

DeSoto City Lights

A Publication of the City of DeSoto Community Relations Department

City Council Approves “Smoke Free” Ordinance for DeSoto

The DeSoto City Council approved an amendment to the Code of Ordinances, Chapter 6, titled “Health and Sanitation” prohibiting smoking in all workplaces and public places located within the City at the September 1, 2015 regular City Council Meeting.

The revised smoking ordinance will make the City of DeSoto a 100% smoke free city. The Center for Disease Control and Prevention considers a smoke free ordinance to be comprehensive if it prohibits smoking in all indoor areas of private workplaces, restaurants and bars. DeSoto’s new ordinance repeals the Code of Ordinances, Article 6.700 and replaces it with an ordinance based on the 100% Smoke Free model which:

- prohibits smoking in bars, restaurants, public buildings, hotels, motels and all public places,
- prohibits smoking at outdoor public places, sporting arenas and at outdoor events,
- prohibits smoking in outdoor common areas of apartments, trailer parks and retirement facilities,
- prohibits use of electronic cigarettes and liquid nicotine,
- requires designated smoking areas to be located no closer than 50 ft. from an entrance or doorway to a building and
- requires “No Smoking” signage to be posted at all places of employment, public places, private clubs and residential facilities.

The newly adopted ordinance is based on the National Smoke Free model that provides for a safe environment, free of second hand smoke. It’s approval allows the City of DeSoto to join other smoke free cities in North Texas including, Benbrook, Dallas, Ennis, Flower Mound, Plano, Southlake, University Park and Waxahachie.

The revised smoking ordinance goes into effect on January 1, 2016. The City will begin a campaign to educate the public on the new Smoke Free Ordinance in the coming weeks.



SMOKE FREE

City Calendar

October

1 Historical Foundation Mtg. 6 pm
1 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
1 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
1 Friends of the Library Mtg. - 6 pm
2 Russian Pianist - Corner Theatre 7 pm
3 Jazz Concert Corner Theatre - 3 pm
5 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. 6pm
5 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
6 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
6 Texas Night Out-Amphitheater 7 pm
10 Karaoke DeSoto Outdoor Amphitheater
11 Classical Concert - Corner Theatre - 3pm
13 Planning & Zoning Mtg. -City Hall -7 pm
15 Veterans Affairs Mtg. Library - 6pm
17 Karaoke DeSoto Outdoor Amphitheater
18 Jazz Concert - Pecan Rooms - 3 pm
20 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
24 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am
25 Classical Concert - Corner Theatre - 3pm
27 Planning & Zoning Mtg. - City Hall - 7pm

November

2 Arts Commission Mtg. - Civic Ctr. 6 pm
2 Park Board Mtg. - Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
3 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
3 Library Board Mtg. Library - 7 pm
5 Friends of the Library Mtg. - 6 pm
5 KDB Mtg. Civic Ctr. - 6:30 pm
5 Historical Foundation Mtg. 6 pm
7 Vet Fest - Town Center - 9 am to 3 pm
10 Planning & Zoning Mtg.- City Hall -7 pm
17 City Council Mtg. - City Hall - 7 pm
19 Veterans Affairs Mtg. Library - 6pm
24 Planning & Zoning Mtg. City Hall 7 pm
26 City offices closed - Thanksgiving
27 City offices closed - Thanksgiving
30 DEDC Board Mtg. - City Hall - 9 am

Karaoke DeSoto in the Outdoor Amphitheater at Town Center

The DeSoto Arts Commission is sponsoring free Karaoke Nights in the Outdoor Amphitheater on September 18th, October 2nd, 10th and 17th for teens and adults. Show off your skills and have some fun! Registration begins at 6pm and with performances from 7 to 9 pm. All songs must be family-friendly, no lewd lyrics or gestures will be allowed. For more information call 972.230.9648.

CALLING ALL RESIDENTS, HOA'S AND NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GROUPS

COME JOIN

THE DESOTO POLICE DEPARTMENT

FOR

TEXAS NIGHT OUT

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2015

CITY OF DESOTO
TOWN CENTER AMPHITHEATRE

211 E. PLEASANT RUN RD.

7:00 PM TO 9:00 PM

FOOD, MUSIC, PERSONAL, HOME AND COMMUNITY
SAFETY AWARENESS DEMONSTRATIONS

October is Domestic Violence Awareness Month

ABOUT 600
CASES OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
ARE FILED IN DESOTO EVERY YEAR.

