

Mesquite Citizens Ask...

Q: I understand that there is a collection of large or bulky items once each week for residents of Mesquite. What qualifies an item to be "large" or "bulky"?

A: Items that do not fit into garbage cans or are a total volume greater than two feet tall, two feet wide and four feet in length are considered large or bulky. Examples of bulky items are brush, furniture, lumber, fence and building materials. Visit the City of Mesquite Web site at www.cityofmesquite.com/solidwaste/lookup.php to determine the bulky collection day for your address.

Frequently called city phone numbers:

Main Number.....(972) 288-7711	Trash Collection/
Animal Control.....(972) 216-6283	Recycling.....(972) 216-6284
Building Inspection.....(972) 216-6212	Street/Alley Repair.....(972) 216-6282
Environmental Code.....(972) 216-6276	Water Billing.....(972) 216-6208
Parks and Recreation..(972) 216-6260	Water Leaks/
Planning & Zoning.....(972) 216-6216	Sewer Back-ups.....(972) 216-6278



MESQUITE
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Mainstream is an official publication of the City of Mesquite to inform and advise citizens of municipal activities.

Mike Anderson
Mayor

Stan PickettMayor Pro Tem
John Heiman, Jr.Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
John MonacoCouncilmember
David L. PaschallCouncilmember
Shirley RobertsCouncilmember
Dennis Tarpley.....Councilmember

Ted Barron
City Manager

Mesquite Arts Center Arts Notes

The following activities are funded in part by the City of Mesquite hotel-motel occupancy tax revenues. The Mesquite Arts Center is located at 1527 N. Galloway. For updates, check www.mesquiteartscenter.org.

April 2006

- 1 **Texas Area Artists** will hold its annual awards exhibit entitled *Annual Award Show 2006* in the Main and Chamber Galleries. (214) 566-8269
- 1-2, **Mesquite Community Theatre** presents *The Housekeeper*
7-9 by James Prideaux in the Black Box Theatre.
13-15 (972) 216-8126
- 2 **Texas Area Artists** will host its monthly meeting at 2:00 p.m. and will feature an artist demonstration. The public is invited. (214) 566-8269
- 3-30 **The Mesquite Arts Council** presents an exhibit by *Jackie MacLelland* in the Main Gallery. (972) 216-6444
- 3-4 **Mesquite Community Theatre** presents a staged reading series featuring the *Wit* at 7:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. No reservation required and admission is free. (972) 216-8126
- 8 An artist reception will be held for *Jackie MacLelland* from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. in the Main Gallery.
- 10 **Texas Area Artists** monthly *Paint-In* begins at 10:00 a.m. All artists are invited to bring their projects and share successes with others. (214) 566-8269
- 10 The **Mesquite Creative Arts** monthly meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and will feature an artist demonstration. (972) 463-6004
- 18 Join us for **Art @ Lunch**. This month will feature a brief, fun and informative mini art session. Free at the Mesquite Arts Center at noon. Bring a sack lunch or buy one on site. (972) 216-6444
- 24-26 **Mesquite Community Theatre** will hold auditions for *The Heiress* from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. (972) 216-8126
- 28-30 The **Children's Chorus of Greater Dallas** is in concert with its *8th Annual Spring Concert* at the Mesquite Arts Center. (214) 965-0491

May 2006

- 1-8 The **Mesquite Arts Council** will present an exhibit by *Jackie MacLelland* in the Main Gallery. (972) 216-6444
- 8-31 The **Mesquite Arts Council** will present an exhibit by Dick Clintsman entitled *Carbon Faces* in the Main Gallery. (972) 216-6444
- 6 The **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** will perform its *National Pride* concert, featuring the music of Borodin, Dvorak, Renieke and Cessyon. The concert will begin at 7:30 p.m. (972) 216-8127
- 7 **Texas Area Artists** will host its monthly meeting at 2:00 p.m. and will feature an artist demonstration. The public is invited. (214) 566-8269
- 8 **Texas Area Artists** monthly *Paint-In* begins at 10:00 a.m. All artists are invited to bring their projects and share successes with others. (214) 566-8269
- 8 The **Mesquite Creative Arts** monthly meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and will feature an artist demonstration. (972) 463-6004
- 8 Registration for the **Mesquite Arts Council** annual John and Alta *Nichols Art Camp* begins at 8:00 a.m. The camp runs Monday, June 12, through Friday, June 16, from 1:00 to 4:00 p.m. each day. The activities are structured for children ages seven through 10. Cost is \$20 and includes all supplies. Space is limited. (972) 216-6444
- 11 Join us for **Art @ Lunch**. This month will feature a brief, fun and informative mini art session by Dick Clintsman. Free at the Mesquite Arts Center at noon. Bring a sack lunch or buy one on site. Reservations required. (972) 216-6444
- 13 **National Tourism Week** Opening Reception and Artist Reception for Dick Clintsman. This free event lasts from 4:30 to 6:30 p.m. (972) 216-6444
- 17 The *Blue Horizons Community Concert* will begin at 9:00 a.m. in the Concert Hall and requires no admission cost. (972) 216-6444
- 20 **Texas Voices** will present a concert at 8:00 p.m. in the Concert Hall. (972) 801-2532

