



## THIS WEEK

### Shop in the black Page 3

Classifieds	Page 5
Movies	Page 10
Obituaries	Page 8
Police	Page 2
Puzzles	Page 11
Sports	Page 5



# Families displaced by pre-holiday fires

By Jess Paniszczyn

Two recent apartment fires in Irving not only destroyed property, but also left scores of people without homes. Nineteen units of the La Hacienda Apartments on O'Connor burned on Monday, Nov.

24. Then on the following Friday, a fire at the Eagle Crest Apartments on Northgate displaced about 25 residents.

"Irving is definitely a community that has been impacted by apartment fires. We have had two

substantial fires in a week's time," said Anita Foster, the Metroplex Communications Officer with the American Red Cross. "In the cases of these two apartment fires, they were devastating fires. The fires moved quickly, and they were very

hot.

"The first one came in the overnight hours on Monday. When we got the call, we thought there were about 12 units affected. So we were really anticipating between 24 and 36 people affected. When we got on the scene though, there were 81 people displaced by the fire, which damaged 19 units. There were large families with children, and it was freezing cold outside. Thankfully the families escaped, but when they

got outside, they were literally in their pajamas and socks.

"We were able to provide some sweats, socks, blankets and shoes we carry on our disaster relief vehicles right there for the families. Some of the folks did have loved ones in the area who came and picked them up after hearing about the fire on the news in the early morning hours. But about 35 people had nowhere to go. So we opened

See *FAMILIES*, Page 6



The Irving Fire Department works to control a blaze at the Eagle Crest Apartments.

# Making a difference one shoebox at a time

By Jess Paniszczyn

Can a shoebox change the world? Maybe not. However, for underprivileged and impoverished children around the world, a shoebox filled with toys, candy and other gifts can provide a message of hope and love.

Through Operation Christmas Child, Irving residents expressed their generosity to kids a world away. For the past several years, North Irving Baptist Church has served as the first step in a long process of collecting, sorting and distributing these boxes.

"Franklin Graham, who is Billy Graham's son, founded Samaritan's Purse, which has supported Operation Christmas Child for over 30 years," Pastor Brian Hale said. "Our church has served as a relay center for the program for about six or seven years. The shoe boxes go from here to First Baptist Hurst, then to Denver, which is a processing center. The boxes are then distributed to all kinds of different countries, all over the world. Most of the boxes we collect go to Central America and South America.

"It is a conscious way to be a part of going somewhere else without paying to go there. You put in seven dollars to help pay for the shipping. You buy the items and find or pay for a shoe box. You are looking at about \$20 to be able to impact the life of some child you will probably never see or hear from. But you are able to do mission work for that kind of money. You don't

have to go there. You don't have to get shots. You don't pay for a plane ticket.

See *SHOEBOXES*, Page 9

# Turkeys help spread goodwill

By Jess Paniszczyn

The spirit of Thanksgiving was shared throughout Irving as individual volunteers and churches worked to provide traditional turkey dinners to more than 2,000 people in Irving. For 15 years, Serv-

ing Irving has brought together hundreds of volunteers, who work to share this uniquely American holiday with others.

A partnership between Willow Bend Church in Plano, Irving's Oak View Baptist Church and its five

Spanish speaking missions and volunteers from Hope Fellowship, cooked 86 turkeys and all the trimmings. In the early morning hours, Angelos Spaghetti and Pizza House opened their kitchen for food preparation while other cooks worked in Oak View Baptist's kitchen.

"We contacted 16 apartment complexes, so we organize the dinners on a community by community basis," said Jim Gerlach Pastor of Oak View Baptist Church. "It is a complete delivery situation. We take the dinners to them. In addition, the City's Housing and Human Services Department contacted us, so we are going to deliver meals to a homeless shelter.

"Our volunteers love this program. It is a way to demonstrate Thanksgiving as well as to feel it. It is a chance to help others and demonstrate the love of God in a very

See *TRADITIONAL*, Page 12



Volunteers with Serving Irving organize and set up a Thanksgiving Day meal for residents of a local apartment complex.

PENDING PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID IRVING TEXAS PERMIT #12

**The Irving Rambler**  
P.O. Box 177731  
Irving, TX 75017

Irving Rambler \$0.25

8 60579 00000 5

**Friday, December 5**  
**IRVING ARTS CENTER'S CELTIC CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION**  
Holiday Open House 5:30 - 7:30 PM  
Hunt Family Fiddlers FREE family concert Carpenter Hall, 7:30 PM

**Saturday, December 6**  
**FAMILY FUNDAY-FREE**  
Greeting Card Workshop & Santa Visit 1 2-4 PM  
**HUNT FAMILY STEP CLASS**  
10 AM; Only \$10!

**December 6 & 7**  
**NUTCRACKER**  
Ballet Ensemble of Texas  
Carpenter Performance Hall  
2:30 and 7:30 PM

**Tues, December 9**  
**LATINO CONNECTION**  
featuring Mambo Machine  
New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving  
Carpenter Performance Hall  
7:30 p.m.

**Sat, December 13**  
**DECK THE HALL!**  
Irving Symphony Orchestra  
Carpenter Performance Hall • 7:00 PM

**IRVING ARTS CENTER**  
It's worth the trip!

**ON SALE NOW!**  
972.252.ARTS  
irvingartscenter.com  
3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.

# Community Calendar

www.irvingrambler.com

"The Newspaper Irving Reads"

November 27, 2008

## December 1 at 7:30pm

**Grief Support** - "When Grief Comes Home for Christmas" will be the discussion at 7:30 p.m. in the Hill Room, Holy Family of Nazareth Church, 2323 Cheyenne Street, Irving. Call 972-252-5521 for more information. Christmas and grieving don't fit together. Christmas is supposed to be joyful, lively, and cheery. Grief is not. Yet the reality is that grieving

becomes an inseparable part of your Christmas experience when you have lost a loved one.

**December 1 from 10:30am - noon Volunteer Training** - Meals on Wheels volunteer training will take place 10:30 a.m. until noon at the Visiting Nurse Association's headquarters, 1440 W. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas. There is no cost to attend. For additional information contact 214-689-2210 or coxbe@vntexas.org.

Read the Irving Rambler EVERY WEEK

**City of IRVING**

**HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA**

SATURDAY, DEC. 6

4 P.M. Heritage Park, 217 Main St. 5:30 P.M. Civic Center Complex, 825 W. Irving Blvd.

**Holiday Parade**  
Festive Floats  
Holiday Music

**Tree Lighting**  
Fireworks/Concert  
Santa Visits

**Holiday Lights at Centennial Park**  
444 W. Second St.  
Lights will run from dusk to 10 p.m. Dec. 6-28

For more information, call (972) 721-2501 or visit www.cityofirving.org.

## December 1 at 11:00am

**Super Lunch** - The Salvation Army of Irving will host its 16<sup>th</sup> annual Super Lunch benefiting the community center's services and programs at the Four Season's Hotel. Tickets are \$65. For more information, call 972-438-6553.

## December 2 at 6:00

**Republican Club Meeting** - Greater Irving Republican Club meets at Spring Creek, 3515 W. Airport Frwy. 6:00 meet and greet, 7:00 p.m. program. www.irvingrepublicanclub.com

## December 4 from 11am-3pm.

**Career Fair** - The Recruit Military Career Fair event will take place at Texas Stadium from 11am-3pm. This event is intended to help our recently returning troops and other veterans and service members, and their spouses find jobs. Veterans will be able to interview with national, regional, & local employers. This event is produced in cooperation with President Bush's National Hire Veterans Committee (Hire Vets First), The American Legion, and the Military Spouse Corporate Career Network (MSCCN).

## December 5 from 11am - 2pm

**Shredding** - Shredding event will be held from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the drop-off recycling center located at State Highway 183 and O'Connor Boulevard. Look for the Shred Document Destruction truck in the parking lot near the recycling center. Residents are limited to two file boxes. For more information, call 972-721-2324.

## December 5 from 5:30 - 7:30pm

**A Celtic Christmas** - A Celtic Christmas is the theme for this year's holiday celebration at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Experience Celtic-themed sights, sounds and family friendly activities throughout the month of December. The Holiday Open House will feature live entertainment, art projects, decorated trees, visits with Santa Claus, refreshments and more. The free event will run from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. The Hunt Family Fiddlers Concert will present a free concert at Carpenter Performance Hall following the Holiday Open House at 7:30 p.m. Chock full of high-powered step dancing, fast fiddling and Celtic tunes, this nine-member, award-winning family of

Irish step dancers, fiddlers and singers has entertained audiences across the world. View colorful, creative and festive trees decorated by Irving parent-teacher organizations and vote for a favorite during the 16th Annual Holiday Exhibition and Tree Decorating Competition through Dec. 31. For a full list of holiday activities, call 972-252-ARTS or visit www.irvingartscenter.com.

## VFW Collects Canned Food

VFW Post 2494 Irving and Auxiliaries are collecting canned food to be placed in the annual Christmas baskets delivered to families in need in Irving and Grand Prairie during the week prior to Christmas. Needed are cans of vegetables such as green beans, peas, and corn along with cans of fruit of all types, cranberry sauce, peanut butter plus non-perishables such as boxed stuffing mix, flour, sugar, etc. Any amount from one can to one case or more that can be delivered to the Post will be greatly appreciated. VFW 2494 is located at 3375 Belt Line Road, just south of Shady Grove. For directions to the Post and further information, call 972-790-1611.

## POLICE & FIRE



**Auto/Pedestrian Accident/Class 'A' Major:** 11-20-08 A vehicle traveling north bound in the 3400 block of N.

Belt Line Rd. struck a 31 year-old male as he attempted to cross Belt Line Rd. from east to west. The victim sustained serious injuries and was transported to Parkland Hospital. Hit and Run was notified. The investigation remains pending. The victim's last known condition was classified as serious.

**Assist Officer:** 11-20-08 Officers White and Hunt were investigating a complaint of deadly conduct on Oakdale. White located the suspect at a residence on Tracey Court. When White contacted the suspect, the suspect tried to flee inside his residence. White began to fight with the suspect outside the residence and ended up at the front door when Hunt arrived. Hunt deployed his tazer allowing White to disengage. When Hunt went hands on the suspect to take him into custody, the suspect bit Hunt in the arm causing a severe bite wound. White, Hunt and the suspect suffered non-life threatening injuries. Hunt and White went to Irving Baylor for follow up. The suspect was transported to Irving jail after treatment by IFD

## Irving Fire Department

Activity summary Nov 20 - 26, 2008

Irving Fire Department responded to 386 incidents.

### The Fire incidents

105 Miscellaneous Fire and Rescue Calls  
6 Structure Fires  
4 Special Operations  
2 Vehicle Fires

### Medical calls

31 Major Accidents  
105 Major Medical  
24 Heart Attacks  
45 Difficulty Breathing  
39 Trauma Related  
25 CPR Situations

### Comments:

**11-22:** Three alarm fire at 3808 Esters Rd. Two firefighters were treated for injuries. Cause is under investigation. One alarm fire at 10227 N. Macarthur was mitigated by the first alarm companies. No injuries were reported. Cause is under investigation.

