. Attendees should note that the Mesquite Meander is an outdoor event in a historic cemetery, so there may be areas of uneven ground and gravel walkways. To purchase tickets and for more information, call HMI’s office at 972-216-6468 or visit www.historicmesquite.org.



Butterfly Ball, Trash Bash in September

In September, Keep Mesquite Beautiful will hold its major fundraiser and signature community cleanup event. First up is the 2nd annual Butterfly Ball on Saturday, Sept. 7. The theme for this year’s fundraising gala is “The Butterfly Effect.” The event will be from 6-11 p.m. at the Mesquite Convention Center and will feature dinner, drinks, live music, dancing, silent auction, and more. Learn more and buy tickets at www.cityofmesquite.com/ButterflyBall. Later in the month is Trash Bash from 8 a.m.-1 p.m. on Saturday, Sept. 28. Trash Bash is an opportunity for families, neighbors and groups to enjoy the outdoors and help beautify the Mesquite community. Volunteers are asked to pre-register to help event organizers coordinate supplies and cleanup site locations. Learn more and register at www.cityofmesquite.com/trashbash.





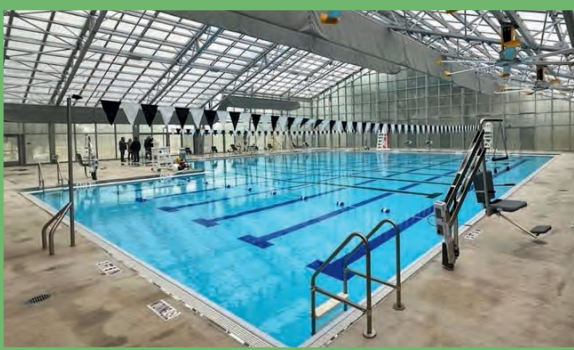
Guts & Gory Zombie Experience

Oh no! Zombies are going to attack at Rorie-Galloway Day Camp in Mesquite on Sept. 28! Or at least volunteers in zombie costumes as part of the annual Guts & Gory Zombie Experience. Run through the woods, compete in team building challenges and try to survive the zombie horde. Participate as a racer or a zombie. Find more information and register at www.cityofmesquite.com/GutsAndGory.



After School Adventures

Register today for After School Adventures, a program for children in kindergarten through sixth grade that operates in conjunction with the Mesquite ISD calendar, from 3 to 6 p.m., Monday through Friday. The program is managed by trained staff and offers a variety of fun and engaging activities, including arts and crafts, snacks, and dedicated homework time. The monthly cost is \$100 for residents and \$110 for non-residents. Space is limited. To see program locations and for more information, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/ASA or call 972-216-6260.



Water Exercise at the Natatorium

Get a great workout in the water at the new Mesquite Natatorium, located at Dallas College - Eastfield Campus, 3737 Motley Dr. Both morning and evening sessions are available for water exercise, Aqua Zumba and lap swimming. For class prices and operation hours, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/Natatorium.



Adults 50+ Colorado trip

Join us for an unforgettable trip to Colorado this fall, Sept. 8-14! We'll tour the Garden of the Gods, the U.S. Air Force Academy, the Royal Gorge, historic Manitou Springs, Colorado Springs, and the U.S. Olympic and Paralympic Museum. Trip fees ranges from \$995 to \$1,355, depending on single or double occupancy, and includes motorcoach transportation, six nights lodging, a group t-shirt, six breakfasts and four dinners. Full payment is due at registration. Register at Evans, Goodbar or Rutherford Recreation Centers or at the Parks and Recreation administration office at 1515 N. Galloway. For more information, contact Pam Folsom at 972-204-4965 or pfolsom@cityofmesquite.com.



Let's be friends! Mesquite Parks and Recreation has a new Facebook account. Scan the QR code or visit www.facebook.com/people/Mesquite-Parks-Recreation/61559237219839 for the latest events and happenings.

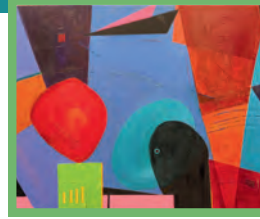
Community Snapshots:

In July, the City hosted Epic Summer Experience for teens ages 12-17. The free series of events included food, basketball, soccer, volleyball, crafts, music and more. Epic Summer is part of the City's Real. Texas. Teens. initiative that empowers and engages with youth. Visit www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasTeens to learn more.



MESQUITE
ARTS
CENTER

The Mesquite Arts Center is located at 1527 N. Galloway Ave. For more information on any of these events, please call 972-216-8132 or visit www.mesquiteartscenter.org.



Through Sept. 20 on display in the Main Gallery, "Feeling My Way" featuring the works of Marc Dominus. The exhibit is described as "vibrant, layered and spontaneous." The show includes work completed over the past two years.



Through Sept. 20 on display in the Chamber Gallery, "You Just Had to Be There..." by Assandre Jean-Baptiste captures what the artist calls "tales from the past." Jean-Baptiste re-imagines these moments through illustration and paint.



Every Monday, Tote-and-Go services, 12 p.m. Pick up free art kits for kids with a different theme every week. There is a limited supply of kits, so please register in advance by visiting www.mesquiteartscenter.org.



Facility Rental. The Mesquite Arts Center is the perfect location for any event you might want to host. Select the setting that works best for you including the Concert Hall, Rehearsal Hall, Black Box Theatre, Library or Conference Room. Please contact us at arts@cityofmesquite.com for more details.

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