



DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

The City of DeSoto Welcomes New City Councilmember for Place 4 - Rachel Proctor



On March 5, Rachel Proctor will be sworn in as City Councilmember representing Place 4. She will fill the unexpired term of Deshaundra Lockhart Jones who resigned because she no longer resides in District 4.

Ms. Proctor is the Owner and Administrative Director of the Neighborhood Christian Learning Center of Dallas, Inc., a national, faith-based, accredited early childhood center. NCLC of Dallas is also a part of Dallas ISD's School Readiness Integration Program and serves as an off-site pre-kindergarten campus for Clara Oliver Elementary School. NCLC of Dallas was recently

designated by the Texas Education Agency as a "Pre K Center of Excellence".

Ms. Proctor is a 20-year DeSoto resident and a proud graduate of DeSoto High School. She received a B.A. in Interdisciplinary Studies from the University of Texas at Arlington in 2003.

She is very active in the community and volunteers regularly at various non-profit organizations around the Metroplex. Ms. Proctor has served on the DeSoto Public Library Advisory Board, is a member of the Board of Directors for the DeSoto Chamber of Commerce and chair for the Junior Chamber of Commerce. She also serves on the DeSoto ISD District Education Improvement Council and is participating in the 2013 Class of Leadership Southwest.

Moreover, Ms. Proctor is very passionate about reaching out and reclaiming atrisk youth. She participates in the Girls Living Life on Purpose, Inc. mentoring program and spends time serving as a mentor to at-risk young women through the Dallas County Juvenile Detention Center. In the summer of 2012, her love for helping young women reach their full potential spurred her to establish AGBS™ (All Girls Bible Study) as another means of providing mentorship and Bible-based leadership and business training to young women ages 14 to 21. She is also a Certified Youth Behavior Advisor.

"I look forward to working with Councilmember Proctor, as we move to advance the interest of our great citizens," said Mayor Carl Sherman. "That said, I am confident that she is prepared to roll up her sleeves and work together with the Council and I, as we address challenges and opportunities of growth."



Important Information on the Upcoming Municipal Election

The City of DeSoto will hold a Municipal Election on Saturday, May 11, 2013 to elect a Mayor and City Councilmembers for Place 3 and 5. Voting will take place in the Library Assembly Hall located in DeSoto Town Center beginning April 29th. To be eligible to vote in this election, you must be a registered voter. Voter's registration cards are available at DeSoto City Hall in the City Secretary's office. Completed registration cards will be accepted by Dallas County Elections through April 11, 2013.

The public is invited to attend a City and School Board Candidate Forum hosted by Concerned DeSoto Citizens on Saturday, April 13, 2013 from 10 am to noon in the City Council Chambers at DeSoto City Hall. We hope you will take this opportunity to meet the candidates for Mayor, City Council and the DeSoto ISD Board of Trustees.

City Calendar

March

- 4 Poetry In Progress Library 5:45 pm
- 4 Park Board Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6:30 pm
- 4 Arts Commission Mtg. City Hall 6 pm
- 5 City Council Mtg. City Hall pm
- 7 KDB Mtg. City Hall 6:30 pm
- 7 Library Board Mtg. Library 7 pm
- 7 Friends of the Library Library 6pm
- 7 Historical Foundation Mtg. City Hall 6p
- 12 Planning & Zoning Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 14 Board & Commission Banquet 7pm
- 19 City Council Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 23 Easter Egg Hunt Zeiger Park 9am
- 25 DEDC Board Mtg. City Hall 9 am
- 26 Planning & Zoning Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 26 FY2014 Budget Workshp. City Hall 6 pm
- 29 City Offices & Facilities Closed

April

- 1 Poetry In Progress Library 5:45 pm
- 1 Park Board Mtg. Civic Ctr. 6:30 pm
- 1 Arts Commission Mtg. City Hall 6pm
- 2 City Council Mtg. City Hall 7pm
- 4 KDB Mtg. City Hall 6:30 pm
- 4 Library Board Mtg. Library 7 pm
- 4 Friends of the Library Library 6pm
- 9 Planning & Zoning Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 13 Recycling Event Service Ctr. 9 am
- 13 Dallas Black Dance Theater 3pm
- 16 City Council Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 18 Mayor's Quarterly Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 20 Kidfish Briarwood Park 9 am
- 22 DEDC Board Mtg. City Hall 9 am
- 23 Planning & Zoning Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
- 27 DeSoto Dining & Dialogue Dinner
- 29 Early Voting Begins Library Assembly Hall

Easten Egg Hunt

Saturday, March 23rd



at Zeiger Park, 400 Eagle Drive

9-10:30 am - Games & Activities 10:30 am - Hunt for ages 3 & under 10:45 am - Hunt for ages 4 to 6 11:00 am - Hunt for ages 7 to 9

Free admission, bring your Easter Basket. The event is co-sponsored by DeSoto Parks & Recreation and Hampton Road Baptist Church.

