



• NATIONAL HISTORIC DISTRICT •

# FAIRMOUNT

## 1405 Fairmount

**Saved from demolition,  
historic home gets new life**

**Home Tour**

Volunteers needed

**Coming Attractions**

Spotlight on area activity

**Revisiting the Holidays**

Celebrating with neighbors, friends

## STAFF BOX

**Fairmount Neighborhood Association**  
P.O. Box 12348  
Fort Worth, TX 76110-8348  
www.historicfairmount.com

### President

Robert Wedding  
817.975.8040  
president@historicfairmount.com

### Promotions

Brenda Howell  
817.991.2834  
promotions@historicfairmount.com

### Membership

Ricky Pike  
817.727.4577  
membership@historicfairmount.com

### Finance

Jane Wedding  
817.913.9814  
finance@historicfairmount.com

### Administration

Greg Taylor  
817.734.3824  
administration@historicfairmount.com

### Communications

Stacy Luecker  
817.944.8578  
communications@historicfairmount.com

### Infrastructure

Sean Lynch  
817.879.0089  
infrastructure@historicfairmount.com

### Public Safety

Geri Cotten  
817.926.6507  
publicsafety@historicfairmount.com

### Historic Preservation

Sue McLean  
817.924.6100  
preservation@historicfairmount.com

\*\*\*

### Article submissions

communications@historicfairmount.com

### Newsletter advertising

fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com

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## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Let me begin by wishing you all a great 2011 with all the hope that this will be a wonderful year for everyone.

We've all heard the expression, "Out with the old, in with the new." That works fine for the calendar, but in my house, any of my friends can tell you that "new" is a four letter word! 2010 was an okay year for me personally, and in retrospect, was a year of mixed emotions for Fairmount. To our credit, we were able to save 1405 Fairmount through direct intervention. We were also able to save a few houses through active involvement with sellers and got them connected to buyers who are interested in restoring in our historic district. So let's say we change that old adage to "Cherish the old, tolerate the new"

As for losses this year, I'd like to plagiarize from *Lost Plantations of the South* by Marc R. Matrana. I've tweaked his words to make them apply to Fairmount: "Certainly future generations of Americans will look favorably upon those heroes who fight to save history, and likewise they will frown upon those who destroy it, just as we feel incredible disappointment towards those men and women who played a role in the deliberate, often malicious destruction of many of the structures in our [built environment]. Perhaps the stewardship of future societies will differ from our own, but we should at least allow future peoples the option of exercising such stewardship — it is impossible for forthcoming preservationists to save that which a previous generation has already destroyed.

"Furthermore, Americans must fight diligently to preserve the rapidly fading memories of those [houses] already lost. The documents, images, records and stories of these [historic houses] can be and often are easily lost, unless active efforts are undertaken to share and protect them. More scholarship is needed with regards to these [homes] that make up the great bulk of our [urban past].



"The memories of [Fairmount] are memories of America, defining our past and shaping our future. Our dynamically emerging preservation efforts also define who we are, as we sustain and defend the fragile yet paramount pieces of our past for their value now and in the future." — Marc R. Matrana

Happy New Year and see you on Tuesday.

### On the Cover

Brian (left) and Sheila Portwood sit on the steps of their future Fairmount home at 1405 Fairmount Ave. See *Saving the past*, pg. 14.

Photo by Eric Luecker

Robert Wedding, President  
president@historicfairmount.com

# The Fairmount Beat by Joel Stary, neighborhood patrol officer

Whether you want it or not, the Super Bowl is coming to town. And unlike Santa, the city and its residents may not just get gifts if we don't pay attention.

The planning for this event is unlike anything I have ever seen. Planning for the game in Arlington and the related events in Fort Worth and Dallas began two years ago. That's right, TWO years ago.

We all know that Fort Worth will benefit from the exposure from the football game of all football games. Businesses will make money, there will be exciting events to attend, autographs will be abundant and you might even catch a glimpse of someone you have only seen on TV.

Unfortunately, with the good also comes the bad with more visitors than we

**Joel Stary**  
Cell: 817.944.1316  
Office: 817.392.3610  
Joel.Stary@fortworthgov.org

can imagine, traffic issues, long lines at the restaurants we love and the potential for crime.

Not everyone that comes to visit will be here to just see a football game and the criminals we have among us will be looking for new opportunities.

Don't fret, along with all the new people come new law enforcement groups and agencies to help. The most important thing you can do for yourselves, your neighbors, your community and our visi-

tors is to be vigilant at all times.

I know you have heard that from me a thousand times, but this city is going to be packed and we all need to pay attention to what is going on around us.

I won't bore you all with the "what is suspicious and should be reported" speech at this time. No, please do not applaud. I will say that you need to take care of yourselves and your neighbors at all times and call 911 to report anything you see that looks out of place.

In closing, I hope everyone's holidays were wonderful, I hope you have a great time during Super Bowl week and I will see you after.

As always, stay safe today and safer tomorrow.

## General Membership Meeting - Tuesday, Jan. 25

The next Fairmount Neighborhood Association general meeting will be Tuesday, Jan. 25 at the College Avenue Baptist Church. Libby Willis from the Fort Worth League of Neighborhoods and Deborah Rogers will speak on area gas drilling.

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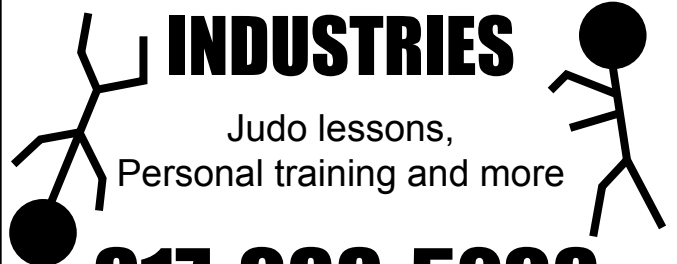
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# SOCIETY

by Jane Wedding, Director of Finance



## Grand Restoration Efforts

It's a new year in Fairmount and many neighbors have resolutions to begin improvement projects to make their homes more beautiful and enjoyable. Cassi and Dustin Miles have one of the most ambitious resolutions — a once lovely grand dame on South Adams is about to be restored to her former glory. Shamelessly neglected and abused through the years, she is about to undergo a major transformation to bring her back to what she should be — a lovely family home whose residents will appreciate her beauty and historic importance. Cassi and Dustin, your neighbors greatly applaud your ef-

forts, graciously appreciate your undertaking and are anxiously looking forward to when your home will once again take her rightly place back into society. Our wishes for you in the new year include good weather (when needed) and hard-working contractors who have a good understanding of the term "time management."



