

# Mistletoe Express

A Publication of Historic Mistletoe Heights

April 2004

### **Quick Bits**

Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale

### Neighborhood GARAGE SALE

It's that time of year again. With each Spring comes the annual Mistletoe Heights Garage Sale. The dates for this year's event are Saturday, April 24, and Sunday, April 25.

Don't forget to call the city for your individual permit at 817-871-7851.

### **April Calendar**

April 1 - Texas Independence Day

April 4 - Palm Sunday

April 4 - Daylight Savings Begins

April 6 - Passover Begins

April 10 - FWISD TAKS Testing

April 11 - Easter Sunday

April 22-24 - South Side Plant Sale

April 24-25 - Garage Sale

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### Mistletoe Heights Easter Egg Hunt

It's that time of year again! The annual Mistletoe Heights easter Egg Hunt is upon us. It will be held Saturday, April 10th, at 10:00 a.m. at Newby Park. If Mother Nature happens to bring us rain, the hunt will be rescheduled for 2:00 that afternoon. If it is still raining, the hunt will be cancelled.

If your children are participating, please bring two dozen plastic eggs filled with age appropriate candy or small toys to 2200 Edwin Street by Thursday, April 8. Please mark your bag of eggs with a NAME, PHONE NUMBER and the AGE(S) of your child (children). This helps the Easter Bunny sort them

easier. In the event the hunt is cancelled, your eggs will be available for pickup after 2:00 p.m. at 2200 Edwin Street.

All children are welcome – the more the better. The Easter Bunny will be making an appearance, so be sure to bring your camera. We will have coffee, donuts and juice. Even if you don't have small children, come on out and visit with your neighbors.

If you would like to volunteer to help before, during and/or after the event, please contact Amy Burns at 817-781-8800.

### Funding For The Newby Park Pavilion

Buy an Engraved Brick or Laptop Computer Raffle Tickets now, and show your support for the pavilion to be built at Newby Park. Imagine how nice future Easter egg hunts will be with the pavilion in place. Please consider the purchase of one or more bricks and/or the laptop raffle tickets. See Page 4 for application blanks and information.

Friends of Newby Park





### April Yard of the Month

The yard of the month has been awarded to the Huling family at 2308 Mistletoe Blvd. Driving by this yard will definitely put a smile on your face. A colorful raised flower bed, edged in stone, is adorned with marigolds, petunias, alyssum, dianthus & geraniums. What beautiful, bright spring and summer colors. Be sure to look at the gorgeous Plum Delight Chinese Fringe Flower which makes such an interesting hedge.

What makes this yard so fun is the Huling family. They have Maggie Magnolia, Buddy Red Bud and Billy Ray Bald Cyprus (he's on his come-back tour - thought we lost him). Thank you to James, Tommie Jo, Edie and Peri for brightening our day. Congratulations!

Tip for the month of April: you can prune azaleas lightly after they have bloomed. Fertilize them while in bloom; this is the most important time. You can also move azaleas while in bloom.

Happy Planting, DeDe Barth, Becka Elbert & Celia Jones





### WANTED: Landscape Designer

We are looking for a volunteer to develop a workable plan with plants and engraved bricks for the proposed pavilion at Newby Park. If interested please call 817-923-5510.





Failed Marketing ploys.

### National Arbor Day

One of the more wonderful things about Mistletoe Heights is the trees. We have many mature oaks and pecans lining our streets and shading our yards. It is obvious we appreciate their importance, since the tree is such a prominent part of our neighborhood logo. However, according to the National Arbor Day Foundation, tree cover in the average American neighborhood has dropped by more than 20% just in the last 10 years! That is an unhealthy trend.

Studies have shown that we are happier, calmer and healthier if we live among trees. When Steve and I were looking for our house, we had narrowed it down to two houses in Mistletoe Heights. I just could not decide which one I liked best. Both had some real assets. One day I drove up to each house and just sketched the front of it. While I was drawing, it suddenly dawned on me that one of the houses had huge trees, and the other didn't have any trees! That was it. I made my decision that very moment and have not regretted it since.

In 1872 H. Sterling Morton proposed Arbor Day, which is now observed the last Friday in April. If it were celebrated by all of us, we could reverse the 20% loss per decade. If you don't need a tree in your yard, you probably know someone who would love to have a tree planted in his or her yard. Or you could follow Steve's lead. He has planted and cared for 50-plus trees in our neighborhood, most of them on the berm and at the entrance. Here is to more trees in Mistletoe Heights, and Happy Arbor Day!

