



THIS WEEK

Input needed on Heritage Crossing Page 9

Classifieds	Page 5
Movies	Page 9
Obituaries	Page 8
Police	Page 2
Puzzles	Page 11
Worship	Page 4



Farmer's rate hike questioned

Provided by Ashley Hodgini

Commissioner Mike Geeslin of the Texas Department of Insurance (TDI) will consider a recent rate filing by Farmer's Insurance Group. Farmer's hopes to be approved by TDI to increase their homeowner's

insurance rates, citing the rising costs of construction and labor materials. Though the state suffered extensive losses from Hurricane Ike in September, Farmer's filed for a similar increase back in May of this year.

"I believe we should be absolutely sure that this is in no way an attempt to sidestep any possible future legislative decisions," Rep. Harper-Brown said. "Farmer's request is inadequately justified and deserves further investigation."

The Commissioner responded, stating that while the Department's review of the rate filing is not yet complete, "the filing itself does not contain anything specific to the 'increased costs of labor and materials.'" By statute, the Commissioner of TDI has the authority to disapprove rates after they've been filed with the department.

TDI is currently under review by the Sunset Advisory Commission, of which Rep. Harper-Brown is a member.

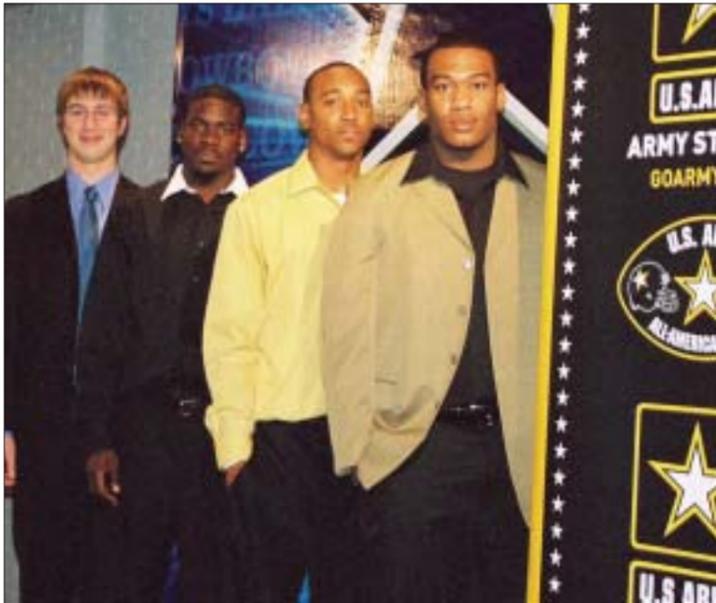
"I hope that the Department of Insurance continues to give careful consideration to these types of filings, and I look forward to continuing to work with Commissioner Geeslin to protect the interests of our consumers," she said.

Local students selected to play in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl

By Jess Paniszczyn

Six North Texas students were honored during the *Best of the Best* kick off dinner for the U.S. Army All-American Bowl at Texas Stadium on Dec. 3.

Five area football players, Tariq Allen, linebacker, MacArthur High School; Tyrick Rollinson, quarterback, Sulpher High School; Keven Brent, defensive back, South Oak Cliff High School; Garrett Porter, offensive lineman, Permian High School, and Chris Boswell, placekicker, Fossil Ridge High School, were selected to play in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl. Matthew Kirkley a trombone player from Bosewell High School was selected to perform in the U.S. Army All-American Marching Band. Each of the students was presented a *Best of the Best* plaque.



U.S. Army All American Bowl selectees attend the "Best of the Best" Kick Off Dinner

"We have over 90 seniors from across the nation come together for an east versus west game on Jan. 3 in San Antonio's Alamodome," Lieutenant Colonel Ronnie Williamson said. "These high schoolers exemplify the traits that the Army also exemplifies. These are future leaders of America, just

like a soldier in the Army is a future leader of America."

Playing in the U.S. Army All-American Bowl game is one of the last things MacArthur senior Tariq Allen will participate in as a high school student.