## Congratulations

Congratulations to Dan Burns for being awarded the Chairman's Award for Innovation by Textron Industries. Dan, an aerospace engineer, has pioneered work with composite structures that will revolutionize the way Bell Helicopter approaches the manufacturing of aerospace structures. Dan and his wife Tabitha, traveled to Orlando, Florida where Dan was presented the award at a formal banquet. While in Florida they enjoyed

complimentary passes to Disney World, a tour of the Charles Morse Museum of Louis Comfort Tiffany, and (Tabitha's favorite!) high tea at the Ritz Carlton overlooking the golf course and wedding pavilion.



## Ring in the New Year

Mickey and Pat Bradley of 6th Avenue hosted a fabulous New Year's Eve party complete with all the adornments a true Fairmount party deserves. The duo provided a table and buffet filled with lovely hor d'ourves and desserts which were also accompanied by plenty of wine. A few guests found themselves on the No-No List after the party hosts discovered illustrious partaking of some personal non-party apparel and a wreckless defacing of fruit. The fun-filled night concluded with bells, whistles and wine on the front porch at midnight.



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# FNA Board Meeting Minutes

## Monday, Dec. 6, 2010

**Present:** Geri C, Brenda H, Sean L, Stacy L, Sue M, Ricky P, Greg T, Jane W, Robert W

**Advisory Committee:** Mickey B, Fred H, Susan H

**Call to Order:** 7:02

### 1405 Fairmount Update

- Contract set to close Wednesday, Dec. 8. Selling price \$27,000. Discussed inclusion of special provisions in contracts to include terminology that house is to be renovated, not demolished.
- Expectation is the return of the initial \$10,000 investment plus a minimal profit after splitting proceeds with Fort Worth South.

**Approve minutes of last meeting:** Motion to approve: Sean L, second Jane W. Approved

### Director's Reports

#### Finance (Jane W)

- Checking \$11,572.57. CD (matures this month and will be renewed) \$15,255.65. Savings \$9,679.43
- Largest expense was for our share of the purchase of 1405 Fairmount and associated expenses for stabilization.
- Three Home Tour sponsors have yet to pay for last year's tour, and will be approached to ask for the payment. Will need to ensure that next year's Tour is audited. Discussion of the use of invoicing to ensure payment.

#### Administration (Greg T)

- Additional interesting Fairmount speakers identified for the first three meetings of 2011.
- Schedule block captain's meeting.

#### Historic Preservation (Sue M)

- 1317 block Alston — review of plans for an 8 unit apartment complex to be beautifully renovated into 4 units.
- Impending demolition of 1612 Lipscomb — possibility of rescue via our Rescue committee?
- 1039 Hurley — owner is fighting city regarding demolition and has been cleaning property. An offer has been made by an interested party to purchase the property with the expectation of adding a second story. Historic Preservation Committee will be discussing addition.
- Individuals are pro-actively calling Historic Preservation Committee to inquire what is acceptable in terms

of renovations — examples are 1409 Adams (removing vinyl siding) and 1601 Adams (replacing metal windows and substandard siding).

#### Promotion (Brenda H)

- Cowtown Marathon possibly changing route to include use of 5th Avenue (need to verify). If route is changed, it presents an opportunity to use the park for a block party in support of marathon activities.

#### Public Safety (Geri C)

- Reminder to keep garage doors shut and to put valuables in the trunks of cars rather than on seats.
- Noted recent burglary on 2200 block of College.

#### Communications (Stacy L)

- Newsletter out (*and is beautiful!*) Follow-up on those who did not receive one.
- Deadline for submissions for next newsletter is Jan. 10, 2011.
- House signs — two templates available for Fairmount Association member signage.
- Constant Contact e-mail — decision to allow non-members to receive e-mails. May aid in others getting involved in activities, volunteering, etc.

#### Membership (Ricky P)

- Joe's Run presentation set for February's General Membership Meeting.
- Libby Willis and Deborah Rogers will present discussion of gas drilling in January's general meeting.
- Evaluating purchase of a projector for membership meetings rather than continually borrowing it.

#### Infrastructure (Sean L)

- Work continues on adopting Fairmount Park. Sean L. to bring plans for a gazebo to the next meeting.
- Initial purchase/installation of streetlights done. Need to evaluate need for additional lights for dark spots. Will need to determine city's criteria for streetlight placement (distance? luminosity?) Pricing will be an issue — discussion of utilizing donations now that our 501(c)3 status makes donations tax deductible. Discussion of encouraging donations by using plaques with "In memory of" wording or similar?

#### Old Business

- Christmas party set to Dec. 18. Discussion of party particulars such as music, beer, prizes, etc. Discussion of beneficiary of funds from party.

- Sean L — motion to establish a revolving fund for distribution to local charities and local organizations that work with Fairmount for the betterment of the neighborhood. Second — Ricky P. Passed.
- Streetcar support — city council meeting set. Noted that Fairmount is in favor of proposal to continue on to Phase 3.

#### New Business

- Santa on the Green Saturday, Dec. 11. Need Constant Contact announcement and website update.
  - Fairmount dog database — discussion of neighbors posting pictures of lost pets; website could be used to help locate owner. Will be put on website's bulletin board.
  - Rescue properties deed restrictions — discussion of inclusion of contract Special Restrictions language to restrict buyers from demolishing structures that we rescue, or to restrict property from use as a rental property. Perhaps qualification of buyer prior to accepting offer rather than use of restrictive language? Robert to discuss with Rescue Committee.
  - Insurance — Community Garden cannot get insurance for the garden alone because they are currently part of the FNA. They may not be able to form their own 501(c)3 which will further limit insurance purchase options. Perhaps a split of costs with the FNA? Susan H can provide insurance cost data at next meeting.
  - Discussion of a spring fund raiser such as a talent show in the fall.
  - Discussion of Mary Elizabeth Apartments on Hemphill — Steve Chaco wants us to support NEZ request. Discussion of HUD funding amounts that would require differing percentages of units required for affordable (subsidized) housing vs. market rate pricing.
  - Discussion of the need to include FNA on height restrictions discussions when applying for a NEZ.
  - Need list of functioning committees within the FNA for subsequent approval discussions by the FNA.
  - Need to identify someone to help with trap and release program if Diana's house sells and she moves from the area.
- 8:49 — Motion to adjourn:** Sean L, second Brenda H.

# FNA Board Meeting Minutes

## Monday, Jan. 10, 2011

**Present:** Geri C, Brenda H, Sean L, Stacy L, Sue M, Ricky P, Greg T, Jane W, Robert W

**Advisory Committee:** Mickey B, Fred H, Patti R

**Call to Order:** 7:07

Sara Taylor conducted a presentation outlining the creation of a committee to explore the establishment a business incubator function within Fairmount. The Board was interested in the idea and Sara was directed to provide additional detail about the committee's makeup and activities related to funding.

