

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

President's Letter	1
Gas Lease Bonus \$\$	1
Nativity Play	4
CCRP	7
Porch Party	8
Welcome	10
Shop Around the Corner	11
Arts Fifth Avenue	12
Ryan Place History	14



RPIA Monthly Meeting

(No Meeting in December)
Monday, January 21
6:30 p.m. Meet 'n' Greet
7 p.m. Meeting
Westside Unitarian
Universalist Church
901 Page Avenue

Watch the Online Discussion Forum at historicryanplace.org next month for the meeting agenda.

RYAN PLACE

IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

December, 2007 / January, 2008

www.HistoricRyanPlace.com

President's Letter

Once again this year, the Thanksgiving leftovers were barely in the refrigerator when many residents of Ryan Place immediately began putting up their holiday decorations. We all pulled together to make the 24th Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place another beautiful experience for our neighbors as well as over one thousand visitors. A special thanks to Sian Borne and the rest of the CCRP committee for their hard work on this year's event. They are already planning the big 25th Silver Anniversary for next year!

Having had a tour home two years ago, I know first hand what is involved in getting a home ready for the occasion. However, without tour homes, the event couldn't happen. I would like to personally thank all the residents who opened their homes for the tour; I hope you found it as rewarding and memorable as my family did in 2005.

For those who attended the beautiful soiree hosted by Bill and Lucy Conley, or served as a tour home docent, you probably made some new acquaintances. As I met new residents and made new friends, I reaffirmed what I knew the first day I moved to Ryan Place: This is a great neighborhood and a great place to live! As we move into 2008, a goal of the RPIA Board is to provide more opportunities like the tour for residents to become involved and get to know each other. In addition to the Fun Run, the 4th of July Parade, and the Croquet Tournament, we plan to add a plethora of other events throughout the year. The Ryan Place Street dance is on its way back as well as monthly porch parties or theme parties. Watch www.historicryanplace.org and the monthly RPIA newsletter for event announcements and calendar updates.

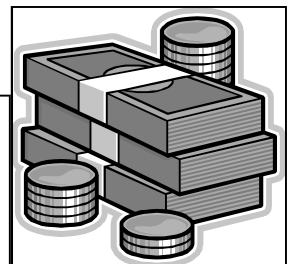
We hope that this time next year, all will agree that not only has RPIA effectively represented the neighborhood on many fronts, but also much more. We want the organization, with your help and participation, to be the catalyst for making the neighborhood even friendlier and more vibrant than it already is!

Happy Holidays to you and yours!

Keith Head

BONUS MONEY

\$TILL AVAILABLE!



The Gas Leasing season in Ryan Place is almost over. Representatives from various "landmen" have been combing the neighborhood for over ten months seeking the valuable gas/oil mineral rights under Ryan Place and adjoining neighborhoods.

Berkeley Place, Mistletoe Heights, Fairmont South, and many other neighborhoods have shared in this exciting experience that has divided some neighborhoods and placed uncommon stress on otherwise tranquil residential areas.

Early in the process, Ryan Place allied itself with ten other neighborhoods to explore and understand the issues. A collection of impor-

tant safety, security, and environmental priorities were recognized that became the basis for neighborhood discussions with the various gas company representatives.

In September, 2007, the RPIA Gas-Oil Committee, in concert with the Berkeley Place Gas-Oil Committee, crafted a lease for our joint area that has become the template for many other Fort Worth neighborhoods. The lease was accepted by Fort Worth Energy on behalf of XTO Energy. A less favorable lease was offered by Four Sevens on behalf of Chesapeake. The most significant difference between the two leases had to do with specific

(Continued on page 5)

2007-2008 RPIA Board of Directors

Officers

President	Keith Head	817-921-6721 keith.head@sbcglobal.net
1 st VP/ League of Neighborhoods	Barbara Tumlin	817-921-0158 babsnrico@charter.net
2 nd VP	Allisen Prigel	817-924-9924 aaprigel@aol.com
Parliamentarian	Gina Roberts	817-927-2478 ginahroberts@yahoo.com
Secretary	John MacFarlane	817-920-0411 john@exhibit3.com
Treasurer/Neighborhood Pride	Gilbert Gutierrez	817-926-8832 ggutierrez@charter.net

Street Directors

5 th Avenue	Terri West	817-927-0727 hatwest@gmail.com
5 th Avenue (Alternate)	Mary Schroder	817-921-5346 maryschroder333@msn.com
6 th Avenue	Liane Janovsky	817-207-8565 lianejanovsky@yahoo.com
6th Avenue (Alternate)	Cindy Baldridge	817-239-8969 cbaldridge_1@charter.net
8 th /James/Livingston/Stanley	John Belknap	817-927-0355 johnbelknap@swbell.net
8th/James/Livingston/Stanley (Alternate)	OPEN*	
Alston/Lipscomb Streets	Patricia Ford	817-926-3621 paford@swbell.net
Alston/Lipscomb Streets (Alternate)	OPEN*	
College Avenue	Jamie Guinn	817-926-7200 gonefishin07@yahoo.com
College Avenue (Alternate)	OPEN*	
Elizabeth Boulevard	Mariann Taccia	
Elizabeth Boulevard (Alternate)	Anita Daniels	817-924-3404 ad1508@aol.com
Ryan Avenue	Chris Parham	817-922-0499 chrisparham@mac.com
Ryan Avenue (Alternate)	OPEN*	
Ryan Place Drive	Angela Crum	817-797-2605 angel_sant@hotmail.com
Ryan Place Drive (Alternate)	Lin Parham	817-921-4027 rap32dds@aol.com
South Adams Street	Chris Ebert	817-926-2366 cwebert@hotmail.com
South Adams Street (Alternate)	Marina Castillo	817-926-2243 cstllmrn@aol.com
Willing Avenue	John Kline	817-922-0732 john.kline90@charter.net
Willing Avenue (Alternate)	Mike Lindner	817-924-2485 george.lindner@dfps.state.tx.us

RPIA Newsletter

Advertising Rates

One month free when you prepay for 1 year.

