



President's Corner: Triangle Park – Let's Make it Great!



Cory Bearden, President

Mistletoe Heights has a treasure in Triangle Park. For generations our residents have enjoyed a leisurely stroll around the park, children have used this open space to play games, and the park is regularly used for MHA events such as the July 4th parade. In recent years, efforts have been made to explore the possibility of irrigating the park to make it more enjoyable and useful during our hot, dry

summers. I am thankful to Dr. Robert DeVargas for gathering information from the City and getting estimates as to how much it will cost to install electricity and irrigation at Triangle Park. Dr. DeVargas gave an excellent presentation at our May neighborhood meeting about the process and money needed to add water and electricity to the park. A motion was made to support this process by allowing the use of \$10,000 of MHA funds to move forward with this project. The motion was seconded and approved.

The projected cost of adding irrigation and new sod to Triangle Park is \$15,000 to \$20,000. Dr. DeVargas and others are working diligently to move forward. In the coming weeks, you'll likely begin to see electric and water meters added to the park. Sprinklers and sod won't be far behind. We can pay for the addition of the utility meters with the money that's been approved for this project and we could ask MHA for more money from the budget to complete the project. However, with a bank balance of approximately \$25,000, we would like to avoid the possibility of taking our MHA balance below \$5,000.

Here's where YOU can help! It was reported at our neighborhood meeting in May that only about 30% of our residents pay dues to MHA. That's 150 out of the approximately 500 homes in our neighborhood. Imagine if we doubled that number? Imagine if 150 more households gave at the \$50 or "Holly" level of giving? That would mean an additional \$7,500 to the MHA operating budget. Dues

are not required to be a member of MHA, but your dues help our neighborhood to provide things such as the Easter Egg Hunt, July 4th Parade, Christmas party, street light Christmas décor, maintenance of Newby Park, Movie Night, Newsletter, Welcome Baskets, Lily B. Clayton donations, activities with Berkeley, website and MORE! Talk to some of your friends who live in mandatory property owner's associations. Chances are they pay \$30 to \$50 A MONTH (or more) for many of the same activities and events.

We could easily pay for the cost of adding irrigation to Triangle Park, a space we all can use, with the help of more neighbors contributing to Mistletoe Heights Association or current contributing MHA members increasing your donation. You might even consider a special, one-time gift to MHA to help with the cost of improving and beautifying Triangle Park. I hope you will consider joining us in this effort to make Mistletoe Heights a better neighborhood with improvements to Triangle Park

**Historic overlay helps
preserve character of
the neighborhood**



Mistletoe Heights is a historic neighborhood, dating from the 1910s.

Wishing to preserve its architectural heritage and identity, most of the neighborhood is included in a historic overlay.

Any alterations or additions to the structures should be submitted to the neighborhood Historic Preservation Committee and must be approved by the city of Fort Worth's Historic & Cultural Landmarks Commission (HCLC).

Neighborhood Historic Preservation Committee: Roger Ross, 817-372-6865, or Susan Willis, 817-924-4000.

Historic & Cultural Landmarks Commission: Murray Miller, 817-392-8574, or Justin Newhart, 817-392-8037. The commission meets the second Monday of the month.

For further information, please refer to the Mistletoe Heights website, www.mistletoeheights.org, and click on Historic Guidelines.

Q&A with Our New NPO, Corey Carpenter

The following questions for our new NPO, Corey Carpenter, were submitted from Mistletoe residents via the neighborhood email. Corey graciously took the time to read the questions, seek solutions, and send in the following answers:



Officer Corey Carpenter

Q: Forest Park Blvd is supposedly a "trucks free" thoroughfare, but lately we have been seeing continual gravel haulers in both directions, some of which easily are exceeding the posted speed limit. What can be done about that?

A: I have completed a few traffic stops on these semi's on Forest Park Blvd and informed them to take the correct route. Most of the ones I pulled over were actually going on Forest Park because their route was right off of that road, but a few did admit to taking a short cut. I will request for the traffic division officers to look into this as well. If any resident sees a large truck on Forest Park Blvd, feel free to take down the company name and license plate if possible and I will contact the company and inform them of the traffic violation. I will continue to monitor this issue. Also, please note that I have been running radar along Forest Park Blvd from time to time. I usually sit at various points along Forest Park in the center lane.

Q: Who should we call if we discover that a neighbor's front door is open, their cars are not in the driveway, they don't appear to be inside, and we can't reach them via mobile phone?

A: In that circumstance, please call 9-1-1 and report the open structure. Most of the time we will go inside of the house to make sure no criminals are inside or to make sure nobody is in need of emergency assistance.

Q: Are you the NPO for all of Mistletoe Heights?

A: I am the NPO for K11's beat. That includes most locations on the west side of 8th Ave to University. My beat does not go north of IH-30 and for the most part, and I go as far south as W Berry St.

Q: As a NPO, will you actually spend time patrolling Mistletoe Heights? If so, will this be on a random time schedule including days and nights?