**Approve minutes of last meeting:** Motion to approve: Sean L. Second Brenda H. Passed

**Home Tour update** — Ashley Paz updated the board as follows:

- Final round of identifying and selecting homes is under way. Emphasis is on finding homes that have never been on Home Tour.
- Two sponsors from last year have yet to pay. Discussion of using personal visits given that invoices have already been sent to sponsors.
- Discussion of requiring payment from sponsors prior to the booklet, wherein they advertise their sponsorship, being sent to the publishers.
- Committee members — Ashley Paz, Chelsea Thorton, Steve Halliday (banners), Daisy Cromer (Wine-down). First committee meeting set for Feb 2.
- House captains will continue to be used. Artist area at ticket booth to be continued and enlarged. Tent location possibility at Avoca Coffee.

### Director's Reports

#### Finance (Jane W)

- Approximately \$44,600 in the bank — a couple of small outstanding bills have yet to be paid. Budget is in line to date.
- FNA realized a profit of \$1,975 on the Fairmount house rescue.
- Home Tour audit scheduled for next week.
- Motion to include Chewy as member at large for this audit by Sean, second by Brenda. Passed
- Annual Asset inventory committee needs to be re-activated. Sue M and David Thrapp will perform the audit, and submit findings to Robert W.

#### Administration (Greg T)

- Additional interesting Fairmount speakers identified.
- Packets passed to new members.

#### Historic Preservation (Sue M)

- Landmarks has requested our guidelines revisions by Feb. 14. Need to have the Board and the Preservation Committee review and approve on a line by line basis the guidelines. Review set for Jan. 30 at 2 p.m. — location to be announced.
- Landmarks passed the theatre design on Magnolia.
- 1939 Hurley — addition of a second story on the back third of the house was approved.
- 1228 S. Adams — received Historic Significant Endangered (HSE) designation
- 1405 Fairmount — received permission to remove the non-original 2nd front door
- A garage was demolished without a permit at 1905 6th, resulting in potential sanctions by the city.
- 1612 Lipscomb — demolition approved after the fact.

#### Promotion (Brenda H)

- Discussion of status of Facebook and Twitter accounts.
- Discussion of Fairmount "calling cards" creation and design.
- Discussion of Cowtown Marathon route through Fairmount. The marathon race committee is asking for assistance with water stations (the park or community garden a possibility?), cheering sections, and volunteer crossing guards.

#### Public Safety (Geri)

- Crime as a whole is down for the city. Serious crime activity is usually family related.
- Will need to have Code Blue patrolling the week prior to and after the Super Bowl.
- Warning that housing rental scams in relation to the Super Bowl are active.

#### Communications (Stacy L)

- Calendar activities needed for the newsletter.
- Lost pets posting is working.
- Need to advertise for an individual interested in taking over the trap and release program.

#### Membership (Ricky P)

- Membership fees due this month.

- January general membership meeting will have speaker related to gas drilling issues.
- Will need to discuss with general membership the opportunity to purchase a projector.
- Wildlife rehabilitator and a Joe's Run representative will speak during the February general membership meeting.
- Volunteer is needed for snacks for January general membership meeting. Discussion of using Constant Contact to advertise this need.

#### Infrastructure (Sean L)

- Park adoption plans progressing — working with city to address issues.

#### New Business

- Discussion of definition and identification of standing committees. Do we need to amend by-laws to identify all standing committees within the FNA, or are all committees other than Historic Preservation only formulated for "seasonal" activities and thus not considered as standing committees? Sean L. will head a committee to address inconsistencies in the by-laws related to committees, and propose amendments as necessary.
- Old Fire Station #10 (2804 Lipscomb) Board has requested a representative from Fairmount to sit on their board. Discussion of the role of a Fairmount representative on the board and the board's range of activities resulted in a request for Calvin to provide clarification at the next Fairmount Board meeting.

#### Committee Approval:

- Advisory Committee: role is to advise the President and to assist the Board as necessary in a non-voting capacity. Members are Fred H, Mickey B, Patti R.. Motion to approve: Geri C, second Brenda H. Passed
- Home Tour Committee: role is to plan run the annual Home Tour activities. Members are Ashley Paz (director), Chelsea Thorton (director), Steve Halliday, Daisy Cromer. Motion to approve: Sean L, second Brenda H. Passed
- Guidelines Committee: role is to study and revise the current Fairmount Historic guidelines to be approved by the HCLC. Members are Sue M, Mike McDermott, Patti R, Susan Harper, Robert W. Motion to

**See Meeting, page 8**





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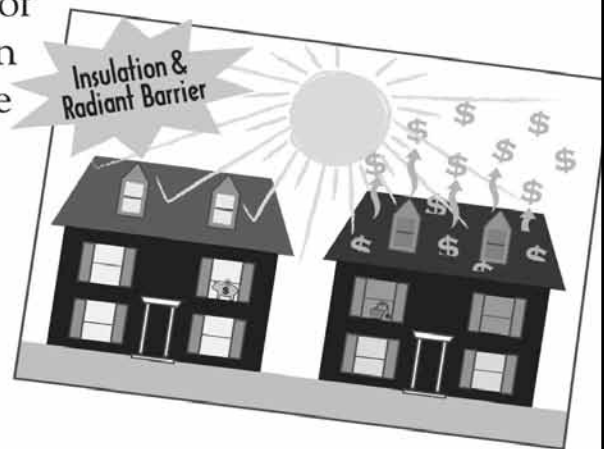
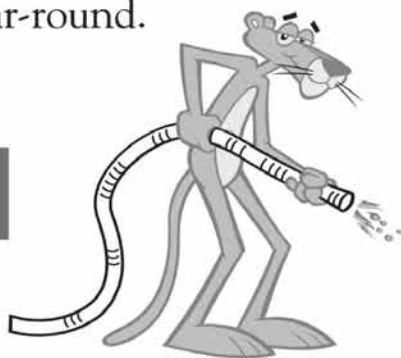


