



Mistletoe Express

www.mistletoeheights.org

June-July 2012

MEDICAL CENTER TEX RAIL STOP

T Board hosts open house June 11

By Scott Nishimura

MH Traffic Committee chairman

The T Board is moving toward a vote as early as mid-June on its choice of locations for the Medical Center TEX Rail stop – either the Mistletoe Boulevard site, or the one north of Rosedale Street.

The T, as part of the Federal Transit Administration process for consideration of federal funding for TEX Rail, has scheduled an open house, 6:30-8 p.m. June 11 at the St. Stephen Presbyterian Church, 2700 McPherson Ave. off of Park Hill.

The T will have exhibits and staff on hand to answer questions. The open house is the last required part of the federal process before the T Board makes its choice. The board probably will take the vote in a special meeting the week of June 18, Mike Brennan, of Fort Worth South and a member of T board, said during the May 22 meeting of the MH association at the Hilton Garden Inn hotel.

The MH Association will convey the details of the special meeting to our email list when they become available.

If you want to make a comment to The T board regarding this issue prior to the meeting, please visit www.texrail.com.

Other developments on the train issue:

PARKING LOT AT ROSEDALE SITE

The owner of the site north of Rosedale – the rehab hospital adjacent to it on the north - is now building a parking lot on it, and may have other expansion plans. This doesn't preclude the train stop going in that location, but it complicates the equation. The T cannot spend any money on tying up prospective sites at this point in the process and be eligible for federal reimbursement, Brennan said at the MH meeting.

Continued on Page 3

PARADE!

Triangle Park, that's the intersection of Buck and Mistletoe Blvd. and Harrison. 7 p.m. Wednesday, July 4.

Decorate your bike, your wagon, your pet! Remember: No motorized vehicles.

Austin and Maya Jourde are our host/hostess once again. Lucky us! I scream, you scream, we all scream for ice cream!

JOIN US JULY 4!

How to Raise Backyard Chickens



By Kate McNallie

Have you ever wondered what it would be like to keep chickens in your backyard? Last fall, my husband and I decided to forego our usual vegetable garden for the more ambitious project of raising urban chickens. With two young children who adore animals, we were excited to make this a family project. Over the course of several weekends, we constructed the coop from scratch using a plan we found online. We used scrap lumber saved from

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2208 West Rosedale



Congratulations to Otto Vera, recipient of the Mistletoe Heights Association Yard of the Month for June. Otto has given loving care to the property at 2208 West Rosedale for the past 15 years, turning a large concrete area into an inviting patio. Shaded in morning and afternoon, the area provides the perfect spot for enjoying a morning cup of coffee or a relaxing evening meal.

Because there is no open or grassy area for digging, Otto has hung pots and containers on the fence as well as lined the perimeter of the yard. These pots are filled with a variety of plants, most of which are tropicals such as hibiscus, ferns, ficus, and rubber trees. While these plants thrive outside in spring and summer, they must be brought inside to a greenhouse area during winter months. Many of the plants Otto tends have been "saved" from sure death at the hands of less conscientious gardeners. The hibiscus plants, for instance, were about to be trashed by a coworker at the end of a summer season. With Otto's care, the plants were repotted, cared for during the winter months, and now bloom happily in his garden.

The patio is screened from view on the street side by a row of cedar trees with large yuccas at each end and a variety of annuals and perennials planted beneath the trees. To make the area more hospitable for plants, Otto used stones to build a retaining wall and added topsoil to create a raised bed.

Otto has planted caladium bulbs, his favorite plant, along the fence on the driveway side and in hanging baskets. Splashed with shades of green, white, pink and red, the long-lasting foliage of the caladiums provides additional color and creates an atmosphere that seems cool and inviting even on hot days.

Mistletoe Heights Association expresses appreciation to Otto for helping beautify our neighborhood. A special thanks to Calloway's Nursery for their support through the generous donation of a \$25 gift certificate to each Yard-of-the-Month recipient.

Otto's Gardening Tip

Mulch, mulch, mulch -- and be generous with your application! Whether planting in containers on in the ground, plants benefit from mulch added to conserve water and to protect the roots from extreme hot or cold temperature variations.

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More train development issues

From Page 1

JOEL BURNS

Our city councilman, Joel Burns, said at the MH meeting that he hasn't yet committed to supporting either site and he said he was frustrated by The T's inability to tie up property.

He said he is committed to making the chosen site "work as best it can for this neighborhood." That includes "going above and beyond" on traffic mitigation, the sound wall, landscaping, and other amelioration, Burns said.