Kathy McReynolds

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See our new custom home at 1320 College Avenue – call Lori Gallagher, Helen Painter's Historic Southside Team expert at 817-475-5117 for a showing.



## Calling All Friends of Newby Park

The Newby Park Pavilion fund-raising campaign has officially kicked off! With an estimated budget of \$40,000 in construction costs and an additional \$10,000 for enhancements, fundraisers such as the sales of engraved bricks and a computer laptop raffle will be conducted. We are also soliciting corporate sponsors and support from the city's Park Department. We know you'll want to be a part of this worthwhile and enduring neighborhood project.

This pavilion is for you and your family's enjoyment. With your help, these two innovative fundraisers will get the pavilion project ball rolling.

#### LAPTOP COMPUTER RAFFLE

Who couldn't use one? Purchase a chance to win a Dell laptop computer for only \$25 per ticket. Hey, the odds of winning are super! The raffle drawing will be held at the MHA meeting on May 11. Enter as many times as you wish. For tickets email name, address and phone to carrk@charter.net or PHSFtW@aol.com.



#### PERSONALIZED ENGRAVED BRICKS

Be a part of the pavilion and posterity! Purchase a personalized engraved brick for \$100. What a great idea for any friend of Newby Park. Engrave names of family members, friends - even pets. The tokens of love and remembrance are limitless, and it will be there for generations to come. The bricks will be displayed in or around the pavilion. All brick purchases are considered tax-deductible donations.



Engraved	Brick(s)	Application:
		- FF

Please print your message(s) below to include up to 3 lines of text with a maximum of 13 letters per line per brick. Make checks payable to: Friends of Newby Park, and mail to: 2218 W. Rosedale St. So., Fort Worth TX 76110.

Brick #1	Brick #2
Brick #3	Brick #4

Want to order more bricks? Questions? Call 817-923-5510.

### Cats...Cats...Cats...Cats...

We've all seen 'em. Some of us have several. Many of us feed them. Now there seems to be a new flock... herd... passel... drove... pack... whatever, of kittens figuring out whether they can beat your car across the street. Here in Fairmount we have a little bit of every type of cat – from the pampered Persian who watches the goings on from a window in disdain, including the scared and hungry cat abandoned by a resident who left the neighborhood to the cat so wild you barely see it streak across the yard.

Over the last year, the Fairmount Feral Friends (or whatever we call ourselves) have trapped over 100 cats. In conjunction with the Humane Society of North Texas, they've received their rabies shots as well as a 4-in-1 shot for general feline diseases, been neutered or spayed, ear tipped and returned to their home ground. A small percentage, too ill to save, was euthanized. A larger number, deemed adoptable, were kept by HSNT for adoption. Obviously, we haven't completed the project.



During 2003 budget constraints at HSNT made it necessary for them to charge us \$15 per cat for neutering and spaying. While that price is exceptionally low (the next best low-cost clinic charges \$65 and \$75 per cat) it has meant a need to reassess our program. Private donations to the program and money dropped into the jar at Old Home Supply (THANK YOU, Ralph Watterson!) have totaled about \$150. At the same time, other neighborhoods, hearing about our program, have requested assistance, further stretching our time and people resources. Fortunately, we've had extra traps at the time to loan and they've been able to pay their own way.

We're currently working with the city, the Animal Control department and a new advocacy group called CLASP to try to obtain some grants which will allow the program to be expanded city wide. Program implementation will probably still be retained in the neighborhoods, so the need for citizen involvement in trapping and transporting will still exist. All this, however, is a year or more down the road. In 2004 we again requested and received funds for the Cat Project based on the numbers from 2003. However, changes at HSNT have meant the collections days have been reduced to two Tuesdays a month and our secondary source for altering and vaccination costs \$20 per cat. As always, we need more people to trap and transport.

However, if you have stray, abandoned or feral cats around your house that need to be trapped, we usually have traps you can borrow and we'll arrange transportation, if at all possible, when necessary. Please contact me, Susan Harper, at 817-927-7257 and leave a message. I'll return your call.

