

Mistletoe Express

www.mistletoeheights.com

December 2010/January 2011

Merry Streetlights

Thank the following neighbors for decorating our lovely Mistletoe streetlights (some volunteers have been doing this for more than 20 years):

Jonnie Steed 2200 Rosedale Gary Willis 2200 Irwin Nora and Bob 2300 Irwin

Gil DeHoyas 2200 Mistletoe Blvd. Stewarts 23/2400 Mistletoe Blvd. Stephanie Mischke 2200 Mistletoe Blvd.

Tom Brewer 2300 Magnolia John Hastings 2300 Harrison

John Key 2 1/2200 Mistletoe Ave.

Elisa Jackson 2100 Edwin Allen Cetto 2200 Edwin Scott Harwell 2300 Edwin Tonya Dohoney 2100 Weatherbee Scott Harwell 2200 Weatherbee Betty Arvin 1200 Clara 1100 Clara Mark Rogers John Scott 1200 Buck Musgroves 1100 Mistletoe Dr.

Bruce Lowery 12/1300 Mistletoe Dr.
Sheltons 1400 Mistletoe Dr.
All these wonderful volunteers deserve our

applause and may appreciate some help. Most of these neighbors have been handling this for a dozen or more years.

Merry Christmas!

Help these blocks: There are two blocks that still do not have volunteers to decorate the streetlights. Blocks without volunteers as of publishing date: 2200 Harrison and all of Jerome.

The status of gas drilling

By Norm Stemple

The following information was sent to me by Bob Manthei of XTO Energy about drilling for natural gas and future production in the Mistletoe Heights area:

"At this time we have formed two units, and have drilled one well in each.

The B Unit is the one that extends south to Windsor, east to Eighth Avenue, and west to Forest Park.

"All of Mistletoe Heights is currently in this unit.

"We have two options for the gas line: the original route along Interstate 30 and the second one going north from the location to a line near Lancaster. We expect the line construction to take about 12 to 18 months.

"The royalty checks will be dependent on this construction and gas sales, so they are at least 18 months away."

I sent an e-mail to Manthei asking specific questions. His answers, as of Nov. 17, are as follows:

Will other wells be drilled from this site in the near future?

"Our current plans are to drill more wells. We do not have any planned on our current schedule, which goes to June of 2011. This schedule is subject to change."

Does the "fracking" occur after the gas transmission line has been completed?

"This depends on the lease agreement. We prefer the gas line to be in place, but this is not always the case."

Is the delay in completing the gas transmission line waiting for city approval? Why so long to complete?

"The delay is a combination of city approval and private rights-of-way agreements."

You say the B Unit extends west to Forest Park. Is this Forest Park Boulevard or the river?

"Based on the map I have, it is the eastern boundary of Forest Park."

As I understand it, the fracking extends about 300 feet to each side of the main horizontal drill hole. Is this correct?

"Seismic data gathered during fractures indicate that fractures can extend between 250 and 300 feet."

Note: As of Nov. 18, the rig has been removed from the pad site.



Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Christmas party

Sunday, Dec. 19, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the home of Gerry and Meralen Tyson, 1351 Mistletoe Drive.

Bring an appetizer or dessert. Come celebrate with your neighbors!

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Get on the Mistletoe Heights email list

To subscribe to the Mistletoe Heights Residents mailing list, go to www.mistletoeheights. com, click on "Email List" and look for the section "Subscribing to Residents". Enter your email address and name and click "Subscribe". Be aware that you may need to add residents-bounces@ mistletoeheights.com to your address book so the incoming emails are not treated as spam. We're still missing lots of neighbors on the email list. If you have any questions or concerns about the email list, contact moderator@ mistletoeheights.com.



The 2nd Annual Mistletoe Heights Porch Tree Contest

Last year we had about 40 beautifully decorated porch trees in Mistletoe Heights, this year we hope to triple that number. Be part of creating this new tradition. Some neighbors might even drop a secret Santa gift under your tree. Your porch tree will help unify our historic neighborhood's holiday decoration. One neighbor is going to the country to cut down some Texas cedars. It's a lot of fun looking at all of the trees. Decorate a Hanukkah bush or a big pagan fir. Last year cookies were left under all of the porch trees in the neighborhood. Decorating has officially begun...

