



"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
January 28, 2012. Adults who live or work
in DeSoto and care about our community
are encouraged to attend. High School
students and their parents are also
welcome to attend. We offer 6 hours of
Community Service Credit for students who
attend because their input is vital to the
program. As a guest, all you have to do is
attend and join in on the discussion.

#### Topic: **NO MORE!!**

Violence, Drugs, Fighting, Failing

We ARE our brothers' keeper.

Come hear what initiatives DeSoto Police and Clergy have in place to begin to address violence in our community and how you can help.

Join us for dinner and discussion:

Saturday, January 28, 2012 6:30 p.m. – 9:30 p.m.

For more information and to register go to:

www.desotodd.org

or call Kathy Jones at 972-230-9648

Deadline to register is Jan. 13th!

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 lead 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.

Please feel free to forward this invitation to anyone who lives and/or works in the City of DeSoto!



### City of DeSoto Begins Search for New Chief of Police

DeSoto's Police Chief, Mike Brodnax, has retired after 34 years of service to the community, the last fourteen of which were as chief. Assistant Chief Robert E. Lee has been tapped to serve as Interim Police Chief and a search is underway for a new Chief of Police. In addition to managing the day to day activities of budgeting and staffing all police activities in a department with 71 sworn officers, the chief is responsible for Code Enforcement, Animal Control and a regional jail that serves Cedar Hill and Lancaster in addition to DeSoto.

City officials are looking for input from the community as they begin the search for a new police chief and have posted a blog at <a href="blog.desototexas.com">blog.desototexas.com</a> to receive comments. The blog will be available through January 20, 2012.

"I hope our residents will take a few minutes to give us their thoughts on qualities they would like to see in a new police chief," said DeSoto City Manager, Tarron Richardson, Ph.D. "We will formulate interview questions based on the information provided through this blog," according to Dr. Richardson.

If you have questions regarding DeSoto's search for a new Chief of Police, please contact the Human Resources Department for the City of DeSoto at 972-230-9601.







# African American Genealogy—Connect the Branches of Your Family Tree!

Come to the DeSoto Public Library on Saturday, February 18th, from 11 am – 12: 30 pm, to enjoy a program on African American genealogy. In many ways, African American research is just like any other genealogical research, but in other ways, it can be very different.

Lela Evans, a librarian at the University of North Texas Dallas, will present a case study to reveal some of the specialized techniques used to find ancestors and family history. Ms. Evans became interested in her family history when she was in high school but became interested in African American research while working as a genealogy librarian. She has been a speaker at state and national conferences, as well as numerous local genealogy societies. She is a member of the Daughters of the American Revolution, Lancaster Genealogical Society, and the Association of Professional Genealogists.

This program is free and open to the public. The library is located at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road, in the DeSoto Town Center. Free parking is located in the nearby parking garage. For more information, please call the library's Information Desk at 972.230.9661.

## New Literacy Station for Kid's at the DeSoto Public Library

The DeSoto Public Library has added an AWE (Alternative Work Environment) Literacy Station to the Children's Department. This Early Literacy Station is designed to promote literacy skills for children ages 2 – 8. Children can access 50 educational games, with familiar characters such as Arthur, Big Bird, and Dora the Explorer, to help preschoolers get ready for kindergarten as well as help older children with social studies/geography, writing/computer skills, and science skills. For more information about the literacy station, please call the Children's Department at 972.230.9666.



## Foster Children's Love of Reading at the DeSoto Public Library

The DeSoto Public Library will present Pre-school Storytime on Wednesday mornings from 10:30 am to 11:30 am, from January 11 to April 11, in the Children's area. Children ages 3-6 will enjoy storytimes full of themed books, educational sing-alongs, and arts and crafts. No registration is necessary.

The Library's Spring Reading Club, for children ages 5 – 12, will begin on Friday, January 27 and end on Friday, April 6. Enjoy a Spring full of interactive stories and crafts. Prizes will be awarded to children who complete certain levels of reading. Sign up begins Monday, January 23 at the Children's Information Desk.

Baby Storytime, for children ages newborn to 2 years old will be held on Tuesday mornings from 10:30 am to 11:30 am in the Children's Area from January 10 to April 10. Come and enjoy an hour of fun with nursery rhymes, finger plays, songs, and stories. No registration is required.

The DeSoto Public 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 Children's Information Desk at 972.230.9666.

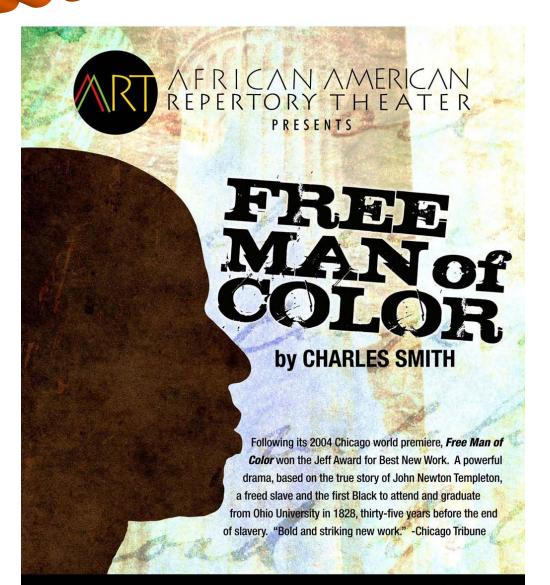
### Medline Database Classes at the DeSoto Public Library

The DeSoto Public Library is offering free classes on how to use the Medline medical research database on Wednesday, January 18<sup>th</sup> from 6 pm to 7:30 pm and Saturday, January 21<sup>st</sup> from 11 am to 12:30 pm. Classes will be held in the library's Venable Training Room.

Medline is a database of medical information on diseases, treatments, clinical trials, and prescription and over-the-counter drugs. Information included in Medline comes from organizations such as the National Library of Medicine, American Cancer Society, and the American Diabetes Society.

Because space is limited to ten people, registration is required. Please call the library's Information Desk at 972.230.9661 to register for the classes.

For the Week of January 9th through January 13th, 2012



### February 3-26, 2012

Friday & Saturday Nights @ 7:30pm **\$20** Saturday & Sunday Matinee @ 2:30pm **\$15** Preview Performance on Thursday, February 2 @ 7:30pm **\$10** 

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#### **To Purchase Tickets:**

Box Office - 972.572.0998 Web - www.aareptheater.com



211 E. Pleasant Run DeSoto, TX 75115

Sponsored in part by:





