

# MISTLETOE EXPRESS

A FRONT PORCH COMMUNITY



April-May 2016  
www.mistletoeheights.org

Neighbor Liz Northern ran in the Olympic Marathon Trials in Los Angeles and did us proud

## Chasing down a dream

By Elizabeth Northern

It was February in Los Angeles, and record high temperatures were not a thought in anyone's mind – until the week leading up to the big race.

Highs in the low-80s? What?

As I began packing my bags in preparation for the 2016 U.S. Olympic Marathon Trials, pants and jackets were left in the closet while shorts and T-shirts were folded into my suitcase.

After waiting 2½ years for this experience to come to fruition, I was not about to let some hot weather dampen my excitement.

Qualifying for the Olympic Marathon Trials is to semi-elite

runners what qualifying for the Boston Marathon is to most runners.

It's a status milestone and life-long goal that shapes years of training and race selection in order to best achieve the mark.

I first hit the trial mark at the Chicago Marathon in October 2013 (2:42:36), much to my surprise – and the surprise of everyone else.

Making the Olympic team was a long shot. The real reward of going to the trials is simply being there to compete.

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Liz Northern, on Park Place Avenue, on her way to winning the Cowtown Ultra Marathon on Feb. 28, only a couple of weeks after running in the Olympic Marathon Trials in Los Angeles.

## Six Mistletoe gardens to be featured in 2016 Hidden Gardens of Fort Worth Tour

By Suzy Coleman

March hail storms and April showers are followed by beautiful May flowers and the 13th annual Hidden Gardens of Fort Worth Tour!

Organized by Historic Fort Worth Inc., this year's tour will be held in Mistletoe Heights on Sunday, May 15, from noon to 6 p.m., rain or shine.

With milder weather following violent hailstorms and a cold snap ushering in spring, green thumbs throughout the city will have the opportunity view six private gardens in historic Mistletoe Heights.

The gardens on this year's tour are lovingly maintained by homeowners Claudia Camp and David Gunn, Lillian and Joe Greenslade, Susie and Mark Mitchell, Kathy and Steve McReynolds, Marjorie and Thomas Day and Jeff Davis.

The tour benefits the preservation programs of Historic

Fort Worth, including the maintenance and operation of Fort Worth's first and second historic landmarks, Thistle Hill and the Ball-Eddleman-McFarland House.

The ticketed-only Sunset Tour and Dinner on the evening of Friday, May 13, will honor the garden owners.

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# Six Mistletoe gardens to be featured in 2016 Hidden Gardens of Fort Worth Tour

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A rose at one of the homes on the Hidden Gardens Tour

The Rt. Rev. Sam B. and Isabelle Hulseby will serve as honorary event chairpersons.

This evening allows patrons who purchased tickets to tour the gardens before opening for general admittance on May 15.

The Sunset Tour includes transportation to the gardens (departing from and returning to the Thistle Hill mansion) followed by cocktails and a seated dinner at Thistle Hill.

The cost of reservations for the Sunset Tour and Dinner are: \$175 for one, \$350 for two, \$700 for four, \$1,050 for six, \$1,400 for a table for eight, \$2,100 for a table for 10 and \$2,500 for a table for 12.

If you are interested in attending, please contact Suzy Coleman at [suzy\\_coleman@historicfortworth.org](mailto:suzy_coleman@historicfortworth.org).

On the day of public viewing, general admittance ticket holders will have the chance to step behind private walls and garden gates into the neighborhood's garden paradises.

Guests will visit a variety of botanical displays and see creative approaches that may inspire them to enhance their own gardens.

This tour will showcase a wide selection of gardens on both the east and west sides of Mistletoe Heights.

Visitors will see intricate bungalow gardens, where every square inch is part of the design, as well as large bluff-view gardens with sweeping vistas.

While our gardeners create beauty with the use of soil and plants, local artists will be painting *en plein air* in each garden during the tour. Their artwork will be available for sale, and a portion of the proceeds will benefit Historic Fort Worth.

Tickets for the Hidden Gardens of Fort Worth Tour will go on sale Monday, April 18. Tickets are \$20 in advance and \$25 on tour day. Tickets may be purchased at the following ticket outlets:

- Historic Fort Worth, 817-336-2344, or online at [www.historicfortworth.org](http://www.historicfortworth.org).
- Archie's Gardenland, 6700 Camp Bowie Blvd.

- C.C.'s Touch of Nature, 3912 West Vickery Blvd.

Please visit Historic Fort Worth Inc.'s website at [www.historicfortworth.org](http://www.historicfortworth.org) to learn more about the organization, upcoming events and how to become a member.

In addition to viewing the gardens, several events are being planned in the neighborhood to complement the tour.

The neighborhood is sponsoring a Fairy Garden Day to coincide with the tour. The fairy gardens will be created in Newby Park on May 1. Details and a time will be announced by email.

Fairy gardens can be created using just about any type of container – small garden pot, roasting dish, flower pot, teapot, toy pickup truck or anything else that is fun and whimsical. Small fairy-like accessories would be welcome as well.

The fairy gardens will be displayed at the Triangle on May 15 from noon until 6 p.m., the same hours as the gardens tour.

Neighbors Megan Reece and Susan Pressley are chaperoning a lemonade stand to be run by children, also in the Triangle during the gardens tour.

One other note: The gardens tour will bring into the neighborhood more vehicular traffic than usual. So parents and their children should be extra cautious when playing outdoors.



Porch ornaments at one of the homes on the Hidden Gardens Tour

# Luke Ellis reflects on the many changes during four decades in Mistletoe Heights

By Luke Ellis

Last December, I realized that we had lived in Mistletoe Heights for 40 years.

