

# Mesquite Citizens Ask...

**Q:** Can I fish in City of Mesquite lakes and ponds in the parks?

**A:** Yes. There are fishing piers at City Lake Park, Palos Verdes Lake Park, Rorie-Galloway Day Camp and Valley Creek Park. The only catch-and-release lake in Mesquite is Rorie-Galloway Day Camp. Patrons are free to catch and keep fish from the other lakes, being sure to follow the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department guidelines.

Texas residents who are 17 years of age and over need a license to fish in any public waters of Texas. A license can be obtained at most any store selling fishing equipment. For more information regarding fishing regulations, visit the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Web site at [www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fish/](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us/fish/).

## 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**  
T • E • X • A • S

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

Mike Anderson  
Mayor

Stan Pickett .....Mayor Pro Tem  
John Heiman, Jr. ....Deputy Mayor Pro Tem  
John Monaco .....Councilmember  
David L. Paschall .....Councilmember  
Shirley Roberts .....Councilmember  
Dennis Tarpley.....Councilmember

Ted Barron  
City Manager

# Mesquite Arts Center Arts Notes

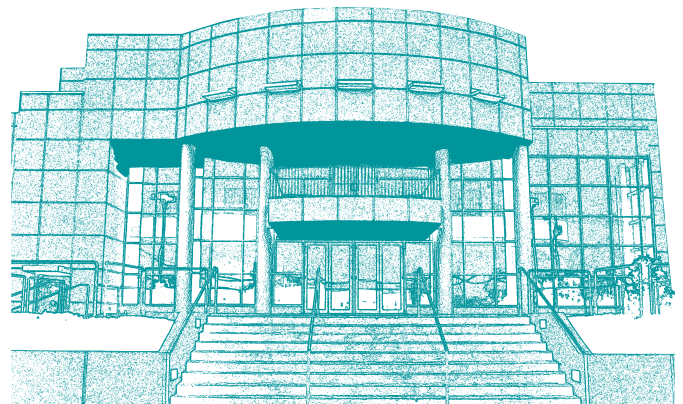
The following activities are funded in part by the City of Mesquite hotel-motel occupancy tax revenues. The Mesquite Arts Center is located at 1527 N. Galloway. For updates, check [www.mesquiteartscenter.org](http://www.mesquiteartscenter.org).

## June

- 1-30 The **Mesquite Arts Council** presents an exhibit by Ruth Marie Gross and Renee Joy Gick in the Main Gallery. Hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and during performances.
- 2 Join us for **Art @ Lunch**. This month participants will explore the process of the artists' work with Renee Joy and Ruth Marie Gick. Free at the Mesquite Arts Center at noon. Bring a sack lunch or buy one on site. Reservations required. (972) 216-6444
- 4 **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
- 6 An artist reception will be held for Ruth Marie Gross and Renee Joy Gick from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Main Gallery.
- 6, 13, *JazzBreaks on the Plaza* begin at 7:30 p.m. The events are free
- 20, 27 and picnic dinners will be sold on site. (972) 216-6444
- 9-24 The **Mesquite Community Theatre** presents *The Heiress* based on Henry James' novel, *Washington Square*. After discovering that his bride-to-be is to be disinherited, a handsome young fortune hunter jilts her on the night of their engagement. (972) 216-8126
- 12 The **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
- 12 The **Mesquite Creative Arts** monthly meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and will feature an artist demonstration. (972) 463-6004
- 19-20 The **Mesquite Community Theatre** staged reading series presents *The Hound of the Baskerville* at 7:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theater. No reservation required and admission is free. (972) 216-8126
- 26 The **Mesquite Community Theatre** will hold auditions for *A Bad Year for Tomatoes* from 7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. (972) 216-8126

## July

- 2-31 The **Texas Area Artists** will hold an exhibition called *Artrageous 2006* in the Main and Chamber Galleries. The galleries' hours are Monday through Friday 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and during performances.
- 9 **Texas Area Artists** will host a reception in honor of the *Artrageous 2006* exhibit beginning at noon.
- 10 The **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



# Mainstream

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May 2006

## Yard of the Month

Keep Mesquite Beautiful (KMB) is on the lookout for award winning properties! Each month, from May through September, members of the KMB Landscape Committee will select two residences from five

- The property is the most aesthetically pleasing in the area
- The property cannot have received the award in the last 12 months

awards occurs the last week in April.) Recipients of the award receive a sign to place on the property for one month, highlighting their efforts in beautifying the city. Winners will



different districts to receive the Landscape/Clean Environment Award. Winners will be chosen based on the following criteria:

- The property has no visible code violations

- Residential properties can be personally or professionally maintained

Judging will take place the last week of the month prior to the new month. (Example: judging for May

also receive a certificate signed by the Mayor and the KMB Chairman of the Board. To nominate a residence or business please visit KMB's Web site at [www.keeppmesquitebeautiful.org](http://www.keeppmesquitebeautiful.org)

### Inside this issue...

- Community Development News
- American Red Cross Swim Lessons
- Music in the Park
- Public Safety Employment Opportunities

### COMMUNITY CALENDAR

#### June

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

#### July

- 3 City Council meeting cancelled.
- 4 Independence Day, City offices closed. Residential waste collection as usual.
- 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.

visit [www.cityofmesquite.com](http://www.cityofmesquite.com)

# COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT NEWS

## Summer Pet Care Tips

To survive steamy Texas summers, we two-legged creatures have to adapt our habits to keep from suffering potentially fatal heat strokes and dehydration. Those adjustments are even more important for those members of the family that wear a coat year-round.

