



MAINSTREAM

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COMMUNITY CALENDAR

September 2015

- 7** **Labor Day**, Mesquite Municipal Center and Mesquite City Hall are closed. Garbage will be collected on Thursday, September 10. Recycling will be collected on Monday, September 14. For additional information on City services impacted during holidays, please visit www.cityofmesquite.com/holidays.
- 8 (Tu), 21** **City Council Meetings** at City Hall, 7 p.m., 757 N. Galloway Avenue. 972-216-6244
- 12** **Mesquite Marketplace**, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., 120 W. Main Street.

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 Police Department graduates nine new officers from its academy

In July, the Mesquite Police Department graduated nine new officers from its internal police academy program. Since the program began two years ago, the department has graduated 23 officers. According to the Texas Commission of Law Enforcement, only about four percent of the law enforcement agencies in Texas have their own training academies.

The nine new officers represent three different states and one foreign country. The department now has 219 sworn officers.

During the graduation ceremony, Police Chief Derek Rohde presented retired Pastor Dr. Tom Wilbanks with an award to acknowledge his 20 years of service on the department's training review board.



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Stan Pickett
Mayor



Greg Noschese
Mayor Pro Tem,
Place 5



Bruce Archer
Deputy Mayor Pro
Tem, Place 3



Bill Porter
Councilmember
Place 1



Jeff Casper
Councilmember
Place 2



Shirley Roberts
Councilmember
Place 4



Dennis Tarpley
Councilmember
Place 6



MAYOR'S CORNER

This summer the Citizens' Street Bond Committee met twice. They discussed, debated and deliberated on a recommendation to the City Council for a street bond referendum this fall for voters to consider. I would like to use this month's column to thank the committee. They donated their personal time to learn more about the issues and the implications of a street bond referendum. On behalf of the entire City Council, I want them each to know how much we sincerely appreciate their getting involved in this process of governance. As we move forward on considering a street bond referendum, I encourage the community to stay informed by visiting www.cityofmesquite.com/streetbond.

Stan Pickett
Mayor

Trash Bash is September 12

Volunteer groups are encouraged to register for Trash Bash, set for Saturday, September 12 at City Lake Park, 403 S. Galloway Avenue. Trash Bash is an event held semi-annually by Keep Mesquite Beautiful (KMB) to help keep Mesquite clean by picking up littered areas and participating in beautification projects. Participants receive a Trash Bash t-shirt and free lunch. For details, call KMB at 972-329-8331 or visit www.keeptmesquitebeautiful.org/trashbash.

Mesquite Freedom Park seeks community support

Located among the lush greens and canopy of trees at the Mesquite Arts Center, Mesquite Freedom Park will pay tribute to this country's freedoms and those who have protected those freedoms. A 15-foot, 575-pound twisted metal beam recovered from the 9/11 World Trade Center terrorists attacks will stand as the focal point of the park.



A community fundraising effort has begun to reach the goal of \$100,000 necessary to build the park. For details on the park and making a tax-deductible donation, visit www.mesquitefreedompark.com.

Summer safety tips for pet owners from Mesquite Animal Services



Leaving a pet in the car unattended can be considered animal cruelty. Animals, like children, can suffer long-term effects or even death in minutes as a result of being left in a hot car. Even with the windows cracked on a pleasant 85-degree day, the temperature inside a parked car can reach more than 100 degrees. For more information, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/animalcare.

Mesquite Fire Department Announces 2015 Citizens Fire Academy

Applications are now being accepted for the 2015 Mesquite Fire Department Citizens Fire Academy (CFA). The CFA is a nine-week program beginning in September. It provides Mesquite residents the opportunity to learn about the Fire Department directly from firefighters. Topics will include Emergency Medical Services, vehicle extrication, firefighting tactics and more. For details or an application, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/CFA.



Walk on the Wild Side as Zooniversity is coming to Mesquite!

Meet several fascinating creatures and learn about their unique habitats. **Zooniversity presents Animals Around the World at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 West Grubb Drive, on Thursday, September 17, at 6:30 p.m. The program is free and designed for ages 5 and up. For details, call the library at 972-216-6220.**

City Council Capsule

Here is a brief summary of the most recent actions by the Mesquite City Council. The City Council meets the first and third Monday of each month. To view agendas or watch videos of past Council meetings, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/watchcouncilmeeting.

- Approved funding to make improvements to historic downtown Mesquite. These improvements will include the gazebo, electrical upgrades and landscaping.
- Reached a consensus to advertise for the position of City Manager, as current City Manager Ted Barron announced his retirement effective September 30.