The T has said it would be required to build a sound wall at the Mistletoe Boulevard site if the train stop goes there.

"I am a proponent of commuter rail," Burns said. "I am a proponent of a stop that serves the hospitals. That's as far as I'm going to put out there right now."

He also said, "Mistletoe Heights will have an active say in what the station looks like and how it integrates into the neighborhood," no matter the location.

In response to a question from one audience member about whether hospital commuters can be served by shuttles from downtown's T&P Station, which will be on the TEX Rail line, Burns said, "We already have that. It's called The T (buses), and people don't ride them" to the hospitals from T&P.

FOREST PARK ROAD DIET

Burns said at the May 22 meeting, "in general, I am for these types of projects" and he said the similiar project on Magnolia Avenue has been a "big success."

But he also said, given the projected 2012-2013 budget shortfall facing the city, there's realistically no money available to implement the Forest Park restriping in the near term.

"I'm hopeful that with further neighborhood process, we can add it into the budget" next year, he said.

Challenges include figuring out how to stripe the Forest Park curve, and working with the resulting impact to traffic on other major streets such as 8th Avenue and University.

Burns said near-term possibilities include more signage and flashing lights at the curve, but he said the city's transportation department questions how effective those would be.

In response to one audience member's question, Burns said a school zone at Forest Park and Park Place is "completely warranted." He noted the city has a formula for determining where school zones can be placed.

BERRY-UNIVERSITY CLOSURE

Burns said there are two options for the planned rebuild of the Berry Street-University intersection.

The first would be to close the intersection for four to six weeks this summer and complete the rebuild during that time.

The second would be to narrow Berry Street near the intersection to one lane either direction. It would take 300 days to complete the intersection rebuild under this scenario.

The city is holding a public hearing, 7 p.m. May 31at University Christian Church, University Drive and West Cantey Street, to collect input.



June Dates

June 1 Last day of school, Fort Worth ISD

June 14 Flag Day

June 17 Father's Day

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Welcome to Mistletoe Heights, new neighbors!

Mistletoe Heights continues to attract the neatest new neighbors.

This past month, our Association delivered a welcome basket to John and Mary Lee Proctor on Mistletoe Drive. While they're longtime Fort Worth residents, this is their first home East of University, and so far they're happy with their choice - as are we.

And just FYI, while the realtors in our midst are great sources of information as to the arrival of new homeowners, everyone is invited to be our eyes and ears, letting us know when there are new folks all moved in and ready to be welcomed. Please email either Alex Rodman (alrodman@yahoo.com) or Beth Krugler (beth@bethkrugler.com) and they'll make sure a welcome basket is delivered!

One more note with regard as to who is considered "new" in the neighborhood. While we recognize we haven't always known who was new and who was not, at this point, we're suggesting you let us know of folks who moved into the neighborhood no longer ago than September 2011. And sorry to those of you who we may have inadvertently missed, but please know we're absolutely happy you're here as well. Welcome!

Upcoming Mistletoe Events

■ **Fourth of July Parade and Ice Cream Social**, Triangle Park, 7 pm

■ **Fall Covered Dish Dinner** Lily B. Clayton cafeteria, date TBA

■ **Bow-tying Party for our Street Light Decorations**, November 18th, 2012, 3 p.m. 2237 Irwin - Hosted by **Susan and Gary Willis**

■ **Mistletoe Heights Neighborhood Holiday Party**, December 2, 2012

Host an event - here's how

Hosting a neighborhood event is a great way to get involved and meet your neighbors, too. Sometimes neighbors team up and work together on these events. MHA will reimburse you for any of the supplies needed, such as dishes, utensils, drinks, etc.

These events help make Mistletoe Heights the special neighborhood it is. If you are interested in hosting one of these events, please contact Rose Lynn Scott, 817-807-6748.



Check out our updated website:
www.mistletoeheights.org

Get on the Mistletoe Heights email list

To subscribe to the Mistletoe Heights Residents mailing list, go to www.mistletoeheights.org, 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.org 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.org.



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Forest Park pool may be restored by private anonymous donor

By Scott Nishimura

There's news on the Forest Park pool front.

A study funded by a private donor found the pool, which has a bad liner, can be restored "for a very small fraction" of the \$4-\$6 million estimated by the city's parks department, City Councilman Joel Burns said during the May 22 meeting of the MH Neighborhood Association at the Hilton Garden Inn.