Go green: Waste not at holiday time

In the United States alone, an additional 5 million tons of waste is generated during the holiday season, says the Clean Air Council. Four million tons of waste is attributed to wrapping paper, shopping and gift bags.

"If every American family wrapped just three presents in reused materials, it would save enough paper to cover nearly 50,000 football fields," according to the Stanford University Recycling Center.

When most of the homes in Mistletoe Heights were built, unwrapped presents were simply placed under the tree when children were sleeping. See what greener choices you and your family can make this year. Fill stockings with gifts, reuse gift bags and boxes and wrap gifts in pillowcases with ribbon.





Yard of the month: 1138 Clara St.



Phyllis' gardening tip: Remember to keep plants well watered during winter months, too. Plant roots are still growing although the plant may appear dormant.

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Congratulations to Phyllis and Rod Green, recipients of Mistletoe Heights' Yard of the Month citation for December.

The landscape of this Prairie-style home at 1138 Clara St., built in 1919, is ablaze with color. Autumn amethyst encore azaleas, with dark lavender blooms, lustrous green summer foliage and attractive purple winter foliage, play the starring role by providing year-round vibrant color and interest in the Greens' garden.

Although the azaleas were planted about 10 years ago by the home's previous owners, Phyllis has lovingly tended them for the past nine years. She feeds the plants each spring with a fertilizer, specifically for rhododendrons, and waters regularly, especially during prolonged dry spells.

"I think of the encore azaleas as similar to the ease of growing knock-out roses," Phyllis said. "Once established, encores require minimal care and continue to perform beautifully, even in our tough Texas Other

plants in the bed include antique roses, purple oxalis, coneflowers, ajuga, pink Turk's cap and various salvias, all suited to sun and partial shade and with prolonged blooming throughout summer and fall seasons.

Although she has been an avid gardener most of her life, Phyllis quickly admits that she is still learning. "I don't worry too much about garden design," she said. "I just plant what I love and try different things. Now I'm researching ornamental grasses, and I plan to add those, too."

Phyllis' love of gardening extends to friends and neighbors as she shares plants and gardening ideas and to students and their parents at Lily B. Clayton Elementary School. She volunteers weekly with the school's Outdoor Club for third- to fifth-graders who are interested in learning about native plants and animals as well as beautification of the grounds at Sweet Lily B.

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





Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Christmas party, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 19

Let's gather at the home of Gerry and Meralen Tyson, 1351 Mistletoe Drive. Bring an appetizer or dessert. Come celebrate with your neighbors!

Meetings, events and fun

- "The Polar Express" and "Santa vs. The Snowman" return to the Omni Theater at the Fort Worth Museum, Nov. 19-Jan. 3, 2011, 1501 Montgomery St., \$6-\$9, 817-255-9540.
- Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place, Dec. 4-5, W. Berry and

Christmas In The Stockyards, Dec. 4, 121 E. Exchange Ave.

- FW Botanic Garden presents "Bird's Christmas Tree," Dec. 4
- Jingle Bell Run, Dec. 4, Sundance Square

Shop and Dine at the Modern this holiday, Dec. 10, 3200 Darnell Street.

- Texas Ballet Theater Presents "The Nutcracker," Dec. 10-24, Bass Performance Hall, 525 Commerce St., www.texasballettheater.org, 817-763-0207.
- Fort Worth Stock Show and Rodeo, Jan. 14-Feb. 5, 817-877-2420.
- New Years Eve, Dec.31.

No meeting minutes were taken at the last MHA meeting. No elections were held at that time either.

Bob Bourland Frank Kent Honda

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Cultivate a Christmas cactus

By Patsy Slocum

The Christmas cactus gets its name because it usually blooms in December and January.

The plant comes from the Brazilian rain forests and can be grown either as an upright or hanging plant. The hanging flowers are dark red, with several rings of petals. The plant's root network is weak and can't stand too much water.



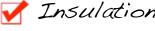
In the spring, it needs some light, but not direct sunshine. It needs to be sprayed in hot weather with plenty of water and requires some nourishment. It needs a rest in late July and August, and it must be kept completely dry to promote the growth of buds.

