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Calendar

RPIA Monthly Meeting

15

Monday, June 16th 6:30 p.m. Meet & Greet 7 p.m. Meeting

### RPIA Meeting

Westside Unitarian Universalist Church 901 Page Avenue

Meeting agenda at historicryanplace.org, Discussion Forum

# RYAN PLACE

# IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

**N**EWSLETTER

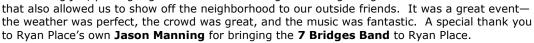
June/July, 2008

www.HistoricRyanPlace.org

### **President's Letter**

Memorial Day Weekend in Ryan Place brought with it not only the annual Croquet Tournament, but the rebirth of the Ryan Place Memorial Day Weekend Street Dance as well. **Chris Ebert** once again chaired the Croquet Tournament, an event which has become a mainstay on the Ryan Place calendar. Thank you, Chris.

When the 2008 Ryan Place Board decided to reinvigorate the social aspect of the neighborhood, bringing the Street Dance back was at the top of the list. **Terri West** offered to chair this committee and she did an outstanding job, putting together a dance and neighborhood get-together



Also in May, we had the Kentucky Derby Mad Hatter Party hosted by **Chris Patton** and **Mark Stallons**. Thanks to Chris and Mark for a great afternoon!

Our activities, newsletters, lobbying efforts at City Hall, as well as other RPIA services couldn't happen without the talents, time, and money from residents and sponsors. I encourage all Ryan Place residents to do their part, stepping up and out to add to the quality of our life with their contributions. Everyone has something to give -- imagine what we can do together!

Finally, and on a very serious note, the possibility of having an 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue gas drilling site is once again alive and well. Preventing this well from becoming a reality will require considerable effort from not only **Bill Conley** and the Gas Drilling Committee, but from all residents. Check the newsletter for information on what **you** as an individual can do to help keep a drill rig off the 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue/Elizabeth Boulevard site.

Have a great summer!

Keith Head

### **CALL TO ACTION!**

### **URGENT GAS DRILLING ALERT!**

BLOCK YOUR CALENDAR AND ATTEND A MEETING AT 6:30 PM, MONDAY, JUNE 9, 2008, FORT WORTH CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1000 THROCKMORTON STEET (PARKING AT SOUTH OF BUILDING).

Ryan Place Improvement Association and the Joint Neighborhood Committee need your help, support, and a little of your time on Monday, June 9, 2008 at the City Council Chambers.

As you are well aware, RPIA and the JNC have worked very hard on your behalf to ensure that gas drilling within the urban neighborhoods of Fort Worth is conducted in a manner that will protect the integrity of the neighborhoods, and provide for a safe, secure and environmentally friendly operation. The work done by the coali-

tion of Berkeley, Ryan Place, Mistletoe, Fairmont, Park Hill and others has become the model for community involvement and collaboration in working with the gas companies across the city.

As a result of our collective efforts, Mayor Moncrief and the City Council established a "Gas Drilling Task Force" to look at the current city ordinance and the procedures therein as they relate to gas drilling operations.

In reviewing the minutes of the Task Force, most of their focus to date has been on revisions to noise requirements. They need to move on to the myriad of other issues that were referred to the Task Force, but the over-

(Continued on page 8)

### 2007-2008 RPIA Board of Directors

Officers	

<u>Officers</u>		
President	Keith Head	817-921-6721
	keith.head@sbcglobal.net	214-435-1976
1 <sup>st</sup> VP/ League of Neighborhoods	Barbara Tumlin	817-921-0158
	babsnrico@charter.net	
2 <sup>nd</sup> 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	<b>-</b>	047 007 0707
5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Terri West	817-927-0727
- th	hatwest@gmail.com	
5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue (Alternate)	Mary Schroder	817-921-5346
	mps2745@att.net	
6 <sup>th</sup> Avenue	Cindy Baldridge	817-239-8969
	cbaldridge_1@charter.net	
6th Avenue (Alternate)	Liane Janovsky	817-207-8565
	lianejanovsky@yahoo.com	
8 <sup>th</sup> /James/Livingston/Stanley	John Belknap	817-927-0355
	johnbelknap@swbell.net	
8th/James/Livingston/Stanley (Alte		
Alston/Lipscomb Streets	Patricia Ford	817-926-3621
	paford@swbell.net	
Alston/Lipscomb Streets (Alternate		
College Avenue	Tesa Laviolette	972-971-9504
	tesalaviolette@att.net	
College Avenue (Alternate)	Richard Deniker	817-926-2708
Elizabeth Boulevard	Mariann Taccia	
	mariannt@hawkpci.net	
Elizabeth Boulevard (Alternate)	Anita Daniel	817-924-3404
_	ad1508@aol.com	
Ryan Avenue	Chris Parham	817-922-0499
	chrisparham@mac.com	
Ryan Avenue (Alternate)	OPEN*	017 001 1007
Ryan Place Drive	Lin Parham	817-921-4027
	rap32dds@aol.com	
Ryan Place Drive (Alternate)	Angela Crum	817-797-2605
	angel_sant@hotmail.com	
South Adams Street	Chris Ebert	817-926-2366
	cwebert@hotmail.com	817-319-2363
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	

### **RPIA Newsletter**

### **Advertising Rates**

One month free when you prepay for 1 year.

