

## Mistletoe Express

www.mistletoeheights.com

August 2011



### CHECK OUT JULY 4 PHOTOS! Pages 6-7

# How to keep your cool during periods of excessive heat

Extreme heat and high humidity can be dangerous to anyone, but particularly to the elderly, infants and young children, people with disabilities and people on medication for chronic health problems. Here are some tips for handling the heat:

The American Red Cross wants Fort Worth residents to know what they should do to weather the heat and remain safe during what can be dangerous conditions:

- Stay hydrated by drinking plenty of fluids. Avoid drinks with caffeine or alcohol.
- Never leave children or pets alone in enclosed vehicles.
- · Eat small meals and eat more often.
- Avoid extreme temperature changes.
- Wear loose-fitting, lightweight, light-colored clothing.
- Slow down, stay indoors and avoid strenuous exercise during the hottest part of the day.
- Use a buddy system when working in excessive heat.
- Take frequent breaks if you must work outdoors.
- Check on family, friends and neighbors who do not have air conditioning, who
  spend much of their time alone or who are more likely to be affected by the heat.
- Check on your animals frequently to ensure that they are not suffering from the heat. Ensure your animals have water and a shady place to rest.
- Have a plan for wherever you spend time home, work and school and prepare for the possibility of power outages.
- Know those in your neighborhood who are elderly, young, sick or overweight. They are more likely to become victims of excessive heat and may need help.
- If you don't have air conditioning, choose places to go to for relief from the heat during the hottest part of the day community centers, theaters, malls.

### The big 5 water savers

- 1. Stop leaks.
- Replace your toilet with a new watersaving model.
- Replace your clothes washer with an energy-efficient model.
- 4. Plant the right landscape and irrigation.
- Water your landscape when your plants need it.



# The bridge is back!

After a yearlong closure, the Rosedale Street bridges connecting directly to Interstate 30 are back open. Now get ready for the Chisholm Trail Parkway project construction.

Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16, at President Jeff Davis' house, 2325 Mistletoe Drive.

# Yard of the month: 2229 Weatherbee St.

Alan and Phyllis Ettinger of 2229 Weatherbee Street are recipients of August's Yard of the Month citation. Surely, everyone has driven by the Ettinger house on the southeast corner of Weatherbee and Forest Park Boulevard many, many times. It should not go unnoticed that the side yard facing Forest Park has been undergoing a transformation.

Last year, it was the new flower bed beside the garage that included purple and orange chrysanthemums, pittosporums, pink oleanders and Indian hawthorn and purple sage. And this year, three more half-circle flower beds have been added along this side yard which should grab your attention.

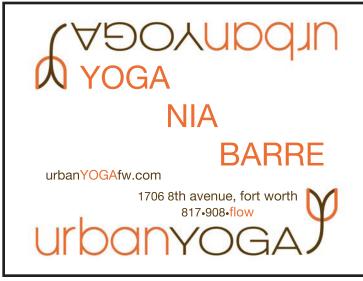
One bed has flowering tropical hibiscus, a beautiful unidentified yellow and orange/red flowering plant, purple fountain grass and a type of fan palm. The next bed has various shades of pink knockout roses and wax-leaf ligustrum surrounded by white, pink and red begonias that should eventually hide the front of the air conditioning unit. The side bed closest to the front of the house includes more roses, salvia and Mexican heather and unspecified small yellow flowering plants. Nandinas line the west side of this house, providing some sun and sound protection.

Yaupon holly trees, Japanese yews and Chinese pistache trees are in the front flower beds along with more pink and red knock-



out roses, yellow roses, purple sage, dwarf yaupon holly bushes and Indian hawthorn bushes. Two red oak trees anchor each side of the front yard with red, white and pink begonias circling each tree. More begonias border the front beds along the front of the house. This year the entire sprinkler system was redone and plans for the fall include adding a couple of Japanese maple trees.

Congratulations to the Ettingers for their work in progress and bringing beauty to those who drive by on Forest Park Boulevard. For their efforts, they will receive a generous gift certificate provided by Calloway's Garden Center.





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### Welcome, new residents: from far away and close-by

Over the past few weeks, we've had two new families join the ranks of Mistletoe Heights.