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### **Talking Points for Code Rangers**

The Code Rangers Program is a volunteer-driven citizen involvement program. It aims to use citizens in partnership with the City of Fort Worth Code Compliance Department to help report code violations and encourage citizens to voluntarily correct those violations.

Code Rangers will patrol their neighborhoods at their convenience, and identify specific types of Code violations. They will then report their findings to staff members in the Code Compliance Department. The City will send a courtesy notice to the owner or occupant of the property where the violation occurred. This notice will be sent based on the Code Rangers' trained observation alone. No Code Compliance Officer will check property before the initial notice is sent. This courtesy notice is not an official notice, but a friendly warning to the property owner or occupant.

After ten days, the Code Ranger will do a follow-up inspection to see if the violation has been corrected. If it has been corrected, the voluntary compliance will be documented. If the violation persists, a Code Enforcement Officer will visit the property and issue an official notice to correct the violation. At this point, the report will be handled like all other reports received by Code Compliance. The Code Ranger may continue to monitor the property and receive updates from the Code Enforcement Officer.

When will the program start?

Training for Code Ranger volunteers will begin in March and volunteers will begin patrols by April.

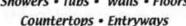
How long will training be?

Probably a 12-hour course, divided into three 4-hour units. All units will be offered at various times. Participants must complete all units, pass an exam, and participate in a ridealong with a Code Enforcement Officer before beginning their patrols.

(continued on page 8)

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### According to the Farmer's Almanac

Weather - April 2004

1st-3rd. Severe thunderstorms, downpours, tornado threat to central, southern Texas, Louisiana. 4th-7th. Storms Southern Plains move northeast. 8th-11th. Fair skies. 12th-15th. Increasing rain, thunderstorms spread east. 16th-19th. Very cold air plunges south. 20th-23rd. Clear, much milder Southern Rockies, points east. 24th-27th. Showers, a few local thunderstorms possible. 28th-30th. Storm brings severe thunderstorms to Plains; cold air sweeps in behind it, brings near-freezing temperatures.

Full Moons in 2004

January 7th - Full Wolf Moon, 10:40 am

February 6th - Full Snow Moon, 3:47 am

March 6th - Full Worm Moon, 6:14 pm

April 5th - Full Pink Moon, 6:03 am

May 4th - Full Flower Moon, 3:33 pm

June 2nd – Full Strawberry Moon, 11:20 pm

July 2nd - Full Buck Moon, 6:09 am

July 31st - Full Sturgeon Moon, 1:05 pm

August 29th - Full Fruit/Barley Moon, 9:23 pm

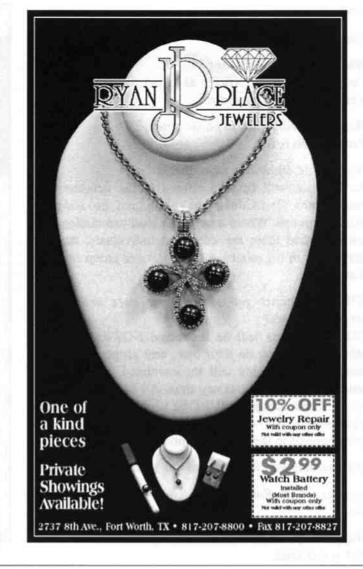
September 28th - Full Harvest Moon, 8:09 am

October 27th - Full Hunter's Moon, 10:07 pm

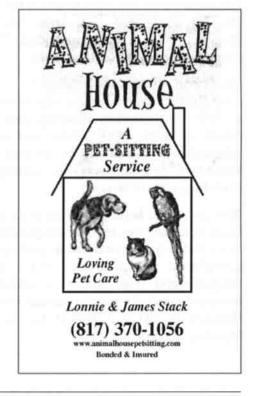
November 26th - Full Beaver Moon, 3:07 pm

December 26th - Full Cold Moon, 10:06 am

Source: http://www.farmersalmanac.com







### **Code Rangers**

(continued from page 6)

Who will teach the training?

Code Enforcement Officers assigned to the program as well as other City personnel.

How much will it cost to participate? Participation is free.

Who will be allowed to participate?

Participation will first be offered to the neighborhood associations. Individuals may join and be added to existing groups. Where a neighborhood association does not exist and there are interested individuals, the City may assist in organizing a Code Ranger group to patrol that area.

Will participants get out of their cars and talk to property owners?

