

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

DeSoto Economic Development Corporation Partners with Options Real Estate to “Grow DeSoto”

The City Council and Economic Development Corporation recognize the need to grow DeSoto business opportunities for residents with unique retail ideas. When faced with the empty space left when the Westlake Ace Hardware closed, they envisioned creating a space that would assist small business owners with establishing viable businesses, while providing unique retail environment for the community. They reached out to the property owner, Monte Anderson, and asked him to consider alternatives for the space. As owner of Options Real Estate, Anderson thrives on shaking up the real estate market with new and innovative ideas. He accepted their challenge and proposed the Grow DeSoto business incubator project as a means to address the needs of new and developing businesses.

The Grow DeSoto business incubator is a 26,000 square foot retail building located at 320 E. Belt Line Road that will contain a variety of restaurants, retail spaces and shared workspace. Food trailers will also be stationed in the parking lot of the shopping center for patrons to enjoy.

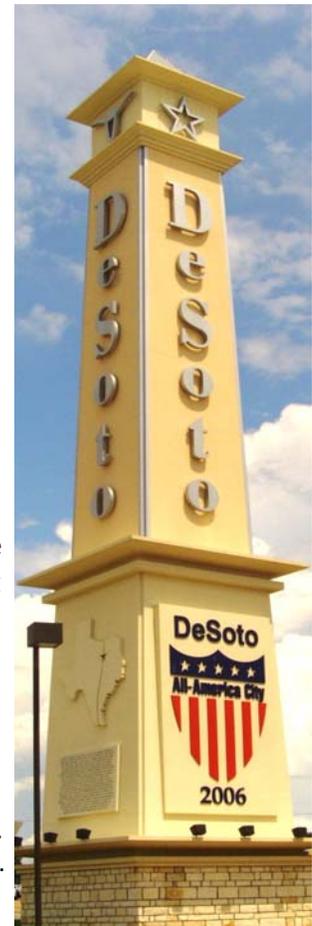
“The project is intended to allow entry level entrepreneurs a place to start at a very low cost and with low risk,” said Anderson. “We are looking for authentic local entrepreneurs who have the dream and a desire to build local wealth. We want to give people an opportunity to build assets and value in order to someday own their own small buildings.”

Many small businesses need a lower entry to market. They may not have the assets to get a business loan, the credit to secure a long-term lease, or the operational background to run a successful business. The incubator is being completely renovated and will be divided into spaces ranging from 200 to 800 square feet, thereby allowing:

- Smaller businesses to acquire square footage that is right for them
- Flexible leases
- A high traffic area
- Access to business loans and
- Ongoing business training.



The shared workspace concept included in the incubator serves to attract business professionals who want to rent desk space for a reasonable price instead of the more costly option of leasing an entire office. These individuals typically work from home and desire the perks of an office space without the additional overhead that comes along with it. The Grow DeSoto business incubator is scheduled to open this fall and currently 50% of the space has been pre-leased to a variety of small businesses ranging from restaurants to a full-service barber shop. **(story continued on Page Two)**



City Calendar

September

4 City Facilities closed for Labor Day - no trash collection
4 Arts Commission Mtg. Canceled
5 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
7 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
7 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
7 Historical Foundation Mtg.- 6 pm
9 Latino Fest - Amphitheater 6 - 10 pm
11 Special Park Board Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6 pm
12 Planning & Zoning Mtg.- City Hall -7 pm
19 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
21 Adopt-a-Street Banquet - Civic Ctr. 7 pm
25 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
26 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 7 pm
30 Midnight Star Concert-Amphitheater 8pm

October

2 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. 6pm
2 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
3 City Council Mtg. - canceled
3 Texas Night Out - Civic Ctr. 7 to 9 pm
5 Historical Foundation Mtg. - 6 pm
5 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
5 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
10 Planning & Zoning Mtg. Civic Ctr. -7 pm
12 Jt. Council & School Board Mtg. 7pm
17 City Council Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 7 pm
22 Kneel Together - Amphitheater - 4pm
24 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - Civic Ctr.- 7 pm
30 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am

Grow DeSoto cont. from page 1

“What really excites me about the Grow DeSoto project is embracing the philosophy that small businesses are truly the heartbeat of a community,” said Mayor Curtistene S. McCowan. “I am proud that DeSoto’s strong commitment to economic development and efforts to bring more jobs to our community includes this strategic initiative to promote and provide opportunities for the development and growth of our very own talented business entrepreneurs.”

The DeSoto Economic Development Corporation is currently looking to fill the remaining 50% of the space in the incubator with viable small businesses. If you would like more information, please contact Vanessa Barrios, Business Development Manager with the DeSoto Economic Development Corporation at 972.230.9623 or go to www.growdesoto.org.

