

DeSoto News Flash

For the week of January 28 through February 1, 2008.

The Town Center Project is Underway!!

The dream of a revitalized Hampton Road corridor came one step closer to reality this week. Work has begun on the Town Center Mixed-Use Development, a public/private partnership between the City of DeSoto and Trammell Crow's High Street Residential Division. The new DeSoto Town Center will offer a pedestrian-oriented, urban village environment with nearly 38,000 sq. ft. of retail and office space, 136 residential units and an elevated parking garage. It is anticipated that the project will take approximately 16 months to complete.

The construction fences went up last week at Town Center and the backhoes moved in to demolish the Chamber of Commerce Building.



Now that the west parking lot is closed for construction, visitors to Town Center must park in the newly constructed parking lot on the east side of City Hall. The parking lot on the south side of City Hall facing Tom Thumb is also still available. The outdoor drop box for utility bills has been moved to the south side of City Hall and a new book drop has been installed on the north side of the Library facing Ten-Mile Creek.

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Daddy Daughter Valentine Dance

This year, the Annual Daddy Daughter Valentine Dance will be held at a new location. It's the MCM Grande Fundome, formerly the DeSoto Holiday Inn located at 1515 N. I-35. The MCM Grande Fundome has just completed a \$2,500,000 renovation and to help celebrate their grand re-opening, they will host the 2008 Daddy Daughter Valentine Dance. "This event is becoming so popular we need to look for a larger facility and the MCM Grande is just the place for a magical evening for daddies and daughters to dance the night away," said special event coordinator for the City of DeSoto, Carolyn Campbell .

Tickets for the dance are \$30 per couple (\$15 for each additional child) and are available at the Parks & Leisure Services Office at City of DeSoto. Space is limited, no tickets will be sold at the door. To purchase tickets or for more information, please call 972.230.9650.

Celebrate Black History Month at the DeSoto Public Library

The DeSoto Public Library invites families to experience "Voices: A Black History Celebration" with Master Storyteller Esther Malone on Thursday, February 21 at 6:45 p.m. in the Library Assembly Hall. Ms. Malone tells stories that move you...body and soul. "Voices..." begins with an invitation to contemplate our own family experiences. You are then invited to "hear the voices of those who have come and gone before us. Feel the heartbeat of the Underground Railroad. Break bread together by sharing stories and making personal connections."

Imagine a symphony with no instruments, a book with no words, & a people with no history! That's hard to imagine. Just as a symphony needs instruments, & a book needs words, people need to know history, all history! In her telling of African American history, Ms. Malone encourages audiences to celebrate the human drive we all possess to simply "Be," and

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invites each participant to share history through the art of the telling of stories.

The DeSoto Library is located at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road, in the DeSoto Town Center. Because of construction at Town Center, please park in the lot on the east side of Town Center. Come in through the Recreation and Civic Centers to reach the Library Assembly Hall. For more information, please call 972.230.9656, visit the library page on the city website, www.ci.desoto.tx.us, or come by the library.

Police Chief Brodnax Needs Your Help

DeSoto Police Chief Mike Brodnax is asking citizens to be his "force multiplier" by reporting suspicious activity in your neighborhood. "When you see an unfamiliar vehicle or person and you suspect that all is not right, call 911 and report it," said Chief Brodnax. "The quicker suspicious activity is reported the faster our response."

Chief Brodnax outlines his "force multiplier" program in a new video on the city's website. To view, go to www.ci.desoto.tx.us and select the My Neighborhood tab on the left and go to "Message From Police Chief Brodnax".