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RPIA Meeting

**Monday, August 15
7 PM**

**St. John's Episcopal Church
2401 College Avenue**

Meeting agenda at
historicryanplace.org,
Discussion Forum

Fort Worth Neighborhood of the Year — 2008

RYAN PLACE

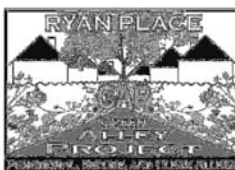
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

NEWSLETTER

August, 2011

www.HistoricRyanPlace.org

Eyes and Ears on the Alleys



by Rick Tucker, Chairman
Green Alley Project

On Wednesday, June 29th, neighborhood residents met to discuss ways to improve the maintenance, security, and use of the six miles of alleys that run through Ryan Place. A representative from the Fort Worth Pilot Mowing Program reported that they had just completed their scheduled maintenance. Alleys that qualify for the City contracted program are those that have no gates on the ends, and that accounts for only about 20% of our alleys.

Alleys are city-owned utility easements and are the responsibility of the homeowners to maintain, similar to the area in the front yard between the sidewalks and the street. Installation of more gates, locks on the existing gates, and solar-powered alley lights were options presented to increase security. A representative from the police department emphasized that clean and clear alleys are a hindrance to criminal activity. Utilizing the alleys as vegetable or flower gardens, dog walks, exercise and children's play areas were possibilities mentioned that could result if neighbors collaborate to make their alleys an asset to their homes. Ultimately it will be the residents from each block who decide what they want their alley to be. Talk with your neighbors — next door, down the street, across the back fence — and let's get started!

Our July 4th Parade was led by a whole herd of Grand Marshals as residents who have lived in Ryan Place for 25 or more years stepped to the fore. And, that was just the beginning as folks from near and far showed up to march, ride, rumble, dance, play, and follow our parade. Thanks



Linda Hill and grandson Cael MacFarlane waiting for the parade.

to everyone — the hundreds of neighbors who came out to wave their flags and celebrate, the mounted FWP officers, Fire Station 10, neighbors who secured the parade route at intersections, Coordinator **Mariann Taccia**, and the whole parade party!

Sustaining Membership Contributions
Give your street a boost — send in your contribution today!

Street	# of Houses	# of Contributions	Participation Rate
College Ave.	43	4	9%
8th Ave.	47	1	2%
Elizabeth	44	11	25%
5th Ave.	96	16	17%
6th Ave.	106	12	11%
Ryan Ave.	138	3	2%
Ryan Place Drive	101	9	9%
So. Adams	75	7	9%
Willing Ave.	121	15	12%
TOTALS	771	78	96%



2011 RPIA Board of Directors

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President	John Kline john.kline90@charter.net	817-922-0732
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2 nd Vice President	Kurt Nielsen kurtryannielsen@aol.com	817-308-6126
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Secretary	Rachel Manning rachelzertuche@earthlink.net	281-799-9049
Asst. Secretary	Lauren Hable lauren.hable@yahoo.com	817-922-8019

Street Directors

5 th Avenue	Katie Shumate katie@shumate.com	682-365-3631
5 th Avenue (Alternate)	Sharyn Peterson shewho824@yahoo.com	817-726-0531
6 th Avenue	Gary Guess gary@theblindsolution.com	972-757-9639
6 th Avenue (Alternate)	(VACANT)	
8 th /James/Stanley	John Belknap johnbelknap@swbell.net	817-927-0355
8 th /James/Stanley (Alternate)	(VACANT)	
Alston/Lipscomb/Page Streets	Derek Arneson derekarneson@hotmail.com	817-938-5007
Alston/Lipscomb/Page Streets (Alternate)	(VACANT)	
College Avenue and Cantey St.	John Filarowicz floorwax12@sbcglobal.net	817-233-5411
College Avenue/Cantey (Alternate)	(VACANT)	
Elizabeth Boulevard	Raul Pena rpena@transystems.com	817-926-9743
Elizabeth Boulevard (Alternate)	Joan Kline joankline@swbell.net	817-923-5287
Ryan Avenue	Rick Tucker Tucker.rick@sbcglobal.net	817-927-0197
Ryan Avenue (Alternate)	(VACANT)	
Ryan Place Drive	Lin Parham rap32dds@aol.com	817-921-4027
Ryan Place Drive (Alternate)	Josh Lambert Josh@BuyFWTX.com	817-456-9613
South Adams Street	Chris Ebert cwebert@hotmail.com	817-926-2366 817-319-2363
South Adams Street (Alternate)	Marina Castillo followdamoney@hotmail.com	817-926-2243
Willing Avenue	Mike Lindner george.lindner@dfps.state.tx.us	817-924-2485
Willing Avenue (Alternate)	(VACANT)	

The RPIA NEWSLETTER is delivered each month (except January and July) to every home in Ryan Place. The NEWSLETTER is typically hung on your front door handle. If you do not receive a NEWSLETTER, please call **Olivia Flynn**, at **817-927-0075**, or any RPIA officer or street director so that we may get a copy to you. The NEWSLETTER is also posted online at <http://www.historicryanplace.org>

RPIA NEWSLETTER

Advertising Rates

One issue free when you prepay for a year / ten issues. Prices (per issue) are:

Full Page: \$100	(8.5 x 11 inches)
Half Page: \$65	(8.5 x 5.5 inches)
1/4 Page: \$45	(4.25 x 5.5 inches)
Business card: \$25	(3.5 x 2 inches)

Ads must be paid for in advance of printing.