### Aggravated Robbery/Aggravated Assault:

11-21-08 at 9:41 p.m. A male suspect approached a woman (victim) leaving the Walgreens at 1050 W. Shady Grove, and entering her vehicle. The suspect displayed a handgun, entered the victim's vehicle and demanded the victim's purse. The suspect then struck the victim in the mouth with the handgun causing her injury, grabbed the purse, and fled. IFD responded and treated victim for minor injury. The suspect was located and arrested. The handgun and property were recovered.

**Apartment Fire:** 11-21-08 at 10:30 p.m. Officers were dispatched to a

three alarm structure fire at the Eagle Crest Apartments. The building was fully engulfed. All occupants were safely evacuated. There were no injuries. The displaced residents were provided shelter by the apartment management. The cause of the fire is unknown at this time. IFD is conducting the follow-up investigation. The Red Cross responded to the location.

**Aggravated Robbery:** 11-25-08 at 9:38 a.m. The suspect entered The Cash Store in the 4100 block of W. Airport Freeway. The suspect displayed a hand gun and fled with money. No Injuries were reported.

The Irving Rambler (214) 675-6493  
irving@irvingrambler.com

Stacey Starkey - Director  
John Starkey - Publisher

INTERNET [www.irvingrambler.com](http://www.irvingrambler.com)  
E-mail [irving@irvingrambler.com](mailto:irving@irvingrambler.com)

The entire contents of this newspaper are the sole property of The Irving Rambler, Inc., with all rights reserved. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content in any manner is prohibited.

If you have an upcoming event, game scores, a press release, or interesting story, please let us know. *The Irving Rambler* encourages submission of articles, facts, and photographs pertaining to the people, life, business, and entertainment of Irving, Texas.

*The Irving Rambler* is published weekly by Irving Rambler, Inc., P.O. Box 177731, Irving, TX 75017.

You can subscribe to *The Irving Rambler* for \$25 per year. *The Irving Rambler* is also distributed throughout Irving in businesses and public areas.

Deadline for the submission of articles and advertising is noon Monday, prior to the publication date. All submitted articles are subject to editing. Opinions expressed in submitted advertisements, articles, editorial, or commentary are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of *The Irving Rambler*, the publisher, editor, or any staff member. All articles, press releases, photographs and other materials submitted become the property of *The Irving Rambler*.

The Publication of columnists' views, as well as advertising, does not constitute endorsement. The Irving Rambler reserves the right to reject or edit any advertising. *The Irving Rambler*, its publisher, and editor are not responsible for errors in advertising.

The Irving Rambler Volume 5 Issue 48 is published weekly for \$25 dollars a year by The Irving Rambler, Inc. 627 S. Rogers, Irving, TX 75060. Periodicals postage prices paid at Irving, Texas. POSTMASTER: Send address changes to The Irving Rambler, P.O. Box 177731, Irving, TX 75017.

# Reaching out to help others when money is tight

By Jason Alderman

During the holiday season, many people reflect on what they can do to help those less fortunate. In 2007, caring Americans gave a record \$306.4 billion in charitable donations – which doesn't even include the countless hours spent on volunteer activities.

But during this recent economic turmoil, many folks are being forced to cut back on contributions as they themselves face increasing hardships. This is particularly bad timing since food banks, disaster relief organizations and other charities need our help now more than ever.

So what can you do to help others while safeguarding your own family's well being? Here are a few ideas to stretch your charitable contributions:

Donate your time. Charities always gladly accept cash, but many run on shoestring budgets with minimal staff, so your time and expertise may be just as valuable. Numerous organizations can match you up with local charities that suit your interests, including Network for Good ([www.networkforgood.org](http://www.networkforgood.org)), Volunteer Match ([www.volunteermatch.org](http://www.volunteermatch.org)) and Volunteer Solutions ([www.volunteersolutions.org](http://www.volunteersolutions.org)).

Although you can't take a federal income tax deduction for your time, you can deduct mileage and certain expenses related to your volunteer activities at IRS-qualified, tax-exempt organizations. IRS Publication 526 explains how tax deductions for charitable contributions work and Publication 78 lists all IRS-approved organizations ([www.irs.gov](http://www.irs.gov)).

Bang for your buck. Make sure any non-profit organizations to which you donate are well-run and contribute at least 75 percent of contributions they receive to programs

that serve their beneficiaries, as opposed to being spent on their own salaries and expenses. Several online rating services can help you research potential recipients of your generosity, including [www.charitynavigator.org](http://www.charitynavigator.org), [www.guidestar.org](http://www.guidestar.org) and the Better Business Bureau ([www.give.org](http://www.give.org)).

Non-cash contributions. If you're strapped for cash, there are many other valuable items you can pass along to charity. For example:

Clean out your closets and donate unneeded clothes, appliances, furniture and other items to non-profit organizations that spon-

sor thrift shops, like Goodwill Industries ([www.goodwill.org](http://www.goodwill.org)) or your local religious or AIDS service organizations. Just be sure they're on the IRS-approved list above.

Many organizations accept donated frequent flyer miles. One great program, the Make a Wish Foundation ([www.wish.org](http://www.wish.org)), estimates it needs over 2.5 billion miles a year to fulfill the travel needs of the sick children they help. Check airline websites for links to organizations that accept their miles.

Local food pantries and homeless shelters always need food con-

See *GENEROUS*, Page 4

***Candlelight  
Memorial Service***

**Saturday  
December 6th  
at 5pm**

**Memorial Tree**

**All December**

**Chapel of Roses  
Funeral Home**

**1225 E. Irving Blvd. 75060**

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

**972-554-1031**

## Keeping finances in the black this Thanksgiving weekend

Thanksgiving marks the beginning of the holiday season, and for many consumers, is the kickoff for holiday shopping. In fact, the day after Thanksgiving is commonly known as "Black Friday," because retailers typically go from being unprofitable (in the "red") to profitable (in the "black"). Last year's Black Friday sales totaled nearly \$10.3 billion, according to the ShopperTrak National Retail Sales Estimate (NRSE). Retailers aren't expecting this year's numbers to be as strong, but many have plans to slash prices further in an effort to draw bigger crowds.

"Unfortunately, beginning the holiday shopping season by blowing your budget can lead to debt that lingers well into the New Year," said Marianne Gray D' Aquila, president of Money Management International (MMI). "There are many ways to keep costs down and, as usual, the most important one is to plan ahead."

To help create a smart spending plan to take you from Black Friday through the holidays, consider the following tips from credit counselors at MMI:

Start with a thrifty and tasteful meal. Start the holiday off right by keeping Thanksgiving meal costs in check. Consider making your meal potluck-guests are typically more than happy to bring a dish to share. Keep your eyes open for coupons and specials at nearby grocery stores. Also, avoid expensive name brands when it really won't make a difference.

Develop a plan. Thrifty holiday shopping requires a plan. First, figure out who's on your gift list and determine how much you plan to spend for each person. To prevent the urge to overspend, use cash and leave your credit cards at home. Realize that the holidays involve more expenses than just gifts. In fact, studies show that consumers should budget more than \$500 for non-gift expenses such as travel, entertaining and decorations.

Consider cyber-shopping. When done correctly, shopping online can help-you will save a lot of time and comparison shopping is a breeze. You won't be alone - comScore reports that online retail spending in 2007 was strong on both Thanksgiving Day (up 29 percent to \$272 million) and "Black Friday" (up 22 percent to \$531 million), outpacing the season-to-date

growth rate. Do be cautious when shopping online: Most online purchases are made with a credit card so be sure to monitor your spending and your balances.

Think outside the mall. Get creative. Great gifts don't necessarily have to cost a lot of money. Make homemade jam, pick flowers from your garden or assemble a photo

album. Give vouchers good for five hours of yard work, ten back rubs, or a weekend of baby-sitting. You can create free personalized gift certificates at [www.Regiftable.com](http://www.Regiftable.com)

Lastly, remember that holiday memories should last a lifetime. The spirit of the season is far more important than the monetary value of the gifts you give.

**KINGDOM SENIOR SOLUTIONS**

**469-713-1862**

**OPEN ENROLLMENT**

**NOVEMBER 15<sup>TH</sup> – DECEMBER 31<sup>ST</sup>**

CALL FOR APPOINTMENT NOW

Qualified Medicare Supplements  
Medicare Advantage Plans  
PART D Prescription Drug Plans

1400 W. Irving Blvd. Ste., 201  
Irving, TX. 75061



Joan Black -  
Van Zandt

**Owe Back Taxes?**

**OUR TAX TEAM WILL NEGOTIATE FOR YOU**

**The Nation's Largest Tax Resolution Firm**

Over 200,000 taxpayers have chosen to benefit from the knowledge, experience, and proven tactics of our Tax Team.

**Call Now 800-694-8439 | Se Habla Español**



**JK Harris & Company**  
*We Solve IRS Problems*

**We can help with:**

- Back Taxes
- Penalties & Interest
- IRS Liens and Levies
- Wage Garnishments
- Unpaid Payroll Taxes
- IRS Audit Representation

**3 Simple Steps to Back Tax Relief**

- 1) Contact Us - 800-694-8439**  
Call now for your free tax settlement analysis.
- 2) Meet With Us - 425 Locations Nationwide\***  
Your JK Harris consultant will personalize a strategy to settle your tax case.
- 3) Problem Solved - Get Your Life Back**  
Let JK Harris help bring you peace of mind.

\* JK Harris sales consultants are available to meet with consumers, by appointment only, in over 425 locations in 43 states.

**Call 800-694-8439**

**Did we get YOUR attention? Great!**

Now, let us help you get the attention of YOUR customer.



- Creating Your Online Presence**
  - Website Design
  - Web Applications
  - Electronic Marketing
- Getting Your Website Found**
  - Search Engine Optimization
  - Pay Per Click Programs
  - Banner Ads and Placement
- Perfecting Your Identity**
  - Logo Design
  - Collateral Materials
  - Ad Campaigns

Contact us to set up your **FREE**, no obligation appointment.

**972-254-2070**

[www.marketcenter.net](http://www.marketcenter.net)  
[sales@marketcenter.net](mailto:sales@marketcenter.net)

 **MARKETCENTER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.**  
the world is in our sites™

# Museum seeks can openers to expand collection

When Peter Durand patented the first metal can for the British Navy in 1810, he overlooked one important point - how to get the can open once it was sealed.

"The first cans were made of solid iron and they were heavier than the food inside the can," said Elizabeth Pearce, senior curator, Southern Food and Beverage Museum. "To get the food out, one literally had to use a hammer and chisel."

Pearce says that it was only when thinner cans were created in the 1860s - nearly 50 years later - that a can opener could be invented.

"The first can opener was created by Ezra Warner of Waterbury, Connecticut, in 1858," she said. "It looked somewhat like a bent bayonet and you had to jam it into the can and then forcibly rotate around the edge of the can. It was difficult.

"People did not have this type of can opener in their homes. It was only in stores, so the cans were opened by clerks in the store before the customer left."

The Southern Food and Beverage Museum faces a similar situation as the British Navy - it has thousands of cans but no can openers.

"We have an exhibition titled

'Canstruction,'" Pearce said. "Every year, architecture firms throughout the country participate in a competition in which they create sculptures out of canned goods. The sculptures are disassembled and donated to a local food bank. We have a can sculpture on exhibit in the museum. We are creating a companion exhibition of historic can openers to compliment the can exhibition. We are seeking vintage can openers to put into the display and into our collection."