By fall, water sparingly but spray frequently. When the buds emerge, water the plant more. It likes a cool temperature, and shouldn't be moved or turned or be subjected to changes in temperature, as the plant may shed its buds.

After flowering, it needs to rest for a couple of months, and must be kept dry, in the light and in cool temperatures.

Happy gardening!









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Dealing with urban coyotes

Neighbor Melissa Kohout spotted a pair of coyotes in Newby Park at around 2 p.m. on a recent Saturday. They can sometimes be heard serenading the neighborhood at night.

So please be cautious, especially if you have small pets.

The DFW Wildlife Coalition says urban coyotes live and thrive in nearly every city across the United States, including the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex. But the sight of a coyote in an urban environment takes some people by surprise and sometimes makes them nervous.

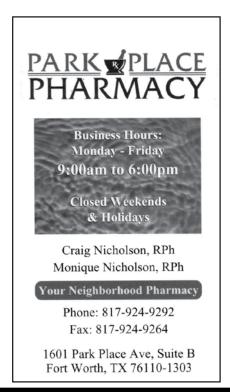
The good news is that biologists who study coyotes say they pose no threat to people – as long as we behave in a way that allows coyotes to stay wild. So there's really not as much to worry about as some news stories would have us believe.

What to do and what not to do

- · Never intentionally feed them.
- · Avoid leaving out food sources that can attract coyotes:
- Clean up around overflowing bird feeders; bird seed on the ground attracts mice and rats and can attract coyotes.
- · Don't leave dog or cat food outside overnight.
- · Clean up rotting fruit under fruit trees.
- · Don't leave small pets outside unattended particularly at night.
- Obey leash laws; small dogs on the loose can attract coyotes, particularly at night or early morning.
- Keep garbage containers closed and inaccessible. Adding ammonia or pepper spray to trash can discourage rummaging by wildlife.
- Keep compost in enclosed bins rather than in open piles. Compost should be covered in brown materials so the piles don't attract animals.
- Don't place garbage cans out until morning; many animals are active at night.
- Don't invite coyotes to build dens next to your home; seal crawl spaces, close sheds, thin brushy areas and seal off access under decks.
- Even if you enjoy seeing coyotes, don't let them know it. Be a threat to keep them wary of humans -- and safer. If a coyote visits your yard, wave your arms, shout and spray it with a water hose. A coyote afraid of humans is much safer to share our cities with.
- Contact the DFW Wildlife Coalition at 972-234-WILD (9453) if you spot a coyote.
 Hotline volunteers will provide information and complete a coyote sighting report,
 which is forwarded to Fort Worth Animal Control and Texas Parks & Wildlife, as part of a DFW Metroplex-wide coyote tracking initiative.

Tips for winter night walking

- Separate yourself as much as possible from traffic by seeking out lighted sidewalks. In parts of the neighborhood the sidewalks drop out, be sure to be walking in the street facing traffic, and only when you have no alternative. If you walk with your back to oncoming traffic you cannot be sure you are seen. You need to be able to see and react to any vehicle.
- Drivers are not on guard for folks walking at night. When crossing at any intersection, including traffic lights, ALWAYS ASSUME THE CARS DO NOT SEE YOU. Wear reflective tape, light colored clothes, carry a flashlight, and always take extra caution. Keep in mind there are many more drunk drivers during the holiday season and pedestrian vehicle accidents happen mostly at intersections.
- Mistletoe Heights has not been pro-active as a community, nor has the City of Fort Worth, as it should be in fixing its sidewalks. Many of our sidewalks are dangerous in the daytime, let alone after dark. Tripping hazards, uneven sidewalks, tree roots, potholes in our streets and toys left on sidewalks all can lead to a slip and fall. Walk with your eyes noting the ground 15 feet ahead to see upcoming hazards.
- For use older folks, we gradually lose our ability to see in the dark and recovering from headlight glare can take more time. Choose a walking route where you won't have frequent changes in the lighting level. Do not look into oncoming headlights.
- Don't blast music as you walk at night, as you are less able to respond to vehicles, notice trip hazards or suspicious persons.
- And for those neighbors who wish to be kind to others, please do not block the sidewalk with your vehicle. You might not be aware that you force walkers into the street.
- Carry your cell phone, and try to let someone know your route and if you see a person who seems suspicious, go in the other direction and call the police. 911. Trust your gut.





