

QUESTION

AND ANSWER

Q: My neighbor tells me that it is a code violation to have a loud barking dog. Is that true?

A: Yes. According to Section 4-51 (b) of the City of Mesquite Code "it shall be unlawful for any person to harbor or keep on his premises under his control, any dog which by loud or unusual barking or howling, shall cause the peace and quiet of the neighborhood or the occupants of adjacent premises to be disturbed."

Please call Animal Services at (972) 216-6283 with any question regarding this issue.

FREQUENTLY CALLED CITY PHONE NUMBERS

Main Number(972) 288-7711
Animal Services.....(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 Pickett.....Councilmember
 Shirley RobertsCouncilmember
 Dennis Tarpley.....Councilmember
 Ted Barron, City Manager

MESQUITE ARTS CENTER

ARTIVITIES

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.

JUNE

- 1-20 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. (972) 216-6444
- 1-21 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
- 4, 11, 18 25 The Mesquite Symphonic Band** presents *Music in the Park* concert series at the Westlake Park at 7:15 p.m. Admission is FREE. (972) 216-8125
- 5, 26 The Mesquite Arts Council** presents *JazzBreaks on the Plaza with the Mesquite Jazz Repertory Ensemble Big Band* and Curt Bradshaw. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and it's FREE! Picnic dinners sold on-site (reservations required). (972) 216-6444
- 8- 23 Mesquite Community Theatre** presents the Pulitzer Prize winning play, *The Shadow Box*. Tickets range from \$8 - \$12. (972) 216-8126
- 11** 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 Arts Council** presents *JazzBreaks on the Plaza with Clave Con Alma (Kerry Adams 3 horn Latin Band)*. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and it's FREE! Picnic dinners sold on-site (reservations required). (972) 216-6444
- 25-27 Mesquite Community Theatre** will hold auditions for *The Foreigner* 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. (972) 216-8126
- 18-19 Mesquite Community Theatre** staged reading series presents *The Octette Bridge Club* at 7:30 p.m. in the Black Box Theatre. No reservation required and admission is free. (972) 216-8126
- 19 The Mesquite Arts Council** presents *JazzBreaks on the Plaza with Shelley Carrol Quartet*. The show begins at 7:30 p.m. and it's FREE! Picnic dinners sold on-site (reservations required). (972) 216-6444
- 23-30** The **Texas Area Artists** will hold an exhibition, *Artrageous 2007*, in the Main and Chamber Galleries. The galleries are open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and during performances. (214) 566-8269

JULY

- 1-31** The **Texas Area Artists** will hold an exhibition, *Artrageous 2007*, in the Main and Chamber Galleries. The galleries are open Monday – Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 5:00 p.m. and during performances. (214) 566-8269
- 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. (214) 566-8269
- 9 Mesquite Creative Arts Club** monthly meeting begins at 7:00 p.m. and features an artist demonstration. (972) 463-6004
- 22 The Mesquite Arts Council** presents the *Chamber Singers Concert* in the concert hall at 3:15 p.m.. Tickets are \$5. (972) 216-6444

MAINSTREAM

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

JUNE

- 4 City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 9 Historic Florence Ranch Homestead** is open for tours from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., 1424 Barnes Bridge Rd. For special tours call (972) 613-7547
- 18 City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue.
- 23 Historic Florence Ranch Homestead** is open for tours from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., 1424 Barnes Bridge Rd. For special tours call (972) 613-7547.

JULY

- 2 City Council meeting cancelled**
- 4 Independence Day holiday**, *City offices closed*. No residential waste collection.
- 14 Historic Florence Ranch Homestead** is open for tours from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., 1424 Barnes Bridge Rd. For special tours call (972) 613-7547
- 16 City Council meeting**, 3:00 p.m., Council Chambers, 711 N. Galloway Avenue
- 28 Historic Florence Ranch Homestead** is open for tours from 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m., 1424 Barnes Bridge Rd. For special tours call (972) 613-7547

Lost and Found Web Site

One of the goals of the City of Mesquite Animal Shelter and Adoption Center is to reunite lost pets with their families. The "Lost and Found Pet" link on the Web site has been a helpful tool in meeting this goal. A description of a pet, the date last seen, the area last seen and a picture of the animal can be entered. The Web site works in the opposite direction also. Someone who has found an animal can check to see if it has been reported. The contact information posted can then be used to return the lost pet to its family.

A person who finds a stray or loose pet also has the opportunity to post a description of the animal and his/her contact information, so that a searching family can locate their pet. Persons who find loose or stray dogs or cats are often hesitant to call Animal Services to have an animal picked up, but do not have the resources to post advertisements about the animal they have found. This site allows residents another option for getting the pet home.

The "Lost and Found Pet" information can be accessed through the City of Mesquite's Web page at www.cityofmesquite.com, looking under the "For Our Citizens" section on the main page and clicking on the "Lost and Found Pets" link. Once the information is entered, staff normally posts it within a few minutes, but for sure, no more than one business day. The posting remains for two weeks and must be renewed after that time. Volunteers at the Mesquite Animal Shelter and Adoption Center also monitor the lost and found information and compare it with animals which are brought into the shelter by Animal Services Officers and residents in an effort to reunite lost pets and their families.