The museum is looking for can openers that are both historic and commonplace examples of the past.

Old can openers that are wall mounted. Openers that consist of one piece or of multiple pieces.

Openers that feature the classic wheel design. Openers that have unique features and advertising slogans. Examples of old electrical can openers - the first electrical version was created in 1931 though it reached mass market in 1957. Old cans, such as the original heavy examples made of iron.

"The use of can openers didn't really become widespread until roughly 1930," said Pearce. "But there are older versions that deserve to be placed into a museum collection. For example, during the Civil War, Union troops received Warner's can opener along with their rations of canned food. In 1866, a man named J. Osterhoudt patented the tin can with a key opener that we

see with sardine cans."

Pearce says that can openers are important artifacts that document the culinary history of man.

"At the Southern Food and Beverage Museum, we get excited about things like can openers," she said. "They are valuable in that they provide a picture of where we have been and where we are going."

Those who make donations will be recognized in Southern Food and

Beverage Museum publications and on its website/email newsletters. In some cases, donations as well as shipping costs may be eligible for tax deductions when donors get the appropriate appraisals from independent sources.

The Southern Food and Beverage Museum is located in New Orleans, LA. For more information, visit [www.southerfood.org](http://www.southerfood.org).

## Generous, creative donations

*Continued from page 3*  
tributions, especially around the holidays. Many also will accept and distribute toiletry items, so the next time you buy two-for-one toothpaste, set one tube aside for a needy family.

Adopt a family. Numerous social and religious organizations

sponsor programs that will align you with a family in crisis. You can provide services as wide-ranging as helping them to pay rent to educational tutoring to playing Santa Claus for homeless children.

Tap your employer. Many companies will match a portion of their employees' donations to IRS-approved non-profit organizations or educational institutions. Ask your Human Resources department if your company offers such a program.

Scam alert. Be wary of unsolicited calls or emails seeking contributions to organizations that sound legitimate but may not be. Visit the organization's website independently (not through an email link) and look them up on the online rating services mentioned above. And never give out your credit card number or personal information unless you initiated the contact yourself.

One last suggestion that won't cost a dime: Donate blood. I can't think of any better way to literally save lives.

## Workshop elves needed for VNA gift wrap



Elves help wrap holiday gifts through the Visiting Nurse Association's annual Holiday Gift Wrap.

Provided by Robert Smith

The Visiting Nurse Association will be holding its annual Holiday Gift Wrap on December 2 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Dec. 3 - 4 from 2 - 8 p.m. at the Visiting Nurse Association's Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Center on 1440 W. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas.

Elves and other volunteers are needed to wrap gifts that will be delivered during the Christmas season to homebound elderly, sick, and disabled individuals.

Donations of toothbrushes, washcloths, and white tube socks

are also needed, as well as full-size toothpaste, bar soap, shampoo, and lotion.

These and other small presents will be delivered in gift bags by the Visiting Nurse Association to patients during the month of December, in addition to Meals on Wheels recipients in Dallas County on Christmas morning.

Additional information about VNA's Holiday Gift Wrap can be obtained by contacting Betsy Cox at 214-689-2210 or [coxbe@vnatexas.org](mailto:coxbe@vnatexas.org).

### Christmas Worship Opportunities

November 30 - Hanging of the Greens, 10:45 a.m.  
 December 7 -- FCC Anniversary, 10:45 a.m.  
 December 14 -- Choir Cantata, "Christmas Seekers", 10:45 a.m.  
 December 17 -- "The Nativity Play", 7:30 p.m.  
 December 24 -- Christmas Eve Services, 6 p.m.

**First Christian Church**  
210 E. 6th Street, Irving

# WORSHIP

**Church of Christ**

**North Irving Church of Christ**  
727 Metker St. Irving, Texas 75062  
972.252.9981  
Sundays Bible Study - 9:00 a.m.  
Worship - 10:00 a.m. 5:00 p.m.  
Wednesdays Bible Study - 7:00 p.m.

**Disciples of Christ**

**First Christian Church**  
210 E. 6th Street, Irving 75060  
972.579.0911  
[www.fccirving.org](http://www.fccirving.org)  
Sundays  
Bible Study for all ages - 9:30am  
Traditional Worship - 10:45am

**Independent Bible**

**Berean Memorial Church**  
1000 E. Sixth Street, Irving 75060  
972.438.1440  
[www.bereanmemorialchurch.org](http://www.bereanmemorialchurch.org)  
Sun. 10:45am 6:30pm  
Sun. School 9:30 am

**Word of God Christian Fellowship**  
Meeting at Plymouth Park Baptist Church  
1714 N. Story Rd., Irving 75061  
Fellowship Center  
FH 103  
214.404.1899  
[www.wordofgodchristianfellowship.com](http://www.wordofgodchristianfellowship.com)  
Sundays 4:00 p.m.  
Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.

**Southern Baptist**

**Pioneer Drive Baptist Church**  
4034 W. Pioneer Drive  
Irving, Texas 75061  
972.790.8828  
[www.pdbcirving.com](http://www.pdbcirving.com)  
Sundays Traditional Worship  
11:00 a.m. & 6:00 p.m.  
Sun. School 9:45 a.m.  
Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer Meeting  
7:00 p.m.

**United Methodist**

**First United Methodist Church**  
211 W. Third St, Irving  
75060  
972.253.3531  
[www.fumcirving.org](http://www.fumcirving.org)  
Sundays 10:30am  
Sanctuary  
6:30pm Chapel

**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](http://www.ppumc.org)  
Sundays 8:30, 9:15 & 11:00am



Season of Preparation  
Advent  
**PLYMOUTH PARK  
UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**

**Sunday Morning Worship**  
8:30 a.m.—Traditional Communion Worship Service  
9:15 a.m.—Plymouth Park Praise, a multimedia non-traditional worship service with music by our live P3 Band (Communion on first Sunday of each month.)  
11:00 a.m.—Traditional Worship Service featuring excellent choral music. (Communion on first Sunday of each month.)  
Dr. William La Barr preaching: "Watch"  
**First Sunday of Advent**  
Join us as we begin our journey of preparation for the coming of the Christ Child.  
For more details go to [www.ppumc.org](http://www.ppumc.org)  
*We're holding a place for you!*  
**PLYMOUTH PARK UNITED METHODIST CHURCH**  
1615 W. Airport Freeway, Irving, Texas 75062  
972-255-4185

The Irving Rambler provides a WORSHIP section to bring people of similar beliefs together. The Irving Rambler does not accept submission of a listing as a commitment to publish. Publication of a listing does not create an obligation to continue publishing. The Irving Rambler reserves the right to refuse to publish any listing for any reason. Any listing promoting hate groups, or including inappropriate material will not be published. E-mail addresses will only be published if included in the copy of your listing.  
Listings may include your religious organization's name, address, telephone number, website url & meeting times.

### LISTING PRICES

Per line      \$1.00      From 6 months to one year \$7.47

**To purchase WORSHIP section listing  
call 214-675-9445.**

**CALVARY**  
CHURCH  
where hopes becomes reality

sunday | nov. 30  
9.30 & 11am

9.30am traditional worship (the chapel)  
9.30 & 11am contemporary worship (worship center)  
1.30pm spanish language worship (worship center)

J. Don George, D.D.  
senior pastor

hwy 161 @ walnut hill - irving 972.261.1897 calvarychurchcc

# Standard serving of beer, wine, mixed drink all contain same amount of alcohol

Provided by Rickey Dailey

As Thanksgiving kicks off the holiday season, the Texas Hospitality Association (THA) reminds Texans to "know their alcohol" and to drink responsibly as they gather for traditional celebrations and with family and friends.

"Remember, a drink is a drink is a drink. Most people believe that a typical mixed drink is more potent than a 5-ounce glass of wine or a 12-ounce beer, even though the alcohol content in all three is the same. It is important that people are aware of the facts and know their alcohol as they celebrate this holiday season," said THA President Ricky Knox.

"THA is working to dispel the myth that there are differences between distilled spirits and beer or wine. Alcohol is alcohol. By inform-

ing people that a standard serving of different types of drinks contains the same amount of alcohol, THA believes people will make more informed decisions about responsible drinking when they aware of the facts," Knox said.

"Beer has the same effect as straight scotch. One 12-ounce beer has as much alcohol as a 1.5-ounce shot of whiskey or a 5-ounce glass of wine," according to the National Highway Traffic Safety Administration.

THA offers these reminders for a safe and responsible holiday season:

Do drink responsibly and in moderation.

Do have a designated driver.

Don't drink alcohol if you are taking medicine – either prescription or over-the-counter.

A typical serving of beer, wine or distilled spirits contains the same amount of alcohol.

Don't drink alcohol if you are pregnant or nursing.

You must be 21 years old to legally purchase and consume beverage alcohol.

"Please don't kid yourself into thinking beer or wine is less potent than a mixed drink. In your body, all alcohol is the same," he said.

ONLINE

**Read the Irving Rambler**



# IRVING SPORTS

## Blazers looking forward to new season

By Lotis Butchko

The North Lake College Blazers men's basketball team has just started the season and is looking for a repeat performance of last year.

The Blazers, who won the National Junior College Athletic Association Division III national championship, have worked hard this off-season to insure a good year.

They return starting point guard Nathan Pratt, power forward Chris Carter, guard Steve Johunkin and center Yousef Taha. Each of the four played a large part in last year's national championship.

Originally the team planned to have eight starters back, but with the loss of players to scholarship schools, the team was not able to maintain its core.

"I think its going to be a good season, we look really good," Carter said.

The team recently returned from a tournament in Colorado. Despite not having Taha or Carter the team went a respectable 1-2.

At 3-3, the Blazer's are still looking to find their niche.

"I feel pretty comfortable," head coach Tim McGraw said. "But

we are in a tough division and there are no easy weeks."

One thing is for sure, the Blazers have a long season ahead of them, despite being voted number four in the preseason rankings, teams like Richland College and Brookhaven are returning lots of players and are eager to avenge the losses that kept them from going to the national championship last year.

Richland returns nine players this year and expects to do very well.

"I am still pretty upset about last season," Jon Felmet, head coach of Richland said. "We had a big lead on [North Lake] in the playoffs and blew it."

Even though the season is early, the Blazers are optimistic. Pratt was voted as a top returning player in the district and he hopes to continue his success from last season.

"Last year we had a great year," Pratt said. "But it's a whole new season and we have to really work for it."

## FREE CLASSIFIED ADVERTISING

In response to the current economic situation, the Irving Rambler is offering to individuals only any classified ad selling merchandise from puppy dogs to cars at no cost! Also garage sales! Ads must adhere to a 20 word maximum size. These ads will only be accepted through e-mail to [bobs@irvingrambler.com](mailto:bobs@irvingrambler.com). No ads will be accepted over the phone. Ads will be accepted only during October and November and will only be allowed to run for up to three weeks.

-IRVING ANNOUNCEMENT-

**Exercise your voice**  
**Ask questions!**  
**Give an opinion & make it count!**  
**Share some answers!**  
**Make your voices heard!**

Irving Voices Unite!

