



# Vickery Place Neighborhood NEWS

GREENVILLE-BELMONT-HENDERSON-CENTRAL-GOODWIN

P.O. BOX 720192 DALLAS, TEXAS 75372 VOICEMAIL: (214) 967-5134 WWW.VPNA.ORG



## JANUARY GENERAL MEETING

Date: Thursday, Jan. 13<sup>TH</sup>  
Time: 7:00 PM  
Place: Vickery Towers at Belmont & Greenville Avenue

Please plan to join us at our January general meeting to voice your ideas for 2005. Goals will be set for neighborhood activities and improvements. Committees will be formed to address Code Compliance, Crime, and Conservation.

\* \* \* \* \*

## VPNA 2005 GENERAL MEETING DATES

Join us as often as possible throughout the year and get to know your neighbors and contribute to better living in Vickery Place!

- January 13, 2005
- February 10, 2005
- March 10, 2005
- April 14, 2005
- May 12, 2005
- June 9, 2005
- July 14, 2005
- August 2, 2005 - National Night Out (Tuesday)
- September 8, 2005
- October 13, 2005
- November 10, 2005
- No meeting scheduled in Dec.



# HAPPY NEW YEAR!

## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

As your new president for 2005, I would like to encourage you to attend our first general meeting in January. Over the past few months I have had a few folks give me suggestions for improving the neighborhood. Should we pursue a sidewalk improvement campaign or perhaps light posts similar to Greenland Hills or a new park? Or should Vickery Place pursue private security patrols similar to what other east Dallas neighborhoods have done? Should we solicit/accept donations for these endeavors?

My goal for 2005 is to take one of these major improvements from idea to reality. At our first general meeting in addition to our standard business, I would like to take the time to organize sub committees around the areas of Code Compliance, Crime, and perhaps one around a major neighborhood improvement.

Vickery Place is undergoing a massive change and we need our new residents to come and lend their expertise in leading some neighborhood improvement projects. I am sure that somewhere in Vickery Place is a well skilled project planner that wants to give back some time to their community. We need your help!

~ Eric LeBlanc

### Bulky Trash/Basura Abultado

Don't Set Out Trash Before:  
Thursday, January 6



Pick Up Week:  
JAN. 10th - 14th

Volume 24, Issue 1  
January 2005

**CRIME STATS**

|                |          |                      |
|----------------|----------|----------------------|
| THEFT          | 10/27/04 | 56XX BELMONT AVE     |
| TEL HARASSMENT | 10/20/04 | 56XX BELMONT AVE     |
| THEFT          | 10/10/04 | 56XX BELMONT AVE     |
| THEFT          | 10/15/04 | 52XX BONITA AVE      |
| THEFT          | 10/09/04 | 52XX BONITA AVE      |
| THEFT          | 10/09/04 | 25XX HENDERSON AVE   |
| OTHER ASLT     | 10/09/04 | 27XX HOMER ST        |
| THEFT          | 10/29/04 | 25XX MADERA ST       |
| THEFT          | 10/22/04 | 25XX MADERA ST       |
| BURGLARY       | 10/13/04 | 26XX MADERA ST       |
| AUTO THEFT     | 10/15/04 | 20XX MCMILLAN AVE    |
| OTHER ASLT     | 10/01/04 | 56XX MILLER AVE      |
| TEL HARASSMENT | 10/11/04 | 22XX N HENDERSON AVE |
| OTHER ASLT     | 10/01/04 | 22XX N HENDERSON AVE |
| VANDAL         | 10/09/04 | 28XX N HENDERSON AVE |
| THEFT          | 10/11/04 | 29XX N HENDERSON AVE |
| THEFT          | 10/13/04 | 30XX N HENDERSON AVE |
| THEFT          | 10/13/04 | 30XX N HENDERSON AVE |
| THEFT          | 10/29/04 | 51XX RICHARD AVE     |
| THEFT          | 10/16/04 | 53XX RICHARD AVE     |
| OTHER ASLT     | 10/19/04 | 55XX VICKERY BLVD    |
| THEFT          | 10/25/04 | 51XX WILLIS AVE      |
| BURGLARY       | 09/25/04 | 54XX WILLIS AVE      |
| VANDAL         | 08/04/04 | 54XX WILLIS AVE      |
| TEL HARASSMENT | 10/19/04 | 56XX WILLIS AVE      |

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**OUT WITH THE OLD AND IN WITH THE NEW**

The 2005 Board of Directors slate was presented during our November General Meeting at the Barley House on Henderson Avenue. The following members were elected to the 2005 VPNA Board: President, Eric LeBlanc; Vice President, Bruce Thomas; Treasurer, Sara Gustashaw; Secretary, Sandi Holmes; At Large, Sheila Huffman, Lindsey Lecuyer, Christine Haddock, Cynthia Wielapsze, Kurt Schwarz.

We would like to welcome the incoming board, and give a heartfelt "thanks" to the 2004 board for a job well done!

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# ALL GOOD FURNITURE GOES TO...