Full Page: \$100 (8.5 x 11 inches)

 $(4.25 \times 5.5 \text{ inches})$ 

Half Page: \$65 (8.5 x 5.5 inches)

1/4 Page: \$45

Business card: \$25 (3.5 x 2 inches) Announcement: \$15 (1.75 x 2 inches)

# Newsletter and advertising submission deadlines:

August Newsletter Friday, July 18

Contact: rpianewsletter@yahoo.com

817-927-0075



The lazy days of summer are upon us—Hooray! We're still asking *The \$60,000 Question*, collecting ideas for how to spend it to improve Ryan Place. So far, sidewalks, curbs, and park development are the main suggestions. Is there nothing else that might improve our fair community? Let us hear from you!

A **big** thanks to all who were concerned about Mookie; she turned up at the Humane Society Shelter after wandering two miles away!

Please remember to do business with our newsletter advertisers and tell them you saw their ad here!

Thanks to all of you who fill my answering machine, my mailbox, and my e-mail in-box — on both my accounts! Remember, there will be no newsletter in July; the next one will be delivered August 1.

Keep those phone calls, letters, and e-mails coming!

Olivia Flynn, <u>rpianewsletter@yahoo.com</u>, 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 817.392.5158

**Code Compliance** 817.392.5158 **E**xt. 1804

# How to Build Community

By Christopher Ebert

I have a bookmark published in 2002 by the Syracuse Cultural Workers which lists simple suggestions on "How to Build Community." All are very good suggestions and they just happen to be a short history of Ryan Place and the Ryan Place Improvement Association for the 32 years that Mary Beth and I have been residents and members:

- Leave your house.
- . Turn off your television.
- Know your neighbors.
- . Look up when you are walking.
- . Greet people.
- . Sit on your front porch.
- . Plant flowers.
- . Play together.
- . Buy from local merchants.
- . Take children to the park.
- . Support neighborhood schools.
- Have pot lucks.
- Pick up litter.
- Dance in the street.
- . Talk to the mail carrier.
- . Start a tradition.
- . Organize a block party
- . Bake extra and share.
- . Ask a guestion.
- Open your shades.
- Sing together.
- Share your skills.
- . Take back the night.
- . Turn up the music.
- . Turn down the music.
- Seek to understand.

This month and every month, our cafeteria-style neighborhood association gives us all a way to help build a vibrant and active neighborhood, a community.

(Note: This is the first in a series of articles about recent Ryan Place History by Christopher Ebert.)

# GRANT \$\$ AVAILABLE TO IMPROVE OUR PARKS



The RPIA Board recently learned that Ryan Place is eligible for a \$25,000 park improvement grant program that has just been established by the City of Fort Worth. Over the next 30 days we will be developing grant requests for both Daggett and Triangle parks. With this in mind we need to quickly gather ideas for park improvements from Ryan Place residents. Although the Board has already established a list of possible improvements, there are surely more ideas out there that we haven't thought of. <u>Your input is critical</u>. Please email **Keith Head** at <u>keith.head@sbcglobal.net</u> or call him on his office line **817-921-6922**. Ideas can also be submitted under the discussion forum of www.historicryanplace.org.

The RPIA Board will be presenting its proposed grant requests to Ryan Place residents at our regularly scheduled RPIA meeting on June 16.

### GRADUATION IS NO TIME TO LEARN YOU HAVEN'T SAVED ENOUGH FOR COLLEGE.

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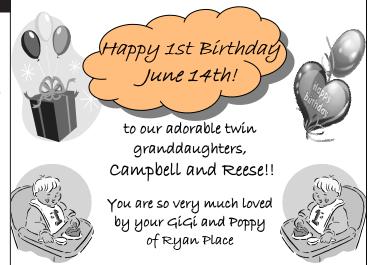
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### TOWN HALL MEETING

About two dozen Ryan Place residents attended the District 9 Town Hall Meeting hosted by City Councilman (our own) Joel Burns on May 19. Mayor Mike Moncrief offered opening remarks before Joel Burns delivered his address to the group. Generally, he discussed the recently passed \$150 million bond package, neighborhood street and sidewalk repair, gas drilling, and public transportation.

Mr. Burns referred to the rewards and opportunities that come with service, commenting that District 9 is an active community and willing to work/serve for that which is important. He challenged the attendees to "seek out at least one other person in your neighborhood in the coming couple of weeks to get involved in their neighborhood in a way they never have — whether its just becoming a member of the association, getting involved in a committee, joining Citizens on Patrol or Code Rangers....we can determine if our neighborhoods are successful [by looking] at how many in the neighborhood are involved."