A: Yes, I have been doing this since I first took over as the NPO for this area. What times I patrol the beat changes from day to day. The morning/evening/midnight patrol officers who are assigned to your neighborhood will patrol the area when they are not being dispatched to emergency calls. For the majority of the time, I will be here patrolling during the day. But I aim to do some late-night patrols a few times a month.

Q: On days and times you can't actually patrol, would it be possible for you to ask for other officers to drive around our neighborhood?

A: Officers are patrolling the area when possible. Please understand that our department does not have the staffing to have an officer

patrol a certain neighborhood without leaving the area for his/her whole shift. The patrol officers are responsible for taking calls in all of the "West" side of Fort Worth, but they can also be pulled to other sides of town if emergency calls start to stack up. Our department is aware of the influx of Burglary of Motor Vehicle's in the area and the proper team has been notified. On a side note, there are other neighborhoods in the very near area that wanted a dedicated officer(s) to stay within their neighborhood at certain times of the day/night, so they hired officers to work off duty. If this is something your neighborhood is interested in, let me know and I will get the right person notified.

Q: How long have you been a police officer? Please tell us about your education and career in law enforcement.

A: I have been with Fort Worth as an officer for nearly 5 years. Before that, I spent 6 years serving the in the TX Army National Guard while working part time/going to college on a military base to receive an associate's degree in general studies. Every year I complete a minimum of 40 hours of law enforcement training. I previously worked in patrol for 4 years, spent some time in the 7th St. area as a bike officer and now I am your NPO.

Q: If a citizen sees suspicious activity or something happening that is a danger to property or life, what should that person do?

A: Call 9-1-1 immediately. If safe to do so, try and get pictures or video of this subjects / incident, but I wouldn't suggest putting yourself in harm's way to do so. One of the best things you can do is be a good witness. Try and remember descriptions of people and vehicles. If you can get a license plate to a vehicle... that makes our job so much easier! But again, don't put yourself at risk to do that.

Q: What do you suggest we do about the people on Forest Park who use the turn lane as a passing lane?

A: This is the first I have heard of this issue. If this is happening often in a certain place/certain time of the day along Forest Park, please send me an e-mail. I will keep an eye out for this while in the area.

Mark Your Calendars



Neighborhood Quarterly Meeting -
Tuesday August 14, 7 p.m., location TBD

Fall Movie Night-
Friday, October 5, 7 p.m., Newby Park

Pumpkin Carving Contest-
Tuesday, October 30, Sunset, neighborhood wide

Front Porch Gatherings-
(dates & locations for Feb & March front porch meetings)

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Stay Connected with your neighbors



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

Facebook Chat Room

www.facebook.com/groups/mhneighbors

NextDoor page

www.mistletoeheights.nextdoor.com

Webpage

www.mistletoeheights.org/contacts

Volunteers Needed

We need more volunteers, especially some talented and energetic people to take over several key offices in the Mistletoe Heights Association. 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 any interested people to join the Historical Preservation Committee. Help us ensure the integrity of the architecture in our community.

Advertising Manager: We need 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.

Newby Park Gardening Committee: We need a group of people to work on a rotating basis to care for the plants and flowers in Newby Park. Rosaline Easteppe Takes will provide information about the specific duties involved and will manage the schedule.

Contact MHA Vice President Mark Philpot if you are interested in any of these positions.
vicepresident@mistletoheights.com.



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He's a Walking Encyclopedia on Vintage Films, Pop Culture

By: Jim Peipert

You might have seen Ethan Dyson walking about the neighborhood, sometimes accompanied by the two family dogs, silken windhounds named Shiva and Quavo.

Usually clad in a bright yellow reflective vest, he's quite intent on getting in an average of more than five miles per day, following well-traveled routes.

Other times Ethan might be hunched over his computer, playing ninja games or tracking down rare vintage movies on eBay, Amazon or other online sites.

Highlights of the year are the annual Godzilla festival, or G-Fest, in Chicago, and seeing Santa Claus at Hulen Mall.

Seeing Santa is "one of those silver-lining moments," says his mother, Laura Dyson. "Ethan is a true believer."

Laura speaks lovingly of her 24-year-old autistic son, whose daily walks about Mistletoe Heights are his flirtations with independence. He sometimes ventures down to the Trinity Trails, using the new pedestrian bridge at the northwest corner of the neighborhood or the bridge on South University Drive.

Ethan's mother, forever vigilant but pleased to see her son do some things on his own, can track his movements with the Find My Friends app on her iPhone.

She said she has also been in touch with our new neighborhood police officer, Cory Carpenter, to advise him that her son is autistic and is a frequent walker in Mistletoe Heights – just in case someone who doesn't know him views him as suspicious.

She contacted the newsletter to suggest that Ethan might be a worthy subject for a "know your neighbors" story.

The Dyson family is well known in Mistletoe Heights, having lived in the 2300 block of Mistletoe Avenue for 21 years after moving from Houston.

Laura Dyson, originally from Little Rock, Arkansas, is a physical therapist who works with geriatric patients with such diseases as Alzheimer's or Parkinson's.

Her husband, Maynard, originally from Richmond, Virginia, is a pediatric pulmonologist now retired from his practice. But he works as a medical ethicist at Cook Children's Medical Center, serving on a panel that reviews research studies.

