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COMMUTER RAIL STOP

Neighborhood vote opposes rail stop in Mistletoe Heights

By Scott Nishimura

MH Traffic Committee chairman

The Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association recently completed a vote of property owners asking for your position on the proposed TEX Rail commuter rail stop at the southeast corner of Mistletoe Boulevard and the Fort Worth & Western Railroad tracks.

The vote, which is not binding on TEX Rail, was 144 against the Mistletoe Boulevard site and 118 for. Owners of a total 468 tax parcels were eligible to vote.

The association completed the vote April 24 and reported the results to the Fort Worth Transportation Authority on April 25, our deadline within The T's schedule for seeking federal funding on the TEX Rail project.

The T board must choose one of the proposed sites for the station – Mistletoe or the one north of Rosedale. This will trigger more public review.

We're not yet certain how the process works between now at the T board's decision, or afterwards, but Neighborhood Assocation President Mike Danella and the committee will work to ensure the neighborhood's interests are represented and to publicize opportunities for neighborhood input. Mike has not stated a stance to the neighborhood on which location he prefers.

Many thank yous again to the MH Traffic Steering Committee for the hours its members spent – so far - reviewing this issue, getting word to the neighborhood, and conducting the election.

They are: Brent Beasley, Ben Connelly, Mike Danella, Marjorie Day, Rosaline Eastepp, Mecca Givens, David Gunn, Ed Herring, Carrie Johnson, Melissa Kohout, Josh Lindsay, Nancy Medford, Jim Peipert, Katrina Pittman, Susan Pressley, Megan Reece, and Alex Rodman.

Please review the accompanying box for the block by block sort on how the neighborhood voted.

Train vote block-by-block

	Vote block	-by-bic	GN	
		EligIble	Yes	No
1100	Buck	8	4	1
1200	Buck	5	3	0
1300	Buck	2	0	1
1100	Clara	20	4	5
1200	Clara	8	2	3
2100	Edwin	16	4	5
2200	Edwin	15	0	8
2300	Edwin	19	5	5
	Forest Park	1	0	0
2100	Harrison	14	4	5
2200	Harrison	20	3	6
2300-2400	Harrison	23	7	7
2200	Irwin	24	9	7
2300	Irwin	22	10	4
	Jerome	2	0	1
2100	Mistletoe Ave.	12	1	3
2200	Mistletoe Ave.	15	4	5
2300	Mistletoe Ave.	18	6	4
2100	Mistletoe Blvd.	6	2	4
2200	Mistletoe Blvd.	22	10	5
2300-2400	Mistletoe Blvd.	19	2	8
1100	Mistletoe Drive	15	6	4
1200	Mistletoe Drive	8	1	3
1300	Mistletoe Drive	9	1	6
1400	Mistletoe Drive	4	2	1
2300	Mistletoe Drive	16	2	4
2100	W. Magnolia	6	5	0
2200	W. Magnolia	22	6	11
2300	W. Magnolia	19	2	4
2100	W. Morphy	15	4	2
2100	W. Rosedale S	1	0	0
2300	W. Rosedale S	20	3	7
2200	W. Rosedale S	22	3	6
2100	Weatherbee	9	1	3
2200	Weatherbee	11	2	6
		468	118	144

Check out photos from the Easter Bunny and the kiddos

Great egg hunt at Newby Park on April 7. Thank you Wendy Blanton for the photos! See Pages 6, 8 and 9

Inside

Page 2 - Yard of the month Page 3 - Prairie Day at BRIT Page 4 - Email issues Page 5 - Bike to Work Month Page 6, 8-9 - Easter Egg Hunt photos Page 7 - MH Dues Page 10 - MH Treasurer's Report Page 11-12 - Classified ads Page 13 - Forest Park Road Diet Page 14 - Helpful numbers



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YARD OF THE MONTH | MAY 2012

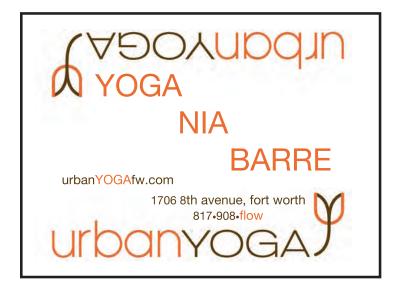
2301 Mistletoe Blvd.



Congratulations to the Reece family, recipients of the Yard of the Month for the month of May. Megan and Kelley Reece recently moved to Mistletoe Boulevard from Magnolia this past summer with their two children Ruby and River.