General Manager: Olivia Flynn

rpianewsletter@yahoo.com — 817-927-0075

NEWSLETTER submission deadline:

SEPTEMBER NEWSLETTER

Friday, August 19

*Be informed every day; register with
Ryan Place Communications*

For Ryan Place e-mails, go to
HistoricRyanPlace.org



<http://www.facebook.com/group.php?gid=128874162910>

*Use the Facebook page for:
Lost and Found / Lost Pets
Buy / Sell / Business Services
Event Notices / Crime Watch*

RYAN PLACE, A GIVING COMMUNITY

Donations collected at neighborhood events
benefit Presbyterian Night Shelter and Tarrant
Area Food Bank



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Fort Worth Police Dept. (non-emergency)	817-335-4222
NPO 8 on Magnolia	817-871-8885
Officer Stary	817-871-8885 (office) 817-944-1316 (cell)
Code Compliance	817-269-6225
Code Officer Oscar Reyes	817-879-4230 oscar.reyes@fortworthgov.org
Animal Control	817-994-4208
Graffiti Abatement	817-212-2700
Streetlight Outages	817-392-7595

WELCOME

to the
Neighborhood!



Our neighborhood has had considerable turnover in the last few months. At the first of July, **Jason** and **Ann Klas** and their two daughters, **Madeline** and **Natalie**, moved into the 2300 block of Ryan Avenue. That same weekend, **Jay** and **Anne Menninger** and their son, **Matt**, took up residence in the 2800 block of 5th Avenue. Both families moved here from other Fort Worth neighborhoods; we're glad you made Ryan Place your new home!

If you have a new neighbor or have recently moved here, please let us know! Contact the NEWSLETTER (see page 2) with your information, please.

After several years of faithful service, **June Lake** is passing the baton on to another welcoming person — is it you? We so appreciate June's contributions and will miss her ready smile and warm welcome to newcomers. To learn more about this volunteer opportunity, call or e-mail the NEWSLETTER (see page 2).



Eleven-year-old **Asa Ribail** approached his Street Director, **Chris Ebert**, a couple of weeks ago. Asa is looking for ways to earn money around the neighborhood. If you have any odd jobs that this willing-to-work young man could do, let Chris know (see page 2) and he will pass the information on to Asa.

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by Mariann Taccia, Committee Chairman

PID Committee member **Raul Pena** presented a summary of interviews with security companies to the RPIA Board in June. In the interest of providing concrete information to Ryan Place property owners who may approve the proposed PID, the Board selected **Texas Industrial Security Company** (TIS) for its proposed security service. TIS is locally owned, has been in business for thirteen years, and has experience in private neighborhood security patrol.

If the proposed PID is approved by Ryan Place property owners, the assessment would be approximately \$182 per year (\$15.14/month, 50¢/day) per property owner. Residential security patrol service would include:

- 16 hours/day, 7 days/week, unarmed officer residential mobile security patrol coverage throughout neighborhood boundaries.
- Inspecting property if alarm sounds, providing vacation patrol checks, and escorting to entry of property as requested by property owner. TIS dispatch is available 24/7 via phone and has field supervisors in Fort Worth 24/7, as well.
- Alerting police of suspicious activities and for neighborhood security alerts.
- Working closely with our NPO on any current activities and presenting reports at neighborhood meetings.

To have a voice in this program and to sign the petition, be sure to attend one of the two informational meetings (listed below) scheduled for your street.

Property Owner's Meetings

WHO: ALL Ryan Place residents. This is your time to ask questions and register your position.

WHERE: St. John's Episcopal Church, in Mitchell Hall, 2401 College Ave.

WHEN: 7 pm on the following dates:

STREETS	MEETING SCHEDULE
Lipscomb, Alston, College	Tues., 8/9 or Thurs., 9/15
South Adams	Thurs., 8/11 or Tues., 9/13
Ryan Place Drive	Tues., 8/16 or Thurs., 9/22
5th Avenue	Thurs., 8/18 or Tues., 9/20
6th Avenue	Tues., 8/23 or Thurs., 10/6
Willing Avenue	Thurs., 8/25 or Tues., 10/4
Ryan Avenue	Wed., 9/7 or Thurs., 10/13
8th, James, Stanley, Jes-samine, Page, Elizabeth, Capps, Cantey, Lowden	Thurs., 9/8 or Tues., 10/11



RPIA President's Letter

Although the RPIA Board did not meet during July, several projects have kept moving along the implementation time-line. The next few months should be an exciting time for Ryan Place! Many of our projects started as early as 2004 are coming to fruition thanks to the persistence of our volunteers. Many residents have stated their belief that more tax dollars will be invested in Ryan Place over the next year than in any time since John Ryan founded the neighborhood a hundred years ago.

First, in conjunction with the Green Alley Project (GAP), we have initiated the recruitment of Block Captains to help facilitate communication and neighborliness. The Block Captains offer a new type of participation and leadership, a vital link to involvement at the neighbor-to-neighbor level. We are looking forward to fresh ideas and creative energy from this new program.

In July, The Fort Worth City Council ap-

proved the construction contract for the Neighborhood Traffic Management Program (NTMP). The construction is estimated to begin in September and be completed in December of 2011. This element of the project includes the traffic circles on Elizabeth Blvd. and the intersection improvements at 5th Ave. and Ryan Place Dr. and at James at Cleburne Rd. The chicanes on Cantey are estimated to be completed in November of 2011.

The Quiet Zone, new water lines, sanitary sewer, and ten blocks of new streets are in the works. Stay tuned for more details.