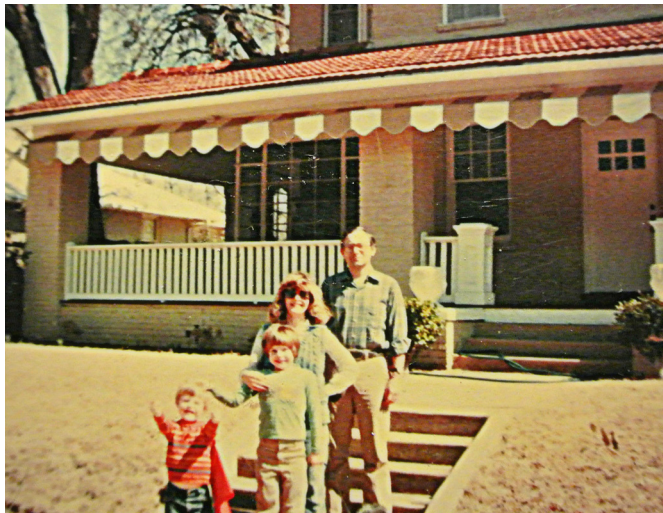
Terri and I moved into our house on Mistletoe Drive in December 1975. We had two kids: Sara who was 5 and Grant who was 6 months old. We were the new, young family in the neighborhood.

Mistletoe Heights was one of the earliest grand residential areas of Fort Worth, but the neighborhood had experienced a decline in the 1960s and early 1970s.

In 1975, it was considered a neighborhood "in transition," but it was definitely showing signs of revival. A few of the original owners were still around, as well as a number of older owners who had lived in their houses since the 1930s and 1940s.

Much like today, new families with small children were beginning to move in. We had lived in a similar neighborhood in Dallas for the previous four years and knew that Mistletoe Heights had the potential for great growth.

The area was attractive to new residents for many reasons, such as proximity to downtown and the hospital



Luke and Terri Ellis and children Grant and Sara in front of their house on Mistletoe Drive in 1978

district, good schools, great housing stock and incredibly low prices. Everything except for the low house prices still exists.

The average square-foot sales price ranged from \$10 to \$12 for a total redo, up to about \$25 to \$30 per square foot for a house on the bluff, in move-in condition.

However, getting a loan was often a problem because  
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## PLEASE DON'T FENCE ME IN

In case you didn't know, I'm more than just a Mistletoe Heights' area Realtor—I represent buyers and sellers all over Fort Worth, Tarrant County and beyond.



*Call me with all your real estate needs & questions.*

*Gaye Reed*



817-688-1952  
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## What would you like to see in the newsletter?

We want your feedback! What topics would you like to see in the newsletter? Send us your suggestions:

[newsletter@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:newsletter@mistletoeheights.org).



## Chasing down a dream on a hot day in LA

Continued from Page 1

With only the top three runners of each race (male and female) making the team, I had a 1.5 percent chance of going to Rio de Janeiro!

As I toed the line at 10:20 on the morning of Feb. 13, the day of the big race in LA, I was surrounded by 197 of the fastest women in the United States.

All of us had trained many years and miles leading up to this very moment.

With tears streaming down many faces as we hummed along to the national anthem, our nerves were palpable and fermenting in the 77-degree LA smog.

The heat was very real that morning, and many of us had not run (let alone raced) in temperatures above 60 degrees since October. Alas, here we were, and we were ready to leave everything out there on the course.

And, then we were off.

The course was made up of five loops: one 2.2-mile loop through downtown LA followed by four of the same six-mile loops through the campus of the University of Southern California.

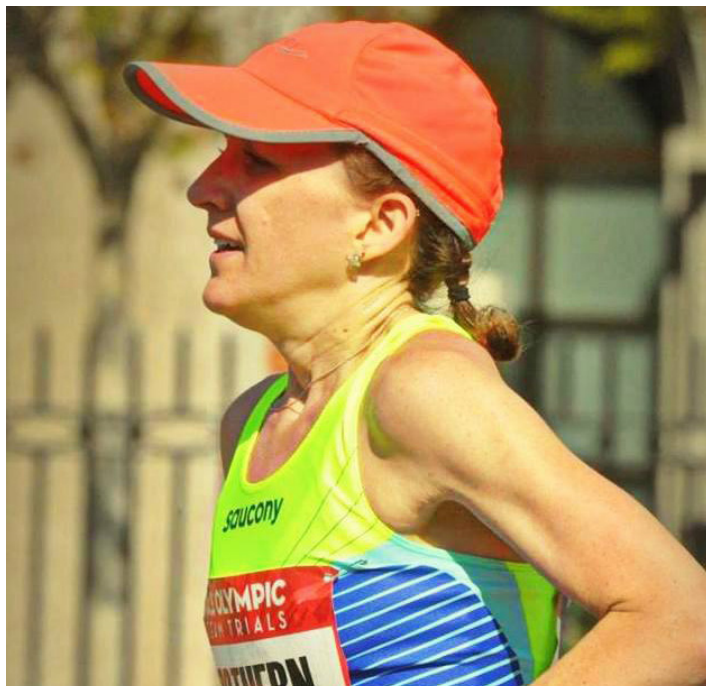
The first 2.2-mile loop flew by like a thief in the night. Did it really happen?

Slowly, the amoeba of runners spread out into smaller groups, pairs or single file along Figueroa Street, settling into a quiet groove for the warm odyssey ahead.

Over the course of the run, the sun crept up over the buildings and sat on top of LA like the great Olympics torch.

As a result, 25 percent of the female racers and 33 percent of the male racers fell victim to the heat and didn't finish the race.

For those of us who struggled through the ordeal, it was incredible. The crowds along the downtown streets roared with cheers unlike any I've heard anywhere.



Liz Northern running in the Olympic Marathon trials in LA.



Liz Northern, running strong in the heat, during the Olympic Marathon Trials in Los Angeles on Feb. 13.

That, combined with the support of my family, stationed at the top of the six-mile loop, gave me the strength I needed to put one foot in front of the other.

It was so special having my family and friends there to experience the trials with me: my husband, parents, brother, sister-in-law, mother-in-law, niece, nephew, aunt, uncle, coach and a half-dozen friends!

During some tougher moments (especially when seeing other runners dropping out of the race), I thought back to the years of training that brought me to that very moment.

It was hard not to smile and keep pushing on.

Eventually, I crossed the finish line (68th place) and fell into my mom's arms, crying tears of joy from achieving my goal. For the rest of the trip, I proudly wore my finisher's medal.

My love affair with running started with a 1K fun run in 1992.

My relationship with the sport has taken me across the country and globe, given me injuries, introduced me to my best friends and – most recently and surprisingly – etched my name into Fort Worth's history.

