



Mistletoe Express

www.mistletoeheights.com

October 2011

Elections coming up for Mistletoe Heights Association

Your neighborhood is calling!

Our next meeting on **November 17th** will be our elections meeting. Prior to elections there will be a nominating meeting, if you would like to nominate someone for office please attend. If you would like to take a leadership role as one of the officer for the neighborhood, please feel free to nominate yourself.

It's time to change the mantle of leadership. We can only remain a vibrant neighborhood when we are infused with new ideas and volunteers.

The positions up for election are President, Vice-President, Treasurer, Secretary and Newsletter Editor.

Please feel free to contact any of the present officers to find out about what commitments their volunteer positions require. It is a good feeling to know you have helped make your neighborhood a better place to live.

The nominating meeting is usually held one to two weeks prior to the regular meeting when we hold our elections.

Please look on the back of your newsletter for contact information of our MHA officers.

Mistletoe Heights Treasurer's Report

As of mid-September, we have received dues donations from 68 of our more than 400 Mistletoe Heights households. At this same time last year, there were 118 households contributing to our association. We thank those who have given and urge those who have not given, to consider doing so. We have projects in the works that will enhance our neighborhood and we need the support of as many neighbors as possible. Currently, we have received \$2126.60 more than we have spent this year and our bank balance stands at \$17,512.43. A list of income and expenses for this year is listed elsewhere in this newsletter as well as a dues donation form that can be used to send in your voluntary dues.

In the December issue of the Mistletoe Express we will recognize donors who have made due donations through the end of October. Thank you for your continued support of our neighborhood. **SEE MISTLETOE HEIGHTS INCOME & EXPENSES THROUGH JANUARY TO SEPT. 15, 2011, PAGE 11.**



Check out our updated website:
www.mistletoeheights.com

Halloween in the 'hood

Mistletoe Heights will be bombarded by trick or treaters from all over town because of our generous candy-giving neighbors and sidewalk-lined streets.

So much of our American Halloween tradition has been lost to unfounded fears. Give the kids their candy! Don't be a stick in the mud and act like you're not home. That's so grouchy!

Take part in the second annual Autumnal Porch Decorating Contest. Last year there were some beautiful porch displays. Be neighborhood proud and show off your porch for the season! Winners get bragging rights and a homemade apple or pumpkin pie. Winners get to pick their favorites. It's a tough decision for the winner, so decorate that porch and decide if it's apple or pumpkin?

Great Gourds A Fire!!

After an amazingly hellish summer, the mornings are once again becoming crisp and fall is threatening. Before you turn around, it will be time for the annual Pumpkin Carving Contest. The rules for this event are simple:

The night **BEFORE** Halloween (which means Sunday, Oct. 30, this year) the elite gang of gourd judges hit the street to judge this year's offerings.

All real carved pumpkins are judged soon after dusk.

The grand prize winner will get either an all-expenses-paid trip to Transylvania or a \$50 prize (to be decided later).

All honorable mentions get a fabulous write up in the newsletter.

Plan your gourd's grimace now. Get the whole family involved. And remember, judging occurs the night before Halloween and Styrofoam/plastic pumpkins do not count in the judging.

NEW NEIGHBORS! I should point out that 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 walkabout through the neighborhood).



Inside This Issue

Page 2 - Yard of the month
Page 3 - Join MH e-mail list
Page 4 - Lily B. Clayton coffee, Events

Page 5 - Gardening
Page 6 - MH Dues
Page 7 - Letter from the editor

Page 8 - Needy and weedy
Page 9 - Plants that survived the summer

Page 10 - Classified ads
Page 11 - MH Treasurer's Report,
Page 12 - Important numbers

1200 Buck St.

The Mistletoe Heights Association recognizes Lorelei St. James of 1200 Buck St. as winner of October's Yard of the Month citation.

Lorelei's front and side yards on the southwest corner of Buck and Mistletoe Boulevard are full of color even after the relentless heat and drought that has lasted well into September.

