

Ryan Place Newsletter

December 2014

<http://www.ryanplacefortworth.com/>

President's Letter



Cade Lovelace

Our neighborhood has the unique ability to continue the traditions that set us apart, while growing those traditions to keep them exciting, engaging and worthwhile. The end of 2014 produced two more examples of this skill. The Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place Home Tour begins the first weekend of this month and has many exciting additions. Also, the residents of Ryan Place elected a new board under a new set of bylaws that includes many new directorships that should more directly serve our community.

First, this year's Candlelight Christmas in Ryan Place Home Tour concentrates on the homes built by Wiley G. Clarkson and is evolving with new events. A new progressive dinner, a new breakfast and pictures with Santa and new times for the tour are all planned. Visit our webpage, ryanplacefortworth.com, for more information and tickets.

Second, the residents met on November 17 to elect a new Ryan Place Improvement Association Board pursuant to new bylaws. Under these new bylaws, all individuals who live in Ryan Place can elect their representatives, a change from the previous bylaws. The new board includes many members who were reelected to their previous positions, but it also includes several new members of the board, such as me. The new board's contact information is included in this newsletter. Please use that information if you have any questions.

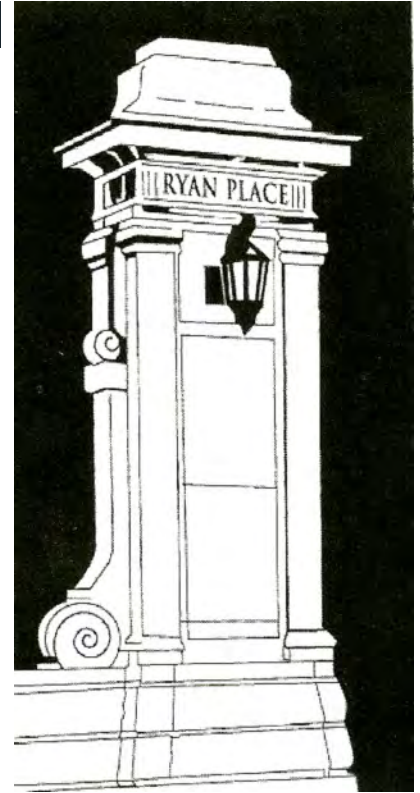
Because this is my first President's Letter, let me also introduce myself. My wife, my daughter, and I live at 2316 5th Avenue. I am a graduate of Texas Christian University. I met my wife, Jennifer, in law school at Texas Tech and we both practice with our law firm, Lovelace Killen, PLLC in Fort Worth. My daughter, Embrey, was born in December 2010 and she attends preschool at First United Methodist Church. We consider moving into this neighborhood one of the best decisions that we have made and hope to add to the neighborhood's community.

Our neighborhood has a long tradition of coming together to do great things. We need now each of you to participate in our organization. We have new directors that need help with their responsibilities. We have longtime residents that want to pass their histories and traditions to newly active residents.

Our responsibility to our community is to continue the great RPIA tradition, and contribute our own verses to its history.

A new meeting of the community, called a general membership meeting, will take place in late winter or early spring. Please look for the details in the newsletters or emails. There is also a board meeting scheduled for January 17th that is open to the public. I look forward to seeing you.

Happy Holidays,
Cade Lovelace



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**Ryan Place Improvement
Association Meeting
Monday, January 19, 2015 at 7 PM
At St. John's Mitchell Hall**

2015 RPIA Board of Directors

OFFICERS

President	Cade Lovelace	clovelace@lovelacekillen.com	817-681-7692
Vice President	Chris Gee	chriswgee@hotmail.com	214-414-0199
Treasurer	Llisa Lewis	l.lewis0801@icloud.com	817-939-6565
Secretary	Cindy Belknap	cindy94ag@gmail.com	817-229-8138
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Communication, Director of	Spencer Thompson	spencer.thompson@edwardjones.com	817-253-6021
Activities, Director of	Brian Holland	brianleeholland@gmail.com	615-397-4147
Historic Resource, Director of	Donna Darner	drdarnar@sbcglobal.net	817-924-5699
Public Safety, Director of	Bob Plentl	ebplentl@gmail.com	
Infrastructure, Director of	Terri West	terrirpia@gmail.com	817-991-2838

STREET DIRECTORS

5th Avenue	Anne Menninger	annmenninger@gmail.com	817-821-1302
6th Avenue	Jennifer Renta	rentaj@sbcglobal.net	817-926-4606
8th/James/Stanley	- open -		
Alston/Lipscomb/Page	Rita Ramirez	ritaramirez54@yahoo.com	817-726-2299
College Ave/Cantey	Patricia Polenz	pperrypolenz@aol.com	817-923-5050
Elizabeth Boulevard	Lisa Pena	l.pena@tcu.edu	817-797-6618
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Ryan Place Drive	Stephen Shupee	stephenshupee@gmail.com	862-554-4738
South Adams Street	Diane Zemkoski	dwzemkoski@hotmail.com	432-349-1090
Willing Avenue	Kris Savage	savage.kris@gmail.com	817-507-6742

Stay Connected

Community involvement is fostered by staying connected with news from the neighborhood and surrounding areas. RPIA uses email notification and monthly newsletters as the best way to reach everyone. Sign-up today to receive email notices! From the Ryan Place website www.ryanplacefortworth.com select News -> Stay Connected. In the EMAIL NOTICE section on this page, click the link to sign-up for emails.