With a few weeks to mull over my experiences at the Olympic Trials, some words come to mind: humbled, hot, excited, tired. But grateful stands out the most.

Grateful for my ever-patient, loving and supportive husband who (during the past five years) has adapted to my runner lifestyle with an open mind and eager curiosity.

Grateful for my unmatched, unparalleled, unrivaled parents who have been part of my journey since that 1K fun run in 1992, giving me quiet words of encouragement and hope at just the right moments.

And, extremely grateful for all of the support I was given from my co-workers at Buxton, the Mistletoe Heights neighborhood and the greater Fort Worth running community.

I have never been so proud to be from Fort Worth and to represent such a generous and warm community.

*Editor's note: Elizabeth Northern and her husband, Will, have been residents of Mistletoe Heights since May 2013. She is the only woman to have won all five Cowtown Marathon events.*



## Reflections on 40 years in the neighborhood

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The Ellis house at 1205 Mistletoe Drive in February 1977.  
Courtesy of Luke and Terri Ellis

lenders were reluctant to make loans on homes in the area and appraisers had to be lobbied to come up with the required values.

By the time we bought our house, a number of future politicians had already found Mistletoe Heights.

Future Fort Worth City Council members Shirley Johnson on Mistletoe Avenue, David Chappell on Mistletoe Boulevard and Ken Barr (who also became mayor) on Mistletoe Drive were working to improve the neighborhood.

Shortly thereafter, Gary and Lynn Manny, both of whom were to become presidents of the Fort Worth school board, moved into the neighborhood.

Having all of these future public servants living in Mistletoe Heights helped greatly in the rejuvenation of the neighborhood.

Several years later, future state representative Mark Shelton and future City Council member and state senator Wendy Davis also moved to Mistletoe Heights.

Because of the aging populations in Mistletoe Heights and Berkeley Place in the 1970s, Lily B. Clayton, our neighborhood elementary school, had dropped in enrollment to near 200 students.

The school district talked about closing the school if enrollment fell below 200.

A group of parents from Mistletoe Heights and Berkeley Place joined together and started Clayton Child Care, an

after-hours child-care service at Lily B.

Terri was one of the organizers and served on the board of directors of Clayton Child Care for a number of years.

The operation was very successful and the school's future was preserved. Today, Lily B. Clayton is a successful and thriving school. Clayton Child Care was also very successful and operates in a number of schools today.

The Mistletoe Heights Association was formed in 1977 in an effort to soften the impact of the Rosedale-Vickery expansion on the northern boundary of the neighborhood.

Our first success was convincing the Texas Department of Transportation to build the earthen berm along West Rosedale South Street.

The original Texas Department of Transportation plans called for a concrete slope from the edge of West Rosedale South down to the new roadway. It was ugly and provided no sound barrier.

The berm was a major victory.

Another early success, with help from the city, was the planting of several hundred trees – mostly live oaks and red oaks.

They are now nearly 40 years old and are beautiful, mature trees that contribute much to the character of Mistletoe Heights.

The association, with the guidance and leadership of former City Council woman Shirley Johnson was also able to save the Triangle from being sold by the city and developed as a single-family lot.

Probably the two most contentious matters involving the neighborhood during the past 40 years were the expansion of zoo parking and the adoption of the historic overlay by the city.

Neighbors were often on opposite sides of these issues for various reasons and emotions ran high.

Ultimately, the zoo and its required parking was expanded and a form of the historic overlay was adopted. Mistletoe Heights survived both issues and most neighbors got over any hurt feelings they had.

Everything considered, Mistletoe Heights has been for the last 40 years a wonderful neighborhood in which to live and raise a family.

We would not live anywhere else!

## Support our advertisers

The officers of the Mistletoe Heights Association encourage you to support the businesses that advertise in our newsletter. These organizations pay to be in our newsletter and support our neighborhood. Their business also makes

this publication possible. Without them we would not be able to provide printed newsletters to every household in the neighborhood free of charge.

# President's Corner

By Josh Lindsay



I don't know what happened to winter, but spring is clearly here.

Every year during spring cleaning, I come across that box of stuff in the attic. I'm sure you have something similar.

For me, it's a box of photos taken by my Aunt Ruth in the 1920s.

Few of them are worthy of display, but I can't possibly

throw them out. So back they go into the attic heat, doomed to slow decay and oblivion.

Our neighborhood officers raised the issue that there may be boxes of documents or photos related to the neighborhood that are suffering the same fate.

We wondered what we could do to preserve these materials and make them available to our neighbors of the future.

At the invitation of Melanie Smith, who is a board member at Historic Fort Worth Inc., we took a tour of Historic Fort Worth's archives in the Ball-Eddleman-McFarland House at 1110 Penn St.

The archives are on the lower level and have a full-time archivist overseeing the materials.

The archivist told us that any materials that neighborhood residents would like to deposit there would be welcome.

Here are some of the advantages we discussed.

- Any materials donated would be filed in an individual file for each house address.

- All files are kept in a safe, climate-controlled archive safe from vermin and weather damage.
- The archives would happily welcome photocopies of any documents or photos.
- The materials would be available to anyone now or in the future.
- Space would also be available for any materials related to the neighborhood in general.

We were very impressed with the facility and its conditions and want to encourage any neighbors who have documents, research or photos related to specific houses or the neighborhood in general to consider donating materials.

Jim and Mary Ellen Peipert (2217 Harrison Ave., 817-926-4117) have volunteered to collect any donated materials at their house and deliver them to the archives.

We are only temporary caretakers of these lovely homes. It would be a pity to lose any historical materials that might be of interest to future residents.

I would be happy to answer any questions about what we saw at the archives.

If you want to see the archives yourself, please set up an appointment. It's an impressive facility dedicated to preserving Fort Worth's past.

**Josh Lindsay**

**president@mistletoeheights.org**

**2238 Mistletoe Blvd.**

## Get connected

Get connected. Be more engaged. Please share with us your experiences of good will in the neighborhood to [newsletter@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:newsletter@mistletoeheights.org) and write me at [president@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:president@mistletoeheights.org). Here are some ways to find out what's going on in the neighborhood.