Lorelei's Gardening Tip:

When selecting plants, choose ones that tolerate drought and heat and are particularly suited to our climate. Notice, too, which plants attract Texas pollinators.

The front walk begins at the corner of the lot and gracefully curves across the front lawn to the porch. Two red knockout roses are the first plants to greet guests as they stroll along the walkway.

The roses are followed by an array of colorful and hardy blooming perennials and annuals. These tough-as-nails plants include salvias, such as the black and blue variety, autumn sage (*Salvia greggii*) in shades of red and purple, Mexican bush sage, rock rose mallow

(*Pavonia lasiopetala*) and lantana.

An annual purple sparkler cleome is tucked in near the porch. This dwarf variety, growing about a half to two-thirds the size of traditional garden cleome, serves as a focal point near the house. Clumps of Mexican feather grass add texture and subtle movement.

Along the street on the north and west sides of her home, Lorelei has replaced old and ailing mulberry trees with Dallas red crape



myrtles. As they grow, these multi-trunked trees will certainly become show-stoppers with their long-lasting blooms in summer followed by outstanding fall foliage.

As a bonus to the beautiful blooms, all of the plants in Lorelei's garden are attractive to butterflies, bees and hummingbirds. Pay particular attention as you walk past her house, especially in October, and you may catch a glimpse of monarch butterflies stopping by on their annual flight across Texas.

Thanks, Lorelei, for your gardening efforts and for helping make Mistletoe Heights a great place to live! Thanks, too, to Calloway's Nursery for the generous donation of a \$50 gift certificate to each Yard of the Month recipient.



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Condominium Sneak Preview Presale Reservations Now Accepted

Forest Park Tower is now accepting presale reservations for individual condominiums. The building is comprised of 36 units with 3 units per floor. The first closings are projected for mid-2012.

Built in 1927 high atop a bluff overlooking the Trinity River, the Forest Park Tower is a designated Fort Worth cultural landmark.

Both extraordinary and unique, Forest Park Tower is adjacent to the historic Berkeley Place, Fairmount, and Mistletoe neighborhoods, the Medical & Cultural Districts, the Fort Worth Zoo, TCU, and Downtown Fort Worth.



Each condo will offer all modern amenities including new stainless appliances, granite countertops, refurbished vintage hardwoods, separate HVAC, individual hot water heaters, washer/dryers, and much more.

Furnished model open Mon. thru Fri. 9 - 5 and Sat. & Sun. 12 - 4. Call for appointment.

- 1 bedroom / 1 bathroom from \$135,000 to \$140,000
- 2 bedroom / 1 bathroom from \$175,000 to \$180,000
- 3 bedroom / 2 bathroom from \$240,000 to \$245,000

Forest Park Tower

2306 Park Place Avenue
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www.ForestParkTower.com

office 817-926-2306
fax 817-926-2880
ForestPark@fairfaxcorp.com

Get on the Mistletoe Heights email 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 email list. If you have any questions or concerns about the email list, contact moderator@mistletoeheights.com.

No Letter from the President was submitted.

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Lily B. Clayton Elementary Informational Kindergarten Coffee

If you are a family with children entering Kindergarten the fall of 2011 (or future years), Lily B. Clayton Elementary invites you to an informational coffee Wednesday, Nov. 2, at 6:30 p.m.

You'll be able to meet the Principal, meet the Kindergarten teachers, meet other parents, ask questions and receive an informational packet.

The coffee will be held at the home of Jennifer Hove and Dan Kilkenny, 2225 Hawthorne Avenue.

Questions? Contact Jennifer Hove at 817-676-6338 or jenniferhove65@hotmail.com

Events

CENTRAL LIBRARY: "Friends" Fall Book Sale, members only - 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 15, at Friends Book Store. Open to public - 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Friday, Oct. 21, to Saturday, Oct. 22, at Chapter 2 Annex. Open to public - noon-4:30 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 23, at Chapter 2 Annex.

