Programs for Older Adults and Seniors

The Mercer Island Parks and Recreation Department hosts many programs for the more mature members of the Mercer Island community. Following are highlights for programs offered this fall, including exciting opportunities for exercise, social time and more. For more information, please contact the Parks and Recreation Department @ 206.236.3545.

Solemates – 55+
Come join us for neighborhood walks in the Seattle area! Dress for the weather as we go rain or shine. Four miles of walk and talk, followed by a stop at a coffee shop. Solemates welcome you!
Facilitator: Fran Call
Wednesdays: Sept. 6, 13, 27  Oct. 4, 18, 25  Nov. 15, 22, 29  Dec. 6, 13, 20
Time: 8:30am – 11:30am
Transportation Fee: $2.00, meet in the Community Center lobby

NEW! Red Hat Groups Forming
All ladies 55 and over are welcome at our organizational meeting. Find out what Red Hat Groups are all about and join in the fun! We’ll talk about... see OLDER ADULT SERVICES p. 4

Public Safety Day - Saturday, October 7
10am to 4pm
Mercer Island Fire Department, 3030 78 Ave SE
Food & Drinks • Live Fire Demonstrations • Free Live Fire Extinguisher Class • Inflatable Rides • Discount Helmets For Kids • Marine Patrol, Dive Team, SWAT, Police • D.A.R.E. • Games and More!
This interactive event is a great chance for both adults and kids to learn about safety and get to know their local Police Department and Fire Department. In addition to all of the fun activities, there will be information about emergency preparedness, leash law, and more. Donations are also being collected for the Northwest Burn Foundation.
Contact:  Mercer Island Fire Department @ 206.236.3600

Revised Leash Law in Effect as of September 1, 2006
The revisions to Mercer Island’s Animal Code adopted by Council on July 24, 2006 officially went into effect Friday, September 1. The adopted revisions represent a culmination of nine months of public input and discussion about Mercer Island’s leash law. New signage has been posted throughout the Island. To report leash law violations, please call 206-236-5323, mailbox "WOOF" (9663) or email woof@mercergov.org. A summary of the law appears below:

Dogs Are Not Allowed:
• on any public school ground or associated school facilities,
• any playground,
• any sports court,
• any sports field when practices, games or other organized activities are in progress. This applies to the sports field itself, not the spectator areas around the sports field.
• in any public swimming area from May 1 to September 30. From October 1 through April 30, dogs are allowed in public swimming
Thank you for Sharing the Road

As part of an ongoing effort to ensure that drivers, cyclists and pedestrians are able to use Mercer Island roads safely, the City has recently posted “Share the Road” signs around the Island. For safety tips for driving, cycling or walking, please visit www.mercergov.org/sharetheroad.

The City of Mercer Island is committed to the safety and livability of Mercer Island neighborhoods. If you have a specific concern about traffic in your neighborhood, please visit www.mercergov.org/neighborhoodtraffic to learn more about the City’s Neighborhood Traffic Calming Program. Information can also be obtained by calling the City’s Transportation Planner at 206.236.3580.

Thank you to Mercer Island residents for being courteous and patient...and for watching out for each other on the road.

Welcome to the Second Edition of Mercer Island Quarterly

The first edition of the Quarterly, mailed in July 2006, included a prepaid postcard so that Mercer Island residents could share their thoughts about the new publication. They were asked, “Would you like the Mercer Island Quarterly to be published again in the future?” Residents responded:

Yes: 401 (88%)
No: 42 (9%)
N/A: 12 (3%)

Many responded that the Quarterly was informative and useful. As one resident wrote, “I love the Mercer Island Quarterly. I learned more about activities than ever. It makes me feel I’m part of a community!” Due to the positive response, the Quarterly will be printed through 2006 and has been proposed for the 2007-2008 budget.

The Quarterly is just one part of an ongoing effort to communicate better with the Mercer Island community and encourage public dialog. City information is regularly made available to the Mercer Island Reporter, which reaches 60% of Mercer Island households. The City’s website offers comprehensive and up-to-date information. Additionally, a weekly publication, MI Weekly, is posted to the website each Wednesday and also available to subscribers by email (see www.mercergov.org/MIWeekly).

