

June, 2009



www.ci.desoto.tx.us
972.230.9600

City Lights DeSoto, Texas

A publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department



How do you feel about a cost increase to continue the city-wide beautification efforts provided by the City's Sanitation Fund?

Trash and brush collection in DeSoto is provided by Duncan Disposal, the city's solid waste contractor and includes:

- Twice a week household garbage pick-up
- Once a week recycling pick-up
- Once a week bulky item pick-up
- Once a week brush pick-up

Residents have paid \$13.04 a month for solid waste collection since 1999. In 2002, the contract was put out to bid and awarded to Duncan Disposal at a rate of \$9.34 a month. This resulted in a monthly per-customer savings of \$3.70 when compared to the previous contractor's price. At that time, the City Council and Keep DeSoto Beautiful Board were looking for a new revenue stream to finance other beautification efforts in the community. When the \$9.34 rate was received from Duncan, a decision was made with public input, to maintain the existing residential rate of \$13.04 and place the savings of \$3.70 monthly per customer in the Sanitation Fund to finance following community beautification efforts:

- A four person Litter and Median Maintenance Crew
- Street Sweeping
- Household Hazardous Waste Program
- Adopt-A-Street Program and Earth Month Activities such as document shredding and electronics recycling events
- The construction of monument signs at the entrances to the city
- Landscaping of Belt Line Rd. and the intersections of Wintergreen at I-35 and Pleasant Run at Hampton

For several years now, we have



enjoyed the benefits of the additional services mentioned above which have been paid for by the Sanitation Fund. The Fund has also paid for several one-time expenses such as the purchase of new entry monuments, approved at the May 5th Council Meeting, that will match the landmark monument on Pleasant Run and I-35. It has also covered additional costs resulting from the contract with Duncan Disposal which allows them to adjust their rate on an annual basis to reflect increases in the Consumer Price Index. Unfortunately over the years, the balance in the Sanitation Fund that has absorbed rate increases and the costs for the beautification efforts is now all but depleted. As a result, we as a community, have a decision to make.

One of the reasons DeSoto is an All-America City is that it is our practice to discuss issues with the community before making major policy decisions. Please take a moment to consider the following questions which will be posted in a blog on the city's website and let us know your thoughts:

1. ***Do you feel that the beautification efforts paid for by the Sanitation Fund for the last seven years such as street sweeping, enhanced landscaping and the litter and median maintenance crew have had a positive effect on the appearance of our community?***
2. ***Because of rising costs, the Sanitation Fund will no longer have the revenue to support these beautification efforts after October 1, 2009. How do you feel about an increase of three dollars per month for solid waste collection to continue these beautification efforts?***

We need your thoughts on these two important questions. Beginning June 15th, please go to the city's website at www.ci.desoto.tx.us and post your comments in response to these questions. If you prefer a face to face dialogue, the city will hold a special Town Hall Meeting to discuss this issue on Saturday, June 20, 2009 in the City Council Chambers at DeSoto City Hall. Join us at 9 a.m. for donuts and coffee. The meeting will begin at 9:30 a.m. and continue until all have been heard.

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New Assistant City Manager will Start June 22nd



City Manager, Jim Baugh, announced recently that he has offered the position of Assistant City Manager to Tarron J. Richardson, Ph.D. He will assume the position on June 22, 2009 which was vacated by Lynda Humble, now serving as City Manager for City of Rowlett.

Richardson is currently the Deputy Director for the City of Richmond (Virginia) Department of Public Utilities. He works in collaboration with a strategic management team that oversees the daily operations of 600 employees and four multi-million dollar enterprises that include the gas, water, waste water and electric utilities. Richardson also served as Acting City Manager for the City of Coatesville, Pennsylvania.

"We are looking forward to having Tarron join our Management Team," said Jim Baugh. "His previous work experience and education will be a great asset for our community."

Richardson holds a Doctorate of Philosophy Degree in Public Policy and Administration from Virginia Commonwealth University, a Masters of Education Degree from Temple University and a Bachelors of Science Degree from Lincoln University in Lincoln University, PA.