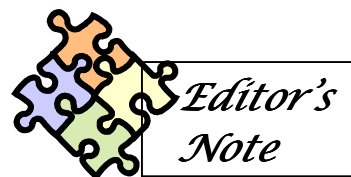
Full Page: \$100	(8.5 x 11 inches)
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1/4 Page: \$45	(4.25 x 5.5 inches)
Business card: \$25	(3.5 x 2 inches)
Announcement: \$15	(1.75 x 2 inches)

Newsletter and advertising submission deadlines:

February Newsletter
Friday, January 18

Contact:

rpianewsletter@yahoo.com



Keep those cards, letters, and e-mails coming — and thanks to all of you who did!

Starting in February we are offering a new feature: **Personals**. For \$15 you can buy a space (half the size of a business card) for your personal message to be printed in the Newsletter. How about a Valentine or a birthday wish? Want to share a picture? A Personal is not an advertisement and is not to be used to sell anything. But if you are giving away puppies or kittens, a message in the Newsletter with a picture might take care of it. Watch for Personals in the February RPIA Newsletter!

Olivia Flynn, rpianewsletter@yahoo.com, 817-927-0075

Important Numbers

Fort Worth Police Dept. 817.335.4222
(non-emergency)

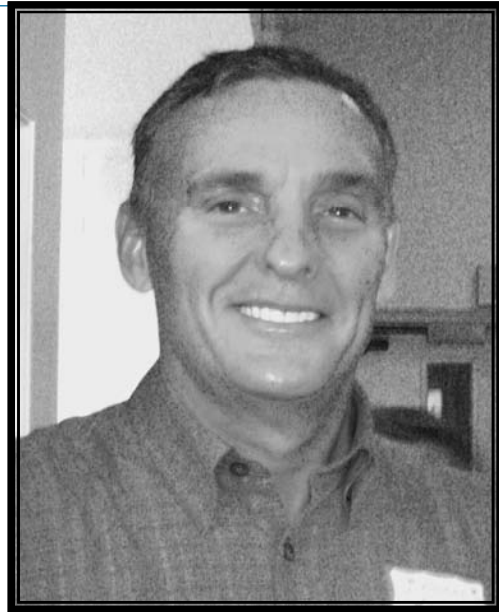
NPO 8 on Magnolia 817.871.8885
Officer Andriotto 817.991.8478
817.998.0708 pager
Code Compliance 817.392.5158
Ext. 1804



* Volunteers, Please!

There are still several openings for Street Director Alternates. It's time to get involved, meet your neighbors, and make some friends. Call **Keith Head** or e-mail him today to volunteer.

Presenting:



Keith Head — President



**Barbara Tumlin
1st Vice President/
League of
Neighborhoods**



**Allisen Prigel
2nd Vice President/
Social Events**



**John MacFarlane
Secretary**



**Gina Roberts
Parliamentarian**



**Gilbert Gutierrez
Treasurer**

Neighborhood Nativity Play December 22



You are invited to join us and a group of Ryan Place kids for the sixth annual Ryan Place Nativity Play. The event will take place Saturday, December 22nd at 4:00 p.m. at 1100 Elizabeth Boulevard. This is not an R.P.I.A. sponsored event, but we are sending postcards to the entire neighborhood inviting them to the play and to join us for cookies and hot chocolate afterwards. Last year we had over 100 people participate in this fun tradition. This year we are looking forward to having LIVE ANIMALS for the very first time!

We need the following for our production:

- ***Kids of all ages (call today to sign up)**
- *A guitar player to accompany four short songs
- *A few bales of hay
- *Several dozen cookies
- *A can of coffee and hot chocolate mix
- *Cups and napkins
- *Post card stamps (as many as you have to give)
- *Monetary donations to offset invitation mailing costs

If you can help us to make this happen, please call today...you can reach **Rainey Dukes at 817/923-1165 or 817/366-3530**. Please pass this along to any Ryan Place resident you think would be interested. **Help us celebrate Christmas in a truly special way. We look forward to seeing you there!**



Large Attendance at November RPIA Meeting

More than 70 people attended the RPIA November meeting! Allisen Prigel provided refreshments during the 30-minute social time before the meeting and, later, door prizes to three lucky winners. Keith Head presided over the meeting and addressed numerous agenda items.

Both City Council candidates, Joel Burns and Juan Rangel, attended the meeting. It was announced that the RPIA by-laws will be re-written by February, 2008. The 1st Vice President of RPIA will arrange for social events in the neighborhood; Allisen Prigel is planning monthly activities, including a progressive dinner in the late summer and a street dance in October.

Officer Ron Andriotto announced that Halloween occurred uneventfully; over 3,000 children haunted Ryan Place! Crime-wise, remember to always lock your car doors as thieves are looking for the opportunity of a door that opens when they give it a try.

Considerable time was devoted to the issue of traffic calming in Ryan Place. The Fort Worth Neighborhood Traffic Management Department presented a program explaining the options they are considering, and then residents had the opportunity to ask questions and to express their concerns and opinions. The Ryan Place Traffic Calming Committee will continue to study the issues and residents are encouraged to participate in the process with ideas and concerns. The website, **His-toricRyanPlace.org** offers a discussion forum on the matter.