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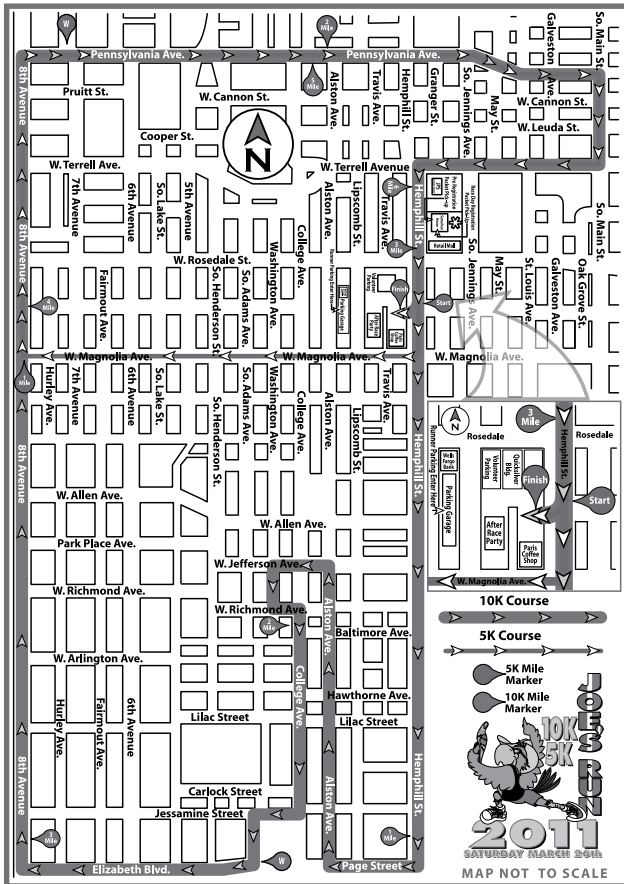
Announcing the 14th annual Joe's Run 10K/5K Walk/Run to be held in your neighborhood again this year on Saturday, March 26, 2011 at 8 a.m. See the course map for the actual locations of these two challenging course routes.

The 14th annual Joe's Run 10K/5K is a running event where all proceeds will benefit Fort Worth's Samaritan House. The Samaritan House mission is to create a supportive community providing housing and resources for positive change in the lives of persons living with HIV/AIDS and other special needs.

*Come on out and join the fun!*

For more details visit: [www.joes-run.com](http://www.joes-run.com)

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## Cowtown Marathon comes to Fairmount

### *2,500 participants expected as marathoners prepare for neighborhood route*

The 33rd Cowtown Marathon will be coming through Fairmount on Sunday, Feb. 27. There will be an estimated 2,500 marathoners and ultra marathoners running through the streets. The marathon is 26.2 miles and the ultra marathon is just over 31 miles (50K). These runners appreciate seeing spectators come out to cheer them on and offer support along their journey. They will be at mile 12-13 coming into the Fairmount neighborhood.

*Volunteers are needed for the following positions:*

- Course Monitors — to direct the runners when to make crucial turns or intersections. Safety vest and flag is provided along with specific instructions and a Cowtown Volunteer t-shirt. Specifically, monitors are needed at Hemphill and W. Magnolia, 5th Ave. and W. Magnolia, 5th Ave. and Allen St., 8th Ave. and Allen, Park Place Ave. and Allen. Volunteers are needed Sunday, Feb. 27 from approximately 8-10:30 a.m.
- Cheer Corrals — a group of neighbors to come out and cheer for the runners is needed and welcomed. You may choose the park across from the Fairmount Community Garden or you may cheer from the office on Park Place. Crews will be given volunteer shirts and noise makers. You



**Participants run through the streets during the Cowtown Marathon. The runners will be coming through Fairmount Sunday, Feb. 27. The marathon is 26.2 miles.**

can dress funny or provide entertainment if you like.

- Fluid (outdoor water faucet) is needed along W. Magnolia from Hemphill to Lipscomb or College Ave. If you have ideas, please let the race director know. Fairmount is welcome to adopt the fluid station along W. Magnolia and all supplies and training will be provided.
- Some volunteer opportunities will be available Saturday mornings from 9 a.m.-noon assembling runner bags. These days are Saturday, Jan. 22 and 29, Feb. 5 and 19.

For additional information or to volunteer, please contact Tera Galin-

do, race director, at 817.207.0224 or visit online at <http://cowtownmarathon.org>.

### How to register

If you would like to participate in the Cowtown Marathon, help Cowtown “go green” by registering online by midnight on Jan. 23. Visit [www.cowtownmarathon.org](http://www.cowtownmarathon.org) and click Online Registration. Packets will be available for pick up at the Health and Fitness Expo on Friday, Feb. 25 or Saturday, Feb. 26 at Will Rogers Memorial Center, Small Exhibits Hall, 3401 W. Lancaster Ave.

# January Yard of the Month *by Tabitha Tow Burns*



2209 5th Ave.

*Photo by Stacy Luecker*

The January Yard of the Month winners, Mike and Martha Stallard at 2209 5th Ave., know how to enjoy a blue Christmas.

Wrapping everything that couldn't escape in cobalt Christmas lights, they made a big holiday statement and in the process, won well-deserved recognition for all their hard work.

December is not only the season of ornamented spruces and sparkling porches; it's also a time for anniversaries.

This December, Mike and Martha are celebrating their thirtieth year in their prairie style bungalow. They fondly reminisced about their move to Fairmount.

"When we moved into Fairmount, we were told by friends and family that we were crazy. We decided that we would live in our 'starter home' for about 5 years and move. We loved Fairmount so much that it's been 30 years."

Mike and Martha love the urban vibe here, and they credit the Fairmount Neighborhood Association for much of the improvements in the neighborhood. With its diversity and accessibility to the rest of the city, the Stallards are proud to say that they live in Fairmount.

When they're not covering their home in hundreds of Christmas lights, Mike and Martha love collecting an-

tiques, entertaining their English Bulldog Neiman and traveling together. After they get everything put away from the holidays, they would like to find some time to restore their 1956 Cadillac Coupe De Ville. Judging by all the hard work ahead of them, they should be ready to go by Memorial Day.

Be sure to congratulate the Stallards for singing the festive Christmas blues and for winning yard of the month.

Thank you to CC's Touch of Nature for the \$35 gift certificate awarded to our homeowners, and thank you to Mike and Martha Stallard for sharing their beautiful yard of the month with us.



# Home tour volunteers needed

Preparations are underway and we need you to help make this year's home tour a success.

We are currently finalizing the planning committee assignments and the following chair positions are still available:

## Volunteer positions

**Logistics Chair** — recruits and oversees the setup crew the weekend of Home Tour.

**Volunteer Chair** — recruits and organizes docents, ticket takers, house captains, runners and sales booth volunteers.

**Advertising/Sponsorship Chair** — identifies prospects, creates and distributes sales pieces and acts as primary contact for advertisers and sponsors.

**Public Relations/Media Chair** — creates and distributes press releases and acts as primary media contact.

## Get involved

Of course, there are plenty of other ways to get involved with Home Tour. For instance, do you consider yourself an artisan? If so, we invite you to showcase your talents at the art space located by the ticket booth. We are also looking for a few good musicians interested in performing in the artist area.

Do you own a business in Fairmount? We are seeking businesses to donate goods and services to be auctioned at the Wine Down silent auction.

Last year, the silent auction raised an additional \$1,700 for the neighborhood.