DeSoto Fire Rescue Offers Free Smoke Detectors To Those In Need

In a fire, seconds count. Seconds can mean the difference between residents of our community escaping safely from a fire or having their lives end in tragedy.

That’s why this year’s Fire Prevention Week theme: “Every Second Counts: Plan 2 Ways Out!” is so important. It reinforces why everyone needs to have an escape plan. Here’s this year’s key campaign message:

- Draw a map of your home with all members of your household, marking two exits from each room and a path to the outside from each exit.
- Practice your home fire drill twice a year. Conduct one at night and one during the day with everyone in your home, and practice using different ways out.
- Teach children how to escape on their own in case you can’t help them.
- Make sure the number of your home is clearly marked and easy for the fire department to find. Your house number should also be visible on the back of the home if you have an alley.
- Close doors behind you as you leave –

this may slow the spread of smoke, heat, and fire.

- Once you get outside, stay outside. Never go back inside a burning building.

In addition, DeSoto Fire Rescue would like to remind you that the most important step is to have a working smoke alarm in every home. As a result, they are announcing the Life Safety Awareness Program intended to proactively prevent fatalities by providing battery operated smoke detectors for DeSoto residents who need them.

This program provides free smoke detectors to the elderly, handicapped or those having a demonstrated need. DeSoto Fire Rescue has approximately 700 detectors in inventory and wants to get them to the residents who need them most.

To request a smoke detector, please call the Fire Administration office at 972.230.9680. You will be asked to fill out a questionnaire to establish eligibility and provide proof of DeSoto residency.

DeSoto Animal Control Would Like to Remind You of These Animal Vaccination Requirements

The owner of an animal capable of transmitting rabies including a dog or cat must have that animal vaccinated against rabies before four (4) months of age and in each subsequent twelve (12) months thereafter. Anyone moving into the City of DeSoto from a location outside the City, and who has not had their animal vaccinated within one (1) year shall comply within ten (10) days after having moved into the City.

If the dog or cat has inflicted a bite on any person, or another animal within the last ten (10) days, the owner of that dog or cat shall report this to a veterinarian and no rabies vaccine shall be administered until after a (10) ten-day observation period.

Upon vaccination, the veterinarian shall issue a certificate of vaccination and provide a tag with a serial number that corresponds with the vaccination certificate. This tag should be securely attached to the vaccinated animal’s collar at all times. It is unlawful for any person who owns or harbors a vaccinated animal to fail or refuse to exhibit his copy of the certificate of vaccination upon request of an animal control officer. It is also unlawful to harbor any dog or cat which has not been vaccinated against rabies .

If you have any questions regarding vaccinating your pets, please call the City of DeSoto Animal Control Department at 469.658.3075.

October Is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

October is designated as Domestic Violence Awareness month. The DeSoto Domestic Violence Advisory Commission along with DeSoto Police Department's Victim Assistance Coordinator have planned the following series of activities during the month of October for survivors, family members, advocates, resource network providers and the community.

Saturday, Oct. 14 2 to 5 pm
Chasing the Sky Symposium
 at Church of the Disciple United Methodist Church
 220 S. Cockrell Hill Rd.

Chasing the Sky is a **FREE** public awareness event open to adults, teens and senior citizens featuring panel discussions, speakers, vendors, and information from community resource providers.

Wednesday, Oct. 19 5:30 to 6:30 pm
A Survivor's Story Candlelight Vigil –
 at DeSoto Police Department
 714 E. Beltline Rd.

Domestic and family violence is an everyday occurrence throughout Dallas County and hits close to home here in DeSoto. We invite survivors, family members, community resource providers and the general public to join us in

recognizing and championing survivors, and praying for the eradication of this violence that impacts us as a community. For more

information please call 469.658.3012.

Domestic Violence Skits will be performed by DeSoto High School's Drama students every Sunday in October at various churches throughout the community. For more information please contact Denise Valentine at 972.979.3595.

A mobile **Purple Pinwheel** trailer will be seen throughout the City with pinwheels indicating the number of victims and survivors that have been affected by Domestic/Family Violence in our community. It will move to various locations around DeSoto throughout the entire month of October.

Look for billboards and banners that will be placed throughout the City promoting Domestic Violence awareness and recognition.

Domestic Violence is not isolated to households and families. It affects us all. Help us raise awareness, speak out for victims and support zero tolerance for those that abuse by taking part in these activities. For more information, please call 469.658.3012.