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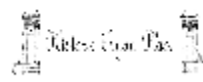
Texas Turfgrass Assoc.



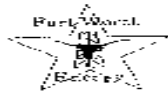
Texas Dept.
of Agriculture



International
Fire Fighter Assoc.



RPIA



TO ACCOMMODATE THE RESIDENTS OF YOUR
NEIGHBORHOOD

FORT WORTH ENERGY AND XTO

INVITE YOU TO THE OFFICE LOCATED AT

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(WHERE MAGNOLIA INTERSECTS SOUTH MAIN)

HOURS BEGINNING MONDAY, NOVEMBER 26,
2007

9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M. MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, FRIDAY
9:00 A.M. - 8:00 P.M. TUESDAY AND THURSDAY
10:00 A.M. - 2:00 P.M. SATURDAYS
SUNDAYS AND ALL OTHER TIMES BY APPOINTMENT

ARRANGEMENTS WILL BE MADE TO ACCOMMODATE THOSE
UNABLE TO COME TO OUR OFFICE.

CALL (817) 921-1889



As the RPIA website becomes more interactive, **Cameron Crum**, our computer expert, needs volunteer help. You don't have to be a computer whiz yourself as Cameron is willing to teach all who are interested in helping out. Please contact him at **HistoricRyanPlace.org**, or at **817-797-2605**.

Bonus Money

(Continued from page 1)

safety, security, and environmental provisions at their respective drill sites.

Both XTO and Chesapeake offered Ryan Place Improvement Association a performance bonus of \$15,000 for each 100 leases signed with their respective companies to a maximum of \$75,000 from each company. To the best of our knowledge at press time, the bonus agreements expire at the end of the 2007 calendar year. To date (as of November 21, 2007), using data provided by Fort Worth Energy and Chesapeake, there are over 725 leases signed between the two companies. That's approximately 85% of the total number of homeowners in Ryan Place.

The RPIA leadership and the Gas-Oil Committee have consistently held the position that it is each property owner's choice to sign or not sign a lease. However, **if you plan to sign a lease, please do so before the end of 2007, so the neighborhood can benefit from the generous bonus dollars offered to the neighborhood.**

In Remembrance
Larry J. Hoskins
1938—2007
Architect — Ryan Place Gates



Privacy Fences
Painting
Handyman



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David King, Owner

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John MacFarlane and fiancé Melanie make happy faces at the lease signing.



Colonial Country Club

Ryan Place Scene



November RPIA meeting



The Super Dilling Family of 5th Ave.



Kyle, Billy, Stephanie, & Jesse



Courtney Lee Brown
The Good Witch of Ryan Place Drive

Gilbert Gutierrez,
Mike Lindner,
Mary Schroder



John Belknap,
Officer Ron,
Larry Borne



Linda Clark &
Mariann Taccia



John Belknap is
happy with his
trees.

Getting pointers
from the City
Forester



Katy Taft,
Peter Satz,
Kirsten Satz,
and Cole Taft

HUGE MULTI-FAMILY YARD SALE IN HISTORIC RYAN PLACE!

December 7th – 9th (Fri – Sun)

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Fort Worth Texas, 76110

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CCRP 2007: Another Success Story!

The annual Soiree at **Bill & Lucy Conley's** home launched the 2007 Ryan Place Home Tour weekend on November 29th. Thanks to the scrumptious food cooked by many of our neighbors and the organization of Gina Roberts and her crew of helpers, a memorable evening was thoroughly enjoyed by all. Thank you, Bill and Lucy for opening your home.

Next, a heartfelt thank you to our tour home owners **Amy & Rex Bozarth, Joan Kline, Amy & Michael Paytk, and Terri & Gary West** for so graciously sharing your homes. Thank you **Karen and Jim Haas** for offering their porch for tour information headquarters. My thanks also to **Gina Roberts** for hosting the Wine Down event after the tour, which gave us an opportunity to thank our volunteer docents. I am grateful to all of you who were docents in the homes – some of you did a double shift which we very much appreciated.

The Tour would not have been possible without the hard work of the CCRP Board and Committee Chairs who worked tirelessly throughout the year to make it all possible. If you see **John Belknap, Leslie Daniels, Mary Edwards, Debra Hughes, Mike Lindner, Gina Roberts, Peggy Rush, Mary Schroder, Jon Shipley, Maria Summer, Rita Thomas, Laura Webb, or Brenda White** as you are out and about this holiday season, be sure to thank them for their dedication.

The planning and preparation for the 25th Tour has already started - stay tuned for information in future newsletters with dates and ways you can help, as we move forward. 2008 will be a very important year as we hope to finish the streetlight project and will be planning for future fund-raising projects for our neighborhood.

We need many more folks to volunteer as we plan for the future and work to keep the Tour alive and thriving. It is a Fort Worth tradition that our community loves and our whole neighborhood benefits from it. If you would like to participate in any aspect of the Tour, your contribution will be invaluable and much appreciated. Please contact me at 817-923- 8683 or email me at sianb0803@hotmail.com.

Sian Borne, CCRP President

And THANK YOU, SIAN BORNE (and supportive husband, Larry) for making it happen – again !!



Let me help you this Christmas!

