

QUESTION

AND ANSWER

Q: Is there an ordinance regarding when trash cans and bags can be placed outside for pickup?

A: Yes. According to Section 14-35 of the City Code, it is unlawful for solid waste and recyclable material to be placed out for collection earlier than 5:30 p.m. the day before scheduled pickup and later than 7:30 a.m. the day of scheduled pickup; except that placement later than 7:30 a.m. is permitted if it can be determined that collection along the street or alley has not yet occurred. In addition, containers should be removed from the curb line no later than 8:00 p.m. of the day in which collection occurs. Violations may be reported to the Environmental Code Division at (972) 216-6276.

FREQUENTLY CALLED CITY PHONE NUMBERS

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

MESQUITE
TEXAS

Real. Texas. Flavor.



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

MAINSTREAM

Mike Anderson, Mayor
John Heiman, Jr.Mayor Pro Tem
David PaschallDeputy Mayor Pro Tem
John MonacoCouncilmember
Stan PickettCouncilmember
Shirley RobertsCouncilmember
Dennis TarpleyCouncilmember
Ted Barron, City Manager

MESQUITE ARTS CENTER

ARTI VITI ES

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

- 1 **Texas Area Artists** will host their monthly meeting at 2:00 p.m. featuring artist demonstrations. The public is invited. (214) 566-8269
- 2 - 30 The **Mesquite Arts Council** presents an exhibit by Michael Tichansky in the Main Gallery. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (972) 216-6444
- 3 - 14 **Mesquite Community Theatre** presents the musical *Nunsense* in the Black Box Theatre. (972) 216-8126
- 8 The **Mesquite Arts Council** hosts an artist reception for Michael Tichansky from 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. in the Arts Center Main Gallery.
- 9 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. Free! (214) 566-8269
- 9 **Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meetings begin at 7:00 p.m. and feature an artist demonstration. (972) 463-6004
- 9 - 10 **Mesquite Community Theatre** staged reading series featuring the *The Dining Room* begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. No reservation required. Admission is free. (972) 216-8126
- 14 **Mesquite Symphonic Band 20th Anniversary Gala Concert** begins at 8:00 p.m. in the Arts Center Concert Hall. Tickets are \$5 adults and \$2 students. (972) 216-8125
- 23 - 25 **Mesquite Community Theatre** will hold auditions for *The Shadow Box* from 7:00 - 9:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. (972) 216-8126

MAY

- 1 - 14 The **Mesquite Arts Council** presents an exhibit by Michael Tichansky in the Main Gallery. Hours are Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (972) 216-6444
- 6 **Texas Area Artists** will host their monthly meeting at 2:00 p.m. featuring artist Pauline Caffrey. The public is invited. (214) 566-8269
- 12 **Mesquite Symphony Orchestra** is in concert with *Masterwork-Expressivo* featuring violinist Shannon Lee and the music of Faure, Prokofiev and Tchaikowsky. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. in the Concert Hall. Tickets are \$12 adults, \$8 seniors and \$6 students. (972) 216-8127
- 14 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. Free! (214) 566-8269
- 14 **Mesquite Creative Arts Club** begins at 7:00 p.m. featuring an artist demonstration. (972) 463-6004
- 14 **John and Alta Nichols Children's Art Camp** registration begins at 8:00 a.m. Presented by the *Mesquite Arts Council*, the camp runs June 11-15. The annual summer art camp offers a week of art experience taught by an experienced artist and teacher and is structured for children ages 7-9. Space is limited. Cost \$20 includes all supplies. (972) 216-6444
- 15 - 31 **Recovered Views: African American Portraits 1912-1925** is being presented by the *Mesquite Arts Council* in the Main Gallery. Photographs documenting life in a vibrant black community in a small midwestern city will be exhibited. Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m.- 5:00 p.m. and during performances. (972) 216-6444
- 15 - 31 The **Mesquite Arts Council** presents an exhibit by Duane Light in the Main Gallery. Monday - Friday 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. and during performances. (972) 216-6444
- 18 - 19 **Latino Arts Association** is presenting the bilingual play, *El Conejito Verde/The Green Rabbit* at 10:00 a.m. each day. Admission is free although a ticket will be required. (972) 216-6444
- 19 **Texas Voices** presents a concert in the Concert Hall at 7:30 p.m. Visit www.thetexasvoices.org to purchase advance tickets. (972) 801-2532
- 19 The **Mesquite Arts Council** hosts an artist reception for Duane Light from 3:00 - 4:30 p.m. in the Main Gallery.