IN THIS ISSUE

Mesquite Transportation
for the Elderly and Disabled
Community Revitalization
Summer Pet Care Tips
Music in the Park
Parks and Recreation Corner

MESQUITE

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Mesquite Transportation for the Elderly and Disabled

Mesquite Transportation for the Elderly and Disabled (MTED) provides transportation services to residents of the city who are physically or mentally disabled and/or 60 years of age or older. The service is provided curb-to-curb, and all MTED vehicles are ADA-accessible for wheelchairs and scooters. MTED drivers will assist with boarding or alighting the vehicle. Assistance is not provided into or from the customer's destination, but personal attendants who provide assistance to the customer during a trip may ride free of charge.

MTED transports eligible residents to and from educational facilities (post-high school) and employment locations in Mesquite plus non-emergency medical appointments within Mesquite or any adjoining city (Balch Springs, Dallas, Garland, Seagoville and Sunnyvale). Service is also provided to the Garland Area Rehab Center, the Dallas Center for the Developmentally Disabled and the Achievement Center of Texas. MTED service operates Monday through Friday, 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., excluding holidays. Customers must purchase a photo ID card for \$2.00 and ride coupons for \$1.00 each before riding. Each one-way trip requires one coupon. Coupons may be purchased at the MTED office (1616 N. Galloway Ave.) or by mail.

For additional information or to request service, please call the MTED office at (972) 329-MTED (6833), Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. Trips can be booked with as little as two business days advance notice if space is available. Trips can also be booked as much as one month in advance.

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

- 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.

Visit the Animal Services page on the City of Mesquite Web site at www.cityofmesquite.com/animal/ or call (972) 216-6283 for more information on pet care.



Visit www.cityofmesquite.com

Mesquite Symphonic Band Celebrates 17 years of "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 4, 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 25), will be a patriotic salute and tribute to celebrate the Fourth of July.



Community Revitalization

City Council approved the City of Mesquite's fourth neighborhood plan on April 2, 2007. These plans are a result of the 2005, City Council-initiated, neighborhood revitalization program called ADDRESSING MESQUITE. Currently, the primary source of funding for the ADDRESSING MESQUITE program is the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). CDBG supports local community development activities, such as affordable housing, anti-poverty programs and infrastructure development, with federal funds. As a result, the City must focus its neighborhood revitalization efforts within census block groups that qualify as low- to moderate-income areas. Based on the analysis of several different factors, City Council identified four priority neighborhoods as the starting point for neighborhood plans: Casa View Heights, Mesquite Park, Sherwood Forest and Truman Heights.

Neighborhood plans are similar to citywide comprehensive plans, but on a smaller scale. Thus, a neighborhood plan can focus on a street-level assessment of issues and opportunities that residents contend with on a daily basis. Neighborhood planning is an opportunity for Mesquite residents to take a proactive role in the planning process and decide how their neighborhoods will move into the future. The process asks residents to identify neighborhood issues and opportunities, outline goals and a vision for the neighborhood and develop a strategy for addressing the neighborhood's concerns. City staff held, on average, seven meetings with each neighborhood to discuss

these points.

Along with residents, all stakeholders of the neighborhood are invited to participate. Because the neighborhood boundaries are set by census blocks, other land uses may fall within the neighborhood, such as commercial. It is important that these stakeholders work together with neighborhood planning staff to establish a clear vision of their priorities, needs and guide for future development.

How will a plan help your neighborhood? Development of a plan can benefit a neighborhood in a number of ways. An adopted plan will: (1) describe clearly what the neighborhood wants accomplished, (2) give direction to the City regarding capital improvements appropriate for the neighborhood, (3) provide a framework for zoning and other land use decisions, (4) offer residents and businesses the opportunity to create a clear vision of the type of development that is desired by the neighborhood, (5) provide guidelines for the design of new development so it will compliment the existing neighborhood character and (6) inform property owners and potential developers as to what businesses are needed and the types of development that will be encouraged.

Neighborhood planning staff's goal is to create a network of neighborhoods around the City of Mesquite based on these neighborhood plans. If your neighborhood has an interest in being a part of the network, please contact Arti Waghray at (972) 329-8523 or awaghgray@ci.mesquite.tx.us.

Parks and Recreation Corner

Mesquite Quilts 2007

June 22 and 23

10:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.

Rutherford Recreation Center

\$5 admission

There will be quilts, demonstrations, vendors, special exhibits, mini auction and a judged show. Please call (972) 216-7790 for more information.

Evans Senior Center's Annual Garage Sale

Friday, June 1, 2007

9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.

Evans Recreation Center Gym

Gently used, clean items will be for sale at bargain prices. Proceeds benefit the senior center activity fund. Call (972) 285-6761 for more information.

Cool off at the City of Mesquite Swimming Pools. The Mesquite Parks and Recreation Department has four fabulous aquatic facilities for your enjoyment. City Lake, Vanston, Town East and Evans aquatic facilities are open seven days a week for your family to enjoy. Facility reservations and shade structure reservations are also available. For more information please call (972) 216-6460.

City Lake Aquatic Center
200 Parkview

Evans Pool
1200 Hillcrest

Town East Pool
2525 John Glenn

Vanston Pool
2913 Oates Drive