The Dunivans (mom and dad are Casi and Troy; children are London and Justice) are new to our neighborhood from nearby Arlington Heights. They've moved in and are putting down roots on Magnolia Avenue.

New on Mistletoe Drive is the Marcus family. Rick's work relocated him here earlier this year, and as soon as school was out for son Zachary in New York, he and his mom Tabbatha moved down to join Rick, According to Rick, homes were considered as far north as Plano and as far south as Burleson, with our neighborhood quickly winning their affections hands down.

Both families have been welcomed to the neighborhood with welcome baskets courtesy of our association with a request that they join in to neighborhood activities along with the rest of us, such as the upcoming quarterly meeting on August 9 at 7 p.m. at the home of Jeff Davis. Everybody's encouraged to turn out for this meeting and extend a warm welcome to both families. Hope to see you there!



Check out our updated website: www.mistletoeheights.com

### Italian Summer **Bread Salad**

- 2 cloves garlic minced
- 1 large loaf of day old Italian bread (toasted)
- 1 cup diced tomatoes
- 1 cup cucumber peeled, seeded and diced
- 1 cup chopped red onion
- 2 cups chopped fresh basil
- 1 tablespoon of minced fresh thyme
- 1/4 cup chopped olives
- 1/4 cup olive oil
- 1-tablespoon balsamic vinegar
- 1 tablespoon lemon juice
- 3 tablespoons of grated imported Parmigiano-Reggiano
- Salt and pepper to taste

Toast and chop the bread into bite-size pieces. Combine toasted bread, tomatoes, cucumbers, red onions, olives, garlic, basil and thyme. Wisk olive oil, balsamic vinegar, lemon juice. In a small bowl. Sprinkle Parmesan on salad. Salt and Pepper to taste, and toss so all of the salad is well coated and serve.

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### EVENTS AND NEIGHBORHOOD MEETINGS

Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association meeting, 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16. President Jeff Davis' house, 2325 Mistletoe Drive.

Dallas - Fort Worth KRLD Restaurant Week, presented by Central Market. Gourmet Prix-Fixe Dinners for \$35, Aug. 15-21, 2011.

Back to school! Monday, Aug. 22

### **Central Market bags benefit Mistletoe!**

Central Market bags are STILL available on Thomas and Marjorie Day's porch, 2239 W. Magnolia Ave. On the honor system, please send your donation to our neighborhood treasurer, Jeri Jo Blackmon, 1408 Mistletoe Drive. The money made from the reusable grocery bags donations goes toward our Entrance Beautification program.

#### **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.









avani Bellary, DO

Niraj Mehta, DO

Morvarid Rezaie, DO

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### Shedding light on city lots

By Marjorie Day
City lots have it all.

Little city lots with their narrow sides and Lilliputian yards can make even diehard city gardeners wanting a piece of the country. A small lot that you wanted to be chic and cohesive can turn into granny's crazy plant collection pretty quickly without practicing restraint.

The environmental conditions of gardening here in Fort Worth are challenging to say the least, but some Texas gardeners are wide open to the opportunity that the unique growing conditions here offer.

Most city lots have a combination of shade and sun and knowing how to echo plants and ornaments in various lights and soil conditions is the key to making your landscape look cohesive.

Create your shady garden with plants like mahonia, hollies, pittsoporum, boxwood, hostas, ferns, and shade tolerant ground covers...in your transitional space that has dappled light and full sun, try to use some of the plants from your shady garden area that do not mind sun like the boxwood and repeated ground covers. Find plants that can go from part sun to sun that you have already used like coneflowers or sedums. When you are in your sun zone, try to keep things simple, use heat loving and drought tolerant plants that create a low maintenance area. You will be happy you did when it is 105 outside.

Look to unify the three zones as much as possible with a color or repeated element, like stone pathways, rocks, pottery, art and plants that are tolerant of a wide range of all of your lot's light conditions.

For example, yuccas can take some shade and be in your sun garden all at the same time.

Always work toward a native and adapted garden in Texas. Have fun and pray for cooler days.