Do you need a helping hand? Great Days of Service can help!

Great Days of Service, a cooperative effort between the City of DeSoto, area churches and community volunteers, is looking for homes in DeSoto that need painting and/or minor repairs. To qualify for the program, these homes must be owner occupied and the homeowner should be elderly, disabled or financially challenged. The work will be done by volunteers during the week of June 17th through 22nd but applications for service must be received by May 1, 2013. If you know of someone who can benefit from this



program, please contact the City of DeSoto at 972.230.9643 to request an application for service.



APRIL 6th, 2013 AT 10:00AM | MCCOWAN MIDDLE SCHOOL

All DeSoto citizens are invited to participate in the 3rd annual "No More" Symposium sponsored by DeSoto Police and Clergy and DeSoto ISD. This year, the symposium will focus on No More Bullying, No More Drugs, and No More Gangs. Don't miss this opportunity to get your questions answered or learn more about prevention. For more information, please call Mary Johnson at 469.658.3002.

Have you been waiting for the chance to tour Nance Farm?

Now that the first phase of the restoration is complete, Nance Farm will be open to the

public at least one weekend each month. On March 9th, the Mantlebrook/Meadowbrook Homeowners Association will hold their meeting at the farm between 12 noon and 4 pm. Members of the association and the public are encouraged to tour the farm on that day. The farm will also be open for tours on Saturday, April 13th from 9 am to 3 pm. Nance Farm is located in the Mantlebrook subdivision at 1325 Greenbrook Dr. For information on Nance Farm go to



www.desototexas.gov and click on Historic Nance Farm under the Community tab.

DeSoto Police & Clergy (DPAC) Launches Youth Boxing Program

DeSoto Police & Clergy (DPAC) is a partnership between the DeSoto Police Department and local pastors. DPAC is celebrating it's third year in operation providing assistance to the DeSoto community experiencing family or teen violence issues.

DPAC has been working in conjunction

with the DeSoto Police
Department and DeSoto
ISD to create an activity
that will provide a
positive experience for
kids. As a result, they
launched a Youth Boxing
Program at a special
organizational meeting
held on February 28th.

The Youth Boxing program is an initiative designed to curb teen

violence by providing youth aged 8 to 13 with a skill that builds character and promotes positive social development. The purpose of the program is to facilitate opportunities for kids to try boxing, thus providing a healthy alternative to time spent hanging out, doing drugs and getting into trouble.

DeSoto's Youth Boxing Program, sanctioned by USA Boxing, is intended

to build self-confidence, instill discipline and promote self-esteem in participants. It helps battle childhood obesity, teaches positive social values and has proven to be a highly effective way for teenagers to release aggression.

The DeSoto Youth Boxing Program is



partnering with the Chocolate Mint organization to use a portion of their facility located on Executive Way for the program. It will meet on Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesday from 4 to 5:30pm.

For more information on the DeSoto Youth Boxing Program, please call Mary Johnson at the DeSoto Police Department at 469.658.3002.

A MESSAGE FROM CODE ENFORCEMENT OVERGROWN TREES

It is unlawful for any owner, occupant or person in charge of adjacent property to allow the branches of any tree to extend over into a public street or alley at a height less than fourteen and one-half (14 1/2) feet. It is also unlawful to allow the branches of any shrubbery or similar vegetation to extend over into adjacent property or over a sidewalk blocking or hindering pedestrian access. Please trim your trees to avoid obstructing sidewalks, streets and alleys.

BRUSH AND LIMBS

All tree limbs, brush, or trunks can be placed on the curb in front of your residence for pick-up. The fee for this service is included in your monthly utility bill. It is not necessary to bundle the brush or limbs. Please insure that brush does not obstruct the city right-of way. Republic Waste will pick-up the brush within seven days of its being placed at your front curb.

