

Village News

Views from the Heart of Historic Plano

November - December 2005

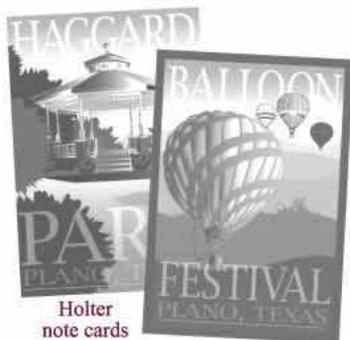
Let's Get Personal

Personal service is Historic Downtown Plano, a wonderland of seasonal inspiration and holiday ideas. What makes the area truly stand out is the unique items and personable vendors who provide unsurpassed service. Take a break from the impersonal, crowded malls and let the warm, friendly merchants of Historic Downtown Plano help you prepare for the season and celebrate it in style.

For holiday decorating, utilize the local interior design talent to bring it all together. Many of the downtown merchants offer designers and seamstresses for hire to add that special touch to your home. To find out more, visit **Ambiance Décor**, **Nanny Granny's, Oh! What a Find!** and **Simple Country Pleasures**. **Ambiance Décor** also makes custom silk floral arrangements, centerpieces and wreaths, along with many other decorative table top items and ornaments.

Art

Decorate your walls with art from Historic Downtown Plano. **Eastside Gallery** specializes in internationally-known artists. **The Rupp Fine Art Gallery** sells the work of more than a dozen local artists. Carol Rupp paints primarily in watercolors and does custom portraits. **Olde Towne Gallery and Frame** specializes in fine art, limited editions and custom framing. The shop will take framing orders right up to December 23 for Christmas delivery. The **ArtCentre of Plano** exhibits and sells art from regional, state and international artists. **The Michael D. Holter Studio and Gallery** on 15th Place features the work of Mr. Holter, including watercolors, oils and limited edition giclee prints. The studio also exhibits the work of other local artists and has created a series of Plano and regional posters, and note card designs. **Holman Pottery** on 18th Street is unique and handles the works of over 50 artists, including pottery, glass, iron, sculpture, jewelry and paintings. The ever-popular melting snowmen will be available again this year. All are one-of-a-kind pieces. Visitors can order custom pieces and view works in progress in the studio. **Montgomery-Moss Gallery** inside **Nooks and Krannies** carries limited edition prints by world-renowned artist P. Buckley Moss.



Holter note cards

Kay Askew Photography specializes in fine art black and white photography. Kay also makes "Remembrances," restored photographs combined with memorabilia in unique shadow boxes.

The 14th Street Gallery specializes in fine art restoration, giclee reproductions and graphic art. This contemporary gallery exhibits and sells works of more than 10 artists. At **Love Photography** you can sit for a family portrait and order custom greeting cards.

An Old Fashioned Christmas Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano

On Friday, December 2, Historic Downtown Plano will come alive with the spirit of Christmas! This joyous night of holiday fun lasts from 6 to 10 p.m.

Join in the seasonal cheer and family merriment at the annual City of Plano Christmas celebration. Listen to the carolers, drink hot wassail and take a sleigh ride. Visit with Santa and Mrs. Claus and drop by the 10th Annual Festival of Trees at the Interurban Museum. Enjoy the host of local performers on three stages. Sample the bevy of tasty treats from fresh stirred kettle corn and funnel cakes to smoked turkey legs and fresh cotton candy. There's something for everyone!

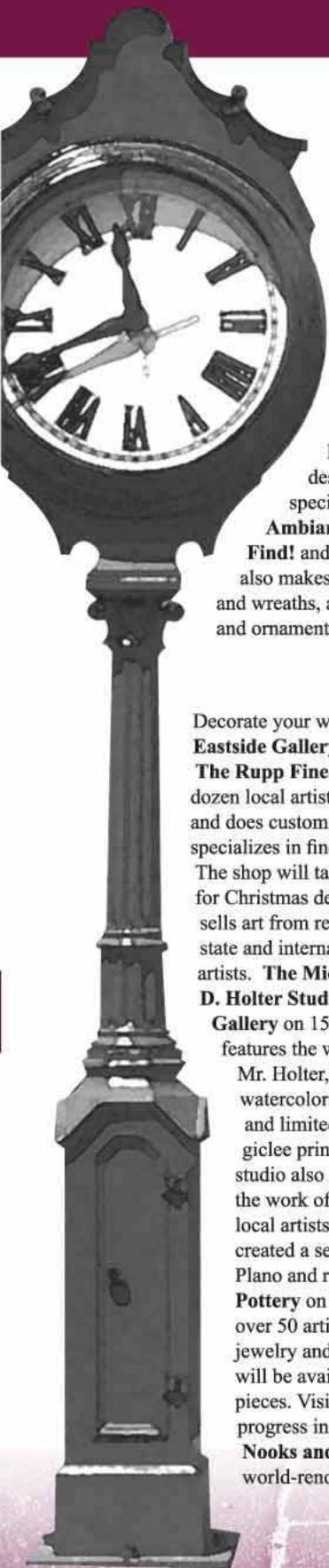
The Younger Generation, Plano Civic Chorus and the Plano Community Band will entertain with holiday music at 6:30 p.m., followed by the tree lighting ceremony in Haggard Park at 7 p.m.

Downtown merchants will stay open late. Restaurants and food vendors will offer a variety of food choices for attendees. Free shuttle service is available from this event to the Lantern Lighting at the Heritage Farmstead Museum described on the back cover.

Children can visit with Santa in his house all evening.

Join us for an old-fashioned Christmas!

Avenue J from 14th to 15th will be closed to traffic as well as 15th Street from Avenue H to Avenue K beginning at 4 p.m. Public parking is available behind the shops on 15th Street at Avenues H, I and L, on 14th Street at Avenues J and K and north of 15th Street on Avenue K. Free shuttle service is available from Heritage Farmstead Museum on 15th Street just east of Independence.



Happenings

November/December 2005

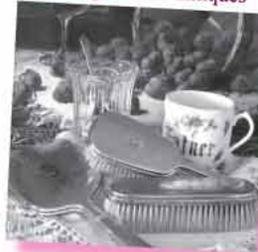
- 11/1 - 12/2 Art by Julio Suarez & Tony Holman (972-941-7740)
Municipal Exhibits Program, Courtyard Theater
- 11/1 - 29 Art by Sandy Foster & Rod Witten (972-941-7740)
Municipal Exhibits Program, Plano Municipal Center
- 11/1 - 23 Plano Photography Club Exhibit (972-941-7740)
Municipal Exhibits Program, Plano Centre
- 11/3 American Composer Celebration (www.planoband.com)
Plano Community Band, Eisemann Center, 7:30 p.m.
- 11/4 - 20 Seussical the Musical (972-422-2575)
Plano Children's Theatre
Fri. & Sat., 7:15 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 2:15 p.m.
- 11/5 Arbor Day Celebration (972-941-7250)
Pecan Hollow Club House, 10 a.m.
- 11/5 A Choral Celebration (972-606-5220)
Plano Civic Chorus, St. Andrew United Methodist Church, 8 p.m.
- 11/6 Mammoth Follies (972-596-8948)
Presented by The Classics, The Eisemann Center, 2 & 4:30 p.m.
- 11/9 & 10 Puccini's "Gianni Schicchi" (469-366-6892)
The Living Opera, The Courtyard Theater, 7 p.m.
- 11/12 - 12/2 Holiday Haute Arte (972-423-7809)
ArtCentre of Plano, 8 p.m.
- 11/12 Jerry Acuff Ice Cream Social (972-606-7575)
Men of Note Chorus, Pittman Creek Church of Christ, 7:30 p.m.
- 11/18 - 20 "The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe (972-516-1653)
Courtyard Theater, Fri. & Sat 7:30 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 3 p.m.
- 11/19 & 20 Christmas Crafts Fair (972-941-7250)
Plano Centre, Sat. 10 a.m. - 5 p.m., Sun. Noon - 5 p.m.
- 11/19 Just for Us! (972-473-7262)
The Vocal Majority, Presented by Plano Symphony Orchestra
The Eisemann Center, 8:15 p.m.
- 11/25 - 27 The Nutcracker by Chamberlain Ballet (972-744-4650)
The Eisemann Center, Fri. & Sat. 7:30 p.m., Sat. & Sun. 2 p.m.
- 12/1 - 1/4 Paintings (972-941-7740)
Carpenter Park Recreation Art Class, Municipal Center
- 12/1 - 29 Art by Sandy Foster & Rod Witten (972-941-7740)
Municipal Exhibits Program, Plano Centre
- 12/2 Dickens in Downtown/Tree Lighting (972-941-7250)
Downtown Plano, 6 - 10 p.m.
- 12/3 Holiday Parade (972-941-7250)
Downtown Plano, 9 a.m.
- 12/2 - 18 Best Christmas Pageant Ever (972-422-2575)
Plano Children's Theatre, Fri./Sat. 7:15 p.m., Sat./Sun. 2:15 p.m.
- 12/3 Holiday Show (972-606-7575)
Men of Note, Courtyard Theater, 8 p.m.
- 12/5 Chorus Performance (972-606-7575)
Men of Note, Plano Community Home, 7 p.m.
- 12/5 Holiday Party (972-633-0099)
Plano Art Association, ArtCentre of Plano, 8 p.m.
- 12/9 - 12/18 "A Sanders Family Christmas" (214-734-7326)
Word of Mouth Players, Courtyard Theater
- 12/10 Gloria! Christmas in Song (972-606-5220)
Plano Civic Chorus, St. Andrew UMC, 8 p.m.
- 12/12 Chorus Performance (972-606-7575)
Men of Note, Plano Municipal Center, 6:30 p.m.
- 12/16 - 1/21 Hsinchu Taiwan Artists (972-423-7809)
ArtCentre of Plano
- 12/18 Home for the Holidays (972-473-7262)
Plano Symphony Orchestra, St. Andrew UMC, 4 & 7:30 p.m.

Antiques

Whether you are sprucing up your home or shopping for gifts, Historic Downtown Plano has a broad selection of antiques. Search for treasures in **Cobwebs Antique Mall and Tearoom, Nanny Granny's, Red Awning Antiques and Collectibles, and Simple Country Pleasures.**

Monogrammed sterling silver antique pieces and first edition signed books are available at **Cobwebs**. In addition to its collection of antiques, **Nanny Granny's** also carries hand-made bags and Boy Scout memorabilia.

Monogrammed antiques



At **Red Awning** you can purchase a custom "Blast from the Past" gift basket, featuring a magazine from a specific date with nostalgic candy, coffee or tea.

Blast from the Past



Place has a wonderful selection of hand-made furniture along with intriguing market samples.

Unique Gift Ideas

Ambiance Gifts carries the SWAK line of contemporary hand-painted, limited-edition collectibles by Guillermo Forchino. These modern comic art pieces include several types of vehicles, airplanes and others. Also available is the "A Breed Apart" collection of clay pets, complete with custom naming tags.

The Master Suite has a terrific selection of bath and bed items including candles, bath oils and lounge wear. The shop also sells jewelry, wigs and other gift products.

Nature's Finest Art is a jewel of a shop with rare gems such as Larimar, Gaspiete and Peruvian opals. To soothe a stressful life, try salt lamps handmade by Susan Steiblen. Also available are Ne' Qwa Art ornaments, blown glass hand painted on the inside.

Ne' Qwa Art Ornaments



For the aspiring photographer on your list, visit the friendly folks at **Film Depot**. This store offers the largest selection of photographic supplies in the area. If it's magic you want to see and buy, visit **Queen of Hearts** to see their wonderful selection of magic sets, complete with lessons.

The place for custom fresh floral, plant arrangements and wreaths is **Natural Elegance**. The shop also carries gifts, candles and stationery.

Monogrammed Comfy Cozy



New Additions has been on 15th Street for over 25 years, providing baby gifts and clothing (sizes newborn to 6X) for generations. Let Sandra Skaggs help you pick the perfect gift or holiday outfit. She can also provide custom monogramming.

Oh! What a Find! carries unique beaded handbags, inspirational friendship gifts and silk florals.

For that hard to shop for person on your list, most of the stores, restaurants and salons in Historic Downtown Plano provide gift certificates.

Kids and adults alike will enjoy the scooters and bikes from **Custom Scooters**. With a large inventory of the new Wave Crest electric bikes and foldable scooters, this store can get you going. Just down the street you'll find the **Lone Star Mint** shop for the coin collector on your list.

If you are looking for children's toys, dolls, books and puzzles, **Nooks and Krannies** is the place to go. At the **Lee Middleton Nursery**

Lee Middleton Nursery



Newborn Nursery, you can adopt a newborn baby doll. There are only two of these nurseries in the state! Madame Alexander dolls, Byers Choice carolers and other holiday collectibles are also available.

For the smoker on your list, visit **Two Brothers Cigars** on Avenue K for plenty of unique gifts and a wide selection of cigars. Take some time to sit and enjoy the atmosphere before you continue shopping. **Nosejoy** is located in the back of the store, offering wine products and accessories.

The Wooden Spoon on Avenue K sells Scandinavian gifts of all kinds, from heritage gifts to Scandinavian food. Owner Gwen Workman also makes custom baskets and bakes Scandinavian goodies. For December the shop will serve complimentary glogg and cookies. On December 5 the store will host a "Cookie Party" from 1 to 5 p.m. Bring a tray of your cookies, sample others, and watch a demonstration of Scandinavian cookies in the making.



For another fresh food idea, visit **Candy Bouquet**, an aromatic shop selling delicious sweets designed with the candy connoisseur in mind. **Georgia's Farmers Market** offers holiday gift baskets for the more health-conscious, including fresh fruit, nuts, trail mixes and other gourmet items.

Hosting a party for the holidays? Get your personal invitations from **Persona Imprinting** inside **Simple Country Pleasures**. If costumes are in order for the party, **Treasure Box Thrift Shop** has a nice selection of vintage clothing and **Queen of Hearts** has costumes for Santa and his elves. **Ye Olde Butcher Shop** offers the best quality beef, pork and poultry for your event. Many of the local restaurants also cater events.

United Mail and Business Center can take care of all your shipping and mailing needs.

Dining

You can enjoy a delightful meal in several charming neighborhood restaurants. Take a break from shopping and enjoy salads, quiches and gourmet sandwiches at **Into My Garden Tea Room** or **Lillians' Back Porch**. Restaurants open for both lunch and dinner include **Macatrello's on 15th Street** (burgers, sandwiches and more), **Aparicio's** (distinctive Mexican cuisine), **Dickey's Barbecue Pit** (famous for its barbecued pork and beef), **Feels Like Home** (cheese steak, hoagies and more), **Jorg's Cafe Vienna** (authentic Austrian cuisine) and **Kelly's Eastside** (Texas cookin'). More casual eateries include **Metro Burrito**, **Taqueria El Torito** and **Taqueria La Paloma**. Stop by **Rainbow Donuts** or **La Paloma Bakery** for a quick dessert.