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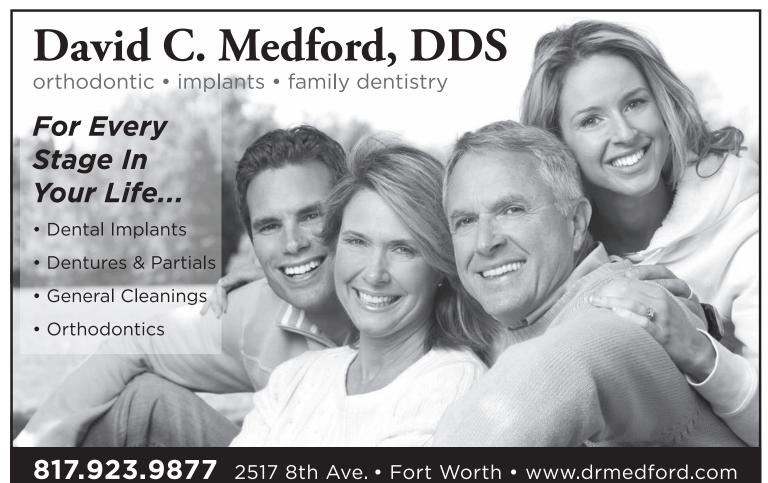
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### MISTLETOE HEICHTS PARADE JULY 4, 2011

































Photos courtesy of Heather Raiden, 2400 Harrison Ave., Andrew & Anna, and Wendy Blanton.

### Hello Mistletoe Heights Neighbors!

It is time again to collect dues donations for our neighborhood association. All residents of Mistletoe Heights are members of the association and dues donations are completely voluntary. Any amount is welcomed and appreciated.

In addition to the seasonal social gatherings, landscape maintenance, newsletter and directory publications, dues donations fund a number of special projects.

We will conclude our dues drive in the Fall. Various levels of giving will be recognized in upcoming newsletters with the final recognition for the year being published in our November newsletter if received before October 15<sup>th</sup>.

Levels of giving for this year are:

Mistletoe - up to \$24

Holly - \$25 to \$49

Gardenia - \$50 to \$74

Magnolia - \$75 and up

Thank you for supporting your neighborhood association. Together we can make Mistletoe Heights an even better place to live. WORTH, TEXAS \$15 \$25 \$50 \$Other Please return your dues donation to: Mistletoe Heights Association Name: c/o Jeri Jo Blackmon 1408 Mistletoe Drive Address: Fort Worth, TX 76110 Please check here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous

### Free neighborhood classified ads

DUPLEX FOR RENT, Mid 6/11, \$875 + utilities, Approx 1300 sf, 2 bedrooms, 1 bath, living room, dining room, kitchen, stainless steel appliances, energy efficient ac & attic fan, W&D, hardwood floors, covered parking, wood deck. 817-927-7200.

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BEAUTIFUL TWO-STORY CARRIAGE HOUSE for rent to female occupant in historic Mistletoe Heights neighborhood, less than two miles from TCU campus. Downstairs has a living room overlooking the pool and private patio, kitchen with large pantry, and utility room with washer & dryer and half bath. Upstairs is a huge bedroom with loft storage and a full bath. \$795.00 monthly, plus electric. Please contact Meralyn@sbcglobal.net.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

TUTOR, K-3rd grade. Caring, encouraging, experienced (12 years) certified elementary school teacher is offering tutoring this summer. Contact Kathy Jo Rogers at 817.688.0905 or kathyjorogers@sbcglobal.net.

\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*\*

EXPERIENCED BABYSITTER/NANNY/ CHILDCARE

PROFESSIONAL. My name is Britney Owens and I live in the Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood. I have 8 years of experience in high end quality childcare and I am seeking to help you with your family's needs for a babysitter! I bring toys and it allows me to be very hands on and interactive when doing developmentally appropriate activities with children. I've had a variety of experiences. Currently I am working for Cooks Kids Place Childcare and a Nanny Agency where I have assisted Pro-Athletes Families. I would love to help you as well. Please call me at 817-253-4734 or email britneyn.owens@yahoo.com to let me know if I can help you!

HARPIST: Sally Sledge ministers on the harp as a worshiper, psalmist and vocalist. She has recorded two C.D.'s: "Return to Your Rest" and "Cherished Times". She is available to play for home groups, church events, Bible studies, weddings, funerals, dinner parties or any special occasion. For more information and song samples, you may access her web site at www.sallysledge.com.

