



February 3, 2017



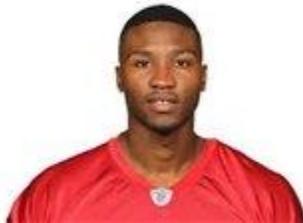
Mesquite presents city update and annual employee awards

On January 26, Mesquite Mayor Stan Pickett presented the 2017 City Update at the annual Chamber of Commerce Awards Dinner. The evening also included city employee awards for Police, Fire and General Government. The respective award recipients were Officer Don Phillips, Fire Captain Kelly Turner and Brian Bader. To view the presentation or learn more about the award recipients, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/2017CityUpdate.



Mesquite Police Department graduates five recruits from its academy

On January 27, the Mesquite Police Department (MPD) graduated five recruits from its Basic Police Officer Course (BPOC) class. Only four percent of the 2,651 law enforcement agencies in Texas have a training academy. The five recruits completed 25 weeks of the BPOC program. They will now begin a 17-week field training program. The MPD has graduated 42 recruits from its BPOC since the training academy began in 2013.



Horn High School graduate to play in Super Bowl LI

Taylor Gabriel, a Horn High School graduate and wide receiver for the Atlanta Falcons, is set to play in Super Bowl LI on Sunday, February 5. Gabriel earned Class 5A TSWA All-state as a senior at Horn in 2008 and later played for Abilene Christian University. He was signed by the Cleveland Browns in 2014 and joined the Atlanta Falcons in September 2016. The City of Mesquite congratulates him on this significant accomplishment and wishes him the best of luck in Sunday's game.



Mesquite Polar Plunge raises more than \$20,000 for Special Olympics Texas

The 2017 Mesquite Polar Plunge recently raised more than \$20,000 for Special Olympics Texas, an increase of 35 percent over last year's event. The annual event was held at City Lake Aquatic Center on January 21 with 75 participants taking the plunge including Mesquite Police Chief Charles Cato. The Polar Plunge raises funds to support more than 55,000 Special Olympics Texas athletes by providing year-round sports training, competitions and inclusion programs.



Historic Mesquite, Inc. presents Be Mine at the Park

Bring your significant other and the kids for a Valentine's adventure to remember at Opal Lawrence Historical Park, 711 E. Kearney Street, on Saturday, February 11 from 10 a.m. – 1 p.m. Historic Mesquite, Inc. (HMI) will host its first "Be Mine at the Park" event featuring special tours and activities. For more details, call HMI at 972-216-6468.



MISD student places third in 2017 Punt, Pass and Kick National Finals

Mesquite Independent School District (MISD) student Jessica Rocha placed third in the 2017 Punt, Pass and Kick National Finals in the 6-7 girls age division on January 29 at the Pro Bowl in Orlando, Florida. She advanced after competing in the sectional level in October at Hanby Stadium and the team level at the Team Championship in November at AT&T Stadium. Mayor Stan Pickett participated in a pep rally held in her honor before her trip to Orlando.



Mesquite Parks and Recreation Department receives Star Local Media Readers' Choice awards

Mesquite Parks and Recreation was awarded Best Swim Lessons and Best After School Program in Star Local Media Readers' Choice Best of the Best in 2016. Registration for 2017 Swim lessons begins May 1 at 9 a.m. in all recreation centers and at the Parks and Recreation Administration Office, 1515 N. Galloway Avenue. The Recreation After School Program is available to all Mesquite Independent School District students in kindergarten through sixth grade. For more information, visit www.cityofmesquite.com/PARD.



Environmental cleanup continues in culvert near Interstate 635 and U.S. Highway 80

An environmental cleanup continues in a culvert near Interstate 635 (I-635) and U.S. Highway 80 after an 18-wheeler plunged off the I-635 overpass in the early morning hours of February 2. The product spilled is called Plexslick, a peroxide based friction reducer used as a lubricant. The product is difficult to cleanup, but poses little threat to the environment. The Texas Department of Transportation has hired Protect Environmental Services to perform the cleanup, which is expected to be completed late today.



Status of Public Works construction projects available online

Information on current and future Public Works' construction projects is available online at www.cityofmesquite.com/PublicWorksProjects. These projects include transportation improvements as well as water and sewer projects. The webpage provides an interactive map in addition to project descriptions and status updates.



Town Hall Tuesday presentation and video available online

The City of Mesquite hosted its latest Town Hall Tuesday on January 31. The Solid Waste Division provided information about their services. Helpful tips were also offered on using the Mesquite Trash and Recycling App and the Waste Wizard program. The presentation and video of the meeting can both be viewed online at www.cityofmesquite.com/TownHall.



Westover Greenbelt Trail bridge removed

The Parks and Recreation Department removed the Westover Greenbelt Trail bridge this week after the foundation was determined to be unsafe due to erosion from recent heavy rains. This section of the trail will be closed until late fall when a new, longer bridge will be installed. The former bridge will be reused later this year when it is installed to replace the aging bridge at Westlake Sports Center.



Contact Us

Let us hear from you. If you have a concern or are experiencing an issue, please contact the City of Mesquite at 972-288-7711 or visit the City's website at www.cityofmesquite.com/CitizenRequest for assistance.

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