



Mistletoe Express

www.mistletoeheights.com

October 2010

Construction update

Drivers traveling near the West Seventh Street Bridge may experience lane closures through Nov. 15 as crews relocate utilities in anticipation of replacing the bridge.

These closings are planned:

- Seventh Street from Stayton Street to Fournier Street: multiple lane closures.
- Harrold Street closed from Sixth Street to Seventh Street.
- Forest Park Boulevard from 10th Street to Fifth Street: multiple lane closures.
- Fifth Street from Forest Park Boulevard to Penn Street: multiple lane closures
- 10th Street from Forest Park Boulevard to Penn Street: multiple lane closures
- Fournier Street from Seventh Street to 10th Street: multiple lane closures

The lane closures are part of the \$25.9 million replacement of the West Seventh Street Bridge by the Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) in conjunction with the City of Fort Worth.

The existing West Seventh Street Bridge is 982 feet long and 57 feet wide, with four traffic lanes and 4.8-foot sidewalks on each side. The proposed bridge will be 981 feet long and 88 feet wide with four traffic lanes and 10-foot sidewalks on each side.



October is Walk to School Month

Drive five blocks to school? What's the lesson in that?

By Marjorie Day

I can't imagine my mom driving us to school. We walked, biked or took a bus.

As I fat kid, I was tormented relentlessly on the way to school, but I was glad that I wasn't "the fat kid" who was dropped off. I can only imagine waving goodbye to my personal chauffeur at my school.

As an elementary school soldier, I did my level best. Gym stunk because I was too fat to swing over the leather horse, and a cartwheel was little more than a moment for other kids to make gas sounds. But walking was and is real life.

I haven't had the need to do gymnastics, but I still walk. Now kids need an SUV school drop-off, complete with a DVD player to amuse them for the 10 minutes of idle time, only to have a mom-greeter open the car door as if the paparazzi were about to snap photos at the Academy Awards' red carpet.

Sigh! The car line has to be one of the biggest
Continued on Page 7

Why not bike to work?

"Bicycling is one of the least expensive ways to get to work. Maintenance and upkeep of bicycles is relatively inexpensive and food is the only fuel needed!"

– Bicycle Commuters Handbook, prepared for the North Texas Clean Air Coalition

By Jim Peipert

It may be just an excuse, but I've heard people say: Sure, I'd commute to work by bicycle if only I had a place to take a shower, a secure spot for the bike while I'm working and a safe route to and from the job.

Those are, indeed, obstacles to bicycle commuting, for Fort Worth – like most American cities – is still very car-centric.

But, to its credit, the City Council approved on Feb. 9 a "comprehensive bicycle transportation plan," and the city aims to attain official designation as a Bicycle Friendly Community through the League of American Cyclists by 2015.

Called "Bike Fort Worth," the plan calls for expansion of the bike transportation network to nearly 1,000 miles, including off-street trails, dedicated on-street bike lanes and shared-roadway bike routes. That's a goal that would be implemented over the next two or three decades.

So for now, at least, it doesn't make much sense for a resident of Mistletoe Heights who works, let's say, at Dallas-Fort Worth Airport, to
Continued on Page 6

Shout out a big thanks to Central Market's new GM!

Thanks to new neighbor and Fort Worth's new GM of Central Market Austin Jourde, who generously donated 500 CM grocery bags to help support our neighborhood beautification projects. Thanks Austin and welcome to Mistletoe Heights! We love Central Market!

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Mistletoe Pumpkin Carving Contest



By Steve McReynolds

After a long hot summer, the mornings are once again crisp, and fall is threatening. Before you turn around, it's time for the annual Mistletoe Heights Pumpkin Carving Contest. The rules for this event are simple.

After dusk, on the night before Halloween (Saturday, Oct. 30) an elite gang of gourd judges hit the street to pick the best pumpkin creations. Only real carved pumpkins can be entered into the contest. The Grand Prize winner will get 100 shares of BP stock or a \$50 prize (to be decided later). The winner and all honorable mentions will get a fabulous write up in the newsletter.

Plan your gourds grimace now...get the whole family involved! Remember judging occurs the night before Halloween and Styrofoam and plastic pumpkins will not be considered a viable entry.