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## STEAMBOAT SPRINGS SNOWFLAKE COOKIES

1 lb. butter, softened  
1 cup white sugar  
3 cups all purpose white flour  
1 tsp. vanilla  
1 ½ cups potato chips, crushed, not too fine  
(measure after crushing)  
Powdered sugar

Preheat oven to 325°  
Cream butter and sugar in a mixer. Add flour and vanilla.  
By hand, stir in crushed potato chips; mix gently. Drop on  
ungreased cookie sheet by iced teaspoon. Bake until  
slightly golden, about 12 to 14 minutes. Cool slightly,  
remove to waxed paper and sprinkle with powdered sugar.

This light, crispy cookie appeals to children and adults.

~ *Shelia Huffman*



### YMCA Family Fun Day

Saturday, January 29, 10am-4pm  
Play with the kids on the big pool  
inflatable, enjoy free food, or take a  
fitness class.

It's all FREE!

For more information, contact Joe  
Carpenter at 214-880-YMCA.  
Downtown Dallas YMCA

## COMMUNITY WORKSHOP: RESIDENTIAL TEARDOWNS AND NEIGHBORHOOD STABILIZATION

~ Beth Bentley

*Forward Dallas is a first-of-a-kind Citywide comprehensive plan that asks you to decide the kind of city in which you want to live or do business. Together we will strengthen the tax base, protect our neighborhoods, revitalize depressed areas and make our downtown more vibrant. (Forward Dallas [www.forwarddallas.org](http://www.forwarddallas.org))*

On November 16, 2004, the City of Dallas held a community workshop in connection with the Forward Dallas Comprehensive Plan, publicized to address "Residential Teardowns and Neighborhood Stabilization". However, not realizing what a hot topic this is, the City did not adequately plan for the large turn out (meeting space was inadequate, hot and over crowded), and some folks in attendance were confused about the format. Consequently, many who attended the meeting came away discouraged and disappointed. To resolve this, Veletta Lil along with City staff has planned another meeting to take a closer look at teardowns (a problem of national scope).

**Town Hall/Workshop:**  
**Residential Teardowns and Neighborhood Stabilization**  
**Monday, January 10, 2005, 6:30 p.m.**  
**Lake Highlands Freshman Center (Auditorium)**  
**10200 White Rock Trail**



This emotionally charged issue is a planning challenge for the City of Dallas. Different communities/neighborhoods have varying views on this issue. The City needs to enlarge its toolbox to address the differing views, broaden their spectrum of solutions, and integrate these views into the larger plan that encompasses issues of green space, linkages, compatible commercial development, density v. sprawl and more. It is quite an undertaking. Please plan to attend and contribute constructively—this is not a place to vent your personal grievances with City staff, but rather a meeting to discover viable solutions that will work for all. A follow up meeting will be held in March or April—time and place TBD. For more information on the Forward Dallas Comprehensive Plan, go to [www.forwarddallas.org](http://www.forwarddallas.org).

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Ross & Akard

**PREVENT CRIME DURING THE POST-HOLIDAY SEASON -  
- THINK SMART!**

~ Leslie Farrell

It's that time again when good cheer becomes a public display of affection. Getting toys and electronics seems to give adults as much a rise in their blood sugar as a kid eating their Lucky Charms. But before you run off and go play with your new media center and network all your plasma TVs and your computers, leaving the cardboard boxes on the curb, think again.

Preventing crime is easy, just set yourself in the context of our times. Right, lock your doors when you leave the house (since the mid 1960s as I recall). Nowadays, we are prudent to take all things out of the car and stow it out-of-sight, like, in the trunk, or take it with you. That's the Lock-Take-&-Hide program that started downtown to try to abate the ever popular burglar of motor vehicles (BMV) crime.

Other things you can do to prevent crime and avoid becoming a victim of crime is:

- to keep your exterior lamps lit during these long, dark nights;
- keep your alleyway clear of debris and overgrown vegetation;
- don't leave evidence of new property you've acquired at the curb, like those giant boxes for the big-screen TV (tear them down or flatten to smaller sizes -hold them for bulky trash pick-up or take them to a recycle dumpster);
- keep your animals safe and observable when outside (mean people are out there with insidious designs that include cruelty and violence to our small creatures);
- check on your elderly neighbor regularly -see if his or her door jambs are secure and haven't shifted too much to not lock properly;
- have your best, reliable neighbor pick up your mail and newspaper when you are away overnight;
- call in to 911 when you are suspicious of any stranger loitering for no reason;
- hold property owners responsible for keeping vacant structures locked and secure (this is a code violation which can be reported as such; one vagrant looking to keep warm through a cold night only needs to start a small fire in an empty clapboard house and we can all find our homes at risk);
- park your vehicle in your driveway or in the garage and not on the street;
- pay attention to your surroundings;

- keep your security alarm system updated with the city for proper permits so that the police can respond if an alarm is tripped; keep your thinking-cap on and look out for one another.



**2005 Board of Directors**

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Vice President: Bruce Thomas  
Secretary: Sandi Holmes  
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Lindsey Lecuyer  
Christine Haddock  
Cynthia Wielapsze  
Kurt Schwarz  
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Beth Bentley  
Shelia Huffman

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