Mainstream

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March 2006

49th Annual Mesquite Rodeo Parade

High-stepping marching bands and cool cowboys riding handsome horses are just part of what is to be seen at the 49th Annual Mesquite Rodeo Parade, scheduled for Saturday, April 8, 2006, at 10:00 a.m. Presented by the Mesquite Championship Rodeo at Resistol Arena, the parade will circle through historic downtown Mesquite. Beginning at 9:00 a.m. and following the parade, Old Town Mesquite will host its annual Rodeo Parade Festival at downtown's Heritage Square.

The parade will follow its traditional route, marching north on Bryan-Beltline Road at Newsom Road, continuing around the Mesquite Square and back to the Bryan-Beltline/Newsom starting point.

Parade entry applications will be accepted through March 17 and the entry fee is \$30. Applications are available at the Mesquite Chamber of Commerce or by calling (972) 285-0211.

Parade-goers will want to stay for the festival following the parade to

enjoy arts and crafts, festival food, musical entertainment and lots of children's activities in old downtown Mesquite. The festival continues until 4:00 p.m. For more information about the festival, call (972) 329-5969.



Inside this issue...

- Community Development News
- Keep Mesquite Beautiful *Trash Bash*
- TxDOT Project Near Town East
- Photo Contest
- Senior Alert
- National Youth Service Day

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

April 2006

- 3 City Council meeting, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 8 Historic Florence Ranch Homestead is open for tours, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 1424 Barnes Bridge Road. (972) 216-6468
- 17 City Council meeting, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.

May 2006

- 1 City Council meeting, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 13 Historic Florence Ranch Homestead is open for tours, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., 1424 Barnes Bridge Road. (972) 216-6468
- 15 City Council meeting, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 29 Memorial Day, City offices closed. No residential waste collection.

visit www.cityofmesquite.com

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

Residential Permits

Residents contemplating any additions or replacements to their homes must apply for a residential permit, which ensures the projects are built to adopted code standards and are inspected by certified inspectors trained in the various construction trades. Additionally, the process is assurance that the project meets all zoning requirements and ordinances. By seeking a permit before construction, property owners avoid additional costs for compliance. Permits are required for:

- remodeling (including electrical, plumbing and HVAC work)
- building additions
- storage buildings
- foundation repairs
- concrete parking pads and driveway expansion
- patio covers
- spas and pools
- window replacement
- fences (both new and replacements)
- carports
- retaining walls
- all new single-family residences



Those seeking permits may complete applications at the Building Inspection Division located in the City's Municipal Center, 1515 N. Galloway Ave. Hours are 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, with the exception of holidays. A drawing, which indicates proposed work, must accompany all applications. Permit costs and other information can be found on the City of Mesquite Web site

(www.cityofmesquite.com) under Building Inspection. For more information on the residential permit process, call (972) 216-6212 or (972) 216-6213.

Keep Mesquite Beautiful, Inc. Plans for *Trash Bash* Event

On Saturday, April 1, 2006, Keep Mesquite Beautiful, Inc. (KMB) will be hosting the Mesquite Trash Bash affiliated with the 21st annual Don't Mess with Texas Trash Off and Great American Clean Up. The event will take place from 7:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at the Mesquite Arts Center, located at 1527 N. Galloway Ave. Come help KMB keep the community clean by picking up littered areas, participating in graffiti removal projects and yard clean ups for the elderly. Upon completion of clean-up projects participating groups will enjoy lunch and live music on the Mesquite Arts Center lawn. Volunteer groups wishing to participate should register by calling the KMB office at (972) 288-7730 or e-mail the Executive Director, Chesley House, at chouse@ci.mesquite.tx.us. The rain date for Trash Bash is Saturday, April 22, 2006.

