

Look For the New Posting Board At The East Entrance to City Hall

Due to the construction of the mixed-use Town Center Project, the west entrance to City Hall is temporarily closed. This has traditionally been the area where all postings of public meetings are located. As a result a new posting board has been

added just inside the East entrance to City Hall. This location will be the main posting area for all public meetings for the duration of construction. The West entrance will reopen on June 9th and postings will be made on both boards after that time.

If you have any questions regarding posting of a public meeting at DeSoto City Hall, please contact Laura Hallmark in the City Secretary's Office at 972 230-9664.



Regional Wireless Broadband Study – Tell Us What You Think!

DeSoto and Cedar Hill have joined forces and are working with a consulting firm to conduct a feasibility study to assess needs, expectations, services and other requirements of the communities as relates to broadband Internet access in general and municipal Wi-Fi in particular. In addition to community responses, the final report will include a technical analysis and asset inventory, including physical properties, environmental concerns and topography; a review of municipal best practices and total community value; and a business model assessment and recommendations tailored to the DeSoto and Cedar Hill area. Go to the city's



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homepage at www.ci.desoto.tx.us and click on "Citywide Wireless Broadband Assessment survey" under News & Events. For those that would like to hear about the study in person, the Consultant will hold a community meeting beginning at 7 p.m. on May 7 at the Cedar Hill Recreation Center located at 310 E. Parkerville in Cedar Hill. Everyone is invited to attend.

DeSoto Dining and Dialogue Needs Guests For the Dinner on June 7th

Many feel that the cultural and racial divide that separates Americans is the single most pressing matter plaguing our communities. Some have chosen not to deal with the problem by relocating to a city less diverse. But this is, at best, a temporary fix. For it is estimated that by the year 2050 there will no longer be a minority population, and diversity will be the rule in most cities. Racial issues are not easy to discuss. But it is a conversation we must engage in if our cities are to be all they can be.

DeSoto now has a vehicle to make this conversation possible. It is called DeSoto Dining & Dialogue. The program, originally organized by former Mayor Michael Hurtt, is now run by a volunteer group of DeSoto citizens as an independent non-profit organization. The group seeks to bring DeSoto citizens from different cultural backgrounds together over dinner, for the purpose of encouraging cross-cultural communication. More than a dozen dinner tables involving 8 to 10 people are held three times a year. They start at 6:00 p.m. and end at 9:30 p.m., in homes, churches, and restaurants all over the city on the same night. Registered participants are assigned a dinner location.

Anyone who lives or works in DeSoto can participate in the program by agreeing to be a guest at the next dinner scheduled for June 7, 2008.

Guests need only bring an open mind and a willingness to share ideas and experiences, there is no charge for dinner. To balance the tables and enhance the experience, we need male and female guest of all ethnicities and ages. High school students can receive credit for 5 community service hours for participating. Trained facilitators provide structure to the evening and use techniques designed to minimize debate and maximize sharing and understanding. Volunteer hosts agree to welcome a group of 8 to 10 into your home or other location and cover the cost of their meal. The program is also looking for volunteer hosts.

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By participating in DeSoto Dining and Dialogue, we are starting the conversation that transforms DeSoto into the consummate American city;

- A city where diversity is not only in the workplace, but a place where diversity works
- A city where cultural differences are not only tolerated but respected
- A city where the flag is not just waved but its principles are lived out
- A city where family values are not only preached but where every family is valued

DeSoto Dining and Dialogue was the cornerstone program that qualified the City of DeSoto for the All-America City Award. If you would like to be a part of this award-winning program, please call Kathy Jones at 972 230-9648 or go to the DeSoto Dining and Dialogue website at desotodininganddialogue.org and register to attend the next dinner by May 18, 2008. Together with DeSoto Dining & Dialogue, we are making DeSoto a one of a kind city where the American dream is a reality.

DeSoto Police Present Senior TRIAD Symposium May 14th

The DeSoto Police Department will present the 10th Annual Senior TRIAD Symposium on Wednesday, May 14th from 9 a.m. to noon at **Community Missionary Baptist Church located at 115 E. Belt Line Road**. Residents 55 and older are encouraged to attend this free educational symposium. Topics include personal safety, financial security and health and wellness issues that affect seniors. Lunch is included.

To reserve your spot or for more information, please call Officer Cindy Mendez at 469.658.3055 or by e-mail at cmendez@ci.desoto.tx.us.

Library to Host Scholastic Book Fair

The DeSoto Public Library invites one and all to its Scholastic Book Fair May 20-22 (Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday) in the Library Assembly Hall. This sale of children's books will benefit the Library's yearly Summer Reading Club Program. The Book Fair will be open during regular library hours (10 am – 8 pm). For more information, please call 972.230.9666 or email kboyd@ci.desoto.tx.us.



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DeSoto Police Honor Fallen Brothers on Thursday, May 15th

DeSoto Police will honor their fallen brothers nationwide in a Police Memorial Ceremony to be held on Thursday, May 15th at 9 a.m. at the DeSoto Police Department, 714 E. Belt Line Road. The public is invited to be a part of this important service which recognizes the sacrifice made by police officers and their families who are killed in the line of duty.

