



# The Mistletoe Express

A Publication of Historic Mistletoe Heights

www.mistletoeheights.com

May 2005



Gaye Reed

## Letter from the president

Dear Neighbors,

It is with much regret that I announce my resignation as President of Mistletoe Heights Association effective May 1, 2005. This was an extremely difficult decision. I am not a quitter or a resigner, but I am a realist. The reality is I simply cannot devote the time to the office that it deserves.

The MHA Bylaws state that the MHA Officers elect an interim President. If you have any interest in filling this position, please let the Officers know. It is not too time consuming, but it does require a flexible schedule.

On a different note, I hope you were able to attend the concrete batch plant meeting at Lily B on April 28th. What an impressive display of community activism! Support came from all the surrounding neighborhoods plus a few farther out. Many parents with children at the St Paul's Lutheran School spoke up with concerns about air quality. There are 220 students in the school and it falls inside the 440 yard boundary. If nothing else, the installation of the plant has been delayed for 6 months while the TCEQ deliberates on the granting of a contested case hearing.

Maybe Sunmount will decide that the alternate site at Vickery & Main is the best for all concerned.

Thank you for understanding my resignation and I hope to see you around the neighborhood soon.

## Concrete Batch Plant Status

By Tom Richey

As most of the neighborhood is aware, a request made by Sunmount Corp. to the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) for a permit so that they may build a concrete batch plant, has raised concern. The plant is earmarked for Vickery just to the East of Forest Park, in close proximity to Mistletoe Heights. Upon learning of the plans and trying to determine how to question it, we learned that the city was unaware of this request as well. The more we looked into it, the more we discovered the fact that nobody knew it was planned, nor did anyone have access to any impact that it may bring. This resulted in a public meeting held last January, which was disturbing as we learned how badly the cards are stacked against residents.

Since that meeting, Mistletoe Heights, Berkeley and Park Hill have been working together along with our city council representative, Wendy Davis, to try and find a solution. The problem is the placement of the batch plant relative to our neighborhoods. The particulate matter released by the plant, the added traffic and noise all will have a negative impact on the residents of this immediate area. We all know that traffic along Forest Park, through the Rosedale intersection gets congested during the busy hours; adding forty cement truck deliveries per day will hardly cause an improvement to that congestion. TCEQ has determined that anyone within a 440 yard radius of the plant can ask for a contested hearing due to the particulate matter that they will be exposed to; however, they have not (or will not) told us what has determined that a 440-yard radius defines the "danger zone." They have not (or will not) told us what particulate matter is released into the air except in the broadest terms. They have not (or will not) told us what the current air model of this area looks like. They have not (or will not) told us what the projected air model for



An view of a typical concrete batch plant.

(Continued on page 2)

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(continued from previous page)

this area looks like. They are on record as saying that no monitoring will be done on site. As a result, we have written requesting contested case hearings, both as a neighborhood requesting for West Rosedale South, as well as individuals asking based on the hazards of particulate matter distribution. We have identified, with the help of the city, several sites that would not infringe upon neighborhoods, where batch plants have previously operated. We are investigating the Federal requirements governing environmental quality in and about Historic Districts. We are finding that new legislation being proposed in this current session will reduce citizen involvement to the point of exclusion, and looking at how this will impact neighborhoods in the future. We are concerned about the quality of our neighborhood environment and the safety of the residents who use the streets and roads.

Three important directions have risen from what we have learned. The first is that there must be a mechanism in place whereby cities and residents are informed when TCEQ permits are requested. The current methodology is a notice buried in the back pages of a local newspaper. If nobody happens to see it, too bad for the people it affects. The second is that air quality is important to people and they have the right to discuss and oppose, if necessary, conditions that will affect their well-being. Stripping the rights of the public to voice their concerns does not serve the public interest. The third and most pressing is that the batch plant required for completion of the Rosedale project must be placed in a location where it serves its purpose, but does no harm.