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

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EARLY CHILDHOOD MUSIC: Mistletoe Musikgarten For babies, toddlers, pre-schoolers and their parents Taught by Carol Spencer, certified by the Early Childhood Music and Movement Association and the Gordon Institute for Music Learning MistletoeMusik.com. 817.927.3240 ~ carolingfw@sbcglobal.net

#### 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 10-515 a day. Call 17-991-8214

#### PET PORTRAITS:

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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

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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@pns-tc.org



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### Animals distressed due to extreme heat

As a result of the recent stretch of extreme heat, the City of Fort Worth's Code Compliance/Animal Care and Control Division has received an overwhelming number of priority calls regarding animals in distressed situations. The call volume has doubled from its normal case load.

When temperatures began rising to potentially dangerous levels, Animal Care and Control implemented extreme heat measures in an attempt proactively minimize any unnecessary suffering by the animals. Some of those measures have included asking residents to stop trapping domestic animals and wildlife. Officers also are on high alert to ensure they spot animals in vehicles or other enclosed areas that pose potential danger. Additionally, over the past two months officers have been returning to the shelter multiple times a day to off-load the animals into the cooler facility.

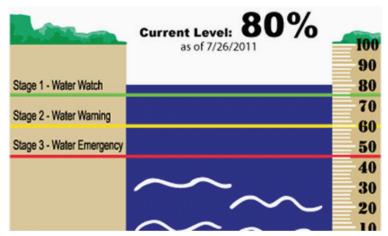
Animal Care and Control is requiring off-duty officers to work additional hours and Code Compliance has temporarily re-assigned 10 code officers to the division to expedite response time on the priority calls.

The City also offers important hot weather tips to keep pets

- Never leave an animal alone in a vehicle, even if windows are partially opened, as it can quickly become a furnace.
- · Dogs and cats need a cool, shady place to sleep during the hot weather with plenty of clean, fresh water accessible at all
  - Feed animals in the cooler hours of the day.
- Heatstroke is life threatening for dogs and cats. Signs to watch for are: heavy/loud breathing, a staggering walk or a bright red tongue.

Residents can be of further assistance by watching out for animals in their neighborhood or in public places. To report animals who may be in distressed situations call, 817-392-PAWS (7297)

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## We are a voting community!

Submitted by Marian Eastman

If you haven't congratulated yourself for keeping the Mistletoe Heights and Park Hill voting tradition, do so. These neighborhoods have consistently been above average in this county in its voting record. To some of you that may not seem much but when most of the country not to mention this county votes at 10-15% our being at greater than 25% is very high praise. There have been contests where we have had 65% participation. So we have really done our work.

Think of this: voting is a community activity. Now there are not too many places where you can meet and greet your neighbors, catch up on all the gossip, check on kids you haven't seen in a while(because now they are in college or married with kids) and possibly meet a neighbor that you hadn't meet before. Not to mention just to check the voter count to see that you're one of the 'chosen ones'.

Thank you voters for your commitment to the process. My wish is to make our voting record even stronger and invite all my neighbors to come join in.

# Could West Rosedale become Pedestrian Friendly?

According to Fort Worth's project list, West Rosedale is scheduled for a facelift. From 1-35 to Forest Park Blvd. a revitalization program is underway much like what was done on Berry Street. The West Rosedale Street Retrofit should begin this month and be finished in 2013.

This is a Sustainable Development Grant project for the design and construction of sidewalks, crosswalks, benches, trash receptacles, shade trees, lighting, and a pedestrian plaza along W Rosedale St from Main St to Forest Park Blvd.

Mistletoe Heights will benefit greatly from a West Rosedale upgrade. The city is also finally considering the situation on Jerome Ave regarding sidewalks to connect Lily B. Clayton and Newby Park. All good news.

#### What do you want to know about our neighborhood?

The Mistletoe Express newsletter brings you information about what's going on in our neighborhood. For instance, what the heck is Midtown and what is going on there? We'll bring you an update for the September issue.