They also have a younger son, Carter, 22, who lives in Austin.

Ethan is very shy and reserved with strangers. But, as his mother notes, he can tap into his "deep well of knowledge" on a variety of subjects and speak with great authority on vintage pop culture.

As we talked in the Dyson living room, Ethan touched on such topics as Godzilla, the Three Stooges, a Godzilla-like monster called Gamera, whose image was emblazoned on his red T-shirt, Pokemon, the Power Rangers, Elvis Presley and Michael Jackson.

But Ethan's chief area of expertise seems to be vintage movies, gleaned from his extensive collection of DVDs.

Did you know, for example, that a very young Lucille Ball starred with the Three Stooges in a 1934 movie called "Three Little Pigskins"?

Or that the original "Godzilla" film, set in Tokyo, was made in 1954 with an all-Japanese cast? (The latest versions of the monster saga came out in 1998 and 2014.)



Or that a movie called "Gorilla at Large" – which Ethan watched with his family the previous evening – was made in 1954 and starred such Hollywood luminaries as Cameron Mitchell, Anne Bancroft, Lee J. Cobb and Raymond Burr, with Lee Marvin and Warren Stevens in supporting roles? (Pretty impressive cast for a B horror movie.)

Ethan can reel off all of these factoids from the top of his head.

We also talked of Ethan's volunteer work – at the Fort Worth Library's Downtown and Southwest branches, at the Tarrant Area Food Bank and at the Crowley House of Hope, a thrift store, food pantry and clinic for Crowley residents.

And Laura Dyson was proud to announce that Ethan has his first paying job, helping make pizzas on Fridays and Saturdays at a local Pizza Hut. It's a job arranged with the help of the Texas Workforce Commission.

But Ethan was eager to set off for his daily walk. We said our goodbyes, he put on his yellow reflective vest and headed west down Mistletoe Avenue to get in those five miles.

So, if you see Ethan walking in the neighborhood, stop and say hello and maybe ask him about a vintage movie. You might learn something. I did.

EDITOR'S NOTE: Jim Peipert is retired from the Star-Telegram, where he worked for 22 years as national and foreign editor and then as a member of the editorial board. Before that, he worked for more than two decades for The Associated Press as a reporter, editor and foreign correspondent in Chicago, New York, Moscow, London, Johannesburg and Nairobi.

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Crime updates are available to citizens at any time: fortworthpd.com. Go to crime information, then crime mapping.

Community engagement liaison: For our neighborhood, contact Tabitha Butler, 817-392-2045. tabitha.butler@fortworthtexas.gov

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

Link to code compliance issues and to report graffiti: fortworthtexas.gov/codecompliance/myFtWorth

Link to garbage related issues: www.fortworthtexas.gov. Click on "Garbage and Recycling." Bulk trash pickup for our neighborhood is the week of the fourth Monday of the month.

Link to report animal issues, control, adoption: fortworthtexas.gov; or call 817-392-1234.



Link to request permit for garage sale: Fortworthtexas.gov; or call 817-392-2222.

For travel health information and inoculations, call Tarrant County Public Health Department, Travel Health Services, 1101 S. Main St., Fort Worth, TX 76104. 817-321-4707

Fort Worth leash law: <http://fortworthtexas.gov/animals/laws>

Fort Woof Dog Park: <http://fortwoof.org>

Smart phone app: myFtWorth

**Do you know of a
Mistletoe Heights neighbor who has
accomplished something great?
Tell us about it at
newsletter@mistletoeheights.org.**



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Mistletoe Heights Victorious Over Berkeley Place in Close Game

By: Corey Bearden

On the afternoon of Sunday, May 6, residents of Mistletoe Heights squared off against neighbors from Berkeley Place in a fun game of kickball at Charlie's Field at Newby Park. This event, a fundraiser for the Lily B. Clayton PTA, began with a kid's game in which the children from Mistletoe Heights quickly took the lead over friends from the south and never looked back. I don't remember the final score, but let's just say the kids from Berkeley were ready to enjoy a hotdog from Austin's Underdawgs food truck after a few innings.

The marquee matchup of the afternoon was the game involving adults who seemed to have not played kickball since

they were the age of their children. There were dropped balls, missed kicks, a minor injury or two, mixed with a few semi-athletic looking performances. In the top of the final inning (I think we made it to four innings before the game was halted due to player fatigue) the Berkeley Bombers took a 2-run lead over the Mistletoe Missiles (I just made those names up) before the final out. Your neighbors from the Front Porch Community had the last at bat...I mean...at kick. The game ended in dramatic fashion as someone kicked a single and scored the final run to taste sweet victory as we won the game by a score of 7 to 6.

It was a fun event for a great cause. Thanks to Adrienne Grant and Erin East (Both members of the losing Berkeley Bombers) for organizing this event to benefit the Lily B. Clayton PTA. We hope to make this an annual event. So...If you missed out this year, you'll have another shot to re-live your glory days of 4th grade recess next May. I hope you will join us!