Mistletoe Kids Coloring Page





Crime incidents increase

For the neighbors who are in denial about how much of an up tick in crime we are having here in Mistletoe Heights here are the stats from Oct. 1 thru today.

We have had 12 serious crimes! Often returning to the same home or block within hours. They are equally occurring on both sides of Forest Park, so those that think its not on "their side" are seriously mistaken. These stats do not include recent gang graffitti that has been seen as well in the neighborhood.

The "we really don't have any crime mantra" just is not helpful at this time. I spent 15 years on a big block in downtown Brooklyn with a lot less crime than this.

These are the stats with police reports. Consider that some

folks might not have called. Please always report a crime because it helps the police know where to keep their officers.

Please pull your car into the driveway past the facade of the house, use your locked garage, use locking gates, lock your doors and windows, shred your mail, and report anything suspicious to the police. Do not give out your name or information to



strangers. People selling something just might be looking to see who is home and who is not.

Criminals like to return to where they have been successful. Do not leave bags, extra keys, ID, sunglasses, phones, and packages in your cars. Do not leave bikes, expensive yard equipment and tools in the yard or porch. Leave lights on timers, and a radio turned to a talk show or a TV left can be a real deterrent. Most criminals do not like dogs much either. Use quality locks and install cameras tied to the web. These new cameras are cheap and can be very helpful to the police.

Crime log

VEHICLE BREAK-IN/THEFT Case Number: 100116472 Date: 10/28/2010 5:30 PM Location: 2300 BLOCK IRWIN ST Description: Theft from motor vehicle

VEHICLE BREAK-IN/THEFT Case Number: 100126283 Date: 11/22/2010 9:00 PM

Location: 2200 BLOCK W MAGNOLIA

AVE

Description: Theft from motor vehicle

BURGI ARY

Case Number: 100120113 Date: 11/7/2010 9:00 PM Location: 2200 BLOCK D MISTLETOE BL

Description: Burglary, Breaking and

Entering

MOTOR VEHICLE THEFT Case Number: 100112766 Date: 10/19/2010 9:00 PM Location: 2300 BLOCK EDWIN ST Description: Motor vehicle theft

VEHICLE BREAK-IN/THEFT Case Number: 100112802 Date: 10/19/2010 7:00 PM Location: 2300 BLOCK EDWIN ST Description: Theft from motor vehicle

THEFT/LARCENY Case Number: 100123865

Date: 11/16/2010 8:00 PM Location: 2300 BLOCK MISTLETOE

DR

Description: Theft of motor vehicle

parts or accessory

THEFT/LARCENY
Case Number: 100112883
Date: 10/19/2010 10:30 PM
Location: 2200 BLOCK EDWIN ST
Description: Theft of motor vehicle

parts or accessory

BURGLARY

Case Number: 100122172 Date: 11/12/2010 6:57 PM

Location: 2200 BLOCK EDWIN ST Description: Burglary, Breaking and

Entering

THEFT/LARCENY Case Number: 100123865 Date: 11/16/2010 8:00 PM

Location: 2300 BLOCK MISTLETOE

DR

Description: Theft of motor vehicle

parts or accessory

VANDALISM

Case Number: 100126637 Date: 11/24/2010 7:00 AM Location: 2200 BLOCK WEATHERBEE ST

Description: Destruction, damage,

vandalism

THEFT/LARCENY Case Number: 100112786 Date: 10/19/2010 8:00 PM Location: 2100 BLOCK WEATHERBEE ST

Description: Theft of motor vehicle

parts or accessory

VANDALISM

Case Number: 100126637 Date: 11/24/2010 7:00 AM Location: 2200 BLOCK WEATHERBEE ST

Description: Destruction, damage,

vandalism

11 crimes of similar nature have occurred in Berkeley Place during the same time period, often within hours of each other.