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

Call: 469-450-3936

Email: [info@irvingvoices.com](mailto:info@irvingvoices.com)

Write: Irving Voices  
 2505 Texas Drive, Suite 10420  
 Irving, TX 75062

NURSING

BE A PART OF SOMETHING SPECIAL,  
BE A PART OF SILVERADO

SILVERADO SENIOR LIVING –  
VALLEY RANCH

We have an **IMMEDIATE** need for the **NIGHT SHIFT**,  
and a need for qualified and caring LVN  
candidates for **ALL SHIFTS**.

LVN's – ALL SHIFTS

Please forward your resume by email or fax,  
or call directly for more information.

MPOole@SilveradoSenior.com

Call 972-831-8200 Fax 972-236-1670

You may also visit our website and apply online at:  
[www.silveradosenior.com](http://www.silveradosenior.com)



SILVERADO

SENIOR LIVING

Your Memory Care Resource

## CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

<b>AUTO FOR SALE</b> 1989 Chevrolet 2500 PICKUP Silverado Extended Cab, LOW MILES 1 owner \$2500. 469-450-7218	<b>HELP WANTED</b> <b>DRIVERS WANTED</b> <b>NEW REGIONAL FREIGHT</b> • .33 - .38 cents per mile • Owner-ops welcome • Lease/purchase 2004-2005 Freightliners • Home most every week • Major medical available • Local orientation/dispatch With us, you're a name, not a number! Class-A CDL req. <b>888-202-3569</b> Ext. 114 Nights & weekends: <b>501-240-7348 or 501-247-7511</b> <b>Freight Systems, Inc</b>	<b>HELP WANTED</b> Part-Time Dog wash attendant 972-252-7908 Groom & Zomm Dog Wash	<b>HELP WANTED</b> <b>WORK WANTED</b> HANDY HELPER Help you organize your home be your Personal Assistant Run errands, Holiday help with your shopping, wrapping, decorating, baking, etc. 214-766-7961 or 972-254-2126	<b>ITEMS FOR SALE</b> 4 Window A/C units, about one year old. Your choice \$50 each 972-259-7000 1987 Chevy truck hood, left driver's door, right & left front fenders. \$15 each part. Call Bob 972-255-6932 White Amana Gas Stove 214-675-6493 FOR SALE-Hot Wheels Collection-Treasure Hunts, Final Runs and many other series 972-438-4522	<b>ITEMS FOR FREE</b> Average condition - White washed oak kitchen/dining table with butterfly leaf and matching chairs. Free to whoever will haul it away. Kerri Miene 972-253-1966 office <b>APARTMENT FOR RENT</b> FOR RENT- Huge upstairs room, Pvt. bath, Kitch. Priv. All bills paid. \$550/month, \$275 deposit. Avail. 12/01/08. CALL 972 7903599	<b>HOUSE FOR RENT</b> 3/1/1 house for rent 123 Wanda Dr. \$950/month rent, \$900 deposit 972-259-7000 <b>HOUSE FOR SALE</b> 1716 John Smith Dr, Irving 972-254-7200 4 bedroom, huge family room, sunroom and workroom, large trees, fenced yard, move-in ready	
<b>HELP WANTED</b> Delivery / Courier Computers, phone, Irving/Metroplex area. Appointments only. 972-254-2603 Business dress and excellent driving record required.	<b>LEGAL NOTICE</b>	<b>APARTMENT FOR SALE</b>	<b>LOST PETS</b>	<b>WANTED TO BUY</b>	<b>GARAGE SALES</b>	<b>ANTIQUES FOR SALE</b>	<b>PETS FOR SALE</b>

The Irving Rambler is bringing buyers and sellers together. When you place a classified advertisement in the Rambler, we publish it online at no additional charge. The Irving Rambler does not accept submission of an advertisement as a commitment to publish. Publication of an advertisement does not create an obligation to continue publishing. The Irving Rambler reserves the right to refuse to publish any advertisement for any reason. Ads promoting hate groups, or including inappropriate material will not be published. E-mail addresses will only be published if included in the copy of your classified ad.

To purchase classified ads call 214-675-6493.

ADVERTISING PRICES

Per line	\$1.20	Bold, Caps, border	\$7.00
----------	--------	--------------------	--------

# Families need immediate assistance after homes burn

Continued from page 1

a shelter in Irving at the Senter Park Recreation Center.

"It is a shelter we have used many times, and the city is wonderful about opening the doors whenever we need it. Throughout the day, we encouraged people affected by the fire to come to Senter Park to receive assistance from the Red Cross."

The process of disaster relief begins before most family members fully comprehend the extent of their loss.

"Essentially, right on the curb we make sure people are safe and they have something to wear. Then we start looking at what the next steps are. Stop and imagine what it is like when you lose everything you own in a fire. At the end of the day, you have nothing. You don't have groceries. You can't make a cup of coffee. You have no clothes. You have absolutely nothing except whatever you wore to bed the night before. That is pretty overwhelming for families.

"At the Red Cross, our job is to start with basic human needs.

We provide essentially a credit card. We load it with a balance. People can take it immediately from the scene of the fire, go to the store and purchase what they need for their family.

"We also make sure every family has a place to stay. Without the Red Cross, the bottom line is so many families would wind up sleeping in their cars or in their burned out house. When we respond to disasters we know that statistically, most people are going to need help from us, because 87 percent of the fire victims we help are uninsured.

"After the La Hacienda fire, there were no available apartments in the complex. Therefore, the solution to housing people is not as simple as the apartment manager just opening up some other units and people move right in without worrying about security deposits or other fees.

"We help those people with rental assistance and getting a new apartment, so they don't have to suffer the consequence of having to pay rent and a security deposit

again after they have already paid it where they lived previously," she said.

Even in the best situations, people need help with the basics.

"Later that same week, was the Eagle Crest Apartment fire. That was a pretty drastic fire as well with about 25 people displaced. In just two fires in Irving, we had over 100 people who had nowhere to go.

"The Eagle Crest apartment manager was great. She worked with some neighboring apartments, so they were able to find housing for those people. It is great to have a place to stay, but they still had no food, clothing or supplies. So we provided that assistance.

"Just in direct financial assistance, loading money onto those credit cards, we provided almost \$14,000 to the families who had the greatest losses from both those fires," Foster said.

Assistant Fire Chief, Mike Evitts, indicated fires of this type are not unusual.

"The fires we have had lately have been fairly normal for this time of year. The cool weather has meant that people are using their heaters for the first time this year and that always causes some fires.

"People should have their heating systems checked to make sure they are safe from fire and, in the case of gas-fired appliances, safe from Carbon Monoxide. In addition to the cool weather we always see an increase of fires around the holidays and this is due to things like candles, cooking, decorations and larger groups of people gathering. Of course the use of alcohol always adds to the possibility of accidents occurring. We believe the fire on O'Connor can be attributed to cooking," Evitts said.

No one is ever fully prepared for a house fire.

"Whatever time of year you have a fire, it is so unexpected. It is a complete shock. But there is something about that shock coming at a time of year about giving and spending time with loved ones. We have already met families that lost things they purchased as Christmas gifts for their children. It's very tough," Foster said.

"The busiest time of the year for the Red Cross is the holiday season. There is not just an increase, we actually double our fire response. In the Dallas area alone, we typically respond to three fires a day. Most of those fires don't make the news. They are single family house fires. They happen at two or three in the morning. There is one family on the curb. The Red Cross responds just exactly as we do at any large scale disaster. Three fires a day is just an average. You put the holidays on top of that and we will respond to between four and eight fires a day.

"Around the holidays, we typically see weather change, so we start to see space heaters and chimneys starting fires. With the economy being difficult, we have already encountered a family that was having a hard time paying their electric bill, so they were using their gas stove for heat. The stove caught some cloth on fire and the whole house went up.

"You add candles, Christmas trees, lights, extra cooking in the



Flames light up the night sky as a family loses their apartment in a blaze.

kitchen, more people in the house, people paying less attention to what is going on and it's a recipe for disaster.

"I have responded to fires in the community for the past 13 years. I have found that people are so grateful that their family has survived a fire that the Christmas presents really become the least of their worries. Honestly, the families don't ask us to help them with Christmas. I think that is amazing. For me, it always reinforces what is really important. When a family survives a disaster, discovering that your kids and loved ones are safe is the gift of Christmas for the families we serve."

Holiday plans and expectations add to the stress of a fire.

"It is always hard for families to recover from a fire but I think it is harder on people around the holidays. Gifts, food and decorations can be replaced of course, but their loss adds to the difficulty of moving on after a fire. It is especially troublesome when guests are expected and the home is either destroyed or damaged. There is an emotional aspect as well but differs from person to person," Evitts said.

"The fire department has a priority list we use when fighting fires, or dealing with any type of emergency. We go in first to save people, then to protect exposures, and then to prevent further damage to property. Everyone knows we search the building to make sure everyone is out, and we perform rescues when we find someone in the fire building.

"What is not so widely recognized is the work we do to protect property. We call that work Salvage and it includes such things as moving the person's property to the center of the room and putting tarps over things to protect them from fire and water damage. This is not unique to the Irving Fire Department, most departments perform salvage operations. However, when

there are not enough firefighters available the tasks related to rescue and fire control take precedent. It is a terrible thing to suffer a fire in your home; however, finding that some of your cherished items have been spared can sometimes make all the difference.

"In order to prevent fires a person needs to first recognize unsafe behaviors that can cause the fire. Things like leaving candles, fireplaces, and cooking devices burning without supervision can ignite a fire. Christmas trees are very pretty but the real trees will ignite quickly and cause a tremendous fire in seconds. Frying turkeys has become popular lately and has been the cause of a number of house fires and serious burns. Don't hesitate to call the fire department if you need safety information," he said.

"We have a very strong relationship with the Irving Fire Department," Foster said. "They do amazing work. Over the years, I have seen the fire department be able to save things in fires that you wouldn't think they could. They are able to get in and tarp the beds, so they don't get water on them as they are spraying water through the roof. In many cases, they are able to tarp computers and televisions, so people don't have to go out and repurchase those items. Irving can be very proud of their Fire Department.

"If you learn anything working with the American Red Cross, it is that any one of us can be standing on the curb at any time. No one is immune to disaster be it a tornado, flood, earthquake, wild fire, apartment fire, or house fire. When you are in that position, we are all very equal. It doesn't matter what education you have or what part of town you live in, you need help."

For more information about the Red Cross, visit [www.redcrossdallas.org](http://www.redcrossdallas.org) or call 214-678-4800.

Caring for Irving Since 1991

## Irving Massage Therapy

3325 WEST ROCHELLE RD., IRVING, TX 75062  
WWW.IRVINGMASSAGE.COM

**(972) 256-3565**

**15% DISCOUNT  
OFF ANY SERVICE\***

MASSAGE - TABLE OR CHAIR  
ENDERMOLOGIE \* BODY WRAPS  
STEAM DETOX \* FOOT DETOX

\* Not Valid on Gift Certificates or with Other Offers/Discounts

# Joe's 101

Family Dining  
Homestyle Cooking  
All You Can Eat Food Bar After 5 p.m.  
Lite-eaters Selection

## Where Irving Meets & Eats

425 W. Irving Blvd. at O'Connor

BREAKFAST  
LUNCH  
DINNER

For Take Out Call  
**(972) 253-7335**

SPECIALS  
EVERY  
DAY!

