

# TANGLEWOOD TRIBUNE

November, 2009



Thanksgiving Day in America is a time to offer thanks, of family gatherings and holiday meals. A time of turkeys, stuffing, and pumpkin pie. A time for Indian corn, holiday parades and giant balloons. In 1621, the FIRST THANKSGIVING was a little different!

In 1621, the Plymouth colonists and Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast which is acknowledged today as one of the first Thanksgiving celebrations in the colonies. This harvest meal has become a symbol of cooperation and interaction between English colonists and Native Americans. Although this feast is considered by many to be the very first Thanksgiving celebration, it was actually in keeping with a long tradition of celebrating the harvest and giving thanks for a successful bounty of crops. Native American groups throughout the Americas, including the Pueblo, Cherokee, Creek and many others organized harvest festivals, ceremonial dances, and other celebrations of thanks for centuries before the arrival of Europeans in North America.

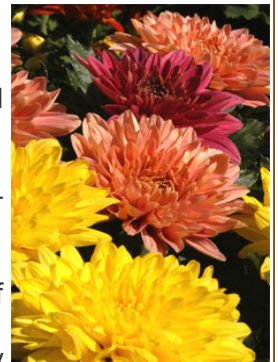
Historians have also recorded other ceremonies of thanks among European settlers in North America, including British colonists in Berkeley Plantation, Virginia. At this site near the Charles River in December of 1619, a group of British settlers led by Captain John Woodlief knelt in prayer and pledged "Thanksgiving" to God for their healthy arrival after a long voyage across the Atlantic. This event has been acknowledged by some scholars and writers as the official first Thanksgiving among European settlers on record. Whether at Plymouth, Berkeley Plantation, or throughout the Americas, celebrations of thanks have held great meaning and importance over time. The legacy of thanks, and particularly of the feast, have survived the centuries as people throughout the United States gather family, friends, and enormous amounts of food for their yearly Thanksgiving meal. (Information gathered from History.com)

## MUM TIPS!

by Neil Sperry

Nurseries have great supplies of "garden" mums right now. These are varieties that have been bred and selected to stay short and to produce quantities of small, cheerful flower heads. Here are some pointers.

- Mums require full sun to reach their full potential. They show best if there are low, evergreen shrubs behind them.
- Look for full, symmetrical plants that have lots of buds and fresh flowers.
- Choose colors that will complement their surroundings, and remember that masses of one single color show up far better than mixtures of colors.
- Space the plants 18 to 22 inches apart in well-prepared garden soil. At the most, they should barely touch one another.
- Allow them to bloom as long as they can. Then, once they're through flowering for the season, cut them back to within just an inch or two from the ground. Next year's stalks will come up from the ground.
- Don't be surprised if the plants produce flowers next spring. They bloom when nights reach a certain length, and there is a time in mid-spring, when nights are the same length as they are in the fall. Allow them to bloom for a few weeks, then prune off the flowers, fertilize the plants, and encourage them to produce vigorous vegetative growth.



### Quality Contract list!!!

We all need a little help from time to time and when a need arises, who wouldn't love to have a great list of quality contractors to turn to? Please send us the names and contact information of those contractors that you would like to recommend.

**\$8000 Home Buyer Tax Credit  
Congress may be  
extending the deadline!**

For questions or comments please e-mail Donna at: [donna@donnabthomas.com](mailto:donna@donnabthomas.com) or call 214-629-7586

# TANGLEWOOD TRIBUNE

## BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND...

### TANGLEWOOD HALLOWEEN PARTY!

Saturday, October 31, 4 to 6

Knebel Manor

1409 Stonoak Drive

*The World's Largest Slide!*

*Cupcake Walk!*

*Tug-of-War!*

*Hula Hoop Contest!*



*Bring your carved pumpkin. Awards for the most Outrageous, scariest & themed pumpkins.*

We will feast on Chili, Tortilla Soup & Hot Dogs!

Non-alcoholic beverages provided.....

Alcoholic beverages encouraged! (B.Y.O.B.)

\$20.00 contribution for families with children

\$10.00 contribution for families without children

Grandchildren & Friends Welcome!

Parade to follow in costume. Meet at entrance of the Villas at 6:30 to Parade down Oak Hollow Lane.

(Villas Residents....this is your chance to see the kiddos in costume and hand out treats...so bring your bucket-of-candy & lawn chair to Oak Hollow)

[www.donnabthomas.com](http://www.donnabthomas.com)

### FIRE AND ICE CHRISTMAS LIGHTS

Brian Chandler, while off duty as a McKinney fire-fighter, has been decorating homes in Tanglewood and the gazebo at the main entrance for years. He has been installing lights on the gazebo for free all of these last four years. So, if you're looking for a good, reasonable installer, please be as supportive of Brian as he has been of us. His phone number is 817-846-6271. It is not too early to get on his schedule!