## Contact us

For more information, contact co-directors Ashley Paz and Chelsie Thornton at [historichometour@gmail.com](mailto:historichometour@gmail.com)

## About Home Tour

The annual Fairmount Tour of Homes will be held Mother's Day weekend, Saturday, May 7 and Sunday, May 8. Tickets will be available for purchase at area locations and online beginning in March.

The tour highlights the beautiful homes that we have in the Fairmount neighborhood.

Each year, five homes, a business and a work in progress house are selected for the tour. Hundreds of people tour these homes to appreciate the architecture and take a step back in time.

Proceeds from the tour are the primary source of funding for Fairmount Neighborhood Association endeavors.

# Welcome to 2011

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**Above: Deterioration after years of neglect will soon be reversed once renovations are complete at 1405 Fairmount. Below: A hall bathroom holds a small clawfoot tub which will remain in the house.**

by Patti Randle

Last summer the Fairmount Neighborhood Association approved funds to help purchase and stabilize endangered houses in the neighborhood. The first property chosen and ultimately purchased was 1405 Fairmount, a house which had been chosen for demolition by Code Compliance, and demolition had been approved by Landmarks.

The Fairmount Neighborhood Association stabilized the house. The house was listed for sale and within a few weeks Brian and Sheila Portwood purchased the property. Once the roof is stabilized, the demolition order by the city will be rescinded.

The house, a 1,350 square foot bungalow built in 1916, is currently undergoing restoration.

When the Portwoods purchased the house, there was a door to the outside in every room and the house had been converted into a triplex rental. Remarkably, the original fireplace, shelves and storage bench in the living room are intact, an unusually small clawfoot tub still sits in a hall bath, and much of the original woodwork, though covered in layers of paint, remains throughout the house.

When viewing the house from the front, it's hard to miss the fact there are two front doors. The new owners were granted approval to have the non-original door removed which will then allow the steps and porch columns to frame the



Photos by Eric Luecker

# SAVING THE PAST

A labor of love begins as a couple finds home in a property once scheduled for demolition.

*"It has been most truly said that these old beautiful buildings do not belong to us only; that they have belonged to our forefathers, and they will belong to our descendants unless we play them false. They are not in any sense our property, to do as we like with. We are only trustees for those that come after us. So I say nothing but absolute necessity can excuse the destruction of these buildings; and I say, further, that such a necessity has never yet existed in our time."*

— William Morris  
Father of the Arts and Crafts movement



**Brian (left) and Sheila Portwood examine the fireplace at 1405 Fairmount. The Portwoods plan to restore and live in the house once renovations are complete. The house is the first endangered property purchased and stabilized by the Fairmount Neighborhood Association.**

original front door symmetrically.

In addition to the mundane but essential tasks of foundation work, new roof structure and new electrical and plumbing, the Portwoods plan to add approximately 200 square feet to the back of the house to accommodate a utility room off the kitchen as well as a master closet and bath off the back bedroom.

There is a small clawfoot tub in the hall bath which will remain and a larger clawfoot tub will be installed in the master bath.

What was most likely a small butler's pantry between the kitchen and dining room will be included in the new, expanded kitchen.

One end of the butler's pantry has

been closed off by a wall made of cardboard, duct tape and paint. Brian, who has rehabilitated a number of houses, said "I've seen a lot, but never [a wall] made of cardboard and duct tape."

The Portwoods currently live in Joshua but have been looking for a house in Fairmount for awhile, checking the MLS and driving up and down streets looking for a structure they could save.

The couple plans to live at 1405 Fairmount once renovations are complete and are already enthusiastic about the neighbors who have dropped by to welcome them and offer contacts, encouragement and friendship.

Brian, a licensed realtor, has also worked as a licensed electrical contractor

and, most recently, a software engineer. Sheila is a global trade compliance specialist for Bell Helicopter, working with the State Department and the Department of Commerce to ensure compliance with international trade laws.

The house at 1405 Fairmount is fortunate to have found owners who respect its history and have the skills, understanding and fortitude to save this once doomed property.

The Portwoods are a new reminder that these endangered houses need a champion who cares about the history and irreplaceable qualities of an old house.

Welcome to Fairmount, Brian and Sheila Portwood. We are glad you are here — as is the house.



# What style is YOUR HOUSE?

## *House style takes off in California, lands in Fairmount* Exploring the Airplane Bungalow

by Mike McDermott

In the first article in this series on house styles in Fairmount, we asked readers to send pictures of their homes via e-mail and they would be discussed here.

The first photo I received was a home at 2234 6th Ave. My first thought was that the best idea would be to write about the bungalow form and all its incarnations but that was obviously too much for one newsletter. Since this is my first response, I'll get on board and fly with this one. Can't help the puns. Sorry.

This type of bungalow starts with what is sometimes called the California style bungalow: Lower roofline than other bungalows that is often so low with eaves so wide they appear wing-like. Added to that, either when originally constructed or soon after they were built, was a small one- or two-room second story. This gives the appearance of the cockpit of an airplane, and hence the name.

This small second story may sometimes have started out as a simple screened porch atop the house and enclosed with windows soon after. In 1918, there was a world-wide epidemic of influenza that killed thousands. Shortly thereafter, if a house did not have a screened or multi-windowed sleeping porch, magazines of the day suggested that all households add a room where one could sleep outdoors on comfortable nights to encourage the intake of fresh air for long periods. This was thought to discourage the spread of disease in enclosed spaces.

Whether they were built before or after 1918, started out as screened or windowed, the small upper rooms provided light, fresh air and ventilation and often a panoramic view in a relatively flat plains areas like Texas.

There are several examples in the Fairmount historic district that offer different interpretations of the form, mostly with Arts and Crafts detailing like exposed rafter tails, knee braces, wide front doors, landscape windows and deep L-shaped porches. Thanks to Adam Lewkowicz for starting the conversation on the "flying house" with the picture of his home on 6th Avenue.

To all the rest of you: Come on, send me a picture of



The Lewkowicz home on 6th Ave is a typical Airplane Bungalow with its small "cockpit" second room. Note the unusual Prairie style design of the windows.



An excellent example of an Airplane Bungalow on Fairmount Ave. It has a double gable front, a matching second story gable and a cross gable extending right to form a porte-cochère for parking. The diminutive size of the second story cockpit room is evident when viewing the house from the side.





A home on Chase Court appears to mimic a flying wing. It also has a landscape window and the L porch, but with the addition of a side-facing cross gable that becomes part of an expansive porch.

**Inset:** A triplet window, with large window in center with two narrower windows either side is called a landscape window. The more common form of this type of window has a long narrow transom window across the top.



A typical California style Airplane Bungalow with a low wide gable design, L-shaped porch and one room second story. Also typical of brick Airplane Bungalows, the second story is finished with stucco walls.



A bungalow with the more typical double gable front with cross gable and addition gables on the side view. Not usual is the hipped roof cockpit room on top, not matching the gable on the front — but the shingled walls match the shingles in the front gable.