NEW NEIGHBORS!

Trick or Treaters flock to Mistletoe Heights from all over town, so be prepared to deliver the hospitality and treats. And keep an eye out for The Mistletoe Halloween Street Band on their annual roam...

New Mistletoe Heights neighbors

Beth and Meralen delivered Welcome Baskets to 3 sets of new residents this month:

- Andy and Alexandra "Alex" Rodman
- Paige and Zack Walker, who moved here from Keller with their two children, Blake and Kylie.
- Phillip and Shannon Hanna and their two children. Please welcome these new neighbors to our wonderful neighborhood.

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- 11/11/10 - Neath the Wreath
- 12/09/10 - Christmas at the Meyerson

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Yard of the month: 1410 Mistletoe Drive



Above, the Hulls' home from the Historic Register, before the renovations and landscaping.



The yard of the month for October is at the home of Rochelle and George Hull.

The home is listed in The Tarrant County Historic Resources Survey: Phase III Fort Worth's Southside.

The survey describes 1410 Mistletoe Drive, circa 1920, as a "two-story Mission Revival house of hollow tile construction, with rectangular plan, white stucco veneer, and red tile hip roof."

George purchased the property in 1997 and made extensive renovations to the façade, reconfiguring the front entrance and second-floor balcony and adding custom stonework to the arched surround.

The front yard was excavated to slope to street level and brick retaining walls were installed to create flower beds on either side of the main entrance.

Tall Italian cypress, Indian hawthorn, white crape myrtles, waxed-leaf ligustrum, and purple Chinese fringe plants flank both sides of the red-tiled steps and porch.

The porch continues toward the south side of the house to a portico and more steps leading to the drive. The circular drive

is tucked behind a landscaped island, featuring a desert willow, copper plants, pindo, Mediterranean and Wagner palms, bear grass and Mexican feather grasses.

River stones edge the sidewalk. The north side of the island features dwarf crape myrtles in an unusual deep shade of red. These plants also line the driveway leading back to the rear of the property. The retaining wall brickwork is repeated behind these beds, and liriopse fills in below them.

On the south side of the property, the arched portico continues onto a matching stuccoed-wall fence. An arched doorway inset into the fence is flanked by planters of new gold lantana and trellises with climbing bougainvillea.

A large magnolia tree, date palms and elephant ears fill beds stretching to the property line. Sweet potato vine in three contrasting shades proliferates everywhere around the property. This lush landscape truly deserves the yard of the month citation.

Congratulations to George and Rochelle, and thank you to Calloway's Nurseries for the generous gift certificate provided to each winner.

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What to do in October

- **State Fair of Texas, through Oct. 17.** Fair Park, Dallas. www.bigtex.com
- **Arts Goggle, Oct. 2.** Southside Fort Worth, 4-10 pm
- **Lake Worth Monster Bash, Oct. 2.** Forty-one years ago, Fort Worth was abuzz with reported sightings of the Lake Worth Monster — described as a hairy, scaly 7-foot-tall man-goat-beast. Though sightings of the creature haven't occurred regularly since the summer of 1969, the annual Lake Worth Monster Bash keeps alive the local legend and its habitat. The 2010 celebration is scheduled 10 a.m.-3 p.m., Oct. 2 at the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge, 9601 Fossil Ridge Road.

Activities will include hayrides; bison viewing; canoeing; a festival with vendors, food and games; monster-tracking hikes; guided interpretive hikes; and storytelling. Music will be provided by The Skip Pullig Band, Barbara Taylor, Joel McElhany, and The Lightning Crispies. Authors Stephanie Erb ("Cam the Man Hunts for the Spooky Goat Man") and Nick Redfern and Ken Gerhard ("Monsters of Texas") will be selling and autographing their books. Redfern will give a free public lecture on the monsters of Texas.

Admission to the Nature Center is \$4 for adults; \$3 for seniors; \$2 for ages 3-17; free for children under 3 and for Friends of the Fort Worth Nature Center and Refuge. Most activities are at no additional cost,

but some will require a \$5 fee.