The RYAN PLACE 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 **Heather Dills**, at **682-220-3482**, or any RPIA officer or street director so we may get a copy to you.

RPIA Meeting

Monday, January 19 7:00 PM
St. John's Church Mitchell Hall
(enter on Page St.)

Ryan Place NEWSLETTER

Advertising Rates

One issue free when you prepay for a year / ten issues.

Prices (per issue) are:

Full Page: \$100

Half Page: \$65

1/4 Page: \$45

Business card: \$25

Ads must be paid for in advance of printing.

If you do not receive a Newsletter, please contact

Distribution Managers:

Steven and Heather Dills

at 682-220-3482

NEWSLETTER submission deadline:

February 2015 NEWSLETTER

Friday, January 23

rpianewsletter@yahoo.com

817-996-0675

All submissions are subject to editorial review and approval.

Designer: Jerry Sullivan



Ryan Place Neighborhood –Fort Worth

Use the Facebook page for:

Lost and Found

Lost Pets

Buy and Sell

Business Services

Event Notices Crime Watch

Important Numbers

Fort Worth Police Dept. 817-335-4222

(non-emergency)

NPO 8 on Magnolia 817-871-8885

Officer Sergio L Guadarrama

817-944-1316 cell

817-392-3619 office

Code Compliance 817-269-6225

Officer Fernando Molnar 817-392-6339

Code Blue / COPs Coordinator

Calvin Clayton 817-392-3973

Animal Control 817-994-4208

Graffiti Abatement 817-212-2700

Streetlight Outages 817-392-8100

Take a minute and write your check or go online to sustain our neighborhood events, programs, and improvements. Mail your contribution to RPIA at P.O. Box 11122, Fort Worth, TX 76110.

'Twas THE NIGHT BEFORE TOUR



'Twas the night before Candlelight and all through the 'hood,
Not a rascal was stirring: COPs on patrol, all safe and good.
The garland was strung round the Circles with care,
All hoping no curb-jumpers would trespass there.

The Tour captains at last all fell into their beds,
While new tongue-tied docents danced through their heads.
Anissa had wine, the C.C.R.P had stout,
All wondering if the details had been ironed out.

When out on the Boulevard there arose such a clatter,
That Sergio was called to see what was the matter.
Away the neighbors to old windows did fly,
Layered paint made them stick, so no sighting, oh my!

The streetlights glimmered softly to cast a warm glow,
A safe haven for all the night walkers below,
When what to wondering eyes should appear
But an ancient firetruck, with 8 hounds bigger'n mule deer.

With a sturdy old driver, so able, so quick,
All knew instinctively he must be St. Nick.
Swifter than rumor, louder than trains, the yelping dogs came.
Loudly whistling and shouting, St. Nick called them by name.

Now Jane, now John, now Mary and Margie,
On Sara, On Ruth, On Anne and Artie,
From Ryan to Lipscomb, Jessamine to Berry!
Now cruise away, pull away, the truck's contrary.

As the 5th Avenue sculpture held court in the night,
Elizabeth Boulevard glowed with candlelight.
So up to the tour houses the canines hurried,
While with a load of deliveries, St. Nick scurried.

And then, in a twinkling, it was heard on the ground
The baying and yelping of each and every hound,
As faces in windows turned, bound for untroubled sleep,
Leaping from the firetruck St. Nick landed on his feet.

He was dressed all in fur, from Neiman's perchance,
And his suit trimmed in purple was horn-frog enhanced.
The bag of packages he had dropped at the door
Made him look like a Fed Ex man appearing once more.

His eyes — how they scrutinized — his eyebrows how taut,
His cheeks were hot flushed, and his mind full of thought.
His full-lipped mouth was skewed and pursed tightly,
His mane and beard had grown long and whitely.

His stump of a stogie was cold in his teeth.
But the smell in his clothes would last the whole week.
He spoke not a word, but worked through till dawn,
Trimming each landscape and lighting each lawn.

He looked like a stevedore, strong back and broad hands,
As he moved tables, chairs, sofas and antique hatstands.
With a flair for design and a keen sense of space,
He enhanced each tour house with a finely hued grace.

The last details were easy for the maestro to handle —
The garland, the Christmas tree, the rugs and the mantle.
Wiley G. Clarkson's homes never looked so grand.
And St. Nick sighed, "They're the best in the land."