Join the Domestic Violence Advisory Committee in strengthening our resolve that
PEACE IS POSSIBLE.



DESOTO DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
ADVISORY COMMITTEE

CALL 800-799-SAFE





Calling All Veterans - Join Us for Vet Fest on November 7th at DeSoto Town Center, 9 am to 3 pm

For the last three years, the City of DeSoto has hosted an event to honor the contributions and sacrifice of our military veterans and their families on the Saturday prior to Veterans Day. This year, on November 7, 2015 at 9 am, we will again recognize our veterans with a special appreciation ceremony featuring keynote speaker, Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson, if her schedule permits. The ceremony will take place in the City Council Chambers in DeSoto City Hall. Immediately following the ceremony, events will move to the plaza and outdoor amphitheater at Town Center behind the DeSoto Public Library for **Vet Fest**, a street festival designed to show our veterans how much we care.

We invite local businesses and organizations who offer special services or discounts to veterans to participate in **Vet Fest** with a vendor booth. The City of DeSoto would also like to invite local businesses who are looking to hire veterans to set up a booth at **Vet Fest**. In addition to the vendor booths, the Veterans Administration is sending their mobile information unit (pictured at right) along with their unit that provides services for homeless veterans to **Vet Fest**. We will also have food vendors, children's

activities and lots of free entertainment until 3pm. Applications are currently being accepted for vendors or employers. For more information, please call Kathy Jones at 972.230.9648.

DeSoto is a Veteran Friendly City and, as such, we want to do all we can to recognize those who sacrificed all for our nation. The City's Veterans Appreciation Committee would like to ask for your help. We would like to create a tribute to our local veterans and are asking that friends and family members submit pictures of your favorite vet, in uniform if available. Unless you provide it in electronic form, this photo will not be returned as it will become a permanent part of the tribute. Please send your photos along with a brief description of your veteran including, name, rank, area and history of service to Kathy Jones at kathy.jones@desototexas.gov.



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.

BRUSH AND LIMBS

All tree limbs, brush, or trunks can be placed on the curb in front of your residence for pick-up. The cost for this service is included in your monthly City of DeSoto utility bill. It is not necessary to bundle the brush or limbs. Republic Waste, our solid waste contractor, will pick-up the brush within seven days of its being placed at your front curb under normal circumstances.

DeSoto Code Enforcement officers encourage you to be their "eyes and ears" in the community and report overgrown brush, high weeds or other Code violations in your neighborhood. A quick and easy way to do this is to go to the "Service Request" section on the homepage of the City's website at www.desototexas.gov and fill in the information. If you are using an iPhone or Android, download the free GORrequest app, take a photo of the Code violation, and quickly upload it to the Service Request system. You can also report an issue by calling the Code Enforcement Office at 469.658.3075.

Kate Cooper, Avant Chamber Ballet



DeSoto Corner Theatre,
211 E. Pleasant Run Road in DeSoto Town Center
All tickets are just \$10. For more information, call
972-230-9648.

concert dates

- Sept. 13th Avant Chamber Ballet [Katie Cooper + David Cooper]
- Sept. 20th Jazz w. W.T. Greer, III
- Sept. 27th Demarre McGille, flute + Steven Harlos, piano
- Oct. 4th Open Classics [classical music reimagined as jazz]
- Oct. 11th Czech Virtuoso duo, Felix Slovachek Jr., clarinet + Viacheslav Grokhovski Fr. piano
- Oct. 18th Big Band Jazz w. Matt Tolentino
- Oct. 25th Gary Levinson, violin + Baya Kakouberi, piano

concerts
Every Sunday
at 3:00 PM

artsdesoto.com



That's the theme for the DeSoto 2015 Holiday Parade of Lights scheduled for Saturday, December 5th at dusk. Now is the time to reach out to your church, scout troop, community group, HOA, business, or other organization to see if they would like to participate. Help us kick off the Holiday Season in DeSoto by going to www.desototexas.gov and downloading an application for this year's parade. For more information, please call Special Events Coordinator, Carolyn Campbell at 972.230.9652.