A big thanks to Jim Peipert for the great photos!



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

Advertising Submission Process

All ads must be paid for by the 10th of the month prior 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. Should you have any questions, please email advertise@mistletoeheights.org.



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May 15 Neighborhood Meeting Minutes

Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Meeting

May 15, 2018, 7:00-8:25pm

Venue: Ensemble Coworking 1617 Park Place Ave
www.ensemblecoworking.com

Officers Present: President: Corey Bearden, Vice President: Mark Philpot, Treasurer: Jeri Jo Blackmon, Newsletter Editor: Hannah Parks. Secretary: Val Ewing

Attendees: 23 residents in attendance per sign-in sheet

Guests: Clint Hoover, P.E.: Senior Professional Engineer with Transportation and Public Works Department Infrastructure Design and Construction. (W) 817-392-6573, (M) 682-352-8797 Email: Clint.Hoover@fortworthtexas.gov
Officer Meyer (NPO)
Officer Carpenter (new NPO)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Meeting began with Corey Bearden expressing gratitude to Tamara Payne for providing a location for our neighborhood meeting. Ms. Payne, Chief Connector of Ensemble Coworking, introduced herself and spoke briefly about her business. This is a shared office space, "where executive suites of yesteryear meet coffee shop" with 12 private offices, a media office, and conference rooms available. Spaces range from small to large that can accommodate 6-60 people as well as individuals who work from home but prefer an office setting to combat the isolation. Other perks include technology, WiFi, a full kitchen with oven/stove, dinnerware, serving plates, etc. They can accommodate birthday parties, Mother's Day, graduation parties, etc. In the back there is a patio with three tables (WiFi reaches patio). \$200 per month is lowest level to rent then upwards depending on needs. Website listed above will provide additional information. Gated parking is available in the rear with access code provided to clients.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Minutes from the meeting held February 20, 2018 were distributed. They were also sent via email to all participating residents as well as posted in the newsletter. Motion to approve. Minutes approved and seconded.

III. UPCOMING EVENTS

Front porch gathering: Sunday May 20 from 4:00-6:00 at 2132 Weatherbee hosted by John and Shelly. Question: what is the purpose? Mark Philpot spoke up that this originally began when he and his neighbor, Jim Peipert, would gather on their porch for a drink. It occurred to them to extend the invite to all neighbors interested in an opportunity to relax with friends, socialize, and get to know people in the neighborhood.

Movie night: Saturday June 9 from 7:30-10 at Newby Park MHA & Berkeley Pool Party: Tuesday August 21 at 7:00 pm. FREE! Location: Forest Park Pool; it will be closed to the public but open to Mistletoe and Berkeley residents.

Next neighborhood meeting: Tuesday August 21 at 7:00 pm. Location: TBA. If anyone is interested in hosting a meeting, please get in touch with an MH officer (contact info below).

IV. OFFICER REPORTS

Sidewalk update: Mr. Clint Hoover was introduced and spoke about sidewalks that will be installed along two streets in MH. During his talk he referred to pictures he brought showing where the work will take place. Work will begin June 2018 with a timeline of about 4 months. The areas involve 2300 Mistletoe Drive and 2200 Mistletoe Blvd. The configuration along Mistletoe Drive will be done as close to the curve as possible due to the "legacy" trees along that route. Additionally, there will be two more ramps installed: the south aspect of Triangle Park and the corner of Buck & Magnolia. Clint Hoover will be responsible for the project. He specified further that he will not be involved with design but rather to mobilize the contractor when work begins. There will be four lamps installed along the 2300 block of Mistletoe Drive. Lamp style: TPW, Washington with acorn top. They will match the majority of lamps in the neighborhood. Bulb will be sodium vapor and not as bright as LED lights. Conduit will be underground. Contractor: The Fain Group. This concluded Mr. Hoover's visit.



Clint Hoover, who works for the city of Fort Worth

NPO: Officer Meyer was the next guest introduced. He wanted to address the issue of how communication occurs between police officers and MH residents (in reference to recent events where there was escalated police activity in our area along with a hovering helicopter). NPOs work 8-4pm. At 4:01pm their radio and phones are off. When the incident with FWPDP occurred in our neighborhood, he was not aware of it until the following day. Upon contacting Corey Bearden, he discovered that Corey knew more about what occurred than he did, which is a positive mark for how resourceful we are as a neighborhood. However, when police officers are in pursuit of an individual, they will let us know only what they want us to know. Finally, if you see something suspicious then contact the NPO. If it is after hours then call the Nonemergency number. Officer Cory Carpenter was then introduced by Officer Meyers. He will be taking over as our new NPO. Officer Carpenter then spoke briefly about his background and experience. He prefers to be reached via email: cory.carpenter@fortworthtexas.gov
Mistletoe Station and Quiet Zones at RR Crossings: Josh Lindsay discussed the apartment building that will be built on Mistletoe Blvd east of the RR tracks. The developer is Saigebrook Development and the complex will be called



Outgoing NPO Marshall Meyer

Mistletoe Station. Josh attended a meeting on design and provided a map that referenced changes taking place in that area including a new street; Beckham place. Along Mistletoe Blvd there are three old Live Oak trees that will be fenced off and kept alive. A sidewalk will be installed connecting the sidewalk west of the RR tracks, running east and over the tracks. It will be during this modification of the RR tracks that a quiet zone will be installed. Traffic calming measures include adding a raised median with striping on the street that guides you along that channel. Leslie Creek runs along this area and will be redone thus improving flood control. The street work may be done by end of 2018. Saigebrook may break ground around July. Building size: 4 stories (first floor is garage).