Throwing the tools in the truck, he gave the Dalmatians a shout,
Then drove down an Avenue leaving smoke all about.
But he was heard to exclaim 'ere he drove out the 'hood,
"This 31st Tour will be awfully dang good!"

Submitted by Clement Clarke Less



Fairmount Festivus

The Fairmount neighborhood takes pride in its holiday lights and decorating, and would love to share it with you. Piling into a car and riding around town looking at Christmas lights with hot chocolate and Christmas music usually invokes childhood memories with our parents, and is a tradition that is often repeated every year into adulthood. This year we want to do all the work for you and hope you will join us for Fairmount Festivus.

Come to BREWED, Fort Worth's local restaurant, coffeehouse, and pub where you can eat, drink, and gather, at 801 W. Magnolia Ave. on Thursday, December 11, any time between 6:30-9:30 pm for a Christmas light tour by shuttle through Fairmount, complete with hot cocoa and Christmas music.

Tickets are \$5 per person, which includes snacks and coffee at BREWED. Participants will also receive a 20 percent discount off their total food bill at BREWED that night, and there will be beer and wine specials. Children who bring an unwrapped child's toy will get in free. All gifts will be donated to One Safe Place, an organization, located off of Hemphill, that serves children affected by domestic violence and sexual assault.



This new holiday tradition promises to offer a wonderful display of lights and a beautiful collection of turn-of-the-century houses, so please don't miss this fun opportunity.

Fairmount Festivus coincides with the annual Fairmount Holiday Light Contest which will also take place December 11. Photos will be posted on the Fairmount Facebook page at www.Facebook.com/HistoricFairmount. Watch the Fairmount website or join the event on Facebook for updates.

Submitted by Brandon Garrett, Fairmount Director of Promotions

Photo :

1824 Henderson, bedecked with red bows and white lights, is the Fairmount Holiday Light Contest winner for 2013.

Fairmount will host Fairmount Festivus, a tour of holiday lights, Dec. 11 from 6:30-9:30 at Brewed on Magnolia.

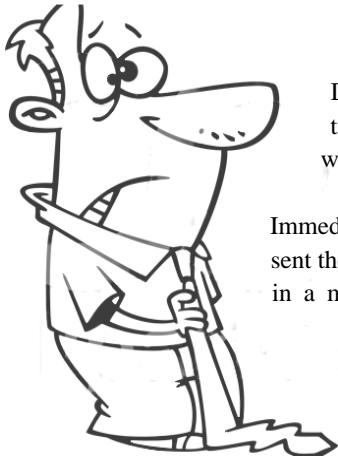
Photo credit: Stacy Luecker

Got Room for Improvement?

- Old House Specialists
- Kitchens & Baths
- Landscape
- Interiors
- Additions



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Fit to be Tied

During an attempt to simplify our clothing storage system, I reduced the number of my neck ties by 50%. My collection was built on the unofficial *de riguer* during my days of working with other cubicle dwellers: dress shirt with tie, coat optional unless meeting with customers.

Immediately I was able to put my ties into two divisions - fun and no fun. With few exceptions, I sent the "no fun" ties to friends that were still toiling away in cubicles around town or guarding art in a museum. The "fun" ties category was comprised mostly of ties celebrating holidays or commercial products: Santa in a hot air balloon, the Peanuts characters with the Great Pumpkin, ties designed by young artists for the "Save the Children" charity, a bottle of Tabasco, a University of North Texas tie in the "wrong" shade of green, and many more of the same.

Some guys will sort their ties into style categories: In or Out. As I understand current tie fashion, ties less wide are coming back into style, but not as skinny as the ties worn by The Beatles on their first appearance on the Ed Sullivan Show. Therefore my ties are of the medium width style, saving the shame of being totally out of fashion (nor as some have pointed out not "in fashion" either).

The real problem becomes when the requirement for a tie is to a "no fun" function which seems to be the only functions these days that require ties. None of the "fun" ties went with a suit or even barely with a blazer. Somehow a Tabasco tie just doesn't belong at wedding or a bar mitzvah. But it is too late to go back for all those boring ties. As I get older it has become easier to have a life-time supply of just about anything. I certainly now have a life-time supply of ties.

Submitted by Christopher Ebert, neighbor

(Editor's Note: It has been brought to my attention that Mr. Ebert might be using the Apple Computer "Predictive Text" feature to compose his columns. But he assures me that is not the case. He claims that they are drawn from actual Events. I'm not so sure!)

