



The Mistletoe Express

A Publication of Historic Mistletoe Heights

www.mistletoeheights.com

March 2006



Jim Bradbury

Letter from the president

Every now and then, you find yourself standing at an event and out of nowhere everything makes sense. This may happen to many of you on a daily basis, but for me it's a rare occurrence.

I had one of these moments this week when time just stood still. As you can read in Jim Peipert's story, John and Shirley Johnson were recently honored for their contributions to our neighborhood.

All of their children and grandchildren returned for the event. Because of the rain (which had almost been forgotten), the celebration convened in the Johnsons' former home on Mistletoe Avenue — now the home of Jeff and Rose Lynn.

As their old friends walked through the door, you could just see the thoughts of the Johnson family return to the many days, nights and years that they had spent here in the neighborhood — Shirley's recollections with the group about saving the Triangle park, selling plants to save Lily B. Clayton Elementary and fighting an idea to connect Colonial Parkway with Mistletoe Boulevard by building a road right up the hill.

As I listened, I began to see how this neighborhood has evolved. Yes, that was a long time ago. But things have changed very little around here. We are still close neighbors and friends. We play at that Triangle and still love Lily B. And just like

(Continued on page 4)

A little-known history of Mistletoe Heights garages, and an urban myth punctured

By Martin Herring

Back in the late teens and 1920s, when most of the vintage homes in Mistletoe Heights were new, many had detached garages situated where the rear property lines converge to form the corner of the lot.

You probably wouldn't be able to construct a garage in such a place today because building restrictions dictate a five-foot setback from the rear and side property lines.



Many vintage Mistletoe Heights garages contain small bathrooms and bedrooms.

Model T Fords were the vehicle of choice back then, when nine out of 10 cars were Fords. By the 1920s, the price of a Model T was \$300, or about \$3,400 in 2006 inflation-adjusted dollars. But I digress. This article is about our old garages.

If you're fortunate enough to have an original garage on your property, you're probably aware that it wouldn't pass a building inspection if such construction were used now. More often than not, these structures were more like sheds for cars than what we now know as modern garages. But some, obviously, were built better than others.

(Continued on page 4)



City liaison report
By Mike Windsor

The alley abandonment program is still in effect.

The city has advised me that the alleys east of Forest Park Boulevard between Irwin and Rosedale streets, and between

Irwin and Mistletoe Boulevard, are not subject to abandonment.

The alley between Mistletoe Avenue and Edwin Street is a candidate for abandonment, and the city has put it on the list for further action. The city is looking into the alley between West Magnolia and Harrison avenues.

As the weather gets warmer, remember that the city has a schedule for the pickup of bulky trash. Bulky items need to be placed at the curb no later than 7 a.m. on the third Monday of each month.

If you have household chemicals or unneeded paint, you can take those items to the city's Environmental Collection Center at 6400 Bridge St. in Fort Worth (just northwest of the intersection of Interstate 30 and East Loop 820). The center is open from 11 a.m. Thursdays and Fridays, and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays.

The city has a mobile chemical pickup van that travels to different areas of the city on Saturday mornings, but the mobile pickup schedule will not be available until March.

For gardeners, the city maintains a compost exhibit in the Botanic Garden. Go into the main "clock" entrance, turn left, and proceed about 100 yards to see the exhibit.

When available, the city provides free wood-chip mulch and screened composted mulch at the parking lot at Rolling Hills Park (between the soccer fields and Rolling Hills Tree Farm) at 2525 Joe B. Rushing Road. Bring sturdy bags or other containers, shovels and work gloves. (You do the work.)

The city provides information, classes, and services at the city's Web site: www.fortworthgov.org.

If you have any questions or concerns, contact me at: (817) 377-0060 (work) or (817) 927-8944 (home), or at mwindsor@charter.net.

TREASURER'S REPORT

As of Jan. 31, our balance was \$8,734.12.

Approved expenditures include \$5,000 for the neighborhood guide book project and \$4,000 for improvement of the neighborhood entrance.

With potential advertising monies and upcoming annual dues, our balance should continue to improve over the next few months. No additional projects have been approved.

I'm looking forward to serving as your treasurer. See you in the neighborhood.