Thank you to all who responded and for your helpful comments. For more information, or if you have further comments about City communications, please contact Joy Bueling, 206.236.7238 or email joy.bueling@mercergov.org.

Town Center Project Updates

Two more projects in the Town Center will break ground this fall: Aljoya at Mercer Island Town Center (at 2420 76th Ave SE) and 7800 Plaza (at 7800 SE 27th St). With The Mercer and Island Square nearing completion, new businesses are quickly filling the retail space providing several eating options such as Noah’s Bagels, Maggie Moo’s and Bennett’s Pure Food Bistro. The Third Thursday Community Art Walk is a great way to get to know Town Center businesses. This event will occur September 21, October 19 and November 16 from 5:30 to 8 pm and features food, wine tasting, artist demonstrations and plenty of surprises. For more information about Third Thursdays, please contact Nola Nevers at 206.391.5903.

Two development projects in Mercer Island’s Town Center have recently received recognition. Island Square, located at 2758 78th Ave SE, won an award in the Best Reuse of Land category of the 2006 Multifamily Executive Awards contest. Winners of the contest will be featured in the October and November 2006 issues of Multifamily Executive. Another project, The Mercer, at 7750 SE 27th St was listed as one of Northwest Construction’s 2006 Top Housing Projects and was featured in the June 2006 issue of Northwest Construction (www.northwest.construction.com). Both projects were built in keeping with Mercer Island’s Town Center design standards which were developed as part of a community process that began in the eighties. More info: www.mercergov.org/towncenter

Homebuyer Assistance Available

The City of Mercer Island and other East King County ARCH cities have partnered with the Washington State Housing Finance Commission and King County to offer “House Key Plus ARCH (East King County)” to make owning your own home or condominium easier for East King County homebuyers. House Key Plus ARCH is a downpayment assistance second mortgage with a 4% simple interest rate. There are no monthly payments on the second mortgage with the balance due and payable when the Borrower sells or refinances the home, or pays off the first mortgage.

How do I Qualify? To be eligible, borrowers must not exceed household income and home purchase price limits, and qualify for a House Key first mortgage loan. You must be a first-time homebuyer and purchase a home in the East King County ARCH area, and the home you purchase must be your principal residence. More information on House Key Plus ARCH downpayment assistance is available on the Commission’s website at www.wshfc.org or by phone at (800) 767-4663 or (206) 287-4413. For more information on ARCH ownership housing programs check the ARCH website at www.archhousing.org.
Construction Around the Island

There are several City projects underway in 2006, improving Mercer Island roads, parks, water and sewer systems. Following are updates on a few of the projects. For a complete project list and current information, please visit www.mercergov.org/CIP.

North Mercer Way Shoulder Improvements
The City’s contractor began work on August 15 between Fortuna Drive and Shorewood Drive installing drainage pipe in the existing ditches and will be grading for a 5-foot wide paved shoulder. Paving of this Phase 3 area should occur in early September. Once Phase 3 is substantially completed, the contractor will move to Phase 2 of the project, located between 72nd Avenue and 76th Avenue, to construct similar shoulder improvements. The entire project is expected to be completed in early October. This project will construct over 3500 feet of 5- and 6-foot wide asphalt paved shoulder along North Mercer Way suitable for pedestrian and bicycle use. Project Manager: clint.morris@mercergov.org

96th Avenue: Street & Drainage Improvements
Construction on this project has been delayed due the concrete plant operators’ strike. The first phase of work on this neighborhood project included building two retaining walls which required concrete to backfill the steel pilings. Now that the strike has ended, work has resumed. The project’s estimated completion date has been adjusted to November. Project Manager: clint.morris@mercergov.org

Test Well Drilling Update
The test well drilling that was to begin in Rotary Park in July 2006 has been postponed. The purpose of the project is to locate an emergency water supply. In June of this year, the City requested quotes from six drilling companies for the test well drilling. Only one bid was submitted and the price was significantly higher than originally projected, therefore staff will need to re-evaluate the project. Project Manager: rona.lin@mercergov.org

Rotary Park Landscape Renovation Update
The landscape renovation project at Rotary Park is in response to the deteriorating condition of the tree canopy and central plaza. On April 20, the Parks and Recreation Department hosted an open house to solicit input on the renovation work. In June, two concept plans were circulated to the public based on input we received at the public meeting.

