

September, 2011



www.ci.desoto.tx.us  
972.230.9600

# City Lights DeSoto, Texas



*A publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department*

## Council Corner: A Message Deshaundra Lockhart, Councilmember, Place 4



Progressive actions are taking place in the City of DeSoto. Our 63 year old city received the prestigious, All America City Award in 2006 and still upholds the spirit in which it was bestowed. Currently, there are several forward thinking initiatives taking place; increased governmental transparency, a marketing campaign and quality of life improvements for you and your family.

In an effort to communicate with citizens and maintain transparent government, the City will begin broadcasting our government access channel on AT&T Uverse this fall. This technology allows another option for you to be informed and participate in your city's affairs. Currently, we broadcast all City Council Meetings, Planning and Zoning Meetings and DeSoto ISD Board of Trustees meetings, as well as town hall meetings on Time Warner Cable and soon they will also be available for AT&T Uverse customers. These meetings are also available for viewing on the City's website and the public is always welcome to attend these meetings in person. Additional communicative options include email, the social media avenues of Twitter and Facebook, blogs, Notify Me eblasts and face to face contact. Council is making positive moves toward open communication. As technology continues to improve, we will also.

Another progressive move is to improve public safety by strengthening DeSoto ISD and City of DeSoto communication. Although we are separate entities, we overlap in the area of citizen quality of life. I am advocating for flashing lights at each school zone in DeSoto for the protection of our walking students. If DeSoto ISD purchases them, the City will install and maintain them. How is that for collaboration?

This fiscal year, Council has directed City staff to initiate a marketing campaign. There are good things going on here in DeSoto and our story needs to be told. Would you agree that residents and visitors need to know we have phenomenal things here?

- Did you know DeSoto has the tallest monument in

Texas?

- Did you know DeSoto has one of two Olympic quality covered BMX tracks in the nation and that ours was the first covered track built expressly for BMX racing in the United States?
- Did you know DeSoto has received State awards for its Library programming and Fire Department Training Academy?
- Did you know we have unsung heroes in our neighborhoods?
- Did you know that local and state legislative powerhouses live here also?
- Did you know you live where free music concerts and award winning theatre thrive?
- Did you know your City Council volunteers time to serve you daily?
- Did you know the community gets better because you are here?

You have something to contribute. It takes all of us contributing together.

Collaboration takes multiple parties, to include you. We all work together. When I visit with constituents, I hear their various comments about DeSoto. Their comments are based on their experience or someone's expressed encounter with people in the City. The City is only as good as it's people. Let us keep it good. Let us make it better. How do I do that, you ask? When you have a concern/complaint, call 972.230.9600 and share it. If you need the police, call 911, an operator will answer and you can remain anonymous, if you like. When you experience something good or bad, email your councilmember my email address is [dlockhart@ci.desoto.tx.us](mailto:dlockhart@ci.desoto.tx.us), we want to know. When you have a bright idea, share it with City staff. It can probably help someone else. If you think, the City is not "doing anything" enroll in Citizens Academy, ask for Ms. Hlavinka at 972-230-9689. There is something you can do.

There are positives amid the challenges of daily and civic duties. Together, Council, staff and you can continue to move DeSoto forward.

**Deshaundra Lockhart,**  
**City Council, Place 4**

## The Annual Senior Activity Center Garage Sale is Set For October 8th

It's almost time for the DeSoto Senior Activity Center's Annual Community Garage Sale. This year it will be held on Saturday, October 8, 2011. The Senior Activity Center is looking for individuals, groups or associations who would like to have booth space at the sale.

The giant sale will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the DeSoto Senior Activity Center, 204 Lion Street. Vendor arrival and set up begins at 7:00 a.m. The fee for an 8 ft. X 8 ft. booth with one table and two chairs is \$25. These booth spaces will be located inside the building and assigned on a first come, first serve basis. There is also space available outdoors for those who need a larger booth space. The fee for a 10 ft. X 10 ft. outside booth space is \$15 and will also be assigned on a first come, first serve basis. For the outside rentals the vendor will have to provide their own table and chairs. Senior citizens (50 years and older) who are **current members of the center** may receive a \$5 discount with the purchase of each booth space (inside or outside). All proceeds from booth sales will go to the vendor. The proceeds from booth space rentals will be used to purchase needed items for the Senior Activity Center.



No electrical power will be available for any booth space. Gas powered equipment or items that could be considered a fire hazard are not allowed inside the building. The sale will be held rain or shine with **NO REFUNDS**. Concessions will be provided by the center, therefore **NO FOOD ITEMS MAY BE SOLD AT ANY OF THE BOOTH SPACES**.

You may register for booth space at the DeSoto Senior Activity Center, 204 Lion Street. The Senior Activity Center is open Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Space is limited, so please register early! Call 972-230-5825 for more information.

Even if you don't have items to sell, please come by the center on October 8<sup>th</sup>, where you just might find that treasure you have always been looking for.