Thank you for all your support and a warm welcome to all the new volunteers; you are what make this neighborhood a great place to live!

Sincerely,

John Kline

President

Ryan Place Improvement Association



Ryan Place

Labor Day Garage Sale

Saturday, September 3rd

and

Sunday, September 4th

To list your address in the Star-Telegram ad, drop off or mail your check (payable to

RPIA) for \$10 to 1315 Elizabeth Blvd. Please place your payment in the plastic box on the side covered porch by the driveway, not in the mailbox.

Dead line — August 15th

Include your name, address, and phone number with your payment.



If you are registered to receive neighborhood information e-mails and your e-mail address has changed, please update your address. Go to HistoricRyan-Place.org and enter the registered e-mail address, then follow the instructions. It's that simple!

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Your envelope is here and it's all addressed! Take a minute NOW and write your check to sustain our neighborhood events, activities, and improvements. Do your part to keep Ryan Place ahead of the rest!

2011 Sustaining Members

(Names in bold print have contributed since the last NEWSLETTER.)

PATRON

Fred and Petra Anderberg
Goah and Marjorie Barnes
Joel Burns and J.D. Angle
Chris and Shannon Canard
Linda Clark
David deVlaming
Susan and Tommy Drake
Rick and Rene Harding
K.T. and Francisco Hernandez
Joan Kline
Leanne and John Kline
Ron and Margaret Livesay
Lisa and Shannon Logan
Jim and Kitty Loveless
Gary and Shirley Nichols
Lin and Randy Parham
David and Susan Parrish
Glenn and Patricia Polenz
Kevin and Allisen Prigel
Dr. and Mrs. Turner Slich

FRIEND

Ken and Deb Armstrong
Kipp and Bonnie Baker

Sandra Boren
Bart and Nancy Bradford
Wayne and Donna Darner
Michael and Olivia Flynn
Michael and Courtney Gilson
Janie and Rush Hart
Carol and Robert King
Lou and Barbara Lucignani
Kurt Nielsen
Raul and Lisa Pena
Peter and Mary Schroder
Charles and Pam Tynan
Ross and Julie Vitek
Ellen Warthoe and Blake Hardy
Evelyn and Elzie Wilson

NEIGHBOR

Cortney Asberry
John and Cindy Belknap
Amy and Don Burch
Allan and Sue Butcher
Todd Davis
Mary Jane and Mark Debenport
Ignacio Del Toro
Margaret and Duran Doak
Randy and Rainey Dukes
Eddie Dunn
Chris and Mary Beth Ebert
Mary Edwards
John and Sara Filarowicz

Steve and Debra Flanagan
Paul and Holly Garrett
Paul and Lauren Hable
Sally Harger
Jeffrey and Pam Hayes
Lorraine Higgins
Garry and Pam Hill
Theodore and Paloma Homan
Ron and Debra Hughes
James and Anita Hunt
John and Kay Ivey
Jason and Ann Klas
Bill and Susan Longworth
Mike Lindner
Diane McCusker
Melanie and John MacFarlane
Ben and Abbi Miller
Jerry and Becky Moody
Conrad and Ashley Netting
Mary Richardson
Dale Riddle
Brian and Lydia Smith
Mariann and Robert Taccia
Rick Tucker
James and Margie Upshaw
Miguel and Marilyn Vivar
Carson and Beverly Watkins
Lisa Wilson

WILL WE MAKE IT?

Our goal is to raise **\$15,000** through neighborhood contributions for annual budgeted expenses.

\$15,000

\$14,500 —

\$14,000 —

\$13,000 —

\$12,500 —

\$12,000 —

\$11,500 —

\$11,000 —

\$10,500 —

\$10,000 —

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\$ 2,500 —

\$ 2,000 —

\$ 1,500 —

\$ 1,000 —

\$ 500 —

-0-

\$6,789.

Become a 2011 Sustaining Member of RPIA

Your neighborhood needs YOU! Your contribution of \$35 or more will help fund improvements in Ryan Place in 2011. We also need your participation — pitching in to help with our events and projects as well as attending and having a good time. In 2010, almost 150 of the (approximately) 850 residences in Ryan Place were Sustaining Members. Send in your check to RPIA today and let's see what we can do together.

If every household in Ryan Place contributed at the minimum level of \$35., we would collect over \$28,000 for the Ryan Place treasury! Please mail your form and contribution in TODAY!

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____ E-Mail _____

Amount _____

Please contact me to help with (circle any / all):

Parties _____ Outdoor projects _____ Events _____ Other _____

Mail to: RPIA
P.O. Box 11122
Fort Worth, TX
76110

Ryan Place
beautification, events, and
monthly NEWSLETTERS are
only possible through con-
tributions. You are invited
to become a Sustaining
Member of RPIA at any
level:

Patron (\$35-74)
Friend (\$75-150)
Neighbor (\$151 +)



Christopher Ebert

and the Number One Snow Cone is . . .

This summer the grandchildren and I began our search for the best snow cone in Fort Worth, probably Tarrant County is more accurate since we have found snow cone stands in Fort Worth, Sansom Park, Lake Worth, and Saginaw. The snow cone has many distinct qualities that we plan to evaluate: size, flavor, ice texture, presentation and price. Snow cone stands also have qualities that impact the snow cone experience: location, service, and customer amenities.