— Leslie Houston

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LONGTIME RESIDENTS HONORED FOR CONTRIBUTIONS TO MISTLETOE HEIGHTS

Neighborhood activist Shirley Johnson credited with saving Triangle park for many more generations

By Jim Peipert

If not for the sharp eye of Helen Martin's mother, a phone call from Irene Stemple and a "temper tantrum" by Shirley Johnson, the Triangle might never have become a park and the focal point of Mistletoe Heights.

This tale of neighborhood activism more than three decades ago, when Mistletoe Heights was in a state of decline, unfolded Feb. 24 at a gathering to celebrate the contributions of longtime residents Shirley Johnson and her husband, Dr. John E. Johnson.

A pelting rain prevented the gathering from being held at the Triangle, the swath of grass bound by Mistletoe Drive and Buck and Harrison avenues, where a pink granite marker had been laid at the southern corner to honor the Johnsons.

So it was moved indoors to the home of Jeff Gibbons and Rose Lynn Scott, just steps away from the park at 2340 Mistletoe Avenue, where the Johnsons had lived from 1969 to 2002, before they moved to Trinity Terrace.

Rose Lynn served up hot cocoa and cookies as City Councilwoman Wendy Davis, who holds the District 9 council seat held by Shirley Johnson from 1977 to 1979, and other neighbors told of what the Johnsons had done for the neighborhood and the city over the years.

Besides serving on the City Council, Shirley Johnson was active with the League of Women Voters

and, along with other neighbors, spearheaded a campaign to save Lily B. Clayton Elementary School at a time when enrollment had dropped and the school district was planning its closure.



Dycus, but

John Johnson was a long-serving physician at the Fort Worth Clinic and a medical ethicist at Harris Methodist Fort Worth before retiring in 1997.

One of the Johnsons' daughters, Susan Dycus, recalled that her mother was able to be a "professional citizen" – as she was dubbed by the media — "because of the unqualified support of her husband, not just as breadwinner, but also as her partner in political values and actions."

Irene Stemple recalled the day in the mid-1970s – John Johnson said it must have been in 1974 or 1975 – when neighbors discovered that the city-owned Triangle was to be put up for sale as surplus property.

Helen Martin, who lives with her husband, Bill, at 2300 Edwin, recalled that her mother read of the planned sale, buried in the lists of public notices published regularly in the *Star-Telegram*.

The Martins put out the word to concerned neighbors, and Irene Stemple, whose home at 2408 Harrison faces the Triangle, knew who could do something to stop the sale. She called Shirley Johnson, known throughout the city for her feisty advocacy of community causes. Shirley marched down to the Parks Board that same day and "threw a temper tantrum," as she recalled.

The Triangle property wasn't even on the agenda, recalled Susan Dycus, but she persuaded the board to listen. "By the time she was through," Dycus said, "the board agreed that the Triangle should remain open space."

The rest is neighborhood history. The Triangle park is now the focus of Mistletoe Heights – a place for quiet repose on one of the benches, a grassy spot for dads and kids to toss a football and the venue for the annual Fourth of July parades.

Among those who played on the Triangle as kids were the Johnsons' six

(Continued on page 6)

(President's Letter - Continued from page 1)

the proposed road that John and Shirley opposed, we have the batch plant, the berm and Texas 121. What has endured are the kind people who live here.

Please, if you haven't done so, go down to the Triangle and look at the new stone marker for the Johnsons. Special thanks to Wendy Davis for directing the assistance of the city in installing the marker and a huge thank-you to Kathleen Walker, who single-handedly collected plants and made the surrounding area perfect.

The annual potluck dinner was again a huge success. Food is clearly a strong draw for residents of this neighborhood. The food was very good and eating a meal together has a way of opening people up. I had to draw the line for a few people making their fifth trip through the line (my boys).

The main portion of the meeting was devoted to a presentation by Streams & Valleys on the plans for the Trinity River and the trails in connection with the Texas 121 project.

The presentation covered the overall plan up and down the Trinity but dealt with our area in particular detail. The plans are preliminary at this point and Streams & Valleys is seeking resident input. If you're interested in learning more or participating, please get in touch with me or directly with Streams & Valleys.

There was a brief update on the effort to stop the batch plant and an announcement that the annual Easter Egg Hunt is planned once again. Wyatt Teague is heading this up, but he needs a couple of other sets of hands to make it all work. If you can help Wyatt, please give him a call at (817) 923-2330.

I hope that the Feb. 24-25 rain will signal an end to this long drought and move us quickly into spring. Hopefully, this will end the bitter winter of 85-degree days to which we've been subjected.