— Josh Lindsay, MHA president



Facebook Chat Room [www.facebook.com/groups/mhneighbors](http://www.facebook.com/groups/mhneighbors)

NextDoor page [www.mistletoeheights.nextdoor.com](http://www.mistletoeheights.nextdoor.com)

Webpage [www.mistletoeheights.org/contacts](http://www.mistletoeheights.org/contacts)





# Join the Mistletoe Heights email list

To subscribe to the Mistletoe Heights Residents mailing list, go to [mistletoeheights.org](http://mistletoeheights.org), click on "Email list" and look for "Subscribing to Residents." Enter your name and email address, and then click "Subscribe." Note: You may need to add [residents-bounces@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:residents-bounces@mistletoeheights.org) to your

address book to receive emails. If you have questions or concerns, contact [moderator@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:moderator@mistletoeheights.org).

Check out our website: [mistletoeheights.org](http://mistletoeheights.org)

Friend us on Facebook: [facebook.com/mistletoeheights](https://facebook.com/mistletoeheights)

# Advertising submission process

All ads must be paid for by the 10th of the month previous to the month in which the ad will appear. Artwork for all ads should also be submitted by the 10th of the month prior.

Artwork should be emailed to: [advertise@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:advertise@mistletoeheights.org). Should you have any questions, please email [advertise@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:advertise@mistletoeheights.org).

# Who do you know?

Do you know anyone connected with a business on Park Place, Forest Park Boulevard, Eighth Avenue, Mistletoe Boulevard, Rosedale Street, Magnolia Avenue or Park Hill?

The *Mistletoe Express* is looking for someone to contact local businesses to advertise in our newsletter.

Over the past few years, the number of advertisers has dwindled, and we need new advertisers to break even on the cost of the newsletter.

Ideally, having an advertising manager for the newsletter would remedy this situation. The position would require a time commitment of only a few hours a month

But if any individual neighbor has a contact with a business proprietor and would be willing to speak directly to that person about advertising in the *Mistletoe Express*, that would also be helpful.

If you are interested and able to help, contact treasurer Jeri Jo Blackmon for details about ad specifications, deadlines and pricing, or just look on the back page of the newsletter.

You know you know somebody!  
Thanks!

# CELEBRATE THE PRAIRIE AT BRIT'S PRAIRIE DAY MAY 14 ♦ 9AM-2PM



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# MHA meeting minutes, Feb. 16

By Valerie Ewing

Hosts: Gerry and Meralen Tyson, 1351 Mistletoe Drive

Attendees:

Officers: Josh Lindsay, Chad Jung, Jeri Jo Blackmon, Mary Ellen Peipert, Valerie Ewing

Neighbors: 29

Special guest speakers:

NPO Sidney Keith (West Division): 817-944-1038 email: sidney.keith@fortworthtexas.gov

NPO Josh Caprio (Hospital District): 817-856-8609 email: joshua.caprio@fortworthtexas.gov

7:15 p.m.: Meeting started with MHA President Josh Lindsay introducing special guest speakers Sidney Keith and Josh Caprio, NPOs (neighborhood police officers) for our area.

Officer Keith spoke first and stated that he is the designated NPO for the West Division, the area west of Forest Park Boulevard, and Officer Caprio is the designated NPO for the Hospital District east of Forest Park.

The NPOs are there for the neighborhood, and you can contact them if you have concerns about stop signs, barking

dogs, code violations, security surveys for your home, etc.

Officer Caprio spoke next. He said that his area is Forest Park Boulevard to Eighth Avenue and Rosedale Street to Park Place Avenue. He stated that our neighborhood has the lowest crime trend of his area.

Contact information is provided above. However, Officer Keith indicated he preferred email while Officer Caprio preferred to be called on his mobile number.

Q&A for the officers:

What if you're going out of town? You can notify the NPO for your area. The beat officers will drive by your house, plus the information gets mentioned daily at roll call.

What about panhandlers/homeless? Call it in if you're seeing increased traffic or activity to report their presence.

What is the difference between 911 vs. non-emergency number? When you call either 911 or the non-emergency number, it goes to the same place. The only difference is the non-emergency number is more time-consuming due to voice prompts. At this point, Officers Keith and Caprio left the meeting.

7:35 p.m.: Call to order by Josh Lindsay. Motion made to accept the minutes from the neighborhood meeting held Nov. 17, 2015. Motion seconded and approved.

7:38 p.m.: Josh congratulated Elizabeth Northern, Mistletoe Heights resident, for placing in the top third of the Olympic Marathon Trials in Los Angeles on Feb. 13. And also on her continued follow-up of the sidewalk placement on Jerome Street. Installation of new sidewalks along Jerome has begun, starting at Rosedale Street near Newby Park.

7:39 p.m.: Treasury report by Jeri Jo Blackmon. Everyone present received a copy of the income and expenses, with data comparing the previous year to this one. Of note, the income from newsletter advertising is down 42 percent this year and water expenses for Newby Park have increased 26 percent.

7:41 p.m.: Newsletter news by Mary Ellen Peipert. The newsletter is now being published every other month, with the next one out in April. Deadline for materials is March 15.

7:43 p.m.: Robert Camacho provided a berm update: The curve at Rosedale Street and Mistletoe Drive is undergoing  
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NPO Josh Caprio addresses the Feb. 16 neighborhood meeting.



# MHA meeting minutes, Feb. 16

Continued from Page 8

change, with additional space provided for plants, including four new trees in the area. Josh said they are planting 218 Boston ivy plants to climb the wall and 250 Mexican feather grass plants.

7:48 p.m.: The security chief for Red Horse Protection Inc., Derrek Sainz, entered the Tyson home and introduced himself by briefly stating that his company is paid to patrol the Berkeley Place neighborhood and is available for our neighborhood as well. Then he thanked us for our time and left.

7:50 p.m.: Old business:

Gardens tour update: Josh Lindsay invited Melanie Smith to speak about this event, taking place in our neighborhood in May. This is the 13th year of the Hidden Gardens of Fort Worth Tour. Tickets are \$20 in advance. A sunset dinner will be offered on Friday, May 13 (time to be announced). Expect increased traffic on Sunday, May 15, from noon to 6 p.m., so take extra precautions with children playing outside. There might be lemonade stands that afternoon at strategic areas, supervised by adults but run by the neighborhood children, with proceeds going toward Mistletoe Heights. Melanie Smith indicated that volunteers are needed for the garden tour to be present at the tables or in a garden to caution people about steps, etc. If you're interested in helping out, please call Melanie at 817-923-8191.

