



MAINSTREAM




www.cityofmesquite.com

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

3 (Tues.), 16 **September 2013**
City Council Meeting, 3 p.m.,
 Council Chambers, 757 N. Galloway,
 972-216-6244

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 earns Film Friendly Certification



The City of Mesquite recently received the Texas Film Friendly designation from the Texas Film Commission. Mesquite joins Cedar Hill, Dallas, Frisco, Midlothian and Sunnyvale as the only other cities in the Dallas-Fort Worth area to achieve certification. During the July 15 City Council Meeting, Texas Film



Commission Production Resources Coordinator Alicia Downard presented Mayor John Monaco with the certificate. The Texas Film Friendly certification program is managed by the Texas Film Commission in the Office of the Governor. To obtain certification, the City had to attend a one-day workshop that focused on the production process and how to effectively work with filming requests, adopt a film policy approved by the Texas Film Commission and provide location photos for inclusion in TexScout, the Texas Film Commission's online location database. The certification means brand awareness when Mesquite is featured in future productions and the opportunity to benefit economically as film projects often use local vendors for support services.



John Monaco
Mayor



Stan Pickett
Councilmember
Place 3



Shirley Roberts
Mayor Pro Tem
Place 4



Bill Porter
Councilmember
Place 1



Al Forsythe
Deputy Mayor Pro
Tem, Place 2



Greg Noschese
Councilmember
Place 5



Dennis Tarpley
Councilmember
Place 6



MAYOR'S CORNER

This summer I have had the unique and privileged opportunity to spend time with two different segments of our military. In June, I visited with several young men and women who had just enlisted to serve our country. They were on a training exercise at Town East Park before heading off to their basic training for the U.S. Army. It was a pleasure to speak to them about their career dreams and aspirations, and about what motivated them to serve our country. More recently, I was honored to bring recognition upon two military veterans. During a ceremony at Town East Mall I presented proclamations to Taylor Dixon and Henry Grady Stanley. Dixon was a member of the first wave of soldiers who stormed the beaches of Normandy, France in June of 1944. Stanley was a POW in the Bataan Death March from 1942 - 1945.



These two experiences were reminders to me of how much we should all praise enlisted and veterans of our military, as well as their families for all the sacrifices they give to keep us safe.

John Monaco
John Monaco, Mayor



Did You Know?

This is a monthly section to give readers a brief insight into the City's operations, services and programs.



Do you know who our Code Enforcement Officers are? Code Enforcement Officers are professionals, communicators, educators, mediators, community advocates, public servants, zoning inspectors, housing inspectors, property maintenance inspectors and problem solvers. Perhaps the most visible role of Code Enforcement Officers is their effort to battle blight in the community. These professionals support and enhance the quality of life while working to keep aging buildings, homes and properties from becoming eyesores. Additionally, they address the issues of vacant buildings, trash, tall grass and weeds, graffiti and inoperable vehicles.

The recent financial and housing crisis has made Code Enforcement Officers even more necessary and essential to all communities. As the rates of foreclosed and vacant properties continue to soar, Code Enforcement Officers spend an increasingly substantial amount of time addressing property maintenance and housing code violations to help maintain the curb side appeal of neighborhoods at their best.

The growth of the aging population and an increased awareness have also brought other issues to the forefront such as elder abuse, self-neglect and hoarding. Code Enforcement Officers are often part of the problem-solving teams and/or task forces which address these issues.

Training, certification and professionalism are more important for Code Enforcement Officers than ever before. It is not uncommon for Code Enforcement interaction to be a resident's first association with the municipality. Building relationships and knowledge of the community are integral to a proactive and professional code enforcement approach.

Police Department offers back-to-school tips

School is back in session during August. Help make this school year as safe as possible by following these tips:

- Children are the least predictable pedestrians and the most difficult to see. Take extra care to look out for children not only in school zones, but also in neighborhoods, playgrounds and parks.
- Remember to slow down and obey the posted speed limits in school zones.
- Don't talk on a cell phone or text while driving through a school zone.
- Flashing red lights and/or an extended stop sign on the bus means all traffic must stop in both directions until the sign is in and/or the red flashing lights have stopped.
- If your children walk to school, have them walk in groups and encourage them to never walk over to a stranger's car or talk to a stranger on their way to or from school.



Stage 3 water restrictions

Just a reminder Mesquite is still under water restrictions. For details on the most current outdoor watering guidelines, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities or call 972-329-8533. The restrictions for homeowners and businesses located in Mesquite are:

- Lawn watering is limited to one time each week based on address. Addresses that end in the following numbers may water on the corresponding day: 0 or 1 Monday, 2 or 3 Tuesday, 4 or 5 Wednesday, 6 or 7 Thursday, 8 or 9 Friday.
- No lawn watering is allowed between 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. on any day.
- Vehicle washing is only permitted with the use of a hose-end positive shut-off nozzle.
- Operation of malfunctioning irrigation equipment is not permitted at any time.



Use watering cans, especially when watering patio plants. Hoses can waste water by getting more on patios than on the plants.



Water your plants deeply, but less frequently, to encourage deep root growth & drought tolerance.



Parks and Recreation Corner

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

Pre-school Pros Instructional Volleyball Program

This program is for ages 5 - 6 and costs \$35 per child. Registration is September 9 - October 5. Please note a \$10 late fee will be in effect if registering after October 5.

Summer Camps in Review



Mesquite Arts Center Activities

The following activities are funded in part by the City of Mesquite hotel-motel occupancy tax revenues.

The Mesquite Arts Center is located at
1527 N. Galloway.

For updates, check www.mesquiteartscenter.org,
or call 972-216-6444.

September

- 4-10/3 **Mesquite Arts Council** presents the exhibit "Authors Quilt."
- 7 **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** "Membership Gala and Concert." 7:30 p.m. Call 972-216-8127 to purchase tickets.
- 8 **Texas Area Artists** will host their monthly meeting and artist demonstration. 2 p.m.
- 9 **Monthly Paint-In** All artists are invited to bring their projects and share successes with others. 10 a.m.
- 9 **Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meeting. 7 p.m.



Community Snapshots



On July 11, Mayor Pro Tem Shirley Roberts welcomed North Texas Housing Authority (NTHA) President Wayne Pollard and about 50 NTHA members at the Mesquite Arts Center for the association's business meeting.



On July 12, Deputy Mayor Pro Tem Al Forsythe helped cut the ribbon to officially open Big Town Events Center's 112,000-square-foot expo hall after its recent upgrades and renovations.



At the July 15 City Council meeting, Mesquite Library Summer Reading participants Gabe and Eli Wiley helped lead the Pledge of Allegiance along with Children's Librarian Christi Mones.