Councilman Burns said discussions are still underway with the donor, who wants to remain anonymous, and an announcement could be coming within a few weeks.



Pick up after your dogs

Once more, the request for all dog owners to pick up after your dogs. No one likes to step in a big pile of doo-doo!

Many thanks to all of the kind dog owners that pick up after your dogs and do not dispose of the bags on the berm or in the storm drain.

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Fort Worth's artistic flair shows the Chisholm Trail Parkway design

These retaining walls near I-30 and Forest Park Boulevard are an example of the zigzag motif that is featured on the Chisholm Trail Parkway.

Motorists traveling along the parkway will notice the modern zigzag motif and southwest buff color on the walls of the Chisholm Trail Parkway (which pay homage to the Texas and Pacific rail station in downtown Fort Worth). In addition, large-scale mosaic tile murals will be featured on six columns or monuments of the CTP. These design features were created by the City of Fort Worth's Citizen Advisory Group (CAG) during the planning phase of the CTP project. The civic group decided to include a local, public art component for the aesthetic properties of the parkway.

Based on the CAG's recommendation and the city council's approval, a corridor master plan was developed that included a local, public art component for the aesthetic properties of the parkway. The corridor master plan reflects the rich tapestry of Fort Worth's colorful history and commitment to public art.

Artists Norie Sato and Lorna Jordan were selected by the Fort Worth Art Commission

to identify public art and design enhancement opportunities along the CTP. Sato has developed a conceptual design for the mosaic murals of Trinity River, highlighting water fowl for the East Clear fork bridge monuments. She also is completing conceptual design work on "Water Passages," free-standing sculptural elements which would be placed at locations where tributaries of the Trinity River cross under the toll road.

Sato will present both design concepts to the CAG Art Committee and the Fort Worth Art Commission later this summer. After the Fort Worth City Council approves the concepts, the final design will be executed this fall.

Sato is a nationally acclaimed public artist whose projects include the North Creek Pump Station in Bethel, Wash., Sound Transit Link light rail stations in Seattle, and the Dallas Convention Center expansion project. Jordan also is a public artist whose work incorporates sculpture, ecology, infrastructure and theater. Her projects use recycled materials, incorporate plantings and generate energy. Some of her notable work includes Waterworks Gardens in Renton, Wash., and Seattle's Blue Ring.

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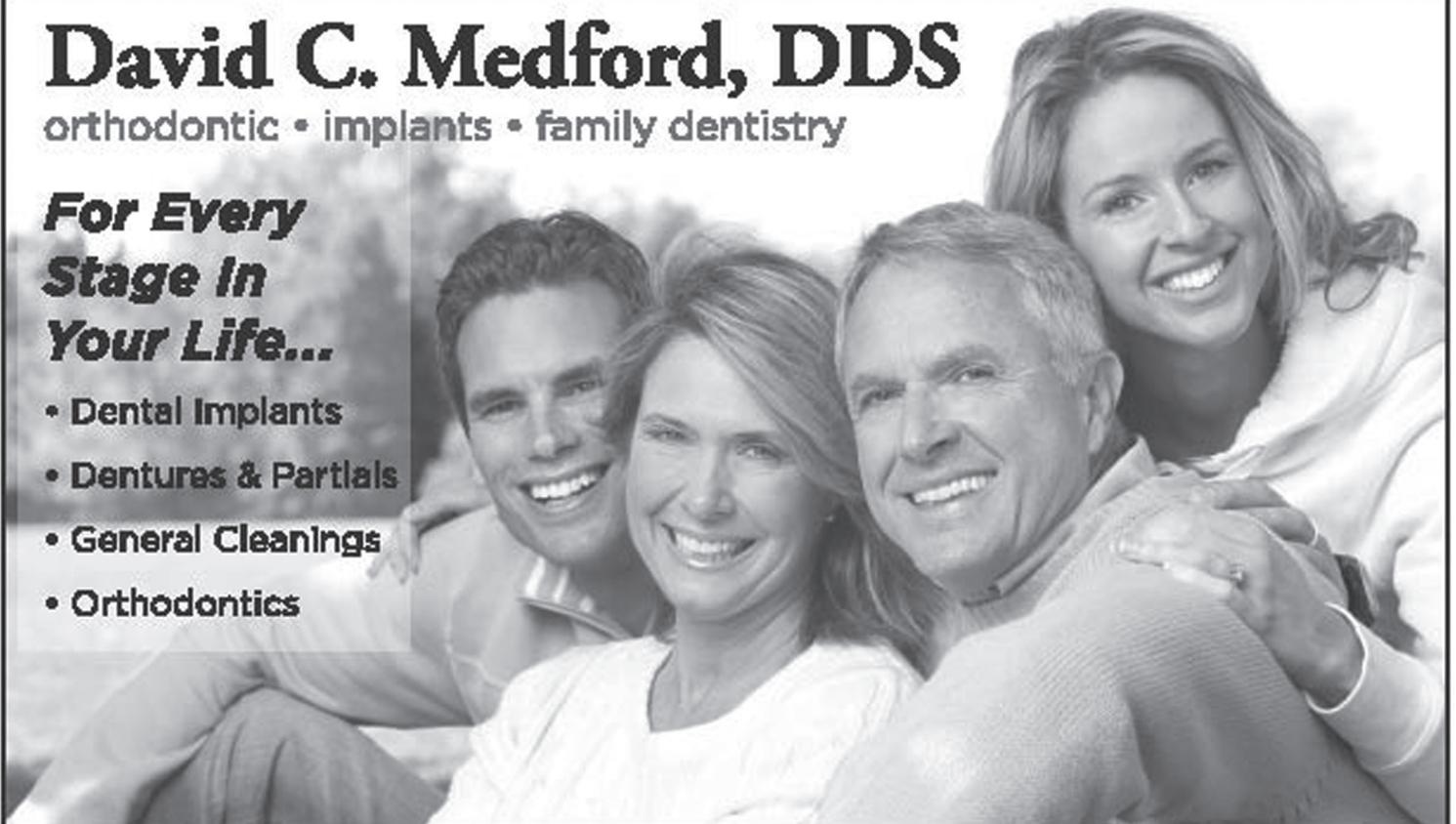
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Mistletoe Heights Association Annual Dues Drive