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From Our NPO

The holidays are here. We made it through a grueling summer that actually wasn't all that grueling compared to other summers. We made it through the Halloween chaos that included busloads of kids coming into the neighborhood and filling up on candy, which is sure to keep dentists busy for the next few months. The amount of work that you all put in to decorate your houses for Halloween was a spectacular sight that was enjoyed by everyone who made their way down here. Costume parties may have gotten a little out of hand but adults get to enjoy Halloween too. Halloween decorations get taken down and I know many of you are getting that urge to put up your Christmas lights! Poor Thanksgiving tends to get overlooked. With Thanksgiving come the kids who are coming home from college to celebrate and bring their dirty laundry with them. The Thanksgiving feasts give way to Black Friday shopping sprees with people camping out to purchase the latest gadgets, rock-bottom-priced laptops, or other electronic devices. It's a hectic time of year but it's also my favorite time of year. Over the last fifteen years I've had to work many holidays including Thanksgiving and Christmas. I'm thankful that this year I'll be able to spend it with my family and friends. That's going to be a new experience for me. The thing is I never minded working during the holidays. It was always busy enough that I didn't really have time to think about the fun times that I was missing with my family. Sure, I missed them but I got to spend my holidays with my first responder family that included my fellow officers, firefighters, and paramedics. When we couldn't be with our loved ones during the holidays, we relished the fact that we got to go to battle, together. One would think that the holidays would be a peaceful time in the city, but in all honesty, it was quite the opposite. What I've learned over the past fifteen years is that the holidays tend to bring out the worst in people. I've seen it firsthand. The closest I ever came to shooting someone was on Christmas Eve of 2000. I've worked calls on Thanksgiving where I've had to take someone to jail in front of their family. I've worked burglaries two days before Christmas where gifts had been stolen leaving children with no presents to open on Christmas morning. There's a trap door on the floor of hell for people like that. The holidays sometimes involve the consumption of too much alcohol. I've worked too many fatality accidents due to alcohol around and during the holiday season. It should be a peaceful time, but for my first responder family, the holidays are the busiest time of year. While I've seen the worst of some people around this time of year, I have also seen the best of people. I've seen first responders come together to buy gifts for a family who lost everything in a house fire. The gifts were so overwhelming that a message had to be sent citywide that they have more than enough and they couldn't take anymore. I've seen people prepare car loads of food and take it to East Lancaster so the homeless can have something to eat on Thanksgiving or Christmas. I've seen people bring jackets and blankets to them as well for those freezing cold nights when they have to sleep on the sidewalk or empty lots. I, along with other officers, have participated in snowball fights with kids on a snowy night when no calls were holding. I once witnessed an officer perform CPR on a child on the trunk of his patrol car while his parents watched helplessly. Instead of losing their child during the holidays they were able to spend it with him. While we mostly see the worst in people we've also seen the good that the human spirit is capable of in times of need. That is what I hold onto. That is what I remember most vividly. The good. That's what gives me hope. That's what gives all of us hope.

I'm going to change gears here for a minute. While we look forward to the holiday season you all need to be aware that criminals look forward to it as well. I want everyone to be safe and secure this holiday season and every other holiday season. We can't afford to be careless or vulnerable when it comes to holiday crime. Here are some tips for your safety and security while at home and while shopping:

At home

- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when you leave the house, even for a few minutes.
- When leaving home for an extended time, have a neighbor or family member watch your house and pick up your newspapers and mail.
- Indoor and outdoor lights should be on an automatic timer.
- Leave a radio or television on so the house looks and sounds occupied.
- Large displays of holiday gifts should not be visible through the windows and doors of your home.
- When setting up a Christmas tree or other holiday display, make sure doors and passageways are clear inside your home.
- Be sure your Christmas tree is mounted on a sturdy base so children, elderly persons, or family pets cannot pull it over on themselves.
- If you use lights on your Christmas tree ensure the wiring is not damaged or frayed. Frayed or damaged wiring can cause a fire.
- Place your Christmas tree in water or wet sand to keep it green.
- Never place wrapping paper in your fireplace.

While Shopping

- Shop during daylight hours whenever possible. If you must shop at night, go with a friend or family member.
- Dress casually and comfortably.
- Avoid wearing expensive jewelry.
- Do not carry a purse or wallet, if possible.
- Always carry your Driver's License or Identification Card along with necessary cash, checks and/or a credit card you expect to use.
- Even though you are rushed and thinking about a thousand things, stay alert to your surroundings.

Continued on Page 7

- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash.
- Pay for purchases with a check or credit card when possible.
- Keep cash in your front pocket.
- Notify the credit card issuer immediately if your credit card is lost, stolen, or misused.
- Keep a record of all of your credit card numbers in a safe place at home.
- Be extra careful if you do carry a wallet or purse. They are the prime targets of criminals in crowded shopping areas, transportation terminals, bus stops, on buses, and other rapid transit.
- Avoid overloading yourself with packages. It is important to have clear visibility and freedom of motion to avoid mishaps.
- Beware of strangers approaching you for any reason. At this time of year, "con-artists" may try various methods of distracting you with the intention of taking your money or belongings

I know it may be a lot to think about but some of these tips could mean the difference between you being a victim or not. With that being said, I just want to leave you with this. I am blessed to be here. I am blessed to be your NPO. Even though I don't live in the neighborhood all of you have made me feel like a part of it. Many of you have made me feel like family. I never will forget you fighting to keep me here and letting the powers that be know that I am needed. I will have to leave eventually but it will be on my terms. Thank you again. I hope everyone has a wonderful holiday season. For now I'm not going anywhere so I will see you in the neighborhood sporting my sunglasses and waving at everyone I see. That is all. Carry on.....

