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FLORENCE RANCH HOMESTEAD WELCOMES NEW COORDINATOR



Mesquite, TX...The historic Florence Ranch Homestead, 1424 Barnes Bridge Rd., is re-opened for regular hours now that a new staff person is on board.

The 19th century farmstead’s coordinator is Nancy Riley and will be on site from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Thursdays and Fridays. A Mesquite resident, Riley says she has always enjoyed old homes and their connections to the past. The Sam Houston State University graduate most recently served as office administrator in a Dallas law firm and welcomes the change of pace.

“Florence Ranch Homestead is a treasure for the City of Mesquite,” Riley said. “I look forward to not only preserving the homestead and its artifacts, but also sharing our local history with students, residents and visitors.”

For those who are interested in volunteering at a historic house, Riley is looking for a few good folks to assist her with tours, house upkeep and special projects. To meet with her and discuss the possibilities, call 972.204.4933 during her working hours or call the Historic Mesquite, Inc. office at 972.216.6468.

The Florence Ranch Homestead and Opal Lawrence Historical Park are properties of the City of Mesquite, managed by Historic Mesquite, Inc. The Florence Ranch Homestead was founded by David Walker and Julia Savannah Beaty Florence in 1871. Descendants donated the approximate 4-acre property to the City of Mesquite in 1987. It is a Recorded Texas Historical Landmark and a Texas Century Farm through the Texas Department of Agriculture.