Former MHA President Josh Lindsay on the new apartment complex called Mistletoe Station

Treasury Report: Jeri Jo Blackmon distributed the Income & Expenses sheet referencing January 1 through May 14, 2018. Items mentioned included miscellaneous income: \$145, LBC donation \$600, water expense for the berm: \$700. There was a discussion on the berm watering expense. Suggestion: determine if the drip irrigation is on a water-saving schedule. Corey Bearden said he would get with James and look into it.

V. COMMITTEE REPORTS

Triangle Park: Robert De Vargas discussed getting water and electricity to the Triangle. After an in-depth investigation and communication with the city, he was able to provide a thorough account of the finances involved. Salient points:

- The land is too small to be a park. MHNA will need to apply for "Adopt a Median".
- Water Line cost: \$2430. Timeline: 6-8 weeks.
- Irrigation Materials and Installation: \$5087. Timeline: 1 week.
- Cost to put in grass: seed \$500, sod: \$7000.



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Motion made: Support this plan of action by using \$10,000 MHA funds. Discussion: What is being negotiated with the city, we need to know this before going forward with this plan, i.e., will they agree to continue mowing the grass? Motion seconded to approve use of \$10,000 monies with present MHA officers in charge of this process. Dues comment: Only 30% of the 500 people in our neighborhood pay dues. We need more advertisers as that is a big part of our money source. If you have not already paid your dues, please do so by sending a check to: Mistletoe Heights Association
c/o Jeri Jo Blackmon
1408 Mistletoe Dr
Fort Worth, TX 76110

VI. OLD BUSINESS

Question about the sound wall located at Rosedale and Mistletoe Drive: is there anything happening with it? Answer: No. It is considered a completed project. Legally the city only had to mitigate noise from Chisholm trail, not the RR nor the freeway. Presently the wall is not tall enough to reduce noise.

VII. NEW BUSINESS – none to report

Final announcement: Mr. Smith, resident at 2300 Magnolia, made an announcement that he and his wife are hosting the FW Symphony this Sunday from 4-6 pm. They do this every year and it is the one time the symphony players get invited to an event where they don't have to play. There will be drinks, food, and great company. Please stop by: Sunday May 20 from 4-6pm.
Meeting adjourned

How to reach the Mistletoe Heights Officers:

President: Corey Bearden: michael.corey.bearden@gmail.com

Vice President: Mark Philpot: mark@leaguere.com

Treasurer: Jeri Jo Blackmon: JeriJo@charter.net

Secretary: Val Ewing: agdoc05@hotmail.com

Newsletter Editors: Hannah Parks: hannah.penley@gmail.com

Jeff Parks: jeffdparks@gmail.com

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.



SG Story Group **Just Listed**

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Mistletoe-Berkeley Pool Party

On Saturday June 16, Mistletoe Heights and Berkeley neighborhoods gathered at the Forest Park pool for a splashing good time!



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!

Join the Mistletoe Heights Email List

To subscribe to the Mistletoe Heights Residents mailing list, go to 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 to your address book to receive emails. If you have questions or concerns, contact moderator@mistletoeheights.org.

Check out our website: mistletoeheights.org
 Friend us on Facebook: facebook.com/mistletoeheights

New Neighbors

Welcome to Val and Kim Gardner who just moved into 1200 Buck Ave!



Helpful phone numbers, emails, addresses and websites

City information

City Code violations	817.392.1234
City of Fort Worth	817.392.2255
fortworthtexas.gov	
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Garage sale permits	817.392.7851
Graffiti abatement	817.212.2700
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schools.fwisd.org/clayton	
Paschal High School	817.814.5000
paschalhs.org	
Historical Preservation	
Justin Newhart	817.392.8037
justin.newhart@fortworthtexas.gov	
Southside Preservation Hall	
Hallyes@earthlink.net	817.926.2800
southsidepreservation.com	
The T/Longhorn Trolley	817.215.8600
the-t.com	
Trinity Railway Express	817.215.8600
trinityrailwayexpress.org	
City Council District 9	
Ann Zadeh	817.392.8809
district9@fortworthtexas.gov	

MHA officers

officers@mistletoeheights.org	
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Cory Bearden	817.889.5032
president@mistletoeheights.org	
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treasurer@mistletoeheights.org	
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Volunteers