Located at 2301 Mistletoe Boulevard, this historic home has come full circle and become a true asset to the neighborhood, boasting with charm from times past. The new addition of the beautiful landscape was installed with native plants in mind that could survive our extreme North Texas temperatures. The front lawn is beautifully punctuated with sweeping flower beds on either side of the driveway, brimming with summer color and tender perennials. The east side of the yard is anchored with brilliant Pink Hydrangeas, Clevera, and Yellow Day Lilies. The West side of the yard is anchored with Pink Knock Out Roses and Indian Hawthorns, punctuated by Purple Wandering Jew and Yellow Day Lilies. Accents of Blackfoot Daisies, Pink and White Dianthus, Japanese Holly Ferns and Blue Salvia are dotted throughout. A young Japanese Maple trees rise up from west side of the driveway and the beautiful, mature crepe myrtle flanks the east side of the entrance from the driveway.

Mistletoe Heights Association expresses appreciation to the Reece family for helping beautify our neighborhood. The Reece family will receive a generous gift card of \$25.00 from Calloway's Nursery as recipients of the Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association Yard of the Month.



BRIT hosts Prairie Day May 19

Hundreds of years ago, settlers marveled at the wide-open prairies in North Texas. Today, most of those grasslands have been replaced by cities and towns. The Botanical Research Institute of Texas will recapture the vibrancy and history of the North Texas landscape at the second annual Prairie Day event, 10 a.m.to 2 p.m. Saturday, May 19 at BRIT's headquarters, 1700 University Drive.

Prairie Day celebrates the beauty of the North Texas native landscape through a series of family-oriented, hands-on events that showcase the native grasses, wildflowers, and vegetation blanketing the BRIT site. Maintaining and researching native landscapes is part of BRIT's ongoing conservation effort.



Mexican Feather Grass, a Texas native.

environment and can complement any garden or yard."

A tradition begun last year at the first Prairie Day event is the making of seedballs to help populate the BRIT campus's side meadow with a variety of native plants. A Native American tradition, seed balls are tiny modules containing all the ingredients to give seeds an extra hand up in getting started - seeds, humus, dried powdered red clay and sand. When mixed with water and rolled into balls, they become little gardens that are tossed into areas that need vegetation. They will lay dormant until the right amount of rain falls.

Upcoming Mistletoe Events

■ Fourth of July Parade and Ice Cream Social, Triangle Park, 7 pm

■ Fall Covered Dish Dinner Lilv B. Clayton cafeteria, date TBA

Bow-tying Party for our Street Light Decorations, November 18th, 2012, 3 p.m. 2237 Irwin - Hosted by Susan and Gary Willis

■ Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Holiday Party, December 2, 2012

Host an event here's how

story research center received the highest

U.S. Green Building

"By hosting this annual Prairie Day

Tammie Crole, Prairie

Day organizer. "Native plants are better suited to the North Texas

Council in 2011,

Hosting a neighborhood event is a great way to get involved and meet your neighbors, too. Sometimes neighbors team up and work together on these events. MHA will reimburse you for any of the supplies needed, such as dishes, utensils, drinks, etc.

These events help make Mistletoe Heights the special neighborhood it is. If you are interested in hosting one of these events, please contact Rose Lynn Scott, 817-807-6748.

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Check out our updated website: www.mistletoeheights.org

Mistletoe email update

When we transitioned from the old email address to the new email adress (i.e. residents@mistletoeheights.com to residents@ mistletoeheights.org) I didn't actually delete the old address, I just simply removed everybody from the old email list.

Any email sent to the old address would then bounce back to you with a message about a non-member posting to a member list (or something like that). This was confusing to some of you. It was also sometimes confusing the email moderators.

I won't bore you with the details about why the old address wasn't deleted. I have now fixed that problem.

Effective immediately, the old address has been deleted and any email sent to residents@mistletoeheights.com will bounce. It will bounce :)

Please use the address residents@mistletoeheights.org. That's the one that works!

- Scott Ewing, see@prodigy.net webmaster www.mistletoeheights.org (and .com :)

Get on the Mistletoe Heights email list

To subscribe to the Mistletoe Heights Residents mailing list, go to www.mistletoeheights.org, 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.org 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.org.



Plant to planet."



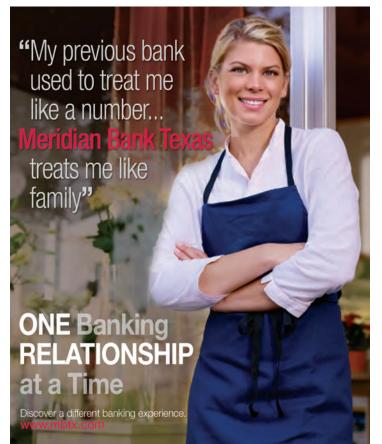
It's time to ring in Spring!

BRIT[®] presents Prairie Day

Saturday, May 19 | 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Join us for a FREE family fun day recapturing the vibrancy and history of the North Texas landscape at the second annual Prairie Day! Live entertainment by the Bear Claw Singers and the Katy Keenie Band. Lone Star Bar-B-Que will be serving up lunch for \$5.