It is time again to begin our drive to collect dues for our neighborhood association. All residents and property owners of Mistletoe Heights are automatically members of the association. Dues are completely voluntary. Any amount is 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 15th.



Levels of giving for this year are:

Mistletoe – up to \$25

Holly - \$26 to \$50

Gardenia - \$51 to \$75

Magnolia - \$76 and up



Thank you for supporting your neighborhood association. Together we can make Mistletoe Heights an even better place to live.

\$25

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Please check here if you wish your donation to remain anonymous

How to Raise Backyard Chickens

From Page 1

previous projects, as well as recycled hinges and latches, making the coop more affordable to build, and also more eco-friendly.

Next, we began to research which breed of chicken would suit us best. There are sixty different breeds, but only a dozen or so excellent egg layers. We chose a Barred Rock because of their sweet demeanor, a Rhode Island Red because of their reliable egg-laying and beautiful red-green feathers, and two Ameraucanas (also known as Easter egg chickens) for their colorful blue, green and brown-shaded eggs. Unfortunately, the Rhode Island Red is no longer with us, as he turned out to be a rooster who crowed at sunrise (to our dismay), so we found a home for him on a friend's ranch in the hill country.

The best stage to get chickens is when they are peeps (versus pellets or hens) because as newborns they are easier to socialize. We found ours at Marshall Grain, where they get a variety of peeps on a weekly basis. The day-old peeps are too tiny for the large coop to start, so we opted to build a brooding box with a heat lamp, which we kept in our garage till they were six weeks old. The kids loved to take them out to hold and talk to every day. This interaction was essential for the bonding process.

In early spring, we discovered our first egg in the nesting box. It was such an exciting and gratifying experience. Within two weeks we were finding three eggs each day. Twice we have been surprised to discover large double-yoked eggs, and one morning we found four eggs; one of the girls layed twice in 24 hours! In the early evening, we let them out of the coop to roam our fenced backyard where they scour for bugs and delectable greens. They also

love treats from the kitchen. They are particularly fond of grapes, corn on the cob and cooked, plain spaghetti. Their regular diet consists of organic chicken feed from Elizabeth Anna's Old World Garden on 8th Ave.

The city of Fort Worth allows up to twelve hens and two roosters for a half acre city lot. They must live in an enclosure that can be no closer than fifty feet from the nearest home. For more information on backyard chickens check out The Cowtown Backyard Poultry Meetup Group on the web at <http://www.meetup.com/The-Cowtown-Chickens-Meetup-Group>. That, along with Elizabeth Anna's, is a great local resource.

Raising our own chickens has been a rewarding experience for the whole family. "The girls" have become a

part of our clan, and fresh, organic eggs for breakfast can't be beat!



Eggs come in shades of blue, green and brown.