Historic Preservation Committee	
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Susan Willis	817.924.4000
Street Rep Captains	
Melissa Kohout (East side)	817.313.1419
Rosaline Eastepp Takes (West side)	817.207.9750
Welcome Baskets	
Kathy Jo Rogers	817.688.0905
Denise Semple	817.733.0404
Advertising Manager	
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Richard Yantis	817.924.2857
Webmaster	
Scott Ewing	214.403.7762
Historian	
Luke Ellis	817.339.2459
Yard of the Month	
Claudia Camp	817.924.5193

Street reps (listed by blocks)

East of Forest Park	
2200 W. Rosedale South	
Lysta Haynes	817.675.4163
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	
Mark Philpot	817-681-6681
2100 Harrison Ave.	
Chris & Sawyer Taylor	817.201.5320
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	
Adam & Anne Weiskittel	817.653.2912
2200 Weatherbee	
Adam & Anne Weiskittel	817.653.2912
2100 Morphy	
Ben Connelly	
Forest Park Blvd.	
Steve McReynolds	817.926.7955

West of Forest Park

2300 W. Rosedale South	
Jamie Qualls	Phone # TBA
2300 Irwin	
Steve McReynolds	817-926-7955
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.	
The Fullers	817-291-1298
2300 Edwin	
Janis Arwin	
1100 Clara	
Marc & Kathy Jo Rogers	817.923.3304
1200 Clara	
Bryce & Laura Docker	bryedocker@hotmail.com
1100 Buck	
Martin Herring	817.923.3843
1200/1300 Buck	
Irene Stemple	817.926.6546
1100 Mistletoe Drive	
Mark and Kellye Neuweiler	
1200-1414 Mistletoe Drive	
Meralen & Gerry Tyson	817.926.5909
2300 Mistletoe Drive	
Chris Fershtand	817.923.8422
Carol Benson	817.921.4000

Neighborhood police officer

Marshall Meyer	817-999-8057
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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.

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.

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To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please email: 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 15th of the month.



Corey Bearden
president@mistletoeheights.org

Hannah and Jeff Parks
newsletter@mistletoeheights.org

4th of July Celebration

On July 4th, the neighborhood gathered at Triangle Park for the annual 4th of July parade and celebration. After kicking off with a bicycle parade lead by Uncle Sam, Lady Liberty, and the Star-Spangled Banner, neighbors enjoyed snow cones, music, and three different bounce houses!



Free Classifieds

K-5th grade. Caring, encouraging, experienced (20 years) certified elementary school teacher is offering tutoring through out the year. Areas of specialty are writing and language arts. Contact Kathy Jo Rogers at 817.688.0905 or Krogers@theoakridgeschool.org.

Dog walker/pet sitter. This is Seth Rogers and I enjoy pet sitting, walking your dog, even scooping poop is fine with me. Also, watering your lawn while you are away is something you can depend on me for. References available. Five years experience. Email is: 21srogers@oakridgeowls.net

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May, June and July Yards of the Month

By: Claudia



May

Well, we may not have had many April showers, but that sure hasn't stopped the flowers in the spacious yard of Megan, Kelley, River, and Ruby Reece, where the changing display has been beautifying the corner of Mistletoe Blvd and Forest Park (2301 Mistletoe Blvd, to be exact) for over a month now.

As I write, large expanses of pale pink phlox, near the sidewalk on either side of the front walk, are in full splendor. (These lovely specimens are about 10-12 inches tall, that is, taller and a month later to bloom than their low-growing purple-pink cousins, but shorter and a couple months earlier than the 16-18" later summer variety. There's also a low, red-violet one blooming now elsewhere in the neighborhood.) You could have phlox from late winter to fall; just make sure to get the height and bloom time that fits your garden's needs.) Also vibrant right now are the masses of yellow columbine toward the east end of the front porch wall and also at the far west end of the yard, where they sit at the front of a deep bed with red Knock-out roses behind them and a well-maintained privacy fence as backdrop. A walk by the Reeces' yard at this time will also reward you with many smaller pops of color, especially along the drive, where, on one side, there's a patch of bright yellow Sundrops evening primrose, a luxuriant mound of white blackfoot daisies, a pink carpet rose, some newly planted yellow marigolds, and patches of silver-green lamb's ear and purpleheart (the perennial version of wandering Jew). On the other side of the drive are several low-growing deep blue salvias, along with more marigolds and Sundrops. If you'd walked by a week or two ago, your eye would have been caught by the grouping of pink cheddar dianthus in the front corner of this bed; though their major bloom time has mostly passed, they will keep flowering in smaller quantities for a while longer, and their spiky grey-green foliage is attractive year round. And, next to them is another large mass of yet-to-bloom pink blanket flower.

Let me say a bit about the structure of this beautifully designed garden. The plantings start at the Forest Park sidewalk (the far east edge of the lot), curving in front of a privacy fence on the east side of the house, then along the porch wall, and finally moving forward along the east side of the driveway in a wide sweep to the front (Mistletoe) sidewalk. Similarly, the bed on the west side of the drive starts wide at the sidewalk and then curves back and then west along the fence. The size of the lot allows for deep beds with substantial, structure-providing shrubs and multiple layers of plantings, as well as the masses of color I've mentioned. Prominent anchor points are two mountain laurel trees, one at the east end of the porch and another just west of the driveway, which had white blooms earlier in the season and will sport bird-pleasing berries later on. These are fast-growing trees, and large enough to make a statement, but not enough to overgrow their space. Other anchor points are the pink crepe myrtle, near the front sidewalk, and the yellow-flowering yucca, not far from the second mountain laurel.