I know what you are thinking: Doesn't this guy have more important things to do? Actually, no. With the state of what passes for political discourse in Washington as they are unable to take the first steps to solve America's financial problems? With the City of Fort Worth unable to provide one public swimming pool while having five municipal golf courses in operation? What could be better than spending time with your family enjoying a cold treat during our very hot summer?

Closest – *Delightful Hawaiian Ice*, inside Fiesta on 8th Ave.

Best Ice Texture – *Riverside Ice House*, Riverside Dr. between E. 1st and E. 4th Streets.

Best Customer Amenities – Picnic tables at *Snow Ball Corral*, N. Main near LaGrave Field.

Most Unusual Flavor – Tiger Blood, *Delightful Hawaiian Ice*.

Most Expensive – Snow cones at the FW Cats game (Think about it. Parking, tickets to the game, Kincaid's Hamburgers, cold beverages, THEN snow cones in the 5th inning).

As the RPIA NEWSLETTER deadline approaches, the summer is

half over and we have identified six more snow cone stands to sample! A final report will be available in the September NEWS-LETTER.

As difficult as it is to determine the #1 snow cone, so it must be really hard to determine today's number one song in our age of personal electronic entertainment/communication devices, satellite radio, and personal play lists.

In the July 17th *New York Times Magazine*, Bob Walker wrote an article about popular music – specifically, which song is "number one" in the nation. It seems, unlike 30-40 years ago, that there isn't any agreement about the method to determine the number one song much less which song IS number one. Does this mean that no longer will the number one song in America be included in birthday cards with the events of the week you were born?

According to *Billboard* magazine, these are August's #1 songs:

50 years ago, 1961, "Tossin' 'n' Turnin'" by Bobby Lewis

40 years ago, 1971, "How Can You Mend a Broken Heart" by The BeeGees

30 years ago, 1981, "Endless Love" by Diana Ross and Lionel Richie

The day I was born: "You Always Hurt the One You Love" by The Mills Brothers

The Mills Brothers. Now that makes me seem much older than I thought I was.

Stay cool and happy snow cone hunting!



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Keeping Your Home Secure

Remember "target hardening" — a term used in law enforcement that refers to better protecting or "hardening" the targets at which criminals take aim, which include you and your property.

First, let's review securing and protecting your home. You may want to take a look at (do a security survey) your home during the day and also at night; it will look very different to you -- and to criminals -- during the daytime and at night. And, you will find different security weaknesses during both times.

Make notes of what you see from all sides of your home. For instance, can you see in through the windows and what do you see inside? Are there obvious potential hiding spots for criminals around your home? What can you see from the street or alley? During a nighttime security survey you will also want to pay attention to lighting around the house perimeter.

Some things that you can do to "harden" the home "target" are:

1. Install/maintain lighting around your home and property.
2. Keep all shrubs trimmed low (not covering windows).
3. Keep trees trimmed high.
4. Secure all exterior doors and windows with deadbolts and other security devices.
5. Keep property well lit at night
6. Have an active alarm system and use it
7. Don't leave garages/outbuildings open or unsecured.
8. Don't leave curtains/blinds open when you are not able to monitor a particular side of your home.
9. Place expensive items (TV, laptop, etc.) in areas that are difficult to see from windows or doors.
10. If you have a dog and it is barking, PAY ATTENTION.
11. Use only trusted contractors and lawn care specialists.
12. Limit access to the interior of your home to trusted persons

There are probably a million more things that we could add to this list, but I think you are getting the picture now. Please contact me if you want help and I would be happy to complete a survey with you. Next month we will discuss what you can do to "harden" the vehicle "target". Until next time, please remember to be safe today and safer tomorrow.

Joel Stary, Neighborhood Patrol Officer

Central Division C31

c: 817.944.1316

o: 817.392.3610



DO IT NOW!!

*Send in your check to the
RPIA Sustaining
Membership Fund!*



The Latest, Greatest Big Idea

As the Green Alley Project Committee was considering how to get Ryan Place motivated and mobilized to support alley reclamation, a bigger and better operation was launched. There are over 800 residences in ten street "units" in the neighborhood, each with one representative, a Street Director. That means each Street Director is responsible to an average of 80 houses — small wonder most people don't know their Street Director!

The answer was simple: smaller units. So-o-o, in conjunction with the GAP, Block Captains are (finally!) being recruited.

The duties of the Block Captains are few:

- ♦ Help their Street Director distribute door-to-door to their block as needed — usually two or three times a year.
- ♦ Welcome new residents and let the Street Director know about them.
- ♦ Coordinate the GAP.

Block Captains have been recruited for Willing and 6th Avenues and more are being added daily. Some are "old-timers;" many are "new" to the neighborhood and eager to pitch in and get involved with their neighbors. These new recruits are being encouraged to find a person across the street from them to help, which will also facilitate alley management.

Block Captains have been promised that there will not be meetings to attend and that the alley clean-up will be planned and publicized to involve all able bodies — Block Captains are coordinators of the GAP — not an alley maintenance crew!

If being a Block Captain appeals to you, contact the Newsletter, rpianewsletter@yahoo.com. If your block is still open, the job is yours!



28th Annual A Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place Holiday Home Tour

We are pleased to announce that this year's tour homes are confirmed. Our appreciation goes to these homeowners:

Katherine Campos
Elizabeth Boulevard

Gary & Terry West
5th Avenue

Pattie Bennett
Ryan Avenue

Lance & Stacy Buky
College Avenue

Brandon & Alissa Allen
6th Avenue

We are still seeking homes to host the Soiree and the Wine Down as well as volunteers to docent at the tour homes. If you are interested in hosting or being a docent please contact Mariann Taccia at 817-921-9976 or mariannmt@sbcglobal.net.