Sergio L Guadarrama

Neighborhood Police Officer

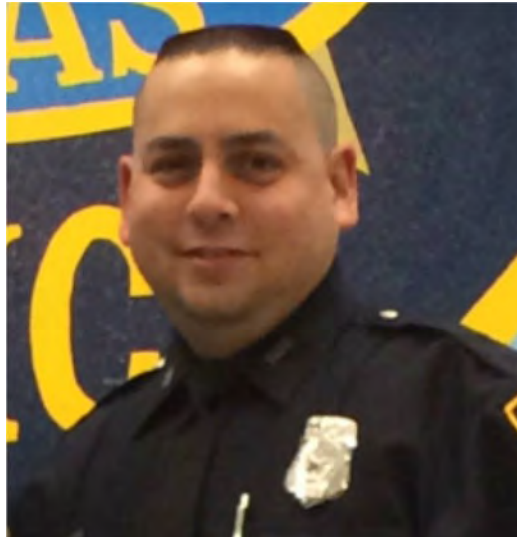
1289 Hemphill St

Fort Worth TX 76104

817-944-1316 cell

817-392-3619 office

Sergio.guadarrama@fortworthtexas.gov



Call for Help

Detective Leslie McGee serves Ryan Place as our area burglary detective. Her step daughter is currently fighting stage 4 melanoma, and the family could use our support. If you feel so led, here is the link to their gofundme page, <http://www.gofundme.com/h19sso>. Please keep our neighborhood hero and her family in your thoughts and prayers this holiday season.

Submitted by Lark Wallis-Johnston



Your parent(s) want to stay in their home, yet you begin to see signs that they need assistance. Although you try to be there as much as your schedule allows, you cannot help on a daily basis and maintain the balance you need in your life. Help with transportation, cooking, cleaning, and medication reminders could make life better for them and take some pressure off you. The solution can be found with an in-home care agency.

Here are some keys to identifying the best agencies:

- The agency should be licensed by the state, bonded and insured.
- Their caregivers should be employees of the agency, not contract labor.
- Background checks should be done continuously per company policy on all employees.
- You should be able to speak to the owner of the company if and when you need to speak to them.
- The agency will carry "hired, non-owned" automobile insurance in addition to general liability if any transportation is required.
- Use locally owned agencies. Franchises are popping up everywhere and the bar is not high to get one. Locally owned agencies have their personal and professional reputation to uphold.
- Make sure the agency you choose has been in business for at least 5 -10 years.

Compassionate Healthcare is the premier home care agency in Fort Worth. We take great pride in the ability to serve you and your family. We would love to come visit with you and your loved ones about our service and see if we may be of assistance.

817-570-9901

Welcome: A Look at the Past



Lorraine Higgins, 95, has lived in Ryan Place for sixty-four years. Her home which was a brand new white brick with three bedrooms and one bath when new was the realization of a family dream after some challenging years. Lorraine and Felix Higgins, like many couples in WWII, married when Felix was headed for the war in Europe in 1942. Lorraine and their two babies lived with her parents and made sacrifices on the home front. By 1948, Felix had his own printing company on Lexington Street, and the couple and their three children lived nearby in a small home on Alston Street across from Daggett Elementary School. Expecting their fourth child, in 1950 they chose one of the houses being built on vacant lots in the 2600-3000 blocks of Ryan Place Drive. Elizabeth Boulevard properties were rundown at the time.

The Higgins's neighbors on their double block were young families with stay-at-home mothers and fathers who worked in jobs at Texas Electric, Quarles Lumber Company and Worth Food Mart and other businesses. With the block's twenty-seven children flowing in and out of the Higgins home, baking required for Daggett's fall carnival, school home room mother duty, and the family's dogs and cats, Lorraine made many trips to Worth Food Mart on 8th Avenue by Park Place. But she could rely on a milk man for delivery of dairy products.

Boys on the block played football in treeless front yards. The adults and children on the block had fun at Halloween. Edwin Shaw set up bobbing for apples. One man dressed every year as a ghost, and no one ever guessed who he was. A few male neighbors played dominos, and some women had coffee klatches, but Lorraine had her hands full with laundry and meals for a large family and serving as an officer in PTA for 20 years. There was a clear delineation of gender roles with men doing yard work, taking care of the family car (\$1300 new), and earning that average family income of \$3200 in the fifties. At home 90% of American families owned televisions, and "I Love Lucy" was the number one show.

The Higgins had a tragedy in 1951 when their four year old daughter died. In 1959, another daughter was born, making 3 sons and 2 surviving daughters. Since Daggett Elementary did not have a kindergarten, the Higgins children were sent to Mrs. Brous's Kindergarten.

