

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

Mayor Pro Tem, Denise Valentine Steps Down



Thank you DeSoto for electing me into office, twice! I am leaving because of term limits. I have enjoyed serving you. It has been both time consuming and gratifying. One of the legacies I leave behind is a more vibrant arts and entertainment scene. The vision of the City Council is for DeSoto to become the destination for arts, entertainment and sports for the Best Southwest. A vision is defined as foresight or a revelation. I worked diligently to enhance the arts and entertainment offerings

in DeSoto. Our Corner Theatre is almost always showing either a play or musical performance. Our amphitheater is a wonderful family venue to enjoy concerts and movies. Yes, movies!

Of course there were many critical decisions made, many projects which required research and hard work, many conversations with you, the citizens, to be sure we were meeting your needs. I pushed for more code enforcement, police coverage, and better marketing of our city. We had a very tight budget in a very strained economy and I am proud of the job we've done.

"Summertime and the living is easy." Remember that song? It's almost summer in DeSoto and families are looking for fun things to do. Check the City of DeSoto website and ArtsDeSoto.com before making your plans. I'll be looking for you!

Denise Valentine
Mayor Pro Tem



**Effective June 1, 2013
New Extended Hours
For Utility Billing and
Municipal Court as
follows:**

**Thursdays
8 am to 7pm**

**To improve security at
City Hall, the east doors
will be unlocked at 8 am
and will be locked at 5
pm on weekdays. When
entering City Hall after 5
pm, please use the West
Entrance.**

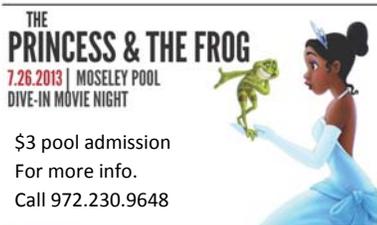
City Calendar

June

1 Creekfest - Town Ctr. Amphitheater 4pm
3 Poetry In Progress - Civic Ctr. - 5:45 pm
3 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
3 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr - 6 pm
4 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
6 KDB Mtg. City Hall - 6:30 pm
6 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
6 Friends of the Library - Library - 6 pm
7 Teen Career Summit - City Hall - 10 am
8 Arts Grant Workshop - City Hall - 10 am
8 Moseley Pool Opens for Season
10-13 Teen Career Summit - Civic Ctr.
11 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
15 Hip Hop Summit/Fro Fest Civic Ctr.
15 Market Days - DeSoto Chamber - 10 am
24 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
25 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm

July

1 Poetry In Progress - Civic Ctr. - 5:45 pm
1 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
1 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6 pm
2 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
4 Independence Day - City offices closed
9 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
16 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
19 Outdoor Movie - Amphitheater - 8:30 pm
25 FY2014 Budget Mtg. - City Hall - 6 pm
26 Dive-In Movie - Moseley Pool - 8:30 pm



DeSoto Chamber of Commerce Launches Community Calendar on Their VisitDesotoTexas.com Website

Have you been looking for one calendar that would list all the events taking place in DeSoto on a certain day? If so, the DeSoto Chamber's new tourism website, www.visitdesototexas.com, could be just what you are looking for. This website was designed to provide visitors to DeSoto and residents with information on all that our city has to offer. It contains a Community Calendar that will have DeSoto Chamber, City of DeSoto and DeSoto ISD sponsored events listed. This calendar is also available to community groups and individuals to add

information about your events. Is your civic organization, club or PTA group sponsoring an event that is open to the community? If so, go to www.visitdesototexas.com and enter the information on the Community Calendar. After a quick review by Chamber staff to maintain publishing standards, your event will be posted for viewing by the public.

If you have any questions regarding the Community Calendar, please call 972.230.9648.

Have You Attended a Concert, Play or Other Community Event in DeSoto Recently? We Would Like Your Feedback.

The DeSoto Arts Commission and the Parks and Recreation Department are working hard to bring great entertainment events to the City of DeSoto. Your feedback is vitally important to the success of our programs. If you attended an outdoor concert, a play in the Corner Theatre or a festival recently, please take a few moments to go to dangilovethat.com/dac and fill out a very short survey on that event. You can also access the survey from your smartphone using this QR code.



The information received from this survey will be used to plan future events.



Garage sales are allowed to run for three consecutive days and can be held two times per calendar year. A permit must be obtained 24 hours prior to beginning your sale from the Utility Billing Department in City Hall or by applying online through the City's website. There is no cost for the permit. Obtaining a garage sale permit will cause information on your garage sale to be posted on the City's website. One sign is allowed in the seller's immediate yard. Signs cannot be placed in medians, on utility poles or in rights-of-way. Signs placed on automobiles (similar to the ones pictured above) parked away from the sale or on boxes placed on the corner are not permitted.

What's New At The DeSoto Public Library?

The DeSoto Public Library is Offering FREE Computer Classes!

A three class series on Computer Basics, Word I and Word II will be taught on Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings from 6 pm to 7:30 pm in the Library's Venable Training Room. The class will be offered on June 3 through 5th, June 17th through 19th and June 24th through 26th. Students are required to commit to all three classes. Registration for the classes can only be made the week before each class starts.

A valid DeSoto Library Card and a flash drive are required for the classes. Because space is limited, registration is necessary. Please call the Information Desk, 972.230.9661 to register.



Summer Activities for Parents and Kids at the DeSoto Public Library!

The DeSoto Public Library will host a Literacy Workshop on Saturday, June 1st, at 2 pm. During this approximately hour long workshop, parents and caregivers of babies and preschoolers will learn skills that will help children to become ready to read and will spark a love of reading. No registration is necessary for this free program.

