



**MEMBER 2009**

**TEXAS PRESS ASSOCIATION**

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# International Festival defines school

By Jess Paniszczyn

North Hills Preparatory School recently presented its annual International Festival. Beginning with a World Walk, a parade in which youngsters dress in the traditional clothing of their respective native countries, to the feast on Saturday afternoon, this year's festival lasted three days.

"The International Festival is something that defines North Hills," said Becky Christensen, Primary School Director. "We opened in 1996, and we were looking for an opportunity to serve all children to make sure everybody had an opportunity for a great education. We strive for every child to succeed and

go to college.

"As a result of our goals and our mission, we have ended up with a wonderful combination of many different ethnicities. So we have no majority. We have about 30 percent Anglo, 30 percent Indian/Asian, 5 percent Native American, 5 percent African, and 5 percent Hispanic. We have a really nice mixture. So kids grow up with friends from all different cultures. It has always been a celebration.

"The International Festival celebrates and validates what is meaningful to the families and kids we serve.

"During the festival on Saturday, we had one large room where

different countries set up information booths. The booths displayed textiles, food, games and pieces of art. It was a real opportunity for everybody to go around and see 18 to 20 different countries represented and to learn about them.

"The festival is a really special celebration of who we are, how we celebrate our differences, and share

so many different things in common," she said.

Shadab Shahabuddin, the volunteer coordinator for North Hills Preparatory School, served as the event's manager. Shadab is from Pakistan, her husband is from India and her children were born in Canada

"It is our tradition that we cel-

brate the International Festival. We have over 80 different countries represented in our school. This is a time for us to celebrate and learn about each other and other cultures," Ms. Shahabuddin said.

"This year we also had a huge booth for the USA, because of the

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Marching in a parade of color, students and teachers display the flags and traditional clothing of their native countries during the World Walk at the beginning of the North Hills Preparatory School's International Festival.

# Fascination of BODIES not for everyone

By Jess Paniszczyn

With more than a little trepidation, I stepped from the bright sunlight of early afternoon into the en-

try of BODIES... The Exhibition. In the past, I have happily let similar exhibits pass through the area without much consideration. It's not that I consider myself exceptionally squeamish; I have simply never considered hanging out with the dead a rollicking good time. So on this particularly nice day as I found myself entering a once popular West End haunt, I can't tell you whether it was my curiosity that got the better of me, or my unflagging devotion to you, the *Rambler* reader that spurred me on.

The exhibit started out relatively mildly with a display of bone. Most of us are reasonably familiar with bone through our dietary choices such as fried chicken and spare ribs.

However, about 25 feet into the exhibit area, I found myself face to face with a partially dissected human. It was not the experience I had anticipated. No overly instinctually drives to run screaming from the room kicked in. He was fascinating and quiet beautiful. Layers of muscle arising out of bone and fitted together in geometric perfection stood in front of me looking as if he were running for a touchdown.

So with a second more confident start, I continued through the exhibit. High ceilings, lovely wooden floors, and an array of bodies and body parts gave me the impression that I had walked into the living quarters of a rather affluent

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# MetLife Foundation supports Hispanic Mentoring Program

Fifteen Gilbert Elementary students mentored through Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas' Hispanic Mentoring Program gathered to thank MetLife Foundation for its second \$500,000 grant for the national Hispanic Mentoring initiative. The Nov. 19 event featured a traditional Tres Leches cake and handmade thank-you cards.

"We really work on each child having their personal success each day," said Principal Michael Crotty of Gilbert Elementary School. "Today's relationships help make our students successful. We are a four time Recognized Campus, and we are working very hard to be Exemplary. We think of exemplary

as much more than just the TAKS grading. We think of exemplary as being an example of ongoing learning both with students and teachers.

"Fifteen of our children, our littles, matched with big brothers and big sisters. This is our second year in this partnership, because of MetLife's Hispanic Mentoring grant. Our student population is 79 percent Hispanic, and we are the sixth poorest school in the district. We are very grateful and value what mentoring represents. It represents relationships.

"We know the children have experienced personal growth through being mentored by big brothers and big sisters. We are

very happy with each child's progress in terms of achievement in school, learning to value and appreciate themselves, form positive relationships, avoid violence and negative behaviors, and continue growing in relationship in their family."

Big Brothers Big Sisters' seven-year-old Hispanic Mentoring Program is helping 38 Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies nationwide serve Hispanic children more effectively and engage more Hispanic adults as volunteers. The program provides agencies with communications strategies and tools that enhance engagement with Hispanic communities,

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## BIZ BRIEFS

A business activity report by the Irving Economic Development Partnership.



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**IRVING BUSINESSES RECOGNIZED AS TOP PLACES OF EMPLOYMENT**

Nine Irving-based companies have made The Dallas Morning News' list of the top 100 places to work. Adminstaff, Inc., Multiview Inc., Cohesive Automation Inc., Pioneer Natural Resources, Mosaic Sales Solutions, Flowserve Corp., RBC Life Sciences Inc., HCA-National Patient Account Services and Darling International Inc. received this elite designation. Chamber member, the Grand Prairie AirHogs, also made the list. The rankings were based on employee interviews.

**EFJOHNSON AWARDED LUCRATIVE NEW CONTRACTS**

Irving-based EFJohnson Technologies, Inc. announced that it has received a multi-year contract for \$4.8 million, with four options valued up to \$21 million, from the U.S. Department of Defense to deliver a wireless sensor network solution. Additionally, the company has received \$5 million from the U.S. Navy to extend the virtual perimeter monitoring system solution it is currently providing to the Navy. Also, EF Johnson has received a new state-wide multi-year contract valued at \$6.1 million to produce mobile radios and accessories for a large state police force, as well as a contract valued at \$3.3 million for work on an infrastructure system that will enable first responder two-way radio calls to roam between trunked and conventional systems.

**NYLO HOTELS NAMED TOP NEW BOUTIQUE BRAND IN BUDGET TRAVEL**

NYLO Hotels' new loft-style hotel in Las Colinas (1001 W. Royal Lane) has helped the company become a top brand for 2009 in Budget Travel Magazine's list of the "World's Best New Boutique Hotels Under \$150." The November issue's cover story, "Stylish Steals," spotlights 31 hotels around the globe that mix high style with high affordability.

**EXXONMOBIL AROUND THE WORLD**

ExxonMobil has reached an agreement with Chinese state-owned energy company, Sinopec Corp., to purchase two million tons of liquefied natural gas annually in Papua New Guinea, where the company is developing gas fields and a pipeline to carry supplies to the coast of the South Pacific island nation. Additionally, the Irving-based company is celebrating 15 years of safe and successful operations in Angola with production operations reaching one billion barrels. The company has also been awarded a contract with Royal Dutch Shell Plc. to develop the West Qurna oilfield in Iraq. And, ExxonMobil has announced it will open a \$4.5 billion refining and petrochemical complex in the Fujian Province of China. Having recently opened its first gas station on the Chinese mainland, the company plans to operate at least 750 gas stations in the country.

**IBC CHANGES NAME TO HOSTESS BRANDS, DEBUTS NEW PRODUCT**

Irving-based Interstate Bakeries Corporation (IBC) has announced that it is changing its name to Hostess Brands, Inc. The new name was selected following extensive market research, and leverages an iconic brand that Americans have enjoyed for almost 100 years. The company has also announced it has introduced a new variety to its line of Nature's Pride breads - Nature's Pride Nutty Oat.

**FLUOR AWARDED DUTCH CONTRACT**

Fluor Corporation, headquartered in Irving, has been awarded an engineering, procurement and construction management services contract to develop the Bergermeer gas storage project in the Netherlands.

**CONFERENCE USA SECURES SEVEN BOWL COMMITMENTS**

Conference USA, headquartered in Irving, has secured future commitments with seven bowl partners including the new Dallas Football Classic, a game that will be played at the Cotton Bowl in Fair Park. Agreements have also been reached with the Bell Helicopter Armed Forces Bowl played in Fort Worth, the AutoZone Liberty Bowl, EagleBank Bowl, R+L Carriers New Orleans Bowl, Sheraton Hawaii Bowl and the St. Petersburg Bowl.

**IRVING NAMED TOP PERFORMING CITY**

In a recent report of America's best performing cities, the Dallas-Plano-Irving market ranks 13th, up from 23rd last year. The Milken Institute Best Performing Cities Index rank cities' economic strength by measuring factors including job opportunities, wages and technology growth.

**HIGHLY EDUCATED WORKFORCE DRAWS STAFFING AGENCIES TO IRVING**

Drawing from a large, diverse and highly educated workforce, Irving is home to several of the biggest staffing firms in North Texas. Two of these, Staffmark/Venturi Partners/CBS Personnel and PDS Technical Services, Inc., were recognized as being among the largest in the Metroplex by the Dallas Business Journal. Rankings were based on the number of W-2s issued.

**IRVING HOME TO FASTEST GROWING PRIVATE COMPANIES**

Three Irving-based companies, Driver Pipeline, Akili and Enkitec were recognized by the Dallas Business Journal as being among the 100 fastest-growing private companies in the Metroplex.

**UPLIFT EDUCATION EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR HONORED**

Rosemary Perlmeter, Executive Director of Uplift Education, received an award last week for "Innovation in Leadership" from the Center for Non-Profit Management. Uplift Charter School, North Hills Prep, named by Newsweek as one of 2009's ten best public high schools in America, is located in Irving.

**IRVING TOPS TEXAS IN GREEN FLEETS**

The City of Irving's leadership in environmentally sustainable initiatives was confirmed at the 2009 Green Fleet Conference in Chicago when Irving was recognized for having one of the greenest government fleets in America. A two-time award recipient, Irving was the top Texas city recognized.

**FIRST CHOICE POWER IMPROVES ENVIRONMENT**

Based in Las Colinas, First Choice Power, one of Texas' largest retail electric providers, has planted more than 3,000 new trees over the past three months. Through a partnership with the Arbor Day Foundation, a new tree was planted on behalf of each customer who signed up for paperless billing August through October.

**BLUE CHRISTMAS CHILI COOK-OFF**

The Irving Fire and Police Department's Blue Christmas for Kids' Chili Cook-off will be held December 5 at Heritage Park, 217 South Main. Teams can register to compete alongside police and fire personnel. The cost per team is \$20 with \$17 of that supporting the Blue Christmas program. To learn more, please contact Becky Fann at 214-762-2352 or Margaret Hobbs at 972-513-059 or [macintexas058@yahoo.com](mailto:macintexas058@yahoo.com).