A second public meeting was scheduled for April 28th. By the time people are reading this, that meeting will have come and gone. Let us hope that the bureaucratic nightmare that is TCEQ will have allowed for reasonable discussion at that meeting. Let us also hope that Sunmount Corp. will choose to quarter this batch plant in a location where neighborhoods will not suffer.

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### NEW POLICE OFFICER NAMED FOR NEIGHBORHOOD

Effective May 1st, our long-time officer Jamie Johnson has accepted a transfer to a teaching position at the police academy. He will no longer be the Neighborhood Police Officer for Mistletoe Heights west of Forest Park Blvd. His replacement is Neal Carrell, an excellent officer who has conveniently been the day shift beat officer in the area for several years, so he is already familiar with Mistletoe and many of the regular concerns. "I have enjoyed my run," says officer Jamie, "and will maintain my love for the neighborhood and visit as frequently as I can. Thanks for everything."



# Concrete Batch Plant Meeting

## 28 April 05

A public meeting was held Thursday, April 28, 2005 at the request of Rep. Anna Mowery. The purpose of the meeting was to allow discussion and commentary on the proposed batch plant that Sunmount Corp. has requested a permit for, to be located at West Vickery and Forest Park. Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) is the governing body that issues/rejects permits for this type of facility and chaired the meeting.

A large contingent of citizens attended from Mistletoe Heights, Berkeley, Park Hill, University Place and Sunset Terrace, as well as parents whose children attend St. Paul's Lutheran School. The meeting opened with remarks by Rep. Anna Mowery's representative, Peggy Thomas; followed by Rep. Lon Burnam's staff member, Mary Edwards. One important point brought up by Peggy Thomas was HB 1880, introduced by Rep. Mowery, which would force TCEQ to notify local elected officials of permit requests. Currently, the only action they have to take is to place a small ad in the back of a local newspaper. Wendy Davis followed with comments regarding alternative sites, the possibility of invoking Section 106 of the Federal Historic Preservation Act (this is currently being investigated by staff members and Neighborhood Association members), and the need for citizens to contact their Texas legislature regarding proposed bills SB1542 and HB2758. These bills would further limit the ability of citizens to protest facilities such as batch plants by removing the right to contested hearings.

The meeting was similar to the January meeting in that it was divided into two sections: the first being Q&A and completely off the record; the second half being a formal on the record session, with response from TCEQ required for every statement. The first segment did not take very long with only a few people asking for clarifications and explanations. The second part was quite lengthy with many residents of local neighborhoods requesting that the plant not be installed at this location and giving rationale as to why. Many excellent points were brought up and should be given due consideration by

TCEQ. Many additional requests were made for contested case hearings, including several from parents of children who attend St. Paul's Lutheran School. This school is located less than 440 yards from the proposed plant and is directly in the path of the prevailing Southwesterly breeze. Children attending that school would be subject to the continual emissions of the plant. There are currently ten requests for contested hearing from people within the 440-yard "buffer zone" within Mistletoe Heights, a good many from residents outside of the zone and one from the Neighborhood Association in the name of all residents within the zone. In addition, adjacent neighborhoods have also filed for contested hearings. Grants to requests or rejections will not be available from TCEQ for approximately eight to ten months. Response to formalized statements (from this meeting's second half), will not be made for six to eight months. The plant will not be granted a permit until each of those items is complete, as a minimum.



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## Treasurer's Report: April 2005 Cash Flow

By Alex Blanton

INCOME .....	March Statement
Advertising .....	\$905.00
Dues .....	\$0.00
Interest .....	\$1.04
Special Advertising .....	\$0.00
T-Shirts .....	\$0.00
Totals .....	\$906.04

EXPENSES .....	February
Decorations .....	(\$35.00)
Improvements .....	\$0.00
Landscaping .....	\$0.00
Newsletter .....	(\$449.24)
Office .....	(\$472.57)
Donations .....	\$0.00
Social .....	\$0.00
Welcome Baskets .....	\$0.00
Water .....	(\$54.75)
Totals .....	(\$976.56)

