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PRESS RELEASE

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Wylie Mayor Proclaims National Magic Week

Governor, Congress, State House join mayor in recognizing magic as art

Wylie, TX, Oct. 30, 2014 –At the Oct. 28 meeting of Wylie City Council, Mayor Eric Hogue read a proclamation declaring Oct. 25 - 31 as National Magic Week in Wylie, recognizing magic as an art. With the proclamation, Wylie joins the Texas Legislature, the U.S. House of Representatives and Governor Rick Perry in similar recognitions.

The proclamations represent the culmination of Hogue’s efforts over the last year to achieve art status for magic. “Magic is a type of performance that has entertained audiences for many years, but it is much more,” Hogue said. “Magic can be used therapeutically to increase manual dexterity and hand-eye coordination in young people and senior citizens. I have worked closely with Dal Sanders, former national president of Society of American Magicians, to acquire the art designation, which opens the door for magicians to apply for corporate grants to fund visits to children’s hospitals, nursing homes and schools.”

Sanders was present at the council meeting, along with Mike Squires, former president of Dallas Magic Clubs, and Frank Seltzer, current president of DMC, all of whom performed magic for those gathered. City Manager Mindy Manson was pressed into service; among other magician assistant duties, she held the other side of a table that Sanders had caused to levitate.

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In addition to reading the city's proclamation, Hogue reminded those gathered that Congressman Pete Sessions had addressed the U.S. Congress in April, proclaiming magic to be an art, thereby entering that fact into the Congressional Record. Saying, "But we're not done yet!" Hogue also presented the visiting magicians with a Texas flag that had flown over the state capitol, sent in honor of National Magic Week by Representative Jodie Laubenberg. Finally, Hogue read a proclamation from Governor Perry, recognizing the last week in October as National Magic Week and recognizing magic to be a true art.

Photos by Craig Kelly, City of Wylie Public Information

Manson Sanders 2820

Wylie City Manager Mindy Manson can't help but be amazed as magician Dal Sanders levitates a table in Council Chambers. Councilman Nathan Scott also peers from the dais, checking for strings. Wylie recognized magic as a legitimate art at the Oct. 28 council meeting and declared Oct. 25 – 31 National Magic Week.

Magic Men 2638

Mayor Eric Hogue, left, holds a flag flown over the Texas Capitol in honor of National Magic Week, presented to the city by Representative Jodie Laubenberg. Dal Sanders, former national president of Society of American Magicians, holds a proclamation from Texas Governor Rick Perry; Dallas Magic Clubs President Frank Seltzer shows a proclamation from the City of Wylie; and Mike Squires, past president of DMC, holds a proclamation from Laubenberg. The proclamations recognized magic as an art and declared Oct. 25 – 31 National Magic Week.

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About Wylie – Incorporated in 1887, the City of Wylie is located just 24 miles from downtown Dallas in Collin, Dallas and Rockwall counties. Possessing an outstanding school district, a low crime rate, an ISO #1 rating and an expanding business climate, Wylie (population 44,158) is one of the fastest-growing communities in the State of Texas with a 192% increase since 2000.