Concept One was a design that kept the central plaza similar to the way it is. Concept Two expanded the central plaza by creating arcing walls in natural stone, reflecting the organic forms in the rest of the park. The input we received favored the simplicity of Concept One, but also preferred the organic forms of Concept Two. In response, we have developed a final plan that achieves a mixture of both outcomes. Public feedback also strongly favored planting oaks as replacements for the poplar trees. The final plan can be found at www.mercergov.org/rotarypark.

The removal of the trees is expected to proceed in late September or October. The new trees will be planted at a volunteer tree planting event on December 2 in conjunction with Rotary Club of Mercer Island. Plaza improvements shown on the plan will be implemented later in the winter or early spring. In following years, we will proceed with other improvements as City funds, donations and grants provide for items such as benches, flower beds, and additional trees.

Contact: Keith Kerner @ 206.236.3279 or keith.kerner@mercergov.org

Call Before You Dig—Do You Know What’s Underground?
Water, sewer, storm drainage, electric power, gas, cable and telephone systems create a complex network underground that many residents rarely have to think about. However, each time the ground is opened, all of the pipes and cables must be identified to prevent damage to these systems. On Mercer Island, the City, PSE, Qwest and Comcast all cooperate to mark locations before excavation. You might have noticed paint of many colors marking the ground before a project begins—these are locations of the various utilities and networks that lie underground. Fortunately, the coordination is centralized through the “Call Before You Dig” hotline at 1-800-424-5555. As a property owner, it is important that you or your contractors also use this service to identify what is underground before digging. Here’s why:

1. IT COULD SAVE YOUR LIFE! Many things lie beneath the ground. Power lines and gas lines are two of the most deadly.
2. IT COULD SAVE YOUR PROPERTY! Fire or explosion from a damaged gas line, erosion from a broken water line, disease from a broken sewer line, or simply the inconvenience of losing your phone or cable TV service due to a cut line.
3. IT COULD SAVE YOU MONEY! It doesn't cost anything to call in a locate request. With one quick telephone call, all utilities in your area will be notified to come and mark the location of their lines. However, if you damage a utility line and did not call for a locate, you may be liable for up to three times the actual amount of the damage.
4. ITS THE LAW! According to RCW 19.122, anyone digging deeper than twelve inches must call for locates two business days before they dig. This holds true for private property, city, county, state or federal lands, and railroad right-of-way.

Contact: Call Before You Dig @ 1-800-424-5555
New Classes through Parks & Rec!

Stroller-cize
Designed for moms and babies (or nannies and babies) wanting to get in shape, exercise with their child, and meet other moms. Class includes outdoor activities at local parks incorporating cardiovascular endurance, strength exercises, core/abs, yoga and flexibility. Fridays, starts September 15.

Indoor Playground Program
Bring your child to the Community Center for socialization and fun! We provide balls, games, mats, and more in our gym. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

Future Athletes of Tomorrow – Hoopers
Learn the fundamentals of basketball through basic drills and enhance your knowledge about the history, rules and sportsmanship. Our goal is to build self esteem and character while having fun. Available for different age ranges, from 5-6 years to 14-18 years. Check complete schedule.

Mercer Island Parks and Recreation now has online Activity Registration available at www.MyParksAndRecreation.com! You can now register and pay for your recreation activities and programs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via the internet! For more visit our website at www.miparks.net or call 206.236.3545.

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the Red Hat Society, answer your questions and form groups of women (no more than 20 in each group) who want to spend time together having fun. If you’re interested but cannot attend this meeting, contact Elizabeth Eknes at 206.236.3029 for further information.
Facilitator: Elizabeth Eknes, Monday, September 11, 1:00pm – 3:00pm at the Community Center in the Slater Room

Senior Adult Social Program
Adult Daycare Services and Respite Care is an active program designed to provide a venue for social interaction and a safe place for your loved one to be with friendly, caring, sensitive staff. Adults who have physical, memory, hearing or vision limitations are engaged in a number of planned activities to maintain flexibility, balance and to eliminate loneliness. A snack and lunch are included. Scholarships are available. For more information, call 206.230.6825.
Program Lead: Marcia Grimstad, Ongoing on Tuesdays and Thursdays, no program on Nov. 23, Dec. 26, 28, 10:00am-2:00pm, $40.00/day, at the Community Center in the Slater Room

Metro Bus Permits
Regional Reduced Fare Permits will be available from a Metro representative for seniors, 65 years or older. Please bring proof of age. Wednesday, October 18, 10:00am – 11:00am, Fee: $3.00/pass, pay at door, at the Congregational Church of MI, 4545 Island Crest Way.

