

SANTA IS COMING!
 Saturday, Dec. 20th. Santa and Mrs. Claus
 will be at the Park Pavilion on Van Buren,
 from 2:00 until 5:00 pm.

COMMUNITY

P A R K W A Y
 C E N T R A L
 H O M E O W N E R S
 A S S O C I A T I O N

PCHA NEWSLETTER

The Parkway Central Park / Bell Pavilion

Deanna Palla

In case you haven't been in our neighborhood park lately, please go by and take a look at the friezes that have been



RJ (top) admires his likeness next to "Joe Boxer" (in memory of Joe Hamzy), Jacki (right) tries not to peek while Tara hides.

installed on the pavilion's columns. Our neighbor, Tom Finn, donated his time and money to design and sculpt them. The friezes of three children and a dog that appear to be playing hide-and-go-seek lend a charming touch of whimsy to the pavilion.

Work is to begin soon for the ground-work required before the concrete can be poured for the cement walks that are included in the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG). The additional work and amenities provided by the CDBG should be finished by the end of March. Once it is finished, we will need some volunteers to help plant the butterfly garden. When the garden is completed, the Parks



Department plans to have a public dedication ceremony to name the pavilion.

Dara Wandel, Trish Pirtle and Deanna Palla talked with the Parks Department about the possibility of sowing wildflower seeds in the prairie grass that borders the tree line along Van Buren Drive. Due to current budget constraints, the Parks Department could not undertake the project at this time, but they gave their permission to have it done through private funding.

The wildflower seeds have been ordered and will be sown before winter sets in. It may take a couple of years before significant results can be seen, but this is a good start in

The Crime Watch Report **Les Perrin**

BREAK IN ON ADAMS DRIVE

A home on Adams Drive was broken into on October 15th around 1:30 p.m. The next door neighbor talked to the police and they think that they might have come over the back fence from the condominiums. The back door was kicked in and a laptop and computer games were stolen. Another neighbor saw a red car traveling very slowly, almost at a crawl, just north of their home at about 3:00 p.m. The car was observed from their home until it went down the hill. The feeling is that there are various individuals that are casing our homes and we need to be very careful to make sure our garages and homes are made secure. These things are happening in the daytime while most people are at work. Please be on the lookout for suspicious cars being parked or driving slowly through our neighborhood. Don't hesitate reporting your suspicions by calling 911. This will help.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT

This was a huge success! Over 80 people attended and were treated to a full evening of entertainment around the newly constructed pavilion. Marcus the Magnificent led the evening off with a new set of magic tricks which engaged numerous volunteers from the crowd. He was followed by Dylan Chambers, Kirstie Maldonado, and Mitch Grassi from Arlington, each showcasing their extraordinary musical talents. The grilled hot dogs went fast as well as homemade cookies. City Councilmen Mel LeBlanc and Jimmy Bennett visited with us for quite some time and spoke of their support for the area and of the efforts to help curb criminal activity surrounding our neighborhood. Visits by the fire department,

beat officers, and community health service members made this a truly neighborhood-community event.

VEHICLE BREAK-INS

There appears to be an increase in vehicle break-in reports for the Arlington North area. One such break-in was reported for a duplex on lower Franklin for an unlocked car that was in the driveway late at night. Nothing of value was taken. We are about to begin the cold season when it is tempting to leave that vehicle running to warm up. Last winter saw a dramatic increase in auto thefts in Arlington where warming vehicles were stolen. Please avoid this opportunity.

COP ACTIVITIES

Patrols continued through the summer and fall. Quite a few calls were made by COP patrols and others to police concerning suspicious vehicles in the park and potential prostitution along Washington and the park area. At this same time the police were making a more concentrated effort to respond and scan the area. Police were stopping suspects and their presence has seemed to have had an impact in greatly reducing such activities. I and other COP members as well as Deanna Palla, as the PCHA chairperson, met with a couple of apartment owners, the police, and the Arlington North Chairman to discuss a new thrust of cooperation in abating the environments for crime in the area. These two apartment managers pledged a new emphasis on renting to a better clientele, through background checks and other means saying they had ownership support. We will see where these initiatives take us.