**HEALTHSMART RESCHEDULES OPEN HOUSE FOR DECEMBER 11**

Irving-based HealthSmart has rescheduled their on-site clinic's one year anniversary for December 11 and will be unveiling at that time, a new healthcare benefit that meets the basic medical needs of Irving employees at a very reasonable cost. The product is tailored to small and mid-sized businesses that currently offer healthcare benefits and for those that do not. It is also well-suited for larger companies seeking more cost effective healthcare options. An Open House with a light and healthy breakfast will be held along with brief presentations on the new benefit product beginning at 7:45 a.m., December 11, at the Urban Towers, 222 W. Las Colinas Blvd, North Tower, Suite 200. There is no charge to attend. Registration is requested and available on-line at [www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=\\_2bdcWsSs7XDmZVhGebBG7OA\\_3d\\_3d](http://www.surveymonkey.com/s.aspx?sm=_2bdcWsSs7XDmZVhGebBG7OA_3d_3d). For more information, visit [www.healthsmart.com/anniversary.aspx](http://www.healthsmart.com/anniversary.aspx).

**IRVING RECOGNIZED FOR BEING TECHNOLOGICALLY ADVANCED**

The City of Irving has been recognized as one of the most technologically advanced cities in the United States for the fifth consecutive year according to the 2009 Digital Cities Survey. Irving achieved its highest ranking ever, placing third for cities in the 125,000 to 249,999 population category. Irving is the only Texas city to secure a top-10 spot in this category.

**TEXAS TOPS SITE SELECTION'S BUSINESS CLIMATE RANKINGS**

The State of Texas has claimed the number two spot, trailing only North Carolina, in Site Selection Magazine's annual business climate rankings. An October survey of corporate real estate investor executives revealed that transportation infrastructure and existing work force skills, areas where Irving is particularly strong, top the list of factors important in location decision making.

**FLUOR NAMES CHIEF OPERATING OFFICER**

Irving-based Fluor Corporation's Board of Directors has announced the election of David T. Seaton to the newly created position of chief operating officer.

**SHERMCO NAMES NEW SALES ENGINEER**

Shermco Industries, headquartered in Irving, has announced the hiring of Paul Idziak as a new sales engineer.

**OMNI HOTELS NAMES VICE PRESIDENT, E-COMMERCE**

Irving-based Omni Hotels has announced that Kerry Kennedy has been promoted to the position of Vice President, E-Commerce.



Please contact the Chamber at 214.217.8484 if we can assist you

**Main Office**  
5221 N. O'Connor Blvd., Ste. 100  
Irving, TX 75039  
**Heritage District Office**  
135 S. Jefferson St.  
Irving TX 75060

*Biz Briefs is provided by the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce which is solely responsible for its content.*

# Students discover cultures, traditions while enjoying festival

Continued from page 1

USA we are all under one flag. Our scouts were in charge of that booth and we are very proud of the job they did.

"Our most popular booth was the dessert booth where everybody brought in desserts which are common in their culture. We also had a talent show done by the kids in which they performed native dances and skits through which they shared with other students a little part of their culture.

"We hope children learn about tolerance as well as about each other. The festival was an opportunity for the students to educate themselves about different cultures, traditions and ways of living. Learning these lessons brings the students closer in many ways.

"When we are living here, we are all Americans. We are all doing the same thing. This one event gives us a chance to share how we live back home and how we are. That is really appreciated by all cultures.

Everyone likes to learn about different cultures and different aspects of life. I think students enjoy this festival a lot.

Emily Le, an 11<sup>th</sup> grader at North Hills, represented Vietnam during the World Walk.

"I liked the International Festival a lot. I liked the parade because everybody came in their country's traditional clothing. There was a huge array of colors, and I thought that was really nice. I like seeing pretty things," Emily said.

"During the parade, we walked around the building holding the flags and showing off the unique styles of clothing from around the world.

"There aren't as many Vietnamese students here as say from India. Seven of us wore the traditional Vietnamese dresses, ao dai, because there were not any guys in the group. It was nice to represent my country among the rest of the students.

"The feast part was really nice also. There is such a wide range of

flavors from every country that we were able to sample a little bit of. I learned a lot, because along with the food, they also gave a little historical lesson every time we sampled something. It offered us a lot of cultural insight."

For English teacher Katie Biela, the festival represented the positive attributes of the North Hills School environment.

"The International Festival never ceases to amaze me. This school shares my values in acceptance, inclusivity, and international

mindedness, sort of a global think process.

"These students see themselves as this great whole unit that happens to be from different places. To see kids from all ages get together to participate in this festival, it makes me so proud to teach here. It makes me so proud to know that these kids are the ones we are sending out into the universe. These students understand what it is supposed to be like out there.

"My kids are so on top of the connectivity, relationships and the

way people should behave and think. It is breathtaking.

"Kids should have a sense of individual pride, while maintaining that core sense of unity they seem to have. It is fun to watch them find new friends who have completely separate backgrounds and ideologies, and realize that they are essentially eighth graders trying to make good grades. At the end of the day, their worst nightmare is their math teacher," Ms. Biela said.

## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**November 21 at 8pm**  
**Bon Voyage!** - Las Colinas Symphony Orchestra welcomes guest violinist Andrew Wang and cellist Oliver Schläffer performing selections from Brahms and Bizet at 8 p.m. in the Carpenter Performance Hall. \$25-55, 972-252-2787 or www.irvingartscenter.com for tickets.

**November 21 at 2:30pm**  
**Fall Crafts for Kids** - Make fun, fall-themed crafts at 2:30 p.m. at the Northwest Branch Library, 2928 N. Belt Line Road. Supplies will be furnished and the program is open to all ages. For more information, call 972-721-2691.

**November 21**  
**Dinner/Auction** - The Yellow Rose AMBUCS present their 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Dinner/Auction 'Sock Hop' at the Knights of Columbus, 2906 Rock Island Rd., Irving. Tickets are \$15 each. Don't miss Elvis.

**November 23**  
**Book Club**  
The 20<sup>th</sup> Century Book Club of Irving will meet at the Garden & Arts

Building, 906 Senter Rd. Irving. Reviewer will be Rosemary Rumbley on Emily Post by Lara Claridge. Call Gail Huckabay at 972-253-4092 for information. Visitors welcome.

**November 26-27**  
**Office closings** - City offices will be closed Nov. 26-27 for Thanksgiving. There will be no residential trash or brush collection on those days, nor will there be any curbside recycling service. City libraries will be closed Nov. 26-27, and all libraries close at 5 p.m. Nov. 25. Hunter Ferrell Landfill, located at 220 W. Hunter Ferrell Road, also will be closed Nov. 26-27. The city's drop-off recycling centers will be closed Nov. 24-26, but will reopen Nov. 27. All city recreation centers and Heritage Aquatic Center will be closed Nov. 26-27. North Lake Aquatic Center will be closed Nov. 26-29. Irving Arts Center administration offices will be closed Nov. 26-27 and will reopen at its regular hours Nov. 30. The box office and galleries will be open for normal business hours Nov. 27.

## POLICE & FIRE

**Aggravated Robbery:** 11-12-09 at 11:32 a.m. The victim called the police and reported that three males entered her home in the 1700 block of Green Oaks Dr. while she was at home. Several items were stolen from the home. The suspects fled and were not located.

**Bank Robbery:** 11-16-09 at 2:15 p.m. A male suspect approached the Regions Bank teller handing her a note demanding money. The teller emptied the money from her drawer, handed it over to the male and the suspect left the bank. Investigators and FBI were called out and responded to the scene.

# WORSHIP

### Baptist

**Colonial Baptist Church**  
1514 West Bardin, Grand Prairie, TX  
(972) 254-2188  
The Bible Our Textbook, Christ Our Message, Everyone Welcome, Seating Limited  
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

### Jewish & Gentile People

**The Jewish Channel IPTV**  
Visit our web-site and learn how you can be involved with us at thejewishchanneliptv.net . We want to bring Hebrew Manuscripts to your place of worship . Call us at 972-514-1873 ask for Brother James Knight ! E-mail us if you would like to ask any questions on when we could come and share in God's Blessing The Jewish People ! Peace - Shalom thejewishchannel.iptv@gmail.com or homeland\_missions@yahoo.com .



### Presbyterian USA

**St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church**  
1621 W. Grauwlyer Road, Irving, 75061  
972-259-8744  
email: secretary@ststephenspres.com  
website: www.ststephensirving.org  
Sunday Worship 10:50 a.m.  
Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

### United Methodist

**First United Methodist Church**  
211 W. Third St., Irving 75060  
THANKSGIVING SERVICES 11-22-09  
10:30a Sanctuary  
6:30p Chapel

### United Methodist

**Oak Haven United Methodist Church**  
1600 N. Irving Heights 75061  
972.438.1431  
www.oakhavenumc.org  
Sunday School 9:45 a.m.  
Sunday Worship 10:45 a.m.

### United Methodist

**Plymouth Park United Methodist Church**  
1615 W Airport Frwy, Irving 75062  
(North side of Hwy 183 between MacArthur & Story)  
972.255.4185  
www.ppumc.org  
Sundays 8:30, 9:15 & 11:00am

# CLUBS

**Buttons & Bows Square & Round Dance Club**  
1st & 3rd Saturdays at 8:00 pm  
Senter Park East  
228 Chamberlain

**Evening Lions Club**  
1st & 3rd Tuesdays at 7:00pm  
Community Christian Church  
2301 Texas Drive

**Irving AMBUCS**  
Thursday at 11:30am  
New Panda Cafe  
West Hwy 183 service rd.

**Irving Noonday Lions**  
2nd, 3rd & 4th Wednesday at Noon  
New Panda Cafe  
West Hwy 183 at Story

**Irving Sunrise Rotary**  
Thursday at 7 am  
Las Colinas Country Club  
4400 N. O'Connor Rd.

**Irving Shrine Club**  
2nd Thursday at 6:30pm  
IHOP Restuarant- Beltline Rd.  
1801 N. Beltline Rd.

**Israel Club**  
Hwy 183 & McArthur  
Inside Baylor Hospital Foodmart  
Saturday Mornings 8:45

**Las Colinas Rotary**  
Noon, Tuesdays  
La CIMA Club  
5215 N O Connor Blvd

**Saturday Singles Lunch Bunch**  
1st & 3rd Saturdays  
972-254-3525

**Yellow Rose AMBUCS**  
Wednesday's at 6:00pm  
IHOP Restuarant- Beltline Rd.  
1801 N. Beltline Rd.

**VFW Post 2494 IRVING**  
Post Meeting - 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday at 7pm  
Ladies' Auxiliary - 1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed at 7pm  
Men's Auxiliary - 4<sup>th</sup> Wed at 7pm  
Junior Girls - 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 12:30pm  
3375 Belt Line Rd  
Just South of Shady Grove

Organizations are required to re-submit their information on a monthly basis to insure that the Irving Rambler will have accurate information. Listings are limited to the Organization's name, meeting location and time. If an organization wishes to have more information than the free listing offers, we will continue to offer other advertising opportunities.

## The Irving Rambler (214) 675-6493

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# Congresswoman honored for fighting drunk driving, underage drinking

Congresswoman Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX) has been recognized by The Century Council, a national not-for-profit organization funded by distillers, for her outstanding commitment to fighting drunk driving and underage drinking. Congresswoman Johnson was one of 21 Members of Congress to be honored for her ongoing dedication.

There were 11,773 alcohol-impaired traffic fatalities in 2008, with 5,174 of them being persons between the ages of 12 and 20, according to the National Highway

Traffic Safety Association. Understanding the scope of this national epidemic, this year's award recipients joined The Century Council to help educate youth and their parents from middle school through college-aged students about responsible decision-making concerning beverage alcohol.

Congresswoman Johnson is a leader in the fight against drunk driving and underage drinking. In May of 2009, she hosted The Century Council's *Brandon Tells His Story* initiative at A. Maceo Smith High School in Dallas. The *Bran-*

*don Tells His Story* program features Brandon Silveria, a young man who was involved in an alcohol-related crash at age 17 just before his high school prom. Brandon and his father Tony spoke to students about the importance of "making the right choice" about alcohol, and that if students are under the age of 21, the only responsible decision is not to drink.

The Century Council is a not-for-profit organization funded by distillers including Bacardi U.S.A., Inc.; Beam Global Spirits & Wines, Inc.; Brown-Forman; Constella-

tion Brands, Inc.; DIAGEO; Hood River Distillers, Inc.; and Sidney Frank Importing Co., Inc. Through legislation, education, and public awareness campaigns, The Century Council promotes responsible decision-making regarding bever-

age alcohol, focusing on drunk driving and underage drinking. Since 1991, the companies that fund The Century Council have invested more than \$175 million in its programs.

## Adopt-a-Family

Irving ISD will sponsor the annual Holiday Adopt-A-Family program from Nov. 9 to Dec. 4.

Individuals, organizations and companies interested in adopting a family in should contact Thelma

Cantu at 972-600-5017 or tcantu@irvingisd.net.

Families in need should contact the counselor at their child's school in order to participate.

# Organization uses grants to reach Hispanic community

Continued from page 1



"Littles" in the Big Brothers Big Sisters program receive a \$20,000 check and a \$500,000 check from the MetLife Foundation. Back row (lft to rt): Big Brothers Big Sisters of America Board Member Frank Bracken, Paul Torres, Managing Partner of New England Financial, and Gilbert Elementary Principal Michael Crotty.

alleviating language and cultural barriers.

"Through a generous grant from the MetLife Foundation, Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas and other agencies throughout the network have enhanced our out reach to the Hispanic community," said Diana Aguirre of Big Brothers Big Sisters of North Texas.

"The Hispanic Mentoring Program makes sure that we are reaching out to the children, building relationships with the parents, and we are also reaching the volunteers. The reason we have a lot more little sisters here is that most of the volunteers are women. When you look at the pool of children who are on the waiting list who are ready to be matched, most of them are little brothers. We can match big sisters to little brothers who are 11 years old or younger if the volunteer wants to be matched to a little brother and the legal guardian wants a match with a big sister."

MetLife Foundation has contributed \$1 million to Big Brothers Big Sisters to bring the benefits of the mentoring network's proven programs to the country's growing Hispanic population.

"MetLife Foundation recognizes that mentoring is vital to helping young people succeed. No other organization does a better job of connecting young people with adult mentors as Big Brothers Big Sisters," said Paul Torres, Managing Partner of New England Financial (a MetLife company).

"Last year the foundation expanded its five year partnership with Big Brothers Big Sisters with a \$500,000 grant for the Hispanic Mentoring Program. With that first grant, Big Brothers Big Sisters developed new resources in English and Spanish to help the agency reach out to the Hispanic community. North Texas and 19 other Big Brothers Big Sisters agencies created the opportunity for and supported wonderful matches like those I had the privilege of meeting this afternoon."

After having successfully reached out to a number of communities over the years, Big Brothers Big Sisters needs partners to help them connect with the rapidly growing Hispanic community.

"You know as well as we do how the Hispanic population has grown," said Frank Bracken, National Board Member of Big Brothers Big Sisters. "Big Brothers Big Sisters is over 100 years old, but we didn't have ties in the Hispanic community, because the growth in the Hispanic community is much more recent than that. We had very good ties in the African American community and very good ties in the Anglo community. But we really needed assistance to get involved with the community leaders and parents to reach Hispanic children. We want to serve the whole population. If 25 percent of the population is Hispanic kids, we want to serve whatever the need is."

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## LEGAL NOTICE

### PUBLIC NOTICE FOR

Iglesias Del Dios Vivo Addition Replat J&O Arguelles  
Addition Replat

PUBLIC NOTICE BEFORE THE PLANNING AND ZONING COMMISSION AND CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF IRVING, TEXAS, TO CONSIDER RESUBDIVISION OR REPLATTING OF A RECORDED SUBDIVISION WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS OF IRVING, DALLAS COUNTY, TEXAS

Notice is hereby given for the following public hearing to consider resubdivision or replatting of recorded subdivisions as hereinafter described which will be held in the City Council Chambers of City Hall, 825 West Irving Boulevard, Irving, Texas:

Iglesias Del Dios Vivo Addition Replat (PL09-0031)  
Being a replat of of Lot 1, Block A, Avon Addition, and Lot 3, Block A, La Fuente Estates, and an unplatted tract into one lot for religious institution uses. This property is located at 728 Balleywood Drive and is zoned R-6 (Single Family).

J&O Arguelles Addition Replat (PL09-0041)  
Being a replat of part of Lot 2, Block B, Trinity View Addition into one lot for single family uses. This property is located at 1220 Trinity View Street and is zoned R-6 (Single Family).

Planning & Zoning Commission: December 7, 2009, 7 p.m.

You have received this notice of public hearing since State law requires that owners of property within a residential subdivision be notified if another property within the same subdivision is proposed to be replatted. State law also requires that the Planning and Zoning Commission must approve a plat that complies with the City's Subdivision regulations.

The application is on file for public examination in the Planning and Inspections Department at 825 West Irving Boulevard, Irving, Texas. For additional information, please contact Sheba Ward, Planner in the Planning and Inspections Department at (972) 721-2424. Please reference the name of the plat when requesting information.

All citizens or interested parties desiring to be heard concerning this replat may speak. This facility is wheelchair accessible and accessible parking spaces are available. Requests for interpretation services or assistive hearing devices must be made 48 hours prior to the meeting. Contact the City Secretary's Office at (972) 721-2493 for assistance.

## Irving ISD Schedule for November 23-27

All Irving ISD schools and offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays, Nov. 25-27.

Nov. 23-24, are holidays for students and IISD employees will participate in staff development. During these two days, all schools will be closed, but central administrative offices will be open for regular business hours.

Offices reopen and classes resume Nov. 30.

## LEGAL NOTICE

### SUPERIOR COURT OF CALIFORNIA IN AND FOR THE COUNTY OF SACRAMENTO

In the Matter of the Adoption Petition of JOSEPH E. RATH and SHIRLEY G. RATH to Declare RANDY MICHAEL RATH, a minor, Free from the Custody and Control of JOSEFINA VINSON

CASE NO. 08 AD 00377

CITATION TO APPEAR

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA TO: JOSEFINA VINSON

YOU ARE HEREBY ORDERED TO appear at 8:30 a.m. on JANUARY 14, 2010, in DEPARTMENT 123 of the above entitled Court, located at 3341 POWER INN ROAD, SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA, then and there to show cause, if any you have, why the Petition of JOSEPH E. RATH and SHIRLEY G. RATH, to declare the minor child, RANDY MICHAEL RATH, born on August 26, 1996, free from your parental custody and control should not be granted without your consent in the above-entitled proceeding, on the ground that you have abandoned that child. The above-referenced Petition alleges that for a period of six months after March 21, 1998, you willfully failed to communicate with, and to pay for the care, support, and education of, the above child. IF YOU FAIL TO APPEAR, THE COURT WILL TERMINATE YOUR RIGHTS FORTHWITH.



# DOING THE MOST GOOD<sup>SM</sup>

## Super Lunch XVII to benefit Salvation Army

The Salvation Army in Irving will hold *Super Lunch XVII*, on Monday, November 30 at 11:30 a.m. at The Four Seasons Hotel in Las Colinas. Community Civic Leader, Pat Bolger, is this year's

event chair. Special guest speaker will be Laurie Phillips, wife of Dallas Cowboys' head coach Wade Phillips. Phillips volunteers once a month reading to the children at the Gene & Jerry Jones Center for

Family located at The Salvation Army in Irving.

Pat Bolger says the luncheon will be an exciting event that will get people ready for the holiday season. "Guests will enjoy an exceptional luncheon knowing that all proceeds directly benefit the Irving Salvation Army," Bolger says.

Major Mark Craddock of The Salvation Army in Irving says that during these difficult economic times, more Irving residents are seeking help at the center. Craddock hopes to raise \$130,000, which will support the operations of the childcare development center and social service programs to benefit low-income families in Irving. Programs include from food

pantry assistance to an affordable after-school program for children.

Luncheon, guests will enjoy hearing from Laurie Phillips as she shares stories about her adventures as the wife of a famous football coach. Over the years, the Phillips family has relocated more than ten times, as her husband has coached different football teams. Phillips says that in each new city her family has learned something new and exciting. She adds that she and Coach Phillips are both native Texans and that they especially enjoy living in Dallas.

"The people here are so warm and welcoming" Phillips said. "Dallas is a large cosmopolitan city with a hometown feel."

Over the years, Phillips has

worked with many nonprofits. She says she is constantly impressed with The Salvation Army's programs and services and the number of lives the organization touches.

The luncheon will feature both a silent and a live auction. Items will include two round-trip airline tickets, and passes to the Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas One Night Villa with tickets to the Byron Nelson Championship.

The luncheon will also highlight a special performance by the children involved in the School of Performing Arts at The Salvation Army in Irving.

For more information about sponsorships and tickets, please call 972-438-6553.

November 18, 2009



Economic insecurity, layoffs, uncertainty; life as we know it has changed dramatically for many of our neighbors. Whether looking for counseling, help with basics such as food, clothing, or shelter, or disaster relief from fire or storms, people in our community rely on The Salvation Army - Irving Corps Community Center. The number of families coming to The Salvation Army continues to grow. With the support of caring individuals like you, we stand ready to

Major Craddock help.