Free Vision Screening
Screening for visual acuity, cataracts, glaucoma and symptoms of retinal disease provided for seniors. Testing offered by Toni Powell with Creative Vision Concepts. Information and free gifts. Call Jeannette for more information at 206.230.6845.
Wednesday, October 18, 10:00am – 12:00pm, FREE, at the Congregational Church of MI, 4545 Island Crest Way

Flu Shots
65+ or someone with chronic illness or health care providers are eligible to receive this immunization. Do not get this shot if you are allergic to chicken products or had a reaction last year. Medicare Part B will cover the cost but you must bring your Medicare care card with you. If you are a member of an HMO, you must use your Medicare benefit at your HMO site or pay $28.00 to receive your flu shot here. Co-sponsored by Visiting Nurse Services of the Northwest. Appointment required, call 206.236.3545 to schedule your appointment.
Wednesday, Oct. 18 - 9:00am – 1:00pm or Monday, Nov. 6 – 9:00am – 1:00pm
Fee: No fee if Medicare Part B, $28.00 if member of an HMO, at the Congregational Church of MI, 4545 Island Crest Way

For more information, visit our website at www.miparks.net or call 206.235.3545.

Classics on Film Presents:
Storytellers and the Cinema with Lance Rhoades
Sunday, October 1, 2006, 1:00pm
At the Community Center, Mercer Room

Lance Rhoades, Director of Film History and Theory at the Seattle Film Institute, will give a fascinating multi-media presentation on the pioneering people, the innovative techniques, and the process of creating the early film industry. Lance will share with us the acting, directorial, and physical genius of Buster Keaton; the highly effective management skills of Mary Pickford; the revolutionary sound-film inventions of Dr. Lee DeForest; as well as other on and off screen stories.

Fall 2006 Film Schedule
All films held at the Mercer Island Library and are FREE! Refreshments, pop and candy are complimentary.
Abbott and Costello Meet Frankenstein (1948)
Sunday, October 29, 1:00pm
Moonstruck (1987)
Sunday, November 12, 1:00pm
City Slickers (1991)
Sunday, December 10, 1:00pm

New Classes through Parks & Rec!

Stroller-cize
Designed for moms and babies (or nannies and babies) wanting to get in shape, exercise with their child, and meet other moms. Class includes outdoor activities at local parks incorporating cardiovascular endurance, strength exercises, core/abs, yoga and flexibility. Fridays, starts September 15.

Indoor Playground Program
Bring your child to the Community Center for socialization and fun! We provide balls, games, mats, and more in our gym. Tuesdays, Thursdays, Fridays and Saturdays.

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Mercer Island Parks and Recreation now has online Activity Registration available at www.MyParksAndRecreation.com! You can now register and pay for your recreation activities and programs 24 hours a day, 7 days a week via the internet! For more visit our website at www.miparks.net or call 206.236.3545.
Taking Care of Yourself or Your Family...  
Start at Mercer Island Youth & Family Services

We care about healthy individuals, families, and community on Mercer Island. If this is a time for you to pursue emotional, behavioral, and/or relational changes, you might not immediately know where to begin. All it takes is a phone call to Mercer Island Youth & Family Services (MIYFS) to receive confidential guidance on securing the most appropriate services to address your needs. If appropriate, you will be offered an appointment with one of our professional Washington State licensed therapists for confidential individual child, adolescent, and adult counseling and/or family therapy/parenting support. Alternately, Gayle Erickson, Clinical Supervisor, will work with you to help navigate the often confusing array of services available in the wider community and connect you with resources most appropriate to your needs or those of your family.