7:55 p.m.: Historic Fort Worth Archives tour by Josh Lindsay: The facility is located at the Ball-Eddleman-McFarland House at 1110 Penn St. If the Mistletoe Heights neighborhood wants to store historical documents, each home would have its own folder and the neighborhood would have its own folder. Documents are stored in a climate-controlled location and there is no limit on stuff as there is plenty of space. If you have old documents or photos but are unwilling to part with the originals, then they will make a copy and you keep the original. If you are interested in touring the facility, they gladly accept appointments: 817-332-5875. Jim and Mary Ellen Peipert volunteered to be a drop-off point for documents and they will also deliver them to Historic Fort Worth.

Question: How can we make the neighborhood aware of this resource? One suggestion was to put an article in the newsletter to notify people of this option. Another suggested coinciding garage cleanups with the upcoming garage sale and making a document drive for materials to go into the archives.

8:05 p.m.: Neighborhood garage sale is April 2.

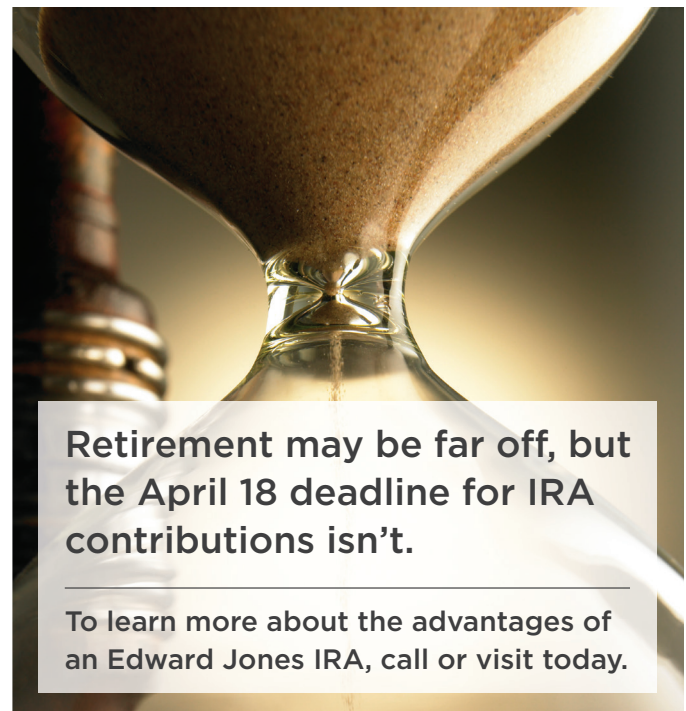
8:06 p.m.: Lily B. Clayton Elementary School fundraiser by Kate Lovelady and Susan Pressley. The federal government provides Lily B. with \$55,000 annually because the school is categorized

as Title I. Title I designation is based on the number of students who qualify for free or reduced lunches. Our local school board provides an additional \$44,000. Due to our neighborhood's increasing affluence, fewer children are applying for aid, potentially causing Lily B. to lose its Title I funding, which makes up more than half its budget. Kate and Susan requested the Mistletoe Heights Association to donate \$500 to the Lily B. Elementary PTA, with the goal to participate in this fundraiser annually to show its support. A motion was made to contribute \$501. The motion was seconded and approved.

8:15 p.m.: March 26 is the Easter Egg Hunt in Newby Park.

Final Moments: everyone present introduced themselves.

8:25 p.m.: Meeting adjourned.



**Bruce C Border, CFP®**

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MAKING SENSE OF INVESTING

# Help push sweet Lily B. to an even higher level of academic excellence

By Susan Pressley

The Lily B. Clayton auction is the school's largest fundraiser of the year. It's a fun, casual, adults-only evening for Lily B. parents and faculty.

The theme for this year's auction is *Live From Fort Worth ... It's Saturday Night*.

It will be held on April 23 in the ballroom at TCU. Attendees are encouraged to dress as an SNL character or host.

The purpose of this entertaining event is to raise money for sweet Lily B.

The night consists of a silent and live

auction.

For the silent auction, local businesses and individuals have donated an array of goods and services. Items in the live auction are mostly artworks by the children in each grade.

The proceeds will be used to fund new classroom technology, academic materials, teacher training, art and music programs, new books for the library, classroom supplies and much more.

This year we're encouraging neighbors to become sponsors by

making a monetary donation to this event.

Both of the auction co-chairs this year are Mistletoe Heights residents and we would appreciate a huge amount of support from our neighborhood.

The money we raise with this one event has a tremendous impact on both Lily B. and our neighborhood.

Your dedication is what helps us fill the gap between Lily B. being a good school and a great school!

## Thank you to these Mistletoe Heights neighborhood sponsors!

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 Richard Sybesma  
 Gerry and Meralen Tyson  
 Robyn and Walter Virden  
 Gary and Susan Willis  
 Richard and Christi Yantis



It's not too late to donate! We will send out a complete list of all our sponsors in the next neighborhood newsletter.

To donate online go to [www.lilybclayton.org/auction](http://www.lilybclayton.org/auction) or send a check to Lily B. Clayton PTA, 2000 Park Place, Fort Worth 76110.

Thank you so much for your support of our sweet school!



## Volunteers needed

We need more volunteers! Help us make this neighborhood better.

Are you new to the neighborhood and would like to get involved? Here are a few great ways, and you will get to meet a lot of interesting neighbors!

**Historical Preservation Committee:** We are looking for four to five people to join the Historical Preservation Committee. Help us ensure the integrity of the architecture in our community.

**Advertising manager:** We are looking for someone to solicit and manage ads from local businesses. You would work closely with the treasurer. It would require only a few hours a month.

**Social chairperson:** Are you a "people person"? We are looking for someone to help coordinate neighborhood events. Most of them already have established leaders, so it would just be a matter of coordination. Other duties would

involve finding locations for members' meetings and the Christmas party and providing snacks, drinks and tableware for such meetings. All costs would be reimbursed.