Interior design
Holiday decorating
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Event planning

Design Solutions

Gina Roberts, 20-year resident of Ryan Place

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Addressing Soiree invitations



Brenda White,
Rita Thomas,
Mary Edwards



Mike Lindner, Gina
Roberts, Jessy
Rouyer, Debra
Hughes



Allisen Prigel,
Maria Summers



Mary Schroder,
Barbara Tumlin,
Sian Borne



...and
feet, post-
surgery



Connie
Head's
head



Angela &
Cameron



Information Porch



Wine Down!



A toast to Sian!



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Coming in January:

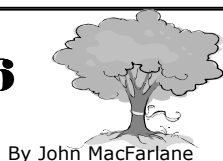


For the Ladies of Ryan Place

Join us at the home of Sara Woodward, 1306 Elizabeth Boulevard, as the ladies of Ryan Place get together at the January Ladies Porch Party! We look forward to meeting new neighbors and catching up with old friends! Come and go from 4-6 pm on Sunday, January 13th. BYOB - light snacks will be provided.

The website needs volunteers — see page 5, and sign up!

RYAN PLACE IS 116 TREES RICHER!



By John MacFarlane

I hope that everyone who received trees is enjoying them. I know I enjoyed working as the committee chair of the project. The work is not over yet, though. **Please remember to water your new trees at least once a week for TWO years.** This is very important and is a stipulation of the city for giving out the free trees. Also, if you received the free five gallon trees, please return the buckets to my house at 3017 Willing Avenue so I can return them to the city. I want to thank the committee for all their help: **Michael Flynn, Jenna Wann, Angela Crum, Larry Borne, Tim Humphrey, Ian Lobreto and Lucy Conley.**



IS IT SUSPI-

Anything that seems even slightly "out of place" for a particular area or time of day can indicate possible criminal activity such as burglary, theft, or assault. Some obvious situations to watch for and report include:

- A scream heard anywhere.
- A stranger entering a neighbor's house when no one is home.
- The sound of breaking glass, gunshots, or loud, explosive noises.
- Anyone loitering around schools, parks, or secluded areas.
- Persons who do not live in the neighborhood loitering there.
- Anyone removing license plates, accessories, or gasoline from a car.
- Someone peering into a parked car
- Persons entering or leaving a business when it is closed.
- Anyone selling merchandise at ridiculously low prices.

Everyone be safe and look out for each other!

Officer Ron

Our own Gina Roberts and her daughter, Hollis Scarborough, will appear on a new reality show, Crowned, on December 12, 9 p.m., on CW, channel 9 or 33!



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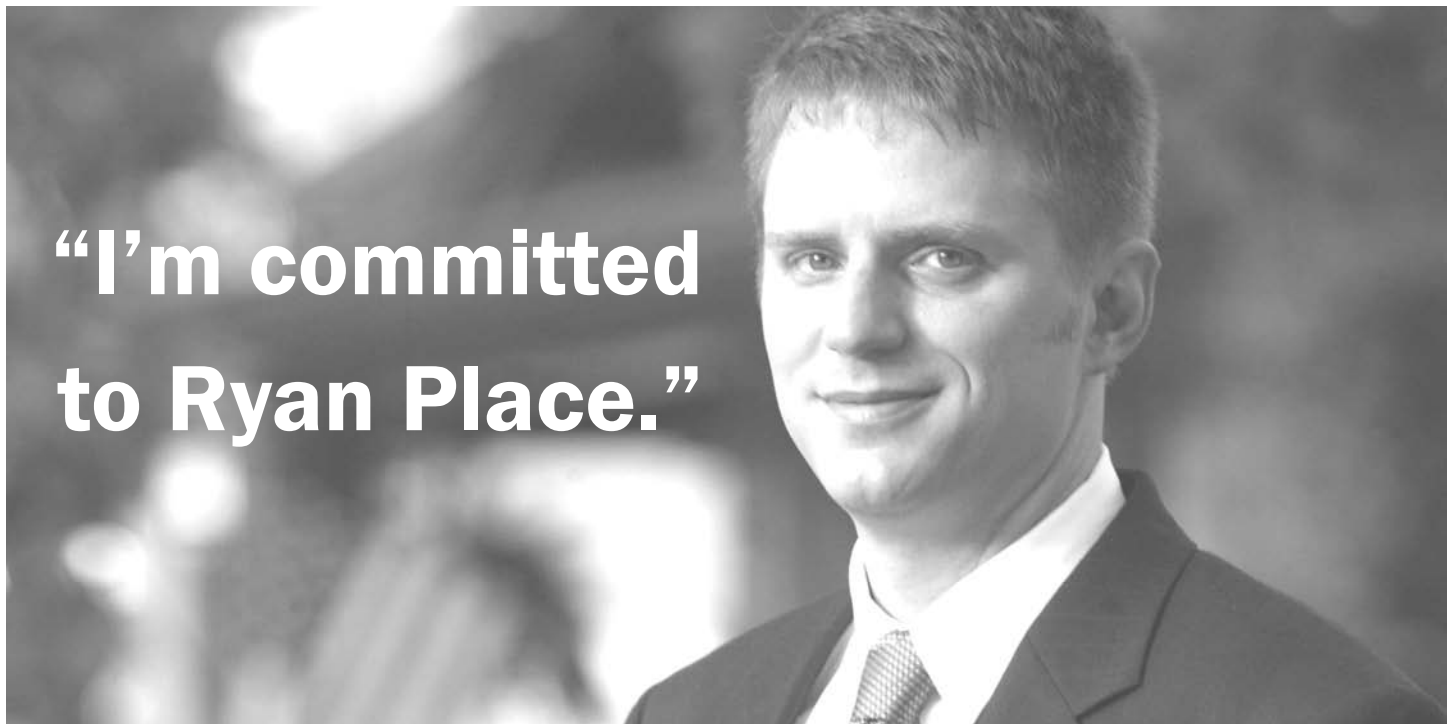
Hours M-F 10 am – 5 pm

Weekend and evenings by appt.