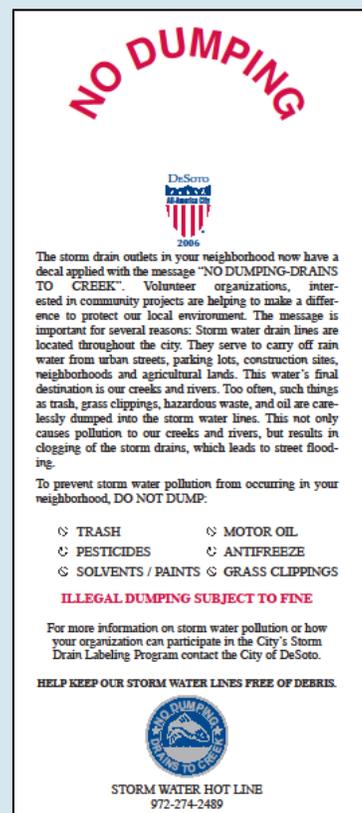


The DeSoto Texas Historical Foundation and the Vet Fest committee are working together to honor our local veterans. They are collecting military memorabilia, artifacts and items of interest that can be displayed in a military museum at Nance Farm during the month of November as a part of our Vet Fest Veteran's Appreciation Event. If you have items you would like to share with our community, please call 972.230.9648.



Help Us Keep Storm Drains Flowing And Creeks Unpolluted

In order to keep our creeks safe from pollutants and our storm drains flowing, the City has established a program called the Storm Drain Inlet Marker Program which requires that all storm drain inlets contain a marker that notifies residents that the marked storm drain flows to the creek. This is important information because it is intended to stop illicit discharge or dumping of pollutants such as paints, varnishes, solvents, oil and other automotive fluids, non-hazardous liquid/solid wastes, yard wastes and grass clippings, garbage, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, any other hazardous substances, sewage, animal wastes, construction materials and noxious or offensive matter of any kind, into a marked storm drain inlet that flows to the creek. City representatives mark storm drain inlets that flow to the creeks and are placing door hangers, like the one pictured below, on homes in the area to educate the public on the consequences of this form of illegal dumping.



SEPT 30
12P-10P

FREE EVENT

CITY OF DESOTO
DESOTO TOWN CENTER

211 E. Pleasant Run Road



20
17
DESOTO
ARTSLIVE!
MUSIC & ARTS FESTIVAL
featuring *Midnight Star*



midnight star 8:30 pm

bandan koro 4 pm

dj asap

joe king
1 pm

cosmo universal
5 pm

inspiration band
7:30 pm

#DAL2017

972.230.9648

DESOTO ARTS COMMISSION
DeSotoArtsLive.com

DeSoto Arts Live! Celebrates The Visual Arts with:

- An expanded Artist's Row featuring booths with local visual artists selling and displaying their work
- Visual artists participating in the Plein Air competition capturing the sites and images of the event as they paint on-site
- A breath-taking demonstration of **spray paint art provided by Cosmo Universal Art** at 5 pm

DeSoto Arts Live! Celebrates Dance with:

- A **Dance Party on the Green** from 2 to 6 pm in the plaza in front of the Corner Theatre
- Trinity Christian School's Drumline will get the dance party started at 2 pm
- Followed by a free Zumba demonstration, and line dancers
- And a special performance at 4 pm on the "green" by **Bandan Koro African Drummers and Dancers.**

DeSoto Arts Live! Celebrates Various Genres of Music on two stages with:

- Kid'z Zone Stage featuring **L Jay** doing Karaoke all day, the Hip-Hop Gospel sounds of **TROMP** at 2 pm and the R&B and NeoSoul of **Elise Amara** at 5 pm
- On the Main Amphitheater Stage enjoy great George Strait-style Country Music performed by DeSoto's own singing cowboy, **Joe King**, at **1 pm**, followed by the hot sounds of **Latin Fire** at **3 pm**
- You'll want to be sure to have a great spot at the Amphitheater Stage beginning at **6:30 pm** to hear Celebrity the Comedian, followed by the winner of the Beneath the Star Poetry Contest. The Inspiration Band will really get the party started at **7:30 pm** leading up to "No Parking On The Dance Floor" and other Top 40 Hits performed by 80's recording artist, **MIDNIGHT STAR at 8:30 pm.**

Remote parking and free shuttle will be available at DC3 church beginning at 4pm. For more information go to www.desotoartslive.com or call 972.230.9648.

The DeSoto Arts Commission is hosting a special VIP Experience at 6:30 pm featuring a Meet N' Greet with members of the Midnight Star band, appetizers, drinks, and reserved seating in the Outdoor Amphitheater for the Midnight Star concert. Tickets for this event are \$35 and only 75 will be sold. Go to www.desotoartslive.com to purchase VIP Experience tickets or call 972.230.9648 for more information. All other seating for the concerts and activities is free and available on first come basis.