- **Cowtown Celtic Festival, Oct 2-3.** Will Rogers Memorial Center, Southeast corner of University Drive and W. Lancaster Avenue. cowtownceltic.org

- **Lily B Clayton 2nd Annual Walk-a-thon, Oct. 8,** 8-10am

- **Boo at the Zoo, Oct. 22-Oct. 31.** Over two consecutive weekends, FW Zoo, 1989 Colonial Parkway, 12-5pm, 817-759-7500

- **Fall Festival in the Japanese Garden, Oct. 23-24.** Feast your eyes on the spectacular fall color of the Japanese Garden while you and your family enjoy traditional Japanese dance, music, martial arts demonstrations, papermaking, and tea ceremonies. Admission: Adults \$5.00, Children (4-12yrs.) \$3.00, under 4 free.

arking for the Fall Festival

This year parking for the Japanese Garden Fall Festival will be in the Linden Avenue lot, located on the right 3/10ths of a mile north of I-30 on Montgomery Street. The lot is highlighted on the map. Click here to open a PDF of the parking map.

- **Mistletoe Heights Pumpkin Carving Contest, Oct. 30**
- **Mistletoe Heights Autumnal Porch Decorating Contest, Oct. 30th.** Decorate your porch for Autumn and win a homemade pie and a photo in the newsletter!
- **Treat Street in the Fort Worth Stockyards, Oct. 31.** Stockyards Station, 130 E. Exchange Avenue, Fort Worth
- **Halloween, Oct. 31.** Dusk and beyond. Mistletoe Heights gets plenty of action! Be sure to have treats because they will come. Don't be a deadbeat, be candy and treat ready. Leave your porch light on!
- **Fort Worth Alliance Air Show, Oct. 31.** 2221 Alliance Blvd., Fort Worth

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The big exterior cleanup!

Curb appeal is an essential element in maintaining our neighborhood's value and increasing the neighborhood's allure for new homebuyers. Everyone wants to live in a neighborhood that's at its very best.

Essentially, your home just needs to be cleaned inside and out on a regular basis. It's in the cleaning of a home that you find where potential troubles lie.

When you wash a window, you see the hairline crack. If you sweep the porch, you see the crack in the foundation. You sweep out the garage and notice carpenter ants. You clean under the sink and see the beginning of a leak.

Old homes need cleaning not just to sparkle but to reveal their needs. So this October, decide to clean the exterior of your biggest investment, top to bottom.

- Clean up plant debris, leaves, kids' toys, excessive ornamentation or good old-fashioned junk.
- Edge your garden beds and prune any overgrown plantings. Add a few inches of compost and fresh mulch.
- Top-dress your lawn with a thin layer of compost. Do not use compost from manure, but leaf compost, as it's better for lawns.
- Sweep and/or power wash your home's exterior.
- Wash windows and caulk.
- Clean exterior light fixtures.
- Clean all exterior doors and doorknobs.
- Sweep the roof of debris and repair any damage.
- Paint your front door a bright, bold color to create a focal point.



- Sweep away cobwebs and sweep walks, patios, decks and driveways on a regular basis in the fall.
- Spruce up the house paint or paint the whole house if needed.
- Cooler temperatures mean that it's a great time to add plants.
- Evergreen shrubs, trees and perennials are all on sale. Adding a few new plants that have fall and winter interest topped with fresh mulch can make a home look refreshed.

Once everything is tidy and clean, mulched and edged, you're ready for decorative touches. Your porch is the first room of your home. Make yours inviting and attractive to visitors. Something as simple as a grouping of mums and pumpkins leading to the front door is outstanding on a whistle-clean porch.

Go for it, and see if you get nominated for the first-ever Mistletoe Express Autumn Porch Contest! Winners will receive a fresh-baked pie and a photo in the November newsletter.

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Bike to work

From Page 1

ride a bike to work.

But the city already has an excellent network of bike trails that lead to many parts of the city. Naval Air Station Fort Worth, for example, is accessible by a relatively new spur of the trail system that passes Tarrant County's only natural waterfall on Farmer's Branch Creek. The trail has a trailhead just outside the main gate to the air base.

And neighbors who work downtown have easy access to their jobs via the trail network or neighborhood streets on the near south side.

