



# MAINSTREAM

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 A City of Mesquite, Texas Publication  
 City of Mesquite • 1515 N. Galloway Avenue • Mesquite, TX 75149

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

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

### May 2017

- 1, 15** City Council meetings at 7 p.m. at City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. 972-216-6444.
  - 4** The 14th annual Mayor's Prayer Breakfast will be held from 7 - 8 a.m. at Family Cathedral, 709 Windbell Circle.
  - 6** Mesquite Authors Fair will be held from 2 - 5 p.m. at the Mesquite Main Library, 300 W. Grubb Dr. 972-216-6220.
  - 13** Second Saturday Game Days, a monthly board gaming event for teens and adults, will be held from 2 - 4 p.m. at the Mesquite Main Library.
  - 29** Memorial Day. All City offices and facilities closed with the exception of the Mesquite Metro Airport. No trash or recycling collected. Collection will occur on residents' next scheduled collection day.
  - 30** Town Hall Tuesday will be held from 7 - 8 p.m. at Mesquite City Hall, 757 N. Galloway Ave. The Parks and Recreation Department's active adult programs and services will be featured.
- For information on City services impacted during holidays, please visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/Holidays](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Holidays).  
 To learn about all the different ways to stay informed on city news, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/StayInformed](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/StayInformed).

### 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
Main Library	972-216-6220
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

## 2017 "Spread the Love" campaign kicks off

The 2017 Spread the Love peanut butter and jelly food drive is underway and has already surpassed last year's donations. El Rio Grande Latin Market recently donated \$1,000 to the annual food drive, which benefits the food pantries of Sharing Life Community Outreach and Mesquite Social Services.



In addition, Dallas Mavericks guard Wesley Matthews made a special appearance at Florence Elementary School on March 9 and presented the City with enough peanut butter and jelly to make 20,000 sandwiches courtesy of Albertsons/Tom Thumb Companies.

Donations to the campaign will be given to food insecure children through Sharing Life Community Outreach and Mesquite Social Services. Donations can be made at several City facilities plus special events. Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/SpreadTheLove](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/SpreadTheLove) for more information.



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



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



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



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



[www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas](http://www.youtube.com/cityofmesquitetexas)



Stan Pickett  
Mayor



Bruce Archer  
Mayor Pro Tem  
Place 3



Jeff Casper  
Deputy Mayor Pro  
Tem, Place 2



Bill Porter  
Councilmember  
Place 1



Dan Aleman  
Councilmember  
Place 4



Greg Noschese  
Councilmember  
Place 5



Dennis Tarpley  
Councilmember  
Place 6



## MAYOR'S CORNER

This month, I want to recognize and congratulate the Mesquite Municipal Court on providing outstanding service to our community. On March 3, the court held its largest warrant docket since implementing the docket program in 2015. This was achieved through a concerted effort to increase participation in the Great Texas Warrant Roundup, an annual statewide effort to clear outstanding warrants and violations.

The Mesquite Marshals distributed information about the program in several neighborhoods and attempted direct contact with outstanding warrant holders. In addition, the Communications and Marketing Department produced a public service announcement in both English and Spanish to inform the public. The result was 41 percent increase in fines and court costs paid compared to last year.

During Municipal Court Week, the court also used a variety of tactics to encourage safe driving habits, such as impairment simulation goggles, a dramatic short video and a severely wrecked vehicle placed on exhibit near the entrance to the court. The Texas Municipal Court Education Center recognized these efforts by presenting the court with a 2016 Honorable Mention for its program against distracted driving.

Stan Pickett  
Mayor

## How to remove a Vehicle Registration Hold for a red light camera violation

Registered motor vehicle owners with outstanding red light camera violations from Mesquite, Texas that are over 90 days past due will not be able to renew their motor vehicle registration until the outstanding violations and related fees are paid in full (*Texas Transportation Code, Section 701.017*). To obtain a proof of payment document to remove the hold, present your notice of violation, violation number, or license plate number along with full payment online, in person, or by mail. Instructions for each payment option are as follows:



- Online, go to [www.photonotice.com](http://www.photonotice.com) and enter city code: MSQTTX. Credit card (Visa or MasterCard) payments only.
- In Person, go to Redflex Traffic Systems, 1200 Commerce St., Ste 117, Plano, TX, 75093, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. Personal check, money order, credit cards (Visa or MasterCard) accepted. Make check or money order payable to "Mesquite Photo Enforcement Program."
- By mail, send to Mesquite Photo Enforcement Customer Service Center, PO Box 76940, Cleveland, OH, 44101. Personal check or money order only. Make check or money order payable to "Mesquite Photo Enforcement Program."

For more information, contact the Customer Service Call Center at 972-422-7900 or call toll free at 877-245-2422, Monday - Friday, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. CST.

## Take a meander through Mesquite's history

Historic Mesquite, Inc.'s (HMI) seventh annual Mesquite Meander will be held Friday, May 19, and Saturday, May 20. Local actors from Mesquite Community Theatre will present an all-new script as they portray those who moved to the early township and were laid to rest in the historic 1892 graveyard located at 400 Holley Park Drive.