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MAINSTREAM

Spring Into Severe Weather Awareness Week March 4 - 10

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

APRIL

- 2 **City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 16 **City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 4 **Parks and Rec Yard Sale**, 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m., Evans Recreation Center.
- 20 **Family Campout**, 6:00 p.m. - 10:00 a.m., Camp Rorie-Galloway.
- 26-28 **Real. Texas. Festival.**, Resistol Areana, 1818 Rodeo Drive.

MAY

- 6 **Mother/Daughter Tea Party/Fashion Show**, 2:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m., Westlake House.
- 7 **City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 9 **KidFish**, 9:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., City Lake Park.
- 21 **City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 28 **Memorial Day holiday**, *City offices closed*. No residential waste collection.

Governor Rick Perry has declared March 4-10, 2007 as Severe Weather Awareness Week for the state of Texas. The City of Mesquite's Office of Emergency Management is taking this opportunity to remind residents of the real threat of severe weather in our area. Governor Perry's goal is to "ensure that all Texans are prepared for the variety of extreme weather events we may experience, from tornadoes and floods to hail and straight line winds".

As we enter the spring season, the threat of severe weather is heightened. There is an increased chance of tornadoes, heavy winds, thunderstorms, large hail, flash flooding and other threatening weather. It is vital that residents stayed informed about weather conditions in the area and be personally prepared.

There are many resources that can assist families and businesses to be informed and alert about weather during this season and throughout the year. The Office of Emergency Management provides information and links to other vital resources available online at: www.cityofmesquite.com/emergency_mngmt/. This is a direct way to be informed about local and state information resources available to citizens. Use local news stations, Web sites and radio stations, such as KEOM 88.5 FM, to stay current on weather information. In addition, the City currently has 21 outdoor warning sirens to alert citizens of a threat. It is important to be aware of these sirens and go indoors to obtain further information from local news stations when the sirens are activated.

To be further prepared for any severe weather, citizens should have plans in place to be proactive in their readiness. It is important to educate and inform children as to what to do when severe weather threatens the area. Families should both discuss and make plans on what actions to take if weather strikes. Businesses, schools and other organizations should also educate and instruct their employees on weather issues. This can be done by running drills, using internal newsletters as information resources and educating employees about severe weather.

The Mesquite Office of Emergency Management encourages everyone to educate themselves about the threat of severe weather and other threats to our community. Keep in mind there is protection through preparedness. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact the Mesquite Office of Emergency Management at (972) 216-6317.

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Florence Ranch Homestead

Regular hours for tours of the Florence Ranch Homestead will begin March 6, according to new Homestead Coordinator, Debby Jarrett. Tuesdays, Thursdays and Fridays, gates will be open from noon to 4:00 p.m.; Wednesday hours are 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Homestead is closed on Mondays. Open houses will still be held second and fourth Saturdays of the month (with the exception of May 26, November 24 and December 22, when the park will be closed for the holidays) from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Fees of \$1 per person will be instituted with the new time schedule but will change when the official grand re-opening takes place later in the year. Historic Mesquite, Inc. members will be admitted free with a valid membership card. Group fees are available.

The grand re-opening of the park will take place once Ms. Jarrett, Historic Mesquite, Inc. staff and volunteers have concluded a re-furnishings plan. Items from the Florence family have been donated back to the property and they will be instituted into the permanent collection. Watch the *Mainstream* for future development of the park. For information, call Debby Jarrett at (972) 613-7547 during business hours, or through e-mail at djarret@ci.mesquite.tx.us.



Blue Bag Curbside Recycling Results

Thanks to the efforts of recycling participants in 2006, over 1,000 tons of materials were recycled and kept out of the landfill. Below are statistics showing how Mesquite is making a difference to the environment - one blue bag at a time.

In 2006, the 1,059 tons of materials collected are equivalent to saving:

- * 16,196 trees
- * 3,906,121 KWH of energy
- * 6,681,991 gallons of water
- * 2,859 cubic yards of landfill space
- * 53,162-pound reduction in air pollution

Blue recycling bags may be purchased in rolls of 50 at local 7-Eleven convenience stores or from the City Cashier located at 711 N. Galloway Avenue. For more information about the Blue Bag Recycling Program or to determine your collection day go to www.cityofmesquite.com/solidwaste or call (972) 216-6972.