Those who choose to use the trail can ride to Park Place, drop down the hill past the zoo, cross the Trinity River on University Drive and get onto the trail to downtown. The tough parts would be climbing the hill into downtown at the Tarrant County College campus and then, on the way home, climbing the hill at the zoo.

To avoid the hills, you could make your way to West Magnolia Avenue, travel east on Magnolia's nice new bicycle lanes and head into downtown on South Main Street. Using south side back streets would avoid the traffic on South Main.

Google Maps might provide some help in finding a bicycle-friendly route from your house to your workplace. Google is adding turn-by-turn directions for bicyclists to Google Maps – in addition to three other options: "By car," "By public transit" and "Walking."

Cyclists had long lobbied for such a feature in Google Maps. An Austin cyclist, Peter Smith, launched an online petition in February 2008 urging Google to add biking directions to Google Maps. It garnered more than 50,000 signatures.

Before I retired from the Star-Telegram in June 2008, I used to ride to work regularly. I usually rode on the trail. But if I needed to get home quickly – as I did one evening as a monster thunderstorm rolled in from the northwest – I rode on downtown streets to Summit, where I crossed Interstate 30. I then took a right on



Pennsylvania Avenue to duck through the hospital district to Mistletoe Boulevard, and I made it home in about 10 minutes, just before the skies opened.

I was lucky that some sympathetic powers-that-be at the Star-Telegram arranged for me to use a shower and a locker in the basement where the maintenance crew had its workshop. I parked my bike beside my desk.

But not all employers have shower facilities or a secure place

to put the bike during the day. So a relatively new bike shop on the near south side, Trinity Bicycles, is aiming to remedy that problem.

The shop, owned by Bernie Scheffler, who formerly was a partner in Panther City Bicycles on West Magnolia, aims to cater to bike commuters who ride to downtown for work or take the Trinity Railway Express to Dallas.

Open since April, Trinity Bicycles is at 207 S. Main St. in a 1909 building that once housed the Sawyer grocery store on the southern edge of downtown. The shop is within a short walk of the T&P Station of the TRE and on a major bus route into downtown.

Amenities for commuters include early and late hours, indoor bike parking for those who take ride the train but don't want to leave their bikes at the station, showers, towel rental and coffee in the mornings.

So Fort Worth folks who take the train to Dallas can ride their bikes from their homes, leave their bikes at Trinity Bicycles, shower if needed and then walk to the station. Those who work in downtown Fort Worth can walk from Trinity Bicycles to their workplaces or take a bus.

Scheffler says he believes that Trinity Bicycles is the only bike shop in Texas — other than Lance Armstrong's Mellow Johnny's in Austin — to offer shower facilities for commuters. At Trinity Bicycles, commuters can

rent towels for a buck or bring their own.

The shop also offers same-day bike repair. "In most cases," says the shop's website, "if you let us know ahead of time (so that we can be sure to have any necessary parts on hand), we can complete your bike repair or maintenance the same day, so your bike will be ready to ride home."

As a commuter hub, the inventory of Trinity Bicycles focuses on practical, durable bikes for riding to work and running errands — such as Dutch commuter cycles and the Kona Ute cargo bike — or for long-distance touring, like the Surly Long Haul Trucker.

Trinity Bicycles, Bernie says, also aims to be as eco-friendly as possible — by selling only biodegradable lubes and cleaners; recycling old bike tires; using water-based solvents for cleaning bike components; contracting with an energy provider that gets its power from such alternative sources as the wind; and refurbishing and reusing many of the fixtures and fittings from the old building's past life, such as counters and storage cabinets.

The site of Trinity Bicycles is a story in itself. Henry Sawyer had operated a grocery on the near south side at the corner of South Main and East Daggett Avenue since around 1888.

In 1909 and 1910, he moved his expanding business into new brick buildings in the 200 block of South Main, now occupied by Trinity Bicycles, an architectural firm and upstairs apartments.

After the grocery closed in the late 1920s, the buildings were used for a time by a variety of other enterprises and then left vacant and deteriorating. During the past several years, local developer Eddie Vanston of the Carillon Group has been bringing the old buildings back to life.

So now that temperatures are bearable, perhaps it's time to pull that old bike out of the garage, air up the tires and start using it to get to work. It's one a way to save gas and stay fit.