Scary Stories Told, storyteller Donna Lively will perform stories not for the faint of heart. 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 29, and 4 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 30, Central Library Youth Center.

Third Thursday Jazz, final performance of the series features Mistletoe neighbor Paul Unger's Septet performing "Pathway to Fusion: The music of Miles Davis from the '60s and '70s." 6:30 p.m. Thursday, Oct. 20.

Boo at the Zoo, noon to 5 p.m., October 21-23 and 28-30

2nd Annual Autumnal Porch Contest, Saturday, October 29

MH Pumpkin Carving Contest, Sunday, October 30

Halloween, Monday, October 31



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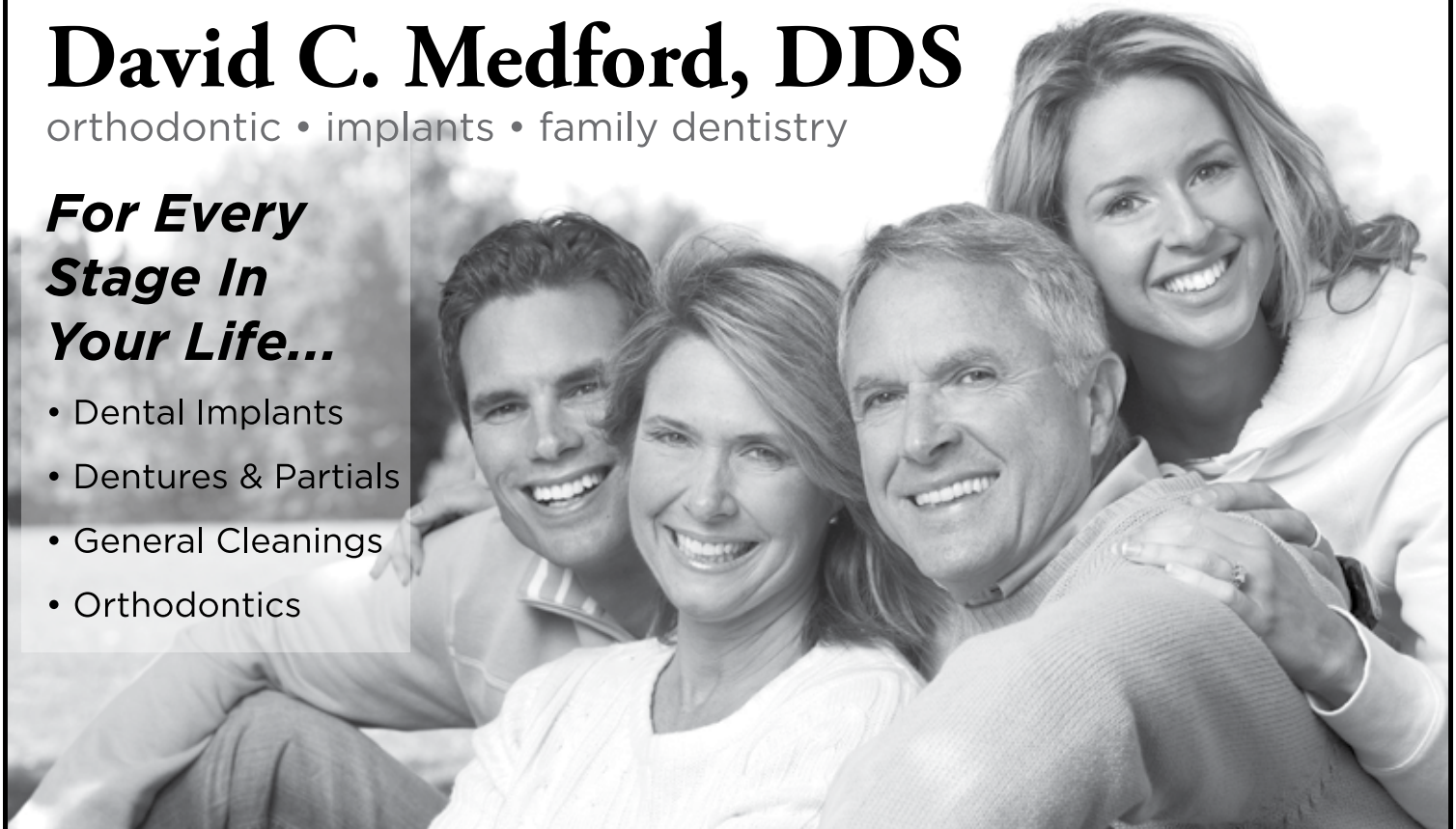
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Fall garden chores