City and County officials recently cut the ribbon on Phase I of the widening of Cockrell Hill Road. Phase II of Cockrell Hill Road from Belt Line south to Parkerville Road.

## CITY CALENDAR

### September

- 4 Fireworks Show - Grimes Park
- 5 Labor Day Holiday - City offices closed - no trash service
- 6 City Council Meeting - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 8 Keep DeSoto Beautiful Board Mtg. - City Hall - 6:30 p.m.
- 8 Library Advisory Board Mtg. - Library Conference Room - 7 p.m.
- 8 DeSoto, TX Historical Foundation Mtg. - Admin. Conf. Rm. - 6 p.m.
- 8 Music In The Park-Gospel Night -Outdoor Amphitheater 6:30 pm
- 9 DeSoto Rocks, Battle of the Bands - Outdoor Amphitheater 5 p.m.
- 10 DDD Movie Night - Corner Theatre 7 p.m. 972.230.9648
- 12 DeSoto Arts Commission Mtg. - City Hall - 6 p.m.
- 13 Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 15 Board & Commission Fair, City Hall - 6 - 7 p.m.
- 19 City Manager's Golf Tournament - Thorntree CC - 9 a.m.
- 20 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 22-24 DAC Independent Film Festival - 972.230.9648
- 22 Music In The Park-Country & Blues Night - Amphitheater 6:30 pm
- 26 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - noon
- 27 Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.

### October

- 3 Poetry In Progress Mtg. - Library - 6 p.m.
- 3 Park Development Corp. Mtg. - City Hall - 6:30 p.m.
- 4 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 6 Keep DeSoto Beautiful Board Mtg. - City Hall - 6:30 p.m.
- 6 Library Advisory Board Mtg. - Library Conf. Room - 7 p.m.
- 10 DeSoto Arts Commission Mtg. - City Hall - 6 p.m.
- 11 Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 13 DeSoto, TX Historical Foundation Mtg. - Admin. Conf. Rm. - 6 p.m.
- 18 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 24 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - noon
- 25 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7 p.m.
- 27 DeSoto, TX Historical Foundation Mtg. - Admin. Conf. Rm. - 6 p.m.

## Annual Board & Commission Fair Thursday, September 15th 6 - 7 pm

Are you looking for a way to become an active participant in our All-America City? Serving on a City Board or Commission is a great way to become involved in DeSoto.

Each year, the City hosts a Boards and Commissions Fair to provide you with the information you need to make an educated decision regarding volunteer service to your community. This year, the Board and Commissions Fair will take place on Thursday, September 15, 2011 from 6 to 7 p.m. in the atrium of City Hall, 211 E. Pleasant Run Road. Representatives from each of the City's standing Boards and Commissions will be on hand at this event to provide specific information about their responsibilities and activities and to answer any questions you may have. If you can't attend the fair, please go to [ci.desoto.tx.us](http://ci.desoto.tx.us) to download an application or call the City Secretary's office at 972.230.9646 for more information.

## What's Going On at the DeSoto Public Library?

### Win a Family Fun Basket at the DeSoto Public Library!

Beat the heat and cool down by winning a basket full of Family Fun items! The basket includes candy, snacks, soft drinks, and family friendly games. Enter the basket drawing by checking out 10 or more items (at one time), then stop by the Information Desk, show your check-out receipt which will have the 10 or more items listed, and enter the drawing. All ages can enter. Entries will be accepted until Friday, September 30<sup>th</sup>. The drawing will be held on Monday, October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

The DeSoto Library is located at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road, in the DeSoto Town Center Complex. Free parking is located in the nearby garage. For more information, please call the library's Information Desk at 972.230.9661.

### Weekly Storytimes Begin at the Library in September

Weekly Baby Storytime begins Tuesday, September 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. Baby Storytime is set up to engage your baby with great books, finger plays, and songs to promote pre-literacy skills. No registration is needed.

Weekly Pre-School Storytime begins Wednesday, September 7<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30 a.m. Each week, enjoy a wonderfully themed storytime, arts and crafts, and a short educational video. No registration is needed.

Cool Science Investigators Storytimes for 3<sup>rd</sup> through 6<sup>th</sup> grades begins on Saturday, September 17<sup>th</sup>, at 11:00 a.m., and will run until Saturday, November 12<sup>th</sup>. Experience interactive hands-on activities in science, and discover how fun science can be!

The DeSoto Library is located at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road, in the DeSoto Town Center Complex. Free parking is located in the nearby garage. For more information, please call the library's Information Desk at 972.230.9661.

The DeSoto Library will launch its "Open The World—Book Buddies Program" on Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup>, from 10:15 am – 11:15 am.

The purpose of this program is to enrich the lives of children in our community through reading and to open the world to children through books.

During a series of six week programs throughout the year, adult Book Buddy volunteers will read with a buddy (child) for one hour each week on Thursday mornings. Parents with children ages 5-9 are encouraged to call the library's Information Desk at 972.230.9661 to register their children for the entire 6 week program.