When I worked at the Star-Telegram, we had some options on healthcare plans — a "green" plan with lower premiums and less coverage and a more expensive "blue" plan. My wife used to joke that I had two blue health plans — the one at work and my mid-night-blue bicycle.

I still have that two-wheeled "blue" plan.

Kindergarten coffee meeting

All you need to know you'll learn at this kindergarten coffee!

Lily B. Clayton Elementary invites you to an informational Kindergarten coffee at 6:30 p.m. Wednesday, Nov. 3. We'll gather at Kristi Parker's home, 2215 Forest Park Blvd.

All families with children entering kindergarten the fall of 2011 or for future years are welcome. You can meet the principal, the kindergarten teachers and other parents. It's a great opportunity to ask questions and receive an informational packet.

Get on the Mistletoe Heights e-mail list

To subscribe to the Mistletoe Heights Residents mailing list, go to www.mistletoeheights.com, click on "Email List" and look for the section "Subscribing to Residents". Enter your email address and name and click "Subscribe". Be aware that you may need to add residents-bounces@mistletoeheights.com to your address book so the incoming emails are not treated as spam. We're still missing lots of neighbors on the e-mail list.

Walk to school

From Page 1

embarrassments of present-day American society. Cars line the street, causing pileups, pollution, accidents and the de-conditioning of our youth in body and spirit. And the weirdness continues.

We have upon us a new age of fitness. Back in the day, no one had “a gym membership.” People just did stuff. Now the whole country is getting fit, but fit for what? Fitness to go to fitness class? Get fit for something useful like walking to school.

You can be as fat as me. You just need basics, some solid skills -- like walking. Kids are naturally in shape. We can only de-condition them. Even if they're chunky, they're fit. For heaven's sake, they're kids!

What do we need to do to change?

First, support every neighbor who walks and bikes to school with a shout out for bucking the car line trend. One thing walking teaches you is to get where you are going on your own two feet. These are basic lessons that go to the heart.

Mistletoe Heights needs to make an effort to keep every person on our sidewalks safe ... well, where we have sidewalks.

We need a sidewalk to connect Newby Park and Lily B. Clayton Elementary School. Every morning, walkers are out there doing the “right thing” but are forced to walk in the street because the sidewalks are intermittent. If Jerome Street had sidewalks along its full length, it would be the safest route to school as it has less traffic than, say, Forest Park Boulevard.

We need to create safe routes to cross Forest Park Boulevard.

We need to have every sidewalk in this neighborhood repaired. Period! No exclusions! For the people worried about trees in the hell strips, good news, the city is not interested in taking trees.

We need to slow down traffic on Forest Park by having a school zone where people actually walk.

Certainly, our officials aren't against people walking safely to school. But are they doing everything they can when we ask for help in fixing our pedestrian safety problems? Well, Fort Worth is in a financial crisis. Cuts have to be made. Not the time for sidewalks and traffic safety issues. It's Bad News Bears out there.

I'm glad Fort Worth spent the money on Lancaster Avenue's amazing “street of lights.” But ponder that expense when you have to walk into the street on Mistletoe Boulevard or are forced into the street on Jerome with your kids in tow. Or have to maneuver your wheelchair into the street to get to Newby Park. Of course, that's a different bucket of money.

We have a bucket of money for this, but no bucket of money for that. Not true, folks! We were offered a bucket of money but nobody bothered to grab the bucket. Federal money was available for every item I mentioned above in a program called Safe Routes to School, but the Fort Worth school district gets a big “F.”

What of our elected officials? It took me four minutes online to find this program, peeps. I've written to the mayor and to our city councilman. I telephoned the head of Fort Worth planning. With near zero response. OK, I accept that.

Go online to learn about the federal program called Safe Routes to School. Every school district in Texas was notified that it could apply. Funding was available for crossing guards, street lights, sidewalk repair and construction, biking and walking programs and bike racks for schools that could realistically have a safe alternative to the absurdity of the car line.

Lily B. is a perfect candidate, but the school wasn't notified. Not one school in the Fort Worth school district applied for this program, according to Carol Campa, the SRTS coordinator in Austin.