Please join us at this year's **The Salvation Army - Irving Super Lunch on Monday, November 30, 11:30 a.m. at the Four Seasons Resort and Club Dallas at Las Colinas.** This event, started 17 years ago, brings our community together to celebrate and benefit the programs provided by The Salvation Army - Irving Corps Community Center. The guest speaker will be Laurie Phillips, wife of Dallas Cowboys Head Coach Wade Phillips and a volunteer with The Salvation Army Irving Corps Community Center.

Your financial support of The Salvation Army enables us to help thousands of our Irving neighbors. You help to provide:

- Emergency rent and utility assistance, and food distribution
- After-school care and a children's summer day camp
- Youth athletic leagues and quality music instruction programs
- Infant and pre-school care through the Gene and Jerry Jones Family Center for Children

More importantly, you provide hope.

Thank you for your partnership with The Salvation Army.

In Your Service,  
Major Mark Craddock  
Corps Officer  
Irving, Texas Corps

## More people seeking help through Salvation Army Angel Tree Program

To some people, the month of October may mean fall, but for The Salvation Army the Christmas season has officially started.

During the month of October, The Salvation Army starts its annual Angel Tree program by accepting appointments for people in the community to register for the service.

Since The Salvation Army in Irving has seen an increase in clients seeking their other services and programs, it was no surprise that more people enrolled in the Angel Tree program this year.

Yelizta Pastran, director for the Angel Tree program, says she immediately noticed an increase in people calling and coming in to inquire about the program.

"In the years past we have seen client repeats," Pastran says.

"This year we are seeing many first time clients seeking Angel Tree assistance."

In 2008, 1611 families were served through the angel tree program and 4534 angels were adopted.

In 2009, 1718 families were served, 4713 individuals were adopted.

In one year, the increase of families served increased by 6.6%. The number of angels adopted increased by 3.9%.

"With the recession many people are losing jobs and the financial stability is not there," Pastran says. "Clients are coming in to us for Angel Tree assistance and are crying because they never thought they'd be here."

Because many people are first time Angel Tree clients, The Salvation Army is telling them about their center's additional programs and services.

"If people are coming in for Angel Tree assistance, they may also need food pantry assistance," Pastran said.

"We want to make sure we are meeting everyone's needs to the best we can. The Angel Tree program is just one of many wonderful services we offer here."

## Unemployed seek aid, comfort

Sitting quietly in the waiting room at The Salvation Army community center in Irving, Sharon Williams waits to speak to a social worker. Williams is one of many citizens request assistance from The Salvation Army each week-day.

"I never thought I'd be here," Williams said.

Williams relocated to Irving after being laid off at General Motors in Louisiana. With little to no income due to a long stretch of un-

employment, Williams desperately needed help with utilities and food to feed her family of five.

Before turning to The Salvation Army, she and her children sought help at other non-profit shelters in the DFW Metroplex. "It just wasn't working for my family," Williams said.

"I felt so discouraged, frustrated, and didn't know who else to turn to."

Finally one day, while searching through a phone book, Will-

iams came across the phone number to The Salvation Army Community Center located in Irving.

"I was hesitant to call," Williams says, "I didn't know what they had to offer."

While on the telephone, Williams spoke with a social worker and immediately felt comforted. Williams says the telephone conversation changed her perspective as she was struggling in a desperate situation.

See ASSISTANCE, Page 6

## The Salvation Army Irving Community Center

The Salvation Army is a part of the universal Christian church. Its message is based on the Bible. Its ministry is motivated by the love of God. Its mission is to preach the Gospel of Jesus Christ and to meet human needs in His name without discrimination. As officers in The Salvation Army, Captains Matt and Rebecca Traylor are ordained ministers, who lead both spiritual programs and social services at The Salvation Army Community Center located on the corner of Britain Road and East Grauwylar in south-east Irving.

Worship services for children and adults are conducted in the center's chapel as follows:

**Sunday Worship Service - 11:00 AM**

**Sunday School - 9:45 AM**

**Wednesday Bible Study - 6:00 PM**

Although The Salvation Army is a faith-based organization, it is important to point out that there are no religious requirements whatsoever in order for a person to receive help and services. The Salvation Army's Mission Statement affirms our commitment to meet human needs in the name of Jesus Christ without discrimination.



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# Youngsters find fun, safe activities at Salvation Army after school

Children in the Irving community can look forward to going to a safe and fun place during after-school hours.

"We offer the best and most affordable after-school program,"

Pamela Benton, after-school director for The Salvation Army's community center in Irving says. "Parents tell me all the time what a great program we offer."

The after-school program,

## Continuing a tradition of giving



Filling the red kettle, Irving Mayor Herbert Gears contributes the first donation to this year's Red Kettle Drive.

## Assistance provides hope

Continued from page 5

"I felt a burden lifted off my shoulder," Williams said. "I have never talked to someone who was so caring about my situation."

A week later, Williams had an appointment at The Salvation Army to seek assistance with her utility bills.

"Not only did I get help with my utilities, but I got several bags of groceries," Williams said.

Williams says she will never forget her experience at The Sal-

vation Army. Through a phone call with a compassionate staff member, Williams was able to receive help.

"The Salvation Army is a caring place. They took care of me and my family. That really means a lot to me," Williams said.

Recently, Williams came back to share her testimony at a special client dinner hosted by The Salvation Army. Williams emphasized, "If I can make it, I know others can too."

which is available weekdays from 3:30 p.m. - 6:30 p.m. during the school year, not only offers an affordable price, but helps children excel in academics, physical activity, and character-building skills.

"We have students from the University of North Texas come help our children with their homework," Benton says.

"Having the college students help us is great," Benton said. "The children really like being around the students."

Although the program excels in academic tutoring and recreational activities, Benton says she is most proud of character-building courses that the program offers the children.

"In the program we have a

golden rule: be kind," Benton said.

Benton says that in all things, teaching the children to be kind is important.

To motivate the children to be kind towards others and do random acts of kindness, Benton has a "Kind Jar", which resembles a mason jar.

Each time a child does something kind, Benton or a staff mem-

ber puts the child's name in the Kind Jar. By Friday, the staff draws one lucky name to receive a prize.

Benton says it goes deeper than having a Kind Jar.

The students are learning the importance of being kind in everything they do," Benton said.

"They naturally want to help out now, which is a great thing."



## Children helping children a world away

While school is out for the summer, children in Irving have the opportunity to attend The Salvation Army Summer Day Camp program. Through the program, the children can participate in a wide range of activities from swimming and recreational games to taking field trips to the local library.

In addition to the activities, the children had the opportunity to participate in a fundraising project. The children washed car and cleaned up neighbors' yards to raise money for The Salvation Army World Services program.

Pam Benton, community center director, says the children were

excited and look forward to participating in the projects. She adds, the summer project taught children the importance of helping out in the community and helping people around the world.

The children raised a grand total of \$313. From the money raised, the children were able to purchase goats through The Salvation Army World Services pro-

gram. The goats will help needy families in Kenya.

The children were excited to purchase the goats, as the will nourish hungry children and families with healthy milk, cheese, and yogurt. Goats will also help the families boost their income by providing offspring and extra dairy products for sale at the market.



Children present a check to Major Brenda Raymer, Salvation Army director, who will purchase the goats through The Salvation Army World Services.

## Meet the Staff

Jackie Bridges- social worker, "I love challenges and working with people. I am a people person and my job allows me to be the person that I am."



Sarah Havrda, front desk and administrative assistant- "My favorite thing about working at The Salvation Army is meeting new people each time they come in."



Joy Pilgrim- office manager- "I like interacting with the new clients that come to The Salvation Army. Each day is a new and different experience."



Josh McCoy-athletic coordinator- "I like working with the children at The Salvation Army. It's fun to teach them sports and help them with their homework."



Pamela Benton- community center director- "My favorite thing about working at The Salvation Army is seeing the child's faces light up when something special happens."

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# Mentoring can save single-parent children

By Tony Panaccio

The dangers for single-parent children have only been exacerbated by a recession that has forced children in single-parent households to spend more time alone while mom or dad spends extra time at work.

Single-parent children are at risk for a wide variety of problems in later life, according to the National Center on Health Statistics.

Fatherless children are 100 to 200 percent more likely to have emotional and behavioral problems.

Fatherless sons are 300 percent more likely to be incarcerated in state juvenile institutions.

Fatherless men are 35 percent more likely to experience marital failure.

Fatherless daughters are 92 percent more likely to fail in their own marriages.

Eight-five percent of children who exhibit anti-social behavior disorders are from fatherless homes.

One expert, who was mentored himself at an early age, believes that mentoring from inside or outside of a child's family can help fill the gaps for children in single-parent households.

"Children in their formative years are looking for direction from an adult in their life," said Paul Hansen, author of Turnaround Summer. "This guidance should preferably come from a parent, but the real qualification is that it be from someone who always listens closely, re-

inforces positive actions, and with guidance encourages kids to go beyond their comfort zone. Young minds are curious and need direction, discipline and an outlet for their creativity. And this is not just a single-parent family phenomenon. Traditional families, caught by the stresses of making ends meet and a faster-paced life, experience similar issues, so their children could benefit from mentoring, as well."

Hansen understands that concept from experience, having been

mentored at a time in his life when he was heading down the wrong path.

"I lived this, and I speak from first hand experience about the power of that turnaround summer," he said. "I was taken out in the wilderness and taught how to survive off the land. I didn't realize about the conditions, about the fact that I was totally in for a surprise or, better yet, a shock about how survival in the wilderness takes place. That experience changed my life and

paved the way for me to be successful in business and in life. It taught me what it really took to be a man, a husband and a provider.

"Children need a positive influence at this time in their lives. They will engage that which is present around them in an attempt to build self esteem, a sense of belonging, and to rise up in knowledge good or bad whatever the environment around them has to offer."

Tony Panaccio is a staff writer for *News & Experts Syndicate*.

## Sports scholarship opportunities offered to military children

Upward Sports gives a big "Thank You" to military families across the U.S., including the DFW area, by offering sports scholarships to children whose mother or father is currently providing military service in a foreign country. In a struggling economy that is forcing many parents to cut out the extras, leaving kids without exercise, social activity and adult mentoring Upward Sports is giving military families a much-deserved break.

"This scholarship from Upward Sports is definitely a blessing for my family," said Sharon H., whose two sons play Upward Flag Football. "It's an encouragement to know that Upward Sports recognizes the sacrifices that military kids make. Since deployment can create real financial burdens, this scholarship will enable many military kids to play sports this year even if money is tight."

In 2007, Upward Sports start-

ed the scholarship program for military children after Founder and President Caz McCaslin visited the Pentagon memorial honoring those who gave their lives by serving our country on Sep. 11. Since then, Upward Sports has sponsored more than 685 military children in the U.S. with a deployed parent. This year, they are working to get the word out about this offer so even more people can take advantage of it.