Tickets are \$10 each and available during business hours at the HMI office, 711 E. Kearney St.; by phone at 972-216-6468; by mail at P.O. Box 850137, Mesquite 75185-0137; or at the gate while supplies last. Call 972-216-6468 for more information.



## City to improve development process online

In May, the City of Mesquite will begin using a new permit and plan management system as it continues 21st century service improvements. The new system will provide more efficient online access to plan and permit applications as well as reviews, payment of fees, inspection requests and contractor registrations. It will also improve the efficiency of the Rental Certificate of Occupancy process. For more information, call 972-216-6345.

## Mesquite Recycles Day

Keep Mesquite Beautiful (KMB) and the City of Mesquite will offer Mesquite Recycles Day on Saturday, May 13 from 8 a.m. – noon in the front parking lot of Poteet High school, 3300 Poteet Drive. For a complete list of items accepted, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RecyclesDay) or call KMB at 972-329-8331.



## Real. Texas. Business. news

*Real. Texas. Business. news* is a monthly feature of the *Mainstream* highlighting new development activity in Mesquite. For more information, contact the Economic Development Division at 972-216-6293 or visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/EconomicDevelopment](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/EconomicDevelopment).

Ashley Furniture Industries, Inc. has announced the company will invest \$65 million into a 358-acre tract of land in the eastern portion of Mesquite for a new 850,000 square-foot south central distribution and fulfillment center, which will bring nearly 350 full-time jobs to the community. An economic development agreement between the company and the City also encourages Ashley Furniture Industries, Inc. to make future investments in Mesquite by significantly increasing the size of the contemplated facility and the number of local jobs.

View the new Quarterly Development Activity Reports at [www.cityofmesquite.com/DevelopmentActivity](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/DevelopmentActivity).



## 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).

### Summer Camps

Registration for summer camps begins May 1. Four camps will be offered Monday - Friday, from 7 a.m. - 6 p.m. Field trips and swim days will be offered weekly. For more information, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/Camps](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/Camps).

### Youth Swim Lessons

Registration for youth swim lessons begins Monday, May 1 at 9 a.m. New this year, no pre-registration swim tests will be conducted and registration sites have been expanded to include Dunford, Evans, Florence, and Rutherford Recreation Centers plus the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1515 N. Galloway Avenue.



### KidFish

In partnership with Community Heart of Mesquite, KidFish will return to City Lake Park, 403 S. Galloway Avenue, on Saturday, May 6 from 8 a.m. to noon. The free fishing tournament is for children 16 years old or younger. Prizes will be awarded.

### Movies in the Park

Movies in the Park will feature "Trolls" on Friday, May 19 at 7 p.m. in Paschall Park, 1001 New Market Road. Pre-show entertainment will include games, music and more. Patrons are encouraged to bring their picnic baskets, lawn chairs, and blankets to this free event.



## Mesquite Arts Center Activities

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

**Melvin Brown Art Exhibit**, May 1 - 30, weekdays from 8 a.m. - 5 p.m. in the Art Gallery. Free admission.

**Mesquite Community Band** in concert at 4 p.m. on Saturday, May 6. Admission is free.

**Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** performs at 7:30 p.m. on Saturday, May 13 in the Concert Hall. Tickets available at [www.mesquitesymphony.org](http://www.mesquitesymphony.org).



## Real. Texas. Roads. update

Repairs to the first set of residential streets selected for the Real. Texas. Roads. program continue with the majority of streets completed. At the time of the Mainstream's publication, the following streets were nearing completion with only miscellaneous repairs and clean up remaining: Demaret Drive, Diane Drive, Strayhorn Drive, Hogan Drive, Rosemont Street and Belmont Street. Sixteen streets have been completed: Barbara Street, Juanita Street, Richard Street, Crest Park Drive, Andrew Street, Hillcrest Street, Royal Crest Drive, Crestridge Drive, Northridge Drive, Kiamesha Way, Tam O Shanter Drive, Nabholtz Lane, Highland Street, Valley View Street and Midway Street.

In addition, construction has started on the second list of residential streets to be repaired with bond funds. For more information or to view an Interactive Road Map, visit [www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/RealTexasRoads).



## Community Snapshots



On February 27, the Mesquite Elks Lodge #2404 named Mesquite Police Officer Dennis Arnold, Jr. as Police Officer of the Year; Mesquite Firefighter/Paramedic Samantha Criswell as Firefighter of the Year; and Diane Wright as Mesquite Citizen of the Year.



On March 6, Atlanta Falcons and Horn High School graduate Taylor Gabriel was honored at a public reception and during the Mesquite City Council meeting. Mr. Gabriel recently played in Super Bowl LI in Houston.



On March 10, community leaders, including Mayor Stan Pickett, delivered meals throughout Mesquite in support of Meals on Wheels' "March on Meals" annual awareness program.