Contact Chad Jung if you are interested, [vicepresident@mistletoheights.com](mailto:vicepresident@mistletoheights.com).



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## Mark your calendars!



**Tuesday, May 17** – Mistletoe Heights Association members' meeting, 7 to 8:30 p.m. at the home of Jack and Carol Benson, 2324 Mistletoe Drive.

Members' meetings are quarterly on the second Tuesday of the month. Dates of the meetings for the remainder of 2016 are May 17, Aug. 16 and Nov. 15.

**Saturday, April 2** – Mistletoe Heights/Berkeley Place neighborhood garage sale; all day, all over the neighborhoods. A permit is required and must be secured at least 72 hours prior to the sale. To see the rules and apply online for a permit, go to [fortworthtexas.gov](http://fortworthtexas.gov) or call 817-392-2222.

Wine and Walk has been suspended for the winter. Watch the newsletter or email for a date of reinstatement.



# Perfect weather, huge turnout for annual Newby Park Easter Egg Hunt

By Susan Pressley

This year's Easter Egg hunt was another great success!

We were so fortunate to have wonderful weather, lots of treat-filled eggs and many smiling neighbors.

We collected eggs from 127 children of 68 families. That's more than 3,000 plastic eggs!

Parents, grandparents and friends had fun watching the children quickly gather up the eggs scattered around Newby Park. Within minutes, every egg had been found.

After the egg hunt, the Easter Bunny came by in her convertible to meet the children and pose for photos.

Everyone enjoyed talking to their neighbors and watching the kids play.

Some of the kids even started a candy trading market after the egg hunt, ensuring that everyone had plenty of their favorite kind of candy.

It was a fantastic day to be at the park – a little cool, but perfect weather to prevent the chocolates from melting.

A big thank you to Charlie Estes and Taylor Willis for making sure the Easter Bunny got to the park on time and in style.

Another big thank you to Kelley Reece, who helps us set up the park every year. And special thanks go to John Key and the kids of West Magnolia Avenue for helping hide eggs. We couldn't do it without all of you!



Photos by Jim Peipert





**Jeri Jo Blackmon**  
Professional Tax Services

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**817-923-4393**  
Email: [JeriJo@charter.net](mailto:JeriJo@charter.net)  
Enrolled Agent licensed by the IRS

1408 Mistletoe Drive Fort Worth, TX 76110	Cell: 817-925-7833 Fax: 817-924-7733
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## Yard of the month: 1212 Clara St.

By Bruce Horn

The first recipient of the Yard of the Month designation for 2016 is the home of Tim Miller and Mary Alice Williams at 1212 Clara St.

Tim is a doctor of veterinary medicine and is originally from New Jersey. Mary Alice grew up on Fort Worth's Near Southside and recently retired from teaching sixth grade in Arlington.

They've lived at 1212 Clara for 16 years now and their pride of ownership certainly shows.

Their home is on a double lot. The landscape design flows smoothly from the house to the rear of the property and then back out to the street.

The large yard allows the eye to rest in its movement around the spacious lawn.

It's a classic design for our neighborhood, the simple elegance quite subtle.

The yard is peaceful and quiet and that concrete bench in the back beckons one to come sit awhile and enjoy how serene it is – right here!

Mostly tried-and-true, old-fashioned plant materials are used.

There are two giant trees in the front: one elm and one pecan. The trees and the yard are always well maintained by the owners. There are crape myrtles all along the parkway as well.

Tim painstakingly hand-sculpted a beautiful hardscape edging to the bed in front of the porch, at the same time formalizing a new shape to the bed and creating a distinctive planting of shrubs and flowers.

There is a border of liriopie in front, which defines the cast iron plants behind and a small thicket of Japanese holly ferns to the south.

The liriopie border tracks through all the beds and back out to the street!

An area of the front bed by the entryway is planted in pansies at this writing, leading your eye to the two colored

pots (in the old-fashioned concrete porch pots tradition), which tie the house and the beds together very well.

Tim and Mary Alice said the St. Patrick's Day hailstorm hammered their flowerbeds. But the yard looked neat and clean a few days later after a major cleanup of debris by Tim.

A lovely Japanese maple in the front bed leads your eye up to the pergola over the porch.

From there, the eye meanders to the rear of the property, where another Japanese maple can be found.

A large non-hybrid magnolia tree along the southern edge of the property is surrounded by several large, old-fashioned red-tipped photinia (*Photinia serrulata*).

In addition, there are oxalis and dwarf liriopie moving along the line made where the well-established bed meets the lawn.

The transition from lawn to monkey grass to large Japanese ligustrum along the back is very natural looking: it all looks like it's always been there. (Oh, and did I mention the inviting bench back there in the cool, cool shade?)

Tim Miller and Mary Alice Williams have earned their Yard of the Month award with their design, maintenance and the overall impact of their front yard.







# Mistletoe Heights Association Annual Dues Drive

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.

Our annual dues drive begins in April and continues through October. You will see this flyer in our newsletter each of those months as we collect dues donations for our neighborhood association. We will recognize donors in EVERY newsletter through October with the final recognition published in our December issue.



Levels of giving for this year are:

- Mistletoe – up to \$49
- Holly - \$50 to \$99
- Magnolia - \$100 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(s) \_\_\_\_\_  
(As you prefer to be listed in the newsletter)

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

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Please check here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous

Check here if you can volunteer some time to our association and include a telephone number where we can reach you \_\_\_\_\_

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# In the city

Link to city online pothole reporting form:  
<https://cityoffortworth.wufoo.com/forms/pothole.report>

Link to report graffiti:  
[fortworthtexas.gov/codecompliance/myFtWorth](http://fortworthtexas.gov/codecompliance/myFtWorth)

Link to report animal issues, control, adoption:  
[fortworthtexas.gov](http://fortworthtexas.gov); or call 817-392-1234.

Link to request permit for garage sale:  
[Fortworthtexas.gov](http://Fortworthtexas.gov); or call 817-392-2222.



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# Pilates Works

Practical Pilates & Functional Fitness



The NEW fitness studio right here in the neighborhood!