Ryan Run Review



With fewer than usual entrants (about 90 runners and walkers) we had a good race nonetheless. Thanks to our generous sponsors: **All Saints Baylor Sportswear, Central Market, Camp Gladiator, Old Home Supply, 5 Star Landscape, Cafe Chadra, Dr. Randy Parham, Fiesta, Greg French Allstate, and the Papa family.** Our wonderful volunteers and three terrific police officers made sure all was safe. As always, we had great support from **Sportswear Graphics** and **Texas Printing**. Many thanks to all for another memorable Ryan Run!

Gina Roberts



Based on the requirements and implications of the City's new event ordinance, traffic was not blocked on Elizabeth Blvd. last year. In the interest of safety and family fun, we are planning to observe Halloween in Ryan Place for our neighborhood children on **Saturday, October 29th**. If you have children that trick-or-treat and/or would be available to help, contact **Mariann Taccia**, mariannmt@sbcglobal.net, or 817-921-9976, to volunteer.



RPIA LONG RANGE IMPROVEMENT PLAN

The Planning Process

This is the first of a series of articles dealing with the preparation of a Long Range Improvement plan for the Ryan Place Improvement Association.

In the professional world of planning there is not a standard procedure for the preparation of a neighborhood plan; there are only vague guidelines formulated on the unique physical, social, and economic make-up of each neighborhood. In general the process to be used by the RPIA Planning Committee will follow the guidelines outlined below:

I. PREPARATION TO PLAN

A. Information collection, quantification, and analysis.

*(A great deal of this effort was completed in 2004 and reported in a document entitled, **RPIA An Opportunity and Constraints Study.**)*

B. Issues – Identification of the various issues/problems impacting the neighborhood now and in the future.

II. STAKEHOLDER INVOLVEMENT – Any plan that guides the improvement of the neighborhood must be actively directed by the area's property owners.

A. Planning Committee – A Board of Directors appointed committee to represent the neighborhood in the formulation of plan proposals and decisions.

B. Focus Groups – Several 5 to 8 person groups will be asked to review various proposals and plans and to provide their input throughout the planning period.

C. Membership Approval – Only after the total membership of the RPIA has been informed and had an opportunity to discuss every aspect of the Improvement Plan recommendations will it be adopted by the Board of Directors.

III. VISION and GOALS

A. What do you want your neighborhood to look like and to become in the future? The stakeholders will be asked to provide their "Vision" of the neighborhood. This vision statement will serve as the basic guide for decision making.

B. Specific goals, with priorities, many with timetables, will be developed from the vision statement and the issues identification process.

IV. INTERIM REPORTING – Keeping the neighborhood abreast of plan progress, findings, conclusions and recommendations is essential to developing an acceptable Long Range Improvement Plan for the neighborhood. Reports will be given and an open forum will be held at various monthly RPIA membership meetings.

V. FINAL REPORT – Each focus group meeting, each planning committee meeting and each interim report meeting will cause the plan to be altered or adjusted. Therefore, presentation of the final plan will be to the planning committee, Board of Directors, and general membership.

VI. IMPLEMENTATION PROCESS – One of the major tasks of the RPIA Long Range Improvement Plan is to establish both general and specific strategies leading to implementation of recommended facilities and elements.

To assist in any of the above aspects of the preparation of the Improvement Plan, please contact:

BART BRADFORD
817-926-6777

bartbradford33@yahoo.com

or

JOHN KLINE, President, RPIA
817-991-6803

john.kline90@charter.net

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Yard-of-the-Month: 1300 block of Elizabeth Blvd.

by Sharyn Peterson

The Taccia home, a gracious mansion on Elizabeth Blvd. is the epitome of COOL.....that is, GREEN. And at this time of the year when the triple digits have dogged us for over 30 days, anything Green is appealing. The entire setting is one of an oasis, a cool respite for all to see. Just driving by lowers our internal temperature. The landscaping encompasses every shade of green with all manner of hedgerow, bushes, trees, and shrubs. Unusual because no color is present in flower beds, urns or hanging plants, yet the picture is exquisitely complete. Oh yes, and don't forget to pray for RAIN!



From Calloway's Nursery

Timely Tips for August Gardeners



Many gardeners are looking for ways to get the most out of gardening and landscape enjoyment while preserving and protecting our environment. Using an organic approach is simply working with nature to improve the health of the soil. Healthy soil produces healthy plants; healthy plants produce healthy animals and people!

It all begins with the soil. **Organic matter** is important to the soil composition. It aids with drainage and helps increase the soil microbe population. **Expanded shale** is also used to break up hard, compacted clay soils. **Calloway's Organic Fertilizer** contains seven food-grade meals and can be applied to your lawn and other plantings. Top dress your flowerbeds and containers with our **organic mulches**. They not only break down slowly putting organic material back into the soil, but they also prevent weeds, conserve moisture, and cool the soil during our hot Texas summers.

For organic solutions, help keep harmful pests in control by using these products. **Diatomaceous Earth** (D.E.) is a finely ground powder containing skeletal remains of microscopic organisms. D.E. is a natural control for chinch bugs, fire ants, fleas, roaches, slugs, snails and silverfish. **Bacillus thuringiensis** (Bt) is a beneficial bacteria used to kill cabbage loopers and other caterpillars. **Neem oil** is an organic pest control solution which will not harm beneficial insects such as bees and ladybugs. Your vegetable garden and fruit trees can be sprayed right up until the day of harvest. These are all products which are safe to use around pets and children.