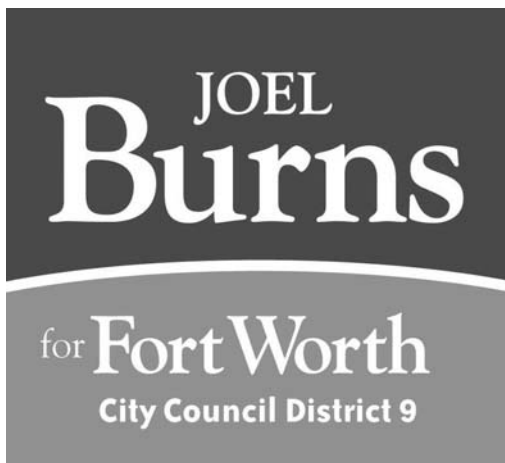
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RYAN PLACE'S CHOICE FOR CITY COUNCIL



"I'm committed
to Ryan Place."



Dear neighbors,

I am honored to have the support of so many of my neighbors over the past few months. **Thank you** for all your contributions and many volunteer hours. I'm working to keep our **neighborhood safe**, bring **quality economic development** to the district and **improve transportation** throughout the district and region. I need your help again in the December 18th

VOTE FOR JOEL BURNS IN THE DEC. 18TH RUN-OFF ELECTION

For more info or to volunteer: 817-921-JOEL (5635) • www.joelburns.com • 1216 W. Magnolia Ave.

Pd Pol Ad by Joel Burns Campaign, PO Box 12663, Fort Worth, TX 76110 Brandy O'Quinn Treasurer.

WELCOME to the neighborhood:

Michael and Jennifer Grimes ~ Elizabeth Blvd.

Paul and Lisa Pena ~ Elizabeth Blvd.

Emily Bintliff ~ 6th Avenue

Trevor and Christina Brooks ~ Elizabeth Blvd.

Jane Dickerson ~ 6th Avenue

Ryan Place Neighborhood Association extends a warm welcome to these families who (wisely) chose to live in our wonderful neighborhood.

Since January 2007, fifteen homeowners moved into Ryan Place. Additionally, some families moved from one house in Ryan Place to another. That's quite a testament to the goodwill of the Ryan Place community.

THANKSGIVING

This year, I reflected on the many small acts of kindness that make living in Ryan Place such a remarkable experience for me. I am grateful for the neighbor who tosses my newspaper on the front porch; the neighbors who graciously tend to my pets while I'm away; the neighbor that brings my trash bins from the curb; the good eats and kind folks at the "Neighborhood" cafe; the neighbors who so kindly greeted me, fed me and made me feel at home last year when I moved to Ryan Place and didn't know a soul in Fort Worth.

The neighbors who invite me to share their holiday activities; the neighbor whose door is always open; the neighbors who help find runaway dogs; the neighbor who freely shares contractor referrals and advice. I am thankful for the responsible pet owners who clean up after their pets (you know who you are); neighbors that pick up trash while on their daily walks; neighbors who stop to introduce themselves if we've not met. I am truly blessed to make my home in a community of such thoughtful and friendly people.

Happy Holidays!

junelake.rpia@sbcglobal.net



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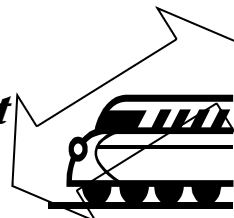
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email: john@5starlandscape.com

Southwest to Northeast Rail Corridor Station Recommendation



According to the latest word from Linda Clark, Berry Street Initiative Committee member, the consultants to the "T" for the SWNE Rail Corridor will recommend "Station Option B" as the Berry Street/TCU light rail station location. Station Option "B" is located in the southwest corner of Berry Street and Cleburne Road. The next step will be the development of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement, which should be submitted in the spring. Ultimately, the goal is to have parts of the line operable by 2012.

To find out more, contact the "T" at **817-215-8785**, info@sw2neRAIL.com or visit the website www.sw2neRAIL.com

Of Frivolity and Flamingoes

A flock of rather fancy flamingoes has been flying fairly fast around the Ryan Place neighborhood. Single file in front of the West home on Fifth, the fascinating fellows frolicked for most of the Home Tour weekend. In an interview, Fernando, the frankly fearless leader of the foreign flock, explained that he and his friends and family have defected from the fast-paced frenzy of Florida, hoping to find a fresh field or forest home. According to Fernando, however, four or five of the flock felt too frail to fly following a fright and a frantic flight from a hunting party fixated on their fancy feathers.

Fond of the friendly, flattering ooh's and aah's they've overheard during the Candlelight Christmas, and far from the tomfoolery of Florida, Fernando figures that he and his flock were fortunate to find Ryan Place. In return for the felicitous welcome so freely offered to them, Fando (as the flock refers to him) fancies that the flamingoes have a function: fun. They foresee and look forward to being a feature in Ryan Place, signifying by their presence in a neighbor's front yard that something fantastic and /or fabulous has occurred to the folks who live there. With a final wistful sigh, Fando commented that due to the flock's hasty flight, they are flat fundless and feel offensively under-dressed and conspicuous; they would appreciate any feasible, fashionable frill – fur, fleece, or fedora—that would fill the bill.

We welcome these fine, feathered friends to our fabulous neighborhood and can't wait to see how they fit in!

GIVE A HOLIDAY GIFT THAT DOESN'T END WHEN THE BATTERIES RUN OUT.