NO. Participants will be instructed NOT to talk to or otherwise contact, on their own, any property owner or resident. Participants will be instructed NOT to enter onto private property at any time. All violations worked by the Code Rangers MUST be visible from the public right-of-way. All other violations will be worked by the professionals in the Code Compliance Department.

Will participants have a sign on their cars identifying

them as a Code Ranger?

No.

Will participants be reimbursed for gas? Not at this time.

Will participants sign their names to the courtesy notice? No. The alerts will come from "the Code Rangers Program," NOT from an individual. The participants' privacy will be protected at all times.

What about substandard buildings?

Code Rangers may report any type of violation observed in their neighborhoods. However, they will only work certain violations. More serious code violations such as substandard buildings will be handled with immediate action by Code Compliance. No courtesy notice from the Code Rangers will be sent.

How can people become involved in the program?

Right now, they can let their Neighborhood Association know that they are interested in participation. The Code Compliance Department will be contacting Neighborhood Associations to solicit participation. Interested persons may also contact Senior Officer John Hancock at (817) 871-6320 for more information regarding the program.



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### Your Contributions Appreciated

I want to thank the neighbors who have submitted stories and articles for the Mistletoe Express. I also want to encourage others to send in suggestions, articles or stories. Your submissions are always needed, welcome and appreciated.

Kyle Carr, Editor



John R. Boyd, CTC

Owner

2501 Forest Park Blvd. Fort Worth, Texas 76110

(817) 921-5561

### 121T / Southwest Parkway Update

I am one of the two representatives for City Council District 9 (which includes Mistletoe Heights) on the Citizen's Advisory Group (known as CAG) for the 121T/Southwest Parkway project. The group has recently issued a Goals Statement for its work, which includes the following:

- Protect and enhance the environmental quality of the project, minimizing impacts in an effort to "tread lightly on the land".
- Integrate principles of context sensitive design and solutions in the project corridor to provide a coordinated design character.
- Unify the appearance of each discrete section of the project, creating a seamless transition between sections.
- Provide appropriate design features such as architectural enhancements, public art and landscaping reflecting the character of each
  area while maintaining the parkway's overall context.

Primarily, the CAG will be responsible for recommending allocation of the enhancement budget currently estimated at \$8 million, which will be used to support the objective of creating a parkway effect for this roadway as opposed to an urban freeway wherever possible. We may also be able to assist in identifying where mitigation of the roadway's impact is required (which would be funded separately by TXDOT and NTTA). To date, we have met three times and taken a bus tour of the entire corridor from Summit Avenue near downtown to Dirks Road where the initial section of 121T will terminate.

At our last meeting, we determined major areas of concern and priority along the corridor, and the consulting team for the project is developing ideas for those areas to be reviewed at a meeting tentatively scheduled in April.

Some items of concern and priority particular to Mistletoe Heights include:

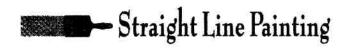
- 1. Lighting design (lower light standards with directed light in accordance with the latest "dark sky" objectives)
- 2. Noise abatement near residential areas
- 3. The possibility of linking Mistletoe Heights to the Trinity River Trail system
- 4. The 121T bridges over the Trinity River near Forest Park will add to the significant bridge structure already in place over the trail system at the same location expanding the trail's tunnel effect there. The lanes of T121 will be separated to let in more light and ideas for beautification and constructive use of the space under all these bridges are being considered. Trail parking has been mentioned as a possibility.
- 5. Access from Forest Park to eastbound I30 and from westbound I30 to Forest Park will be changed with 121T. We will be using the Summit intersection much more after 121T is constructed, and traffic studies of that intersection have been suggested.
- 6. Architectural design of the roadway near MH
- 7. Architectural design of the controlled intersection of 121T and Forest Park Blvd.

All meeting are open to the public and dates and times are posted in the Fort Worth Star Telegram on the city page. All of the materials reviewed by the CAG (including preliminary engineering schematics) are posted on the T121 website, http://www.sh-121t.org.

As to the overall status of the project, the CAG process is running concurrently with the completion of a Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS). Final engineering cannot be completed until the FEIS is complete. There was considerable public comment at the public hearing for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) from citizens and property owners along the corridor. Personally, I hope to see some additional comment on Mistletoe Heights and perhaps some suggested mitigation when the FEIS or an amended DEIS is issued later this summer, based on the noise, air quality, lighting and cumulative effects of 121T (when combined with I30, the Rosedale bridge, etc.) on our neighborhood.