MIYFS is located in beautiful Luther Burbank Park. Our counseling fees are on a sliding scale based on income and one’s ability to pay. Services are supported as a public/private partnership through the City of Mercer Island. MIYFS therapists have experience including, but not limited to: family therapy, parenting, child/adolescent therapy, couples/marital therapy, learning/developmental disabilities, school issues, domestic violence, depression/anxiety, eating disorders, stage of life issues, divorce, raising successful children, grief/loss, and child development. If you hope for change...start with MIYFS today.

Contact: Gayle Erickson, Clinical Supervisor @ 206.236.3525

A Summer of Volunteerism: VOICE and SVP

The Youth Development programs of Youth and Family Services have again managed to extend into the greater community of Seattle and make a difference through volunteerism.
- This summer, the Volunteer Outreach In Communities Everywhere (VOICE) program consisted of a record 163 volunteers; compared to only 16 in the program 13 years ago. With the ability to reach more populations and cater to several new organizations (like Atlantic Street Center and El Centro de la Raza) the VOICE volunteers donated over 9,500 hours of community service to over 60 different non-profit organizations. This remarkable effort was much appreciated by those the program worked with.
- In addition to the VOICE program’s volunteering force, this year’s Summer Volunteer Program (SVP), for Middle School aged youth, made great strides in community service. With 65 young people enrolled, this vibrant and dedicated young group of volunteers contributed over 2,000 hours to over 20 different non-profit organizations throughout greater Seattle.
- “Art Awareness” projects are a creative way of looking at global social justice issues and prompting artistic dialogue in a way that engages youth. This summer’s project theme was “Helping Others.” The word “help” means different things to different people and by taking a look at the world around us, the youth were able to come up with several examples of situations in our society in which helping others through volunteering, relief efforts and other support groups has helped impact people’s lives. Each participant created a scene on a tile of what “helping” meant to them. The volunteers used several different mediums to create their pictures and then assembled the 36 tiles into a collage.

For more information regarding VOICE or SVP, please visit our website at www.mercergov.org/VOICE or www.mercergov.org/SVP or contact the MIYFS office at 206.236.3525.

Do you need part-time help this fall?

Post your jobs today to make sure all your household needs are met! Need a nanny? Need your deck stained before the rains come or some last minute yard work finished? Post jobs at no charge with MIYFS JobLink.

To post a job, call and leave detailed information on our JobLink voicemail: 206.236.3530 or visit www.mijoblink.org and fill out an online job posting. If you have questions about hiring individuals or about this job posting service, please call Cheryl Hudson at 206.236.3524. JobLink is a community service program of Mercer Island Youth & Family Services.

About Mercer Island Youth & Family Services

Mercer Island Youth & Family Services (MIYFS) provides family and community services and collaborates with others to develop and deliver services to the Mercer Island community. Our services span generations and have expanded over the years. We help individuals, families and the community at large build upon strengths, identify problems and choices and share resources. Services are supported as a public/private partnership through the City of Mercer Island, the Mercer Island School District, King County, private contributions and grants, fundraising and special events and revenues generated by our volunteer-based Thrift Shop.

Mercer Island Thrift Shop
Friends & Family Night
Thursday, November 9  6 pm to 8 pm
7710 SE 34th St
Come and enjoy an evening of refreshments, shopping and entertainment. Buy great items in time for the holidays to benefit and support our community!

20% discount on all items!
Info: 206.236.3525
Online Auction for Old Evidence

If the owner can be identified, evidence held in the Police Department is usually returned to the owner after a case has concluded. So what happens to evidence when the owner cannot be located? Sometimes evidence is destroyed or donated. Currently by law only bikes and toys can be donated, so that leaves other items that cannot be donated, but are still usable.

The City of Mercer Island has partnered with PropertyRoom.com, an auction service, which sells property from police departments throughout the United States. PropertyRoom.com collects the items from Mercer Island Police and transports the goods to one of their processing centers. Shoppers can bid for items online at www.stealitback.com, an online auction much like “eBay” that offers a variety of items such as jewelry, computers, and even cars.

All costs are paid by PropertyRoom.com. Mercer Island’s portion of the proceeds goes into the City’s general fund. Property Room is a member of the International Association of Chiefs of Police, the National Sheriffs’ Association, and the International Association for Property and Evidence. The Mercer Island Police Department was the first in Washington State to sign on with this service.