(Garage - Continued from page 1)

Many of our vintage garages contain small bathrooms and bedrooms, or at least remnants of what were small bathrooms and bedrooms. That's because many of our garage buildings did double duty, with a servant's room or cook's house attached to a one-car bay.

Let's reflect for a moment on what living conditions must have been like for the domestic help who lived there. The first question I ask myself is: Where would the rest of that person's family live? Not within such a tiny space!

Some might say that it's not fair to look back on the past with the sensibilities of today. But perhaps it is. What a dismal existence that must have been.

Although back then, having gainful employment, three meals a day and a sheltering roof (no matter how humble the conditions) may have made life tolerable. We all know those time were far from being "the good old days" for everyone.

By the time World War II rolled around and the bomber plant was in full tilt, the demand for inexpensive housing in Fort Worth was tremendous.

In anticipation of America's entry into the war, the Fort Worth City Council had bought 526 acres in 1941 from Genevieve Tillar for \$99,750 and deeded it to the Army as a site for Consolidated Aircraft Corp. to build four-engine bombers.

Workers from all over the country flocked to Fort Worth to build B-24 Liberators. By 1944, employment at the plant reached a wartime peak of 32,000.

To help meet the demand for housing, many neighborhood garages were turned into rental units. Some have remained garage apartments and are quietly rented out today. Others have become guest quarters, and still others have been reworked and expanded to become the modern American two-car standard.

If you're thinking of rebuilding your garage and want to rebuild on the same site (at the property line), you can — legally.

Rumor has had it you must disassemble one wall at a time and rebuild each wall as you go along, or you would lose your right to build at the original lot-line location. But that turns out to be an urban myth, said Julie Lawless, our liaison to Fort Worth's Historic and Cultural Landmarks Commission.

If you tear down your old garage, you can rebuild at the property line, but you must get a variance from the Board of Adjustment.

"It's a cakewalk to get variances, so that's what most people opt to do," Lawless said. "As for rebuilding one wall at a time, yes, technically, you could try, but it's likely the building official would catch you by wall No. 3 and make you get the variance anyway."

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Instant gratification in an old house

By Heather White

Restoration is certainly gratifying, but in my experience, there's nothing instant about it — and I imagine your experience is no different.

With new panelization technology, a McMansion can be built in a few days. But when you're working with an 80- or 90-year-old house that's seen so many things you've only heard about, it's only appropriate to take your time and get to know the house and what's right for it.

Nearly five years in, I'm just beginning to see parts of my vision for my house come to fruition.

When I bought the house, I made a pact with myself that I'd have a whole new level of patience — and have I ever needed it! Like when I was having my red-heart-pine floors refinished, and we found the huge plywood patch the previous owners had failed to disclose under the carpet in my bedroom.

Sometimes you really do need a bit of instant gratification, and I've found that the best thing to do at those moments is head to the kitchen and, instead of restoring it (a great idea, but hardly instant), bake some chocolate chip cookies!

As requested, this is the recipe for the cookies I baked for our neighborhood potluck supper on Feb. 21. Not only are these cookies delicious, they're also good for you — whole grains, dark chocolate with all those anti-oxidants, pecans with a better ratio of omega 3 to 6 fatty acids than walnuts, no refined sugar, and as many natural and organic ingredients as you care to buy.

Note: All ingredients are available at Central Market or Albertsons. If you're wondering which ones really make a big difference, I'd say the vanilla, flour and chocolate are most important. I get my vanilla at Williams-Sonoma, which also carries a ¾-cup measure. Having to pack brown sugar only once for this recipe alone makes having that measuring cup worthwhile!

Heather's Gourmet Toll House Cookies

2 sticks Organic Valley salted butter
1 scant tablespoon of salt
1 generous tablespoon of Nielson-Massey Madagascar Bourbon vanilla
¾ cup of organic evaporated cane syrup sugar
¾ generous cup of organic brown sugar, firmly packed
2 eggs
2 ¼ c unsifted 50/50 flour (half white, half whole wheat)

¾ tablespoon of baking soda, dissolved in 1 tablespoon of hot water (the original Toll House method)

11 ounces of fresh pecan halves, broken into large pieces by hand (not cut)

1 package of Ghirardelli bittersweet (60%) chocolate chips

Using your electric mixer, cream the softened butter (but not too long to avoid a poofy cookie). Add the salt, vanilla and sugars, and cream until mixed well, but not too long. Add the flour 1/3 at a time and mix only until incorporated. Add the dissolved baking soda, and mix; add the pecan pieces and chips and mix, finishing by hand if necessary.