"Tonight's dinner is a celebration of all the football players and band members who will be in the

Army's All-American Bowl. Top players from across the country go to San Antonio to play in one football game. I am honored to be selected. I am speechless about it. I just smile, shake hands and say thank you," Tariq said.

"I think the Army is great. I honor the men and women out there who fight for us and our country every day. I am grateful for the Army, Marines, Navy and Air Force everyday.

"I am going to college. January 18th is my first day as an undergraduate for the University of Texas where I am going to play football."

The U.S. Army All-American Bowl is considered the nation's premier All-American game by high school football players, coaches, and fans from across the country, as it's the preeminent launching pad for America's future college and NFL stars.

Holiday 'want' list may focus on others' 'need' list

By Kathleen Phillips

If concern about the current U.S. economy has zapped your traditional holiday spirit, replace your "want" list with your community's "need" list.

Staying within a budget might be easier done if focused on the needs of others, family finance experts with Texas AgriLife Extension Service suggest.

"People should be planning ahead to think that at the holiday they will encounter expenses because they wish to give gifts and do other special things. But maybe this year we should have some special thought for people in our own communities who may have experienced an economic downturn that will impact the kind of holiday they can provide for their families," said Nancy Granovsky, AgriLife Extension family economics specialist.

The economy might provide the reason for the cutting back that many may have wanted to do for years, and it doesn't have to be hard, according to Granovsky. Tending to the needs of others might be as simple as contributing some extra items to a local food pantry.

"We are aware that many food pantries across the country either are experiencing shortages or really empty shelves," Granovsky said. "So picking up a few items every time one goes to the grocery store, setting those aside to be able to contribute to a food pantry is just one idea. And I am sure that if families know about other options within their communities, it could be organizations they belong to or

if they are members of a faith community, they too will be looking at ways to help out those who are going to experience deeper economic trauma come holiday time."

Making service to others a family focus can help build thought-

See **OTHERS' NEEDS** Page 2

Grant Funds available for neighborhood organizations

The new year is just around the corner, and community leaders are recruiting neighbors and volunteers to spruce up their neighborhoods courtesy of the Community Partnership Grant Fund. The special grant funding, provided by the City of Irving, supports neighborhood leaders in implementing

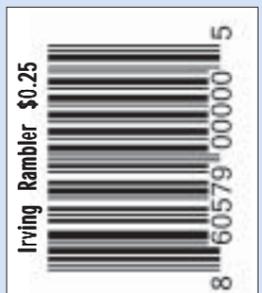
projects that will foster a spirit of community and renew the concept of what it means to be a good neighbor.

Grants between \$250 (minimum) and \$1,500 (maximum) are awarded to neighborhood groups within the city limits. These funds

See **BLOCK GRANT** Page 2

PERIODICALS
POSTAGE PAID
IRVING TEXAS
PERMIT #024981

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



FREE!

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 12-4 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.

Try focusing on others' needs this christmas

Continued from page 1

fulness in children, Dr. Joyce Cavanagh, AgriLife Extension family economics specialist, noted.

"Many times and in many families, children are overwhelmed with gifts at the holidays," Cavanagh said. "Perhaps we can build that spirit of sharing in children instead of bombarding them with gift after gift after gift."

Cavanagh suggested either making a contribution in the child's name or helping them pick out clothes, toys or books as gifts for other children.

"That begins to build that spirit in them rather than always expecting to be on the receiving end," she said.

If individuals or families have never undertaken such action, finding a charity that fits is the first step, the family finance experts agreed.

"Most communities have a United Way. They frequently are the clearinghouses among many

community organizations that really are providing services outward to the community," Granovsky said. "Calling the 211 number in Texas would put people into contact with a switchboard from which they would be able to get information about their local community and different things that may be available there."

Local media often play large roles in community charity events.

"As we get closer to the holiday season, we'll begin to see things both in television media and in newspapers that will give people

hints and ideas, suggestions for where they can help," Granovsky added.

