

(continued from previous page)

better. More input and different views will yield better decisions. To that end, I have suggested that we revive an old tradition of having the meetings in the neighborhood at people's homes. Each meeting can be held at a different home in a different part of the neighborhood. Although we will cover business items, an important part of the meetings will be to meet your neighbors and spend a little time talking. So, if this newsletter is your main contact with the neighborhood, please make plans to walk over to the next meeting. The June meeting will be at my house, 2337 Mistletoe Avenue, and we will have wine, cheese and soft drinks, so come on over.

One of the items that we need to discuss is crime. If you have been following the e-mails you are aware that we have had a number of incidents in the neighborhood and

there have been similar incidents in Berkeley. The neighborhood police officers are aware of these incidents and are watching the neighborhood more closely. Most of these incidents have been small petty thefts from porches, but we need to watch our neighbor's houses and communicate by e-mail or otherwise if something is taken from your home. Another issue is traffic on Forest Park. Morning traffic has become very congested and if others feel the same, a meeting with the City to express that concern might be in order. The speed of vehicles in the neighborhood has become a bit of a problem also. We are fortunate to have many children playing in the neighborhood as well as walkers and runners. Please slow down.

From reading the previous newsletter, you know that the public participation at the Batch Plant public meetings was excellent. This dispute is ongoing and comments from

TCEQ will be the next step. As a fortunate byproduct of the batch plant protest, I have been able to get to know the leadership of the Berkeley Neighborhood Association. The two neighborhoods, although different, have a good deal in common and I have agreed to meet with the Berkeley president on a regular basis to discuss issues common to both neighborhoods.

School is out and summer is just about here. This means that more of us will be out in the evenings and that gives us a greater chance to say hello at the park or on the sidewalk. I plan to walk the neighborhood from time to time to say hello and invite you to come to the meetings or tell me if there is something that you think the Association needs to be considering. I hope that you will make sure that you know as many of your neighbors as possible and make sure that they know that they are welcome at all events. There has been some discussion about the possibility of having a Fall Party at the triangle park, which might include a band, food and blocking off a street or two. Let me know what you think. Fall is a nice time of year (all three days of it) and it would be good to get The Band back together.

I love living here and feel lucky to have what we have on these few streets here in Fort Worth. Let's agree to work on making the neighborhood and the Association better over the course of the next year. I am interested to hear your thoughts on the neighborhood and the Association and hope that you will join me at the meeting in June. Again, our home is at 2337 Mistletoe Avenue,.

In the neighborhood?

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In the last month there has been an inordinate number of thefts especially from front porches and yards:

– 4/25-Just wanted you to know that last night around 9:30, four African American males were in our yard and stole our urns, and were headed up our driveway when Jamie (next door) stopped them and chased them away. Amy was in the backyard and the kids in the house getting ready for bed, all outdoor lights on and the dogs were barking. How brazen must they be!

Anyway, the description of the vehicle is a gold Saturn with chrome wheels. Just thought you would want to know and to be on the watch. - Jim Pannell

– 4/28-I wanted to share with everyone that one of our cars was broken into last night—the stereo and some books were stolen from the car. It was parked in our driveway behind the house (on Weatherbee Street)—the lightbulbs in the motion detector had been unscrewed so that no lights came on (not sure if the thieves had done that during the day in anticipation of the event). The gas tank lid cover had also been pried open. Just wanted to inform everyone so they can take extra precautions. - Chris Fowler

– 4/29-One of our neighbor's cars, parked on the street in the 2300 Edwin block, was also broken into. Window smashed, don't know details. - Carol @ 2340 Edwin

– Police Response 4/30-When writing about things that have happened in you neighborhood, could you please include the address where incident occurred?

This would assist us in replying.

Now would be a good time to remind everyone to lock their cars at night and park in a well-lighted area.

Several break-ins on the east side of Forest Park have involved cars that were left unlocked.

The police department can always use your help in watching your neighborhood. Contact your NPO to join Citizens on Patrol.

And remember patrol frequency is based on crime statistics so report every incident!