If the relaxed and easy shopping of Historic Downtown Plano doesn't reduce your stress level enough, stop by **Body Grafix Massage Therapy** or **Always at Peace Day Spa** for a massage. Visit one of the many salons in downtown for a facial, manicure, pedicure or a holiday hair style. You can choose from **Anthony's Barber Shop**, **Baxter's Salon**, **Creative Collections Hair Design Studio**, **Dora's Salon**, **Latinos Unisex**, **Mane Design**, **Penny's Salon**, **Phancy's Hair Salon**, **Plano Barbers**, **Plano Nailery**, **Sisters Two Salon**, **Oh! What a Find!**, **Always at Peace Day Spa**, **Today Tan and Nails**, **Hair'em and Nail'em** and **Williams Family Barber Shop**.

Come home for the holidays. Visit Historic Downtown Plano!

The Holiday Season – Douglass Style

Come one, come all! The Douglass Community Center has warm holiday traditions that have served the community for years.

The annual Thanksgiving Dinner will be November 15 at 6:30 p.m. This delectable meal, catered by Sweet Georgia Brown, is free and open to all residents of the Douglass community and surrounding areas. This event is sponsored by Douglass Community Center and local agencies who utilize the facility.

On December 15 the traditions continues with the annual Christmas Luncheon for senior citizens in the area and those from the MLK Center in Denton. At 6:30 p.m. the center will host the annual potluck community dinner. Entertainment will be provided by the wonderful Douglass Community Center staff.

Another tradition celebrated at the center is the annual gift giving for the local kids. The football team at Plano Senior High School provides gifts for more than 100 children in the area. Everyone is welcome to drop a gift by the center to add to the event. Please call the Douglass Community Center at 972-941-7174 for the date.



Street Talk

Lisle, Inc. a landscape design firm offering design, irrigation, fences, decks and exterior lighting has moved from 14th Street to 1219 Avenue K.

The Institute of Health Promotion, located on 16th Street, will host an open house on Thursday, November 3 from 4 to 8 p.m. with tours of the facility, refreshments and hourly drawings for services. Get to know your new neighbor and satisfy your curiosity with a visit.

The **Douglass Community** will soon have a beautiful mosaic mural at Avenue I and 12th Street. The work is being done by artists Lynne Chinn and Shug Jones of Tesserac Mosaic Studios of Plano. Funding for the project was completed with a grant of \$21,000 from the City of Plano Heritage Commission. The projected completion date of the art wall is mid-June, with a dedication ceremony on June 19, 2006.

Michael Holter opened the **Michael D. Holter Studio and Gallery** on 15th Place earlier in the year. Mr. Holter was born in North Dakota and has served in various teaching and managerial art positions in Minnesota and Virginia. Prior to opening his own studio, he served as the Creative Officer for six years at Killion, McCabe and Associates, an advertising and direct mail company in Dallas. Michael's wife Cyndy manages the gallery, assisted by Kristin Cole, a graphic designer.

Heather Ward and Curlytop Welch have partnered to form a new type of salon, **Hair'em and Nail'em**. Located at 1465 Municipal Avenue, the shop is a soothing oasis where you can sit back and be pampered. Have some custom-blended tea while you get a manicure, pedicure, makeover, waxing, color, highlights or a perm. The salon also carries a line of beauty products and the latest in Beijo bags. Buy one at the shop or earn one with a home show.



Always at Peace Day Spa moved to 1715 Avenue H in September from its previous location on Avenue K. With less than a year in the area, the spa found a need to expand into a larger facility. In addition to massages, body treatments, waxing, nail treatments and facials, this unique spa offers group packages and spa parties.

Central Vision Clinic has moved from East 15th Street to the Historic Downtown Plano area on 14th Street. The clinic is owned by the husband and wife team of Drs. Ronald De La Fuente and Damarilly Velez. They are therapeutic optometrists offering vision therapy, eye glasses, contact lenses along with treatment and management of eye diseases. The clinic carries the latest fashions in eyewear, including DKNK, Elite Eyewear, Brooks Brothers, RayBan and many others.

Providence Community Church has changed its service location and time. Services are now held in the ArtCentre Theatre, 1039 E. 15th Street, at 10 a.m. on Sundays. The church will continue to use the ArtCentre main building for its children's ministries. A Christmas Eve service is planned for 5 p.m.

Historic Views

The area around Avenue J has a past rich in history. In the early 1900s, the area was known as the Jockey Yard and it hosted Trade Days. At that time, the Moore House, owned by Ulysses and Julia Moore, served as a hotel catering to railroad travelers. Also on the street were J.W. Shepard's Mule Barn and a blacksmith's shop. At the mule barn, one would rent saddle horses, buggies or teams of mules. The mule was the work animal in those days, before mechanized farm machinery. Mules were more suited to the Texas heat than horses. The late Sam Stogner once said that "mules were worth more than money in the bank."



The Masonic Grand Lodge of Texas was formed in 1859. The Lodge had its initial meetings in the Spring Creek area, and then moved to the corner of what is now Avenue K and 15th Street. In late 1924, Plano's Masonic Lodge purchased the Moore House. The Plano Masonic Lodge moved into the structure in early 1925 and has been there ever since. This two-story brick commercial structure was built in 1898. Clubs and organizations helped provide a strong social structure in the early years of Plano.

By the 1930s, with the modernization of farm machinery and society, Trade Days became a thing of the past and J.W. Shepard's Mule Barn became J. W. Shepard's Livery Stable. This building later became a furniture store in the 1940s and a supermarket in the 1970s.

In addition to the Plano Masonic Lodge, the street now serves as home for Ambiance Décor, Cobwebs Antique Mall and Tearoom, Fairway Real Estate Group, Warner Richeson Home Design and Nanny Granny's. If you visit Nanny Granny's, you can walk to the back of the store and see the original brick wall from the J.W. Shepard Mule Barn.

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VILLAGE NEWS

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City Scene

10th Annual Festival of Trees

The Friends of the Plano Public Libraries will conduct their 10th Annual Festival of Trees in the Interurban Railway Museum during Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano at 8:30 p.m. The drawing for the tree give-away occurs on the Plaza Stage.

Lantern Light at Heritage Farmstead Museum



Visit this annual event, on December 2 from 6 to 10 p.m. The charge is \$5/person, \$18/family of 4 or more with discounts of \$2 per person/\$3 per family discount for unwrapped toy or coat and special pricing for museum members. Free for children under 3. The theme this year is "A Shadow Circus:" Christmas Circa 1897. Tour the Farrell-Wilson House, Children's Activities and Crafts, Enjoy entertainment, hayrides, Christmas carol sing-a-long, country store, refreshments and visit Saint Nicholas. Free shuttle service is available from Dickens Downtown.

33rd Annual Plano Christmas Parade

Strike up the bands! The annual Plano Christmas Parade is on its way, complete with holiday floats galore and plenty of local high school bands on Saturday, December 3 at 9 a.m. The parade will also feature cheerleaders, the City mascots, Girl and Boy Scout troops, Drill Teams, YMCA Indian Guides and Princesses, churches, dignitaries and more. The deadline for groups to register to walk in the parade is November 19 (www.planochristmasparade2005.com).

The parade starts at 18th Street and Avenue P, goes west on 18th Street, south on Avenue K, west on 15th Street, then north on Avenue G to 16th Street to the Cox parking lot. Get your lawn chairs and come out early to enjoy this year's exciting trek through Historic Downtown Plano.

The parade route will be closed to traffic and parking from 8 to 11 a.m. Public parking is available behind the shops on 15th Street at Avenues H, I and L, on 14th Street at Avenue J and K and north of 15th Street on Avenue K and Haggard Park.

The City of Plano provides the Village News to members of our community to keep citizens informed about the activities in the heart of Historic Downtown Plano.

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