If you like a fluffy cookie (the Toll House cookies of my childhood were not), cream the butter longer in both creaming steps, up the baking soda to 1 tablespoon, and add it earlier.

Drop from a spoon onto baking sheets (I use Calphalon professional nonstick jelly roll pans), and bake 10 minutes at 375 degrees until golden brown and not moist on top.

Enjoy!



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(Plaque - continued from page 5)

children – three daughters and three sons. All of them attended the gathering to honor their parents and a celebration of the Johnsons' 60th wedding anniversary.

Besides Dycus, who lives in an RV in Englewood, Colo., and spends time in Fort Worth and Missouri, the other daughters who attended were Meredith Donaldson of Columbia, Mo., and Anna Kay Johnson of Louisville, Colo.

The sons are Dr. Jeb Johnson, a physician in Port Lavaca; Michael Johnson of Fort Worth; and Fort Worth police officer Jamie Johnson, formerly an NPO for Mistletoe Heights.

Doreen van Rijssel, who lived with the Johnson family as a foreign exchange student in the 1970s, and her daughter Sabine came from the Netherlands for the festivities.

Jim Bradbury, president of the Mistletoe Heights Association, noted that — like the Johnson siblings — his sons also play at the park on many a sunny day and that he and his wife, Elizabeth, credit the Johnsons for their move to the neighborhood in 2003.

When the Johnsons sold their house at 2340 Mistletoe Ave. to Jeff Gibbons and Rose Lynn Scott, they had a very short move – just across the street from the home they had owned at 2337 Mistletoe Ave. They sold that house to the Bradburys.

Jim Bradbury read at the gathering a statement on behalf of the neighborhood association in honor of the Johnsons' contributions to Mistletoe Heights.

“This neighborhood is recognized for its unique and historic homes. No two are alike. The houses are merely symbolic, however, of the people who live in them,” Bradbury said.

“What made this neighborhood are unique and historic people, not bricks and lumber. Today we are fortunate to recognize two very important leaders of this neighborhood. What we are here to commemorate are the hours, the days and the enduring leadership that the Johnsons gave all of us. We are what we are because of you.”

Bradbury noted, as Shirley Johnson and her daughters stifled tears, that it's fitting that the marker honoring the Johnsons is “at the point of the Triangle park you saved.”

From there, he said, “you can see all the footsteps over many years. This is where we meet, we talk and our children play. Now as more children come, there is a permanent mark of what you gave us.”

(Continued on next page)

Chiseled into the granite are these words:

“In honor of Shirley and John E. Johnson, longtime Mistletoe Heights residents, activists and concerned citizens who believe that a community group of people can indeed make a difference in their neighborhood, their community and the world.

“Among their many accomplishments, they saved the Mistletoe Heights Triangle from being sold as surplus property so it would continue to be available as open space for us all.

“This plaque is laid on the occasion of their 60th wedding anniversary 2/23/2006.”

Kathleen Walker, who lives at 2344 Mistletoe Ave., dressed up the marker by adding a frame of bricks from her back yard and plants donated by the Botanic Garden. She had been using an electric sander on the bench beside the marker when the storm rolled in.

The bench still needs some sanding, and that corner of the park could use a few more plants, perhaps some “fountain grass or low mahonia,” Kathleen suggested.

So, in the spirit of the Johnsons, pitch in and lend a hand to help keep the Triangle as a neighborhood gathering place for many more generations in Mistletoe Heights.

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Happy Easter



Mistletoe Heights Annual Easter Egg Hunt

Saturday, April 15

Newby Park at 10 a.m.

Per-child contribution: 2 dozen plastic eggs filled with age-appropriate candy (or small toys). Put age, name and telephone number on the bag and deliver to 2200 Edwin St. by Thursday, April 13, to RSVP for your child.

Mistletoe Heights will provide coffee, juice and doughnuts.

For further information call:

Amy Burns at (817) 441-9647 or

Joy Teague at (817) 923-2330

Bring Easter basket!

Bring camera for Easter Bunny snapshots!

If it rains, the Easter Egg Hunt will be rescheduled for 2 p.m. If it is still raining then, the hunt will be cancelled and you can pick up your eggs at 2200 Edwin.