By Marjorie Day

Take a soil sample and send in to see what if anything your property needs. You do not want to over fertilize your lawns or gardens. Use slow release fertilizers on your lawns now that the temps have dropped. Be sure to choose a day that is on your water schedule, as you need to water fertilizers in after application. Over fertilization is bad for our ground water. Try the organic option of top dressing your lawn with a 1/2 inch of finely screened compost and water in. This will add much needed organic matter to your lawn. You could also aerate your lawn and top dress with finely screened mulch to add even more organic matter and then water in. The heat decomposes organic matter fairly quickly. So be sure to replenish your lawn and garden.

Water deeply, on your water day. You can run shorter water times and then repeat to insure deep watering. 1 inch of water per week is all your lawn needs once well established and this includes rainfall. So you do not need additional water if we have received the inch.

Lawns stressed from the drought are more susceptible to disease and weeds. Hand pull weeds insuring that you remove the tap root and re-sod or overseed.

Trees this year will often have signs of heat related stress but it does not mean they are dead but using survival tactics to make it through by shutting down many of their processes to conserve energy. Do not drown your trees in water or over fertilize them. You do not want your trees to put on rapid growth just before their period of dormancy. Deeply water trees that show signs of

stress. Set slow soaker hoses along the drip line of your trees. A very slow running hose moved along the drip line will also work. The drip line is the edge of the tree's canopy that is where the tree takes up its water and nutrients.

Replace dead shrubs now while the plants have time to establish their root systems. Texas soils will remain warm enough to allow the roots to continue to grow during the winter providing water and nutrients to your newly planted shrubs. Don't wait until spring to plant.

Regularly pick up pecans, acorns and pods, to reduce unwanted volunteers.

Your garden beds would like to have at least an inch of compost worked in if they could talk. You can compost around your established plants and then cover with 3-4 inches of mulch. You can start to chill your bulbs for the spring or take a look at the bulbs offered by the Southern Bulb Company.

Calling all Christmas tree stands!



Are you stuck in the attic, garage or storage room? Come out and be counted! I know it's warm but Christmas is coming and you have a job to do! We need all the extra tree stands to STAND UP and be counted for our neighborhood porch trees this Christmas!

Tell your owners to place you on the porch and call me. I will pick you up and then arrange a date with a Christmas tree! After the Holidays, I will pick you up and keep you for next year! Call Melissa Kahout, 817-924-7063.



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Hello Mistletoe Heights Neighbors!

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 conclude our dues 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.



\$15 \$25 \$50 \$Other

Name: _____

Address: _____

Please return your dues donation to:

Mistletoe Heights Association
c/o Jeri Jo Blackmon
1408 Mistletoe Drive
Fort Worth, TX 76110

Please check here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous

A little bit of information about Noise and not-so-good vibes

Noisy Trains, Tollways, Urban Development and Train Stations, let alone the coming impact of vibration

What is noise? It has a loudness, a pitch and a pattern. At 50 feet away, a city bus idling has about the same disturbing sound level as a lawnmower in use. A commuter bus traveling at 50 miles mph is somewhere between a jackhammer and a concrete mixer in use at 50 feet. Rail transit on steel tracks going 50 mph is significantly louder than a rock drill in use and a locomotive horn is audibly much louder than that. Light rail on new tracks is the equivalent of standing within 3 feet of a clothes washer running. Our new train system, from what I've been told, would be light rail on old tracks, which is

▪ Day-Night Sound Level, Ldn
 • The most common measure of noise "climate"

even louder, unless someone tells me differently and we're getting new train tracks.