If you would like additional information, please contact me at 817-926-7235.

Michelle Key



Tom Long

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Ask for Richard

### West Magnolia Garden Homes Development Meeting

Please join us Thursday, April 6th, at 7:00 p.m., at the Lily B. Clayton auditorium to learn about an exciting new development coming to the Mistletoe Heights neighborhood. Angela Fields and Melanie Werth of Domaine Residential Development will be presenting their plan for an upscale garden home community. The West Magnolia Garden Homes will lie south of Mistletoe Blvd. and just east of Jerome on W. Magnolia. These garden homes will be a nice addition to this architecturally significant neighborhood. For more information contact Melanie Werth at 817-980-7222.



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Come early, come often for a great selection of Antique Roses, Herbs, Perennials, Annuals and Veggies that are priced to move. We specialize in plants that thrive in Fort Worth, Texas.

The sale will be indoors in the ballroom. 9 'til 9, rain or shine! Great prices! Bring your friends and neighbors! Also, bring empty flats to recycle...NO POTS, PLEASE!

Southside Preservation Hall/Rose Chapel 1519 Lipscomb 817-926-2800

### Some Mistletoe Heights History

On the sixth of March, 1836, Texas gained independence from Mexico and the Republic of Texas was created. The Texas legislature, on February 4, 1841, passed an act "Granting Land to Immigrants". The first contract, signed on August 30, 1841, by the Republic of Texas under this act was with Texas Land and Emigration Company. This company was formed by 20 investors headed by William S. Peters. The first contract established the boundaries for a colony, beginning on the Red River at the mouth of Big Mineral Creek, running south for 60 miles, then west 22 miles, then north to the Red River, then east along the river to the point of origin. This Colony was commonly known as Peter's Colony. Additional contracts for the Peter's Colony were made with the east boundary extended south to somewhere in Ellis County, then west to about the Johnson/Hood County line and then north to the Red River and east to the original contract corner.

On December 29, 1845, Texas bename a state and a part of the United States of America. With the need for colonial protection, in 1849, General Williams Jenkins Worth, stationed in San Antonio, commissioned Major Ripley A. Arnold to establish an army post, and the site was picked near the confluence of the Clear and West forks of the Trinity River. It later became Fort Worth.

With Peter's Colony having been established, a group of men were selected to handle the affairs of legality. This group was known as Commissioners. In about 1848 (have not found this particular record), Ethelbert S. Harris applied for a land grant. (He lived with his family in Sherman, Texas.) Certificate No. 355 was issued on April 22, 1850, granting Ethelbert S. Harris a section (640 acres - one square mile) of land in which our neighborhood of Mistletoe Heights is situated. The section was assigned to Lemual J. Edwards on June 21, 1852, and ownership was transferred that day. The section was not surveyed, however, until January 4, 1853.

Reading the field notes of record, this survey indicates the boundaries to be (picture, if you will, the vicinity of these lines): starting near the intersection of Pennsylvania Avenue and Eighth Avenue and draw a line south along Eighth Avenue to the intersection of Windsor Place (if it went all the way through) for the east boundary; thence west along Windsor Place to about where University Drive is now for the south boundary; thence north along University to the intersection of a line extended from Pennsylvania Avenue for the west boundary; thence east to the point of beginning for the north boundary.

Wyatt Teague, Mistletoe Heights Historian

#### NEIGHBORHOOD CLASSIFIEDS

Ads are free for Mistletoe Heights residents and may be submitted to the editor. The deadline is the 20th of each month. Ads must be renewed monthly except for service classifieds (i.e.: babysitting, mowing, etc.), which are renewed yearly. Please notify the editor (carrk@charter.net) if you would like to renew, discontinue or update your ad.

#### Dreaming of a Lush and Texas-Tough Landscape?

Seeking to de-stress enjoying the beauty of butterflies and hummingbirds in your yard? If so, contact Alexia Strout-Dapaz at either (817) 921-4820 or at astroutdapaz@yahoo.com.

#### Estate Appraisals and Liquidation Service

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### Seeking a Dependable Housekeeper?

Our housekeeper is seeking additional MH clients. Currently, she works at 3 other houses on our block and at several other Mistletoe Heights addresses. Dependable, flexible, reliable and thorough. Interested in both short-term and long-term clients. Contact Alexia Strout-Dapaz at (817) 921-4820 or at astroutdapaz@yahoo.com to request her contact information.