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Mistletoe Heights History

By Wyatt Teague

Cynthia Ann Sisk was the owner of 1 ½ square miles of prime real estate. There are several avenues of research that I have to check out to find the answers to many of the questions I have in mind.

Looking at a map of some of the real estate transfers at about that time, these questions arise:

Where did the name “Sangamo Park” come from? I’ve found that a party named “Buck” once owned that piece of today’s Mistletoe Heights. And from what I’ve learned so far, it was transferred to a party named “Post.”

Some of the names that I have to tie into the history are: J.M. Small, Cresswell, Chambers, A.J. Chamden, Darters and Harvey C. Lowrie.

Who set up the “Frisco Addition”? Who established the “Forest Park Place” subdivision? There are two filings for “Forest Park Place.”

Who furnished the property for the construction of Lily B. Clayton Elementary School? When and how did Newby Park become a park?

I know that what I’ve written here doesn’t provide much insight into the history of our Mistletoe Heights neighborhood. But with some luck and a lot of research, we will bring most of it together as a record.

More anon.

Part four of a series

After Cynthia Ann Burford married Maloney B. Sisk on Oct. 25, 1888, the paper trail of Mistletoe Heights faded and is quite difficult to follow.

It was standard procedure in those early years to mark the corners of a “survey” with any number of things. For example: 1) a pile of rocks, 2) an oak wagon spoke, 3) a “certain” tree, or 4) a nail in a tree or post.

Now, almost all of the early survey monuments are gone. The “abstract of title” to real estate has long since been replaced by “title insurance,” and there’s no paper trail to identify former owners.

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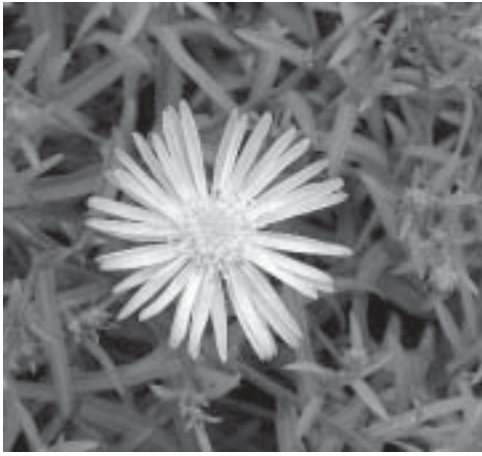
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Gardening with Patsy Slocum



Aster

die with frost. Perennials are genetically programmed to live for years, with their roots developing to support increasing top growth.

Perennials need to be divided when they spread into large clumps and crowd their space.

Day lilies, which do so well in our area, grow rapidly and should be divided every year or so. Other perennials that do well in our area are aster, bee balm, black-eyed Susan, chrysanthemum, coreopsis, hosta, phlox, purple coneflower and Gerber daisy, to name a few.

At a garden center (one may also order by mail), the young plants

This is the time of the year when a visit to a garden center can inspire a gardener to want to get his or her fingers in the soil.

The garden centers have available masses of beautiful blossoms, from annuals to perennials.

Annuals grow in one season only. They sprout from seed in the spring, mature, flower, produce new seed and

may be in flats or packs that hold four or more. Larger, more mature plants will be in individual pots.

Try not to get carried away with buying plants before you've prepared a suitable location for them in your garden. After your flower beds are ready to plant, arrange the container-grown plants in the bed to determine the best placement.

If planting perennials, allow room for the plants to mature and spread. Dig a hole for each plant large enough to more than accommodate the root ball and set in the hole so that the top of the root ball is level with the surrounding soil.

Hold the container upside down and gently tip the plant out of the pot. It may be necessary to tap the bottom of the container to loosen the plant.

Gently shake loose the root ball to make sure that the roots aren't bound too tightly. Set the plant in the hole and pat the soil firmly around it. Slow-release fertilizer (19-6-12) can be added while planting. Add mulch after planting and water in well.

Happy gardening!

ANOTHER BRICK IN THE WALK ...

By Martin Herring

The Friends of Newby Park appreciate all the support from the neighborhood and other parts of the city in making the park pavilion a reality. Financial support came from all over — including the sale of bricks for the walk, corporate donors, city and TIF funding and the wonderful in-kind donations.

Because of increases in the cost of material, the total out-of-pocket cost of the pavilion

exceeded the budget. As a result, some planned amenities, such as picnic tables, benches, and more landscaping, were not purchased.