> Visit us at BRIT.org for more information on this family fun event! GFollow us @BRIT_org Facebook.com/BRITorg





May Dates

May 5 Cinco de Mayo May 13 Mother's Day May 28 Memorial Day

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May is National Bike to Work Month

May 18 is Bike to Work Day. Log on to www.fortworthtexas.gov/ bikeFW to sign up for group rides from the north, east, south and west into the ITC and The T's Bike to Work Day Celebration. More information on group rides is available on the City's bike website. If you are riding on your own, stop by the ITC between 7am and 9am for refreshments and exhibits.

May 19 is the Mayor's Southside Neighborhood Ride Benefiting Fort Worth Police Bike Patrol Support Group. 9 a.m. One Safe Place, 777 W Rosedale (corner of Hemphill & Rosedale) Eventbrite registration www. fortworthtexas.gov/bikeFW. Enjoy the family friendly, leisurely ride through Fort Worth's Southside neighborhoods on the 8.8 mile route, or ride a shorter 5 mile course - both kicking off at One Safe Place, 777 W. Rosedale St. Other activities at the event include a kid's bike rodeo, sponsor booths and vendors promoting family



Fort Worth Mayor Betsy Price

health and safety. Attendees can chat with Fort Worth Fire, Police and bike patrol personnel, and get a first-hand look at some of the equipment they use to keep Cowtown safe.



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Easter Egg Hunt eggsceptional

Submitted by Susan and Brent Pressley

This year the Mistletoe Heights Easter Egg Hunt was a huge success. The weather was perfect, Newby Park looked great, and there were lots of eggs to hunt. In fact, this was the biggest Easter Egg Hunt we have had in recent memory. Ninety-four children dropped off eggs for the Easter Bunny to hide. With the twenty dozen or so eggs the neighborhood pitches in, that means about 2,500 eggs were hidden at Newby Park!

The good rain this year made the grass a little taller, and a little trickier, than usual. Many eggs were well hidden. After the children found them all the Easter Bunny stopped by on his motorcycle to give sweet treats to the kids and take pictures. Coffee, bagels, and fruit were served under the pavilion and many families lingered after the hunt to chat and let the kids play. This year Aaron and Julie Torkelson of Harrison Ave. very generously provided the bagels and ice for the drinks. Thank you Torkelsons!

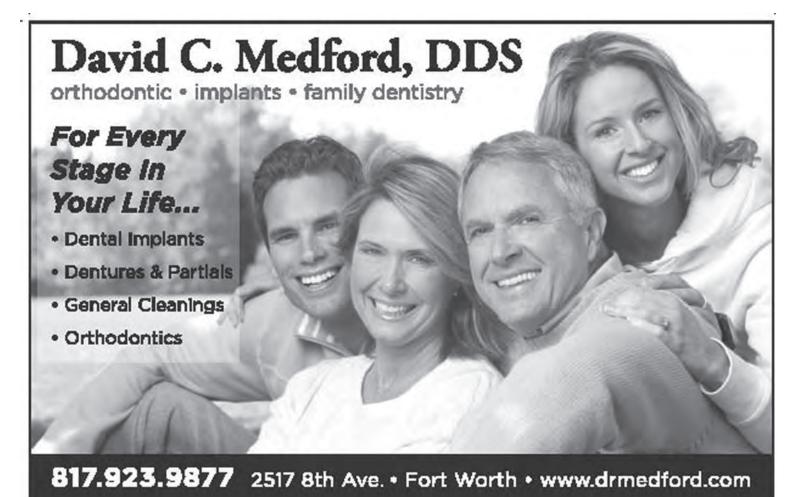
Every year many neighbors help make this event a success and we could not do it without them. We would like to give a big thank you to Kelley Reece who



helps us set up the park every year. Very special thanks goes to Woody Bruner and Betsy and Mary Ann Shelton who make sure the Easter Bunny arrives at the hunt safe and sound. And last but not least is Patsy Slocum. Every year Patsy provides the coffee for the egg hunt, but she has also worked tirelessly in the past to help build the pavilion at Newby Park. Newby Park would not be the same without this pavilion. Thank you Patsy for all you have contributed to our neighborhood!