Owner/instructor Kerry Kreiman has been teaching Pilates since 1998 and teaching dance since 1974.

*Photo by Milton Adams*

Certified instructors Andrea Carroll and Sarah Newton are also part of the team helping you to feel good in your body! Located at the former home of The Body Garage (*of which Kreiman was a co-owner for over 9 years*), Pilates Works is expanding offerings to include classes on the *CoreAlign* and the *MOTR*.



CoreAlign

*Balanced Body equipment*



MOTR

Call 817-386-7832 to get started!

Or come to our Spring Open House on Saturday April 9 from 2-4 pm to learn more in person.

[www.pilates.works](http://www.pilates.works)





## Free classified ads

### PET PORTRAITS

Easter is coming! Birthdays too! Portraits of your four-legged family members. Visit my website for examples. [www.mkohouthorseportraits.com](http://www.mkohouthorseportraits.com) or call 817-313-1419. Questions welcomed!

### 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](mailto:kathyjorogers@sbcglobal.net).

### 26 YEARS EXPERIENCE IN TEACHING

Tutoring Pre-K-2nd Grade. Is your child falling behind? Need some one-on-one attention? Don't want your child to lose what they've learned over the summer? I can help! Call Joy Ridler at 817.637.5541.

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**PROPERTY MANAGEMENT**

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[northernrealtygroup.com](http://northernrealtygroup.com)



### HOME WANTED

We'd like to buy a home - from an owner - no agents, please! 817-732-3836

### COWTOWN COMPUTER SERVICE

Home Computer clean up and repairs. We pick it up, you don't lift a finger. 48-hour delivery time guaranteed Contact us today for pricing! 817-523-1058  
[cbrewer@cowtowncs.com](mailto:cbrewer@cowtowncs.com)  
[cowtowncomputerservices.com](http://cowtowncomputerservices.com)

### HANDYMAN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD

No job is too small. I live on Edwin and have local references. Have over 30 Years experience in remodel. Call Terry 817.454.1795 free estimates!!

### TAX PREPARATION

Jeri Jo Blackmon, former IRS Agent and current Enrolled Agent licensed by the IRS will prepare and e-file your individual or business tax returns. Also, as a QuickBooks Pro Advisor, training is available for individuals or businesses who want to improve their skills or learn new skills using QuickBooks accounting software.  
Contact Jeri Jo Blackmon at 817-923-4393 or email [JeriJo@Charter.net](mailto:JeriJo@Charter.net). 1408 Mistletoe Drive.

### HOME FOR SALE

1126 MISTLETOE DRIVE 5 Bedroom-all-brick-and-decorative-masonry custom home is situated above the Trinity River and priced at \$887,000. For more information: CALL OWNER at 817-798-5909.

### COMPLETE PROPERTY RENOVATION

Demolition, cleanup, specializing in historic home renovations, painting, wallpaper. Contact Jeff Cuningham at 817-988-7113.

### HARPIST

Sally Sledge ministers on the harp as a worshiper, psalmist and vocalist. She has recorded two CDs: "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](http://www.sallysledge.com).

### MISTLETOE HEIGHTS PET SITTERS

MISTLETOE HEIGHTS PET SITTERS is now booking for your vacation, or any other time. References available on request. [Mistletoeheightspetsitters.com](http://Mistletoeheightspetsitters.com) or 817-247-2870

### PET SITTING

At-home mom who LOVES animals would love to help take care of yours! Please call 214-734-9140.

**FAMILY PHOTOGRAPHY BY DIANA BRANDENBERG**

At-home mom would love to take your family photos! I will come to you, portrait session or special events. Just call and we'll get those perfect photos for the Christmas card! Call 214-734-9140.

**EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC AND MOVEMENT**

Mistletoe Musikgarten ( www.MistletoeMusik.com) has returned to its roots, right here in our neighborhood. We offer music and movement classes for infants, toddlers, pre-schoolers and kinders. We sing, dance, and play simple instruments in our parent-child classes. Music and movement classes prepare your child for future learning successes. Contact Carol Spencer joyous579@gmail.com ~ 817.927.3240

**PIANO LESSONS**

For beginners and intermediates. Mary Smith, 2300 W. Magnolia Ave. 817-927-8876.

**LEARN TO SWIM LESSONS**

With emphasis on Olympic strokes. Contact Richard Sybesma, Head Swim Coach, TCU Box 297600, Fort Worth, TX 76129; 817-257-5646 or 817-257-7963

**ESTATE SALE SERVICES**

Estate Sales & Appraisals Experienced, reliable estate sales in and out of Mistletoe Heights since 1992. Certified Appraiser, International Society of Appraisers. Appraisals for insurance, estate evaluations, donations; whatever your needs. Contact: Terri Ellis, Mistletoe Estate Sales, 817-926-9424 or email tqUILTS@mac.com

**VINTAGE SALES**

Estate Sales Vintage Sales has been helping people liquidate estates since 1992. Don't throw anything away before you talk to us! We can help you. Anne Bourland (817-919-0270) apbourland@aol.com John Bourland (817-307-6173)



<u>Just Sold</u>	<u>Coming Soon</u>	<u>Under Contract</u>
2217 Stanley 2321 Mistletoe Blvd. 7001 Tamarack 2921 Harlanwood	Stunning newer home in Crestwood!  Gorgeous townhome near downtown!	1210 Lipscomb 2622 5th 2429 Shirley 2917 Alton 2315 Stanley

**When asked about Ruth, her clients' remarks included:**

- "Ruth's skills could guide anyone in buying or selling a home. She is a true delight."*
- "Our best real estate experience ever! We don't know how we got so lucky!"*
- "The combined process of selling and buying is overwhelming, but Ruth guided me through the process. She provided honest information and always made sure I was informed."*
- "We enjoyed working with Ruth on selling our home. Her professionalism on every level was exemplary. We especially appreciated her regular communication."*
- "Listing with Ruth Story gives you the advantage of her skilled marketing and energetic networking. She will deliver the best price for your home in the shortest time."*

*Selling a home is personal. My first priority is listening to what is most important to you, maximizing your equity, and helping you move toward the next chapter as smoothly as possible. Call, text or email today for more information on how I can help you achieve your real estate goals!*