Hours: Mon. - Fri. 5:30 a.m. - 9 p.m.  
Sat. 5:30 a.m. - 3 p.m. Sun. 7 a.m. - 3 p.m.

Serving Irving For Over 35 Years

Visit Our Other Locations at  
5912 Denton Hwy., Watauga, TX  
Metro (817) 498-7079

And our new location at  
310 Mitchell Rd., Mansfield, TX  
Metro (817) 477-3383

IN GOD WE TRUST

## Fluor reports increase in third quarter earnings

Fluor Corporation announced financial results for its third quarter ended Sep. 30. Revenue rose by 38 percent to \$5.7 billion, compared with \$4.1 billion in the third quarter of 2007. Net earnings for the third quarter were \$183 million, an increase of 95 percent over \$94 million a year ago.

Earnings per share doubled to \$1.01 per diluted share, compared with \$0.51 per diluted share for the same period last year. Operating profit for the quarter increased 71 percent to \$324 million, compared with \$190 million a year ago, reflecting solid profit contributions from all business segments. Operating margins increased to 5.7 percent compared with 4.6 percent in the third quarter of 2007.

New project awards for the third quarter were a record \$8.8 billion, including a \$3.4 billion award

for the BP Whiting Modernization Project in the U.S., a large gas processing project in Russia and a \$1.3 billion mining project in Latin America. Consolidated backlog at the end of the third quarter rose to a new company record of \$36.5 billion, which is a \$3.5 billion sequen-

tial increase over last quarter and a 31 percent increase from the same period a year ago.

Corporate G&A expense for the quarter was \$45 million, level with \$45 million reported in the third quarter of 2007. Cash and marketable securities at quarter end were

\$2.2 billion, up from \$1.6 billion a year ago.

"Fluor's focus on major, long-term capital projects with well-funded clients continues to generate significant growth and opportunity for the company," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer

Alan Boeckmann. "Although the current economic environment has created uncertainty on a number of fronts, we are optimistic that our substantial backlog and industrial and geographic diversification will allow Fluor to continue to grow in 2009."

## Confidence in DART rising with ridership

Provided by Mark A. Ball

Ridership isn't the only thing going up at Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART). A new survey shows that 94% of customers report overall satisfaction with the transit agency, an increase from 91% in 2007.

The survey results follow the release of Fiscal Year 2008 ridership data reporting record ridership of 116.8 million passenger trips as well

as ridership records in DART Rail, Trinity Railway Express commuter rail and High Occupancy Vehicle (HOV) lanes.

Asked if DART's services are better than last year, 87% say yes, compared to 77% in 2007, and 96% say they'd recommend DART to others, compared to 93% a year ago. The survey was conducted in August 2008. Approximately 45,000 customer satisfaction surveys were distributed to bus and rail riders in the 13-member cities that make up DART.

"These positive numbers represent the hard work of all of our employees. It takes each of us to do the job right, and it certainly looks like that is being accomplished," said Gary Thomas, DART president and executive director.

Survey respondents reported improvements in buses being on schedule (86%, up from 80% last year). Customers said bus transfers were on schedule 90% of the time compared to 85% in 2007, and feelings about bus cleanliness improved from 72% to 79%. Trains got a 95% on-time performance rating, and train cleanliness increased five percentage points from 82% to 87%.

**Making customers feel safe, secure**

Responding to issues arising from the 2007 survey, DART Police have strengthened officer deployment to raise the visibility of uniformed personnel throughout the system. Consequently more customers, 87%, say they feel safe at bus stops and rail stations - up from 80% last year.

"While we are pleased with the improved ranking, we recognize that progress still needs to be made, said DART Police Chief James Spiller. "We feel like we are doing a good job; however, the public's perception needs to be strengthened, so we will look for even more positive changes.

"We implemented a problem-solving policing campaign where we look beyond the incident and get to the root cause of the problems. We've held community forums with leaders from businesses, communities, judicial, school dis-

tricts and other police agencies to work together to solve problems of mutual interest. Safety and security on our system is a joint venture with our member cities and communities, and together we can make all of our communities and areas safe," he said.

**New customers, new opportunities**

A growing percentage of DART's customers are new to the

system. In fact, 74% of those surveyed say they are leaving their cars at home and riding DART as a remedy for high gas prices, an increase from 64% in 2007.

"We appreciate our loyal riders who have been with us for years, and we are excited about the new riders who are providing unprecedented ridership numbers. They have a choice for transportation, and they choose DART," Thomas said.

## Christmas Spectacular A Festival of Lights



December 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday

Two concerts  
4:30 p.m. & 7:00 p.m.

Plymouth Park Baptist Church  
1714 N. Story Dr.  
Irving, Texas 75061

Advanced Tickets Available Now

972.986.7729

Tickets \$2.00 each

SAVE 30% ON ANY ONE ITEM WITH THIS COUPON

Vitamins / Herbs / Weight Loss / Natural Foods / sports Nutrition

Celebrating 22 Years of serving Irving & 1 year anniversary at our new location

3401 W. Airport Freeway Mon. - Sat. 9:30 - 6:00  
Irving, TX 75062 972-252-1900  
(Target Shopping Ctr - N.E. corner of Beltline & 183  
coupon good through date 12-31-2008

Discount  
**RATES**  
without discount  
**SERVICE.**

It's no accident more people trust State Farm to insure their cars. Call today.

**Jonathan S. Jackson, Agent**  
3401 W Airport Fwy  
Irving, TX 75062  
Bus: 972-579-0987 Fax: 972-579-4700  
jonathan.jackson.mtws@statefarm.com

LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR STATE FARM IS THERE.®

Providing Insurance and Financial Services  
State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company (Not in N.J.) Bloomington, IL  
FD400334 12/04

In Texas, you have the right to choose your repair shop, whether it is for collision or hail damage.

**Chuck's**  
972-438-8525  
Collision Repair & Refinishing Specialists

GUARANTEED WORKMANSHIP  
INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOMED

body shop

404 Mavis, Irving, Texas 75061

# Volunteer receives community service award

Provided by Leigh Eitson

Chris Arrington was recently honored for his spirit of volunteerism by his employer BD (Becton, Dickinson and Company) with a \$3,000 donation to Irving Cares. -BD's Social Investing Department announced the winners of the 2008 Henry Becton Community

Service Awards on Oct. 25.

"We are proud to recognize your dedication and commitment to helping all people live healthy lives," wrote Lisa Cohen, Program Coordinator/Social Investing.

"I love to volunteer here at Irving Cares with my children," Mr. Arrington said. "They ask a great

deal of questions about the activities of the Irving Cares employees and volunteers. They were impressed to see that the idea of teaching someone how to fish, not just giving them a fish, is used at Irving Cares. They have seen the professional training and educating clients in budgeting, in food planning, in basic family economics, so they can function on their own and not rely on Irving Cares regularly."

"When Chris Arrington began volunteering for Irving Cares in 2000, we didn't know just how wonderful a person had entered all of our lives," said Teddie Story, Executive Director of Irving Cares. "Chris gives back in so many ways, and he's shown that spirit again by participating in his company's efforts to support charities through its Community Service Awards program."

Although Chris donated to Irving Cares financially throughout the years, Chris put "action" behind his "words". Chris signed up initially to be an "on-call as needed" volunteer. Chris has supported The Great Harvest, volunteered in the

food pantry, assisted in conducting the food pantry inventory, and is currently a pick-up and delivery volunteer.

For information about volunteering, call 972-721-9181 X209 or visit [www.irvingcares.org](http://www.irvingcares.org).

**WE ARE COMFORT KEEPERS**



**Comfort Keepers** provides in-home care – such as light housekeeping, meal preparation, companionship, and personal care services – to help people maintain quality, independent lives in the comfort of their own home. Call for more details.

Ph. 972-602-4413

1106 North Highway 360, Suite 212 • Grand Prairie, TX 75050

Over 550 independently owned and operated offices worldwide.

WWW.COMFORTKEEPERS.COM

© 2008 CK Franchising, Inc.

## School All-Region band results

Six band students from Irving ISD middle schools auditioned and were named to All-Region bands Nov. 7-8 at Reed Middle School in Duncanville.

All-Region Symphonic Band members include: Dominic Biasi, de Zavala Middle School, tuba; and Gianina Casale, Houston Middle School, flute.

All-Region Concert Band members include: Elias Mata, Bowie Middle School, percussion; Stephen Slaughter, Bowie, clarinet;

Junior Gutierrez, de Zavala, bass clarinet; and Adrian Munoz, de Zavala, percussion.

Students named as All-Region alternates are: Kristian Byrd, Bowie, tuba; Matt Fowler, Bowie, percussion; and Giancarlo Salazar, de Zavala, cornet.

Students named to the Symphonic Band earned top scores, though placement in either All-Region groups was very selective, with approximately 720 students from Central Texas having auditioned.

# OBITUARIES

### RONALDGENERATLIFF



Ronald Gene Ratliff, 64, passed away on Nov. 12, 2008 in Irving.

He was born on Sep. 08, 1944 in Commerce, TX to Robert and Lena Ratliff. Ron was a longtime resident of Irving and former resident of Bedford. He was a 1961 graduate of Irving High School, former owner of the Polar Bear Ice Cream Store. Ron served the Lord as minister at Greenview Hills Baptist Church and South Euless Baptist Church for many years, he was active in Prison Ministry work for many years and a member of Plymouth Park Baptist Church.

He is survived by his wife, Glenda Ratliff, Daughter, Bethany Joy Ratliff and grandson, Cameron

Riley Ratliff all of Irving, one brother and sister-in-law, Duane and Margaret Ratliff of Jenks, OK.

Funeral services were held on Nov. 15 at Plymouth Park Baptist Church. Interment followed at Prairie Valley Cemetery near Greenville. Services were conducted under the direction of Chapel of Roses Funeral Home.

### CHERYLANNMAHONEY

Cheryl Ann Mahoney, 51, passed away on Nov. 14, 2008 in her Irving home.

She was born on March 11, 1957 in Dallas. She was a resident of Irving most of her life and had been an administrative assistant for Estes Trucking Company.

She was preceded in death by her mother, JoAnn Feuebacher and son, Dudley Lane. She is survived by her son, Adam Feuebacher, father, Dudley Feuebacher, two

brothers, Matt Feuebacher of Irving and Barry Feuebacher of Hot Springs, AR, and one sister, Mary Blackwell of Corsicana, TX.

A memorial service will be held on Nov. 28 at Chapel of Roses Funeral Home.

### GLENNAELIZABETHTERRY

Following a courageous struggle with lung cancer, Glenna Elizabeth Terry, 78, passed away peacefully at her home in Grand Prairie on Nov. 20.

She was born Feb. 16, 1930 in Como, TX to Rollie and Lilly Earhart and was a fourth generation Texan. She was a loving, devoted and proud mother and her passions in life were her children, grandchildren and her church. She was strong, passionate, energetic, honest and opinionated and was an avid reader. She was raised and educated in Hopkins County, Texas and moved to Irving in 1954 where she lived until moving to Grand Prairie in 2000. She managed a family business as well as holding several accounting related positions during her career until retiring in 1998 from F&M Equipment Company after 14 years. In retirement, she was active with her grandchildren, her church and volunteered with Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. She will be greatly missed by her family.