Porch thefts:

5/15- Rose Lynn passed on to me recent postings indicating thefts in the neighborhood—not so coincidentally, perhaps, also on Wednesday night, I had 4 wrought iron chairs taken from my front porch. In my case it was sometime after 10 p.m.

They're white, heavy wrought iron. They had cushions attached (that were frankly pretty old and disgusting) that

were sage green and white broad striped. All four chairs were taken. (They left the table...)

– 5/16- Yes, also we had a very expensive hand crafted Peruvian walking stick with a ram's head and some CD's stolen from our front porch. Total value roughly \$600 so we're looking close to felony theft. Just hang on to your stuff guys.

E-Chat



*5/16- This from 2200 block of Harrison Ave. Once again, please safeguard your possessions, keep porch lights on and report every theft to the PD. The only way to get more patrols and interest is to statistically show increased crime. This can only be done by actual reports.

– 5/16- On Wednesday, May 11th, sometime between noon and 9 p.m., I had two items stolen from my front porch: a bench (actually an old mahogany piano bench) plus a decorative pottery urn (hand made by a local artist). Total value about \$100. I have filed a police report for statistical purposes.

One of my neighbors did report to me that she observed an older white vehicle driven by a Hispanic male driving very

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slowly up and down the street yesterday afternoon. These may not be connected, but she did believe the vehicle to be suspicious.

Harold Ard

Also, from Carrie Johnson: That's wild! These people are very bold! My neighbors antique stove (I think it was an O'keefe) was sitting on her front walk and it disappeared 2-3 days ago. We live on the 2200 block of W. Rosedale St. South.

POLICE RESPONSE: *Once again, please safeguard your possessions, keep porch lights on and report every theft to the PD.*

The only way to get more patrols and interest from FWPD is to statistically show increased crime. This can only be done by actual reports.

From Code Compliance: 5/4 - Today, with most families having two or more automobiles, having enough parking spaces at a residence sometimes can be a problem. When visitors drive up, often there is no space to park, so they pull into the front yard. But that's a violation of the city's code.

It is illegal to park a vehicle in a residence's front or side yard unless it is parked on a hard-surfaced brick, concrete or asphalt slab or six inches of gravel bounded by a permanent border of concrete or stone. It also is illegal to park on sidewalks, or front walks — those going from house porches to sidewalks or streets — for any length of time. Neither sidewalks nor front walks have been approved for vehicle storage.

This ordinance is enforced by the Code Compliance Department, and violations carry a fine up to \$60.

Remember, if it's not a hard surface, it's not a place to park.

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Yard of the Month: 2325 Mistletoe Drive

by Becka Elbert, DeDe Barth & Celia Jones



As you drive by this beautiful yard you will probably think you are looking at a rolling forest meadow right here in the middle of our own Mistletoe Heights. The mature trees are encircled by impatiens, ferns and groundcover. You are greeted at the driveway entrance, by a sweet wildflower flowerbed. Be sure and notice the old English country style rock ledge welcoming one into the backyard. Thank you Davis family for giving us such a tranquil setting amidst our busy lives. Happy Planting!

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Thanks to you, the Newby Park Pavilion is on its way to becoming a reality.

The Friends of Newby Park Committee is happy to announce we are receiving corporate and larger individual donations now for the Pavilion. Quarles Lumber Co. has generously offered \$2500 and will be named in our Donor's Garden with a large limestone engraved rock. Baylor-All Saints is donating \$1000, along with the \$500 from Texas Bank and the \$100 from Colonial Savings. We are in the process of soliciting funds from other companies and hope to reach our goal of a total of \$9000 soon. The individual brick sale is continuing until construction is started. So far, we have sold a total of 102 bricks. Thanks to all, we are getting there.

LIST OF BRICK BUYERS

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Mail checks to 2218 W. Rosedale St. South, Fort Worth, TX 76110.