Why not start a new holiday tradition? Make this the time of year that you save for a child's college education. Edward Jones will work with you to develop a strategy to save for college.

To make your college-savings gift in time for the holidays, call or visit today.

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The Shop Around the Corner *by Rainey Dukes*

This is a monthly reminder to all Ryan Place Neighbors that it is important to support the shops and businesses in and around our neighborhood. Every dollar we put back into our community's economy goes to ensure quality of life for Ryan Place and the rest of the near South Side.

This month's featured business is: Dry Clean Super Center

2840 Cleburne Road (on 8th Avenue) 817- 923-9104

Contact: Augustine and Anastasia Greene

We have a great dry cleaners and laundry service just down the road! This very convenient location has a "super quick" in and out drop off service and will take your clothes with a greeting and smile. Owners Augustine and Anastasia Greene have been at the 8th Avenue location for about a year and a half and are doing their best to keep our neighborhood starched, ironed, and folded.

They specialize in bulk laundry service and dry cleaning and have one-day turn around service from Monday to Friday. Men's shirts are always 99 cents. The business is family owned and invested in our neighborhood. The Greens are open Monday through Friday from 6:30 a.m. to 7 p.m., and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. They will happily offer a 5% discount to any Ryan Place neighbor who brings in a copy of the newsletter. Good service, nice people...great neighbors!

Please help us keep the neighborhood informed of available goods and services. If you would like to include a favorite local business, restaurant or shop, send commentary to Rainey Dukes at raintex@aol.com. Always remember, HELP A NEIGHBOR...SHOP LOCAL!

Congratulations to Ryan Place resident, Ben Broadwater who was recognized for his exemplary work at Meadowbrook Elementary School and named one of fourteen 2007-2008 Chairs for Teaching Excellence!

Dr. David Medford

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(Next to Braum's)



Historic Fort Worth, Inc.
Presents

Quality Hill Holidays

What: A celebration of the holidays at historic Thistle Hill (1903)

Featuring: Vocalists, musicians, refreshments and jolly ole Saint Nick

Where: 1509 Pennsylvania Avenue, located in Fort Worth's Quality Hill

When: Sunday, December 9, from 2:00 until 6:00

Admission: Adults: \$15 Children 6-12 \$7.50
Cherubs 5 & under FREE

Benefits: Preservation programs at Historic Fort Worth, Inc. including Thistle Hill and the Ball-Eddleman-McFarland House

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Get Ready for the Historic Overlay Decision



The RPIA Historic Overlay Committee hopes to make its first presentation to the neighborhood of the Historic Overlay at the January meeting. An overview of the committee's objectives in preparing the document will be presented at the meeting. There has been quite a bit of confusion and concern regarding this issue, so we'd like to provide a brief introduction.

From the city: "A historic district in Fort Worth is created through overlay zoning. It is typically a defined area or neighborhood with a common theme based on architectural style, historical development patterns, cultural identity, or social and economic historical patterns. The basic idea behind the creation of a historic district is to preserve the character and identity of an area for the future."

Ryan Place definitely fits the criteria for designation as a historic district. Because of its development over the course of approximately 70 years, guidelines for this neighborhood presented a unique challenge. Drawing on the best practices of similar neighborhoods across the country, we believe that our historic guidelines will preserve the character of our neighborhood and continue to encourage restoration, while not unnecessarily imposing burdensome restrictions on current homeowners.

One of the most important aspects of the Overlay will be its impact on re-development activities. The Overlay should encourage the preservation of homes that contribute to each street's character, while ensuring that any new construction fits not only the neighborhood as a whole, but the distinctive character of each block.

For existing homeowners, the city offers the opportunity to freeze the city portion of their taxes for 10 years in exchange for a 30% reinvestment in renovation. Studies nationwide also show that homes in designated historic districts appreciate in value more steadily and quickly, outperforming undesignated areas – in Texas, by 19%. Finally, the historic designation is environmentally friendly – encouraging the re-use of salvaged or reclaimed materials.

Kevin Prigel (KPrigel@aol.com)



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Arts Fifth Avenue Needs Your Support to Continue in 2008

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All donations are tax deductible.

In addition to being an art exhibition space, Arts Fifth Avenue offers music, dance, exercise, and art classes for children and adults at reasonable prices. Here's what's going on this month. Check it out and support this charming asset close to home:

Upcoming Events at Arts Fifth Avenue

Saturday, December 8th A Fifth of Christmas

Saturday, December 15th A Jazzy Christmas, dance review

Fifth Annual Django Reinhardt Festival January 25-27

Three nights of film, live music, French food, and ambiance honoring gypsy jazz guitarist DJANGO REINHARDT (1910-1953). Guest artists include YoGadjo, Gypsy Moon, and more.

Tickets: \$15/night; three nights for \$30

Friday & Saturday 8pm; Sunday 7pm

Spring Class Registration Begins Dec. 15th
Classes Begin January 7th.

Contact Arts Fifth Avenue to learn more: ArtsFifthAvenue.com

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Charity
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The Historic Fort Worth, Inc. Charity Antiques Show presented by Coldwell Banker Residential Brokerage

Champagne Preview:

Friday, February 8 6 to 9 p.m.

Shopping Days:

Saturday, February 9 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday, February 10 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

Admission:

\$10.00 (both shopping days)

Champagne Preview: \$100.00 per person (includes Preview and admission to the show for all days)

The Charity Antiques Show will be held in the elegant 1930 Masonic Center at 1100 Henderson Street, one of Fort Worth's finest Classical Modern landmarks. The honoree, Gordon W. Smith, has amassed an impressive collection of Native American Indian art and artifacts. Proceeds from this charitable event will benefit preservation programs of Historic Fort Worth, Inc. including its two historic properties, Thistle Hill and the Ball-Eddleman-McFarland House.