Also used very effectively are the numerous Cleyera bushes that trace most of the curve of the bed from on the east side of the yard and are matched by a curving line of similar-but-different Indian hawthorn bushes in the west-side bed. These mid-size (about 30" tall and wide) shrubs have plantings both in back and in front of them or, as they come

forward along the driveway, on either side. Thus, in front of the eastside fence and along the porch wall, the line of Cleyeras begins where a large mass of fall-blooming obedient plants tapers off. They then provide a backdrop to what will be a mass of sunflowers, then peach-colored iris (just finishing their season), pink and white dianthus, hostas, the yellow columbines, a white astilbe, and 3 blue plumbagos and a patch of daylilies, just starting to bloom. At the same time, the Cleyeras presently all but hide a row of hydrangeas that will be blooming like crazy in another month or so. The line of Indian hawthorns on the west side of the garden is backed by tall, purple-leafed loropetalum (Chinese fringeflower) bushes along the fence, with daylilies, irises, and hostas in front.

What I really love, design-wise, about the use of these bed-delineating shrubs, is what happens as the beds come toward the street on each side of the driveway. Here, their center-of-the-bed placement allows for lower plantings on both sides. I've already mentioned the variety of colorful flowers immediately on either side of the drive. But others are tucked in between the shrubs and the lawn, including blue scabiosas (pincushions), small hostas, lamb's ear, cosmos, and a striking, taller, red-and-white flowering salvia.

As someone who tries to maintain a much smaller garden, I can tell you how much work (and love!) Megan puts in to these fabulous beds that have enriched our neighborhood for a number of years now. Thanks to her and her family for all they do for Mistletoe Heights!

P.S. And to add bounty to bounty, Megan has just texted me to mention some new additions and changes: look for a prominently placed Mexican bush sage by the front steps, pink Turks cap under the walnut tree at the far west end of the yard, and some "summer jewel" red salvia yet to be placed! And, did I mention the lovely porch plants...?



June

Well, I had started this letter with a brief shriek about the heat, but then yesterday came, rainy and glorious—however short-lived it may be! But, no, the heat hadn't gotten to my brain and that's not a typo in the subject line. David and I decided to do something a little different this month and make a two-fer YardS of the Month award to neighboring homes at 2112 and 2116 Harrison. These are newer homes, built by the same builder in the similar-but-not-identical Arts and Crafts style so characteristic of Mistletoe Heights, and the yards are likewise delightfully complementary.

Since I tend to read gardens like I read a book, from left to right, and these homes are on the north side of the street, I'm going to start with 2116, where Andrea and Cole Frederick, both TCU grads, have lived for the past 3 years with their boxer, Bruce. Cole is a landman in oil and gas, and Andrea is in lab sales. Their first child is due in the next couple weeks, so I've assured them they'll be forgiven a stray weed! Andrea grew up with a gardener dad, and her experience with garden design clearly shows in the pleasing layers of color and texture in her front beds. I think I remarked a couple months ago on the lovely openness of the Hecht's plantings in the March YoM, but Andrea shows that the opposite—dense, close layers of varied textures and heights—can also work well.

In the small patch of garden just west of the drive stands a conical dwarf magnolia, with its large, glossy, dark green leaves, underlain with bright pink, violet, and white annual vincas, which will be a treasure through the summer heat. Moving across the drive to the front of the house, the simplest part of the design occurs, appropriately, just on either side of the front walk, between the two porch pillars. Here we find a row of bright green miniature boxwoods fronted by a continuation of the brightly colored vincas. To the right of the porch, the more complex layering begins. Two large purple-leafed fringeflowers (loropetalum) stand closest to the house, leading to a second dwarf magnolia anchoring the design at the house corner. Between and slightly in front of the fringeflowers are two smaller, neatly rounded Indian hawthorns, with a third closer to the magnolia. In the very front of the bed, tracing its curve, are three abelias (the yellow-green Kaleidoscope variety) interspersed with large patches of the low-growing succulent, angelina, in a neon-lime color. More vincas are planted at the far right corner, in front of the magnolia, as well as more angelina and another abelia to its right, completing the bed. A young, but well-established Chinese pistache tree grows in the grass on this right side of the yard. These trees grow large and relatively fast, so it will provide a welcome shade cover in the not-too-distant years to come.