I contacted the principal at Lily B. before the end of the school year and she seemed very excited about SRTS. She said the idea was met with enthusiasm. Sadly, I had to tell her that the chance for the program had passed but that another go-around was possible. The Fort Worth district failed, but what grade should we give to our Mistletoe neighborhood?

Lily B. can benefit from Safe

Routes to School if it becomes refunded. We need Mistletoe Heights to care about real-life sustainability. The school needs to be ready to apply and know what it wants and needs. If the school district can't lead, if our elected officials can't lead, then we as neighbors need to lead our school system and our elected officials.

Let's be the sustainable neighborhood. Let's be visionaries. Our children and mothers are the backbone. When we put their welfare last, we fail as a community. If you learn one thing when you walk to work or school, it's that you get there under your own power.

And as soon as I finished writing this I received a phone call from a member of the Lily B. PTA and they are looking for a parent from Mistletoe to help head up a committee to apply for the next round of funding for this federal program.

Please go to www.saferoutesinfo.org and learn more.



**Support Lily B Clayton's
Walkathon Oct. 8!!**

Final dues notice for 2010

It is time again to collect dues donations for our neighborhood association. All residents of Mistletoe Heights are members of the association and dues donations are completely voluntary. Any amount is welcomed and appreciated.

In addition to the seasonal social gatherings, landscape maintenance, newsletter and directory publications, dues donations fund a number of special projects.

We will once again begin our dues donation drive in the Spring and will conclude our drive in the Fall. Various levels of giving will be recognized in upcoming newsletters with the final recognition for the year being published in our November newsletter if received before October 15th.

Levels of giving for this year are:

Mistletoe - up to \$24

Holly - \$25 to \$49

Gardenia - \$50 to \$74

Magnolia - \$75 and up



Thank you for supporting your neighborhood association. Together we can make Mistletoe Heights an even better place to live.

\$25 \$50 \$75 \$ Other

Name: _____

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Please check here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous

Please return your dues donation to:

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c/o Jeri Jo Blackmon
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Fort Worth, TX 76110

Jury duty scam

Pass this on to your grown children. This has been verified by the FBI (their link is also included below). Please pass this on to everyone in your email address book. It is spreading fast so be prepared should you get this call. Most of us take those summonses for jury duty seriously, but enough people skip out on their civic duty that a new and ominous kind of fraud has surfaced.



The caller claims to be a jury coordinator. If you protest that you never received a summons for jury duty, the scammer asks you for your Social Security number and date of birth so he or she can verify the information and cancel the arrest warrant. Give out any of this information and bingo; your identity was just stolen.

The fraud has been reported so far in 11 states, including Oklahoma, Illinois, and Colorado. This (swindle) is particularly insidious because they use intimidation over the phone to try to bully people into giving information by pretending they are with the court system.

The FBI and the federal court system have issued nationwide alerts on their web sites, warning consumers about the fraud.

Check it out here: http://www.fbi.gov/page2/june06/jury_scams060206.htm

And it also been verified here as well: <http://www.snopes.com/fraud/identity/juryduty.asp>

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Roses can be a gardener's best friend

By Dotty Guffey

You may have heard that roses are a pain to grow. And you don't have the time or patience to add a spoiled-brat plant to your garden. Right?

Well, roses are hardly more trouble to grow than the average flowering tree, fruit tree or flowering shrub. Roses require a little extra care, but the results will be well worth it in terms of beauty, fragrance and ego. After all, you can admire them, smell them, eat them, brew them, wear them, press them and dry them. What more do you want?

When choosing a rose, do some research before making a decision, and plant in April. Here are some possibilities:

Hybrid teas. These roses are long-stemmed with one flower per stem. They grow to a height of three to five feet, are very fragrant and come in a wide range of colors.

Grandifloras. These are sisters to the teas. They have several blooms per stem and large flowers.

Floribundas. These roses are the result of crossing hybrid teas and polyanthas. They have large clusters of small flowers and are great in a group or mass planting when allowed to grow three to five feet tall.

Shrub roses. This is a catch-all of cultivars that do not belong with either the old garden roses or any of the more modern classes. Subclasses included in this group are eglantine, English, ground-cover, hybrid musk, hybrid rugosa, hybrid spinosissima, polyantha and shrub roses. These roses are used as background for a showy turf area or for crowd control.