"In an effort to serve those who serve us, Upward Sports is offering sports scholarships to all children who have a parent serving in the military and are currently deployed overseas," said Caz McCaslin. "Offering such scholarships is just a small way for us to say thank you to those who serve our country."

Upward Sports has 2,600 leagues across the U.S. To locate a league in the DFW area, visit [www.Upward.org](http://www.Upward.org).

## Appreciating our military



Supporting their brothers in arms, Master Gunnery Sgt. John Squier, E2 John Powell, and Sgt. Major Pipin, took time to join the 6th annual unite for Troops Veterans Day Celebration hosted by Porter's Army & Navy.

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# Eat healthy and support Rotary

## Holiday Grapefruit Sales Will Fund Sunrise Rotary's 2010 Grants

Irving Sunrise Rotary recommends a sweet, healthy and TOTALLY TEXAN holiday gift this year: Rio Star Grapefruit

The Irving service club is accepting orders for boxes of this citrus fruit throughout November in time for a mid-December delivery. The cost is \$17 per 20-pound box. The boxes contain 18 grapefruits. There also is shipping available to anywhere in the United States for an additional fee.

Easy ordering is available by calling Las Colinas Pharmacy at (972) 580-1814 and pressing extension one when prompted. Customers can order using a

credit card by phone or can pay with check or cash in person at the Las Colinas Pharmacy, which is located at 4835 N. O'Connor Road in Irving. Orders can be placed by phone or in person between 8:30 a.m. and 7 p.m. Monday through Friday and from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. on Saturdays. All orders must be received by 7 p.m. on November 30.

"These Rio Star Grapefruit are from the heart of the Texas' Rio Grand Valley. This variety of grapefruit can only be grown there because the soil, sun and climate are perfect. The result is a grapefruit that is sweet enough to be sectioned

and eaten like an orange. They really are a delicious and are a unique gift," explains Jim Hrcir, chairman of the Sunrise Rotary Club's grapefruit sales drive.

Club President Ronda Huffstetler notes that grapefruit sales help fund the Sunrise Rotary Club's charitable efforts. This includes sending several Irving public school students to a week-long leadership camp sponsored by Rotary. The club also has used funds raised by grapefruit sales to buy wheelchairs for needy people in both Mexico and South Africa. "A significant amount of the money we raise also funds our annual back-to-school supply drive. This year, more than 1,200 needy Irving students received school supplies that were purchased through the sales of these amazingly delicious grapefruit," she notes.

Projects planned for 2010 include helping to build a guest home near the Dallas Veterans Administration Hospital where families of Iraq war veterans can stay while their loved ones receive medical treatment. The club also plans to help

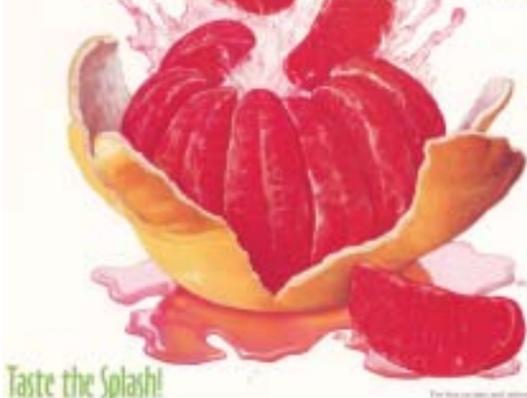
fund the drilling of a water well in Africa. "When you buy these grapefruit—whether one box or one hundred boxes—you're helping us live out Rotary's goal of helping and serving mankind, both locally and around the world," Huffstetler added.

Hrcir also noted, "This is a great and healthy gift for yourself or for someone you love. It's also really fun to send a little bit of the sweetness of Texas to family and friends around the country. Most folks who give our grapefruits as gifts come back year after year because the recipients love it. We even have several businesses who send boxes of these Rio Star Grapefruit to their clients as appreciation gifts during the holidays."

Irving Sunrise Rotary Club meets at 7 a.m. each Thursday at Las Colinas Country Club, which is at 4900 O'Connor Road in Irving. The club welcomes visitors who want to learn more about Rotary's outstanding weekly programs, business networking and community service initiatives.

Texas *RioStar* Grapefruit

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**Order at the Las Colinas Pharmacy**  
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**4835 N. O'Connor Road**  
**Free local pickup**

# What lies underneath creates interesting exhibit

Continued from page 1

and somewhat prolific serial killer. Perhaps not unlike something you would see should the *Ladies Home Journal* choose to do an article on Dexter.

As I spent time wandering through the exhibition, I can't say that it was particularly fun. It most certainly was educational and even entertaining. However, there is an ever present and sobering message that is clearly understood as you make your way from one corpse to the next, 'As these people are, you will one day be.' This exhibit is literally in the 'shadow of death.'

After spending some time alone in the exhibit, I was almost giddy to be able to sit down and speak with another living soul. Britta Torggrimson PhD. serves as the exhibit's spokesperson.

"These are real human bodies that have been preserved and put on display," Dr. Torggrimson said. "We partner with a plastination facility in China. That facility gets the bodies

through their medical school program.

"People are excited when they come to the exhibition. Often people are not sure how they will react. Once they get in here, they are just amazed at the human body. This is a great opportunity to learn about all of the layers of the body: the bones, muscles, all the organs, circulatory system.

"The exhibition also teaches visitors about certain health conditions. There is the smoker's lung, which is compared to the healthy lung. Part of that exhibit encourages people to choose more healthy behavior and throw away their cigarettes after they see what smoking does to the body. People know about it. People hear about it. When they actually see the difference between a smoker's lung and a healthy lung, that is the impetus to throw away the pack and think about your own health. We also have a stroke specimen and an example of cancer.

"The kids really love this exhibit. I think they have such an innate curiosity about the body. We have educational programs for fourth graders up that come through here. We have already had over 500,000 school kids come through and see the show.

"A lot of younger kids just want to know more about the body. When they are here with a parent or adult who can explain things to them, they are trying to figure out their own bodies, and this gives them opportunity to ask those questions.

"Every time I walk through the exhibit, I see something a little bit differently. I am always amazed at how complex the human body is. One of the things I like about seeing real bodies over seeing a model by an artist, you get to see the variations in humans. We are all unique. You can see the differences in somebody's muscles, their bones, or their shape compared to your own or somebody else. I think that is continually fascinating for me to see how complex and unique we are," she said.

Through my experience of the exhibit, I tried to approach each new display from a scientific somewhat cold perspective. I felt to really see these bodies and assorted parts fully as human beings might make me crack. But as I looked at a diseased kidney lying beside its 'healthy' counterpart, I felt a wave of sorrow and empathy for the deceased owner of the diseased specimen. I know nothing more about this person other than he or she is dead, and looking at the kidney I can guess what the cause of death was. Yet I connected on a very human level with someone else's pain. Perhaps that is why

I like the following quote from Dr. Craig Schwimmer MD, MPH, FACS, a Board-Certified Otolaryngologist.

"Since the middle ages, physicians have studied the human body, and through this study, been afforded insights into the intricacy, wonder and beauty of our physical makeup. I believe that this insight contributes meaningfully to all physicians' compassion, empathy and ability to heal. With this exhibition, BODIES allows all people – not just physicians – an opportunity to become more connected with, and perhaps, more empathetic to humanity," Dr. Craig said.

In the end, the exhibit held my attention far longer than I thought it would. Any adult who is interested in anatomy or simply learning more about the human body would probably find this exhibit very interesting. But think twice before bringing the kids along. Firstly, while some bodies have various sports equipment, none of them have clothes or even fig leaves. This may be shocking to some of the younger set.

Secondly, this exhibit is billed as educational, and I agree it is. I can envision children bouncing enthusiastically from one display to the next completely fascinated and totally engaged in learning. My reluctance comes as a parent who is not particularly fond of heating

milk at 2:00 a.m. while trying to convince a near hysterical, seven year old that nightmares are nothing to fear.

Parents know their children better than anyone, and the decision to take a child or not rests solely in their hands. However, parents may find that an outing to Chucky Cheese is more acceptable in the long run, and that way only the parents are left with nightmares.

BODIES...The Exhibition opens Nov. 21 and continues through April 2010, at the West End Marketplace, 603 Munger Street, in Dallas. Tickets for adults 13-64 are \$22 on weekdays, \$24 on weekends; children 3-12 are \$14 on weekdays, \$16 on weekends, seniors and military are \$18 weekdays and \$20 weekends.



Hoping the win the big game, this player remains frozen in place and time to demonstrate lymphatic vessels.



Performing for a difficult crowd, this partially dissected director insists the band play on.

## OBITUARIES

### GEORGE ROBERT EDWIN

George Robert Edwin passed away Thursday, November 19, 2009 in Irving. He was born March 13, 1936 in Freeport. A Memorial Service will be held at 2 PM Monday, November 23, 2009 at Plymouth Park Church of Christ in Irving. In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made to a charity of one's choice.

### VIRGINIA MCELWRATH



Virginia McElwrath of Irving, 86, died on Wednesday, 11-12-09. She was born in Chicago, Illinois, on April 16, 1923 to Ira Fuller and Bernice Bennett. She was preceded in

death by her father and mother; her infant son, Geoffrey; her husbands Dr. Howard E. Tewell, Jr. and David McElwrath; son, Howard Earlington Tewell, III. and her brother, Ira Bennett. She is survived by her sister, Anne Bennett; her daughters Suzanne Higgins and Jennifer Benton (Michael); and her daughter-in-law, Nancy Tewell. She is also survived by six grandchildren, Matthew, Jeffrey, Christopher, Jonathan, Allison and Joshua, and six great grandchildren. Virginia received her Bachelors Degree from the University of Chicago in 1946. Afterwards, she lived for almost two years in Japan and then spent the rest of her life in Texas. She spent many years living in Harlingen, then Belton, and for the last 17 years in Irving. During her entire adult life she was extremely active in P.E.O., a Philanthropic Educational Organization that provides educational assistance to women and also owns and supports Cottey College for

women in Missouri. Services will be held on Saturday, November 28, 2009 at 2:00 pm at Aria Funeral Home, 1820 Beltline Road, in Irving, Texas.

