



# Citizens In Action!

**NOVEMBER 2011** 

#### WELCOME TO OUR PREMIER ISSUE...

It is with great pride and enthusiasm, we present our premier issue of the *Citizen's In Action* newsletter.

## Helping you achieve your Volunteer goals

The quarterly newsletter is designed to assist members and volunteers in staying current about topics and events supported through the Citizen's Police Academy Alumni Association and Citizen's Police Volunteer Program.

*Citizen's In Action* will showcase current events, volunteer opportunities, Citizen Police Academy classes, LPCPAAA activities, and other items of interest.

As with most new publications, we are a work in progress, constantly evolving to keep our readers knowledgeable and informed about volunteer activities within the community. We welcome your comments and suggestions and appreciate your support.

We hope you enjoy this issue!





#### What's Inside....

Looking Back	2
Recognition Program	
President's Podium	
Coming Events	



#### **Breaking News**

**Issue:** Theft of AC Units for Copper Wiring from vacant residences and businesses

**Hot Spots:** East Side of Hwy 146

Thieves typically scope out the area in advance by walking the neighborhood, selecting a potential target and then returning with others in a truck to load the unit.

They then strip the parts and wiring to sell to local scrap yards.

Report suspicious activity to: La Porte Police Department at 281-471-2141.

If you have information that can help solve a crime of this nature: Crime Stoppers of Houston at 713-222-TIPS (8477)

#### **Next Publication:**

Special Edition: January 2012 thereafter will be quarterly starting in March, 2012

### Looking Back...

#### **Advanced CPA**

The Advanced CPA (ACPA) is a seven-week program designed to provide a working knowledge and background of the La Porte Police Department and foster a closer relationship between police officers and the community they serve. Each member of the ACPA is a former graduate of the department's Citizens Police Academy (CPA) who elected to enroll in the advanced course in order to seek further, in-depth, information on the operations of the La Porte Police Department.

The ACPA is taught one evening a week with each class lasting three to four hours. The subjects covered during the academy address various attributes of emergency operations such as First Responders of La Porte EMS and La Porte Fire Department, Special Weapons and Tactics (S.W.A.T.), Gun Range practices, Life Flight, CPR, Emergency Operations Command, Skywarn System education and DWI procedures.

The first ACPA class in August, 2011 commenced with twenty-four honored graduates.

"Our CPA Graduates are members of our police family and are true partners in keeping La Porte safe," said La Porte Police Chief Ken Adcox. "They are a major asset to our organization and we are proud to have them."

The next class is scheduled to begin in late January 2012.

On the evening of October 4<sup>th</sup>, 2011, the La Porte Police Department, hosted its 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual National Night Out event. The highlight of the evening at the station was the dedication of the La Porte Police Department's new facility, located at 3001 N. 23<sup>rd</sup> Street as the Herbert F. Freeman Jr. Police Administration Building, after the City's first ever police chief. Freeman served as the City's Police Chief from 1961 to 1985 and had remained active in the La Porte Community until his passing last March. A special Proclamation and Texas Flag were presented to the Freeman family in memory and honor of Chief Freeman.

Over twenty Citizen's Police Volunteers & LPCPAAA members helped guide citizen's through tours of the station, outside attractions and information booths in the training center. Volunteers also answered questions about the Citizen's Police Academy, volunteer opportunities and the mission of the LPCPAAA, as well as photographing several of the block parties. Once again the Volunteers contributions helped make the evening a huge success.

In fact, the event turned out to be the largest yet for the City, with nearly 600 citizens enjoying the night's festivities, which included various public safety displays and demonstrations from several area law enforcement and emergency services agencies, the U.S. military, regional safety organizations, and local citizens groups.



Judy Covin concludes her tour of the station with several families who appeared to have enjoyed the National Night Out Open House.



#### Blue Santa Program

The La Porte Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (LPCPAAA) and the La Porte Police Officers Association (LPPOA) are partnering with Chili's in La Porte to hold a fundraiser for the Blue Santa Program.

The goal of the program is to provide children and families the magic and joy of the Christmas season.

Chili's, at their Spencer Hwy. location, will donate 10% of your total tab to the Blue Santa Program when purchases are made using a special flyer. Watch your email for the next flyer.

Eat out and help support the Blue Santa Program!