April Recycling Events

Document Shredding Event

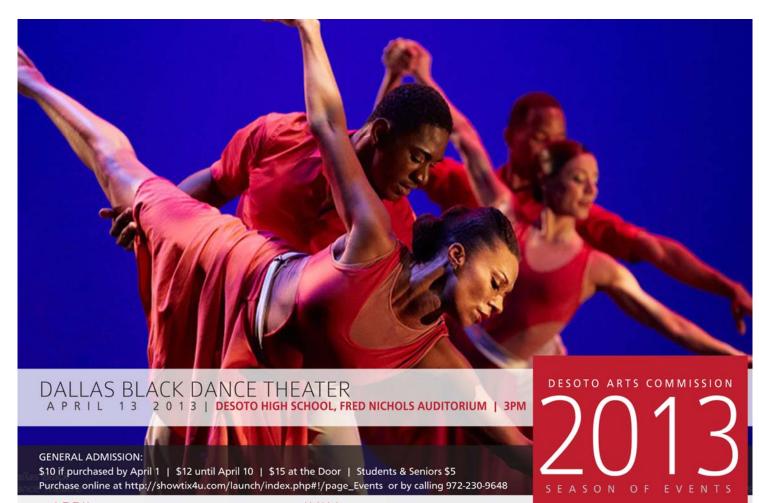
Bring items you wish to shred to the DeSoto Service Center located at 809 W. Spinner Road on Saturday, April 13th beginning at 9 am. A mobile document shredding unit will be on-site to shred your personal household documents at no cost. The event ends at noon or when the truck is filled. (Commercial documents will not be accepted.) You must show proof of DeSoto residency with a driver's license or current utility bill. Please place all your documents in boxes. There is a limit of ten boxes of household material per person for shredding.

Free E-Recycling

On Saturday, April 13th beginning at 9 am, bring your unwanted electronic items (excluding TVs) to the DeSoto Service Center for recycling. Here's a list of items that will be accepted at no charge: personal computers, printers, toner and ink cartridges, scanners, cell phones, chargers, cables and wires, gaming equipment, PDAs and other small electronic devices. Help us protect the environment by keeping electronic waste materials out of landfills by recycling. Items will be accepted until noon or until the truck is filled.

Household Hazardous Waste

If you have household hazardous waste that cannot be discarded along with the regular trash such as paint, oil, fertilizer, acid, gasoline, or pesticides, you can bring it to the City of DeSoto Household Hazardous Waste event with a reservation and proof of DeSoto residency. Space is limited to the first 125 who register. The event takes place at the DeSoto Pump Station, 620 N. Westmoreland Road on Saturday, April 13th from 9 am to noon. Call the Action Center at 972.230.9600 to make a reservation. Only those with valid reservations will be allowed to participate.



APRIL

A Lesson Before Dying | April 5-28 African American Repertory Theater **DeSoto Corner Theatre**

Dallas Black Dance Theater | April 13 DeSoto Arts Commission | 3PM Fred Nickles Auditorium

MAY

Hansel & Gretel | May 3-5 **NIA Kids DeSoto Corner Theatre**

Fences | May 24-June 9 African American Repertory **DeSoto Corner Theatre**

Richardson Symphony Orchastra May 26 | 5:00 PM **DeSoto Arts Commission** DeSoto Amphitheater | Free

JUNE

Project One Voice June 17 | 7:30 PM African American Repertory Theater Corner Theatre

JULY

The Three Musketeers | July 12-28 CrossOver Arts Theater **DeSoto Corner Theatre**

DeSoto Art League Gallery DeSoto City Hall

Movies in the Park Madagascar III | July 19 Outdoor Amphitheater | Free

Little Mermaid | July 26 Dive-In Movie at Mosely Pool \$3.00 Pool Admission

AUGUST

Wreck-It Ralph | August 1 Outdoor Amphitheater | Free

Holka Polka August 7-18 CrossOver Arts Theater **DeSoto Corner Theatre**

SEPTEMBER

Fiesta Latino DeSoto | Sept. 15 **DeSoto Arts Commission** Town Center Amphitheater Free

Homeschooled | Sept. 6-29 (TACA New Works Grant Fund)
African American Repertory The Corner Theatre

NOVEMBER

DeSoto Choral Classical Series November 2013 (TBA) St. Anne's Episcopal Church

DECEMBER

Ebony Scrooge | December 6-29 DeSoto Corner Theatre CrossOver Arts Theater