Tree rose. This popular variety of tea, floribunda or grandiflora is grafted onto a hardy variety of understock. Tree roses need a lot of TLC.

Species rose. These are naturally occurring roses found in the wild. Most have only five petals. There are about 200 species roses altogether. Sometimes they can be found where one of our ancestors lived. If you take a cutting, dip the cut end in root tone and plant in a container. Keep it damp (not soggy), and it will grow happily for you.

Climbing roses. These are cultivars that can be trained to grow up a trellis, arbor or building. There are several classes: climbing hybrid tea, hybrid bracteata, large-flowered climbers, kordesii climbers, ramblers and wichuraiana climbers.

Old garden roses. In cultivation since 1867, the old garden roses include the following classes: alba, Bourbon (my favorite is the Souvenir de la Malmaison), centifolia, China, kamask, gallica, hybrid sempervirens, hybrid spinosissima, moss, noisette, Portland and tea.



Miniature roses. A popular group, the miniatures look like their larger relatives in every way except size. Many grow very well in containers. Some also do well indoors, and mine grow in the earth on the east side of the house.

The history of roses is very interesting. One part of history with which you might be familiar is roses in politics and art.

In politics, the Wars of the Roses marked a lengthy period of civil strife in English history during which the houses of York (the White Rose) and Lancaster (the Red Rose) fought bitterly for the throne. At the conclusion of hostilities, the red-and-white Tudor rose became a symbol of national unity.

The Rosa centifolia found its way into art, appearing in many Dutch and Flemish still-lives of the 17th and 18th centuries.

Botanic Garden Plant Sale



It's fall planting season, so it's time for the Botanic Garden plant sale

Since fall is the best time of the year for landscape planting in Fort Worth, it's also the best time to buy your plants.

And the Fort Worth Botanic Garden, 3220 Botanic Garden Blvd., is the best place to get great plants during the annual fall plant sale. This year's one-day event is on Saturday, Oct. 9, 9 a.m.-2 p.m. in The Grove, the wooded area

west of the Trial Garden and Japanese Garden parking lot.

The sale is a great opportunity to stock up on many native and adapted plants that can take North Texas heat and live on annual rainfall.

A wide assortment of trees, shrubs, grasses, ground covers, perennials, vines, and spring-flowering bulbs will be available. Plus, the sale features many specialty plants grown at the Botanic Garden. In addition, rose, African violet,

begonia, iris, daylily, cactus and succulent, and daffodil societies will be selling plants. Vendors will offer garden-related merchandise as well.

Garden staff will be on site to answer your plant questions, but be sure to bring your own wagon or cart for loading plants.

Free parking is at the Linden Street lot, which is accessible from I-30 by taking the Montgomery Street exit and heading north 0.3 mile to the lot.

Free Classified neighborhood ads

BABYSITTING, pet sitting, plant watering, lawn mowing, watch little ones in the pool? Hire the neighborhood kid: Jake Mallison (14), first-class Boy Scout, experienced with special needs kids, references available. House 817-924-7783 or cell 817-773-1471

APT. NEEDED: A friend of mine with a first-grade son and no pets is looking for a small garage apartment in Fort Worth. If you have one available or if you know of someone who does (MH or any other neighborhood), please e-mail me back directly or give me a call. Carol E. Spencer, carolingfw@sbcglobal.net, 817.927.3240

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Spring-cleaning is best in the autumn

Why confine your house-cleaning to spring? Autumn is a better time for a thorough cleanup before the holidays.