She is survived by her daughters, Sherry Jones and her husband, Gene, and Sandra Fong and her husband, Dr. Robert Fong, both of Irving as well as her son, Bryant Prater and his wife Pat of Grand Prairie and son Shawn D. Terry of Dallas. She is also survived by her grandchildren Bryan Cowley, Amy Patton, Aaron Prater, Austin Terry and Alexandra Terry and great-grandson Nate Patton.

Funeral services were held Nov. 22 at Our Redeemer Lutheran Church in Irving. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that donations be made to either the American Cancer Society or Texas Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. Arrangements made by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

### ROSELAVERNEGRADY MORRIS



Rose Laverne Gandy Morris was born in Ft. Worth to Katherine Wilson and Wilmer P. Gandy on March 2, 1923 and passed away on Nov. 20.

In Rose's youth, the family moved from Dallas to a community called Union Bower, now a part of Irving. Her love for sewing resulted

in her parents sending her to North Dallas High where she took all courses offered in that field. She met, fell in love with, and married Robert L. Morris on the Monday after she graduated from high school. They were married for 67 loving years. She always wished for "Three Happy Things" in life. A swing on the porch... a two story house... and a ranch. She lived to see all three wishes come true. The first ranch was in Red River County. While there, she worked in Paris at McCuiston Hospital for over 8 years. When the couple returned to Irving, she and Robert worked for The National Headquarters of Boy Scouts of America. After they retired from BSA, they had their second ranch in Peoria, TX.

Rose is survived by her husband Robert L. Morris, Sr.; two daughters Betty Kay and husband Steve Taylor of Blackfoot, ID, and Terri and husband Richard Brooks of Boerne; son Robert L. Morris, Jr. and wife Stella of DeSoto; five grandchildren; and one great granddaughter. Her parents, a daughter, and a granddaughter predecease her.

Funeral services were held Nov. 24 at First Baptist Church in Irving. Interment followed at Greenwood Memorial Park in Ft. Worth. Arrangements made by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.



**DONNELLY'S**  
*Colonial Funeral Home*

606 West Airport Freeway  
Irving, Texas 75062

**(972) 579-1313**

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

**Serving Irving families since 1963**

## Chapel of Roses Funeral Home



Owned & Operated by the Chism & Crouch Families

**972-554-1031**

1225 E. Irving Blvd. 75060

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

**Directors:**  
Charlotte Chism Waldrum  
Harrell Chism  
Austin E. Raney

**Offering:**  
Traditional Funeral Services  
Cremation  
Military Services

**ACCEPTING ALL Pre-Need Funerals**

# Irving ISD boasts a record number of AP scholars

The College Board recognized 107 Irving ISD students with the designation of Advanced Placement (AP) Scholar in recognition of exceptional achievement on college-level Advanced Placement exams taken in May 2007.

About 18 percent of more than 1.6 million high school students who took AP exams performed at a high enough level to merit recognition at AP Scholars. IISD has seen an average increase in the number of AP Scholars in recent years. In 2005, 79 students in IISD were named AP Scholars, followed by 98 in 2006, 93 in 2007, and increasing to 107 in 2008.

The College Board recognizes several levels of achievement based on students' performance on AP exams. AP exams are graded on a scale

of one to five, with five being the highest grade. To qualify as AP Scholar, students must complete three or more AP exams with grades of three or higher. To qualify as AP Scholar with Honors, students must earn an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP exams taken, and grades of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. To qualify as AP Scholar with Distinction, students must earn an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP exams taken and grades of three or higher on five or more of these exams. To qualify as National AP Scholar, students must earn an average grade of four or higher on all AP exams taken and grades of four or higher on eight or more of these exams. For a complete list of Irving ISD AP Scholars, access [www.irvingisd.net/articles/APScholars.htm](http://www.irvingisd.net/articles/APScholars.htm).

/articles/APScholars.htm.

Through 37 different college-level courses and exams, AP provides students with the opportunity to earn college credit or advanced placement, and to stand out in the college application process.

With each exam being developed by a committee of college and university faculty and AP teachers, students are ensured they receive exams aligned with the same standards expected in college courses. Research consistently shows that

AP students who score a three or higher on AP exams, typically experience greater academic success in college, as well as higher graduation rates than students who do not participate in Advanced Placement.

## Shoeboxes add to holiday fun

Continued from page 1

"For a lot of folks, this is the start of their Christmas. This is a tremendous opportunity. It gets you into a community and lets them know that God loves them in a real way."

Even with the upheaval in the economy, a number of families around the area have taken the time to create a gift for child.

"The project seemed much bigger this year. Last year, we kind of had a down year. But even with the problems in the economy this year, everything went much better. We had 1,007 boxes. At last count, Hurst had about 2,000 boxes more

than they had last year. Everybody has been real generous.

"We enjoy being a part of this just as much as anyone who receives a box. Usually, we take our kids to the dollar store and let them fill up a box with stuff, and we include a card. Some people like to use plastic boxes, because the families can use them afterwards to store food or even collect water.

"For a lot of the kids who get these boxes, they are the only Christmas presents those kids ever receive," Pastor Hale said.

For more information on Operation Christmas Child, visit [www.samaritanspurse.org](http://www.samaritanspurse.org).


100% Satisfaction Guaranteed

## Better Hearing Made Easy

### Get the world's first disposable hearing aid

If you or your loved one has mild to moderate hearing loss, the all-new Songbird® flexfit™ is the ideal solution. Easy and affordable, it offers a revolutionary alternative to costly traditional hearing aids. Use it only when you need it, just like reading glasses. Adjustable for a personal fit, it's perfect for those who want to improve hearing on their own terms—without sacrificing quality or comfort.

Improve your hearing without hassle or major expense

- Crystal-Clear Digital Sound Quality
- Lasts for 400 Hours of Active Use\*
- No In-Office Fittings or Maintenance
- No Batteries to Replace
- Order from Home—by Phone or Online

**ALL NEW!**



Two Payments of **\$39<sup>95</sup>**

ASK HOW TO GET FREE SHIPPING!

You may not always need help hearing. For the times you do, trust Songbird.

Not available in stores  
**Try It Now Risk-Free†**  
**Call 1-800-905-1070**

 Compact design as shown in hand

 Product worn as shown—fits discreetly behind the ear

\*Under typical use patterns, battery lasts for 400 hours of active use (when turned on). Make sure to turn the device off when not in use to maximize battery life. †Less shipping and handling. The Songbird flexfit™ disposable hearing aid is for mild to moderate hearing loss. Not intended for use by anyone under 18 years of age. Hearing loss can be a symptom of a medically treatable condition. Consult your doctor prior to using any hearing aid.

PRO7220835

# OBITUARIES

### EUGENE C. PARMA



Eugene C. Parma of Irving died Nov. 24, 2008.

He was born on July 16, 1925 in Ennis, TX. He was a member of St. Luke's Catholic Church in Irving; a WWII Veteran with the Army Air Corps 234<sup>th</sup> Army Air Forces Unit as a B29 Crew Chief; graduate of the A&M College of Texas, 1950. He retired from Sears after 38 years. Memberships include: 4<sup>th</sup> Degree Knight & Eucharistic Minister and Legion of Mary; SPJST Lodge 130 Life Member; Czech Beseda Dancer; Catholic Czech Club.

Survivors include wife RoseAnn Parma of Irving; children

Marilyn Fulbright of Dallas; Daryl Parma of Green, OH; Patricia Jenkins of Dallas; Scott Parma of Keller; Anthony Parma of Glenn Heights; Leanne Cannon of Dallas; grandchildren Douglas Wilson; Lisa Wilson; Jennifer Parma; Leah Parma; Jacob Parma; Shannon Parma; and Mallory Parma; great-grandchildren Alexis Polichetti; Dalton Wilson and Zachary Jones.

Family to receive friends from 4:30 to 6:30 prior to the rosary at 6:30 p.m. on Nov. 30 at Brown's Funeral Home Chapel; Mass of Christian Burial to be held at 11:00 a.m. Monday, St. Luke's Catholic Church with interment to follow at DFW National Cemetery at 1:00 p.m. Monday. Memorial donations may be made to St. Joseph Residence, 330 W. Pembroke Avenue, Dallas, TX 75203.

### J.W. HOGUE

J.W. Hogue, of Irving, passed away Nov. 25, 2008. He was born Sep. 7, 1923 in Point, TX.

Survivors include his daughters Beth Rust and husband Roy of Irving, and Holly Murrow and husband W.R. of Irving; son James Hogue and wife Vicki of Missouri City, TX; grandchildren Ashley, Chase, Corey, Leslie, Kyle, Kim, and Erin; and great grandchildren Hanna, Adam, Andrew, Ava, Braydon, and Belleamie.

Funeral services will be held at 10 a.m. Nov. 29 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Dr. Henry Malone and Pastor Joshua Price officiating. Interment to follow at Restland Memorial Park in Dallas.

### CLARA BOUGHTON MEREDITH



Clara Boughton Meredith, 82, went to be with the Lord on Nov. 23, 2008.

Clara was born March 17, 1926, in Mangham, LA, to Windell and Clara Belle Boughton. Clara had a wonderful life in which all who met her could not help but love her, especially her husband, Bill. She enjoyed bowling, playing cards and reading nov-

els and the Bible. The memories she helped to create will be with us all in our hearts forever.

She was preceded in death by her parents and her sister and brother-in-law, Mildred Meredith-Feazel and Tom Feazel.

Survivors include her husband of 62 years, Bill Meredith; daughters, Sandy Everts and husband, Ray, and Connie Grabeel and hus-

band, Michael; grandchildren, Kayla Sellers and husband, Matt, Amanda Everts, and Meredith Page; great-grandson, Jackson Thomas Sellers; sister, Mary Spells and husband, Bobby; and numerous nieces, nephews, family members and friends.

Memorial service was Wednesday in Laurel Land Memorial Chapel of Fort Worth.



## Continuing The Tradition

"The Right Choice for Over 50 Years."

**BEN F. BROWN**

### BROWN'S MEMORIAL FUNERAL HOME

Church & Chapel Services  
 Local, Out of Town Services & Burials  
 Memorials  
 Cremation  
 Memories Flowers

Funeral Directors: Gary Westerman  
 Michael McVey  
 Jason Rand

972-254-4242

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

Brown Family Owned and Operated.

## CHISM-SMITH FUNERAL HOME

Irving's oldest funeral home

We Provide The Personal Touch

David & Carla Davis,  
Owners & Licenced Funeral Directors

129 S. O'Connor  
Irving, TX 75060



972-259-7644

# A Christmas Carol starts the season off right

By Matt Mungle

Dicken's, *A Christmas Carol*, is now performing at the Dallas Theater Center and is the perfect way to kick off this Holiday season. I never tire of the conversion of Ebenezer Scrooge as he is visited by a trio of ghostly guests and it is never better than when on the theater stage. Adapted for the stage by Richard Hellesen, with original music by David de Berry and directed and choreographed by Joel Ferrell, this version uses a perfect balance of visual style and musical numbers to capture the heart of this timeless classic.