**PARKWAY
CENTRAL**
**HOMEOWNERS
ASSOCIATION**

2009 Association Dues Announcement

REMINDER

The end of the year is approaching fast and January will be here before we know it. Association dues notices will be sent out in early January, so please help out your block captain by sending in your dues payment as soon as possible!

Thank you, and have a great holiday season.

Chuck McCoy,
PCHA Treasurer



PCHA Board Changes

Deanna Palla has resigned as chairman and board member due to health reasons. Criss Berry will act at chair for the remainder of the Board term.

Several new board members have been provisionally added to fill vacancies, pending approval from the Membership at the next General Meeting:

Please welcome Randy Hudson, Ray Menezes and Shirley Nelson as our new Section Directors for Sec 1, 2 and 12 respectively.

For a complete board listing, please see p.8

Santa Claus Is Coming!

Saturday, Dec. 20th, Santa and Mrs. Claus will be at the Park Pavilion on Van Buren, from 2:00 until 5:00 pm. There will be singing of carols with our helper elves, and, weather permitting, we will be decorating cookies. So bring your last minute wish list, and your cameras to see Santa and Mrs. Claus. Santa will be collecting donations for the Tarrant County Food bank, so please help out if you can.

Also, if you want a special stop from Santa on that day, with your child, or grandchild, please send an

email with the child's name(s), ages, special wishes, been naughty or nice?, and we will try to have an arrangement for that day.

For more info about Santa's visit or the PCHA Food Drive contact: Linda Hidalgo at (817) 795-8004 or email: lsjhidalgo@sbcglobal.net

Last year Santa was "AWSOME"!



Christmas Lighting Contest

The Christmas decorating judging will be done on Friday, Dec. 19th. Winners will find a festive star in their yard. So get those lights up,!

Last years bragging rights belong to the Wolfs (right), Good Luck Everyone!



Everett Gay (left) looked ready to do battle on Trick or Treat night. Christina and Heather van Waasbergen (above) made a be-witching contrast to their angelic friend Vanessa Stout.

Halloween 2008

As usual, our neighborhood was quite popular with the local Ghosts and Goblins. Thanks to the extended Daylight Savings Time, the trick-or-treaters began arriving a little bit later than in previous years, giving everyone a chance to

have dinner before taking up positions at the front door. There seemed to be more Hanna Montanas and not so many Harry Potters, and based on personal observation, the kids were generally well-behaved and polite. Our candy ran out in record time, but no-one complained (much).

Winter Gardening Tips

By Harry & David

Typically, fall and winter are slow in the garden, or so we think. There's actually a lot to do, especially here in North Texas.

Now is a great time to plant trees, shrubs, perennials, bulbs and wild-flower seeds. Planting in the fall or winter allows the plant's root system to get established well before the temperatures rise. Even though the top of the plant may die back after it's planted, the roots will still grow, and in the spring the plant will start vigorous growth.

Top-dress your lawn and flower beds with a thin layer (? - ?") of compost. Healthy soil eventually leads to healthy plants. The nutrients from the

rich compost will wash down into the roots during the winter/spring rains and your plants will thank you in the growing season to come. Top-dressing helps your lawn by decreasing thatch, increasing fertility levels, and introducing some beneficial organisms that will help your lawn's soil long-term.

Add mulch to your flower beds. Mulch is extremely important in our area. It helps: stabilize the soil temperature throughout the year, decrease soil evaporation, reduce weeds, reduce evaporation, reduce soil compaction and it is usually more aesthetically pleasing. One word of caution: don't mulch right around the base of trees or shrubs; this encourages rot and attracts insects.

Start a compost pile! This is a great

way to recycle your grass clippings, leaves, coffee grounds and more. You can buy a compost bin or make a container easily at home. The end result is home made compost that will enrich your garden.

Prune your trees and shrubs. Most trees are dormant in the winter, which is the best time to trim them (unless it is a winter/spring bloomer – then trim after bloom). If pruning oaks, pruning spray should ALWAYS be used to prevent the spread of oak wilt. Trees other than oak don't need the spray; it actually inhibits the plant's ability to heal from the cuts.

Incorporating just a few of these tips into your winter regime, will help have an outstanding Parkway Central yard when spring eventually gets here.

