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News Release

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Health concerns cancel ever-popular Moonlight Movies *Sounds at Sundown moved to summer 2021*

MURPHY (May 5, 2020) The City of Murphy has decided to cancel this year's Moonlight Movie series, long a staple of family outdoor entertainment, as part of the current efforts to impede the transmission of the coronavirus.

The cautious approach adopted by the City in slowing the spread of the COVID-19 disease, which has largely spared Murphy, has resulted in the cancellation of the showings scheduled for May 15 and 29, Toy Story 4 and Frozen 2 respectively.

Officials are hoping that an alternative to the cancellation may yet be found, and work is continuing on developing scenarios that could possibly allow the movies to be shown. The movies, which have attracted and entertained multi-generational members of local families, are generally shown outdoors at the Central Park amphitheater. Any scheduling or venue changes will be shared via social media and other methods.

"We, of course, want to ensure the safety of our residents and staff during these times," says Kayla McFarland, Special Events Coordinator. "We appreciate the understanding of the community and can't wait to see them at our events again in the future!"

Also experiencing change as a result of the pandemic is the summer concert series, Sounds at Sundown, which usually presents local musical performers each Friday in June. However, the 2020 version is being canceled and the series will pick up in June of 2021.

The City's response to the pandemic is tied directly to the orders, declarations, and directives emanating from Collin County and the state of Texas.

"We will continue to keep residents updated on the event changes on the City of Murphy Facebook pages, and other social media sites," said McFarland.

Questions or comments regarding the event changes can be directed to events@murphytx.org.

The pandemic response has already caused the cancellation of the spring Clean & Green event and the Tunes, Tails, and Ales craft beer festival.

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ABOUT MURPHY -- Murphy is a fast-growing community located in Collin County. The population is approximately 20,010, generally characterized as highly educated with a median household income well above the state average. With more than 80 percent of the land developed, the community is dominated by single-family residences. City planners strive to preserve a family-oriented community with a strong sense of place. Money Magazine has dubbed Murphy as the 27th Best Place to Live in America for small cities, and D Magazine placed Murphy as the fifth best suburb in the 2014 list, where it has consistently ranked in the top 10.