You can help us finish the job by continuing to purchase engraved bricks. Not only do the bricks convey a timeless personal message, but each purchase goes to improve Newby Park. Buy an engraved brick today! (See form below.)

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E-Chatter

It's been a quite a month for e-mail traffic in Mistletoe Heights. Here are the contributions:

Concerning the batch plant:

Mistletoe residents:

By now, you have either received a letter from TCEQ regarding the batch plant or possibly you read the article in the Star- Telegram Saturday morning. TCEQ staff, as opposed to the actual three commissioners, have recommended that one homeowner receive a contested case hearing on the health effects of the batch plant. As we suspected, the 440-yard line was drawn such that it missed all of the Mistletoe residences. While that is regrettable, we do have the one contested case hearing, which is very important. Both officers of Mistletoe and Berkeley have met with this individual who is committed to going forward with the hearing. Also, the hearing will put more time into the equation for Sunmount. To bring you up to speed, the Berkeley and Mistletoe officers had a meeting with Wendy Davis and city staff to discuss the need for an ordinance or a better way for the city to regulate the process of the batch plants. I am including an e-mail that went out to Berkeley residents that sets forth some good factual information about the batch plant process. You will note that Lon Burnam, Anna Mowery and Kim Brimer have all supported us on this.

Jim Bradbury

From: Debra Nyul

Subject: Saturday's Batch Plant Article & Reason to Be Optimistic

Dear Neighbors

This week saw several positive developments for the concrete batch plant issue. A much needed article in Saturday's Star- Telegram did a great job stating the difficulties to date. But the two TCEQ letters you received this week provided our first hope in months. Here's why. For the first time since this issue began a year ago, TCEQ finally revealed in writing how they are drawing the 440-yard affected zone. My belief is that the law is currently unclear on this point (i.e., whether you draw the circle from the property line or the "baghouse"). Not surprisingly, TCEQ picked the option with the fewest residents. The good news is that the TCEQ director and the independent council are both recommending that the family in the North 440 should get a contested case hearing. (The

commissioners will decide on Feb. 22 whether they agree. Only they can grant a hearing.)

The other good news: state Sen. Brimer, state Rep. Anna Mowery and state Rep. Lon Burnam have all written letters to the TCEQ commissioners requesting that their constituents receive a hearing and day in court.

I was grateful for Saturday's article because it clearly

describes a complex issue: poor positioning of a polluting entity, lack of city say or input, an

environmental agency weighted towards commercial interests, and poor recourse for citizens who find themselves next to a new pollution source.

That we stand at this point is a function of the 172 citizens and legislators who have worked the meager system available. Thank you. We should all pull for Mr. and Mrs. Mendoza on Feb. 22. Case Hearings are rare, rare,

rare.

While we wait to see that outcome, it's time to take action at the city level. Batch plants will be necessary for several major city projects in the pipeline. What our city needs is an

(Continued on next page)

E-Chatter



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I've sold 5 homes in Mistletoe Heights
in the past 6 months!

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EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

(Continued from previous page.)

ordinance that provides City Council and citizens some future control over these construction entities. Officers of Mistletoe and Berkeley have begun discussing possibilities with Wendy Davis, our Council rep. If you have expertise in the area of city law, please call or e-mail me. Again we are looking for a solution that requires a company to work with our elected city representatives and officials so that optimum sites are used — intelligent development maximizing optimum sites..

NB: To date, the ideal batch plant site (used for the Mix Master) has been vacant for a year. We are making a difference. Thank you for your efforts. Please feel free to call with questions or ideas.

Debra Nyul

Scammers in Mistletoe: Saturday, 6:50 p.m., Feb.11

A strange, suspicious-looking woman just rang my bell. I didn't open the door. Through the door she attempted to tell me her sad story about running away from her husband. Her car was running, with the emergency lights on, at the curb. I just shook my head and went away. She drove off. It was dark and I couldn't see the make and model of car.

Betsy Horn

The Muhammed family has returned.

They departed Fort Worth on Oct. 30 to enroll the 12-year-old (Littel Rahim) in school in Kansas City and then went to New Orleans to survey, repair, reclaim, etc., their home. They (Rahim, Gracie, Mustafa and Rasheed) arrived this afternoon with more of a plan than when they first arrived at the end of August after surviving Katrina's wrath.