National Night out information

Our Citizen's on Patrol group did an outstanding job in organizing and hosting the National Night Out at the park last night. Although it was a bit windy, they managed to batten everything down securely to keep everything from blowing away. The only unfortunate incident was when City Councilman Jimmy Bennett's paper plate was caught by the wind and left mustard on his nicely starched white shirt before he had to move on to the next neighborhood function!

Anyone who was there had to admit the hot dogs were cooked just right and held at the correct temperature before being served, and the variety of home baked cookies were very, very good. And just ask anyone who attended ----- wasn't the entertainment just absolutely fabulous!!! We just can't thank those young people for taking time out of their evening to come and perform for our neighborhood. I just couldn't believe they kept thanking us for asking them to perform for us. We certainly want to be sure and ask them to come again ---- maybe during our Christmas celebration.

People who had a hand in organizing and providing help:

Citizen's On Patrol volunteers Les and Debbie Perrin, John and Bettye Knopp, Emerson and PJ Bell, David and Phyllis

Living, Norm and Alveeta Corbitt, Jerry Thiel, Robert van Waasbergen and Deanna and Bob Palla. Others who provided services and help were John Palla (Bob and Deanna's son) who cooked the hot dogs; Jim Pirtle who transported the light tower; Linda and LeRoy Hidalgo who provided a generator; Jimmy Gary (from Arlington North Rotary) who set

up the PA system and handled it during the evening; Arlington North Rotary for providing the PA system and the flags; Randy Hudson who provided a mic stand; the Park's Department and of course our absolutely wonderful young entertainers.

Our Crime Watch Coordinator, Les Perrin is getting pretty good at this, so next year's National Night Out should be even better. By this time next year, there should be electricity installed in

our pavilion so a generator will not be needed.

If there are some of you who haven't checked out the pavilion lately, you really need to go by and look it over. The new tables and benches were installed before the festivities, and each of the four units easily seats eight people and there is a lot of extra seating provided by the seat benches that serve as a wall around the pavilion.

THANKS TO EVERYONE WHO HELPED AND TO ALL WHO CAME!!!



It Is Your Neighbors' Business

Many of our neighbors own businesses or offer services in the area. Support these businesses and you will be supporting your neighbors.

Al's Hamburgers

corner of N. Collins & Green Oaks Blvd.
Gary & Melody Lawrence - Coolidge Dr.

Asher's Gourmet Shoppe

3114 S Cooper
Greg & Connie Dagnan - Coolidge Dr.

Finn Studio

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(817) 461-4275
Tom Finn - 2110 Coolidge Dr.

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Wolf Lawn & Landscape

(817) 459-1750
Jeff & Amanda Wolf - 2202 Adams

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Lisa Hudson - (817) 469-6240

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IGNITE Electricity Resellers

Dave & Diana Regis - 2206 Adams Ct.
(817) 228-2365

Martin Painting

Jim & Ashley Martin - 2201 Franklin Dr.
(214) 534-1420

Reino Cleaners

Jim & Pauline Rumer - 2010 Franklin Dr.

Z-Coil Pain Relief Footwear

Sandy Lee - 2110 Wilson

If you would like your business to be listed in future newsletters, please contact Robert van Waasbergen by email at: robertvw@aedsnet.com.

Update on Gas Drilling Activities

If you've been reading the paper, you'll have noticed that with the recent dramatic drop in energy prices, gas-lease signings have pretty much dried up. Don't we look like the smart ones now for having gotten our deal done while we could!

The Marsh operation on Rolling Hills is still moving along: according to information received from Tom Panzer (RHCC board chairman), they are planning two seismic tests across the country club grounds in the near future. Cables and sensors will be placed along two east/west lines between Roquemore Elementary and Lamar High School, and one additional line will stretch diagonally from the southeast corner to the northwest corner of the club and on across Cooper Street towards Green Oaks blvd.

The first test will begin on December 6. This will be a calibration-test. The second test is planned for early 2009.

Drilling at RHCC is still projected for late 2009.

S New Neighbors

W We are happy to welcome Sally Khedery and her son (Mo) Mohammed Junaid to the neighborhood. They are planning to move in at 503 Franklin Dr, but the house needs some work. Sally says she loves to cook, and is already anxious to start having guests to experience her cuisine (she is from Iran). Mo is working hard to make all of the repairs inside the house himself. They hope to be able to move in soon.