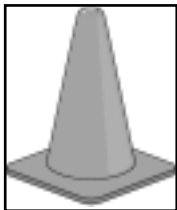
Recycling vendors will be on hand in the Municipal Center parking lot at 1515 N. Galloway Ave. during the Trash Bash. Residents not able to participate in projects are encouraged to get their spring cleaning done early and bring the following items:

- The **Mesquite Animal Shelter** will accept gently used or new collars, leashes, catnip, pet treats, flea shampoo, flea spray, spray bottles, pet grooming supplies, dog dip, bleach, laundry soap, material for bandanas, towels, place mats, blankets, heating pads, toys, dog houses and pet carriers.
- The **Mesquite Lions Club** will be collecting old eyeglasses.
- **Friends of the Library** will load up gently used books, magazines, videos, DVDs, CDs and books on tape.
- **The Shoe Bank** will be accepting gently used adult and children's athletic shoes.
- **Environmental Co-op** will be collecting used cellular phones, cellular phone batteries and accessories, used laser and ink jet printer cartridges and used rechargeable batteries.
- **Mesquite Social Services** will accept canned or boxed non-perishable food items: peanut butter, jelly, hamburger helper, tuna helper, pasta helper, spaghetti and canned sauce, soup, ramen noodles, canned fruit, canned vegetables, dry milk, cereal, breakfast items (granola bars, pop tarts, etc.), canned meats and chili.
- **Sharing Life Outreach** will accept school supplies.
- **Dallas Computer Parts** will be collecting used computers, used electronics and used entertainment machines and games.
- **United Southern Waste Material Co.** will be accepting clothes, sheets, curtains, bedspreads, towels, household linens, belts, purses, pairs of non-athletic shoes, stuffed animals, usable toys, usable baby items (baby bottles, strollers, highchairs, etc.)

TxDOT Begins IH 635 Project Near Town East

The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) began work in January on a \$45.9 million project to improve the IH 635/Town East Boulevard interchange. The construction includes a variety of improvements expected to alleviate congestion in the area such as:

- Rebuilding and widening IH 635 bridge over Town East Boulevard to 12 lanes
- Adding a south IH 635 to north IH 635 U-turn lane beneath the new bridge
- Creating dual-left turn lanes at IH 635, lowering and realigning Town East Boulevard from Towne Crossing Boulevard to West Emporium Circle
- Adding a new northbound entrance ramp from Towne Centre Drive to IH 635
- Modifying the north and southbound Town East Boulevard entrance and exit ramps
- Reconstructing main-lane pavement from Town East Boulevard to just north of US 80
- Constructing a new southbound IH 635 frontage road from eastbound IH 30 to Town East Boulevard
- Enhanced landscaping at the IH 635 overpass across Town East Boulevard
- Constructing a new sound wall along the northbound IH 635 frontage road between US 80 and Towne Centre Drive



Motorists traveling along the 1.8-mile construction site can expect 30 months of barricades with periodic detours and lane closures throughout the duration of the project. Information detailing progress can also be located on the City of Mesquite Web site at

www.cityofmesquite.com/engineering/constructionprojects.php

Native Beauty of Mesquite Photo Contest

Keep Mesquite Beautiful, Inc. (KMB) is sponsoring its annual Native Beauty of Mesquite Photo Contest. The contest focuses on the natural flora (plants) and fauna (animals) of Mesquite. Entry fee is \$5. Prizes will be awarded in two age categories: Children, 17 and under and Adults, 18 and over. The deadline is April 28, 2006. Complete rules and entry form can be obtained from KMB's Web site at www.cityofmesquite.com/kmb or by contacting KMB at (972) 288-7730



National Youth Service Day is April 21-23, 2006

Nominate A Youth Today! Youth Services will recognize youth for volunteering their time and talent in the community. Qualified nominees must live in Mesquite or attend a Mesquite middle or high school. Nominations for the National Youth Service Day award will be accepted from March 1 until March 31, 2006. For more information and nomination forms, contact Youth Services at (972) 222-3198 or visit www.cityofmesquite.com/youthsvc/ to download an application.



National Youth Service Day Project

Join the Mesquite Youth Advisory Council for a great time cleaning up the community. Youth Services will host a Graffiti Patrol on Saturday, April 22, 2006 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Teen and adult volunteers are invited to join in celebrating the service youth provide in our community. Contact Youth Services at (972) 222-3198 to register or to obtain more information.