



# MAINSTREAM

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### October 2013

- 7, 21** **City Council Meeting**, 3 p.m., Council Chambers, 757 N. Galloway, 972-216-6244
- 10 - 12** **Historic Mesquite, Inc. Preview Party and Trash to Treasures Barn Sale** (all proceeds benefit historical preservation efforts in Mesquite), Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 701 E. Kearney Street. For tickets to Preview Party or details on Barn Sale call 972-216-6468 or visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/hmi](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/hmi).
- 18 - 19** **Friends of the Mesquite Library Book Sale**, (10/18, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.; 10/19, 9 a.m. - 3 p.m.), Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive, 972-216-6220
- 29** **Halloween Happenings**, 6 - 8 p.m., Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Drive, 972-216-6220

### 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

### In this Issue

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## Mesquite Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association earns state award

Recently, the Mesquite Police Department's Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association was awarded the Alumni Membership of the Year Award at the Texas Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association annual convention in Arlington. This is a great honor considering there are almost 400 Citizen Police Academy Alumni Associations across the state of Texas. This award recognizes the alumni group that grew the most in membership and volunteered the most hours for their local police department and the community during the past year.



Recently, the Mesquite Police Department's Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association conducted child fingerprinting at back-to-school events.

Members of the Mesquite Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association have helped recover more than 70 stolen vehicles in the community, staffed the Skywatch tower at Town East Mall, conducted the child identification system to fingerprint kids and managed the Fatal Vision program, which teaches teenagers about the dangers of alcohol and drinking and driving. In addition, the association helps with events, including National Night Out, Santa Cop and the Mesquite Real.Texas. Festival. Last year, they volunteered more than 6,200 hours.



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John Monaco  
Mayor



Shirley Roberts  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Place 4



Al Forsythe  
Deputy Mayor Pro  
Tem, Place 2



Bill Porter  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Stan Pickett  
Councilmember  
Place 3



Greg Noschese  
Councilmember  
Place 5



Dennis Tarpley  
Councilmember  
Place 6



## MAYOR'S CORNER

Before serving on the City Council, I donated my time as the City's first Volunteer Coordinator. So, when I heard the Senior Services Program was seeking volunteer drivers to help senior and disabled residents, I felt an instant connection to their needs.

These volunteer drivers are very critical to the everyday actions many of us take for granted. You see, these drivers transport our senior and disabled residents to the grocery store, to hair appointments and to complete other various errands. If you have the time and don't mind using your personal vehicle, I would ask that you strongly consider donating some time each month to a worthwhile cause.

For additional information about the program, please contact Senior Services Coordinator Dee Kent at 972-329-8335 or [dkent@cityofmesquite.com](mailto:dkent@cityofmesquite.com).

*John Monaco*  
John Monaco, Mayor

## Health Insurance Marketplace open enrollment begins October 1

The Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), which was passed into law in 2010 and upheld by the U.S. Supreme Court in 2012, is coming into full effect. Mesquite has joined other North Texas communities in an effort to educate citizens about their insurance options. One of the provisions of PPACA is the creation of a Health Insurance Marketplace, which will allow individuals, families and small businesses to compare plans and purchase health insurance. The Health Insurance Marketplace in Texas is scheduled to open on October 1.

In addition to the Health Insurance Marketplace, PPACA allows for many individuals and families to receive a tax credit that can help them pay their premium costs. The new Health Insurance Marketplace will allow Mesquite residents to find affordable insurance for themselves and their families, and many will receive premium assistance through the tax credits, further reducing their barrier to health coverage. For more information, call the toll-free number at 1-800-318-2596 or visit [www.HealthCare.gov](http://www.HealthCare.gov).

## KMB Fashion Show set for October 19

Mesquite is home to some of the state's best recyclers and on one Saturday each October, Mesquite students put a new spin on recycling with the Recycling Fashion Show. This year's event will be held Saturday, October 19, at Town East Mall. Students are invited to enter this fashion show where dresses, hats, accessories and even the coolest guy fashions can be made from plastic bottles, newspaper or whatever recyclables might be found around the house. For a nominal fee, students can design their costumes and model their fashions. Cash prizes are given in award categories by age level. Details on the event are available at [www.keepmesquitebeautiful.com](http://www.keepmesquitebeautiful.com).



**Check outdoor faucets,** sprinklers and hoses for leaks periodically.



**Adjust sprinklers** so only your lawn is watered and NOT the house, sidewalk or street.



**Use a broom** instead of a hose to clean your driveway & sidewalk.



**Don't water your lawn on windy days** when most water blows away or evaporates.

## Mesquite still in Stage 3 water restrictions

Although summer rains have helped lawns and gardens, North Texas has not received enough rainfall to raise area lake levels above those which trigger water conservation restrictions. The City of Mesquite will remain in Stage 3 of its Water Conservation Plan for the foreseeable future. Stage 3's once-a-week outdoor watering limitation is necessary to reduce the overall demand on the water supply. The City of Mesquite appreciates the cooperation of homeowners and businesses in limiting their outdoor water use. For more information on Stage 3 restrictions, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/utilities) or call 972-329-8533.