After FEMA nightmares and *hurry up and stop* news from insurance and IRS, it seems they want mostly a

welcome and a good night's sleep from their adoptive neighborhood.

Thank you, neighbors.
Laura and Maynard Dyson

Found -- cat

A 1-year-old male cat is at our house. He is fawn or grey with heavy black striping. I suspect that he was abandoned or lost because he just stands at the door meowing. He is very friendly, likes to rub, and likes to just flop down and roll for an audience. He tries to be friendly with our five other cats, but two of them are not happy about a newcomer. Right now, the new cat is staying outdoors. When I get the chance, I will get him his shots and will try to take care of him. But... if anyone wants a friendly cat, please call me. I'll pay to get him his shots and exam if someone wants to care for him.

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IDENTITY THEFT

NPO Leah Wagner gave a presentation at the Feb. 21 Potluck Supper on how to avoid identity theft and other hassles involving telemarketers and direct mailers. This material was on an information sheet that she handed out.

People who prefer that their credit record not be used for marketing purposes can contact the three major credit bureaus with that request. Your name will be flagged in their computers and automatically deleted from any marketing lists, without hurting your chances for credit approval.

Experian (800) 353-0809
Equifax (800) 685-1111
Trans Union (800) 680-7293

You can remove yourself from most national mailing lists by contacting:

Direct Marketing Association
Mail Preference Service
P.O. Box 9008
Farmington, N.Y. 11735-9008

They will put your name in a "delete" file, which is sent to subscribing organizations (70 percent) four times a year. Your name stays on the delete list for five years. This should result in a reduction of catalogs, magazine offers, credit card solicitations, sweepstakes and other national advertising mail.

To remove yourself from telemarketing lists, contact:

Direct Marketing Association
Telephone Preference Service
P.O. Box 9014
Farmington, N.Y. 11735-9014

You can tell telemarketers who call you to put your name on their "Do not
(Continued on the next page)

Minutes of the MHA Feb. 21 meeting and potluck supper

Mary Ellen Peipert, secretary

NPO Kirk Byrom gave an update on crime, theft and homeless people in the neighborhood.

He said, basically, to lock your belongings in your house or garage and do not leave bags visible in your car. He discouraged any personal support of homeless people and said their presence in a neighborhood leads to alcohol-related crimes.

You can contact Officer Byrom at his non-emergency number: (817) 335-4222.

NPO Leah Wagner gave a very good, detailed presentation on identity theft. (See information on how to avoid identity theft on page 12.)

A contested case hearing on the concrete batch plant has been granted to Robert Mendoza, who lives within 440 yards of the proposed plant on the north side of Interstate 30. The hearing was scheduled for Feb. 23 in Austin.

Kathleen Walker announced the unveiling of a plaque honoring John and Shirley Johnson, longtime Mistletoe Heights residents and city activists, at the Triangle on Friday, Feb. 24, at 6 p.m. She encouraged a good turnout of neighbors. The Johnsons' son, Jamie, was our previous NPO.

Patsy Slocum announced that engraved bricks for Newby Park are still being sold to cover extra expenses.

Adelaide Leavens of Streams and Valleys and Michael Bennett of the architectural firm Gideon Toal gave a presentation of conceptual plans for improvements and noise mitigation to accompany the building of the Southwest Parkway (Texas 121).

Public input was encouraged. Details may be found at

www.trinityrivervision.org. Or telephone Adelaide Leavens of Streams and Valleys at (817) 926-0006.



Michael Bennett of the architectural firm Gideon Toal.

(Theft - Continued from the previous page)

call" lists. In many states, by law, companies cannot call you back for a certain period of time (such as one year). If a telemarketer from the same business calls you again, make a note of the date and report it to:

Federal Trade Commission
Consumer Response Center
Sixth Street and Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Room 240
Washington, D.C. 20580
Phone: (202) 326-2222



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Yard of the Month: 2346 Harrison Ave.

By Jack and Lorri Kendrick and Stephanie Monks



Photo: Jim Peipert

Approach this corner house at the front or side and you'll be greeted by green grass (yes, in February!), thoughtful landscaping, and well-trimmed trees.

The Yard of the Month award for March goes to Dee and Bill Gulledge at 2346 Harrison Ave., at the northeast corner of Harrison Avenue and Buck.