The City may choose to auction items according to the Revised Code of Washington (RCW). Evidence is kept as long as needed to conclude a case. Found property is kept for 60 days. Mercer Island residents are encouraged to engrave their valuables! It is easier for the Police Department to identify found or stolen property if the owner’s name is engraved on the item. To register lost or stolen items with PropertyRoom.com, visit www.stealitback.com.

Contact: Police Department @ 206.236.3595

Tree Lighting & Firehouse Munch

Friday, December 1, 7 pm – 9 pm
Mercerdale Park & North Fire Station

Gather your family, friends and neighbors for an evening of holiday merriment at a community tree lighting ceremony at Mercerdale Park at 7 pm on Friday, December 1. Then join the Firehouse Munch festivities at the North Fire Station for music, delicious firehouse chili, and children’s entertainment. Please bring an unwrapped toy for the Toys for Tots Drive. Admission: FREE

You Can Save A Life! Citizen CPR

According to the American Heart Association, each day 600 people die from Sudden Cardiac Arrest. It strikes suddenly and the survival rate is only 5 to 10%. Early Citizen CPR and Rapid Defibrillation can help improve the chances of survival. The Mercer Island Fire Department offers the following classes at the North Fire Station (3030 78th Ave SE):

- Sept 27, 7-9 pm Infant Child CPR
- Nov 4, 7-9 pm First Aid with CPR
- Nov 8, 7-9 pm Adult CPR
- Nov 15, 7-9 pm Infant Child CPR

To sign up for classes, call 206.236.3600.

For the complete text of Ordinance No. 06C-09 revising Mercer Island’s Animal Code, please visit www.mercergov.org/leashlaw.

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public swimming areas apply only to the areas designated by sign for swimming, diving, or recreational bathing, not every location on the Island where there is water access. (MICC 7.04.110)

Dogs Must Be Leashed In:

- Luther Burbank Park
- the northeast quadrant of Pioneer Park
- Deane’s Children’s Park (“Dragon Park”)

Dogs may be off leash, but under control, inside a designated off-leash area and there are also places in these parks where dogs are not allowed at all.

Where Dogs Can Be Leashed or Under Voice/Signal Control

For all other Mercer Island parks (except as specified above) and in designated off-leash areas, owners may choose to leash their dogs or keep them under control by using voice or signal commands defined as follows:

“Under control” means the animal is on a leash or under voice and/or signal control so as to be thereby restrained from approaching any bystander or other animal or from causing or being the cause of physical or property damage when off a leash or off the premises of the owner. The animal is not under control if it charges, chases, jumps on, or displays aggression toward other people or animals, or behaves in a way that any reasonable person would find disturbing.

“Under voice and/or signal control” means the immediate recall of an animal to the person in control of the animal when signaled or called. To be under effective voice and/or signal control, the animal must be within the sight of the person in control. (MICC 7.04.020)

Number of Dogs

One person may not have more than two animals whether under control or on leashes on public park property. (MICC 7.04.110)
Mercer Island Businesses Invited to a “Call to Action” Meeting September 27 3:30-5:30 pm

The lessons from Katrina are clear: after a disaster, businesses are vulnerable to failure. A University of Texas study reports that 43% of companies experiencing a catastrophic data loss never recover, and half of them go out of business within two years. The Institute for Business and Home Safety indicates that 25% of businesses will never re-open their doors after a catastrophic event. The failure of a business to re-open is not only devastating to the business, it also represents a loss of economic contribution and services for the surrounding community.

In order to work toward better business continuity in the event of a disaster, The Mercer Island Business Neighborhood Alliance is hosting a “Call to Action” meeting on Wednesday, September 27 from 3:30 to 5:30 pm at the Community Center at Mercerview. Anyone with interests in the Mercer Island Business Community is invited to attend this meeting. At this meeting, they plan to share a skeletal plan for disaster preparedness, work with businesses to build a stronger network, use input to create a more comprehensive plan and begin an inventory of resources that can be used in an emergency.

What is the Mercer Island Business Neighborhood Alliance?
In partnership with the City of Mercer Island Fire Department, the Mercer Island Business Neighborhood Alliance founding committee is developing the initial plan for Mercer Island's local business community's emergency response. The response plan addresses how to care for employees and clients if they cannot leave the Island after a significant event. In addition, it will build in business continuity measures and support to prevent business failure after a disaster. Founding members include representatives from the American Red Cross, Countrywide Home Loans, Western Mutual, Sterling Savings Bank, Government Related Solutions, LLC and Six Walls.