Will the HUD threshold for Unacceptable Housing Environment be quickly reached if we allow a train station with bus bays, next to our historic homes on the east side of the neighborhood?

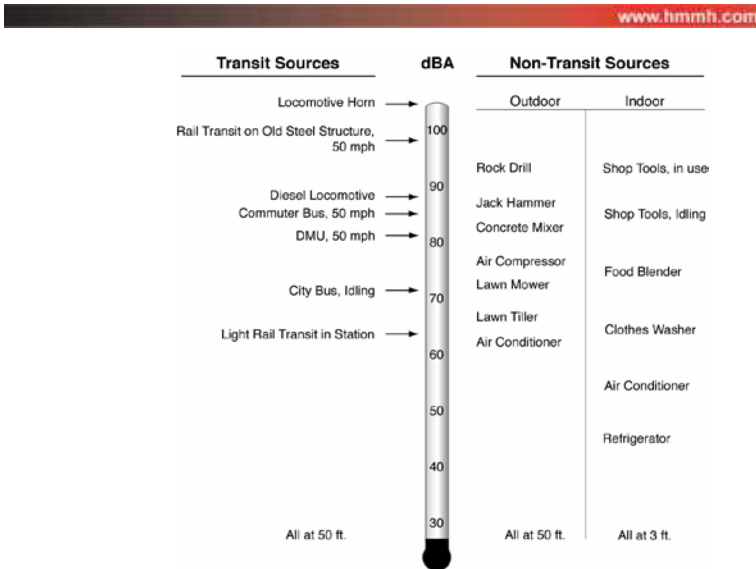
A dBA is a weighted sound level. A Ldn is a day/night sound level or the measure of a noise climate.

Ambient noise close to freeways - in our case, a tollway, *and* a freeway, *and* an urban transit system - have at least a dBA of 85, according to these charts provided by TRE. The HUD threshold for Unacceptable Housing Environment is 75. The EPA Ideal Residential Goal is below 55 dBA. Just do the math. I have not added in street traffic along Forest Park Blvd., leaf blowers, lawn mowers, air-conditioning units and not-to-mention a couple of bus bays.

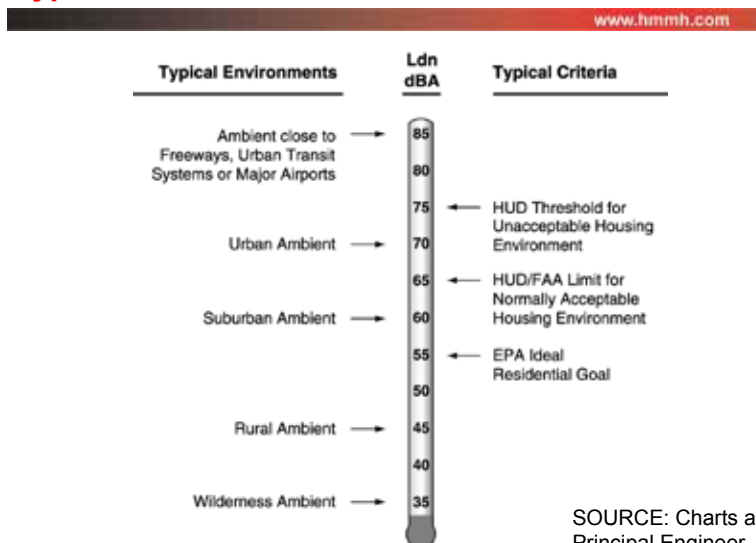
It is my opinion that the development of a train station next to homes about 30 feet away is too damn much. Mistletoe Heights said no in 2007. According to the Mistletoe Heights Association, the train station was to be built on the northside of West Rosedale to keep our neighborhood from suffering too much impact, both from sound and traffic. Has something changed since 2007? Are we somehow more immune to sound and traffic?