This brick and stucco home on Lipscomb St. shows typical Airplane Bungalow elements, but atypical are the side-facing gables of the front porch instead one gable facing forward, which give it an unusual shed roof appearance.

your old home. Wouldn't you like to know exactly what style it is or the elements from which it is made? They will be addressed and revealed in coming publications.

• • •

If you want help to figure out the style and put a name to the elements, send photos of your home to [msmcdermott@sbc-global.net](mailto:msmcdermott@sbc-global.net).

A good clear frontal shot taken at a slight angle as to see partly down one side is best.

In coming issues, we may use your photo as we discuss these styles.

If your home has non-original elements, we can figure that out and maybe help you pick the right look for restoration. Be sure to include the address.

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## “FORT WORTH’S RENOVATION HEADQUARTERS”



# Local choirs offer noteworthy performances

by Tabitha Tow Burns

As the downing of Christmas lights and the sweeping of pine needles commences, I've been reflecting on my favorite things of the season.

At the top of the list are the delectable, icing-lathered cookies that my mother-in-law makes just for me. I also look forward to unpacking special ornaments that my husband and I have collected from our travels, and to attending Christmas Eve services with my family.

What I love the most though is hearing the music of beautiful concert choirs. There's just something about it; the many brilliant voices in carefully blended unison, the layered harmonies building in synchronous waves of warmly constructed sound, and the rich musical canvases offering tender portraits one minute and playful ones the next.

The great thing is you don't have to wait until Christmas to hear great choral music, so my column this month features one of our great local concert choirs, which you can enjoy for less than tickets to the movies and some buttered popcorn.

While there are several good civic and volunteer choirs that perform in our area, including Schola Cantorum and

the Texas Boys and Girls Choirs, a lesser known favorite is the Arlington Master Chorale (AMC), who performs all over the Fort Worth and Arlington area. Endeavoring to perpetuate the arts through local schools, universities and communities, AMC concerts often feature fine guest performances from children and young adults that feature the best in traditional choral music in addition to their own choral performances.

When I asked AMC's director Randy Jordan about the mission of the choir, he said, "The Arlington Master Chorale is dedicated to enhancing the cultural fine arts in Arlington and surrounding area through the presentation of the finest in choral performance, incorporating students in the area public school districts whenever possible to further the future of choral artistry."

Not being confined to one trademark style, AMC offers a wide array of pleasing options that appeal to a broad audience. Randy explained, "I choose a rather eclectic repertoire of literature in various styles and genres. AMC has performed literature from the Renaissance through the modern 21st Century. It is one of the few performance organizations of its type

that regularly incorporates instrumentation up to full orchestra with its performances.

Upcoming spring concerts on April 15 and 17 will feature *Jubilate Deo* by Benjamin Britten, *The Last Words of David* by Randall Thompson, *Pilgrim's Hymn* by Stephen Paulus, *O Praise The Lord of Heaven and Gloria* by John Rutter, *Kyrie from Solemn Mass* by Louis Vierne, *Psalm 150* by Cesar Franck, and the *Little Organ Mass* by Franz Joseph Haydn."

When I asked Randy about how AMC was supported in these difficult times when so many arts programs are cut back, he said that AMC depends solely on individual donations, membership dues and concert receipts for its funding. That's all I needed to hear.

Resolving this new year to hear more concert choirs and given the quality of music in our midst, you'll find me enjoying the beautiful sounds of the Arlington Master Chorale.

Learn more about the Arlington Master Chorale and their concert schedule by visiting their website at [www.arlingtonmasterchorale.org](http://www.arlingtonmasterchorale.org) or by calling 817.460.7464.

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## ITEMS FOR SALE

For sale: 1 dining room fixture, 2 sconces, and a ceiling light/fan (all Mission style). About 6 years old. New sells for over \$700; will sell all for \$200. Perfect condition. Call 817.504.8092.

•••

For sale: Small antique oak printer's typecase cabinet with 11 drawers. Dimensions: 34.5" high x 26.5" wide x 21.5" deep. This size is difficult to find. Makes a great printer stand, jewelry storage or conversation piece. \$650. Call 817.944.8579.



**Left to right: Ann Little, Erza Pike, Santa Claus and Joyce Little pose for the camera. Below: Visitors gather at Fairmount Park to enjoy refreshments and visit with Santa.**

## *Santa in the Park*

*by Sheryl Helt*

Santa Claus, accompanied by his helper Snoflake, made his annual visit to Fairmount with a stop at Fairmount Park on Saturday, Dec. 11.

Lots of neighborhood kids were able to tell Santa exactly what they wanted for Christmas. For some, their wishes were simple and small, but for others a catalog was necessary to make sure he understood the specific request.

This was Santa's sixth annual visit and was sponsored by the Fairmount Neighborhood Association.

Special thanks to David Thrapp for set-up and take-down; Paul Allen for providing the delicious coffee; Mickey Bradley for repairing Santa's chair; and to Angela Popko, Serena Keeler, Jeanne Murphy and Sheryl Helt who organized the event.

*Photos by Eric Luecker*



**Mickey Bradley (left) and Gus visit with Santa. Santa in the Park is a yearly Fairmount event that allows Fairmount residents to bring their children and pets for a visit with Santa and enjoy refreshments.**



# Celebrating the holidays

'Twas a holiday party in Fairmount and all through the house  
Much laughter, merriment, and mirth did rouse!  
And for the hard work of the Bowden's, our hosts  
We raise our glasses and thankfully toast!



**Fairmount Holiday Party hosts Jason (right) and Kelly Bowden welcome Fairmount residents to their home to celebrate the holidays.**



**Partygoers partake of food and drink during the annual Fairmount holiday party held in December.**



*by Tabitha Tow Burns*

**T**hanks for all who came to the Fairmount Neighborhood Holiday Party at the home of Jason and Kelly Bowden on Dec.18.

The party was very well attended and it couldn't have been decorated better, as every nook and cranny offered a treat for the senses. Beautifully lit trees in every room, cascades of ribbon and trays of excellent food and drink welcomed neighbors from all over Fairmount to come together and share the joy of the season.

Memberships were paid or renewed, and prizes were donated and won. Thank you to Jerry Hawkins for donating the neck massager and fresh eggs, won by Chari Phoenix; Jane Wedding for donating the champagne and flutes, won by Don Yeandle; the cookbook and scrapbook offer donated by Sue McLean and Greg Taylor, won by Cathy Trimble; the beautiful floral arrangement donated by Philip Combs and won by Kerry Coy; the queen size sheet set, wine cooler and coin counter donated by David Thrapp and won by Mel Werth and Michelle Massaro; and the tasty Rahr gift package donated by Rahr Brewery and won by Amber Watts.