CITY CALENDAR

June

- 1 Park Development Corp. Meeting - 6:30 p.m. - City Hall
- 2 City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall
- 4 Keep DeSoto Beautiful Board Mtg. - 6:30 p.m. - City Hall
- 4 Library Advisory Board Mtg. - 7 p.m. - Library Conference Room
- 9 Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg. - 7 p.m. - City Hall
- 13 Jazz Diner featuring Martha Burkes - Corner Theatre 7 p.m.
- 13 Best Southwest Juneteenth Celebration - Lancaster
- 16 City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall
- 20 Town Hall Meeting - Sanitation Fund - City Hall 9 a.m.
- 22 DEDC Board Meeting - noon - City Hall
- 23 Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg. - 7 p.m. - City Hall

July

- 2 Keep DeSoto Beautiful Board Mtg. - 6:30 p.m. - City Hall
- 2 Library Advisory Board Mtg. - 7 p.m. - Library Conference Room
- 3 City Offices and Some Facilities are closed for July 4th Holiday
- 3
- 4 July 4th Fireworks Show at Grimes Park - 6 p.m.
- 6 Park Development Corp. Mtg. - 6:30 p.m. - Recreation Center
- 7 City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall
- 16 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall 7 p.m.
- 21 City Council Meeting - 7 p.m. - City Hall
- 27 DEDC Board Meeting - noon - City Hall
- 28 Planning & Zoning Commission Mtg. - 7 p.m. City Hall
- 30 FY2010 City Council Budget Workshop - 6 p.m. City Hall
- 31 FY2010 City Council Budget Workshop - 6 p.m. City Hall

TOWN HALL MEETING Saturday, June 20th 9 a.m. DeSoto City Hall - Council Chambers

As an All-America City it is our practice to discuss issues with our community before making major policy decisions.

The DeSoto City Council invites you to join us for donuts and coffee and to share your thoughts and opinions concerning the city's Sanitation Fund which pays for beautification projects around the city. (See article on page 1.) This fund is nearing its useful life and decisions must be made regarding it's future.

How do you feel about a cost increase to continue beautification efforts provided by the Sanitation Fund?

Cont. from page 1

If you'd like more information on the activities and projects funded by the Sanitation Fund, tune into Time Warner Cable Channel 16 to view a segment of Focus On DeSoto Today on the subject. Panel members will discuss the history of the Sanitation Fund, how we arrived at the current situation and explore where to go from here. This program will be broadcast daily at 1 p.m., 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. beginning June 10th and will also be available for viewing on the city website.

For more information on the city's Sanitation Fund, please call Tracie Hlavinka at 972.230.9689.

Civic Center Rates will increase June 1st

A new fee schedule for rental of the Blue Bonnet and Pecan Rooms in the DeSoto Civic Center will go into effect beginning June 1, 2009 as outlined on this table:

These rental fees apply to both residents and non-residents of the city as well as commercial businesses or enterprises and non-profit groups. For more information on booking a room for your next event in the DeSoto Civic Center, please call 972.230.9655.

Rooms	Mon.— Sat.	Mon. - Thurs.	Fri. - Sat.	Sunday
	7am - 4pm	6 pm - 10 pm	6 pm - 12 am	1 pm - 6 pm
1 Pecan Room	\$95	\$120	\$180	\$140
2 Pecan Rooms	\$190	\$240	\$360	\$280
3 Pecan Rooms	\$285	\$360	\$540	\$420
1 Bluebonnet Room	\$150	\$200	\$230	\$150
2 Bluebonnet Rooms	\$300	\$400	\$460	\$300
3 Bluebonnet Rooms	\$450	\$600	\$690	\$450
Kitchen	\$40	\$50	\$75	\$45
Library Assembly Hall	\$190	\$250	\$305	\$195

The DeSoto Recreation Center offers a full schedule of activities for summer fun



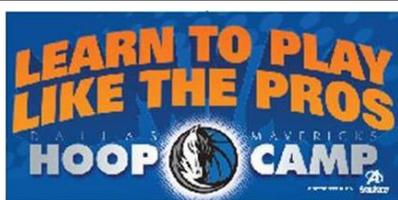

Boys and Girls
Ages 7 - 14
June 15 - 27
Time
1pm - 3pm

June 15 - 27 FREE Acting Workshop
www.juniorplayers.org



Leading Ladies Sports Association
Girls Volleyball Summer Camp
ages 8-15
June 16 - 19

\$85. For info contact Stephanie Murray at 214.869.1088 or llsacamp09@gmail.com.