Historic Fort Worth, Inc. was established in 1969 and selected in 2001 as a Local Partner of the National Trust for Historic Preservation. Historic Fort Worth is a non-profit, membership organization that is dedicated to preserving Fort Worth's unique historic identity through education and leadership.

For more information contact Corry Smith at 817.336.2344 x 100 or at Corry_Smith@historicfortworth.org. or visit the web-site at www.historicfortworth.org



Real Estate Corner
by Judy Holland
of The Helen Painter Group
817-923-7321

3040 6th Avenue	\$109,900	3/2	817-924-8358
2736 Ryan Place Drive	\$138,000	2/1	817-923-7321
2933 Ryan Place Drive	\$159,000	2/2	817-913-3290
2729 Willing Avenue	\$169,999	2/1	817-924-8358
2901 5th Avenue	\$214,900	3/2	817-920-7700
2900 Ryan Place Drive	\$229,000	4/2	817-424-3808
1221 Elizabeth Blvd.	\$625,000	4/2+	817-632-9500

Cameras at 8th and Elizabeth Blvd.

Smile.

You're on candid camera! The city fathers have picked seven intersections with too many red-light runners and 8th and Elizabeth is one of the seven. Cameras have been installed. Red runners will be notified and warned in December and fined starting in January. The fine will be \$75 plus \$25 if you pay late! This summer Chuck and I got to go on a tour of the United Nations in NYC. Our tour guide told us a list of things the international group had accomplished and selecting red to mean stop and green to mean go was one of them. It is a worldwide signal. So, be safe and don't get in trouble at 8th and Elizabeth!



The annual Potluck dinner will be in February at the regularly scheduled RPIA meeting at Daggett Elementary School.

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Traffic: *Looking Backward*

By Ross King

Who would have ever thought when I attended my first Ryan Place meeting in 1969 that I, the least historically-oriented of people, would be recounting history 38 years later? Here is what I remember:

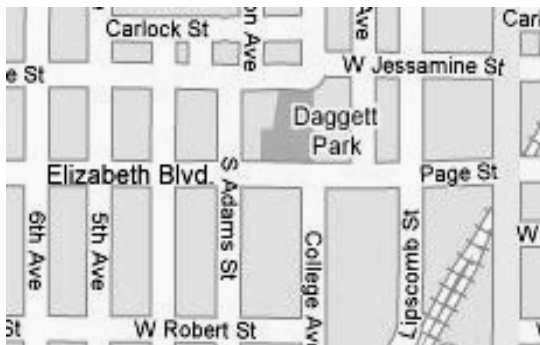
Traffic: It's the same story over and over

In 1969, Ryan Place residents went to the city to get help with truck traffic on Elizabeth Blvd. They learned that the city proposed converting 5th and 6th Avenues through Ryan Place and Fairmount into one-way streets, to speed traffic between downtown and the hospital district and then-new Wedgwood. Ryan Place and Fairmount were viewed as derelict inner-city neighborhoods, and traffic flow had a higher-priority than child-friendly residential neighborhoods. The Ryan Place pioneers organized to fight the proposal, and RPIA was formed. City Hall has not been the same since then.

Several years later traffic lights were installed on 8th Avenue at Elizabeth Blvd. and Cantey St. and at Morningside Drive and Hemphill. While traffic lights help control traffic movement, they become another kind of signal: "This Marks a Drive-Thru Street. Turn Here. This Is a Pass-Through Neighborhood."



In 1969, Daggett Park did not exist. Instead, College Avenue ran between Daggett Elementary and a vacant lot to the west of the school. There were no trees, walking track, or playground equipment. The first RPIA public meeting, a full house at Daggett Elementary, was to consider building the park and closing College Avenue, a plan developed by the same people who are now working on the present traffic plan. There was tremendous fear. Some of the St. John's Church people walked out of the meeting, saying they feared that a combination park and school playground would attract outside riff-raff and endanger property values. The meeting was dramatic, to say the least. Delay ensued. It was several years before the park was built. But we now can see the positive results every day of the week. The business about outside riff-raff may have been true, because the writer and his family have stayed around, partly to see what RPIA would think of next. It's been fun.



It didn't take long; the next big traffic proposal was to build a four-lane divided highway through the zoo and Trinity Park to aid traffic flow between the Colonial Country Club area and the hospital district. The opposition and eventual winner (that's us), met in one of the houses on Elizabeth Blvd. owned by one of the MD's whose peers favored the highway over the park and zoo. The highway/parkway idea lost out, but it was a battle.

Parks and beautification: The same story over and over

Daggett School Park was Round One. Round Two was Triangle Park. Again, neighborhood meetings. Again, we heard Ryan Place presented as a pass-through neighborhood when the city representative, a nice guy, mentioned that he was puzzled as to why we were so excited about making a park on a piece of land so close to a railroad track. It hadn't occurred to us that the railroad was considered a negative factor, but the comment told us how vulnerable Ryan Place is.



The common denominators: beautification and livability

All the projects listed above followed the principle that making our neighborhood a better place to live involves making it more attractive and safer.