Visit www.calloways.com for more gardening tips, information, and to become a member of our Garden Club! Also, stop by any of our garden centers and visit with a Texas Certified Nursery Professional. Success in the garden is made fun and easy at Calloway's Nursery!



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Continued Changes to the City's Event Ordinance

by Mariann Taccia

Remember last year when the city adopted a new "event ordinance" that placed onerous restrictions on neighborhood events? Due to public outcry from neighborhood residents all over Fort Worth, drastic changes were made before the ordinance was adopted.

Ever compliant, we checked the appropriate guidelines for our July 4th parade this year; the instructions were, "A petition with residents' signatures granting permission are required...." Our faithful RPIA Street Directors walked their streets to obtain the required 240+ signatures. The parade application, with signed petitions, were submitted to the City for the permit – then City staff responded that "signatures are not required for parades because we realize that it would require too many residents to sign." When we directed them to their guidelines that clearly state the requirement, the City backed off and the guidelines will, again, be changed so that no petitions are required.

The event ordinance has added tedious regulations and financial burden to our neighborhood events. During the recent mayoral campaign, candidates promised that they would repeal the event ordinance. It's probably time to remind our new mayor of her promise; e-mail the mayor at Mayor@fortworthgov.org and request that she remove neighborhood events from the event ordinance so that Fort Worth neighborhoods can return to our traditions.



Real Estate Corner

by Judy Holland

Will return in September!

Historic Overlay Committee Report

by Katie Shumate

Based on feedback to date, the Historic Overlay Committee is taking a step back to gauge neighborhood opinion before moving forward with a neighborhood vote. In the next month, we will be sending a survey out to everyone who is signed up on the RPIA website mailing list. If you're not on the list already, go to www.historicryanplace.org to sign up!

Based on the results of this survey, the committee will develop options for the neighborhood to vote on. One option will be the current Proposed Ryan Place Historic Overlay Guidelines, available on the city's website at

<http://www.fortworthgov.org/planninganddevelopment/design.aspx?id=21358>.

For a paper copy of the survey or to comment or make suggestions, please contact Committee Chairman, **Katie Shumate** at katie@shumate.com or 682-365-3631.

We look forward to hearing from you!



New Council District Boundaries Coming

Fort Worth has experienced tremendous population growth over the past decade. Although there was growth in all of Fort Worth's City Council Districts, some grew faster than others. As a result, the population of our districts is no longer balanced—our smallest district has a population of 66,919 while our largest district has a population of 152,478. In the coming months, the City will redraw our City Council District boundaries. We are excited to be able to partner with residents and community groups in this effort. New technology will make it possible for you to create district maps and share them electronically with other community members and with the City.

In August, we will kick off a series of public meetings to discuss the criteria for new district boundaries, receive public comments about the number of council districts Fort Worth should have, and show residents how to use the computer software. The meetings are all scheduled for 6:30 pm as follows:

- Monday, 8/8, Blue Haze Elementary, 601 Blue Haze Dr.
- Monday, 8/15, TCC Opportunity Center, 5901 Fitzhugh Ave.
- Wednesday, 8/17, Southwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Riley Center, 1701 W. Boyce Ave.
- Monday, 8/22, Meadowbrook United Methodist Church, 3900 Meadowbrook Dr.
- Tuesday, 8/23, Highland Hills Community Center, 1600 Glasgow Rd.
- Thursday, 8/25, Rose Marine Theater Gallery, 1440 N. Main St.

Please visit the City's redistricting website, www.fortworthgov.org/redistricting to learn more.

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Trucks and Trains are at it — again

Railroad tracks sandwich Ryan Place on the east and west perimeters. Implementing the Quiet Zone on the East side will reduce some of the nuisance by eliminating train horns at crossings. Unlike the train horns, though, excessive noise from the tracks along 8th Avenue affects a smaller, though significant, part of the neighborhood and is proving more difficult to manage.

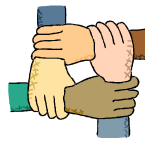
Long-time residents **Shannon** and **Lisa Logan** and **Deborah Martinez** offer the following report:

The quantity of tracks in the rail yard along 8th Avenue has grown and become increasingly active in the last three to four years. The most intrusive result of the activity has been noise from off-loading the railcars onto trucks, producing a sound like a large vacuum cleaner running for hours – and that's inside the house, making such activities as normal conversation and telephone calls impossible. Outside, they report, the noise is often intolerable.

Efforts have been made to work with A&R, the offending trucking company. Last year RPIA leaders and Councilman **Joel Burns** met with company officials, who obtained concessions from A&R, e.g. limiting off-loading to 7 am to 5 pm, mufflers to mute the sound, etc. For a while, the limits and modifications were helpful, but soon the truckers apparently returned to their previous uninhibited, loud practices. Currently, A&R has an on-site manager, **Jeff Sadler**, who responds to complaints by telephone (**817-922-0000**), but only during weekdays from 9-5, and the noise often occurs after those hours and on Saturdays.

Another related issue involves the eighteen-wheelers creating dangerous conditions and obstructing traffic as they enter and leave the rail yard via 8th Avenue, damaging the roadway. Some of the trucks then illegally pass through Ryan Place on Elizabeth Blvd. Residents near the site state that the unremitting noise levels have reduced their property values. Deborah Martinez noted that she has observed open-windowed, radio-blasting drivers pull up at the light at 8th and Elizabeth and attempt to raise the volume of their radios above the assault of off-loading noise.