The meeting was also attended by City Manager Dale Fisseler, Assistant City Manager Fernando Costa, the new Police Chief and Fire Chief, plus staff members from planning and zoning, code enforcement, transportation and public works departments. After Councilman Burns' speech, questions were addressed to the different department representatives.



Anyone interested may attend the Daggett Centennial Committee meeting at 5:30 on June 12 in the elementary school library. The Committee is currently looking for stories and photos or mementos for the yearbooks that will be assembled. Please contact **Cathryn Record-Horn** at **cathry.recordhorn@fwisd.org** if you have anything to share.

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### Street Dance Revived!

All were dancing in the street thanks to **Jason Manning's** 7 Bridges Band on Memorial Day Weekend. Elizabeth Boulevard looked like a spring break beach

with blankets, coolers, and babes young and old.

It was a gathering to inspire -- neighbors, friends, the local politicians and constabulary, folks from the schools and churches, even an old turf writer showed up! Our budding artists, under the inspiration of Cindy Baldridge, created a most delightful chalk dance floor that would rival Mary Poppins, and was only visible for brief moments during the evening. It was a special treat to have neighbor Melanie Macfarlane, who is a trained operatic singer, lead The Star Spangled Banner; not a note was missed!!! The kids and sponsors at Westside Universal Unitarian Church and E.M. Daggett Elementary did a great job with the hotdogs and drinks and cleaned up with profits for their causes. Because of John Rihel's electrical skills, the twinkle lights gave a festive brilliance and the band had enough juice to be heard into the next neighborhood!!! The music was GREATLY appreciated by those that thronged to the shrub-lined dance floor (compliments of Elizabeth Anna's Old World Garden on 8th Ave.) and those who felt more relaxed in a supine position. The Eagles never sounded this good!! Thanks again Jason and Rachel Manning for your commitment to the neighbor-

A multitude of thanks to those sponsors (see list) who made this event possible and to those who donated their time and talents to set up tents, pavilions, lights, and tables and take them down again and haul away the trash. **Roland Hill** and **Marissa Taccia**, you should receive a reward for "Flatbed Handlers of the Year!" Thanks for your motor skills.

A special thanks to **Mindy and David Hallum** for the use of their electricity and front lawn — without which, none of this would have been possible. KUDOS to the Street Dance Committee, who did its job and delivered a wonderful event — your efforts and donations of time, money, and hospitality gave the neighborhood the continuation of a tradition and a chance to share the goodness that is RYAN PLACE.

### A Round of Applause for the Street Dance Sponsors



JD Angle and Joel Burns
Beat-A-Geek — Cameron
Crum
Lana Campbell
Chadra Mezza & Grill
Bill and Lucy Conley
Brack and Pamm Cox
Elizabeth Anna's Old World
Garden
Keith and Connie Head
Linda and Roland Hill
Joan Kline
Ben, Lori, Lucy, and Eli
Loughry



Summertime . . . and the livin' is easy. I have a feeling George Gershwin never came to Texas in the summer months. Whew!

This month, Ryan Place Improvement Association extends a warm welcome to all the new and not-so-new neighbors. Among the not-so-new to the neighborhood: John and Gayle Watson on 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue; Freddy and Peggy Anderberg on 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue; and James, Tera, Cady, and Ben Galindo on Ryan Place Drive.

Most recent to the 'hood are Eamon and Amy Wiles on Willing Avenue; James Tynan on  $6^{th}$  Avenue; Randall Turner on Willing Avenue and Keeley Bliss on  $6^{th}$  Avenue.

I hope to meet you at one of the upcoming summer events. If you are a new resident (or know someone who is) and would like an "official" welcome to the neighborhood in this column, please e-mail me at <a href="mailto:junelake.rpia@sbcglobal.net">junelake.rpia@sbcglobal.net</a> and let me know you're here.

Meanwhile, stay cool!

### Neighborly Notes:



- Please don't speed.
- \* Remember the plastic bags when walking dogs, thanks.
- \* Say "hi" when passing by; we're neighbors!
- \* Remember to check in on those who don't get out much.
- Let the neighborhood stores know you live in the neighborhood and are supporting them.

# Your Back Yard by Candlelight

How about black, wrought iron lantern stands with glass globes for citronella candles in the back yard? Our front yards are lovely public spaces, but the back lends itself more to the private – family activities and intimate chit-chat. What could be more fitting than candlelight? No electric

wires to deal with and rearranging is a snap – just reposition the lantern stand and push down! Our local group, **CCRP**, is now selling just such lanterns for only **\$25 each** – and here's a clever idea: at Christmas, you can move them to the front of the house and use them again to decorate!