It is hard to top Albert Finney's 1970 Scrooge or even tougher the

perfect 1950's Alastair Sim version. In this theatrical production the task is put into the hands of Robert Langdon Lloyd. He does well in his Bah Humbugness, giving off an air of disdain and disregard. That said, his conversion seemed a little too easy in this one, and I would have liked to see the spirits having to work a little harder. His callousness was broken a bit simply for my taste. I will chalk that up to bad direction instead of lack of performance. The entire ensemble worked well together and I must give acknowledgment to Chamblee Ferguson's (Bob Cratchit) and Bob Reed (Fezziwig). They created characters true to our memory, but with a little uniqueness

and elements to create larger than life fantasy. The less is more mentality worked perfectly in this version as the actors were given ample room to perform the numerous song and dance numbers. Yet each scene was still detailed enough to convey exactly the time and place the acts occur. If you have never been to the DTC, the stage has a revolving center that seldom stops moving. This allows sets to be change fluidly and gives the feel of more onstage movement than really is taking place. I applaud the ensemble for being able to keep their mark while completing the dance numbers, all while moving in a circle.

I am always amazed by the transition of scene to scene in live theater. The way they are able to, almost magically, move from one place to another right before your eyes. To allow you the opportunity to be caught up in the journey and forget that all is happening on a small, wooden platform several feet from where you are sitting. Kudos to the scene, lighting and sound designers who used minimal space

and elements to create larger than life fantasy. The less is more mentality worked perfectly in this version as the actors were given ample room to perform the numerous song and dance numbers. Yet each scene was still detailed enough to convey exactly the time and place the acts occur. If you have never been to the DTC, the stage has a revolving center that seldom stops moving. This allows sets to be change fluidly and gives the feel of more onstage movement than really is taking place. I applaud the ensemble for being able to keep their mark while completing the dance numbers, all while moving in a circle.

I guess that is why they are up there and I am planted firmly in my seat.

As we enter into this Holiday season, I encourage everyone to take time to see a performance of *A Christmas Carol* wherever you are. Its poignant lesson and fanciful characters are the perfect kick start for the heart and mind to remember the true meaning of why we celebrate. It will be playing at the DTC's Kalita Humphreys Theater on Turtle Creek in Dallas through December 28th and for more information you can visit, [www.dallastheatercenter.org](http://www.dallastheatercenter.org) or call 214-522-8499.

## Mungles on Movies

By Matt Mungle

Title: *Slumdog Millionaire*  
Rated: R

There is wisdom to be found in living. Even when the life we have lived is full of pain and heartbreak there is still knowledge to be gained. Never has this been more blatant in film than with the new Danny Boyle directed movie, *Slumdog Millionaire*. As in his past projects, Boyle gets us to think about life, love and cold, hard cash. But he does it in a way that is harsh, eye opening and beautiful. Not too many film makers can pull those three elements off and have them all dance together to the same tune.

Based in India it is the story of Jamal Malik (Dev Patel), a young

## There is wisdom to be found in living

man in his late teens who goes on the very popular Hindi version of the TV game show, "Who Wants to be A Millionaire?" Everyone watching and producing the show can not figure out how this impoverished lad could possibly know the answers to the questions he is asked. As we learn more about Jamal's life and experiences we get a better understanding of how knowledge is gained. Told in flashback sequences we see the journey of a young boy who did not allow the hand he was dealt to keep him from finding all he desired.

India is the perfect backdrop for a story like this one. The sights, sounds, colors, people, religion and social classes allow for depth of plot and uniqueness of characters.

Boyle does a splendid job of capturing these elements and using them to convey the simple root of the message. This could have been a very dark and heavy film, but he allows moments of humor and culture to balance it out. This way we do not lose the poignancy, but at the same time find some entertainment there as well. This isn't a documentary. It is movie. So there needs to be that element of fantasy. You get that without sacrificing the harsh realities of Jamal's culture.

Sometimes we as Americans forget the horrors that many kids and adults face in countries around the world. Too often we get comfortable in our land of the free, home of the brave chairs and forget how truly lucky we are. Also films like this make us, or should anyway, step back and look at our own lives and circumstances. Are we letting them get the best of us or are we finding the best in them? It is easy to get mad and blame others for our lives. Allowing the negative to excuse us from greatness. But in the end that is truly not living. It is not even existing. But once we find that which is most important, and do all we can to obtain it, hell or high water, we find there is hope in the journey and a prize at the end.

*Slumdog Millionaire* is rated R for some violence, disturbing images and language. I think the theme and context would be a little too strong for your younger family members. This movie deals with the harsh realities of the orphans in India and the things they are forced to do. I think those 15 and up could get something from this with the right conversation afterwards. It is a must see for anyone who loves a great story of human achievement and appreciates expert film making. I give it 4 out of 5 multiple choice questions. Fast, visual, contemplative and humorous; *Slumdog* has the right elements and uses them to its advantage.

*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.*



Don't just go to the movies, GO HOLLYWOOD!

★ MACARTHUR MARKETPLACE 16 ★  
8505 Walton Blvd (Behind Walmart) • (972) 401-FILM

* FOUR CHRISTMASES PG13 12:25 1:00 2:40 3:15 4:55 5:35 7:10 8:00 9:25 10:15	# BOLT PG 11:55AM 12:45 1:30 2:10 3:05 3:50 4:35 5:25 6:20 7:15 7:50 8:45 9:40 10:10
# AUSTRALIA PG13 12:00 1:45 4:00 5:30 7:30 9:00	* QUANTUM OF SOLACE PG13 12:00 1:15 2:25 4:00 5:00 6:45 7:30 9:20 10:00
TRANSPORTER 3 PG13 12:05 2:30 5:10 7:35 10:05	# MADAGASCAR 2 PG 12:30 2:50 5:05 7:20 9:35
TWILIGHT PG13 1:05 2:00 4:10 4:50 7:00 7:40 9:45 10:20	

\* FULLY RESTRICTED # NO PASSES

Tickets on sale NOW! - Online or at the Theater

Why wait in lines? PURCHASE TICKETS AT HOME [www.gohollywood.com](http://www.gohollywood.com)

## Put a Paw print in your heart and a best friend at home!



The precious pets at the DFW Humane Society would like to bring a lifetime of love

and happiness into your home!!

1611 W. Irving Blvd.  
Irving, Texas 75061  
972-253-3333

Hours of operation:  
Wednesday, Thursday and Friday 11-6  
Saturday 11-5  
Sunday 12-5

Come adopt a new family member today!

If you can't adopt, please donate!

## Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

		6	1			4		9
		2	7	8				5
8	1					5		6
		8		7		9	3	
3	9			5				8
2			3		8		4	
		5		6		7		4
6	8				7	1		
	2		5		9		6	

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.

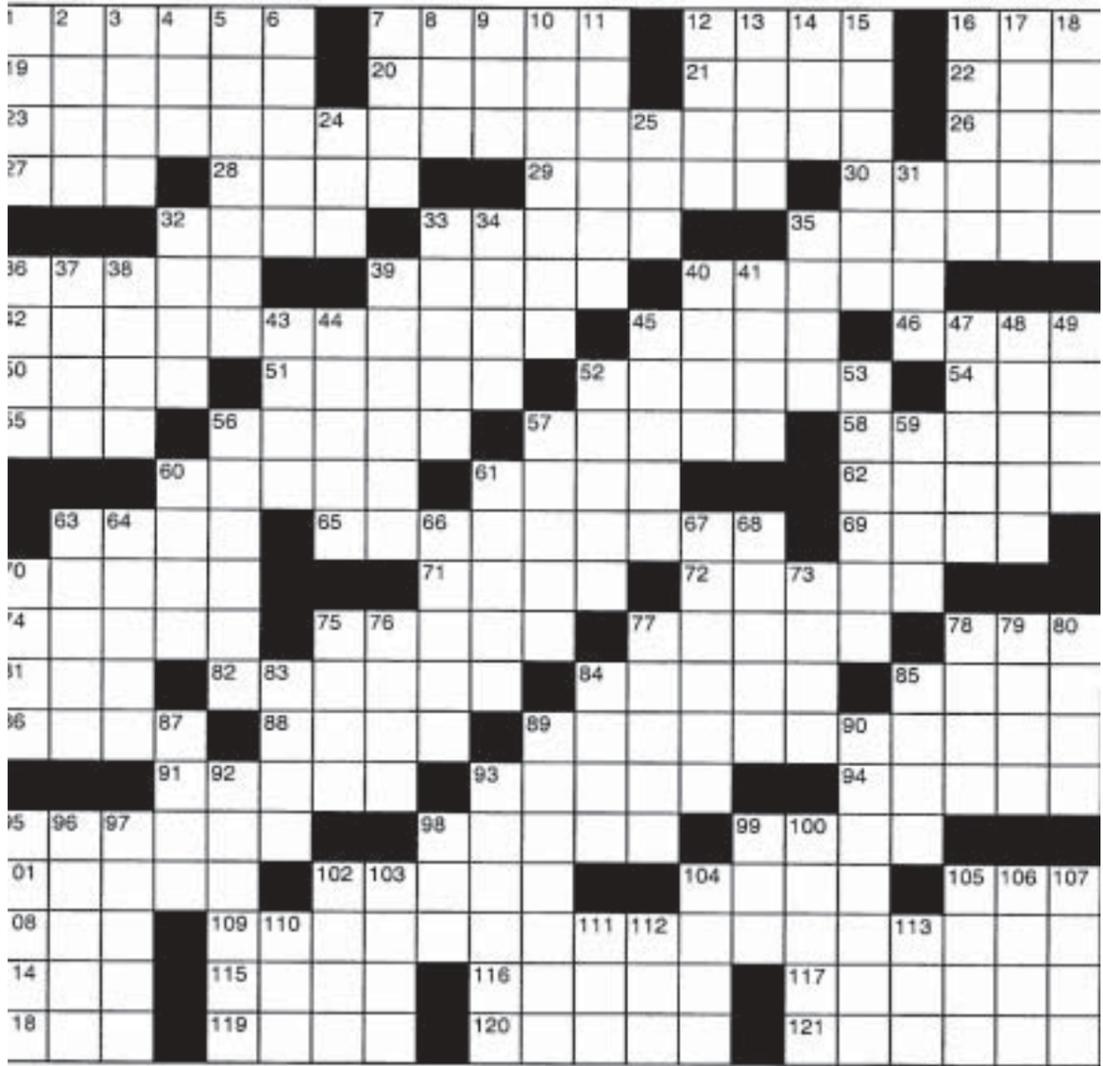
DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