NET CASH FLOW ..... (\$70.52)

NET ASSETS ..... \$8,608.47

### APPROVED ALLOCATIONS

\$5,000 for the MHA Guidebook, which is in its final stages of completion. This was brought to my attention this month as a project that was approved, but we have not spent the money as of yet. Summary:

An update on dues. All dues notices have been sent and a big thanks to all that have responded. I have not cashed the checks yet, but I will be doing that this month. I am going to collect all comments turned in with dues and summarize for a future newsletter. All responses will be kept confidential. Although I don't have actual numbers, I can tell already that we have had a strong response on dues.

**GREAT JOB!**

See you around the neighborhood,

Alex Blanton

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## Yard of the Month: 2232 W. Rosedale

by Becka Elbert, DeDe Barth & Celia Jones




The May yard of the month is a must see! One first notices the vibrant burst of spring colors from roses, columbine, petunias, lambs ear, dusty miller, gerber daisies and more. The feeling of being in an English country garden is artistically created with rocks forming beds all the way down the slope of the yard. The hanging birdhouses, bird feeders and ornamental decorations also accent the serene country feel. Notice the wooden arbor leading to the backyard. The beautiful porch, with the potted and hanging plants creates the perfect setting for your morning coffee or afternoon tea. See you next month.


Happy Planting!

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**Thanks to you, the Newby Park Pavilion is on its way to becoming a reality.**

We are happy to say that Elizabeth Anna’s Old World Garden has completed a landscaping design plan for Newby Park. It was presented at our last committee meeting, and everyone was pleased with the design. We now are submitting the plan to the City Park Department for their approval. They may be able to provide some “in house” help for us regarding materials and plants. John Key has been actively soliciting larger donations from individuals and corporations, and our goal in this area is \$10,000. When this amount is pledged, we can start construction. We are still taking orders for engraved bricks, but this will cease when construction starts.

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- Wyatt & Joy Teague (2)
- Jeff & Dru Davis (2)
- James & Tommie Jo Huling (2)
- Steve & Kathy McRenolds (1)
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## Gardening with Patsy Slocum

It seems that all yards in our area are filled with WEEDS of all kinds, and there is an abundance of what I call "Dollar Weeds." A lot of weeds one can pull or dig out, but these are abundant, tiny, and have little roots that spread underground. I am using a brand name of weed and feed this year, although I hate to use these types as they do affect the environment. Your lawn needs to be watered well the day before (not much rain lately), and then sprinkle the lawn with water before applying the fertilizer. Do not water for a few days so it will have time to do its job.

We did have a wet year last season, and we cannot count on being so lucky this year. Flower beds need to be mulched so that the soil can retain the moisture. At the water rate this year, we need to conserve our use especially since it affects our pocketbooks. I like to use the bagged landscaper's mix that one can find at a nursery or outlet like Home Depot or Lowe's. It makes the beds attractive as well as serving as a mulch. It is wise to put out your bedding plants and then spread the mulch around. In the vegetable garden, we use hay or straw from bales we have salvaged from Halloween use. We spread that about 4-6 inches deep around the various plants.

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# Teddy and Ben Cunningham

The brothers Cunningham may have the only backyard in Mistletoe Heights with a half pipe.

This particular half pipe is made up of two quarter pipes and a ramp. In December 2003, Ben got his first real deck and now he can ollie down four steps. But his favorite trick is board sliding, along a metal rail or, if need be, the wobbly wooden landscape border next to the driveway.

Teddy has completed a two-step ollie. He's not quite as into it as Ben. Ben dreams of riding the half-pipe professionally, like Tony Hawk.

You know: that Tony. Skateboarding's first mega-star. The dude of all dudes.

Anyway, Teddy, 12, and Ben, 10, spend a lot of their time polishing their moves. Ben's mom, Cynthia, estimates that Ben is on his board 20 hours a week — at the skateboard park in White Settlement or just around the neighborhood.