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To order yours, send your name, address, phone number, number of lanterns ordered, and a check or money order to:

**CCRP** 

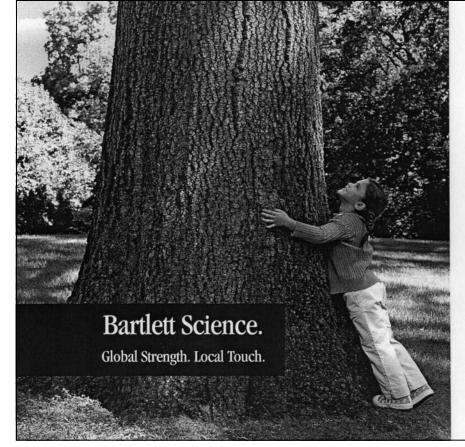
Attn. Lantern Sales P.O. Box 11816

FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76110-0816

Or call Rita Thomas at 817-923-3625.



Ryan Place recognizes **Colleen Murphey, John Blake, Spencer West**, and **Stefan Vivar** upon their high school graduation. Congratulations and good luck to all the graduating students of Ryan Place!



**W**hen a local Bartlett Tree Expert strolls under your favorite oak, he has the world's most advanced tree care technology in the palm of his hand:

a computer link to the Bartlett Tree Research Laboratories and advanced diagnostic tree science. What he also has is hands-on knowledge of local weather, soil and environmental history.

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# The Day of Fun - July 4th Parade and Ryan Run

### We Love a Parade!

Bang the drums, sound the tin whistles, unfurl the flags, and start decorating those two-, three-, and four-wheelers! THE PARADE IS COMING TO TOWN!!!!



Never let it be said that Ryan Place's 4th of July Parade is anything but wonderful and unique. We should inspire all other neighborhood parades. Ours is not only traditional in red, white, and blue, with Old Glory leading the way, but filled with music, creativity, quirkiness, the unknown imaginations of our newest neighbors, and a touch of rivalry from the Lawn Chair Brigade from the "other side of the tracks" and the Floating Bathtub from Fairmount (OHS) of years gone by.

So a gauntlet is laid at the curbside of Ryan Place neighbors..... To win the prize (TBD) for the most traditional, whimsical, oddball, musical, youngest or oldest float/entry in The 2008 4th of July Parade.

Will it be 5th Avenue that takes "The Largest Collection of Folks on a Float" prize or will Alton and Lipscomb wind their way along the route in outrageous colorful array? Could a surprise entry from James, Livingston, or 8th Avenue send us rolling down our lawns in laughter? Do our senior citizens feel the urge to show up the young'uns? Or will the next generation and their bicycles take over the road? How many Boy and Girl Scout troops are there in Ryan Place? Any good parade needs uniforms and will our good men and women in the armed services, past and present, present themselves? And who will be Grand Marshall of the Parade? Call out the bands: garage, high school, mariachi, big band, and out of tune ones, too. Bring out the horses, goats, pigs, or other barn yard critter, or the family dog and cat and plastic bag handlers. How many antiques autos can we fit into a RP parade?. And will our fire truck, or a stand-in, be bringing up the rear?

# Make this year a momentous and memorable Parade. Be inspired and come be a part of this summer's 4th of July Parade, another Ryan Place tradition!!!

The line-up is at 9:30 a.m. and the parade starts at 10. Please contact Gilbert Gutierrez <a href="mailto:ggutierrez@charter.net">ggutierrez@charter.net</a> about making your entry/float the envy of the neighborhood! Don't delay!

# Parade Route

# See Ryan (Place) Run the Ryan Run!



Come on out! Walk, run, push a stroller or wheelchair, or just enjoy being out in our beautiful neighborhood before the scorching heat of the day. The Ryan Run will start at 7:30 a.m. on July 4th in the parking lot of Daggett Elementary School. Get a group together and save on the entry fee! After the run, awards will be presented and snacks made available to the participants.

Not up to the trek this year? Come on out, anyway and lend a helping hand. If you are an early riser, the event will be set up and the course will have to be marked before 6 a.m. The run starts at 7:30 a.m. and volunteers will be needed for check-in, to assist along the route, to feed the runners, to help pass out awards, then to clean up – in all, about 15-20 reliable, fun-loving folks to pitch in. Not only do helpers get the fun of participating without the distance, but a free t-shirt is part of the package. Call **Gina Roberts** at **817-927-2478** or e-mail her at <a href="mailto:ginahroberts@yahoo.com">ginahroberts@yahoo.com</a> with your shirt size and a promise to help.

I could really use some more sponsors to enable us to give nicer food and awards. Any amounts donated would be appreciated!



### Ryan Run Registration Rites

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Race Day 6:15 a.m. \$30.

Before 6/28 \$20 adults/\$15 child/\$15 each for group of 4

or more

After 6/28 \$25 adult/\$17 child/\$20 each for groups of 4

or more

Online: www.fwrunco.com





And the Winners are. . . .

Croquet News Flash -- The team of Diane McKusker of 5th Avenue and Kelly Jones of the Jennings-May-St. Louis neighborhood won the 2008 Ryan Place Croquet Tournament. After attending several Croquet Clinics during May, Diane and Kelly outlasted the competition winning the twenty-third Ryan Place Croquet Tournament with a combination of skill, cunning and good luck. Kelly has been a regular at the tournament for several years. It was Diane's first croquet tournament. First runners-up were Madi Beth and Lily Debenport of Arlington.