Request a flyer: Phillip.Ferguson@att.net

Share as many copies of the flyer with family and friends as you like!!!!

We welcome everyone to join us in purchasing, wrapping and distributing the toys to Neighborhood Centers in December.

#### Announcing...

#### The LPCPAAA Recognition Program

During the October LPCPAAA monthly meeting it was agreed that the association would create a recognition program to recognize Volunteer efforts throughout the year that support the Mission, Vision, and Values of the LPCPAAA and LPPD.

We now have such a program for 2012! Below is a brief overview of the Recognition Program.

#### **Summary of Awards**

#### President's Voluntary Service Award Program (NEW)

Volunteers who reach designated service hours based on the PVSAP criteria. Three levels: Bronze, Silver, Gold

#### **Volunteer of the Ouarter Award**

Volunteer that makes a significant contribution(s) to the community, LPPD, or LPCPAAA each quarter.

#### **Volunteer of the Year Award**

Volunteer that makes a significant contribution(s) to the community, LPPD, or LPCPAAA during the past year.

#### "You Make A Difference" Award (NEW)

Volunteer(s) who significantly stand out in their actions, activities, or contributions during an event, special project or through volunteer administrative activities.

#### **Community Leadership Award of the Year** (NEW)

Volunteer and/or Liaison who through their outstanding partnerships between groups and individuals help to craft collaborative solutions to issues facing the community, LPCPAAA or LPPD needs.

Each of the above awards carries with it criteria for nomination or receipt of the award. Full program details will accompany nomination forms. In addition, this criteria is published and available at any time in the Recognition Program binder available in the Volunteer Office at the LPPD.

Recognition Committee Members:

Deb Hathorn
Paula Wohnoutka
Jo Munke

#### President's Podium

By Phillip Ferguson, LPCPAAA Presiden

The La Porte Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association (LPCPAAA), a non- profit organization, is committed to serving law enforcement and the general public by promoting and advancing the Citizens Police Academy:

- The La Porte Police Department,
- Law enforcement officers and civilians that currently coordinate the LP Citizens Police Academy program and LP Citizen's Police Volunteers,
- Law enforcement officers that instruct classes for the LP Citizens Police Academy program,
- Individuals affiliated with a Citizens Police Academy alumni association or other law enforcement-related volunteer programs,
- Interested citizens and supporters of the LP Citizens Police Academy concept.

The association was not created to replace existing Citizens Police Academy programs, alumni associations or other law enforcement-related volunteer programs, but to help enhance these community programs through education, networking and sharing of information relative to what other law enforcement agencies, associations and volunteer groups are doing throughout the state.

As a graduate of the LPCPA you automatically become a member of the LPCPAAA. Meetings are held the first Thursday of each month, excluding December.

Contact Phillip Ferguson @ Phillip.Ferguson@att.net



President: Phillip Ferguson

1<sup>st</sup> Vice President: Viki Ferguson

2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President: Wanda Cummings

Treasurer: Bob Rivesman

Secretary: Cheryl Hiser-McCorry



#### **Christmas on Main Street Festival**

Date: Thursday, December 1, 2011

**Time**: 5 p.m. - 8 p.m.

**Location**: Main Street in La Porte

Volunteers Needed for the LPCPAAA & DARE

Booths.

Contact: Judy Covin Email: judycovin@yahoo.com

Phone: 281.479.1965 (H)

#### **Volunteer's Awards Banquet**

(Adults Only Please)

Date: Saturday, December 10, 2011

**Time:** 6 p.m. - 9 p.m.

**Location:** Southern Komfort Kitchen (previously

Premier's) on Underwood Blvd.

RSVP by Nov. 15 to Phillip.Ferguson@att.net

As we near the close of 2011 we would like to express our gratitude to all the Volunteers who made a huge contribution of time and effort into improving our community by volunteering to help such projects as Slap-n-Tag, Health & Safety Fair, LPPOA Golf Tournament, National Night Out, La Porte Air & Car Show, marathons, Dog House Donation boxes, Trash Bash, and many more events.

We would also like to extend a special thanks to Yvonne Stanley and new PAR officers, Robyn Gallion and Roger Gonzalez for their support and encouragement throughout the year!

Kuddos for a job well done!!!
We look forward to seeing you again in
2012 as we all strive to

Make A Difference in La Porte!