It has been said to me that I do not have an open mind. That would be correct, I am proud of being a skeptic on all things. I, as of today, believe in the 2007 outcome of the neighborhood view that the train station and bus bays do not belong next to Mistletoe Blvd., Jerome Avenue, the 2100 residential blocks of our neighborhood. Rather, I believe the train station should be near the motels, hospitals and businesses of West Rosedale. Why are we revisiting this?

Typical A-Weighted Maximum Sound Levels



Typical Ldn's



CLOSE TO HOME by John McPherson



SOURCE: Charts and comic from Rail Transit Noise and Vibration Report, David A. Towers, P.E., Principal Engineer, Harris Miller Miller & Hanson Inc.

The needy and weedy

- Forest Park Boulevard is presently being trimmed and weeded by volunteers. Homeowners along Forest Park Boulevard should be taking care of their sidewalks and hell strips.
- Weeds are best taken out by the rhizome (root). Some neighbors need to weed their yards because they're looking mighty trashy.
- Additional crape myrtle trees need to be planted on Forest Park Boulevard.
- Sidewalks need to be installed along Jerome Boulevard and Mistletoe Boulevard.
- Many sidewalks are broken and impassible on many streets and need repair.
- The Triangle area needs proper landscaping with low-maintenance, low-water species.
- A mass tree planting across the neighborhood should be underway to reduce noise from increasing traffic, development, and the addition of the new toll road.
- Neighbors need to pick up their dog's poop when poop happens.
- Streets should be swept in front of houses so that sediment, debris and leaves clog our gutters and impede our water system.
- We need a new entrance sign.
- Several of the light poles in the neighborhood need painting.
- Mistletoe Blvd. needs to be closed off from development east of the rail line.
- Several neighbors who suffer financially, need help in maintaining their properties.
- Our alleys need to be beautified to the attractive grass paths and gardens they once were.
- Mistletoe Heights, by its name alone, should be the greatest Christmas neighborhood in the city, with a beautiful tree on all our porches, save those who don't observe the Christian holiday.
- All neighbors on the east side of our neighborhood should become informed about the impending traffic issues and possible rail station.
- The late actor Danny Thomas once said he would rather have one dollar from a million donors than one million dollars from one donor. Everyone should contribute to the MHA.


The 2-1-1

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Halloween bags benefit Mistletoe!

The autumnal orange Central Market bags are STILL available on Thomas and Marjorie Day's porch, 2239 W. Magnolia Ave. On the honor system, please send your donation to our neighborhood treasurer, Jeri Jo Blackmon, 1408 Mistletoe Drive. The money made from the reusable grocery bags donations goes toward our Entrance Beautification program.

Use these reusable bags for Halloween and support your neighborhood!

Going old school

This is a shout out for Park Place Pharmacy:

Mistletoe Resident is a diabetic. Needs to have a shot. Couldn't contact the doctor. Needs to have a shot. Resident doesn't have a car. Needs to have a shot.

Park Place Pharmacy delivered said shot to Resident's home. Thank God they get their prescription filled at Park Place. No chain pharmacy would do that. That is service!

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Old Neighborhood Grill



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Drought busters

As you begin to rethink your drought torched garden., here are just a few of the Tarrant County Master Gardener notes on what not just survived in Master Gardener yards but what thrived in the drought .

Wooly Stemodia, full sun watered regularly
 Black-eyed Susan, full sun to part sun watered regularly
 Cannas, full sun to part sun watered regularly
 Flame Acanthus, full sun watered regularly
 Hardy Hibiscus, full sun watered regularly
 Lantana, full sun watered regularly
 Knock out rose, full sun watered regularly
 Don Juan Rose, part sun watered regularly



Sea foam rose, full sun watered regularly
 Orange Trifoliolate, full sun watered regularly
 Crape Myrtle, full sun watered regularly
 Vitex, full sun watered regularly
 Rosemary, full sun watered regularly
 Japanese maples, dappled shade watered regularly
 Aztec grass, shade watered regularly
 Boxwood, full sun watered regularly
 Russian sage, full sun watered regularly
 John Fanick phlox, full sun watered regularly