To RSVP for the meeting or learn more about the Mercer Island Business Neighborhood Alliance, please email: contact@six-walls.com or call Christine Kenyon 206.275.5709.

If you are a Mercer Island resident and would like to learn how to get involved in an emergency preparedness group within your own neighborhood, please contact the Mercer Island Fire Department at 206.236.3600.

Visible House Numbers Help Us Find You
House fire? Prowler? Heart attack? When you call 911 for help, the emergency responders need to find your house without delay.

Having visible house numbers may save a home or a life. It is up to you to assure that your house is numbered correctly, the numbers are visible from the road, and your private driveway is numbered. If you live on the lake and you have a dock or lakeside structure, it’s also important to display house numbers toward the lake in case a rescue by water is required.

The Mercer Island City Code contains specific parameters for the numbers used to address a house. The numbers must:
- Be made of durable material at least six inches in height
- Contrast with the color of the building
- Be placed as to be readily visible from the roadway. In the case where the residence is not readily visible from the roadway, the house number should be placed in a conspicuous location at the entrance to the driveway serving the residence.

We want to find you when you need help!
Contact: Mercer Island Fire Department @ 206.236.3600 or Mercer Island Police Department @ 206.236.3500

Visit the City website! www.mercergov.org
2007-2008 Budget Planning

Every two years, the City of Mercer Island develops a budget for the following two year period. Currently, the City is in the process of developing the 2007-2008 Budget. Citizens are invited to attend and participate in budget meetings starting in October. The 2007-2008 Budget will be discussed at City Council meetings as follows:

October 2 – Regular Meeting
Preliminary Budget Presentation by City Manager and Finance Director

October 16 – Study Session and Regular Meeting (Public Hearing)
Preliminary Budget Review: Priorities of Government 1 & 2

October 23 – Special Meeting (Public Hearing) AT ISLANDER MIDDLE SCHOOL!
Preliminary Budget Review: Priorities of Government 3 & 4

November 6 – Regular Meeting (Public Hearing)
Preliminary Budget Review: Priorities of Government Priorities 5 & 6

November 13 – Special Meeting (Public Hearing)
Preliminary Budget Review: Revenues & Follow-Up Items

November 20 – Regular Meeting (Final Public Hearing)
Additional Preliminary Budget Review (if needed) & Adoption of Preliminary 2007 Property Tax Levy

December 11 – Special Meeting
Adoption of Final 2007 Property Tax Levy, 2007 Utility Rates & Other Fee Increases, and Final 2007-2008 Budget

Study Sessions and Special Meetings begin at 6 pm, Regular Meetings begin at 7 pm. All meetings to be held in the Council Chambers in City Hall, unless otherwise noted.

What are the Priorities of Government?

The Priorities of Government provide the framework for prioritizing City expenditures. Confirmed by City Council in 2004, the basic priorities of the City of Mercer Island are:

1. The community will be safe.
2. The community will support effective, efficient and legal delivery of public services.
3. The community will support reliable public infrastructure and protect its considerable public investments (e.g. water, sewer, storm water utilities, streets, parks, buildings).
4. The community will support attractive, high quality neighborhood and business environments.
5. The community will support a broad range of recreational, cultural, health and educational opportunities.
6. The community will support open and informed public involvement processes within the structure of representative, democratic decision making.

City of Mercer Island
9611 SE 36th Street
Mercer Island, WA 98040

Mayor Bryan Cairns
bryan.cairns@mercergov.org
Deputy Mayor Jim Pearman
jim.pearman@mercergov.org
Councilmember Steve Litzow
steve.litzow@mercergov.org
Councilmember Dan Grausz
dan.grausz@mercergov.org
Councilmember Sven Goldmanis
sven.goldmanis@mercergov.org
Councilmember Mike Grady
mike.grady@mercergov.org
Councilmember El Jahncke
el.jahncke@mercergov.org

To learn more about the Mercer Island City Council, please visit the City website. Council Meeting agendas and supporting documents are uploaded to the website the Friday before each meeting.

www.mercergov.org