## Did You Know?

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

Did you know Mesquite is recognized as the official "Rodeo Capital of Texas" by the Texas Legislature? Established in 1958 by Neal Gay as an experiment in ongoing rodeo, the Mesquite ProRodeo Series has become one of the most famous rodeos in the sport and is sanctioned by the Professional Rodeo Cowboys Association (PRCA). Professional cowboys and cowgirls perform every weekend, generally from June through August. Mesquite Arena, home of the Mesquite ProRodeo, is designed for rodeo and allows spectators to be close to the action, indoors, in air-conditioned comfort. With jumbo video screens, a gift shop and the Rodeo R.A.W. Club, this popular rodeo draws more than 100,000 visitors per year, from across the United States and around the world.



## MISD Education Foundation 5K run set for October 26

The Amazing Technicolor 5K is set for October 26 at the Mesquite Convention Center. The fun 3.1-mile course will feature participants being showered with a variety of colored powder. The Amazing Technicolor 5K supports the efforts of the Mesquite ISD Education Foundation, Inc., and the Mesquite Education Association (MEA). These partner organizations are dedicated to enriching and enhancing the education of Mesquite's 39,000 youngsters. The Foundation supplies funds for projects and programs outside the regular school district budget through a grant application process. For more details, visit [www.amazingtechnicolor5k.com](http://www.amazingtechnicolor5k.com).



## 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).*

### Haunted Family Campout

**Saturday, October 12 - Sunday, October 13**  
**Rorie-Galloway Campgrounds**

Ghosts, goblins, goodies and fun are lurking in the woods of Mesquite's Rorie-Galloway campgrounds. The annual event will feature prizes for the spookiest campsite, most creative pumpkin, the scariest scream and the best costume. There will also be a tent-o-treat on Saturday at dusk where kids can trick or treat at each tent site. A hot dog dinner will be served Saturday evening and a light breakfast will be available Sunday morning for those that survive. The event is \$30 per family of four and \$5 for each additional family member. Tent set up will be from 3 - 5 p.m.

### PumpkinFest

**Saturday, October 19, 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.**  
**City Lake Park**

All ages will enjoy this fall festival with crafts, games, rides, costume contests and great festival food. PumpkinFest is a cooperative effort of Community Heart of Mesquite and the Mesquite Parks and Recreation Department. This event is free to attend. Tickets will be sold for the purchase of rides and concessions.



## 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](http://www.mesquiteartscenter.org),  
or call 972-216-6444.

### October

- 6 Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas.**  
4:30 p.m. To purchase tickets call 214-965-0491 or visit [www.thechildrenschorus.org](http://www.thechildrenschorus.org).
- 7 Texas Area Artists** monthly meeting. 2 p.m.  
Features an artist demonstration. The public is invited. For details, call 214-566-8269.
- 14 Monthly Paint-In.** 10 a.m. All artists are invited to bring their projects and share successes with others. For details, call 214-566-8269.
- 14 Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meeting and artist demonstration. 7 p.m.  
For details, call 214-771-5473.
- 18-11/2 Mesquite Community Theatre** presents "The Cemetery Club." For tickets, call 972-216-8126.
- 19 Mesquite Symphonic Band** concert. 7:30 p.m.  
To purchase tickets, call 972-216-8125.

**THE  
CEMETERY  
CLUB**



In August, Mayor John Monaco honored the Mesquite Tigers 9U baseball team for their second place finish in the Silver Division of American Amateur Youth Baseball Alliance World Series held in Flower Mound, TX.

## COMPASS continues service to the community

**MESQUITE  
COMPASS**  
City Of Mesquite PAssenger Shuttle  
Navigate your travel costs, stress and time.

Operating as Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) Express Bus Route 282, the City of Mesquite PAssenger Shuttle (COMPASS) continues to provide a cost effective weekday commuting option for residents traveling into the DART service area. For just \$7 per day, riders can connect to the entire DART transit system and avoid the headaches of driving on LBJ, U.S. 80, and I.H. 30. Since starting service in 2012, COMPASS has moved more than 42,000 passengers, the majority of whom use discounted employer annual passes. For more information on COMPASS, go to [www.cityofmesquite.com/compass](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/compass).

## Community Snapshots



Recently, the City of Mesquite and the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce held a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the grand opening of Taco Casa.



Progress continues on construction of Phase I of Heritage Trail, which consists of approximately 4.25 miles of concrete trails and sidewalks, three trailheads, major intersection enhancements, one exercise station, one pedestrian bridge and other improvements.