★ Moderate ★★ Challenging

★★★ HARD ROVI

# Super Crossword HELLISH-TOSIS

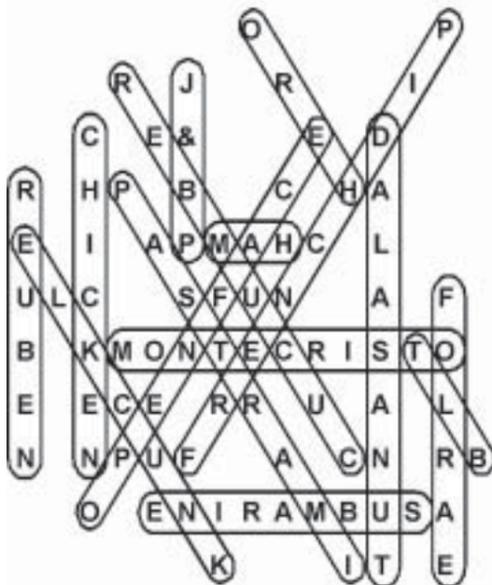
- ACROSS**
- 1 Toady
  - 7 Pants
  - 12 "— Strawberries" ('57 film)
  - 16 Diner order
  - 19 Anti-knock stuff
  - 20 Kayak commander
  - 21 Racer
  - 22 Luyendyk
  - 22 Ipanema's locale
  - 23 Riddle: Part 1
  - 26 "A mouse!"
  - 27 Deli delicacy
  - 28 Insignificant
  - 29 Like Yale's walls
  - 30 Practice
  - 32 Swimmer
  - 32 Spud
  - 33 Keen insight
  - 36 Fall behind
  - 39 "Paradise Lost" figure
  - 40 Top-drawer
  - 42 Ring site?
  - 45 Parched
  - 46 Freighter or ferry
  - 50 In the thick of
  - 51 Get the better of
  - 52 Folklore figures
  - 54 Nationality suffix
  - 55 "Baloney!"
  - 56 Eye opener?
  - 57 Respond to
  - 56 Across
  - 58 Berry of "Monster's Ball"
  - 60 Fern feature
  - 61 Primer pooch
  - 62 "Enigma Variations" composer
  - 63 Barrett or Jaffe
  - 65 Riddle: Part 2
  - 69 Wander
  - 70 Songlike
  - 71 — Patrick Harris
  - 72 Offer an apple?
  - 74 Writer
  - 74 Wharton
  - 75 Quoted an expert
  - 77 Winter warmer-upper
  - 78 Not many
  - 81 Classic beginning
  - 82 Napoleon's cousin
  - 84 Icing flavor
  - 85 Gdansk denizen
  - 86 Bond foe
  - 88 Sheldon's "— of Angels"
  - 89 Clutches, e.g.
  - 91 — acid
  - 93 Stubborn
  - 94 Small bay
  - 95 Amulet motif
  - 98 Perk up
  - 99 Unclear
  - 101 Butcher-shop buy
  - 102 Serengeti sahib
  - 104 "David Copperfield" character
  - 105 Fleur-de-—
  - 108 Prior to, to Prior
  - 109 Answer to riddle
  - 114 Corsage fastener
  - 115 Israeli diplomat
  - 116 Novelist
  - 116 Shute
  - 117 Prophet
  - 118 Soho snack
  - 119 Wolf's portrayer
  - 120 Literary land
  - 121 Update a story
  - 4 Beyond balmy
  - 5 Aberration
  - 6 When Adam was a boy
  - 7 Go fish, e.g.
  - 8 Lofty peak
  - 9 — whale
  - 10 Cromwell, for one
  - 11 Bauer or Bochco
  - 12 Ebb
  - 13 Incensed
  - 14 Fool with the facts
  - 15 Remove
  - 16 Lutenist
  - 17 Feudal figure
  - 18 Symbol
  - 24 Neighbor of Miss.
  - 25 Salutation word
  - 31 Takes to court
  - 32 Temperate
  - 33 Ryan's daughter
  - 34 Perched on
  - 35 — de-camp
  - 36 It'll give you a lift
  - 37 San —, Italy
  - 38 Got off
  - 39 Audiophile's equipment
  - 40 Desire deified
  - 41 Lifesaver flavor
  - 43 Type of machete
  - 44 Render defenseless
  - 45 Ekberg or Bryant
  - 47 Hagar the Horrible's wife
  - 48 Cairo creed
  - 49 Ibsen's "— Gynt"
  - 52 Snarl
  - 53 Trekkers' guide
  - 56 Certain helicopter
  - 57 Plant pest
  - 59 "Thanks —!"
  - 60 Tizzy
  - 61 Take the reins
  - 63 Winona of "Mr. Deeds"
  - 64 Heavenly hunter
  - 66 Remove a ribbon
  - 67 Thickset
  - 68 Anne of "John Q."
  - 70 Be a banker
  - 73 Ditch under a draw-bridge
  - 75 Family
  - 76 Othello's inducer
  - 77 Arrogant
  - 78 "— #1" ('61 hit)
  - 79 Actress Sommer
  - 80 Singer Dottie
  - 83 Baby's bed
  - 84 Gangster's gal
  - 85 Liqueur glass
  - 87 Galley features
  - 89 Idle talk
  - 90 Odd
  - 92 Tangled
  - 93 Bite for Bonzo
  - 95 Tidied the terrace
  - 96 French physicist
  - 97 Stadium
  - 98 Stadium shout
  - 99 Torrid
  - 100 Shady spot
  - 102 Grumpy guy
  - 103 "The Perfect Fool"
  - 104 "What's My Line?" host
  - 105 Lingerie trim
  - 106 "— never happen!"
  - 107 Cartoonist Silverstein
  - 110 Cable channel
  - 111 Actress Le Gallienne
  - 112 Overalls feature
  - 113 Chomp on a chimichanga



©2006 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

Answers for 11-20-2008

Answers for 11-20-2008



Answers for 11-20-2008

7	5	3	2	6	8	9	1	4
4	2	9	5	7	1	3	6	8
1	8	6	4	9	3	2	7	5
9	3	7	8	1	2	4	5	6
8	1	5	6	3	4	7	9	2
6	4	2	7	5	9	1	8	3
2	7	8	1	4	6	5	3	9
3	6	1	9	2	5	8	4	7
5	9	4	3	8	7	6	2	1

## ComParrot<sup>®</sup> by Bonnie J. Malcolm

Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



www.comparrotpuzzles.com

© 2008 Bonnie J. Malcolm



Solution: 1. End of girl's hair braid is hidden. 2. Part of horse's rein is hidden. 3. Mouth is different. 4. Tuft of hair on tail is missing. 5. Pocket on girl's pants is colored in. 6. Hole in wooden barrel has moved. 7. Tuft of grass has moved. 8. Spot on cow has moved. 9. Strap on saddle is wider. 10. Horse's legs are different. 11. Pattern on chaps is reversed. 12. Puddle is larger.

## MAGIC MAZE • AMERICAN ART TOWNS

EVSPNKIFCAXVSQO  
 LFEUREKATOSARAS  
 JHAESCAXVTGREPN  
 LJET **LOVELAND** IRH  
 TFD CNMAHGNILLEB  
 BRYXNACTVRRTERDR  
 APOOMESHUKPIPLG  
 SELPANRLIESDTUB  
 PZXWWULWTCRNOQ  
 ELLIVEHSAOONOB  
 NJIGTFNDCLHAMYX

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

- Asheville
- Aspen
- Bellingham
- Boulder
- Chico
- Eureka
- Hot Springs
- Lawrence
- Loveland
- Montpelier
- Naples
- Newport
- Sarasota
- Taos
- Telluride

©2006 by King Features Syndicate, Inc. World rights reserved.

## Recycle till the end



As a parting gift, Bob Horton, the Keep Irving Beautiful (KIB) Administrator, receives a quilt made out of recycled KIB t-shirts during his retirement party last week.

## Agriculture students win district competition

In District III competition Nov. 13, agriculture students from Nimitz High School Future Farmers of America (FFA) chapter claimed three first place, a second place, and a fourth place finish competing against 13 other FFA chapters in Dallas County.

Zach Stephenson won first place in the Senior Creed Speaking event and Mirna Lucero took first in Greenhand Creed Speaking. Sara Fuller, Joseph Landroop and Zach Stephenson won first place as a team for Agriculture Radio Broadcast. Patrick Gloria, Baldemar

Martinez and Mirna Lucero won a team second place finish for Senior Skills in Veterinary. Brittany Harris won fourth place in the Job Interview event.

Teams placing first and second will advance to Area 5 FFA competition.

## Traditional dinner inspires fellowship

*Continued from page 1*

practical way.

"It is a tradition, and people enjoy it. I think our volunteers get a greater blessing by being a part of it than the ones they serve."

Serving Irving impacts folks in the community in different ways.

"Sometimes these meals give people a chance to gather together at a time when they would have been alone. Many just feel the dinners were a thoughtful idea. Some people become interested in starting their own Thanksgiving traditions, because not everyone has that in their family tradition. People appreciate the food, they are happy for the fellowship and they appreciate that someone was thinking about them," he said.

Lynn Andrews, a seasoned volunteer, worked on a cooking team this year.

"We feed between 2,000 and 3,000 people every Thanksgiving,"

Andrews said. "Some people cook, some set up, some serve, some clean up. We have activity all over the place."

"This year for the first time, we get to serve lunch to the Irving Police Department. They said no one had thought about serving Thanksgiving dinner for them before. They have three shifts and we are taking care of all three."

"I think this program is very

needed and useful for the community. And as an outreach, we can show people that we love them for who they are and what they are. Whether they come to our church or not, someone cares about them."

"There are a lot of people in our community who can't afford to cook a full blown turkey dinner. Some people are away from their families. Others just don't celebrate Thanksgiving as part of their culture," she said.

### Allison's Clubhouse

"The BEST In Your Child's Care"  
3425 Finley, Irving, Texas 75062

Accepting Children Ages: 6 weeks thru 11 years of age

Owners: David and Becky Staley  
Director: Wendy Boozer

Call us: 972-258-1800  
www.Allisonsclubhouse.com

**1/2 off registration with this ad**



## U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program

### MISSION:

The mission of the U.S. Marine Corps Reserve Toys for Tots Program is to collect new, unwrapped toys during October, November and December each year, and distribute those toys as Christmas gifts to needy children in the community in which the campaign is conducted.

### GOAL:

The primary goal of Toys for Tots is to deliver, through a shiny new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to needy youngsters that will motivate them to grow into responsible, productive, patriotic citizens and community leaders.

### OBJECTIVES:

The objectives of Toys for Tots are to help needy children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas; to play an active role in the development of one of our nation's most valuable natural resources - our children; to unite all members of local communities in a common cause for three months each year during the annual toy collection and distribution campaign; and to contribute to better communities in the future.

### ACTIVITIES:

The principal Toys for Tots activities which take place each year are the collection and distribution of toys in the communities in which a Marine Corps Reserve Unit is located and in communities without a Reserve Unit that has a Marine Corps League Detachment or group of men and women, generally veteran Marines, authorized by Marine Toys for Tots Foundation to conduct a local Toys for Tots campaign. Local Toys for Tots Campaign Coordinators conduct an array of activities throughout the year, which include golf tournaments, foot races, bicycle races and other purely voluntary events designed to increase interest in Toys for Tots, and concurrently generate toy and monetary donations.



## The Smile Spa / David D. Nix DDS

### SPECIAL EVENT

December 12 from 12 -4

**FREE GIFT** with donation

**PICTURES** with Santa

**TREATS** for the kids

3000 N. MacArthur Blvd.

Irving, TX 75062

**OFFICIAL DROP OFF SITE**

*Drop off an unwrapped toy and receive a free gift*