Safety tips from the Mesquite Police Department

School is back in session soon and many students walk to school. The Mesquite Police Department would like for you to have a conversation with your kids about distracted walking. We've all heard of distracted driving but distracted walking can be just as dangerous. Before your children head out, remind them of these year-round safety tips:

- Never walk while texting or talking on the phone.
- If texting, move out of the way of others and stop on the sidewalk.
- Never cross the street while using an electronic device.
- Do not walk with headphones on.
- Be aware of the surroundings.
- Always walk on the sidewalk if one is available and, if a child must walk on the street, he or she should face oncoming traffic.
- Look left, right, then left again before crossing the street.
- Cross only at crosswalks.

Municipal Court offers new docket for persons with warrants

The City of Mesquite Municipal Judge has created a new Warrant Docket so anyone with a Mesquite Class C misdemeanor warrant will have the opportunity to see the Judge with no apprehension of being arrested or having the



expense and hardship of posting bond. The Judge will require a \$100 payment per warrant to lift the warrant, grant extensions and payment plans and will work with people having multiple warrants to take care of the warrants. The program will be held at 9 a.m. on the first and third Friday of each month beginning in August. A Spanish translator will be available in courtroom. For details, contact Municipal Court at 972-216-6206 or visit www.cityofmesquite.com/warrants.



Parks and Recreation Corner

For more information on any of these programs, please call 972-216-6260 or visit www.cityofmesquite.com/pard.

Therapeutic Activities: Special need athletes, join the Therapeutic Activities this fall for Bowling, Flag Football and Volleyball. Programing will run September through November. Get details at www.cityofmesquite.com/TherapeuticActivities.

Fletching: Kids of all ages, join the Society for Archery Associations at Westlake Sports Center on Sunday, October 4, from 10 a.m. - 3 p.m. to learn how to build a working bow with 3 wooden arrows and how to shoot them with certified instructors. The deadline to register is September 21.



Bow Hunting: Kids ages 8 -16 learn bow hunting techniques including how to build your shot, clearing a shooting lane, proper shots and more on Saturday, September 19, from 8 - 11 a.m at Westlake Sports Center.

Aquatics: Adult Water Exercise and Aqua Zumba are offered at Town East Pool until the first week in October. For class schedules and fees visit: www.cityofmesquite.com/AquaticFitness.

Little Rookies Baseball and Softball: Registration for Little Rookies Baseball and Softball for children ages 3 - 4 is September 28 - October 24. Two sessions are available at 9 a.m. and 10 a.m. beginning October 24. The fee is \$35 per player. Parent participation is required.

Mesquite 50+ Dance: Join us for live music, dancing and light refreshments at the Evans Recreation Center from 7 - 9:30 p.m. September 11 is Southern Spur and September 25 features The Honky Tonkers.

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

The **Mesquite Community Theatre** presents The Complete Works of William Shakespeare (abridged) on September 24, 25 and 26 at 8 p.m. and on September 27 at 2:30 p.m. All 37 Plays in 97 Minutes! For ticket details, visit www.mesquitecommunitytheatre.com.

The **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra (MSO)** opens its new season at 7:30 p.m. on September 19. Tickets to regular season concerts start at \$10, with discounts available to children, seniors and groups. The MSO will also perform on October 10, November 14, December 19, February 20, April 2 and May 7.

Mesquite announces Water My Yard program

The City of Mesquite is encouraging its residential and business water utility customers to register their address with www.WaterMyYard.org to get customized instructions on when and how long to run their irrigation system. WaterMyYard.org uses data from weather stations to gather local climate conditions, rainfall, temperature, wind speed, relative humidity and solar radiation. This data develops a customized irrigation recommendation for each user. Those recommendations are sent weekly to users through emails and/or text messages.

Taste & Trade is September 29

The Mesquite Chamber of Commerce will host the 20th Annual Taste & Trade event on September 29 at the Mesquite Exhibit Hall, 1750 Rodeo Center Drive, from 4 - 8 p.m.

The event, presented by title sponsor Agape Home Health and Hospice, is a unique and fun opportunity to learn more about many local businesses and restaurants in Mesquite. There are tons of great giveaways, door prizes and the opportunity to sample food from local eateries. For details and ticket information, contact the Chamber at 972-285-0211.



Did You Know?

Did you know that the City of Mesquite has an online Waste Wizard that helps residents determine how to dispose of materials or recycle items? From aluminum cans to zip lock bags, the Waste Wizard helps the public figure out what goes into the recycling bin or the trash can. Try it out at www.cityofmesquite.com/waste-wizard.

Treasures Barn Sale

Historic Mesquite, Inc. (HMI) is collecting donations for its fourth annual Treasures Barn Sale, scheduled for October 16 and 17, with ticketed Preview Party on October 15. All donations will be accepted: clothing, books, collectibles, antiques, new and used items. For details, call HMI at 972-216-6468.

Community Snapshots



At the July 6 City Council meeting, the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association led the Pledge of Allegiance.



On July 9, North Texas Housing Association President Dave Young was welcomed to Mesquite by Mayor Stan Pickett as the association held its monthly meeting at the Mesquite Arts Center.



On July 17, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted another successful Movie in the Park event.