The Street Dance







Mad Hatter's Kentucky Derby Party







### **Urgent Gas Drilling Meeting**

(Continued from page 1)

whelming dominance of industry on the Task Force has mired in never-ending discussions on the elements of noise restrictions.

On the schedule for upcoming weeks:

Changes planned to protected public areas including Trinity Trails. Industry's position surfaced through a memo from Tarrant Regional Water in essence making the case that they should not be regulated.

Work will begin shortly on the discussion about a pipeline ordinance and to no one's surprise, industry is not in favor of this.

It is our view that the only way to ensure that the neighborhoods get the protections necessary is **Significant Citizen Involvement.** Industry and the prescribed political process will determine the protections for the future. They need to hear the voices and see the faces of neighborhoods.

The Gas Drilling Task Force meetings are open, but public comments have not been permitted. The June 9 hearing and another scheduled for August 11 are the only Public Hearings currently on the schedule until the group adjourns. Please mark your calendar to be there! Your presence is important and it will make a difference!



### Real Estate Corner

by Judy Holland

### Flying Ryan

In 1911, John and Elizabeth Willing Ryan platted out our Ryan Place and started building Fort Worth's original suburb. That same year one of the first airplanes was scheduled to land just south of Elizabeth Blvd. in Ryan's pasture. Ten thousand people swarmed the field to watch Calbraith Rodgers land the newfangled flying machine. When he looked down and saw the crowd on his landing strip, he flew to the far end of the field as if he were landing there. The crowd rushed down to that location, leaving his proposed site free for him to safely land. We have a long history of enthusiasm, don't we!

2821 Ryan Place Dr	\$115,000	3/2	817-731-8466
2804 Willing	\$155,000	2/1	817-924-4144
2833 Ryan Place Dr	\$164,500	3/2	817-249-5483
2816 Ryan Place Dr	\$194,500	4/2	817-920-7700
2319 5th Ave	\$229,900	3/2	972-641-0447
2523 College Avenue	\$268,000	2/2	817-923-7321
2425 College Avenue	\$318,000	4/3	817-923-7321
2511 5th Avenue	\$359,500	3/3	817-577-9000



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### Financial News Page

### RPIA SUSTAINING MEMBERS

The following contributions have been made since the inception of the new RPIA Sustaining Membership Program in February of this year. The names in bold print are additions since the last newsletter.

### Patron

Joe Cox Dot-11 Networks Keith and Connie Head

Francisco and KT Hernandez Harva Kuykendall

Jerrell and Donna Lemunyon Ben and Lori Loughery

Dr. Randy and Linn Parham Kevin and Allisen Prigel

St. John's Episcopal Church Mariann Taccia

Friend

Mack and Cindy Baldridge Bill and Lucy Conley

Robert and Mrs. Cox

David DeVlaming Robert and Gay Donohoo

Randy and Lorraine "Rainey" Dukes

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AJ and JR Hart

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Ross and Carol King

Joan Kline

Alan and Kendal Lake Kitty and Jim Loveless

D. Michael Lynn David and Gwen Perez

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Ross and Julie Vitek Elzie and Evelyn Wilson

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Larry and Sian Borne

Bart and Nancy Bradford

Ricki and Mark Brannon III

Jo Lynn Brown

Mr and Mrs Yates Brown

Mark Burrows and Nina McKinnon

Allan and Sue Butcher Robert and Marina Castillo

Thomas and Susan Drake

Neighbor (continued) Eddie Dunn

Chris and Mary Beth Ebert Paul and Sherry Frantz

JE and Mary Anne Gilbert Rex Gleason

Mitzi Gopffarth

Gilbert and Stephanie Gutierrez

Paul Hable

John Hardy Sally Harger

Michael and Nancy Hollier

Lorraine Higgins

Pam Hill

Roland and Linda Hill Robert and Patti Holt

Theodore and Paloma Homan

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Joan Loicano Jason and Rachel Manning

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Danny and Peggy McCook Stephen and Nancy Mosher

Lisa Mosier

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Chris Patton and Mark Stallons

Amy Patyk Jane Pirtle

Gina Roberts

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Richard Tucker

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David and Angela Tuttle

Charles and Pamela Tynan

Sheils Uhr

Miguel and Marilyn Vivar

Carrie Wallace

Ellen Warthoe

John Watson

Sara Woodward

Leo and Susan Zappa

To make a contribution to your neighborhood improve-

ment association, send it with your name, address, and phone number to RPIA, P.O. Box 11473, Fort Worth, Texas, 76110 or contribute online through PAYPAL at www.historicryanplace.org. The levels of sustaining

membership are:

Neighbor \$35-\$74 per year

Friend \$75-\$150 per year Patron

\$151 or more per year

\$7,000

\$6,500

\$6,000

\$5,500

\$5,000

\$4,500

\$4,000

\$3,500

\$3,000

\$2,500

\$2,000

\$1,500

\$1,000

\$ 500

-0-

HOW ARE WE DOING??

