

DeSoto News Flash

Week of February 2nd
through the 8th, 2008

Renovations are Complete At DeSoto's Central Fire Station

In 2003, voter's approved a bond election which funded much needed renovations to DeSoto's Central Fire Station. This is the city's oldest fire station constructed in 1980 and it has just received a \$1,140,000 facelift. DeSoto Fire Rescue will hold an open house to show off their new facilities on Tuesday, February 19, 2008 from 4 to 6 p.m. Central Fire Station is located at 501 E. Wintergreen Road.

The Meeting & A Woman Called Truth on Stage at DeSoto's Corner Theatre

In celebration of Black History Month, the African-American Repertory Theater will present staged readings of *The Meeting* by Jeff Stetson and *A Woman Called Truth* by Sandra Fenichel Asher on February 9 and 10, 2008 at DeSoto's Corner Theatre.

The Meeting depicts the supposed meeting of two of the most important men of modern times; Malcolm X and Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. "An exciting and provocative play.....an unforgettable evening of drama" – NY Post. The second reading, *A Woman Called Truth* celebrates the life of Sojourner Truth. This award winning play combines her actual words with authentic slave songs and spirituals of the time. You will not want to miss these two powerful works, presented together. Performances are at 8:00 p.m. on Saturday, February 9th and at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, February 10th at the DeSoto Corner Theatre located in DeSoto Town Center at 211 E. Pleasant Run Road. Tickets are \$10 for both performances and can be purchased on-line in advance at www.aarepthheater.com or at the box office one hour prior to each show.

Now That Construction on the Town Center Project Has Begun, Are You Wondering How to Find Your Way Around Town Center?

If so, you're not alone. The city's Community Relations Department has produced a segment of Focus On DeSoto Today that we hope answers your questions. Focus On DeSoto Today is a video series designed to inform viewers on current topics of interest to those who live or work in DeSoto. The February edition focuses on the logistic issues that have been created by the construction currently underway in what was once the main parking lot for Town Center. It is being transformed into a mixed-use residential and retail/office development.

This video is currently running on DeSoto's Government Access Channel available to Time Warner Cable subscribers on channel 16. It plays daily at the top of the hour in the morning between 8 and 10 am and in the evening between 7 and 10 pm. The video is also available for viewing anytime on the city's website at www.ci.desoto.tx.us. Just click on the Town Center Redevelopment button on the lower right hand corner of the homepage and follow the link marked Focus On DeSoto Today, Town Center Construction.

Here are some of the main points covered in the video:

- The city has constructed a new parking area on the east side of the city hall which will serve the entire complex. It can be reached from Pleasant Run Road.
- The south parking lot facing Tom Thumb is also still available.
- The construction fence has been erected in such a way as to allow continued access to the west (main) entrances of City Hall, the Corner Theater, the Recreation Center, Civic Center and Library.
- All facilities are also accessible from the east parking lot by following the directional signs through the buildings.
- The Utility Payment box has been moved to a location on the south side of city hall next to the existing U.S. Postal box.
- A short-term loading area has been designated near the outdoor amphitheater for those using the Civic Center.
- A new book drop has been installed on the north side of the Library facing Ten Mile Creek. This can be accessed by entering the pavestone drive off of Pleasant Run Road and following it around the building to the north side and exiting on to Hampton Road.
- All facilities will remain open and accessible throughout the duration of the construction. We ask for your patience as we work to improve Town Center.