"I can do stuff other people can't," Ben says when asked what the attraction is. "It makes me feel special," he adds, patting himself on the back and grinning like the Cheshire cat.

The brothers are easy to tell apart. Teddy is the lanky redhead with a distinct resemblance to Prince Harry. Ben's auburn mop nearly covers his eyes and he just got new rimless glasses.

Teddy's time is divided between viola practice and homework from honors classes at McLean 6<sup>th</sup> Grade Center.

Teddy took up viola in 5<sup>th</sup> grade, at Lily B. Clayton, which offers a program in string instruments. He removes his viola from its case and launches into a piece he's studying in class, "Fiddles on Fire."

"This one here is really hard," he explains. He plays pretty well, telling his audience "Wait" each time he gets stuck.

Teddy recently discovered instant messaging (or IMing), all the rage among teens these days.

IMing is like having a conversation over email, without the delays of normal email. It replaces the traditional phone call.

"It's the same thing, but it doesn't cost you minutes," Ben explains.

Teddy says that IMing is full of acronyms, to speed the dialogue along.

There's TTYL (talk to you later); G2G (got to go); and CYA (see ya).

"It's made my typing a lot more better," says Teddy.

But not his grammar, teases Ben.

Ben, sitting on the other end of the couch from Teddy, is in 4<sup>th</sup> grade at Lily B. His science class, which he particularly enjoys, had that day learned about how metal conducts electricity. "We had a battery and a motor that spins and a little flaggy thing that spins..."

Teddy interjects a

comment, but Ben will have none of it.

"Ted, you were interviewed already," he reminds him.

The sofa pillows begin to fly.

This summer Teddy and Ben will both return to camp in North Carolina, this time for four weeks. Their babysitter — actually, they refer to him as "our ride" — is a counselor there.

"The main thing I like to do there is mountain biking," says Ben.

He was awarded Best Wipeout last summer.

At least it wasn't on the half pipe.



The brothers are easy to tell apart. Teddy is the lanky redhead with a distinct resemblance to Prince Harry.

Ben's auburn mop nearly covers his eyes and he just got new rimless glasses.

By Liz Stevens

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**Dreaming of a lush and Texas-tough landscape?** Wanting to relax and unwind enjoying the flight of butterflies and hummingbirds? Seeking the aromatherapy of a night-blooming garden? Contact Alexia Strout-Dapaz at either (817) 921-4820 or at [astroutdapaz@yahoo.com](mailto:astroutdapaz@yahoo.com)

**Early Childhood Music: Mistletoe Musikgarten** Classes in SW Fort Worth and Hurst. With 8 years of experience, certifications in early childhood music, and a UNT music degree, I enjoy teaching children and families from birth to age 9. Call or e-mail for info about summer or fall classes. Carol Spencer at 817.927.3241 or [spenway@earthlink.net](mailto:spenway@earthlink.net).

**Housekeeper** Our housekeeper is seeking additional MH clients. Currently, she works at three other houses on our block and at several other MH addresses. Dependable, flexible, reliable and thorough. Interested in both short-term and long-term clients. Contact Alexia at [astroutdapaz@yahoo.com](mailto:astroutdapaz@yahoo.com) to request her contact information.

**Babysitter Available** Eighth grade honors student looking for babysitting opportunities to raise money for a class trip to Quebec. If interested call Jenny at 817-727-3285

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**Mary Kay Cosmetics** Paula Cady Russell at 2201 Mistletoe Blvd. is a Mary Kay consultant. Call her at 921-6377 for a free makeover, gift service or if you've "lost" your consultant.

**No Time for your yard?** Give me a call! I'm your Mistletoe Heights neighbor and I can offer you competitive pricing and plenty of references. Call Daniel Tice at 817-921-4651 or cell 817-707-1581.