Ruth Story  
817.992.9232  
askRuthStory@gmail.com  
RuthStoryOnline.com



## Helpful phone numbers, emails, addresses and websites

### City information

City Code violations 817.392.1234  
 City of Fort Worth  
 817.392.2255  
[fortworthtexas.gov](http://fortworthtexas.gov)  
 Police—nonemergency 817.335.4222  
 Garage sale permits 817.392.7851  
 Graffiti abatement  
 817.212.2700  
 Lily B. Clayton Elementary 817.922.6660  
[schools.fwisd.org/clayton](http://schools.fwisd.org/clayton)  
 Paschal High School 817.814.5000  
[paschalhs.org](http://paschalhs.org)  
 Historical Preservation  
 Liz Casso 817.392.8037  
[liz.casso@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:liz.casso@fortworthtexas.gov)  
 Southside Preservation Hall  
 817.926.2800  
[Hallyes@earthlink.net](mailto:Hallyes@earthlink.net)  
[southsidepreservation.com](http://southsidepreservation.com)  
 The T/Longhorn Trolley 817.215.8600  
[the-t.com](http://the-t.com)  
 Trinity Railway Express 817.215.8600  
[trinityrailwayexpress.org](http://trinityrailwayexpress.org)  
 City Council District 9  
 Ann Zadeh 817.392.8809  
[district9@fortworthtexas.gov](mailto:district9@fortworthtexas.gov)

### MHA officers

[officers@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:officers@mistletoeheights.org)  
 President  
 Josh Lindsay 817.927.0323  
[president@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:president@mistletoeheights.org)  
 Vice President  
 Chad Jung 817.291.5849  
[vicepresident@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:vicepresident@mistletoeheights.org)  
 Secretary  
 Valerie Ewing 817.791.9535  
[secretary@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:secretary@mistletoeheights.org)  
 Treasurer  
 Jeri Jo Blackmon 817.923.4393  
[treasurer@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:treasurer@mistletoeheights.org)  
 Newsletter Editor  
 Mary Ellen Peipert 817.926.4117  
[newsletter@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:newsletter@mistletoeheights.org)

### Volunteers

Historic Preservation Committee  
 Roger Ross 817.372.6865  
 Street Rep Captains  
 Melissa Kohout (East side) 817.313.1419  
 Rosaline Eastep Takes 817.207.9750  
 (West side)  
 Welcome Baskets  
 Kathy Jo Rogers 817.688.0905  
 Denise Semple 817.733.0404  
 Advertising Manager  
[advertise@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:advertise@mistletoeheights.org)  
 Newby Park  
 Dottie Guffey 817.921.6288  
 Email Moderator  
 Richard Yantis 817.924.2857  
 Webmaster  
 Scott Ewing 214.403.7762  
 Historian  
 Luke Ellis 817.339.2459  
 Yard of the Month  
 Bruce Horn 817.526.4339

### Street reps (listed by blocks)

East of Forest Park  
 2200 W. Rosedale South  
 Dottie Guffey 817.921.6288  
 2200 Irwin  
 Gary Willis 817.924.4000  
 2100/2200 Mistletoe Blvd.  
 Melissa Kohout 817.313.1419  
 2100/2200 West Magnolia  
 Colleen Shutt 214.455.9097  
 2200 Harrison  
 Aaron Torkelson 817.907.5533  
 2100 Harrison Ave.  
 Vacancy  
 2100 Mistletoe Ave.  
 Pat Hale 817.924.5263  
 2200 Mistletoe Ave.  
 Richard & Christi Yantis 817.924.2857  
 2100/2200 Edwin  
 Katrina Pittman 817.921.2221  
 2100 Weatherbee  
 Tanya Dohoney 817.313.6674

2200 Weatherbee  
 Susan Harwell 817.923.8806  
 2100 Morphy  
 Vacancy  
 Forest Park Blvd.  
 Steve McReynolds 817.926.7955

### West of Forest Park

2300 W. Rosedale South  
 Kimberly Helixon 817.927.4641  
 2300 Irwin  
 Sue Duvall 817.926.8714  
 2300/2400 Mistletoe Blvd.  
 Lisa Stewart 817.924.9666  
 2300 West Magnolia  
 Susan Pressley 817.923.6061  
 2300/2400 Harrison  
 Robert DeVargas 817.923.9393  
 2300 Mistletoe Ave.  
 Vacancy  
 2300 Edwin  
 Grant Pannell 817.924.0051  
 1100 Clara  
 Marc & Kathy Jo Rogers 817.923.3304  
 1200 Clara  
 Bryce & Laura Docker [bryedocker@hotmail.com](mailto:bryedocker@hotmail.com)  
 1100 Buck  
 Kate Herring 817.923.3843  
 1200/1300 Buck  
 Irene Stemple 817.926.6546  
 Mistletoe Drive  
 Meralen & Gerry Tyson 817.926.5909  
 2300 Mistletoe Drive  
 Chris Fershtand 817.923.8422  
 Carol Benson 817.921.4000

### Neighborhood police officers

Sidney Keith (West) 817.944.1038  
 David Cloninger (East) 817.992.0181

### MHA yearly memberships

Voluntary dues are \$15, \$25, \$50 or whatever you can afford. Your dues help pay for this newsletter, the Mistletoe Heights phone directory and many neighborhood functions. Please make your check payable to Mistletoe Heights Association. Mail to: Jeri Jo Blackmon, 1408 Mistletoe Drive.

### Free classified ads

As a MH resident, you get one free classified ad. Please submit copy by the 15th of the month. Notify the editor at 817.201.1909 or email: [newsletter@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:newsletter@mistletoeheights.org).

### Editorial policy

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.

Contact information helps, especially if we have questions for you. Letters to the editor are limited to a half-page (approximately 350 words). Please

send email to:  
[newsletter@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:newsletter@mistletoeheights.org).

### Advertising information

To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please email: [advertise@mistletoeheights.org](mailto:advertise@mistletoeheights.org)  
 Business-card size \$25  
 1/4 page \$50  
 Half page \$100  
 Full Page \$200  
 Pre-printed inserts \$100  
 8 1/2 x 11  
 Deadline for ads, payment and artwork is the tenth of the month.