The boys went to the downtown YMCA for recreation and sports. Daggett Elementary had a music director. The family attended University Baptist Church. Polio struck in the fifties, and ambulances frequently raced through Ryan Place. Three children on the Higgins' block contracted the illness. Lorraine commented that "even Dr. Tom Black [who lived in the neighborhood] was scared" by the epidemic. Jonas Salk who developed the polio vaccine was hailed as a hero.

All of the Higgins children attended college but different ones. They went to TCU, Texas Tech, UT Austin, Texas A&M, and Baylor. Over the years, a bedroom was converted into a bathroom, and another bedroom added. These were needed with a family of seven and later for visits by the four granddaughters and ten grandsons and now twenty great-grandchildren and their friends. Lorraine had her kitchen remodeled to better accommodate the growing Higgins clan and keeps to her open-door policy for family members and their friends. She misses the days of camaraderie among neighbors and life-long home ownership in the neighborhood but is thrilled with the rehabilitation of older houses on Elizabeth Boulevard and the revitalization of Willing Avenue homes which were new in her teen years.

Periodically the Welcome Lady will be doing articles about older residents and their memories of the neighborhood's earlier years. The Welcome Lady is continuing visits to new residents during the holiday season. New neighbors, please call to 817-909-3585 or email to arkarbach@sbcglobal.net or Facebook pm to Ruth Hosey Karbach to make appointment arrangements. Referral of residents

who moved into the neighborhood in 1950 or earlier can be made for a future "Look at the Past."

Submitted by Ruth Hosey Karbach, The Welcome Lady

**PARK PLACE
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Monday - Friday
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**Closed Weekends
& Holidays**

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Monique Nicholson, RPh

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Yard of the Month

1500 Block of Elizabeth Blvd.



David maintains an absolutely beautiful, well-manicured yard and garden. The house is flanked by Japanese boxwoods and punctuated by the cheerful pansies. The window box also adds color and interest with some decorative flowers. Top it off with majestic oak trees to complete this picture perfect home! *Submitted by Lisa Peña, neighbor*

Timely Tips for December Gardeners from Calloway's

Working in your garden is an excellent escape during the holidays. It's a great time of year to do some of the heavy work in the landscape as opposed to sweating it up in the heat of the summer. Don't put up the mower yet. Although turf grasses have stopped growing, you can use the mower to chop up and recycle the leaves back into the lawn or for a compost pile. Prepare

gas-powered engines for winter. The owner's manual is the best guide to winterizing a lawn mower, tiller, garden tractor or other equipment. Drain and store garden hoses and watering equipment in a readily accessible location. Lawns and other plants may need an occasional watering during a prolonged dry spell. In general, once the weather gets and stays cold, pruning of deciduous plants (ones that lose their leaves) can be safely done. Evergreen hedges can be sheared or cut back in the winter also. Wait until February to prune your roses. Remember – Do Not Top your Crapemyrtles! Simply prune to remove seed heads and shape.

Prepare for the cold weather before it hits! One of the best things you can do for your landscape plants is to provide a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch. Mulching is necessary year round but during the colder periods it provides a layer of insulation for the roots. Water your landscape well before a cold spell. A drought stressed plant is more susceptible to freeze damage. For more tender plants, purchase frost cloth for extra protection. Cover the plant completely allowing the edges to come all the way to the ground, utilizing the heat which radiates from the ground.

It is a perfect time to plant trees and shrubs so they can develop a strong root system for next spring. Cool weather color such as pansies, snapdragons, cyclamen, flowering cabbage and kale add splashes of color to your landscape. Spring flowering bulbs can be planted now once they have been properly chilled.

Make your home beautiful for the holidays with a stunning assortment of floral quality poinsettias, cyclamen, fresh greenery, and Christmas trees. Add a mix of new indoor and tropical plants to energize your home décor.

Remember to provide food and water for the birds this winter. You can attract just as many birds with a bird bath as with food, especially during the dry spells. To draw a diversity of birds provide a variety of seeds, like sunflower, thistle, safflower and millet; plus suet. Once you begin putting out bird food, continue feeding them through the spring time.

Enjoy your time with family and friends.

Have a very Merry Christmas and blessed Happy New Year!

Information courtesy of Calloway's Nursery ©2014, www.calloways.com.

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Support Local Ordinance to Phase Out Single-Use Checkout

On an average day, Fort Worth retailers distribute over 650,000 single-use plastic checkout bags. While there are limited recycling options available in some grocery stores, more than 80% of these bags will end up as garbage or littering our streets and green spaces. When they end up in landfills or in our creeks, rivers, lakes and oceans, their lifespan is *forever*; they never fully biodegrade. And in some ways, single-use paper bags have an even greater impact on the environment due to the resources used to create them. Single-use checkout bags have been estimated to cost Texas taxpayers up to \$25 million per year in clean-up costs, and that doesn't count the incalculable costs of damage to ecosystems and wildlife.