#### Mary Kay Cosmetics

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### Neighborhood Lawn Service

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### Helpful Phone Numbers, Email Addresses and Websites

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City of Fort Worth			www.fortworthgov.org
Police - Non-Emergency	335-4222		
Garage Sale Permits	871-7851		
Graffiti Abatement	871-5741		
Lily B. Clayton Elementary	922-6660		it.ftworth.isd.tenet.edu/116/
Paschal High School	922-6600		
Kate Singleton - Historical Preservation	871-8012	kate.singleton@fwgov.org	
Southside Preservation Hall	215-8600	HallTess@earthlink.net	www.southsidepreservation.com
The T/Longhorn Trolley	2158600		www.the-t.com
Trinity Railway Express	871-8809		www.trinityrailwayexpress.org
Wendy Davis - City Council District 9		district9@fortworthgov.org	ci.fort-worth.tx.us

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Secretary		2200 Irwin		2300 Edwin		11.7.0/>
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Treasurer		2300 Irwin		2100 Weatherbee		
Alex Blanton	926-1792	Ingrid/Steve Kelly	921-0768	Judy Gude		
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Kyle Carr	907-5759	Gil DeHoyos	926-6409	Susan Harwell	923-8806	are welcomed. To be published
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		Lisa Stewart	924-9666	Jack and Lorri Kendr	ick	addressed to the Editor, signed
Street Rep Captain		2100/2200 West Mag	gnolia		924-2800	and include a phone number.
Pat Hale (East)	924-5263	Sherry Choate	923-7335	1200 Clara		Anonymous letters will not be
Gaye Reed (West)	921-0009	2300 West Magnolia	Ý	Betty Arvin	924-7088	published. Articles may be
Welcome Baskets		Susan Pressley	923-6061	1100 Buck		submitted for publication,
Joy Teague	923-2330	2100 Harrison		Janet Gallagher	921-9027	signed or unsigned, subject to
Advertising Manag		Elizabeth Sims	926-3548	1200/1300 Buck		approval and editing by the
Nancy Brown	923-7146	2200 Harrison & Je	rome	Simone Scott	924-3838	Editor. Letters to the Editor are
Newby Park		Scott Doty	924-2644	2100 Morphy		limited to a half page
Patsy Slocum	923-5510	2300/2400 Harrison		Debra Tice	921-4651	(approximately 350 words).
City Liaison		Faye Dowdle	926-7571	1100 Mistletoe Dr.		Please submit to
Vacant		2100 Mistletoe Ave.		Kim Musgrove	923-6785	carrk@charter.net or 2217 W.
Historian		Neataw Engels	927-2468	1200 ñ 1500 Mistlet	oe Dr.	Rosedale St. So. The deadline
Wyatt Teague	923-2330	2200 Mistletoe Ave.		Rochelle Graham	927-2967	is the 20th of each month.
		Richard/Christi Yanti	S	2300 Mistletoe Dr.		
MHA YEARLY DU	IES		924-2857	Sandy Tarpley	924-9215	ADVERTISING
Dues are \$5, \$10, \$2		2300 Mistletoe Ave.		Forest Park Blvd.		INFORMATION
Your dues help to de	fer the cost	Kathleen Walker	926-9095	Steve McReynolds	926-7955	To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please
		Neighborhood Police Officer East of Forest Park		Neighborhood Police Officer West of Forest Park		call Nancy Brown at 923-7146.
many other neighbor		스튜리지는 교육 가는 경기를 가는 모양하는 그 사이트 다.		Officer Jamie Johnson		Ad rates are: business card size
functions. Dues are		Officer D. B. Briggs Office	871-8948			\$15, 1/4 page \$30, 1/3 page
by Alex Blanton (call for		Mobile	991-8473	The state of the s		\$45, half page \$55, full page \$100, and pre-printed 8 1/2 x 11
address - 926-7235).		Mobile Email:	yy1-84/3	Pager 998-0478 Email:		insert flyers \$50. The deadline
		STATE OF THE PARTY	L +	jamie.johnson@fortworthgov. org		is the 20th of each month.
		BriggsD@ci.fort-wort	n.tx.us	jame.jonnson@ionwor	uigov. org	is the 20th of each month.