The landscaping in the front yard begins with the Asian jasmine beds planted between the street and the sidewalk. A pavestone pathway begins with a half-circled bed, filled with pansies and big blue liriopse, and then leads you to the front door, flanked by either side with two handsome white urns planted with fragrant rosemary.

The beds on both sides of the house contain well-groomed Nellie R. Stevens hollies and boxwood shrubs. Two yaupon hollies are neatly trimmed into "mushrooms" shapes. The beds are colored with pansies and daffodils ready to bloom.

Head to the side yard along Buck Avenue, and you'll find beds planted with more pansies, perennial

grasses and Mexican feather grass, accented by large sandstone boulders.

Closer to the house, nandinas grow with burgundy and green leaves, accented with bright red berries. Further out in the side yard stand two Chinese pistachio trees. These have beautiful

foliage in the fall, so make a note to walk past later this year.

Crossvine grows along the top of the fence behind elaeagnus shrubs.

The entire yard has been over-seeded with rye-grass, giving it a green and healthy look.

Thanks to the Gulledges for their beautiful yard.

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Neighborhood Classifieds

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Antique Trunks for Sale: One has a flat top and another has a slightly domed top. Both are circa 1890. \$100 each or \$175 for both. 926 - 6546

Babysitter: Paschal student with CPR training available to babysit evenings and weekends. Call Jenny at 817-727-3285.

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

Estate Appraisals and Liquidation Service Certified appraiser with the International Society of Appraisers, in business in Mistletoe Heights for over 10 years. Terri Ellis, Mistletoe Estate Sales, 926-9424.

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817.920.1440 or email 4paws4@sbcglobal.net. New to Arbonne? Try a kit before you buy.

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.

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JewelsElite exhibit and sale featuring designer Sharon McClung! Join your neighbors Cheri and Allen Cetto, Saturday, March 25, 1-5 pm at 2232 Edwin Street. A drawing

for a one-of-a-kind necklace will also be available benefiting the Aids Outreach Center. For more information please call 817-972-7200 or email cheri.cetto@sbcglobal.net.

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. If you would like to renew, discontinue or update your ad, please notify the editor at 817-921-2120 or twoearsup@charter.net.

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 1125 CLARA ST - 3 BEDROOM/ 1 BATH/ 1 COVERED PARKING - \$179,000
 2217 W ROSEDALE ST S - 2 BEDROOM/ 1.5 BATH/3 COVERED PARKING - \$188,000
 2337 W ROSEDALE ST - 2 BEDROOM/ 2 BATH/ 0 COVERED PARKING - \$224,000
 1109 MISTLETOE DR - 4 BEDROOM/ 2 BATH/ 1 COVERED PARKING - \$299,900
 2300 IRWIN ST - 3 BEDROOM/ 2.5 BATH/ 2 COVERED PARKING - \$329,000
 2300 MISTLETOE DR - 3 BEDROOM/ 2.5 BATH/ 3 COVERED PARKING - \$565,000
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Helpful Phone Numbers, Emails Addresses and Websites

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

MHA Officers	Street Reps (listed by blocks)		Publishing Information
President	2200 W. Rosedale South	2100 Edwin	 <p>EDITORIAL POLICY</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 twoearsup@charter.net or 1114 Buck Avenue. The deadline is the 20th of each month.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">ADVERTISING INFORMATION</p> <p>To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please call Nancy Brown at 923-7146. Ad rates are:</p> <p>Business card size \$18, 1/4 page \$36, 1/3 page \$54, half page \$61, full page \$120, and pre-printed 8-1/2 x 11 insert fliers \$60.</p> <p>The deadline is the 20th of each month.</p>
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Wyatt Teague 923-2330	2200 Mistletoe Ave.	2300 Mistletoe Dr.	
Yard of the Month	Richard/Christi Yantis 924-2857	Sandy Tarpley 924-9215	
Patsy Slocum 923-5510	2300 Mistletoe Ave.	Forest Park Blvd.	
	Sam & Jack Bradbury 926-9095	Steve McReynolds 926-7955	
MHA YEARLY DUES			
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 Leslie Houston (call for address - 923-3161).			
	Neighborhood Police Officer East of Forest Park	Neighborhood Police Officer West of Forest Park	
	Officer Leah T. Wagner	Officer Kirk Byrom	
	Office 871-8885	Office 871-5471	
	Mobile 991-8473	Mobile 992-0185	
	Pager 998-0673	Pager 998-0689	
	Email:	Email:	
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