"There's a practical side to fulfilling the needs of others rather than adding to one's wants," Cavanagh said. "If you think about it from a practical standpoint, how much more stuff do we all need? And how much more stuff do kids need? Just reducing that, simplifying things around your own home and within your own life — fewer things to keep track of, fewer things to take care of, fewer things to maintain — sends a message to others

that I'm doing OK and I just want to make sure that others are doing OK, too."

Granovsky suggested that now is a good time to declutter and eliminate the "multiples of things that we no longer need."

"Many people in these last couple of months of the year want to ready their homes for the holidays, and what better time to review what we do have, and maybe take those things and donate to centers where people can really access those things," she said. "Likewise, they can receive a tax deduction for a donation of charitable goods. There can be a bit of a benefit for those people who itemize their deductions, and they can feel good about what they've done."

But the financial incentive shouldn't be the only thing that drives people's willingness to share with others. Tending to the needs of others may not only be healthy for one's finances but also healing to one's spirit, the duo believes.

"How does it affect adults? First of all, just feeling good," Cavanagh said. "A lot of the research shows that people who make charitable contributions don't necessarily do that because they are going to get a tax deduction or for those kinds of reasons, but they do it because it makes them feel good."

"I think in the back of our minds we hope that there would be people out there who would also make contributions to whatever (organization) we might take advantage of if we were in a situation where we needed help," Granovsky said.

Police, Fire Departments host Blue Christmas drive

The Irving Police and Fire departments are once again hosting Blue Christmas. The program, which both departments have participated in for nearly 30 years, has the potential to help close to 400 families in need this holiday season.

Through Dec. 17, donations of new, unwrapped toys for children ages 1-16, as well as canned and box food items, can be dropped off at any of the following locations.

For more information, call 972-721-2746.

Drop-off locations

- Irving Police Station**
305 N. O'Connor Road
- Police North Substation**
5992 Riverside Drive
- Fire Administration**
845 W. Irving Blvd
- Fire Station No. 1**
925 Chamberlain St.
- Fire Station No. 2**
1306 N. Story Road
- Fire Station No. 3**
1825 E. Grauwylar Road
- Fire Station No. 4**
3303 N. MacArthur Blvd.

- Fire Station No. 5**
2925 W. Shady Grove Road
- Fire Station No. 6**
2801 Esters Road
- Fire Station No. 7**
3303 W. Walnut Hill Lane
- Fire Station No. 8**
650 E. Las Colinas Blvd.
- Fire Station No. 9**
8101 Jetstar Drive
- Fire Station No. 10**
415 Cimarron Trail
- Fire Station No. 11**
6200 Love Drive

NOBODY takes care of you
LIKE STATE FARM.

I'm dedicated to helping you get the coverage that's right for you and the discounts you deserve. Call me today.



Kerri Miene, Agent
210 South O'Connor Road
Irving, TX 75060-2948
Bus: 972-253-1966
kerri.miene.st187@statefarm.com



LIKE A GOOD NEIGHBOR, STATE FARM IS THERE.SM

State Farm Mutual Automobile Insurance Company
(not in NJ) • Bloomington, IL • statefarm.comSM

POST008 2/08

After 35 years Going Out of Business

Irving Antique Mall
129 S. Main
972-254-0339
Great Sales

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
sales@marketcenter.net



MARKETCENTER TECHNOLOGIES, INC.
the world is in our sitesSM

POLICE & FIRE



Aggravated Robbery: 11-27-08 at 11:22 p.m. The victim was approached at the carwash in the 3000 block of Esters by the suspects. One suspect displayed a handgun and ordered the victim to give him all his money. The victim gave the suspect approx. \$50 then the suspect got into the driver seat and the other suspect got into the passenger seat of the victim's white Honda Accord and drove away. The victim could not recall the license plate of his vehicle and IPD is awaiting LP/VIN to place the vehicle on to NCIC.

Fatality Accident: 12-02-08 at 4:30 a.m. Unit 1 was traveling on the west bound on-ramp from west bound SH 356 to west bound SH183. The driver drove off the ramp to the left, over corrected and slid back across the ramp to the right and into a ditch. Unit 1 then overturned, ejecting and killing the driver.