Kids and their parents are invited to the DeSoto Public Library for the Summer Reading Club Kick-Off Party on Wednesday, June 12th, from 1 to 3 pm. Kids can sign up for the Summer Reading Club and get their faces painted. They can also watch a balloon artist in action and much more!

The library is located at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road, in the DeSoto Town Center Complex. Free parking is available in the nearby garage. For more information, please call the library's Information Desk at 972.230.9666.

What Can Residents Do To About West Nile Virus?

When it comes to stopping the spread of West Nile Virus, the best offense is a good **D**-fense. Residents should:

Dress - wear long, loose and light-colored clothing to avoid mosquito bites when outside.

Deet - Use insect repellent products with "DEET" or other approved repellents and follow product instructions.

Drain - Get rid of ALL standing water.

- Empty, remove, cover or turn upside down any containers that will hold standing water (bottles, cans, tires, buckets, flower pots, etc.)
- Change water in pet dishes, wading pools and birdbaths several times a week.

- Cover trash containers so they will not collect water.

Dusk & Dawn

Stay indoors during dusk and dawn hours—when mosquitoes are most active.

What is the City of DeSoto doing?

Recently passed Senate Bill 186 allows municipalities to immediately treat abandoned properties and swimming pools to reduce mosquito breeding sites in an effort to combat West Nile Virus. The City of DeSoto Environmental Health Department works closely with Dallas County Health and Human Services' Mosquito Control Division to fight mosquito-borne diseases like West Nile Virus.

DeSoto Arts Commission - Cultural Arts Grant Program

If you have enjoyed a performance presented by the African American Repertory Theater at the DeSoto Corner Theatre, or one of the Juried Visual Arts Shows sponsored by the DeSoto Art League on display in the City Hall Lobby, you have enjoyed programs funded by DeSoto's Cultural Arts Grants Program. These are just a few of the arts opportunities made available to DeSoto residents by this program. Applications are currently being accepted for projects scheduled for the 2014 fiscal year which is October 1, 2013 through September 30, 2014.

The Cultural Arts Grant Program is coordinated by the DeSoto Arts Commission. Each summer, they put out the call for projects seeking funding. To be eligible, you must be an active nonprofit arts organization or an individual working with a nonprofit organization who can demonstrate sound artistic direction and financial management. Community involvement is also strongly considered. Funded activities must take place within the city limits of DeSoto. Examples of previously funded projects include professional and community theater, art shows, gospel concerts, dance performances and jazz concerts.

Applications are accepted from May 15th through June 30th each year. Qualifying nonprofit arts organizations can request funding for their projects. Application forms are available at www.desotoartscommission.com or by calling the DeSoto Arts Commission liaison at 972.230.9648.



The DeSoto Art League invites you to see their Annual Juried Art Show which will be on display in the Atrium of the Jim Baugh Government Center from June 1st through July 30th.

Gather

Saturday, June 15th
 2010 N. Hampton Rd.
 Call the DeSoto Chamber
 at 972.224.3565 for info.

EVERY 3rd SATURDAY
 MAY-OCTOBER | 9-2
 VISITDESOTOTEXAS.COM
 FOR DETAILS & LOCATIONS



Join us for DeSoto Market Days, a free festival celebrating the seasons with food, fun and family entertainment. DeSoto Market Days will feature produce from local farmers, artisan crafts, music and entertainment.

DeSoto Public Library
"Making My Summer Count!"
TEEN PROGRAMS

Attend seven Teen Programs for a chance to win an iPod!

— Free Admission —

Tuesday, June 18
Theater: A World Within a World Interactive Theater
 Workshop by Dennis Raveneau
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Wednesday, June 19
Teen College & Career Planning Workshop
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Friday, June 21
Sticky Style - Teen Craft Day
 DIY duct tape purses & wallets
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Wednesday, June 26
Explore Careers in Television & Radio Broadcasting
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Friday, June 28
Screen Printing for Teens
 3:00 - 5:00 pm, Library Teen Room
 Space is limited; reservation required

Wednesday, July 3
Creative Careers presented by the Art Institute of Dallas
 Interior Design, Graphic Design, Fashion Retail, Culinary & Photography
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Friday, July 5
'Are you game?' Gaming Day
 3:00 - 5:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Wednesday, July 10
'My Plan' presented by Cedar Valley College
 Take an assessment to find out which career is right for you!
 3:00 - 5:00 pm, Venable Training Rm
 Space is limited; reservation required

Friday, July 12
Teen Mystery Craft Day
 Shhh, it's a secret!
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Tuesday, July 16
Teen Money Matters / Mad City Money
 Interactive Financial Workshop
 3:00 - 4:00 pm, Library Teen Room

Wednesday, July 17
'My Plan' presented by Cedar Valley College
 Take an assessment to find out which career is right for you!
 3:00 - 5:00 pm, Venable Training Rm
 Space is limited; reservation required

Board Game Fridays - Check out games from 10:00 am - 2:00 pm

Space is limited. Register at www.desototeenprograms2013.eventbrite.com starting April 15, 2013. For more information call Marq Runnels at (972) 230 - 9663.

DESOTO PUBLIC LIBRARY
• TEEN •
PROGRAMS
SUMMER
• 2013 •

www.desototeenprograms2013.eventbrite.com



2013 nappiology

FRO FEST

A HEALTHY MIND, BODY AND HAIR EVENT

WITH FEATURED SPEAKER -

jane carter,
FOUNDER OF



 jane carter
 solution

Saturday, June 15, 2013 - 10-4pm

Desoto Civic Center

211 E. Pleasant Run Road
 DeSoto, TX 75115

\$10 general admission
 children under the age of 12 enter for **FREE**