Residents are urged to call the on-site manager with truck license numbers and to report intolerable noise from the rail yard.



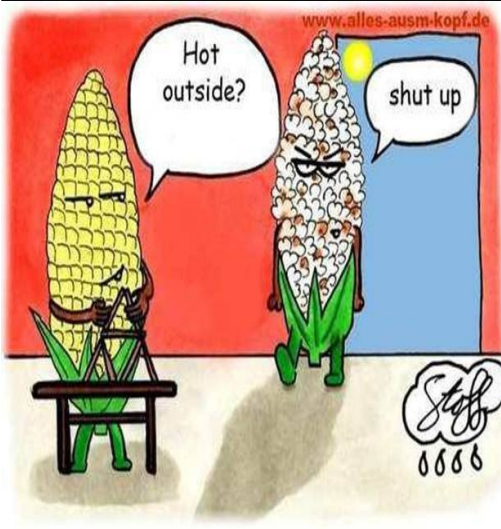
Ross King

From the Heights . . .

This week marks the end of space launches by NASA. At the same time, the TCU student who lived in our garage apartment here in the Heights of Ryan Place (College Avenue) is about to get married, launching his own adventure. He says he wants to live in a neighborhood like Ryan Place, where he sees people walking on sidewalks and playing at Daggett School Park.

So what's happening at the Park? On a recent Tuesday evening there were 39 people in the park at 8:30 pm. Adults were walking the track. A half dozen 7th grade girls were hanging on the parallel bars whispering and giggling, watched by several boys clowning by the fence. The real interest was at the basketball goal, where twelve people — aged maybe 13 to 25, various colors, both sexes, various heights — were having a real, live, two team basketball game. Two of the women shooters must have been mothers, because a couple of times youngsters from the swings and slides squalled and ran over to the basketball court for some sympathy. Two-minute time out from basketball. Our two teen boys from College Avenue were really good players — fast, energetic, and accurate — and our ten-year-old girl was almost as good. They fit right in. A blond, young teen boy came pedaling up to the game; one of the Spanish speaking older women watching from the side called her son over to give him a suggestion. He delivered the suggestion in English to one of the boys in the game, who then gave up his place in the game for a few minutes to the blond newcomer. Now, that is teamwork of a high order. That's what makes a neighborhood work. It's also what makes children grow into healthy active citizens, what makes lovers eventually become loving and supportive parents, and what makes fear and alienation shift into cooperation and recreation.

I hope that our about-to-get-married friend learns that it's the long-term support, guidance, and examples from other, often older, adults in a neighborhood like Ryan Place that helps marriages to survive and children to thrive. He already knows that it's a good idea to have Braum's ice cream store in walking distance.



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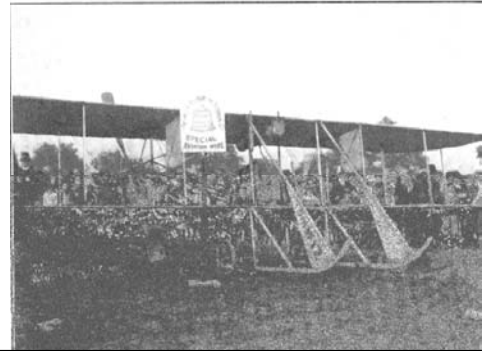
Save the date . . .



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 15TH

4 PM — 10 PM

TRIANGLE PARK



Ryan Place Chili Cook-Off

We learned a lesson last year when other events took a toll on the turn out for our Chili Cook-off. This year we reviewed TCU's football schedule and the Art Goggle's timing to make sure that we are not competing for the same evening with either of them.

On Saturday, October 15, the Chili Cook-off will begin at 4 pm; judging starts at 5 pm; the Vin Fiz Centennial Commemoration at 6 o'clock; and the Band will start playing at 6:30 pm.

Contestants — Please have your chili cooked when you arrive. Tables and electrical supply provided; you provide plastic utensils and bowls, and extension cords. Table decorations are optional. Event sponsors will furnish gift baskets for winners.

Contact **Mariann Taccia**, 817-921-9976, or marianmt@sbcglobal.net to help with this event.

Vin Fiz Centennial

It's time to think beyond the heat and focus on fall events!

This year will mark the centennial anniversary of the landing of the Vin Fiz in Ryan place on October 17, 1911. Not only will Ryan Place be celebrating, but also Fort Worth as aviation history was made with this first transcontinental crossing. The Fort Worth Air & Space Museum Foundation, North Texas Aviation Centennial, and the City of Fort Worth will collaborate with Ryan Place to commemorate this milestone. Since October 17th falls on a Monday, we will celebrate the centennial on Saturday, October 15th.

Watch for more details about the event in the September NEWSLETTER— contact **Mariann Taccia**, marianmt@sbcglobal.net, or 817-921-9976, to help with this occasion.



Recipe for Old- Fashioned Fun

Back in June, when we only had double digit temperatures in the afternoons, a block party took place on Willing Ave. It seems that two families who had just moved into the neighborhood wanted to meet their neighbors. So, being that they were next door neighbors to each other, they decided to use the driveway between the two houses as the gathering spot for everyone.

The families created an invitation and then put them on the door handles of several of the houses on their block. They announced that they would have the BBQ grill going and would provide hot dogs and hamburgers. Neighbors were asked to bring drinks and whatever would be fitting for a get-together.