Photos by Wendy Blanton See more photos on Page 8-9



Mistletoe Heights Association Annual Dues Drive

It is time again to begin our drive to collect dues for our neighborhood association. All residents and property owners of Mistletoe Heights are automatically members of the association. Dues are completely voluntary. Any amount is 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 \$25 Holly - \$26 to \$50 Gardenia - \$51 to \$75 Magnolia - \$76 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	Please return your dues donation to:
Name:		Mistletoe Heights Association		
Address:				c/o Jeri Jo Blackmon 1408 Mistletoe Drive
				Fort Worth, TX 76110

□ Please check here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous









Mistletoe Heights 2012 Easter Egg Hunt











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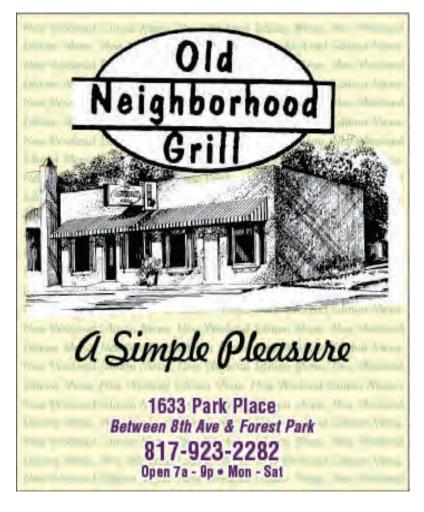
Mistletoe Heights Association Income & Expenses January through March 2012

	Jan - Mar 12
Income	
Advertising Income - Newsletter	1,460.00
Christmas Cards	40.00
Dues Donations	125.00
Interest Income	0.35
Total Income	1,625.35
Expense	
Maintenance - Newby, Berm, etc.	592.50
MHA Meeting Facility Rental	100.00
MHA Xmas Party - 2011	167.78
Newsletter Expenses	1,126.09
Water Expense - Newby	491.48
Welcome Baskets	279.50
Total Expense	2,757.35
t Income	-1,132.00

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PAGE 10

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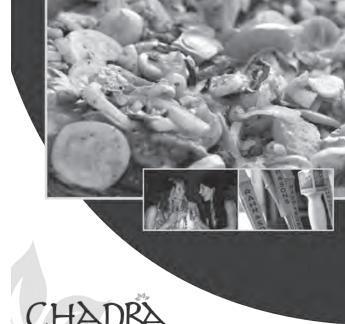
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GOING OUT OF TOWN? Call Riley Gensheimer. Neighborhood teenager available for pet sitting and plant watering. Riley Gensheimer, (age 16) of 2337 W. Magnolia, is available to take care of your home while you are away. I will bring in the mail, water plants and feed your pets for \$10-\$15 a day. Call 817-991-8214

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PAGE 12

Forest Park Road Diet gets Fort Worthology write-up

Excerpted from fortworthology.com - April 24, 2012. Written by Kevin Buchanan. For full article, go to http://fortworthology. com/2012/04/24/residents-of-berkeley-placeand-mistletoe-heights-assemble-grassroots-planfor-forest-park-blvd-road-diet/

Forest Park Boulevard, between Rosedale and Park Hill, currently exists as a four-car-lane road (two lanes each direction). It's always struck me as a bit of an uncomfortable fit for a road running right through the middle of the Berkeley Place and Mistletoe Heights neighborhoods, scaled primarily for moving traffic rather than providing a safe and calm experience for the neighborhoods. The street sees a lot of speeding, and a resident has even taken to documenting the traffic accidents along the street, which its speed-oriented design does nothing to reduce. The multiple lanes and speed are also dangerous to pedestrians, especially families trying to walk across the street to get to the actual Forest Park. (The existing crosswalk is basically ignored by most drivers, encouraged to drive fast by the road configuration.)

According to data from the Fort Worth Police Department, from 2009 to 2011, Forest Park Boulevard saw 63 minor accidents, 21 major accidents (a major accident is loosely defined as one resulting in hospitalization), and seven hit & runs. In the first six weeks of 2012, the street's had two major accidents and seven minor ones.

It seems as though quite a few residents of the neighborhoods around Forest Park agree that the street isn't appropriate for its context. Residents of Berkeley Place and Mistletoe Heights who have felt that the street isn't safe for years and wanted to do something beneficial for their neighborhoods have assembled, on their own, a totally grassroots plan for a road diet for Forest Park Boulevard, and the neighborhood associations have now passed resolutions expressing their support.

The plan would be a classic four-lane road diet, much like was done to Magnolia Avenue. The four-lane configuration would be replaced by one car lane in each direction, a dedicated center turn lane, and newly-gained roadway space curbside would be used for dedicated bicycle lanes.

By removing two of the traffic lanes, the pace of vehicles on Forest Park Blvd. would be slower. This has a lot of safety benefits, not only for pedestrians and cyclists but drivers as well. Removing two lanes also eliminates conflict points for street crossings, with fewer opportunities for moving vehicles to come in contact.

The dedicated center turn lane would also remove one of the worst aspects of the current four-lane design: vehicles turning left from the left-hand lanes. At present, as was the case on Magnolia before its road diet, vehicles turning left take up a traffic lane, meaning drivers behind them will have to weave around them into the right lane to pass. This creates a dangerous opportunity for rear-end collisions with cars waiting to turn left, sideswipes by vehicles switching to the right lane, and blindside collisions by vehicles turning left obscuring traffic to vehicles also turning left on the other side.



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