### EVELYN L. SIMMONS

Evelyn L. Simmons, of Irving, passed away Sunday, November 15, 2009. She was born April 27, 1920 in Arlington. She was a mem-

ber of First Presbyterian Church in Irving. Evelyn worked for Braniff Airways and retired from J.C. Penny Co. and was a volunteer with the Irving Healthcare Auxiliary for over 30 years. Survivors include her son Russ Stateham and wife Stacey of N. Richland Hills; grandchildren Lori Carter and husband Kelley of Burleson, Julia Caroline Nowak and husband Paul of Bedford, and Joshua Franks,

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# Area DCCCD students receive Muse Presidential Scholarships

Provided by Ann Hatch

Seven Dallas County Community College District students have been named 2009-2010 Muse Presidential Scholars, based on their academic achievement and leadership potential.

"With the generous support of John and Lyn Muse, the scholarship is awarded to one student from each of DCCCD's seven colleges; it recognizes students who show academic achievement and who have a clear sense of purpose, a strong work ethic and potential for leadership," said Betheny Reid, associate vice chancellor for development and president of the DCCCD Foundation. "We are grateful to the Muse family for their continued support, and we know that our Muse Presidential Scholarship recipients are honored to receive this award."

The recipients are Joshua Lay of Addison, Brookhaven College;

Edwin Hampton of DeSoto, Cedar Valley College; Sarah Davenport of Mesquite, Eastfield College; Letitia Sanchez of Dallas, El Centro College; Yolanda Nava of Dallas, Mountain View College; Tanya Mousa of Irving, North Lake College; and Christina Vasques of Garland, Richland College.

Recipients of the 2009-2010 scholarships recently had an opportunity to meet the Muse family and each other during a special gather this fall.

Lay, a former U.S. Marine, is a political science major at Brookhaven, where he has earned a 4.0 grade point average. After a successful career in sales management, he plans to earn his bachelor's degree and attend law school.

Hampton, a first-generation college student, believes in the value of a community college edu-

cation. He currently serves as vice president of the Cedar Valley College African American Student Association and as secretary for the CVC Student Government Association. He has earned a 3.5 GPA and plans to transfer to Baylor University, where he will pursue a bachelor's degree in psychology.

Davenport, a California native, is the fourth of nine siblings who helped her widowed father whenever she could with family responsibilities as she was growing up. The Eastfield College student works on campus, has earned a 3.26 GPA and plans to transfer to the University of North Texas, where she will earn a bachelor's degree in human services. She would like to work with children from broken homes.

Sanchez, a 2009 graduate of the El Centro College Middle College High School, has served as a volunteer for charitable organiza-

tions such as Bryan's House, the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty for Animals and Pennies for Patients. She is continuing her studies at El Centro, has a 3.4 GPA and has been nominated to become a member of the national two-year academic honorary Phi Theta Kappa.

Nava, an education major at Mountain View College, is an active member of DCCCD's Rising Star program and has served as a volunteer mentor for "Project I Am"; she also helps recruit Dallas high school students to attend college. She plans to transfer to Texas Woman's University, where she will pursue a degree in education.

Mousa, originally from the west African country of Gambia, is the first person in her family to attend college. A business major at North Lake College, she is serving as parliamentarian for the NLC

Student Government Association; is a member of the college's Student Leadership Institute; and is a volunteer for Relay for Life. Mousa wants to pursue a bachelor's degree in economics and sociology.

Vasques is working on her associate's degree in early childhood education at Richland College and hopes to become either a kindergarten or first-grade teacher for the Garland Independent School District. She has earned a 3.9 GPA and works as a site director for the YMCA of Dallas after-school program. Vasques plans to transfer to Texas A&M University-Commerce to complete her bachelor's degree in education.

For more information, contact Eddie Miranda, director of communications, in the DCCCD Foundation office at 214-378-1541.

## OBITUARIES

Jennifer Franks, and Jacob Perkins, all of Ft. Worth; great grandchildren Gaylin Parsley and Caleigh Parsley, both of Burleson; and numerous friends, neighbors and loved ones. Graveside services were held at 3 PM Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens with Dr. Truman Warren officiating. The family received friends 5-7 PM Tuesday at the funeral home. Memorial donations may be made to Irving Healthcare Auxiliary, 1901 N. MacArthur Blvd, Irving, TX 75061.

### RONALD L. WEBB

Ronald L. Webb, of Irving, passed away Mon., Nov. 16, 2009. He was born Sept. 2, 1938 in Border, Texas. Funeral services were held Thurs., Nov. 19, 2009 at Brown's Memorial Chapel. Graveside services were held Fri., Nov. 20, 2009 at Memorial Park Cemetery in Amarillo.

### BONNIE PALMER



Bonnie Palmer, formerly of Greenville and Irving, passed away Friday, November 13, 2009. She was born June 16, 1916 in Dallas. She was a member of First Baptist Church in Irving.

Preceded in death by her husband Fred D. Palmer in 1986, survivors include her daughter Gayle Rainbolt, and son Fred N. Palmer, both of Carrollton; 6 grandchildren, 14 great grandchildren, and 2 great great grandsons. Funeral services were held at 11 AM Tuesday, November 17, 2009 at Brown's Memorial Chapel with Dr. Gary Miller officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens. The family requests that memorial donations be made to American Diabetes Assoc., 4100 Alpha Rd., Ste. 100, Dallas, TX 75244

### JOHNNIE MARIE TOLLER



Johnnie Marie Toller, 82, passed away Tuesday, November 17, 2009. She was born January 12, 1927 in Dallas. She was a resident of Ameritus in Irving and a member of the Red Hat Society. Her favorite hobby was playing bridge with her friends at Ameritus. Preceded in death by her sister Helen Smith, daughter Cindy McGowin, and husband Frank Toller, survivors include her children Pamela Grayson of Ft. Worth, James Sneed and wife Robin of Mesquite, son John Sneed and wife Laurie of Whitesboro, and daughter Anne

Marie Pass and husband Robert Chapman of Dallas; 8 grandchildren; and 3 great grandchildren. Graveside services were held at 2 PM Friday, November 20, 2009 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving. Arrangements made by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

### COLLEEN COWAN

Colleen Cowan, 57, of Irving, formerly of Stillwater and Bloomington, MN, passed away on Monday, 11/16/2009. She was born on 7/10/52 in Stillwater, MN. Memorial Service at Brown's Memorial Chapel on Saturday, 11/21/09 at 2:00 PM. The family requests memorials to The American Cancer Society.

### ROBERT HARVEY HAROLD HUGMAN



Robert Harvey Harold Hugman, Jr., 84, of Irving, passed away on November 12, 2009, after a lengthy battle with cancer. He was a loving husband, father, and grandfather, and also a great-grandfather. Robert was born on March 8, 1925 to Robert and Martha Hugman. He grew up in San Antonio, where his father was the architect who designed and built the San Antonio Riverwalk. He served in the Army

Air Corps during WWII. On September 1, 1947, he married Rebecca Allen and they moved to Irving. After graduating from The Rhode Island School of Design, he pursued a career in graphic design, and had many artistic achievements. Among his accomplishments are the design of DFW airport signage, creation of the logo for the City of Dallas, and a commission by Abercrombie & Fitch to design and carve decoy ducks with historical accuracy. He was an avid outdoorsman, bass fisherman, noted woodcarver, and scoutmaster. He was an elder in the Presbyterian Church. His selfless nature was obvious to all who knew him, and his legacy will be one of integrity, humility, and honesty. Survivors include his wife, Becky Hugman, son Kerry and wife Donna of The Colony, TX, and their children Kenneth, Kimberly, and Sarah, and Kimberly's children Brendan and Kate. Survivors also include son Bob and wife Carolyn of Woodbridge, VA, and their children Michael and Jennifer. Burial with Military Honors took place at DFW National Cemetery in Dallas followed by memorial services at 11 AM Wednesday, November 18, 2009 at Woodhaven

Presbyterian Church in Irving, with Rev. Julie Riley officiating. Arrangements made by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

### SHIRLEY ANN HAMSHAR

Shirley Ann Hamshar, age 71, of Irving, TX passed away on Monday, November 16, 2009 with her loving family by her side. She was born on April 22, 1938 in Reno, NV. Shirley married Robert Hamshar on January 4, 1982 in Rockwall. She cherished her family and had a huge heart that stretched over to animals, flowers and helping people. Shirley will be greatly missed. Survivors include, husband Robert Hamshar; daughters, Jaime Hoppel and husband Roy, Melissa Herring, Brandi Cooksey and husband Kyle; stepdaughter, Deborah Hamshar and husband Maynard Grimsley, Sr.; grandchildren, Misti, Bryan, Jori, Briceton, Anita, Nichole, Kimberly, Maynard, Jr.; and numerous great grand children and friends. Funeral Services were held on Thursday, November 19th at Chism-Smith Funeral Home Chapel with interment following at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

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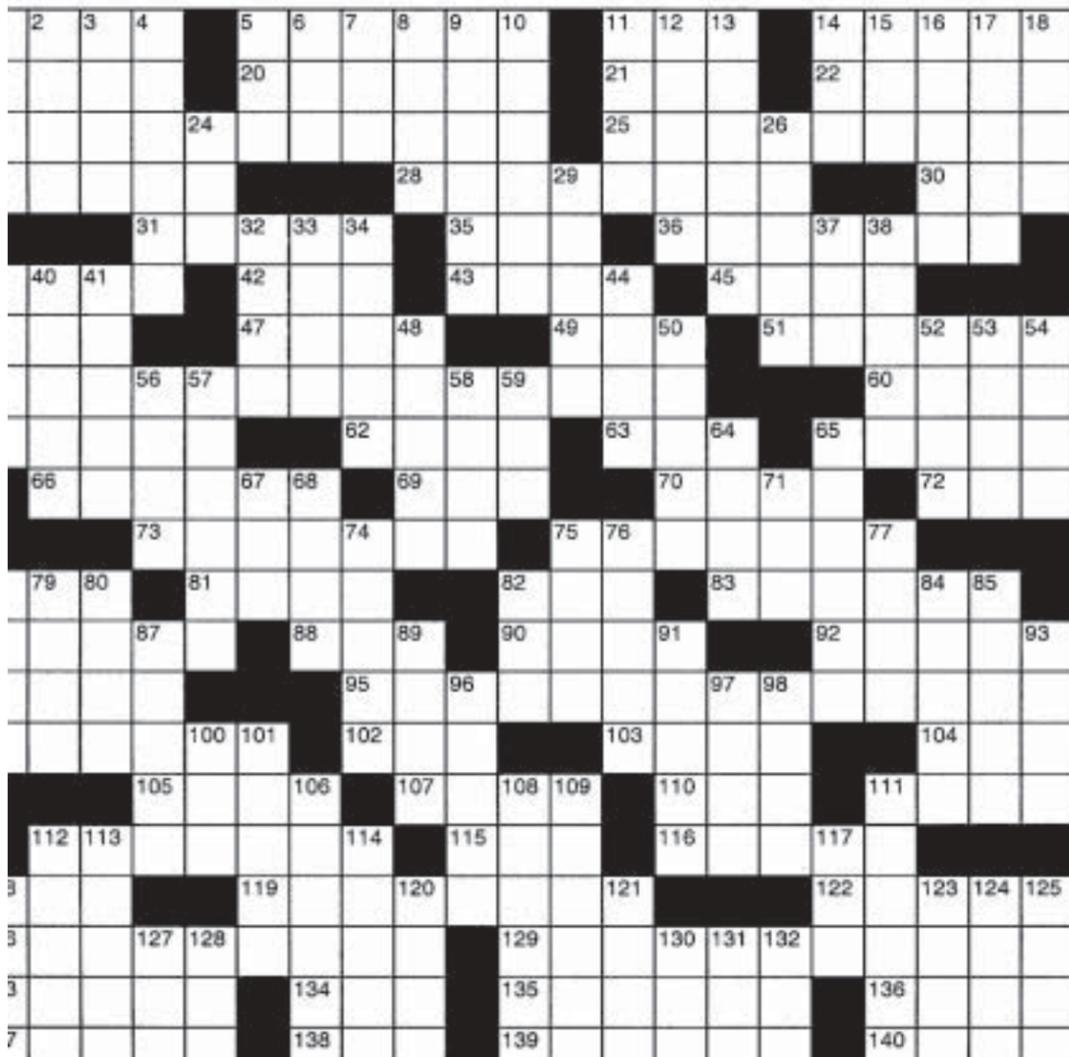
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# Super Crossword