Enough with the denial folks. It's real and ongoing and we all need to protect our property and our neighbors.

Sidney Keith is the NPO for west of Forest Park, 817-944-1038. David Cloninger is the NPO for east of Forest Park, 992-0181.

Coming in Feb. issue of Mistletoe Express

- Everything you want to know about The Southwest Parkway
- Everything you want to know about residential permits
- The meaning of life (!)

Central Market reusable grocery bags

MH neighbor Austin Jourde donated 500 bags to the neighborhood as a fundraiser for the Mistletoe Heights entrance. A suggested donation of \$2 each, but any amount is fine, as it is all to the good. Grocery bags can be picked up from the porch of 2239 W. Magnolia Ave. Just leave your name and how many bags you took, then send your donation to Jeri Jo Blackmon, 1408 Mistletoe Drive.

Code Blue: Citizens on Patrol

Objectives:

- To assist the police department through observation
- To reduce crime in your neighborhood
- To increase cooperation between citizens and police officers
- To educate citizens on crime prevention
- To increase the public presence in the neighborhood
- To unite residents for a dedicated reason
- To increase crime awareness among the citizens of the neighborhoods
- To improve the quality of life in the neighborhood
- To provide a safe, secure environment for all neighborhood residents
- To make a difference in your neighborhood

Neighbors

Let me put the call out once again for you to become trained by the FWPD in their Citizens on Patrol program that's part of Code Blue. The next training time is Wednesday, December 8 at 6-10 p.m.. It is located at police sub-station at 5320 Trail Lake Drive.

We need at least one person from each street, preferably one from each block, to form a COP team. We owe it to our families and to those around us who cannot do for themselves like they once could.

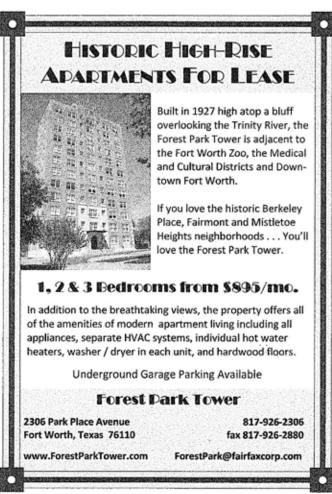
Just e-mail me and we'll pass your name along. Thank you, Dr. Robert DeVargas, 817-797-6803, devargas@flash.net

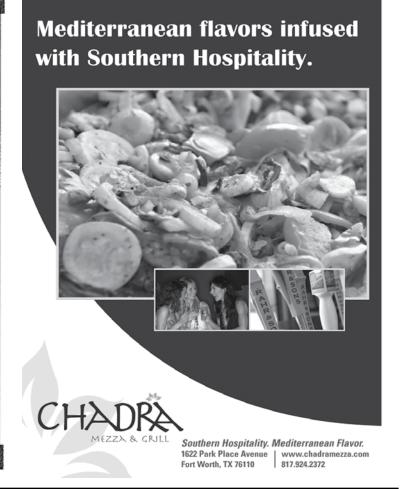
Requirements:

- ✓ Submit a COP application
- ✓ Pass a background check
- ✓ Attend and complete the 8 hour COP training course
- ✓ Observe a Communications call-taker and dispatcher
- ✓ Ride in with a FWPD Patrol Officer
- ✓ Ride in with an experienced COP member



Code Blue is a partnership with citizsens, businesses and the Fort Worth Police Department to address and reduce crime for a safer community.







National Merit in the 'hood

Lars Soderbergh, Sarah Rose Million and Alex Hansen - all graduates of Lily B. Clayton and currently seniors at Paschal High School - were recently honored along with Paschal's other 35 National Merit Scholars at a National Merit Reception at Colonial Country Club.

Congratulations to all three of vou!



Thank you

We want to thank James Pestell of 901 Forest Park Blvd for the labor of painting the retainer wall along the street. It has much improved the looks of the entrance to our neighborhood. Thank You Jim!

Submitted by Patsy Slocum

I love my "gray Taco Bell[°]"...

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

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

While I may not have a drive-thru window, no one will work harder for you. After all, you know where I live!