GREAT!!!!



Our goal is to raise \$7,000 through neighborhood contributions to cover annual budgeted expenses.



Happy May/June Birthdays...

Barbara

Gina

&

Gilbert!!

Cheers, Dawn



# A fove Affair With a Neighborhood



by Janie Hart (Copyright 2008)

(The following is the second in a series by Ryan Place resident **Janie Hart**, which she presented to a meeting at the Fort Worth Woman's Club in 2007. The series will continue monthly in the newsletter.)

Our family and friends in Arlington thought we were insane to move from the nice new suburbs to the inner-city. Rush's family had lived in Arlington since 1934. They asked if it was really safe to take two little girls into that neighborhood. In Fort Worth we were a two-block walk from both the elementary and from the middle school. Fort Worth schools in the '60's and '70's were considered to be far superior to suburban schools. Daggett (our elementary) had an excellent staff. We were especially pleased that music (including violin and other instruments) was taught as part of the regular elementary curriculum.

The dark side of old neighborhood revitalization became rapidly apparent. For instance, Elizabeth Blvd. had a real problem with traffic. There were no stop signs from Hemphill to Eighth Avenue on Elizabeth and it was quite tempting for drivers to floorboard the accelerator while passing through the entire length of the Boulevard. The railroad underpass near 6<sup>th</sup> Ave. on Berry was too low to accommodate modern semi-trucks. It was far more convenient to use Elizabeth than to go all the way down to Magnolia. Additionally, an alarming number of the lovely old homes had become rooming houses. "A1 residential" allowed up to five roomers. Businesses were being illegally run out of some of the homes. Code violations were rife.

As members of the city staff took an interest in the area, some of them moved into the neighborhood. In April of 1968, someone let it be known that the city planned to turn Fifth and Sixth Avenues into one-way streets from downtown to Berry to facilitate rush hour traffic, which alarmed most of us. Bart Bradford, 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue, organized a meeting of a dozen or so families. It was held in our living room. We decided to hold a larger meeting to become an official neighborhood entity.

The larger meeting was held at St. John's Episcopal Church in the Parish Hall. Enthusiasm was high. We formed the Ryan Place Improvement Association and elected officers. They were: President Mel Dacus

Vice President Dr. James Newcomer

(later) John "Rush" Hart

Secretary Polly Davis
Treasurer Ruby Jo Halden
Technical Advisor Bart Bradford

We decided on boundaries (Eighth Avenue, Berry, Lipscomb, and Jessamine) and then we elected street directors:

5<sup>th</sup> Avenue Happy (Harriett) Bell

Willing Bess Witte
South Adams W. E. Heaton, Jr.
College Avenue Mrs. Chester Robinson

8<sup>th</sup> Avenue J. G. Bohn Elizabeth Blvd. Joan Kline Ryan Place Drive Janie Hart

Ryan Avenue Edward C. Walsh, Jr.
Lipscomb Marie Anderson
Carlock Robert S. Phillips

To further facilitate communications, each director found a captain to take responsibility for each block.

Howard McMahan, the City Manager, met with us. He was very encouraging and gave us good advice. He did mention that these neighborhood groups are good ideas, and there had been others before us. Unfortunately, he said, the neighborhood groups never lasted more than six months. I know he would be pleased that ours is going on 40 years.

Our first big project was to get a 4-way stop sign at the corner of Fifth Avenue and Elizabeth. There was a good deal of delay and research, but a traffic death there ended the debate. We got a 4-way stop at  $5^{\rm th}$  and Elizabeth and a signal light at the corner of  $8^{\rm th}$  Avenue and Elizabeth.

(To be continued in August)



### Watch for the **Ryan Place Yard of the Month** — coming soon!

Gardeners of Ryan Place, unite! Let's share the wealth of our too-full flower beds and offer the grass we are digging out to a neighbor who can use it. The newsletter will print offers to share or trade what you decide to dig out. Call **Olivia Flynn** at **817-927-0075** or **mslivia@sbcglobal.net**. How about some other projects, too?

<u>. - </u>

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### What is a Gang?

It is hard to describe the typical gang, since membership and gang activities differ from one gang to another. In general, "gang" means any combination, alliance, or network of three or more persons with an established leadership hierarchy that engages in criminal activity. Criminal activity is a key factor in labeling a group as a "gang." Criminal activity may include drug and weapon distribution, assault, murder, defacing property, and extortion or protection money.

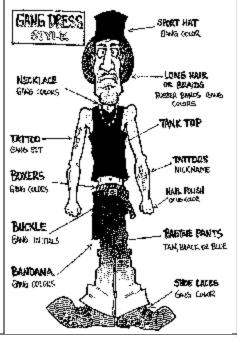
The exact number of gangs and gang members is unknown. Some gangs are formed according to similar backgrounds like black, white, Asian, or other ethnic similarities. Others are structured around territory, commercial activities, corporate businesses, political agendas, religion, music or types of crime.