Most of all, we thank our generous hosts, without whom our holidays wouldn't have been nearly so festive.

**Jerry Hawkins (right) deals cards to (left to right) Calvin Clayton, Geri Cotten and Terry Trimble.**

*Photos by Eric Luecker*





Mickey (right) and Pat Bradley toast the upcoming new year.



Brenda (left) and Cassi enjoy brownies and drinks.



Historic and Cultural Landmark Subdistrict

# 1907 SUGGESTIONS AND RECIPES

## Cure for Brown Throat

When the neck and throat have taken on a brown tinge from exposure to the sun or from wearing the high stock collars so fashionable, it can be remedied by using the following paste: Beat up an egg, add one ounce of honey, one teaspoonful of lemon juice, six drops of oil of bitter almonds and enough fine oatmeal to make it into a paste. Use morning and night.

— D. J. A.

## To Thicken the Eyebrows

If your eyebrows are inclined to grow thin in spots, a very simple application, and one that cannot possibly injure them, is cocoa butter. A small piece may be softened and rubbed over your brows every night with your finger, following exactly the arch of the brow itself.

— R.

*This information is provided simply for your interest.*

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by Sue McLean, Director of Historic Preservation

Properties that will be restored or are coming to the Fairmount area.



Architectural drawing of the Citizen Theater on Magnolia.



1939 Hurley



2000 Alston



1425 Alston



1939 Hurley Will be restored with a two-story addition.



1423 Alston



1601 Adams

# Membership renewals for 2011 due in January

by Ricky Pike, Director of Membership

Your Fairmount Neighborhood Association dues are due now for the 2011 year.

If you have not renewed your membership since September of 2010, then the time to do so is now, before the end of January. If you are unsure of your membership status, please send an e-mail to [membership@historicfairmount.com](mailto:membership@historicfairmount.com) and we can verify your status.

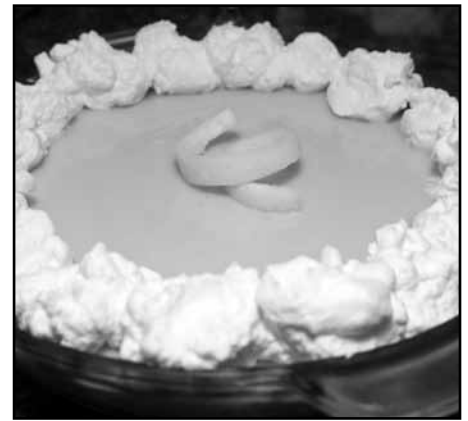
The best ways to renew are to fill out a renewal form (see pg. 28) and send with a check to the address listed on the form, or you may download a form at [www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com) by going to the Join Us link in the left-hand menu. Also, you may renew at the general membership meeting on Tuesday, Jan. 25.

We haven't had many renewals since September, and approximately 15 of you renewed at our holiday party, so odds are your time is up.



## Fairmount recycling program

General membership meetings are held the fourth Tuesday of the month. During these meetings cell phones, PDA's and ink cartridges are collected for recycling. There is also recycling available for fluorescent light bulbs and batteries. If you have any of these items you would like to recycle, please bring them to the meeting.



## Lemon Custard Pie

### Ingredients:

- 1 1/2 c. graham cracker crumbs
- 1/4 c. granulated sugar
- 1 stick butter, melted
- (2) 14 oz. cans sweetened condensed milk
- 4 large egg yolks
- 1 tbl grated lemon zest
- 2/3 c. fresh lemon juice
- 2 c. heavy cream
- 2 tbl confectioners sugar

Preheat oven to 350

### Instructions:

In a medium bowl combine graham cracker crumbs, sugar and butter. Press into a 9" deep dish pie pan and bake 6-8 minutes or until lightly browned. Remove to wire rack to cool.

While crust is cooling, whisk together condensed milk, egg yolks, lemon zest and lemon juice in a large bowl. Pour lemon filling into cooled crust. Bake 10 minutes or until set. Cool on rack then chill 30 minutes.

When pie is completely cool, whip the cream with the confectioners sugar (in a chilled metal bowl works best) until still peaks form. Mound whipped cream on top of pie and chill for 1 hour before serving.

*Editor's note:* This pie is creamy and wonderful. If you like lemon pie, try this.



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# LOCAL BUSINESS

**Avoca Coffee** — Opening soon at 1311 West Magnolia Ave. An exact date is not available, but in the meantime you can watch for their website at <http://avocacoffee.com> or join them on Facebook and Twitter for updates.

•••

**Shaws Burgers and Shakes** — Now open at 1057 W. Magnolia Ave. you can visit their website at [www.shawsburgers.com](http://www.shawsburgers.com) for hours and to download a menu.

•••

**Lili's Bistro** — Located at 1310 W. Magnolia Ave., this popular eatery is set to expand to include a bar and more restaurant space. They are also working on a new menu which is scheduled to be available in time for the Super Bowl (Feb. 4-6). You can find Lili's online at <http://lilisbistro.com>.

## Lost or found pet?

If you have lost or found a pet, please visit the Fairmount Neighborhood Association website at [www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com) to post a notice. Click on the Discussion Board link in the sidebar and sign-up to post comments or notices.

## Lily B. Clayton Elementary Informational Kindergarten Meet & Greet

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For more information, contact Kristi Parker  
817.296.7334 or e-mail [bkparker@charter.net](mailto:bkparker@charter.net)  
(Children are welcome to attend.)

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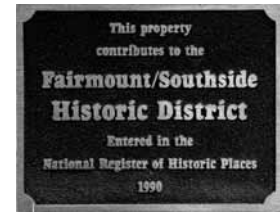
# CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- Feb. 7 .....Fairmount Neighborhood Association board meeting  
 Feb. 10..... Historic Preservation Committee meeting  
 Feb. 10..... Newsletter submission deadline  
 Feb. 14..... Landmarks hearing  
 Feb. 14..... Valentine's Day  
 Feb. 21..... Bulk trash collection (*Third Monday of the month*)  
 Feb. 21..... Landmarks filing deadline (5 p.m.)  
 Feb. 22..... Fairmount Neighborhood Association general meeting  
 Feb. 25, 26, 27 (in Fairmount Feb. 27) ..... 2011 Cowtown Marathon

## Automobile Window Etching

The Fort Worth Police Department offers free window etching on automobiles. Etched window glass sends a message to car thieves that they don't want to steal the car.

Please pick up the phone and dial 911 if you see anyone walking the streets or alleys that look suspicious. No one should be in an alley unless it is the homeowner cleaning up, the utility company, fire department or police department personnel.



## Historic Plaques Available

*Is your home a contributing structure in Fairmount? If so, then why not show it off proudly with a bronze plaque?*

These lovely plaques are available for \$100.