O Also welcome to Lori Redmon, Rick Sinner and 3 year old Megan, who have moved into their new home at 2207 Wilson Drive. Both Lori and Rick work as Air Traffic Controllers.

B Bereavement

H Criss Berry's father passed away on October 29th.
O Julie Olson's stepfather passed away on September 1st.
R Sharon Little's mother passed away in September.
I Cathey Wise's father passed away in September.
E Marlene Hutchison's mother passed away.
N

Illnesses and Special Concerns

John Knopp had eye-lid surgery

David Livings knee surgery went well

Tina Bindell had rotator cuff surgery.

Dr. Hi Newby is recovering from his hip replacement surgery.

Waller Poage had a hip replacement in October.

New Babies

Jenna Sophia Finn was born to the Finn family. Congratulations



to the whole Finn family!
Carol Kisill who lives at 2207 Wilson Drive has a new granddaughter born on Friday, September 5th..



The Santas Are Coming!

PCHA CHRISTMAS 2008

Goodness, it's that time of year, I would invite everyone to help celebrate this season with joy and happiness, as well as a time to "Light Up the Night". Participate by decorating your home, a few or more than the "Griswolds" (drumroll please), whatever you think you can, make your street shiny and bright. If you need help, why not ask your neighbors, they wouldn't mind stringing a few lights. Friday, Dec. 19, the judges will be here, so let's make them really have to work!

Mr. and Mrs. Santa Claus and Santa's Secret Favorite Elf will be at Parkway Central Park in the Park Pavilion on Van Buren, from 2:00 until 5:00 pm. There will be singing of carols with our helper elves, and, weather permitting, we will be decorating cookies. So bring your last minute wish list, and your cameras to see Santa and Mrs. Claus.

The neighborhood will also be having the ANNUAL CANNED FOOD DRIVE on Saturday the 20th from 2:00 to 5:00 pm. at the Park Pavilion. If bringing your donations is not convenient on this date, please bring your donations to Linda Hidalgo house, 2203 Franklin Dr., anytime the week before.

Join us for Christmas Caroling, Visit with Santa, Hot Coco,
Christmas Cookie Decorating Holiday Fun and Cheer
FREE for all PCHA members, young and old.

***Any questions and/or to offer to help with decorating, or donate cookies and treats for the kiddies for PCHA biggest holiday event please contact:
Linda Hidalgo 817 795-8004***

*Hey Kids,
Please bring Mom and Dad and Grandma and Grandpa to
meet me, Santa's Secret Favorite Elf on my first visit to Texas!*



Jeanne Gay

by Tony Gay

Jeanne and her husband Tony moved to our neighborhood in 1995. They have one son - Everett, and one dog - Tex, a boxer. During those 13 years, Jeanne has served in several capacities in different neighborhood organizations.

Jeanne grew up learning the love of food and cooking from her mother, Leah. As most of you know, she is an excellent cook and always willing to bake or cook for someone in need. She furthered her interest in food and cooking by earning a BS in Nutrition from McNeese State University in Lake Charles, Louisiana after high school. A few years later, she took her education even further by earning a Masters in Nutrition from Texas Women's University in Denton. Jeanne is a registered and licensed Dietician and has held several positions in the long-term care field. Her career has taken her to work at John Peter Smith as a dietician, as a sales and service representative for Novartis Nutrition, and as a service representative for Nutrition Support Services and several others. Currently, she does consulting work around the DFW area for long-term care facilities.

She has served our neighborhood as an officer in the Transplants Womens Club several times, enjoys attending the monthly meetings and is active in planning and participating in all of their functions. Jeanne has also volunteered by organizing our neighborhood Easter Egg hunt, the neighborhood block party and several other functions. She has been involved with Parkway Central Homeowners Association, as well. Jeanne has



Jeanne Gay and son, Everett.

served as a block captain, participated in the early development of the database coordination effort and the production of the membership directory, while participating in the welcoming and caring committee for several years.

Jeanne currently volunteers her time at Everett's school in several ways and is a very active leader in her church as a communion minister, parish council member, and teaching "English as a Second Language" classes.

PCHA Canned Food Drive

*Saturday, Dec. 20th, from 2:00 until 5:00 pm
Santa and Mrs. Claus will be collecting
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in the Park Pavilion at Parkway Central Park
on Van Buren.*



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