Next door lives Aggie Czapl, a pathologist with Texas Health, who just moved into 2112 in February. She and her father, who visits regularly from Florida, are both natives of Poland (another set of father-daughter gardeners!). Together, they have created a garden with more minimalist sensibilities than that of their neighbors, yet joined by its bright palette and some of the plant choices. As at the Frederick's, a row of miniature boxwoods lines the front of the porch and, here again, are violet and white vincas, but this time planted in front of small orange-yellow zinnias for a splash of alternative color that ties the flowerbed in with the brightly cushioned chairs on the porch. There's another surprise here as well, a row of spiky leafed red calla lilies between the shrubs and the other flowers—what a nice variation! On the other side of the front walk, eight irregularly spaced Indian hawthorns flow from the walk to the corner of the house, where a tall holly bush marks the end of the bed. Two purple fountain grass plants rise behind the hawthorns, against the house, with two red-leafed gauras near the holly. Several low, lime green mossy plants provide contrast near the middle of bed, and the vincas and zinnias return to make a sharp border edge around the whole thing. Once again a getting-ever-larger tree stands in the middle of the grassy lawn on this side of the house, this time an oak.

One of the fun things about these two yards, and part of the reason we couldn't pick just one, is the cultivated strip that runs between them, along the west side of Aggie's driveway. The strip is partly on one property and partly the other, but it's planted to join rather than separate them. Six low, well-trimmed mounds of dwarf yaupon divide the Frederick's grass from Angie's drive. These run from the sidewalk to the front of Aggie's house, where they meet up with two rows of monkey grass, which continue back along the house (these lines will fill in, of course, to create a solid groundcover). The lines of monkey grass on Aggie's side of the bed are partnered along the side of the Frederick's house by a row of grey-green elaeagnus, whose color complements both the dark green monkey grass and the yellow-green abelia and the purple fringeflower at that end of their own bed. Both the monkey grass and the elaeagnus finally meet up with some taller nandinas, whose finer, more yellow-green leaves provide another complement of color and texture at the back end of the bed.

We're so glad to have these new-to-newish neighbors in Mistletoe Heights. We had delightful conversations with Aggie, Andrea, and Cole as we enjoyed their gardens up close, and hope you'll have a chance to meet them soon, if you haven't already. Meanwhile, enjoy the point and counterpoint of their mutual gardening efforts!

July

Congratulations to Kelli and Jerry Graham, winners of the July Yard of the Month! Their shady yard at 2110 Weatherbee still sports splashes of welcome color, even in this summer heat! But probably I shouldn't even



call it a "yard," since the Grahams eliminated all the grass when their house was built in 2006, making a large, well-mulched garden bed of the entire area in the front.

The outer edge of the garden is lined by an attractive, low, gray fence, placed just a few feet in from the sidewalk in front and driveways on the sides. The fence has an open, Frank Lloyd Wright-esque construction and copper tops on the uprights. Two unusual brick and stone pillars, topped by Deco-style lights, mark the sides of the front walk. In front of the fence grow purple tradescantia (aka purple heart, purple wandering Jew), several mint marigolds (now neat, 15" clumps of green, but later to burst into bright yellow-orange flowers), ornamental grass, spring blooming iris, and low May night salvia. The latter will have bloomed deep blue in the spring and, with deadheading, will return with more flowers occasionally throughout the summer and when the temperature begins to drop in late summer/fall.

A visitor coming up to the house (or the gaze of an admirer on the sidewalk!) will follow a curved path of large flagstones from the fence pillars to the front porch. Kelli has ingeniously planted annual scaevola (fanflower) plants in the spaces between the stones, making a delightful pattern of blue and green lines that brings an almost meadow-like feel to the walk. Just inside the fence, on the left, are several knock-out roses and, next to them, a large oak-leaf hydrangea, now with dried flowerheads. At 5 or 6 feet tall and wide, this striking plant has clearly found its happy place under the pecan tree! It also serves to provide some, but not total, privacy to the garden. An equally happy rosemary bush lives just inside the right hand pillar.

Various plants are scattered throughout the interior of the garden on both sides of the walk. Blooming as I write are orange butterfly weed plants (a variety of milkweed on which Monarch butterfly larvae feed), purple summer phlox, pinkish purple coneflower (echinacea), golden rudbeckia (black-eyed Susan), and red dragon wing begonias (the only annual among them, thus useful for its all-summer blooming). The numerous knock-out roses will be back to bloom off and on until frost and the mint marigolds are yet to come. If you'd passed by in late winter and very early spring, you'd have caught the subtle flowers of the hellebores (Lenten roses) and, a bit later, the brighter ones of yellow daffodils, pinkish-purple spring phlox (a long-blooming, evergreen groundcover), red amaryllis, and yellow columbine. A redbud tree (a smaller, understory tree with deep pink flowers in the spring and pretty, heart-shaped leaves all summer) brings some height to the garden, as do the Carolina jasmine and crossvine trained up the 5 porch pillars. The jasmine has yellow, sweet-smelling flowers in early spring, and the crossvine has coral ones in late spring. A dwarf weeping Japanese maple adds texture; likewise the sage bushes, holly ferns and the lovely evergreen foliage of the Lenten roses.

American beautyberry bushes and more red dragonwing begonias line the front of the porch, while tall umbrella palms edge its side. Large pots sit on either side of the porch steps, filled with multi-colored combinations of annual bacopa, impatiens, periwinkle, goldilocks, and purple-leafed Persian shield.

Many thanks to the Grahams for this tending this shady, colorful oasis in the midst of the summer heat.

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As of July 8, 2018

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