**How to Get the Most Out of Your Estate Sale.** We are Vintage Sales, recognized in North Texas as being trusted, versatile and knowledgeable. Our experienced staff will handle every detail and help you get the most out of your estate sale. Phone Anne Bourland at 924-5959 for a consultation or email her at [apbourland@aol.com](mailto:apbourland@aol.com) to receive notices of upcoming events.

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**Housekeeper** Our housekeeper seeks additional babysitting, elderly care or housecleaning in the Mistletoe Heights area. She is dependable, and honest. I highly recommend her and she has additional references. Contact me at [abbies@mail.com](mailto:abbies@mail.com) or 817-922-0780

**Avon** Edward Alvarez is YOUR local Neighborhood Avon Sales Rep. that would like to meet with any interested Mistletoe Heights friends, in your home or mine, that have any interests or questions about the current line of AVON products (including Skin-so-soft Bug Guard). Please contact Ed at 817-926-0908

**Lost and Found** At the March 22 Potluck Supper, black plastic serving utensils, two black markers, and leftover labels were left behind. They can be returned on my porch at 2341 Harrison. Thank you.

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 ([twoearsup@charter.net](mailto:twoearsup@charter.net) or 817-921-2120) if you would like to renew, discontinue or update your ad.

## Show yourself off this summer.



This summer take time for yourself with 30-minute fitness and sensible weight loss at Curves. Right now if you join Curves you can split the service fee with any friend. Over 4 million women have found success at Curves. You can too.

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## 2 for 1

\*split service fee with friend

Or take 50% off the service fee.

\*Offer based on five visit commitment, minimum 12 mos. cad. program. Not valid with any other offer. Valid only at participating locations through 7/15/05.

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functional art gallery

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## Helpful Phone Numbers, Emails Addresses and Websites

	Phone	Email	Website
<b>City Code Violations</b>	<b>392-1234</b>		
<b>City of Fort Worth</b>	<b>392-2255</b>		<b>www.fortworthgov.org</b>
<b>Police - Non-Emergency</b>	<b>335-4222</b>		
<b>Garage Sale Permits</b>	<b>392-7851</b>		
<b>Graffiti Abatement</b>	<b>212-2700</b>		
<b>Lily B. Clayton Elementary</b>	<b>922-6660</b>		<b>it.ftworth.isd.tenet.edu/116/</b>
<b>Paschal High School</b>	<b>922-6600</b>		
<b>Historical Preservation (Julie Laeless)</b>	<b>392-8012</b>	<b>julie.lawless@fortworthgov.org</b>	
<b>Southside Preservation Hall</b>	<b>926-2800</b>	<b>HallTess@earthlink.net</b>	<b>www.southsidepreservation.com</b>
<b>The T/Longhorn Trolley</b>	<b>215-8600</b>		<b>www.the-t.com</b>
<b>Trinity Railway Express</b>	<b>215-8600</b>		<b>www.trinityrailwayexpress.org</b>
<b>Wendy Davis - City Council District 9</b>	<b>392-8809</b>	<b>district9@fortworthgov.org</b>	<b>ci.fort-worth.tx.us</b>