The city of Fort Worth allows up to 12 hens and 2 roosters for a half-acre city lot.



Lola and her Peep.



Sam helps gather eggs.

Join Us For A Neighborhood Open House!

Join us at an open house to learn more about a new station site in your neighborhood for the Fort Worth Transportation Authority's TEX Rail Project.

Input from you and your neighbors is an important part of the discussions about changes in the station sites in the Medical District area and in the North Side area located east of the Fort Worth Stockyards. A neighborhood open house in each area will bring together area residents, businesses, major employers and institutions to discuss the status of the TEX Rail project, and proposed new station locations being considered.

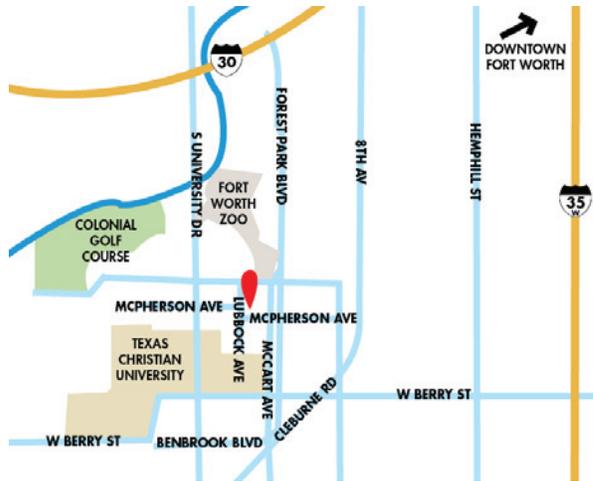
The two stations will be part of the 37-mile passenger rail line that will travel from southwest Fort Worth, through downtown Fort Worth, on to Grapevine and into the north end of DFW Airport.

Open houses will offer the opportunity to come and go. Exhibits will be set up and staff available to discuss the station locating process and answer questions. Open houses will be conducted as follows:

MEDICAL DISTRICT

Monday, June 11th
6:30 – 8:00 p.m.

Saint Stephen Presbyterian Church
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January through April 2012**

Income	
Advertising Income - Newsletter	2,136.00
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Dues Donations	125.00
Interest Income	0.46
Total Income	2,306.46
Expense	
Flag Program - Triangle	120.00
Maintenance - Newby, Berm, etc.	735.00
MHA Entrance	193.45
MHA Meeting Facility Rental	200.00
MHA Xmas Party - 2011	167.78
Newsletter Expenses	1,684.09
Traffic Committee Expenses	961.79
Water Expense - Newby	638.62
Welcome Baskets	279.50
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GOING OUT OF TOWN? Call Riley Gensheimer. Neighborhood teenager available for pet sitting and plant watering. Riley Gensheimer, (age 16) of 2337 W. 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

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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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MISTLETOE HEIGHTS PET SITTERS is now booking for your vacation, or any other time. References available on request.

www.mistletoeheightspetsitters.com or 817-247-2870

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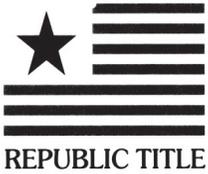
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Crime stats

We have been quiet and I have not sent out crime stats in the last couple of weeks but crime has picked up. An aggravated assault was at the school involving kids and scissors. We had items taken in a burglary of habitat and building and no suspects. Burglary of vehicles has picked up. We are still having people leaving items in their vehicles. Two of the BMVs were in the apartment complex at Park Place . If you have any questions or concerns please feel free to email me or call me. Thanks,
Officer Sidney Keith #3360, FWPD – West Division
Zone 1 – NPO W528
C 817-944-1038
Email: sidney.keith@fortworthgov.org

Julia's Housekeeping



Local, reliable, hardworking housekeeper with excellent local references wants to clean your Mistletoe Heights home. I'm ready to make your home spotless. Flexible times available. Call for a cleaning estimate: **682-433-8825**

How Berkeley Association planned for the Quarles Lumber site

All, here is an update in the Berkeley Association newsletter on the apartments planned for the Quarles Lumber site, how the neighborhood association dealt with it, and how they minimized the westbound Park Place traffic that will be generated by it. Scroll down to view or download the 5-12 newsletter.
Here is the link: <http://www.berkeleyplace.org/Home/poobah>.
— Scott Nishimura, MH Traffic Committee chair

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Helpful phone numbers, e-mails, addresses and websites