LEARN TO PLAY LIKE THE PROS
DALLAS MAVERICKS
HOOP CAMP

June 22-26 9am - 4pm
Camp Fee \$235
Call 214.747-MAVS or email hoopcamp@dallasmavs.com



Xtreme Basketball Training
Ages 7-18
www.nextlevelbball.net

Call 214.924.7041
Registration Fee \$135 per camper

Summer Camp I
June 8 - 12
8 am - 5 pm

Summer Camp II
August 3 - 7
8 am - 5 pm

Back 2 School Camp
August 10 - 14
8 am - 5 pm



WNBA Tausha Mills Jumping 2 Give Girls Basketball Camp
June 23 - July 3
Ages 8 - 17
Camp Fee \$150

1 on 1 personal instructions from WNBA players. Call 214.586.4776 to register.

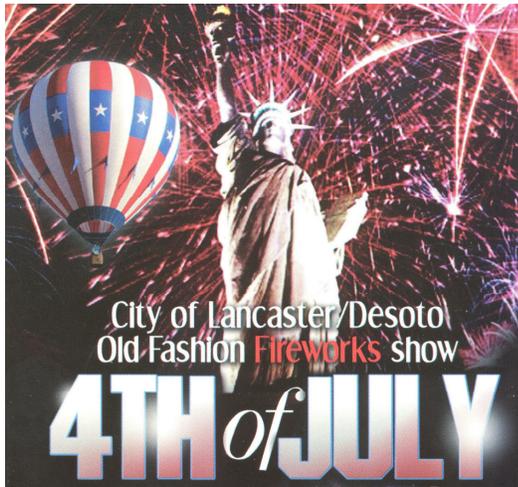
All Sports Elite Strength & Conditioning Training Camp
June 29 - July 3 & July 20 - 24
Ages 13 - 19 \$99

Teens will participate in drills designed to improve agility, speed and power to condition them for sports, dance, martial arts and more. Call 972.230.9655 to



Summer Cheer Camp
July 15 - 17
Girls aged 6-14
Camp Fee \$75

Camp provides the fundamentals of cheer competition team - motions, stunts, jumps, and beginning tumbling. Call Tia Atkins at 972.697.5309 to register.



City of Lancaster/Desoto
Old Fashion Fireworks show

4TH of JULY

At Grimes Park, 501 E. Wintergreen Road - DeSoto
Free Entertainment Featuring:

- 5:30 pm Malcolm
- 6:00 pm Jeff Aycock
- 6:30 pm Stop Six
- 7:30 pm Buster Brown Band
- 9:30 pm Fireworks to Music Show

For vendor or other information, call Carolyn Campbell at 972.230.9651.

Third Coast Arts Center &
The DeSoto Arts Commission

present

**AN EVENING OF
JAZZ & DINNER**

Saturday, June 13th - 7 p.m.
DeSoto Corner Theatre



Bobby Ray Sparks, II



Martha Burks

featuring

Seating is limited. Tickets are \$30 per person or \$50 per couple. To purchase tickets or for more information, please call 972.230.9648. DeSoto Corner Theatre is located in Town Center at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road. Theatre patrons are invited to park in the new parking garage at Town Center.

DeSoto Parks & Leisure Service

MOSELEY POOL 2009

ADMISSION

**** RESIDENT with ID CARD ****

- Adult (18-54 years) \$4.00
- Child (3-17years) \$2.00

Note: DeSoto Seniors (55+) & Children (0-2years) are FREE

**** NON-RESIDENTS ****

- Adult (18-54 years) \$5.00
- Child (3-17years) \$4.00

SWIMMING LESSONS SCHEDULE

Monday—Thursday
(Levels 1, 2, 3, & 4)
9:20 am - 10:00 am
10:10 am - 10:50 am
11:00 am - 11:40 am



7:10 pm—7:50 pm (Limited Space Available)

- * Session I - June 15 thru June 25
- * Session II - June 29 thru July 9
- * Session III - July 13 thru July 23
- * Session IV - July 27 thru Aug 6

Note: Make-Up Sessions — Aug 3 thru Aug 13

* Mom and Tot classes offered at each time slot.

** Adult Swim Lessons Available

8:30 am - 9:10 am/ 7:10 pm - 7:50 pm



Sneak Peak Opening May 23rd
Official Opening Day June 5th
Pool Closes August 8

Hours of Operation:
Mon-Thur: 12:00pm to 7:00pm
Fri-Sat: 11:00am to 7:00pm
CLOSED SUNDAY

Carolyn Campbell
Special Events & Aquatics Supervisor
(972) 230-9651
Recreation Center
(972) 230-9655

1300 Honor Drive • DeSoto, Texas 75115 • Tel: (972) 228-3553