Send an e-mail to the editor letting us know what you want to know more about, and we'll do our darnedest to get it in. We welcome your written submissions, too!

Better yet, attend the 7 p.m. Tuesday, Aug. 16 Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Association meeting at Jeff Davis' house, 2325 Mistletoe Drive. You'll be in the know!

Newsletter contact: Marjorie Day, perrellim@aol.com, 817-914-8057

### I love my "gray Taco Bell<sup>®</sup>"…

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.

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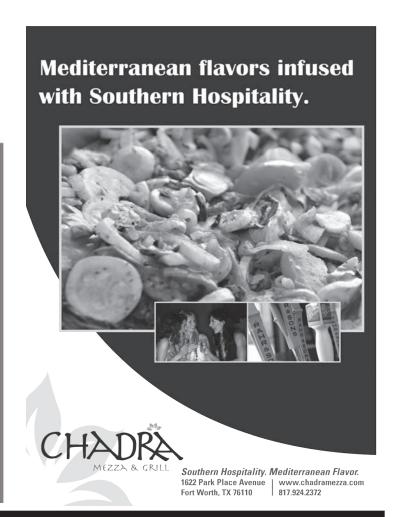
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# Air-quality study calls for further action

Fort Worth City Council called the newly released air quality report a good start, but called for further discussion and a review of the existing Gas Drilling Ordinance to address concerns and respond to findings.

A comprehensive study of gas exploration and production sites by Eastern Research Group Inc. (ERG) did not reveal any "significant health threats" and concluded that Fort Worth's 600-foot setback distance is adequate. However, some gas production facilities — like compressor stations — may require additional review, according to the report. As part of its study, ERG took air samples from nearly 400 gas production facilities along with ambient air samples collected over a two-month span throughout the city.

The City Council made it clear that the health and safety of citizens is its top priority. And, while there may be some quick fixes that can be made, there are also long-term issues that should be reviewed. Some initial ideas were suggested, but the City Council called for a workshop to further discuss any changes.

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## Mistletoe Heights Association Income & Expenses January through June 2011

	Jan - Jun 11
Income Advertising Income - Newsletter Central Market Bags Dues Donations Interest Income	3,527.00 82.00 2,190.00 3.62
Total Income	5,802.62
Expense Bank Charges Easter Egg Hunt Lily B. Clayton MHA Entrance Newby Park Improvements Newsletter Expenses Water Expense - Newby Website Expense	0.18 271.29 250.00 1,151.83 23.87 1,859.25 349.71 95.25
Total Expense	4,001.38
Net Income	1,801.24

#### August garden to-do list

- Autumn Asters and salvias have great fall color and will return year after year.
- · Crape myrtles will re-bloom if you trim off faded flowers.
- Fertilize Caladiums with a high nitrogen fertilizer and water in.
- Never do heavy or severe pruning in the summer, only cut out dead branches.
- Pick flowers and deadheading encourages most annuals and perennials to flower even more abundantly.
- Divide spring-perennials, such as iris, Shasta daisy, oxeye, gaillardia, cannas, day lilies, violets, liriope, and ajuga.
- A late-summer pruning of rosebushes can be beneficial. Prune out dead canes and any weak, brushy growth. Cut back tall, vigorous bushes to about 30 inches. After pruning, apply fertilizer, and water thoroughly. If a preventive disease-control program has been maintained, your rose bushes should be ready to provide an excellent crop of flowers this fall.
- Be sure to check the water on your lawn areas. Put out water receptacles like tuna cans as a test to be sure you have even watering at one inch per week.

   Conveyor stuff cline until more.
- Keep your stuff alive until more hospitable temperatures prevail.

## PARK PLACE PHARMACY



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#### LETTER FROM THE EDITOR

#### How about one Neighborhood Police Officer?

Where is the eastside NPO David Cloninger? It seems the westside of the neighborhood get consistent updates of local police reports, The east side? Nothing.

After giving the police the benefit of the doubt, the Central Division has shown itself to not care about reporting crime to the east side.

Let's get Mistletoe Heights back to **one** NPO and a cohesive one NPO neighborhood, so we know what is going on with crime. A well-informed neighbohood has less crime, and is better able to see patterns of crime and be proactive and alert.



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