A summary of what followed: The next event for RPIA after Triangle Park was the closure of the railroad switching yard on 8th Avenue. When the multiple railroad tracks came out, we saw to it that evergreen trees were planted next to the street. Other Ryan Place residents built the fence and planted the flowers on the north side of Daggett School Park. The most dramatic recent improvements have been the traffic calming and beautification projects along Berry Street – again, envisioned and accomplished by a Ryan Place resident; again, requiring lots of time and work. The same can be said of the stone gates at Elizabeth and 8th and of the beautiful historic street lights. Those projects have taken years and years of volunteer work over many Christmases by the Candlelight Tour of Ryan Place. Ryan Place does not look like it did in 1969; it's much, much better.

The significance of the Berry Street Initiative

We can see that well-planned traffic calming and beautification projects work and that they mean less concrete and fewer signs. It's worthwhile to check out the recently-planted trees and new street lights at the Berry-Main overpass (that's where I turn to get to our shop) and to see the plantings and traffic calming devices along Berry St. between the pharmacies and TCU. Talk about an improvement! That stretch illustrates the difference between Traffic Engineering and Traffic Calming. When Berry Street was widened a few years ago, it was uglified. Now it looks a lot better.

The threats to Ryan Place, same as always: traffic, commercial encroachment, ugliness

The threats to Ryan Place, same as always: traffic, commercial encroachment, ugliness

When RPIA was formed, there was little commercial development on Berry Street or 8th Avenue. The grocery stores were outside the boundaries, some within walking distance. There was little automobile traffic through the neighborhood when we moved here in 1969. Since then, there has been significant commercial encroachment along both Berry and 8th. Two examples: (1) The NE corner of Berry & Ryan was first a residence. RPIA agreed to allow a minor zoning change. That zoning classification allowed it later to become a 7-11 store, now defunct. Thus a residential neighborhood is eaten away at its boundaries. (2) The grocery stores shown at the right went out of business. However, a new Fiesta went in on 8th Avenue, along with a Luby's, two strip centers, a car wash, Braum's, a post office, and a church.

Those additions have meant not only a nibbling away at our boundaries, but an increase in automobile traffic through our neighborhood by people going to the businesses on 8th. Traffic lights have been added at 8th and Elizabeth and at 8th and Cantey. Elizabeth and Cantey/Lowden have become cross-neighborhood thoroughfares from Hemphill to the businesses on 8th Avenue. Thus a neighborhood is eaten away at its middle.

Where we go from here

This historical background comes to my mind as I look at the proposals our neighbors on the RPIA traffic committee have worked on. I have discovered, for personal reasons of which some of you may be aware, that there exists a whole science and art of traffic calming to help residential neighborhoods maintain their resident- and child-friendly character and still maintain the convenience of automobiles. Balancing these concerns is not easy. We have competent people working on it, and they welcome ideas from the rest of us. I also know that their energy is limited. They are, after all, volunteers.

I love Ryan Place. I love our neighbors and our schools. I love to walk our streets. I want to grow old here. I want to see lots of little kids playing here. But almost as much, I want the labor of our neighbors who have worked on the projects listed above to be acknowledged and all concerns to be heard. Also, I don't want an



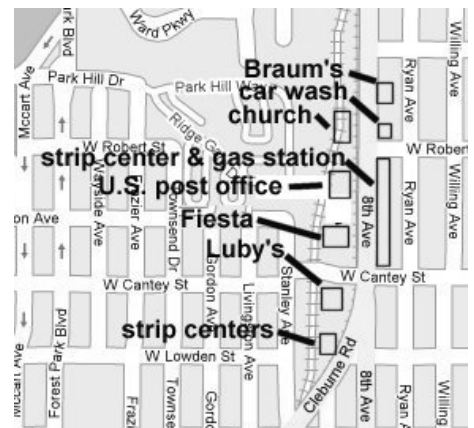
urban concrete jungle.

My profession is building pipe organs – big, expensive, and complicated – and I work with lay persons who know little about organs. But I've found that they can make wise decisions if they have access to solid information and lots of facts. RPIA would do well to learn more about traffic calming before we make decisions affecting the future of the neighborhood. We need to know what successful, beautiful traffic calming projects look like.

Large projects move slowly, which can be frustrating. Darn it.

Sincerely yours,

Ross King



Good Neighbor Story:

It was a dark and rainy afternoon — the Saturday after Thanksgiving. The **GREAT BIG** oak tree **had** to be planted in the front yard — we expected company for dinner. Jeff walked over, picked up a shovel, and started "slinging mud" with my husband. The tree looks great!— **Thanks, Jeff!**



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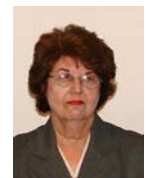
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DECEMBER 2007

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 CCRP 
2 CCRP 	3	4 	5 Trash	6	7	8  Yard Sale-p.6
9 Thistle Hill-p. 11 Yard Sale-p.6	10 Early Voting	11 Early Voting	12 Gina on TV-p. 8 Trash Early Voting	13 Early Voting	14 Early Voting	15 
16	17 BIG TRASH	18  BIG TRASH	19 BIG TRASH	20 BIG TRASH	21 BIG TRASH	22 Nativity Play-p.4
23	24	25 Merry Christmas! 	26 Trash	27	28 Lease Signing deadline	29
30	31 					

JANUARY 2008

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1 S-h-h-h-h-h-h-h-h!	2 Trash	3	4	5
6	7 	8	9 Trash	10	11	12
13 Porch Party-p.8	14	15	16 Trash	17	18 Newsletter deadline	19
20	21 BIG TRASH RPIA Meeting—p.1	22 BIG TRASH	23 BIG TRASH	24 BIG TRASH	25 BIG TRASH 	26 
27 	28	29	30 Trash	31		