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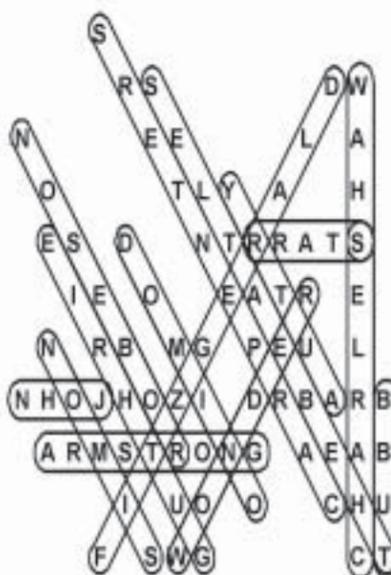
- |                          |                              |                                  |                             |                                  |                                  |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------|----------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| <b>ROSS</b>              | 60 Ms. Montez                | 107 Highflying agcy.             | 7 Souffle ingredient        | 41 "— ignorance is bliss . . ."  | 87 "He's making — . . ."         |
| 1 Spar                   | 61 — firma                   | 110 "Krazy —"                    | 8 First base man?           | 44 Part of M.A.                  | 89 Scheme                        |
| 5 Stomach remedy         | 62 Jedi instructor           | 111 Director Peter               | 9 Impressive lobby          | 48 "Twist and —" ('62 hit)       | 91 Chores                        |
| Tijuana two              | 63 "— vous plait"            | 112 Nursery noise-makers         | 10 Dieter's snack           | 50 Out of the way                | 93 Godunov, e.g.                 |
| 1 Bob Marley was one     | 65 Cherbourg chapeau         | 115 Gun the engine               | 11 Casino cubes             | 52 Trail mix                     | 96 Cognizant                     |
| 1 Literary pseudonym     | 66 Acted like a stallion     | 116 Guru                         | 12 Endorses                 | 53 Butter sub                    | 97 Cabbage concoction            |
| 1 Deny                   | 69 "Yuck!"                   | 118 — polloi                     | 13 Nero's tutor             | 54 Hoopster Archibald            | 98 Bit                           |
| 1 Turner or Pappas       | 70 Bargain                   | 119 Germs                        | 14 "Golden Girl" McClanahan | 56 Nail type                     | 100 Furrow                       |
| 1 Remove a corsage       | 72 Raven maven?              | 122 Certain marble               | 15 Farm animal?             | 57 It's down in the mouth        | 101 Diva Nellie                  |
| 1 Joan Cusack film       | 73 Joan Collins series       | 126 Joan Sutherland's birthplace | 16 Where to hear zarzuela   | 58 Nervous                       | 106 Radical                      |
| 1 Joan Rivers line       | 75 Joan Osborne hit          | 129 Joan Van Ark role            | 17 Diacritical mark         | 59 Contented sigh                | 108 Shocked a shuttlecock        |
| 1 Hero's horse           | 78 Mil. address              | 133 Nome dome home?              | 18 "Puppy Love" singer      | 64 Composer Janacek              | 109 Pilot                        |
| 1 Brasilia architect     | 81 Hit the Haagen-Dazs       | 134 Habitually, to Herrick       | 24 Drivers' lics., e.g.     | 65 Most morose                   | 111 Little house on the prairie? |
| 1 Oscar                  | 82 Fr. lady                  | 135 Clementi compositions        | 26 Shawls and such          | 67 Rock producer Brian           | 112 It makes women blush         |
| 1 Neighbor of Mont.      | 83 Showers, in winter        | 136 Cultural grp. star           | 29 He gets down to work     | 68 Salt serving                  | 113 Passageway                   |
| 1 Little spot in the sea | 86 Enjoy the weekend         | 137 "Superman"                   | 32 Etna ooze                | 71 Workers' grp.                 | 114 Bookstore section            |
| 1 Psychic Geller         | 88 Behave like a bunny       | 138 Carrere or Mowry             | 33 Hockey's Lindros         | 74 Has a ball at the mall        | 117 Ginnie —                     |
| 1 Triangle type          | 90 Gross subj.               | 139 Reduce in rank               | 34 Vulgar                   | 75 Bus starter?                  | 118 It grows on you              |
| 1 Cut                    | 92 Rested                    | 140 Disposition                  | 37 Meadow                   | 76 Peachy-keen                   | 120 "Later!"                     |
| 1 Coach                  | 94 Israeli airline           | DOWN                             | 38 Ovid's fate              | 77 Push a product                | 121 Grad                         |
| 1 Parseghian             | 95 Joan Didion book          | 1 Cat calls?                     | 39 "The Simpsons" creator   | 78 Locality                      | 123 Singer Vannelli              |
| 1 Blabby bird            | 99 Declare                   | 2 Heaps                          | 40 Paint pigment            | 79 Lucre                         | 124 "So — You" ('77 song)        |
| 1 Zenith                 | 102 Proverb                  | 3 Father                         |                             | 80 Norwegian name                | 125 "Heavens to Betsy!"          |
| 1 Rhine wine             | 103 European capital         | 4 Comprehend                     |                             | 82 Merry month                   | 127 "Mazel —!"                   |
| 1 Dana and Seixas        | 104 82 Across, farther south | 5 Lodging                        |                             | 84 Make one's hair stand on end? | 128 "Sheila" singer              |
| 1 Precambrian —          | 105 De Lesseps' canal        | 6 Violin part                    |                             | 85 "Heidi" author                | 130 Ancient Tokyo                |
| 1 Ho Chi Minh City, once |                              |                                  |                             |                                  | 131 Ensnare                      |
| 1 Joan Jett's group      |                              |                                  |                             |                                  | 132 Nationality suffix           |



Answers for 11-14-2009



Answers for 11-14-2009



Answers for 11-14-2009



## ComParrot

by Bonnie J. Malcolm

Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



www.comparrotpuzzles.com © 2008 Bonnie J. Malcolm



Solution: 1. Extra split in palm leaf. 2. Stripe on tiger's leg is missing. 3. Pocket on man's shorts is missing. 4. Tiger's tooth is hidden. 5. Leaf on branch beside tiger is missing. 6. Pocket on shirt is colored in. 7. Leaf on palm tree is colored in. 8. Leaf beside man's leg has moved. 9. Tuft of grass has moved. 10. Tiger's tail is longer. 11. Map is larger. 12. Leaf in front of man is different.

## MAGIC MAZE

ANIMALS IN GREAT SMOKY MOUNTAINS NATIONAL PARK



Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.

Beaver	Coyote	Muskrat	Skunk
Bison	Deer	Opossum	Wild hog
Black bear	Elk	Raccoon	Woodchuck
Bobcat	Mink	Shrew	

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# Texas is tops in Energy Star homes

Provided by Dave Bary

Houston and Dallas-Fort Worth are leading the nation in Energy Star qualified homes, according to the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA).

The program achieved a major milestone recently with one million Energy Star qualified homes constructed in the United States since the program began labeling new homes. Americans have saved \$1.2 billion on their energy bills and reduced greenhouse gas emissions by 22 billion pounds. This year alone, families in Energy Star qualified homes will save more than \$270 million on their utility bills, while avoiding greenhouse gas emissions equivalent to those from about 370,000 vehicles.

Houston has the most Energy Star qualified homes with 144,000 constructed since EPA began the program in 1995, and the Dallas-Fort Worth Metroplex is second with 103,000. Other Texas areas in the top 20 national markets are

San Antonio with 19,000 homes (No. 8) and Austin with 13,000 homes built (No. 14).

“By making smart energy choices, thousands of Texans are saving millions each year,” said EPA Acting Regional Administrator Lawrence E. Starfield. “By tak-

ing a few common sense steps to conserve home energy use, we can get the most out of our energy dollars and save on utility bills.”

To earn the Energy Star label, a home must meet strict energy efficiency guidelines set by EPA. Those guidelines can be met

through established, reliable building techniques available to most American homeowners. Those include effective insulation systems, high-performance windows, tight construction and ducts, efficient heating and cooling equipment, and high-efficiency lighting and

appliances. In addition, a home energy rater conducts onsite testing and inspections to verify that the home’s performance meets Energy Star requirements.

More than 6,500 builders across the nation building homes that earn the Energy Star label.

## Keep Irving Beautiful partners with Best Buy



Volunteers work towards beautification.

Provided by Rick Hose

Keep Irving Beautiful (KIB), along with the City of Irving’s Building Maintenance and Intergovernmental Services departments, teamed up with staff from Irving’s Best Buy Store #1032 to complete a beautification project.

Together this team was able to identify a project, gather needed supplies, plan, schedule and complete the project as well. The chosen site was a City of Irving employee Ice House located on Briery Road, which is used by many employees on a daily basis.

Best Buy, led by Raven Stucky, brought a total of five employees to work on their day off.

“I like to volunteer because it makes me feel like a part of the

community and it’s nice to look back at what we were able to accomplish together as a team” Ms. Stucky said.

Best Buy has a nationwide program called TAGTeam. The Best Buy TagTeam program awards the volunteer efforts of its employees by making a financial contribution to nonprofit organizations where employees offer their leadership, expertise and time. In 2008, 50,000 Best Buy employees volunteered nearly 200,000 hours and, through the Best Buy Children’s Foundation, donated more than \$3 million to nonprofit organizations.