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City Code violations	392-1234
City of Fort Worth	392-2255
www.fortworthtexas.gov	
Police - non-emergency	335-4222
Garage sale permits	392-7851
www.fortworthtexas.gov	
Graffiti abatement	212-2700
Lily B. Clayton Elementary	922-6660
http://schools.fwisd.org/clayton/	
Paschal High School	814-5000
www.paschalhs.org	
Historical Preservation	
Liz Casso	392-8037
liz.casso@fortworthtexas.gov	
Southside Preservation Hall	926-2800
Hallyes@earthlink.net	
www.southsidepreservation.com	
The T/Longhorn Trolley	215-8600
www.the-t.com	
Trinity Railway Express	215-8600
www.trinityrailwayexpress.org	
City Council District 9	
Joel Burns	392-8809
district9@fortworthtexas.gov	

MHA officers

President	
Mike Danella	817-927-8875
ny44mad@yahoo.com	
Vice-President	
Walter Brady	817-926-1668
Bradywa@gmail.com	
Secretary	
Lisa Gowan	817-691-9901
egowan5863@aol.com	
Treasurer	
Jeri Jo Blackmon	817-923-4393
JeriJo@charter.net	
Newsletter Editor	
Volunteer needed	

Volunteers

Historic Preservation Committee	
Kathy McReynolds	817-926-7955
Street Rep Captains	
Melissa Kohout (East side)	817-313-1419
Gaye Reed (West side)	817-921-0009
Welcome Baskets	
Beth Krugler	817-713-0993
Alex Rodman	773-726-1488
Newby Park	
Marjorie Day	817-914-8057
E-Mail Moderator	
Richard Yantis	817-924-2857
Webmaster	
Scott Ewing	214-403-7762 cell

Street reps (listed by blocks)

East of Forest Park Phone (817)

2200 W. Rosedale South	
Dottie Guffey	921-6288
2200 Irwin	
Gary Willis	924-4000
2100/2200 Mistletoe Blvd.	
Melissa Kahout	313-1419
2100/2200 West Magnolia	
Mecca Givens	927-2244
2200 Harrison	
Aaron Torkelson	907-5533
2100 Harrison	
Vacancy	
2100 Mistletoe Ave.	
Pat Hale	924-5263
2200 Mistletoe Ave.	
Richard & Christi Yantis	924-2857
2100/2200 Edwin	
Katrina Pittman	921-2221
2100 Weatherbee	
Judy Gude	926-8843
2200 Weatherbee	
Susan Harwell	923-8806
2100 Morphy	
Vacancy	
Forest Park Blvd.	
Steve McReynolds	926-7955

West of Forest Park

2300 W. Rosedale South	
Kimberly Helixon	927-4641
2300 Irwin	
Sue Duvall	926-8714
2300/2400 Mistletoe Blvd.	
Lisa Stewart	924-9666
2300 West Magnolia	
Susan Pressley	923-6061
2300/2400 Harrison	
Robert DeVargas	923-9393
2300 Mistletoe Ave.	
Jason Fuller family	xxx-xxxx
2300 Edwin	
Grant Pannell	924-0051
1100 Clara	
Marc & KathyJo Rogers	923-3304
1200 Clara	
Betty Arvin	924-7088
1100 Buck	
Kate Herring	923-3843
1200/1300 Buck	
Trisha Dianne Stemple	926-6546
Mistletoe Drive	
Meralen & Gerry Tyson	926-5909
2300 Mistletoe Drive	
Chris Fershtand	923-8422
Carol Benson	921-4000

Neighborhood police officers
 Sidney Keith (West) 944-1038 cell
 David Cloning (East) 992-0181 cell

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 info helps, if we have questions for you.

Letters to the editor are limited to a half-page (approximately 350 words). Please send e-mail to cunninghamwahl@yahoo.com

Advertising information

To place an advertisement or for actual mechanical sizes, please e-mail Cynthia Wahl at cunninghamwahl@yahoo.com

Rates:

Business-card size	\$18
1/4 page	\$36
1/3 page	\$54
Half page	\$61
Full Page	\$120
Pre-printed inserts	\$60
8 1/2 x 11	

Deadline for ads, stories and letters is the 15th of each month

MHA yearly memberships

Voluntary dues are \$15, \$25, \$50 or what 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 a free classified ad. Please submit by the 15th of the month. Notify the editor at 817-228-5220 or email: cunninghamwahl@yahoo.com

Newsletter Gang

Editor Volunteer needed

Editorial Assistance Jim Peipert

Design Cynthia Wahl

Advertising Volunteer needed