### McKinney January 2009 to date:

<b>New listings:</b>	<b>2707</b>
<b>Closed Sales:</b>	<b>1475</b>
<b>Avg. Sales price:</b>	<b>\$224,735</b>
<b>Median Sales price:</b>	<b>\$179,900</b>
<b>Avg. Days on Market:</b>	<b>102</b>

### Tanglewood neighbors

#### \*\*\*\*\* FOOD DRIVE \*\*\*\*\*

Team Networking, a wonderful group of individuals I meet with weekly in McKinney has assembled a food drive for the only homeless shelter in Collin County, the Samaritan Inn. We will be placing boxes strategically throughout the McKinney area in hopes of collecting canned goods for the shelter to restock and distribute for this holiday season. There will be a box on my front porch, 6609 Oak Hollow, don't mind the gate, just open it and come on in, drop your canned goods and know you have helped someone at a very difficult point in their life. If you do not have the time to drop it off, please call, 214.629.7586, and I will stop by your home and pick up your items. This year is a particularly difficult year for some with loss of jobs being where it is, and a few canned goods go along way in helping someone out. Thank you for being such a great neighborhood with such a giving spirit. If you have the time when you drop your canned goods off, ring the bell and say hello if you wish.

*Donna*

If you would like to see what the homes in your neighborhood are **ACTUALLY** selling for, please go to [www.searchhomevalues.info](http://www.searchhomevalues.info), this incredible free tool will e-mail you a customized report in just minutes!

## Area Activities and News

### McKinney Repertory Theatre

A Christmas Carol

adaptation by Dr. Andrew Harris

November 27, 28, 29, December 4, 5, 6, 2009

This 55 minute one-act adaptation by McKinney by McKinney resident and UNT theatre professor Dr. Andrew Harris will be performed five times on Thanksgiving weekend during McKinney's "Dickens of A Christmas." All performances are in the Courtroom Theatre of the McKinney Performing Arts Center. Show times for Thanksgiving weekend are: Friday, November 27th, 2:00 & 5:00 pm; Saturday, November 28th, 2:00 & 5:00 pm; Sunday, November 29th, 2:00 pm.

We will also be performing A Christmas Carol the first weekend in December with performances on December 4th & 5th at 7:30 pm, and December 6th at 2:00 pm. Tickets for all performances can be ordered at [www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org](http://www.mckinneyperformingartscenter.org), or the MPAC ticket office.

## 29TH ANNUAL DICKENS OF A CHRISTMAS

### Historic Downtown McKinney

**Thanksgiving Weekend:**

**Friday, November 27 and Saturday, November 28  
from 10:00 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
and Sunday, November, 29 2009 from 12 - 6 p.m.**

Downtown McKinney's premier festival, the 29th Annual Dickens of a Christmas. An old fashioned, Victorian Christmas atmosphere with horse drawn carriages, traveling carolers, visits with Santa Claus, the Christmas tree lighting and activities for all ages. Seasonal music, food, children's activities provided by local non-profit organizations will take center stage during the event.

Patrons are encouraged to spend the weekend enjoying all the activities and taking advantage of the many great shops, restaurants and entertainment. The perfect start to the holiday season.



*Dickens of a Christmas is our opportunity to give back to the community.*

The event will be held for (3) days (November 27, 28, and 29, 2009). This festive event will launch on Friday, November 27 with the lighting of the Christmas Tree (Mitchell Park) and candlelight shopping until 8:00 p.m. Periodically, during the month of December, the Shops in Downtown McKinney will stay open for extended hours so that customers have a chance to finish all of that holiday shopping in one place with over 100 boutiques, art galleries, bookstores, apparel, gifts and exquisite antiques. Consumers can find the unique and special things that they won't find anywhere else in Downtown McKinney. This magical event is free to the public and free shuttle will be provided by CCart from the First Baptist Church.

What's your favorite place to eat in Downtown McKinney and why?  
Answers will be posted next month!  
E-mail responses to: [donna@donnabthomas.com](mailto:donna@donnabthomas.com)



For all of your real estate needs:  
Donna B. Thomas Properties  
214-629-7586  
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# NOVEMBER '09

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
1 <b>Daylight Savings Time Ends</b>	2	3 <b>Election Day</b>	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11 <b>Veteran's Day</b>	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25 <b>Deadline for Dec. newsletter information</b>	26 <b>Happy Thanksgiving!</b>	27	28
29	30					

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