The Open the World Book Buddies Program is an all-volunteer program and more adult volunteers are needed. If you'd like to volunteer, please call 972.230.9661. In order to participate in the program, volunteers will need to pass a background check. Reader volunteers will need to be available on Thursdays from 10:00 am to 11:30 am. For more information about the program, please call the library at 972.230.9663.



"Connecting Neighbors!"

### Do you know your neighbors?

Do you feel connected to the DeSoto Community? Have you ever attended a DeSoto Dining and Dialogue Dinner event? If your answer to any of these questions is no, please take this as personal invitation to attend our next free dinner event on September 24, 2011. We will discuss issues of special interest to newcomers to DeSoto and anyone wanting to know more about this special city we call Home. Be a part of this informative discussion.

DeSoto Dining and Dialogue is a volunteer-run organization that provides individuals of all ages, who live or work in DeSoto, the opportunity to get to know one another at private dinner events. These dinners are held three times a year in homes all over town. The discussion is led by a trained facilitator who guides participants through questions designed to elicit thoughts and opinions on issues facing our community.

DeSoto Dining and Dialogue is primarily successful because families are willing to open their homes and host a dinner for a diverse group of citizens at their own expense. Facilitators and other volunteers willingly give of their time and expertise because they believe in the program. However, we need continuing community participation to keep the program strong. Join us in building a strong community.

Topic: *The Future of Education in DeSoto*

Join us for dinner and discussion:

**Saturday, September 24, 2011**  
6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

For more information and to register go to:

[www.desotodd.org](http://www.desotodd.org)

or call Kathy Jones at  
972-230-9648

**Deadline to register is Sept. 12th!**

## DeSoto City Manager's Corporate Golf Classic

Benefiting:

DeSoto Parks and Leisure Services Youth Programs

**Monday, September 19, 2011**

To register go to  
[www.ci.desoto.tx.us/golf](http://www.ci.desoto.tx.us/golf)

Or call 972-230-9655

9 a.m. shotgun start



Register Online

**Thorntree**  
Country Club  
825 W, Wintergreen Road, DeSoto, TX

ART FILM MUSIC

DESOTO FILM & ARTS

# INDIEFEST

FRIDAY 09.23

SATURDAY 09.24

how to fest

**FRIDAY NIGHT**  
 Opening Night Cocktail  
 Town Center Pecan Rooms | 8pm  
 Start the weekend with food, drinks, music, and a whole lot of fun. With a live DJ and talent galore, you don't want to miss this night to remember. Hosted by Darius Anthony Robinson & Cherish Love

**SATURDAY-DAYTIME**  
 Saturday is chocked full of great stuff to do. Here's the run-down.  
 9:00-12: Check out some great films in the Corner Theater and the Council Chambers  
 11-2:00 Artists perform throughout the afternoon on the plaza. There will also be a craft and art fair.  
 2:30: Grab some lunch and meet the directors at Buttons Restaurant right in Town Center

**SATURDAY NIGHT**  
 Closing Night Awards Gala  
 The Corner Theater | 8p  
 A night of music, entertainment, and of course, AWARDS! Join us for an evening beginning under the stars accompanied by an amazing jazz band. Stick around to see the big winners of the film fest!

Buttons  
 Eventbrite  
 DEW  
 DAC  
 DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION

TICKETS? VISIT [DESOTOARTSCOMMISSION.COM](http://DESOTOARTSCOMMISSION.COM)

FREE

Starts at 6:30pm

# Music in the Park

DeSoto Town Center Amphitheater  
 211 E. Pleasant Run Road

**September 8 - Gospel & Jazz**

Andrea Dawson  
 Johnson Chapel Community Church  
 Paul Ramsey

Pastor Marcus D. King

**September 22 - Country & Blues**

JOE KING  
 TUTU JONES

For more information contact Carolyn Campbell (972) 230-9651

DeSoto Dining and Dialogue Presents:

**DDD Movie Grill Night**  
 Annual Fund Raising Event  
 Saturday, September 10, 2011 7pm  
 DeSoto Corner Theatre Tickets - \$25

DDD invites you to join us for appetizers including hot wings, BBQ brisket sliders, potato bites and a relaxing glass of wine or punch served with a special screening of the 1967 Academy Award winning movie, *Guess Who's Coming to Dinner*. Seating is limited, call 972.230.9648 for tickets.

Sidney Poitier  
**GUESS WHO'S COMING TO DINNER**

Movie provided by Swank Motion Pictures, Inc.

DESOTO ROCKS!

>> ULTIMATE BAND BATTLE <<

FINAL BATTLE DAY  
 SEPTEMBER 9th, 2011  
 DOORS OPEN @ 5PM  
 DESOTO AMPHITHEATER

CREATE COMM  
 DESOTO PARENT ASSISTANT CENTER  
 Texas PTA everychild.enservice.