- Dust the whole house, top to bottom, including molding and hard-to-reach corners and under the furniture.
- De-clutter each room with a “donate box” and a toss bag. Why routinely clean something you don’t use or like?
- Vacuum drapes and, if needed, launder or dry-clean.
- Schedule professional carpet cleaning.
- Have furniture professionally cleaned if needed.
- Wash windows. Clean out sills and window wells.
- Inspect your linens for wear. Invest in good towels and sheets, tablecloths and napkins for family and guests. Be sure they’re clean and stain-free.
- Clean all bedding: mattress pads, pillows, duvets, blankets, dust ruffles, shams and comforters.
- Do a closet makeover for each family member. If an item doesn’t fit, isn’t well-loved or it has seen better days, donate or make rags. Small closets can’t handle excessive or underused wardrobes.
- Prepare the kitchen for the holidays. Clean and organize kitchen cabinets, get baking supplies now if you bake for the holidays.
- Clear kitchen counters of unused appliances and clutter.
- Inspect spices to see if you have such items as 6-year-old dried thyme.
- Do a big fridge cleanup. Clean it, empty it, toss all scientific experiments, toss old condiments and wipe down the jars and



containers that go back into your now perfectly clean cooling beast.

- Clean and empty the freezer. Toss frozen fossils. Use up the old before adding to the frozen archeological dig. Start marking items with contents and date of freezer entry.
- Get rid of BPA plastic containers and invest in glass containers. Nothing says “home” like toxic residue in holiday leftovers.
- Pull out the refrigerator out and vacuum the condenser coils.
- Wipe down kitchen cabinets and scrub the kitchen floor.
- Wash light-diffusing bowls of light fixtures.
- Purchase a supply of light bulbs and batteries for your fixtures.
- Inspect washer hoses for bulges, cracks or splits.
- Check dryer exhaust tube and vent for built-up lint. Make sure the exterior vent door closes tightly when not in use.
- Schedule heating system inspections now.
- Buy a winter’s supply of furnace filters.
- Drain sediment from hot-water heaters.
- Go through holiday decorations now to see if any decorations can be given away or sold on eBay.
- Paint a room. October is a great month to do it.
- Super-clean your bathrooms. Empty cabinets of old items, wipe down and check for places where pipes meet the wall to be sure that they’re properly caulked. Clean grout lines.
- Count your glassware and be sure you have enough on hand.
- Buy wood now if you use it in your fireplace.

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**Mistletoe Heights Association
Income & Expenses
January 1 through September 15, 2010**

Jan 1 - Sep 15, 10

Income	
Advertising Income - Newsletter	3,473.00
Dues Donations	6,009.00
Interest Income	2.70
Total Income	9,484.70
Expense	
Bank Charges	3.94
Easter Egg Hunt	188.03
Flag Program - Triangle	120.00
Garage Sale Expenses	83.39
July 4th Party	647.64
Newby Park Improvements	22.43
Newsletter Expenses	2,988.59
Water Expense - Berm	253.27
Water Expense - Newby	392.83
Website Expense	95.25
Total Expense	4,795.37
Net Income	4,689.33

Bike parking hearing scheduled

Public hearing scheduled on proposed bike parking ordinance

The Fort Worth Zoning Commission has scheduled a public hearing on a proposed ordinance that would require bicycle parking at new developments and certain change-of-use developments.

The public hearing will occur during the Zoning Commission's regularly scheduled Oct. 13 meeting at 10 a.m. in the Council Chamber at City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St.

The City Council is scheduled to vote on the proposed ordinance at its Nov. 9 meeting.

The bike parking ordinance follows the City Council's unanimous approval in February of the Bike Fort Worth plan, the city's comprehensive transportation plan for developing a robust bicycle environment. That plan will be implemented over several decades as funding and growth dictate.

There are numerous benefits of a bike parking ordinance:

Bike racks have been shown to increase bicycle use.

Designated, well-designed bike parking promotes orderly streetscapes.

Bike racks encourage cyclists to patronize adjacent businesses.

Bike racks promote healthy lifestyles and improve quality of life.

Bike racks are economical, costing as little as \$150-\$300 to install.

The ordinance proposes standards for the design, dimensions, location and number of bike parking fixtures required on new development and redevelopment projects.

At nonresidential projects, the ordinance calls for at least one bike rack for up to 40 automobile spaces, two racks for 41-60 spaces, three racks for 61-80 spaces, and four racks for 81-100 spaces. At multi-family residential projects, there must be one bike rack for every 35 auto spaces.

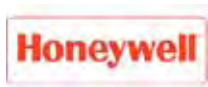
The draft ordinance is online at FortWorthGov.org/bikefw. To learn more, call 817-392-2593.



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