Cities all over Texas have phased out single-use checkout bags. Dallas, Brownsville, South Padre Island, Fort Stockton, Laguna Vista, Austin, Sunset Valley, Kermit, and Freer have all passed ordinances either banning or creating fees for single-use bags.

Any bags used for meat, dairy, produce or bulk foods inside grocery stores would be exempt. Customers would never be forced to put unpackaged food directly into a reusable bag. In addition, an ordinance would be aimed at checkout shopping bags, not food, newspaper or dry cleaning bags. Many people use shopping bags at home as trash can liners or for pet waste, and there will still be plenty of bags available for this purpose.

Citizen pressure will be needed to convince the Fort Worth City Council to pass this ordinance. Write letters, call and email your city councilperson today. With your vote in early 2015, Ryan Place Improvement Association can partner with the coalition of groups working to ban the bag. You can send letters to Mayor Betsy Price and your councilmember to Fort Worth City Hall, 1000 Throckmorton St., Fort Worth, TX 76102. You can find your council representative and their email address here: <http://fortworthtexas.gov/government/>.

Submitted by John MacFarlane, neighbor

fw.sierra.excom@gmail.com, <http://texas.sierraclub.org/fortworth/Conservation/Bagban.html>



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Crime and Security

I know many people in the neighborhood have been victims of vehicle burglaries the last couple of weeks, and so I have a few requests and comments I'd like you guys to consider.

Keep posting everything on the Ryan Place Facebook page! I try to read all the crime-related posts and comments that I see in this forum, and I know Officer Guadarrama does, too. You never know what little piece of information might end up being very valuable to a case or even to many cases.

If your home or vehicle is burglarized, please report it. I know it can be a pain and sometimes it takes a while for an officer to arrive, but it does help us to keep up with trends and MO's and hopefully identify suspects. Even if, for instance, you left your car unlocked and someone went through it and threw everything from your glove box onto the floor but didn't take anything, please report it. You may discover something missing later, or yours may be one of several on the same day that we can tie together, so please report it.

About evidence: I can't speak for every officer who might respond to your call, but I WANT EVIDENCE! If you believe there is something a suspect touched that might have prints, please don't touch it and please do point it out to the responding officer. Certainly if there appears to be blood left by the suspect, a Crime Scene Officer should come out and collect a sample.

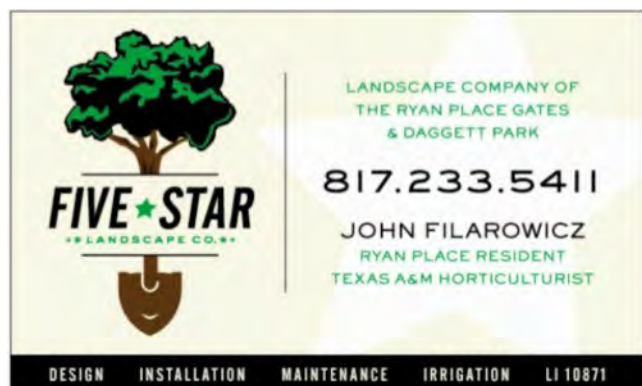
If, as has happened recently, your property is found, and you believe it might have prints or other evidence, again, please don't handle the item. Instead, call and request an officer to come evaluate the item for evidence, or carefully collect the item in a manner so as not to destroy the evidence and call me. I will come retrieve the item from you and check it for prints myself.

You may have to be resourceful about collecting things – roll the item onto a piece of paper with a twig, make a basket out of the t-shirt you're wearing and scoot the item into your shirt, whatever you can think of. Mainly avoid leaving your own prints or smudging the suspects' prints. If you're not sure whether the item is printable or you have other questions, call me or Officer Guadarrama or send me a Facebook message (if after business hours) and I will help you decide.

If you have questions about collection of evidence, such as what kind of items can be printed, please call me. If you have surveillance cameras and are willing to provide video of any recent crimes, PLEASE call me! In fact, I'd love to know who all in the 'hood has cameras and is willing to help. It would be really cool to go over my cases for the day and think, "Hey, this burglary happened at [whatever address] and [whoever] across the street has cameras" and then be able to give you a call to see if you captured anything useful. Feel free to call or email me if there's something you would like me to know. Please don't get offended if I don't appear to take you seriously. I do have to manage my time carefully and I WILL hear what you say, even if I don't answer or call you back.

Thanks for reading and for letting me serve your community!

Detective McGee
FWPD Burglary detective for our neighborhood
817-392-3946
leslie.mcgee@fortworthtexas.gov



Real Estate Corner



It's that magical time of the year and what better place to spend it than in Ryan Place! Homes are selling here, and there is still opportunity for your friends to move in to the neighborhood before the end of the year! Hope your Thanksgiving was a blessed time for you and yours, and that you're able to enjoy every moment as you deck your halls, trim your tree, and enjoy the season in Ryan Place!