The Animal Control Division of the Community Development Department has some tips for pet owners to keep their four-legged companions safe and healthy during this time of year.



- NEVER leave a pet in a vehicle, even when it's just for a few minutes.
- Make sure your pet has clean, cool water at all times. Water can help bring a pet's temperature down when the sun is at its hottest.
- If your pet stays outside, provide plenty of shade. Make sure it covers the pet during all hours of the day.

- When leaving on vacation, remember to board your pet or leave it with a pet sitter. Don't leave an animal shut in an empty house and never leave it tied up outside.
- If your dog accompanies you on a daily jog or run, choose the times sensibly. Don't run your dog in very hot, humid weather.
- Fleas and ticks are at their peak during this time of year. Treat your pets before infestation causes a problem.

For more pet care information, visit the City of Mesquite's Web site on the Animal Shelter page at [www.cityofmesquite.com/animal/](http://www.cityofmesquite.com/animal/) or call (972) 216-6283.



## American Red Cross Swim Lessons

Swim lessons will be offered for ages six months and above at the Town East, Vanston and Evans pool locations this summer. Registrations will be taken at the individual pools from 9:00 a.m. to noon on June 3, June 17 or July 8. Walk-in or phone registrations will also be taken at the Dallas Area Chapter of the Red Cross, located at 4800 Harry Hines Boulevard in Dallas. Call the Red Cross at (214) 678-4800 for more information.



## Mesquite Symphonic Band Presents Music in the Park

The Mesquite Symphonic Band, under the direction of Dale Coates, will perform its annual free Music in the Park summer concert series every Monday evening in June, beginning June 5, at Westlake Park on Gross Road in Mesquite. The concerts will begin at 7:15 p.m. The audience is invited to bring their lawn chairs, blankets, families and friends for an evening of fun and enjoyable music until dusk. Concessions will be available, with proceeds going to offset the costs of the performances. The last Monday in the series (June 26) will be a patriotic salute and tribute to celebrate the Fourth of July.



# Public Safety Employment Opportunities at the City of Mesquite

The City of Mesquite is advertising little known, yet very rewarding career opportunities in public safety. The Mesquite Police Department is currently recruiting qualified individuals for Public Safety Dispatchers and Police Records Clerks.

The September 11 tragedies reminded everyone how incredibly valuable police officers and firefighters are. Yet there is another story that needs to be told. It is the story of our unsung heroes that provide administrative support for the police and fire departments. These employees, public safety dispatchers and police records clerks, are the heartbeat of these agencies. They, too, play a critical role in ensuring the safety of our residents.

The Mesquite Police Department understands the impact of these two positions in providing excellent public safety services to the community.

Captain Joel Martin describes the dispatcher position this way, "If public safety were characterized as a wagon wheel, the public safety dispatcher position is the hub of that wheel." Public safety dispatchers relay call needs to the police and fire departments, operate information retrieval from the National Crime Information Center and handle all 911 calls.

Val Polnac, a nine-year veteran dispatcher, describes her experience, "Every day is a new challenge. No two calls are alike. We get the silly calls and the very serious calls." Val goes on to describe the job's intensity when, on some days, she helps an adult perform CPR on a child, or counsel an abused wife to receive needed assistance. Her face brightens when asked what would be the one thing she would tell a new applicant considering an opportunity in the dispatch center. She smiles and eagerly proclaims,



"This is one of the few jobs where you can save lives, have fun and make great friends...the people here are like family. You can really make a difference in somebody's life."

The police records clerk position is equally admired by the Mesquite Police Department and recognized for its importance. Captain Martin describes the records function as, "the memory of the department. Records must be accurate, accessible at any time and they are an extremely important tool for the police officers to use in providing public safety to the citizens of Mesquite." The captain describes the perfect candidates for records clerk as people with "high integrity, the ability to keep information confidential and individuals who are detail oriented, flexible and customer service oriented."

Margaret Horton, police records clerk supervisor and 28-year veteran of the Mesquite Police Department, says of the clerk staff, "We like serving people and we are good at it. It is a big responsibility to take care of people and we go the extra mile for the public." When asked to describe an aspect that applicants might not know about this critical function in public safety, she said, "This is a very interesting job with a great deal of variety. There is never a dull moment here. We interact with everyone...police officers, other City departments, other law enforcement agencies and, most importantly, the public."

Captain Martin, Margaret Horton and Val Polnac agree that all Mesquite Police Department employees – whether in administration or out on patrol - are a great group of people that make up the department family. The public safety dispatchers and police records clerks are indeed the unsung heroes that keep the public safety wheel turning.

Visit [www.cityofmesquite.com](http://www.cityofmesquite.com) to download an application packet for Public Safety Dispatcher or Police Records Clerk or come by the Human Resources office at 1515 N. Galloway, Mesquite TX 75149.