Many people came, and all brought food and drink. Everyone had a name tag, and discussions focused on what folks had done to improve their home. Some families had been in the neighborhood as long as thirty years; many were fairly new to the "hood". We kept hearing how glad people were to have found Ryan Place and what fun it was to live here, improve their home, and get to meet such nice neighbors.

Moral of the story: If you would like to have a block party on your street, it only takes an invitation to your neighbors and you will enjoy a very pleasant evening.

-Larry Borne

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In 1996, the Berry Street Initiative envisioned its ambitious transformation of our southern border. In its prime, Berry Street was a thriving business area with a major department store, busy strip centers, stately churches, large and small specialty shops, a cafeteria, services, and offices. As the suburbs built outward, the commerce moved with it, and Berry Street declined, and then began to deteriorate.

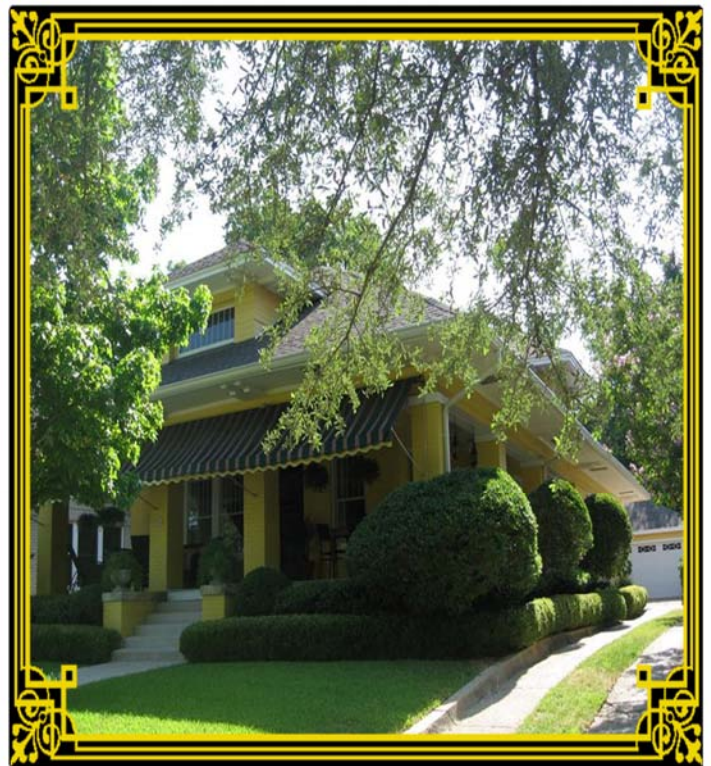
The Berry Street Initiative is part of the Berry-University Urban Village, of which there are sixteen in Fort Worth. Urban Villages are small geographic areas (usually one square mile) that are zoned for dense, multiple-use development that is mass-transit and pedestrian friendly.

We often liken Ryan Place to a small town – add parks, business, entertainment, and stores that are within walking distance, and you get the vision. The “new” is intended and designed to “match” the ambiance of the area surrounding the Village. A “city” within a city.

Several Ryan Place residents were present when **City Councilman Joel Burns** opened the West Berry Town Hall meeting on June 21 and recognized presidents of nine local neighborhood associations in attendance. After a comprehensive overview, the meeting shifted its focus. Various aspects of the project were high-lighted in different areas of the meeting room with City staff at each location to discuss and answer questions. Specialized areas included the Transit-Oriented Development (TOD), Storm water, Texas Rail Corridor, and others.

Mixed-use zoning and a new designation — Form-Based Codes — were explained. The “zoning” process labels an area for a certain use, and “forms” accommodate to that use. Form-based codes, on the other hand, consider the form of the physical environment of an area, then designate the area for use that accommodates and enhances the existing physical environment. Nearby neighborhoods have a voice in the form-based code model, which promotes desirable changes for the community rather than zoning standards.

Plans for the Texas Rail Corridor and Transit-Oriented Development are posted on The T’s website and the master plan for the Berry-University Urban Village is on the City of Fort Worth website.



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*Neighbors **Ross and Carol King and Chris Ebert** took on the job of riding their bikes from intersection to intersection during the July 4th Parade, blocking traffic while the parade passed. After the parade, Carol whipped out her pocket pruners to dead-head the gate rose bushes. Thanks, Neighbors!*

Why stand in line to pay fines at Municipal Court when you can do it without ever getting out of your car?

A drive-thru window is one feature at the 30,000-square foot facility that is housed in the former Southwest Bank building at I-20 and Trail Lake Drive. It features both a walk-in court (Courtroom No. 8) and an environmental court (Courtroom No. 9), as well as the drive-thru payment window, cashier facilities for court payments, and a payment drop box.

The new location also has a number of technology upgrades as well as free parking, and has cashiers and a drop box for water bill payments and will serve as a field office for Code Compliance.

The building will be open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday-Friday and for court drive-thru payments only 8 a.m. to noon on Saturdays.

(From City of Fort Worth e-mail subscription.)

August 2011

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1	2	3 Trash	4	5	6
7	8	9	10 Trash	11	12	13
14	15 RPIA Meeting St. John's Episcopal Church — 7 pm BIG TRASH	16 BIG TRASH	17 BIG TRASH	18 BIG TRASH	19 BIG TRASH	20
21	22	23	24 Trash	25	26	27
28	29	30	31 Trash			



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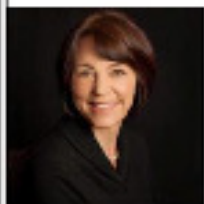
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