Gangs include both juveniles and adults. Typical gang members range in age from 8 to 22 with occasional exceptions. Gang members engage in the use of graffiti to publicize territorial control. Another non-verbal method of communication is the "flashing" of hand signs. Hand signs and other gang symbols like tattoos or clothing identify the

user with a specific gang and have certain features in common with graffiti. The use of graffiti, hand signs, and other gang symbols can escalate verbal and physical violence between gangs.

### **Gang Clothing and Styles**

Check with your local law enforcement agency for in-depth information on gang identification in your area.



### Is My Child A Gang Member?

While many of these indicators mean nothing by themselves — taken together, they pay point to gang involvement.

- Radical new hairstyle or dress.
  A new group of friends with the same hairstyle or clothes.
- Not associating with long-time friends.
- Overly secretive about friends and activities.
- · Change in places frequented.
- ·Use of alcohol or other drugs.
- Possession of firearms or other weapons.
- Going out with unusually large groups of friends.
- A new fear or disrespect for law enforcement officials.
- Phone threats to family or child.
  Low grades at school, discipline
- problems, and truancy.
  Lack of interest in school, sports,
- or other activities. Graffiti on or around your home
- or on child's possessions.
  Frequent injuries caused by fight-
- A false sense of bravery brags that no one with hurt him.

If you suspect that your child is involved with gangs, consult your local law enforcement. You and your family may be in danger!



Thank you to Terri West for all of your efforts resurrecting the annual Street Dance. It was a lovely evening spent with family and friends under the influence of twinkle lights and summer breezes. Kudos to vou and vour committee of helpers!!

Dawn Taft



### The Genius School

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# Melanie Genius MacFarlane

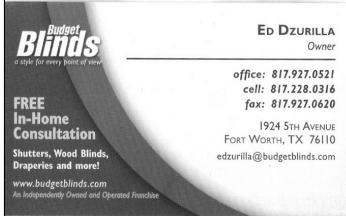
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### Ryan Place Goes Swimming July 19

Yes, it's another party for the *whole family*! On Saturday evening, July 19, Ryan Place has the Forest Part Swimming Pool **reserved** from 7 to 9 p.m. (That's right — no one there but us!) Brauts and hot dogs with all the fixings will be provided; please bring your own drinks. **Lifeguards will be on duty, provided by the City of Fort Worth.** This is a great party for the kids to enjoy with the family. The pool is located at 2212 Forest Park Boulevard, next to the Fort Worth Zoo. Hope to see you there!







For more information, please contact John Kline or Allisen Prigel (see page 2 of newsletter).

Sidewalk Replacement Program Still Available! Yes, it is still possible to get help replacing your deteriorating, unsafe sidewalk — the city will pay 75%; the homeowner pays 25% of the cost. The application letter is on the website, in the November, 2007 newsletter, or call **John Kline** (see page 2 of newsletter). **DO IT NOW!** 

The Fort Worth Police Department Presents:

### **Citizens on Patrol Training**

On July 12th, 2008, from 8 am-4 pm at the Fort Worth Police and Fire Academy, 1000 Calvert.

Come learn about the Citizens on Patrol (COPS) program and how you can be a part of a proven solution to keep a lid on crime. The police train and equip you to be additional eyes and ears for them as you patrol in your own neighborhood and call in suspicious activity on a non-confrontational basis. For more information contact your Code Blue Coordinator, Central Division at 817-392-3900.



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Fort Worth Urban Living, LLC is a resource center for a new way of life in Fort Worth and its vibrant neighborhoods. A centralized resource for those who want to learn more of what Fort Worth urban living has to offer, FWUL brings all who are interested in seeking information about urban living and development together with distinctive urban real estate in our community.

### **Summer Events**

Seminar I: Friday, June 13, 12-2pm "The Cost of Living in Urban Areas" (Hao Tran, FWUL and Jason Needham, State Farm)
Thursday, June 25, Fort Worth South, Inc. Happy Hour, 5:30-7:30pm

Seminar II: Saturday, July 12, 12-2pm "Remodeling in Texas for Energy-Efficiency and Lower Utility Bills" (Urban Green Build, Inc.)

Sunday Home Tours beginning June 8 at 2pm. We will feature both historic and new urban homes for sale in our neighborhoods.

Tours will begin at our office. Lunch is provided at our seminars. RSVP by sending e-mail to Hao@FortWorthUrbanLiving.com

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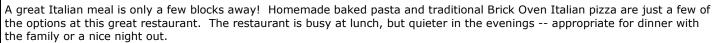
# The Shop Around the Corner by Rainey Dukes

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.



### Palermo's

1000 W. Magnolia Ave. 817/818-2400 Contact: Manager Faye Sutaj



House specialties include Tortellini Siciliano, Shrimp Marinara, and Lobster Ravioli. My kids like feasting on the yummy garlic bread knots and salad while they wait for their meal. Daily lunch specials are under \$6.00 and there is a choice of great pastas to choose from. If you have a group, the cozy cupola at the front of the restaurant is available for use. Palermo's is open Monday to Friday from 11:00 a.m. to 10 p.m. and Saturday from 5:00 p.m. to 10 p.m.