Visit www.cityofmesquite.com

Student Government Day

The City of Mesquite and the Mesquite Independent School District's (M.I.S.D.) 43rd annual Student Government Day activities will be Friday, March 2 and Friday, March 23. Senior government students from the five high schools participate in this event, which is designed to give Mesquite's young people a better understanding of municipal government and the roles of the City's elected and appointed officials. Students from each high school will participate in a mock municipal court trial, a mock City Council meeting and a tour of City facilities.

The City of Mesquite and M.I.S.D. feel this is an excellent opportunity to enhance the education of these students and prepare them for their upcoming roles as the "leaders of tomorrow."



Blake Shelton Confirmed as Real. Texas. Festival. Headliner

(Tickets go on sale first week of March.)

Slated to release his fourth studio album, country recording artist Blake Shelton is confirmed as the headliner for a concert at the Real. Texas. Festival. presented by Dodge - taking place at Resistol Arena. Shelton will take the Dodge Real. Texas. Music. Stage from 9:30 - 11:00 p.m. on Saturday, April 28.

Also, tickets for the event will go on sale the first week of March. Check the festival Web site, www.realtexasfestival.com, for pricing and availability.

The Real. Texas. Festival. will kick off with the MISD Foundation's Lone Star Legacy Gala featuring Robert Earl Keen on April 26. Live music, carnival rides, rodeo, food, arts and craft vendors and more mark the festival portion which begins on April 27.

The Real. Texas. Festival. is made possible by sponsorships from Dodge, 96.3 FM KSCS, 96.7 FM The Texas Twister, Holiday Inn Express, Enchilada's restaurant, Resource One Credit Union, Comprotex, Dallas

Moving and Storage ASI Gymnastics, Whataburger of Mesquite, NYPD Pizza, Burger King, Town East Mall and others which will be announced soon.

It is still not too late to volunteer, be a food or craft vendor, participate in the Real. Texas. Flavor. Cooking Contest or sponsor the Real. Texas. Festival. presented by Dodge. For more information on how to become part of the Festival team, contact Daren Watkins at dwatkins@ci.mesquite.tx.us or visit the RTF Web site.



Tripp Road Construction Project

A contract for the re-construction of Tripp Road between Belt Line Road and N. Galloway Avenue was approved at the February 19 City Council meeting. This section of roadway is currently a two-lane asphalt road with drainage ditches and will be improved to a four-lane concrete section. The plans include an underground drainage system, bridge replacement, sidewalks and water and sanitary sewer utility replacement. In addition, the project provides for a

community gateway feature at the Belt Line Road/Tripp Road intersection. This gateway will include landscaping, hardscaping, irrigation and accent lighting. Aesthetic enhancements will also be made at the Heatherdale and Brookhaven Drive intersections. The replacement bridge for North Mesquite Creek near Belt Line Road will also have design elements to complement the gateway features.

Parks and Recreation Corner

Yard Sale

Saturday, April 14
9:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.
Evans Recreation Center
\$15 per family
The recreation center will set up shop in the gym, depending on the weather! We will sell our old supplies to the children as well as to parents. We can also sell space for those outsiders who want to sell things at our yard sale.

Family Campout

Friday, April 20
6:00 p.m.-10:00 a.m.
Camp Rorie-Galloway
\$40/family of four and \$5/additional participant
Come and experience a night of fun and relaxation in a low-stress environment. Clean up the camping gear and come pitch your tent and enjoy outdoor games, outdoor cooking, campfire songs, storytelling, s'mores and much more! Dinner and breakfast will be provided.

Mother/Daughter Tea Party/Fashion Show

Sunday, May 6
2:00 p.m.-4:00 p.m.
Westlake House
There is a special relationship between mothers and daughters. In honor of your mother-daughter relationship, come enjoy an afternoon tea and fashion show. Local dignitaries will take the runway with the latest spring fashions. The event will benefit the Mesquite Youth Services Scholarship Fund. Please call 972-285-4145 for more information.

KidFish

Saturday, May 19
9:00 a.m.- 12:00 p.m.
City Lake Park
KidFish is an outreach program designed to educate and provide a hands-on fishing experience for children ages 6-12. Prizes will be awarded. Poles and bait will be provided or bring your own. The event is free, although donations will be accepted to support the community fishing outreach efforts of the KidFish Foundation.