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CONVERTING TO A ROTH IRA BEFORE DEC. 31.

If you're looking for tax-free opportunities for your retirement or heirs, now's the time to talk.

Converting before Dec. 31 means you have the option to spread out the conversion amount over two years, which is something you may want to consider.

Call before Dec. 31 to see if a Roth conversion may be right for you.

Edward Jones, its employees and financial advisors are not estate planners and cannot provide tax or legal advice. Please consult your attorney or qualified tax advisor regarding your situation.



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www.edwardjones.com/roth2010

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Free Classified neighborhood ads

Mistletoe Heights Pet Sitters is now booking for the holidays, or any other time. References available on request.

www.mistletoeheightspetsitters.com or 817-247-2870

BABYSITTING, pet sitting, plant watering, lawn mowing, watch little ones in the pool? Hire the neighborhood kid: Jake Mallison (14), first-class Boy Scout, experienced with special needs kids, references available. House 817-924-7783 or cell 817-773-1471

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

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HELP THE NIGHT SHELTER; If you are interested in participating in or donating to The Presbyterian Night Shelter's Operation Move Out, please contact Heather White at 817-632-7415 or hwhite@pnstc.org

MEMORY QUILTS: Do you have more t-shirts than you can wear? I have a solution! Turn them into memory quilts. Call Jill at 817-217-4497 or visit www.sew-what-quilts.com

EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC: Mistletoe Musikgarten

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VINTAGE SALES

Estate sales and appraisals in Fort Worth since 1992. Call Anne Bourland for information. 817-924-5959

GOING OUT OF TOWN? Call Riley Gensheimer.

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

PET PORTRAITS:

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

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

COMPLETE PROPERTY RENOVATION: Demolition, clean-up, specializing in historic home renovations, painting, wallpaper. Contact Jeff at 817-988-7113.

Mistletoe Heights Association Income & Expenses

January 1 through November 15, 2010

	Jan 1 - Nov 15, 10
Income	
Advertising Income - Newsletter	4,517.00
Dues Donations	6,929.00
Interest Income	3.92
Miscellaneous Income	150.00
Total Income	11,599.92
Expense	
Bank Charges	12.47
Easter Egg Hunt	188.03
Flag Program - Triangle	120.00
Garage Sale Expenses	83.39
July 4th Party	647.64
MHA Entry	188.89
Neighborhood Postman	250.00
Newby Park Improvements	22.43
Newsletter Expenses	4,741.80
Water Expense - Berm	841.36
Water Expense - Newby	587.09
Website Expense	95.25
Total Expense	7,778.35
et Income	3,821.57



2412 Forest Park Blvd. 817.923.9828

30% of of retail goods



(not including food), for all dog owners who read the December-January issue of Mistletoe Express.

Your Neighborhood Groomer

Save money on your electric bill. Support a worthy cause.

Mistletoe Heights

is holding a fundraising drive. We're not selling anything you don't need! In fact, you can help our cause by saving money on something you already use! You can save money on electricity by switching your service to Ambit Energy, our partner in this fundraising effort.

Switch to Ambit and you'll enjoy lower rates. You'll get a free 3-day, 2-night travel certificate just for trying Ambit service. Plus, you'll get a chance to win a free cruise, earn Travel Rewards Points redeemable for vacations.





Mistletoe Heights.

and referring others to Ambit Energy qualifies you to earn energy credits up to and including free energy! Plus, when you pay your electric bill month after month, part of the money goes to support Your savings will vary, depending on where you live and the rate plan you choose. Annual savings average 10%–20%.

There is no cost to switch. No contracts are required.

SAVINGS

There is no cost to switch. No contracts are required. You can switch back at no cost.

For more information about Ambit's rate plans or to enroll for service, go to our fundraising site: www.mistletoeheights.joinambit.com

Great Rates On Electricity!

When you switch your electricity service to Ambit Energy, nothing will change except the size of your bill.



Please contact me if you have any questions about supporting our cause and saving money with Ambit.

Contact me: Janelle Cline

Voice: (888) 782-6248

Email: energyofchoice@yahoo.com

Online: www.mistletoeheights.joinambit.com



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