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



And speaking of dancing—! Another treasure that we have nearby is the **Southside Preservation Hall**, located at 1519 Lipscomb. On the first Friday of every month, *Buddy's Big Band* plays from 8 p.m. to midnight for dancing. Admission is \$12.50 / person and the proceeds benefit the restoration of the Hall and the Rose Chapel. Plus — Swing Dance lessons are offered every Tuesday night at 8 p.m. for \$5/ person. For more information, go to **www.southsidepreservation.com** or call **817-926-2800**.

# **General dentistry**RANDY A. PARHAM D.D.S. P 8 1 7 - 9 2 6 - 1 3 0 0 F 8 1 7 - 8 8 2 - 6 9 2 9 1612 PENNSYLVANIA AVE. FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76104



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### Arts Fifth venue

### Summer on the Avenue:

Looking for something to do with your time this summer? Or maybe something for the kids to do? Well, look no more! We've got classes and summer camps for youngsters and oldsters alike. We've got dancing, drumming, music, cooking, yoga, Zumba, and sooooooo much more. Visit Our Fabulous NEW Web Site for more ideas, as well as ways YOU can help Arts Fifth Avenue continue to grow! You can enroll online or call us at 817-923-9500.

Workshops for all ages — June 9-28 and July 7-19

Dance Tap, ballet, hip-hop, salsa, and tango Music Visual arts

Drums, bass, guitar, piano, voice, and more Sculpture, painting, clay, collage, found objects,

Theatre Cultural folk tales, costumes, masks of India

**Literary arts** Poetry

Yoga and Zumba Fitness

### **ARTS FIFTH AVENUE**

1628 5th Avenue @ West Allen web: www.artsfifthavenue.com email: artsfifthavenue@aol.com phone: 817.923.9500



What could possibly follow the Mad Hatter's Kentucky Derby party and the fabulous Street Dance?! Well, here it comes: Margarita Madness on Saturday, June 28th at Keith and Connie Head's hacienda — 1316 Elizabeth Boulevard. The party will start at 6 p.m. and will be in the backyard. Margaritas will be provided; BYOB for any other beverages. Bring your favorite Mexican appetizer to this south of the border fiesta! Contact hosts Keith and Connie Head at keith.head@sbcglobal.net or 817-921-6721 if you need more information.





While you have your calendar out, mark this date:

Saturday, August 9th, Progressive Dinner (We still need a location for one course, either inside or outside — Contact Allisen Prigel at 817-924-9924 or aaprigel@aol.com)

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# June 2008

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
1	2	3	4	5	6Last day of school for FWISD	7
8	9Urgent gas drilling meeting-City Hall (p.1) 1000 Throckmorton	10	11	12 Daggett meeting (p.4)	13	14
15 <sub>Father's Day</sub>	16 <sub>RPIA meeting</sub>	17 BIG TRASH	18 big trash	19 big trash	20 BIG TRASH	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28 <sub>Marguerita Mad-</sub> ness Party (p.14)
29	30					



- 4: Day of Fun Ryan Run and Parade (p. 6)
- 12: Citizens on Patrol Training (p. 12)
- 18: Newsletter deadline for August issue
- 19: Ryan Place Family Swimming Party and Picnic at Forest Park Pool (p. 12)



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# Joel Burns gets RESULTS in Ryan Place

# A story of uncommon results

The Ryan Place real estate market is HOT. Well-priced quality homes are going under contract *within just a few days of listing*, for \$10 to \$25 per square foot more than comparable Ryan Place home sales *just 6 to 12 months ago* – that is a *huge* shift in a short period of time.

A few weeks ago I called former clients who had previously said that if their Ryan Place house could ever bring a certain amount, they'd consider selling. Even 6 months ago the market was unlikely to support their desired price. But I showed them that "now's the time," and we started making arrangements to market their home.



I then called an agent from a competing brokerage and told her, "I met two of your clients at one of my recent Elizabeth Blvd opens and I'll soon have a Ryan Place listing that I think perfectly fits what they said to be their wants. I would like to get you and them in to preview it."





Text "RYANPLACE" to 33563

**Get Uncommon Results** 

in Ryan Place
Call Joel Burns
817-RESULTS

### Other Active Ryan Place Listings (5/26)

2511 5th	2,429'	3/3	\$359,500
2530 Lipscomb	3,344'	4/3	\$333,421
2425 College	3,704'	4/3	\$318,000
2523 College	2,570'	2/2	\$268,000
2319 5th	2,528'	3/2	\$229,900
2816 Ryan Place	2,025'	4/2	\$194,500
2833 Ryan Place	1,768'	3/2	\$164,500
2804 Willing	1,160'	2/1	\$155,000
2821 Ryan Place	1,426'	3/2	\$115.000