Contact: Patsy Slocum (817-923-5510), Martin Herring (817-923-3843), Tom Hale (817-924-5263), Brent Pressley (817-923-6061), Gaye Reed (817-921-0009), John Key (817-923-7235), or Kyle Carr (817-907-5759)



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Gardening with Patsy Slocum

It is almost time for the day lilies to bloom. They are hardy plants and require little attention to give the gardener a showy bed. They multiply rapidly though, and do need to be separated each year and they have a multiple root system. I have had luck moving them at any time of the year, but it probably would be better to wait until they have finished blooming for the season.



Day Lilies

To prevent them from becoming root bound, pull out the dead stems and leaves and dig up the plant. Use two spading forks back to back to separate the roots. Extra plants can be moved to another section of the garden. Mix soil and compost and put plant in at the same depth as previous hole. Make a hole big enough to allow for root expansion.

Water thoroughly, mounding up the soil around the plant, so not to leave air pockets in the soil. With just a little attention, the common day lily will reward you with beautiful color.

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Max Ruthart

By Liz Stevens

It was nearing his 8:30 p.m. bedtime when Max Ruthart was asked to chat with Express Yourself. He was not entirely pleased to be doing it – a little cranky, a little nervous. If we “put him in the newsletter” as we said we wanted to do, he worried, would he still exist?

His parent assured him that he would not disappear shortly after the interview, and he bounded up onto the sofa, superhero-like. He insisted on a “real microphone” to speak into, so one was brought. After this, it was hard for him to concentrate on the conversation at hand, so our time with Max was less than what we’d hoped for. But anyway...

Max is 3 years old. His birthday, which he asks about frequently, is in August. When Max was a baby he had a very fuzzy head of hair in the shape of a mohawk, which teenagers would often comment on (“Cool baby!”).

These days, his hair is pin straight. Unless it is full of macaroni and cheese, in which case it is spiked every which way.

Attending preschool is Max’s main vocation these days. He recently sang “Take Me Out to the Ballgame” and “Here We Go Loop-de-Loop” at his end-of-year program and was the only boy in the ballet presentation. His father was just slightly concerned about Max developing a future complex over this matter.

The red bike is his favorite to ride in the school’s outdoor play area. Because, of course, “it’s super fast.”

Like many boys his age, Max has a fascination with superheroes and other “mean guys.” He enjoys fossil hunting in his backyard and collects many “treasures,” both found on the ground and stolen from his mother’s jewelry

box. He recently put together a box of such treasures for his cousin Mallory’s 15th birthday present, which, unbeknownst to his mother, happened to include one of her favorite earrings and her new pink watch from Target.

Max’s mom has yet to retrieve either.

In January, Max’s parents brought home two new pets to add to the family menagerie. A puppy named Sophie and a young dog named Dante. Both are mutts that like to jump and lick. It took Max a while to get used to that. He still finds it terribly unpleasant when Sophie sits nearby and stares at him during his meals.

This summer, Max will journey to northern Michigan with his parents. It’s a trip he has taken every summer since his birth. There, he visits the summer camp that his grandparents own and run. He

likes to catch frogs and play basketball and make sandcastles at the beach.

On a recent trip to Michigan, he traveled to the Detroit Zoo and saw sea lions, penguins and polar bears and got to eat a swirly sucker that turned his mouth rainbow colors.

Now that’s livin’.



“Max likes to catch frogs and play basketball and make sandcastles at the beach...”

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No Time for your yard? Give me a call! I'm your Mistletoe Heights neighbor and I can offer you competitive pricing and plenty of references. Call Daniel Tice at 817-921-4651 or call 817-707-1581.

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Lost and Found At the March 22 Potluck Supper, black plastic serving utensils, two black markers, and leftover labels were left behind. They can be returned on my porch at 2341 Harrison. Thank you.

Ads are free for Mistletoe Heights residents and may be submitted to the editor. The deadline is the 20th of each month. Ads must be renewed monthly except for service classifieds (i.e.: babysitting, mowing, etc.), which are renewed yearly. Please notify the editor (twoearsup@charter.net or 817-921-2120) if you would like to renew, discontinue or update your ad.