False sunflower, full sun watered regularly
 Dwarf Mexican petunia, full sun watered regularly
 Liriope, shade watered regularly
 Dianthus, part sun watered regularly
 Turks cap, dappled shade watered regularly
 Buford hollies, dappled shade watered regularly
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Free neighborhood classified ads

BEAUTIFUL TWO-STORY CARRIAGE HOUSE for rent to female occupant in historic Mistletoe Heights neighborhood, less than two miles from TCU campus. Downstairs has a living room overlooking the pool and private patio, kitchen with large pantry, and utility room with washer & dryer and half bath. Upstairs is a huge bedroom with loft storage and a full bath. \$795.00 monthly, plus electric. Please contact meralen@sbcglobal.net.

TUTOR, K-3rd grade. Caring, encouraging, experienced (12 years) certified elementary school teacher is offering tutoring this summer. Contact Kathy Jo Rogers at 817.688.0905 or kathyjorogers@sbcglobal.net.

EXPERIENCED BABYSITTER/NANNY/ CHILDCARE PROFESSIONAL. My name is Britney Owens and I live in the Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood. I have 8 years of experience in high end quality childcare and I am seeking to help you with your family's needs for a babysitter! I bring toys and it allows me to be very hands on and interactive when doing developmentally appropriate activities with children. I've had a variety of experiences. Currently I am working for Cooks Kids Place Childcare and a Nanny Agency where I have assisted Pro-Athletes Families. I would love to help you as well. Please call me at 817-253-4734 or email britneyn.owens@yahoo.com to let me know if I can help you!

HARPIST: Sally Sledge ministers on the harp as a worshiper, psalmist and vocalist. She has recorded two C.D.'s: "Return to Your Rest" and "Cherished Times". She is available to play for home groups, church events, Bible studies, weddings, funerals, dinner parties or any special occasion. For more information and song samples, you may access her web site at www.sallysledge.com.

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PIANO LESSONS for beginners and intermediates. Mary Smith, 2300 W. Magnolia Ave. 817-927-8876.

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EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC: Mistletoe Musikgarten
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VINTAGE SALES
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GOING OUT OF TOWN? Call Riley Gensheimer.
Neighborhood teenager available for pet sitting and plant watering. Riley Gensheimer (age 15) of 2337 West Magnolia is available to take care of your home while you are away. I will bring in the mail, water plants and feed your pets for \$10-\$15 a day. Call 817-991-8214

PET PORTRAITS: Melissa Kahout's work is a perfect gift for the pet lover in your life. Great for graduations, anniversaries, birthdays, weddings or just because you love your pet. You can contact Melissa @817-924-7063 or www.mkohouthorseportraits.com

I love my "gray Taco Bell"...

The gray mission-style bungalow on Harrison Avenue has been my home for almost 30 years. And Mistletoe Heights has always meant much more to me than just a convenient place to live.

I'm already your neighbor, I'd like to be your friend—and Realtor®.

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**Mistletoe Heights Association
Income & Expenses**
January 1 through September 15, 2011



**COMMERCIAL & RESIDENTIAL
MAKEOVERS**

MARY KAY WINCHELL, OWNER

Jan 1 - Sep 15, 11

Income	
Advertising Income - Newsletter	4,171.00
Central Market Bags	82.00
Dues Donations	3,620.00
Interest Income	3.92
Total Income	7,876.92
Expense	
Bank Charges	3.73
Easter Egg Hunt	271.29
Flag Program - Triangle	120.00
Lily B. Clayton	250.00
MHA Entrance	1,151.83
Newby Park Improvements	23.87
Newsletter Expenses	3,248.21
Water Expense - Newby	586.14
Website Expense	95.25
Total Expense	5,750.32
Net Income	2,126.60

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- CUSTOM PAINTING
- CARPENTRY

EXTERIORS

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