MHA Officers	Street Reps (listed by blocks)		Publishing Information
<b>President</b>	<b>2200 W. Rosedale South</b>	<b>2100 Edwin</b>	 <p><b>EDITORIAL POLICY</b></p> <p>Articles and letters to the Editor are welcomed. To be published as written, letters must be addressed to the Editor, signed and include a phone number. Anonymous letters will not be published. Articles may be submitted for publication, signed or unsigned, subject to approval and editing by the Editor. Letters to the Editor are limited to a half page (approximately 350 words). Please submit to <a href="mailto:twoearsup@charter.net">twoearsup@charter.net</a> or 1114 Buck Avenue. <b>The deadline is the 20th of each month.</b></p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;"><b>ADVERTISING INFORMATION</b></p> <p>To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please call Nancy Brown at 923-7146. Ad rates are: business card size \$15, 1/4 page \$30, 1/3 page \$45, half page \$55, full page \$100, and pre-printed 8 1/2 x 11 insert flyers \$50. <b>The deadline is the 20th of each month.</b></p>
Gaye Reed 921-0009	Carrie Johnson 926-9776	Lynn Herrera 926-9991	
<b>Vice-President</b>	<b>2300 W. Rosedale South</b>	<b>2200 Edwin</b>	
Tom Richey 923-7352	Kimberly Helixon 927-4641	Wyatt Teague 923-2330	
<b>Secretary</b>	<b>2200 Irwin</b>	<b>2300 Edwin</b>	
The Peiperts 926-4117	Gary Willis 924-4000	Tom Richey 923-7352	
<b>Treasurer</b>	<b>2300 Irwin</b>	<b>2100 Weatherbee</b>	
Alex Blanton 926-1792	Ingrid/Steve Kelly 921-0768	Judy Gude 926-8843	
<b>Newsletter Editor</b>	<b>2100/2200 Mistletoe Blvd.</b>	<b>2200 Weatherbee</b>	
Sevan Melikyan 921-2120	Gil DeHoyos 926-6409	Susan Harwell 923-8806	
<b>Street Rep Captains</b>	<b>2300/2400 Mistletoe Blvd.</b>	<b>1100 Clara</b>	
Pat Hale (East) 924-5263	Lisa Stewart 924-9666	Jack and Lorri Kendrick 924-2800	
Gaye Reed (West) 921-0009	<b>2100/2200 West Magnolia</b>	<b>1200 Clara</b>	
<b>Welcome Baskets</b>	Sherry Choate 923-7335	Betty Arvin 924-7088	
Joy Teague 923-2330	<b>2300 West Magnolia</b>	<b>1100 Buck</b>	
<b>Advertising Manager</b>	Susan Pressley 923-6061	Janet Gallagher 921-9027	
Nancy Brown 923-7146	<b>2100 Harrison</b>	<b>1200/1300 Buck</b>	
<b>Newby Park</b>	Elizabeth Sims 926-3548	Simone Scott 924-3838	
Patsy Slocum 923-5510	<b>2200 Harrison &amp; Jerome</b>	<b>2100 Morphy</b>	
<b>City Liaison</b>	Scott Doty 924-2644	Debra Tice 921-4651	
Vacant	<b>2300/2400 Harrison</b>	<b>1100 Mistletoe Dr.</b>	
<b>Historian</b>	Faye Dowdle 926-7571	Kim Musgrove 923-6785	
Wyatt Teague 923-2330	<b>2100 Mistletoe Ave.</b>	<b>1200 ñ 1500 Mistletoe Dr.</b>	
<b>Yard of the Month</b>	Neataw Engels 927-2468	Rochelle Graham 927-2967	
De De Barth 922-8966	<b>2200 Mistletoe Ave.</b>	<b>2300 Mistletoe Dr.</b>	
Becka Elbert 923-8320	Richard/Christi Yantis 924-2857	Sandy Tarpley 924-9215	
Celia Jones 924-1191	<b>2300 Mistletoe Ave.</b>	<b>Forest Park Blvd.</b>	
	Kathleen Walker 926-9095	Steve McReynolds 926-7955	
<b>MHA YEARLY DUES</b>			
Dues are \$5, \$10, \$25 or more. Your dues help to defer the cost of this newsletter, the Mistletoe Heights phone directory and many other neighborhood functions. Dues are accepted by Alex Blanton (call for address - 926-1792).	<b>Neighborhood Police Officer East of Forest Park</b>	<b>Neighborhood Police Officer West of Forest Park</b>	
	Officer D. B. Briggs	Officer Neal Carrell	
	Office 871-8948	Mobile 994-3409	
	Mobile 991-8473	Pager 998-0478	
	Email: BriggsD@ci.fort-worth.tx.us	Email: Larry.Carrell@fortworthgov.org	

2217 8<sup>TH</sup> AVE.



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