For more information, contact Keep Irving Beautiful at 972-721-2175.

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<p><b>TWILIGHT SAGA: NEW MOON PG13</b> 11:00 12:30 1:20 1:50 3:45 4:15 4:45 6:45 7:15 7:45 9:40 10:10 10:40</p> <p><b>* PLANET 51 PG</b> 11:30 1:45 4:00 6:50 9:05</p> <p><b>* 2012 PG13</b> 10:55 12:00 2:20 3:30 6:30 7:00 9:45 10:25</p> <p><b>THE MEN WHO STARE AT GOATS R</b> 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:05</p>	<p><b>* THE BLIND SIDE PG13</b> 10:55 1:00 1:40 3:55 4:35 6:55 7:30 9:50 10:20</p> <p><b>PIRATE RADIO R</b> 11:55 2:35 5:15 7:55 10:25</p> <p><b>A CHRISTMAS CAROL 2D PG</b> 12:20 2:40 5:00 7:30 10:05</p> <p><b>MICHAEL JACKSON: THIS IS IT PG</b> 11:15 1:55 4:30 7:10 9:55</p> <p><b>LAW ABIDING CITIZEN R</b> 11:10 1:45 4:20 7:20 10:00</p>
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## Mungles on Movies

By Matt Mungle

Title: *The Twilight Saga: New Moon*

Rated: PG-13

*The Twilight Saga* continues with the second film, *New Moon*. This generates two very different reactions. One being high pitched screams and over exuberant elation; the other being a casual, “Eh, so what.”

Meaning that fans of the best selling teen geared novels are so ready to see Edward and Bella back on the screen that nothing anyone says will sway them. For the rest of the movie fans who hold no allegiance, this review is for you. Because at the end of the day it is a movie and you need to know what you are getting into. Trust me.

*New Moon* picks up pretty much where last year’s *Twilight* left off. The characters have grown a bit over the summer. As Bella (Kristen Stewart) returns to high school for her senior year, she is once again looking forward to spending time with her pale faced, uber emo, vampire, boyfriend Ed-

## New Moon, same story

ward (Robert Pattinson). When she finds out he and his family are leaving, and she will never see him again she spirals into a teenaged vortex of sadness and sorrow. Teen heartbreak, remember that feeling? No sooner does she find solace in her long time friend and neighbor Jacob, lo and behold he discovers he is actually a werewolf and can’t be with her either. And you thought your senior year dating life was bad.

This film is obviously and understandably created for fans of the books. Those who have not read the series have little grounding in the film and will find it shallow, poorly acted with little or no direction. The first 80 minutes of this film are atrocious. Everyone sort of ambles around with no purpose as the story tries to unfold. The funny, comedic, vampire moments that made the first one bearable are no where to be found. Then once the meat of the action begins, that is Jacobs’s discovery and Edward’s dealing with a higher up vampire supreme court, it is almost too late. The remaining 40 minutes of the movie bring a decent bit of substance. but only as a brief setup for

film number three. So just as you begin to engage, the credits roll. Again, this information is totally from the perspective and benefit of the normal moviegoer. Gauging by the constant (and I mean constant) squeals, giggles and screams of the 12-19 year old females in the crowd, fans of the book loved every frame.

*The Twilight Saga: New Moon* is rated PG-13 for some violence and action. I will say this for the movie series they do a good job of staying away from any form of gratuitous sex, language or teen debauchery. If anything Bella and Edwards relationship is built on a non physical platform which is rare these days to say the least. For you overly sensitive moviegoers do keep in mind that Jacob and his chiseled, well built, wolf brothers seem to never have a clean shirt handy and spend 90% of the movie bare-chested (hence the before mentioned squeals and giggles). But even they know how to treat a young lady with respect.

Sadly I give *New Moon* 2 out of 5 Dream Catchers. I almost needed one as many times as I nearly dozed off. I might watch this weekly in 45 minute TV installments, but as a non book fan, the movie just didn’t cut it. Sorry Edward, that just gives you another reason to mope around the house. So says Matt Mungle.

Review copyright 2009 Mungleshow Productions. Used by Permission.

*Matt is a member of the North Texas Film Critics Association (NTFCA) and hosts the weekly syndicated Indie Rock Radio Show Spin 180. Plus with his wife Cindy they do a weekly radio feature, The Mungles on Movies. For additional reviews and interview clips visit [www.mungleshow.com](http://www.mungleshow.com). Opinions expressed in any commentary are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of The Irving Rambler, the publisher, editor, or any staff member.*

## Weekly SUDOKU

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Place a number in the empty boxes in such a way that each row across, each column down and each small 9 box square contains all of the numbers from one to nine.

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# Scouting stamp reflects Boy Scouts of America

Provided by Emily Davis

U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions recently joined the U.S. Postal Service and the Boy Scouts of America in celebrating the unveiling of a U.S. postage stamp honoring the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Boy Scouts of America.

Entitled "Celebrate Scouting," the stamp design, which was created by illustrator Craig Frazier of Mill Valley, CA, depicts the spirit and outdoor adventure of scouting through a backpacking scout and a large silhouette of a scout surveying the landscape. In July 2010, the new Celebrate Scouting stamps will go on sale nationwide and will

be dedicated at the Boy Scout Jamboree at Ft. A.P. Hill, VA.

"Boy Scouts are a significant part of American culture, shaping the values, citizenship, and skills of millions of young men and making communities stronger," Sessions said. "The values of scouting have instilled in me a sense of duty to God, country, and self, and I am honored to join in celebrating the Boy Scouts' 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary through a Scouting stamp.

"Boy Scouts unites Americans from all walks of life, and I am very proud of the strong bipartisan support in Congress and across our nation for a Scouting com-

memorative stamp. I am pleased that the Scouting stamp will help millions of Boy Scouts celebrate '100 Years of Scouting' and serve as a meaningful sign of the importance of scouting for future generations."

Sessions is an Eagle Scout with four generations of Boy Scouts in his family. Congressman Sessions' father, former FBI Director Judge William S. Sessions, and son, Bill Sessions, join him with the distinction of Eagle Scout. Sessions' grandfather, William A. Sessions, Jr., wrote the first handbook for the God and Country Award for the Boy Scouts of America. Judge

Sessions was in attendance at the official unveiling of the new Celebrate Scouting stamp in Washington, DC.

In conjunction with the Celebrate Scouting stamp announcement, the Boy Scouts of America recently announced that it will begin a nationwide effort to support U.S. Armed Forces personnel serving overseas and veterans by sending letters and care packages through the Postal Service. The letter writing campaign builds on the BSA's longstanding tradition of service and performing "a good turn" daily.

"We are grateful to the USPS for commemorating scouting's contributions to our nation for the past 100 years," said Bob Mazzuca, Chief Scout Executive, Boy Scouts of America. "To continue our tradition of service, we are honored to launch our letter writing campaign to support our troops serving overseas. Regardless of our age, we never outgrow the joy of receiving a personal letter in the mail. It is the least we can do for the service men and women to whom we owe the deepest gratitude for their service."

Last year, the Boy Scouts of America Centennial Commemorative Coin Act passed (H.R. 5872), which authorizes the U.S. Mint to produce 350,000 one-dollar silver commemorative coins. The coins will be minted between Feb. 8, 2010 and Jan. 11, 2011, and proceeds from the sale of the coins will be donated to the Boy Scouts of America Foundation for the pur-

pose of expanding scouting activities in hard-to-serve areas of the country.

In 2008 alone, Scouting youth and their leaders volunteered more than 35 million hours of service to their communities through thousands of service projects, benefiting food banks, local schools, and civic organizations. For more information on the Boy Scouts of America, visit [www.scouting.org](http://www.scouting.org).

## Sculpture commemorates Indian marker trees

By Doug Harper

About 10 years ago, when Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) was planning new art at the South Irving Transit Station, a Dallas sculptor, David B. Hickman, answered the call and explained how his research of South Irving's history lead him to propose a marker tree as used by Native Americans to identify important locations such as a trail or a river crossing.

Indians wanting to identify a significant place that could be spotted from a distance would bend a young sapling over so that it was nearly horizontal to the ground and anchor it to the ground with rawhide strips. As the years went by, the tree would grow bent in that position and serve as a trail marker. Only a few marker trees exist today. However, one can see the real McCoy, made from a pecan sap-

ling, in the park in front of the Texas National Guard Armory at 1633 California Crossing in Las Colinas. It has been a signpost pointing the way west to the Elm Fork River crossing and the California Trail for years.

The DART board liked David Hickman's idea and commissioned him to create such a marker tree in 1999. The artwork is in keeping with the historic trails between the forks of the Trinity River, the theme of the station. Hickman's Marker Tree stands beside the east ramp of the train platform and will soon celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary; a well kept secret in plain sight.

"Flowing, multiple, stainless steel rods with space between are meant to convey a drifting, smoky, skeletal effect for the viewer. The stainless steel rods which form the sculpture were free-hand shaped

using hydraulic pressure adapted to a rolling cart to allow me to start at one end of a 20 foot length of material and gradually curve it as I moved along its length. All of the elements are TIG welded together," David said.

There is a plaque that describes the artwork at the foot of the handrail, going up to the TRE platform but is easily overlooked as one rushes to purchase a ticket and climb aboard the train. David Hickman's Marker Tree lies on the trail we take from our homes in Irving to our workplaces in Dallas or Ft. Worth and it also lies on the Historic Birdville Trail.

David and his wife Linda live in the Dallas area in a home filled with creative wonderments and scaled down prototypes of his large sculptural creations. His workshop warehouse is a 60 second commute through a side yard sculpture garden with large, wind-activated, kinetic sculptures among other interesting pieces and works in progress. Hickman works in carved wood and stone, hammered metals, and slumped glass creating his own original designs or he will bring to life the designs of other artists or architects.

The 77<sup>th</sup> Texas Legislature selected Hickman as the State Three Dimensional Artist of the Year for 2005. His works are included in numerous public and private collections and he has participated in juried exhibitions nation wide. The Marker Tree isn't David's only art in Irving. His Entry Marker, a kinetic sculpture of two wings, marks the wetlands area entryway about a block or so east. This second sculpture for Irving was created in 2002 and is on the Historic Birdville Trail, at 900 W. Pioneer Drive.

David B. Hickman's website is: [www.davidbhickman.com/](http://www.davidbhickman.com/) where you can enjoy much more of this famous Texas sculptor's work. Thanks to Jim Dunkley, Irving Trails Historian, for pointing out these Irving treasures that are hiding in plain sight.



Hickman's Marker Tree stands beside the east ramp of the train platform and will soon celebrate its 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary.



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