From my home to yours,

Jeff Anderson

817.880.5905

<u>Address</u>	<u>SqFt Total</u>	<u>Year Built</u>	<u>Bed</u>	<u>Baths</u>	<u>Gar/CP/TCP</u>	<u>Current Price</u>
3024 Willing Avenue	1,125	1840	2	1	2/2/2004	\$164000
3021 Willing Avenue	1,218	1938	2	2	2/2/2004	\$169000
2533 Ryan Avenue	2,440	2014	3	2.1	2/0/2	\$355000
2418 5th Avenue	3,068	1925	3	2.1	0/0/2	\$430000
2725 Willing Avenue	2,888	2014	4	3	2/0/2	\$435000
2416 Ryan Place Dr.	3,657	1920	4	2.1	2/0/2	\$475000
2900 6th Avenue	3,990	1929	4	2.1	2/0/2	\$599000
1111 Elizabeth Blvd	3,856	1916	4	3	2/1/2003	\$724500
2625 Ryan Place Drive	1,616	1949	3	2	2/0/2	Contract
2500 Willing Avenue	2,190	1924	3	2	1/0/1	Contract
2921 Ryan Avenue	1,467	1950	2	1	0/1/1	Contract
2728 Ryan Place Dr.	1,329	1949	3	2	1/0/1	Contract
2927 5th Avenue	1,465	1948	2	2	2/0/2	Contract
2748 Willing Avenue	1,533	1930	2	2	3/0/3	Contract
2311 Alston Avenue	1,890	1923	4	2	0/0/0	Sold
2601 Ryan Place Dr.	1,711	1926	3	2	0/0/0	Sold
3021 Ryan Avenue	1,148	1929	2	1	0/0/0	Sold
1418 Elizabeth Blvd.	3,384	1916	4	2.1	2/0/2	Sold

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Lessons & Carols Service – Sunday,



St. John's Chancel Choirs, Handbell Ringers, and Children's Choir will present the Festival of Nine Lessons and Carols on Sunday, December 16 at 5 pm. This beautiful service was first held at Kings College, Cambridge on Christmas Eve 1918 and has become a traditional Christmas favorite in Anglican churches around the world. All are invited. Childcare available. Come, "Let us look forward to the yearly remembrance of His birth with hymns and songs of praise."

Christmas at St. John's Christmas Eve

Wednesday, December 24
4:30 pm Rite 2 w/ Children's
Sermon
8 pm 1928 Holy Eucharist
10:30 pm Christmas Carols
11 PM Rite 1 Midnight Mass

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25
10 am 1928 BCP (no music)

First Sunday after Christmas

Sunday, December 28
8 am 1928 BCP
10 am Rite 1

Christmas Day

Thursday, December 25
10 am 1928 BCP (no music)

*Submitted by St John's
Church*

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December 2014

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3 Trash Day	4	5	6 Breakfast Party, 10 AM-noon Candlelight Tour, noon-9 PM
7 Candlelight Tour, noon- 5 PM	8	9	10 Trash Day	11	12	13
14 Fairmount Festivus, 6:30- 9:30 PM	15	16 Hanukkah begins	17 Trash Day	18	19	20
21	22 Big Trash	23	24 Trash Day Big Trash	25 Christmas Day Hanukkah ends	26 Big Trash Boxing Day	27
28	29	30	31 Trash Day New Year's Eve			

January 2015

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 New Year's Day	2	3
4	5	6	7 Trash Day	8	9	10
11	12	13	14 Trash Day	15	16	17
18	19 RPIA Board Meeting, 7 PM Martin Luther King Day	20 Big Trash	21 Trash Day	22	23 Big Trash	24
25	26	27	28 Trash Day	29	30	31

got RP?



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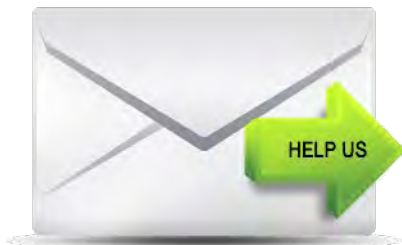
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EMPTY ENVELOPES

RPIA wants to help with the recycling campaign.

Rather than throw out those envelopes that you occasionally find in your Newsletter, take a moment, reflect on what you love about this neighborhood, and how those special items are maintained, then help out by mailing/dropping off the envelope with a monetary contribution inside.

With the new RPIA BYLAWS, there is no requirement for dues. Everyone 18 and older who lives here can vote, and always voice their opinion. But opinions and votes can't water the parks, pay for newsletter printing and delivery, or put on special events. It takes good ole green backs! Gather a bunch of bones, a fist full of fins, or a sack of sawbucks. Pull that roll of Jacksons out, send in those C-notes or gift a grand! Any US currency will be received with glee and gratitude.

So please put a little, or a lot, of dough into that EMPTY ENVELOPE! We hope it makes your holidays happier, knowing you are helping to support RPIA, and the neighborhood.