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MHA Officers	Street Reps (listed by blocks)		Publishing Information
President	2200 W. Rosedale South	2100 Edwin	<p style="text-align: center;">EDITORIAL POLICY</p>  <p>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 by the Editor. Letters to the Editor are limited to a half page (approximately 350 words). Please submit to twoearsup@charter.net or 1114 Buck Avenue. The deadline is the 20th of each month.</p> <hr/> <p style="text-align: center;">ADVERTISING INFORMATION</p> <p>To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please call Nancy Brown at 923-7146. Ad rates are: business card size \$15, 1/4 page \$30, 1/3 page \$45, half page \$55, full page \$100, and pre-printed 8 1/2 x 11 insert flyers \$50. The deadline is the 20th of each month.</p>
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City Liaison	Scott Doty 924-2644	Debra Tice 921-4651	
Vacant	2300/2400 Harrison	1100 Mistletoe Dr.	
Historian	Faye Dowdle 926-7571	Kim Musgrove 923-6785	
Wyatt Teague 923-2330	2100 Mistletoe Ave.	1200 ñ 1500 Mistletoe Dr.	
Yard of the Month	Neataw Engels 927-2468	Rochelle Graham 927-2967	
De De Barth 922-8966	2200 Mistletoe Ave.	2300 Mistletoe Dr.	
Becka Elbert 923-8320	Richard/Christi Yantis 924-2857	Sandy Tarpley 924-9215	
Celia Jones 924-1191	2300 Mistletoe Ave.	Forest Park Blvd.	
	Kathleen Walker 926-9095	Steve McReynolds 926-7955	
MHA YEARLY DUES			
Dues are \$5, \$10, \$25 or more. Your dues help to defer the cost of this newsletter, the Mistletoe Heights phone directory and many other neighborhood functions. Dues are accepted by Alex Blanton (call for address - 926-1792).	Neighborhood Police Officer East of Forest Park Officer D. B. Briggs Office 871-8948 Mobile 991-8473 Email: BriggsD@ci.fort-worth.tx.us	Neighborhood Police Officer West of Forest Park Officer Neal Carrell Mobile 994-3409 Pager 998-0478 Email: Larry.Carrell@fortworthgov.org	

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Meet your MHA officers: Secretary

THE PEIPERTS

By Kelly Richey

Jim and Mary Ellen Peipert are trailblazers.

They've traveled the world _ living in Africa and Russia _ for Jim's job with the Associated Press. They lived in several Fort Worth neighborhoods before settling in Mistletoe Heights in September 1999. The neighborhood location lets Jim blaze a trail to work at the Fort Worth Star-Telegram on the path along the Trinity River.

And shortly after they moved into their unique, Grecian-styled home, they became the first in the neighborhood to test



Jim and Mary Ellen Peipert

the landmark commission after the historic overlay was approved. The couple wanted to cover their home's front and side porch, "to make it like it should have been originally," said

Jim Peipert. After commission members met both downtown and on the home's front porch, the Peiperts' request was approved.

The Peiperts were charmed by the neighborhood, where cats still lounge on open porches, and knew it was a place they could call home.

"I've always had kind of a fantasy of an old house and doing a lot of work to it," Jim Peipert said. "But I don't have the skills."

Their home on Harrison Avenue required very little work, and was the perfect size for the empty nesters.

The Peiperts are helping Mistletoe Heights chart its course. The couple is co-secretary for the neighborhood association. They alternate taking meeting minutes, a task that should suit them well. Jim is the Star-Telegram's national-foreign editor. Mary Ellen is a librarian at Oak Lawn Elementary School.

"I'm not very good at it," Jim Peipert says.

"I am," Mary Ellen responds.

They believe great things lie in store for Mistletoe Heights. Neighbors here, they say, share the special bond of appreciating historic homes.

Families are moving "back to the central city, to neighborhoods that are close in," Jim Peipert said.

"And if we preserve them in their state, what a real treasure that we have to keep," Mary Ellen Peipert added.

The couple still travels overseas. Two of their sons live in Tokyo and Taiwan.

CRIMINAL DEFENSE

Daniel L. Young

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