### Contact Sue McLean

817.924.6100

or e-mail

preservation@historicfairmount.com.

## NEIGHBORHOOD NOTES

### Liaison needed

Someone is needed to liaison with economically disadvantaged homeowners to help them avail themselves of city programs such as Cowtown Brush Up, Emergency Repair and others. A working knowledge of Spanish would be most helpful. Would require perhaps 10 hours a week of time to meet with homeowners and the Fort Worth Housing Department.

### Trap and Release Program help needed

Fairmount recently lost its Trap and Release Program coordinator. Diana Koch always did an excellent job and now we are looking for someone to replace her. Responsibilities include aiding in trapping feral neighborhood cats, taking them to a vet where they can be spayed or neutered and then returning them to the neighborhood. If you are interested in taking on this responsibility, please contact Robert Wedding at president@historicfairmount.com.

### COP classes in 2011

Citizens on Patrol (COP) classes will be held on the following dates: April 9, July 16 and Oct. 8 from 8 a.m. until approximately 3 p.m. If you are interested in attending, please contact Geri Cotten at safety@historicfairmount.com. COP meets every third Monday at 6 p.m. at the police station at 1289 Hemphill.

### COP during the Super Bowl

Citizens on Patrol (COP) has been requested to have all members patrol neighborhoods the week of the Super Bowl. With so many visitors in town the police can use the extra eyes and ears. Please be on the lookout and call 911 if you see any suspicious activity.

### Super Bowl scam

Many neighbors have noticed signs posted requesting people rent their homes during the Super Bowl. These notices are scams. Please do not reply to any signage requesting the rental of your property.

## Deciding on a paint color for your historic home

When deciding on exterior paint colors for your historic home, many resources are available to help you with your selection. Different house styles have different color schemes. Below are a few suggestions or do your own research online by searching for "historic paint colors."

**Sherwin-Williams** — Offers several historically accurate color palettes based on house style and time period. Some of the collections available include: Arts and Crafts, Victorian and The Jazz Age. Visit a local Sherwin-Williams location for color swatches or explore online at [www.sherwin-williams.com](http://www.sherwin-williams.com).

**National Trust for Historic Preservation** — The National Trust for Historic Preservation worked with Valspar Corporation (available at Lowe's) to develop a selection of colors appropriate for historic homes. It features 250 colors certified by the National Trust. For a list of colors visit [www.preservationnation.org/about-us/partners/corporate-partners/valspar/paint.html](http://www.preservationnation.org/about-us/partners/corporate-partners/valspar/paint.html)

**Old House Colors** — Features articles and suggestions including a 1917 house color chart. Visit <http://oldhousecolors.com>

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## Citizens on Patrol

Citizens on Patrol is a cooperative effort between citizens and the Fort Worth police to reduce crime. For information, call the Fairmount coordinators:

Sue McLean .....	817.924.6100
Geri Cotten .....	817.926.6507
David Thrapp .....	817.923.4807

E-mail: [FMCops@att.net](mailto:FMCops@att.net)

**COP meets every third Monday at 6 p.m.  
at the police station at  
1289 Hemphill.**

## Daggett Paper-Recycling Program

Daggett Middle School invites Fairmount to participate in its paper recycling program. You will find a green recycling bin on the east side of the campus, accessible from Lilac St. Daggett uses the money from the recycling program to purchase plants for the school flower bed and trees for the campus.

# Get Your Fairmount Curb Numbers

Show your neighborhood pride and help the pizza delivery guy find your house by having the Fairmount logo and your house number painted on your curb.

For only \$15, neighborhood resident Ray Feyen will paint your house number in two locations. The cost per address is \$15. *Although the association has selected a new design for pole-mounted signage, we will keep using the traditional "F" design for curb numbers.*

Contact Ray Feyen at 817.924.6729 or e-mail rfeyen@sbcglobal.net



*Be aware there is another curb painter also offering a smaller F stencil. Choose as you like but please never let anyone use a color other than the historic brown or new burgundy.*

## We're Online! ↗

Visit [www.historicfairmount.com](http://www.historicfairmount.com) or join us on Facebook

*Visit the Fairmount website for a calendar of events, news announcements, resources for your historic home, a gallery of Fairmount homes and more!*

## JOIN the Fairmount Neighborhood Association

### Why join?

- Get the newsletter delivered to your doorstep 11 times a year.
- Know what's going on in Fairmount and the city that will affect you and your property.
- Meet old and new friends at members-only parties.

**Annual dues are \$15 per individual. \$20 per family or \$20 per business.**

Fill out this form and (1) send it with your dues to Fairmount Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 12348, Fort Worth, TX 76110-8348 or (2) bring it to the next Association meeting (see meeting notice on front page). Questions? Call Ricky Pike at 817.727.4577 or e-mail membership@historicfairmount.com.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ e-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Occupation: \_\_\_\_\_

I am a  new  renewing member (check one)

I have lived in Fairmount  years.

Individual (\$15)  Family (\$20)

Business (\$20)  Friend of Fairmount (\$15)



## Fort Worth City Contacts

Animal Services .....	817.392.7297
City Council .....	817.392.6193
City Councilperson Joel Burns .....	817.392.8890
district9@fortworthgov.org	
Code Officer Oscar Reyes.....	817.979.4230
Oscar.Reyes@fortworthgov.org	
Fort Worth Police Department	
Non-emergency .....	817.335.4222
NPO Joel Stary .....	817.944.1316
Joel.Stary@fortworthgov.org	
Garbage info/illegal dumping .....	817.392.EASY
Graffiti.....	817.212.2700
Historic Preservation ( <i>Planning</i> )	
Jamie Zwolak .....	817.392.8037
James.Zwolak@fortworthgov.org	
Potholes.....	817.392.8100
Streetlight Outages.....	817.392.7595
www.fortworthgov.org/applications/tpwcrf	
Fort Worth Public Library .....	817.871.READ

## Advertise in the Fairmount Newsletter

Contact the Fairmount Director of Communications at [fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com](mailto:fairmountnewsletter@gmail.com). Items must be received by the **tenth** day of the month.

### Monthly Rates

Classified Ad Give-a-Ways .....	Free
Classified Ad For Sale Items.....	\$5
Business Card Ad .....	\$10
1/4 Page Ad .....	\$25
1/2 Page Ad .....	\$50
Full Page Ad.....	\$100

### Yearly (11 months) Advertiser Rates

Pay for your ad a year in advance and get one month FREE.

Business Card Ad .....	\$100
1/4 Page Ad .....	\$250
1/2 Page Ad .....	\$500
Full Page Ad.....	\$1000

The Fairmount newsletter is published 11 times a year (*Dec./Jan. issues are combined*) and distributed the weekend prior to the fourth Tuesday of each month.