Irving Fire Department

Activity summary Nov 27-28, Dec. 1-3 2008

Irving Fire Department responded to 184 incidents.

The Fire incidents	Medical calls
47 Miscellaneous Fire and Rescue Calls	16 Major Accidents
4 Structure Fires	50 Major Medical
2 Special Operations	11 Heart Attacks
0 Vehicle Fires	25 Difficulty Breathing
	29 Trauma Related
	10 CPR Situations

Comments:

Aggravated Robbery: 12-03-08 at 2:15 a.m. The victim was parked at the outgoing mail box in the parking lot of the US Post Office (8501 N MacArthur Blvd). He put his letters in the mailbox and decided to walk across the parking lot to withdraw cash from the ATM at the Washington Mutual next door. The victim withdrew \$1,200 from the ATM. He walked back across the parking lot to his car. He opened his driver's door and heard a voice behind him say, "Give me your money." He turned his head, and

then backed against his car when he saw a knife. The victim handed the suspect his wallet which contained cash totaling about \$1,400 and his coin purse with about \$5 in coins. The victim said the suspect saw his laptop bag in his car and said, "Give me that bag."

Aggravated Robbery: 12-03-08 at 11:45 a.m. The suspect entered the Bank of America in the 5400 block of N. MacArthur Blvd. The suspect presented a note threatening violence, received money and fled.

The Irving Rambler (214) 675-6493

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 49 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.

Member of The Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce -- The Irving Rambler is Copyrighted 2008

Stacey Starkey - Director
John Starkey - Publisher

INTERNET www.irvingrambler.com
E-mail irving@irvingrambler.com

Community Calendar

www.irvingrambler.com

"The Newspaper Irving Reads"

December 4, 2008

December 6 at 4pm

Holiday Extravaganza - Celebrate the holiday season at the City of Irving's Holiday Extravaganza. The free event will kick off at 4 p.m. with a parade in the Heritage District. The three-mile parade will begin at the intersection of O'Connor Road and Rock Island Boulevard, and will

travel southbound on O'Connor Road, westbound on Second Street, southbound on Lucille Street, westbound on Irving Boulevard and northbound on O'Connor Road.

Following the parade, at 5:30 p.m., the tree lighting ceremony will take place at City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd. Entertainment will include

holiday music by the Irving Symphonic Band, a fireworks show, performances by local dance groups, outdoor games, a petting zoo, pony rides and food. For details, call 972-721-2501.

December 6 from 10am - 4pm

Holiday Craft Fair - Find that perfect holiday gift at the Holiday Craft Fair at Ranchview High School in Irving. The Fair takes place from 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. Vendors will be selling a variety of Holiday items. Holiday Craft Fair tickets are available, at the door, for \$2 per person. For more information contact Susan de Rojas at Seascape62@gmail.com. The school is located at 8401 Valley Ranch Pkwy. E. in Irving, TX 75063.

December 6 from noon - 4pm

Roxy's Party - Groom & Zoom welcomes the community and their furry four-legged friends to a free event noon - 4 p.m. recognizing its one year anniversary and the three year birthday of Roxy, the inspiration behind the Groom & Zoom concept. There will be paparazzi (a photographer) on site taking pictures of all four-legged friends on the holiday themed red carpet. Highlights include a Paw Reader and "Pup Cakes" as well as "Dogmosas" and doggie favors. There will also be appetizers, raffles. Proceeds raised from the raffle will benefit the DFW Humane Society of Irving. There is no cost to attend, however a RSVP is required by calling 972-252-7908 or by emailing info@groom-zoom.com

December 6 at 12:30pm

Singles Lunch Bunch - The Saturday Singles Lunch Bunch, for ages 45 & up, meets at 12:30PM for lunch at local restaurants, to eat, visit & plan other activities. Please contact Pam at 972-254-3525 or Brenda at 972-790-5316 to get more information.

December 6 at 7pm

Landregan Lecture - The School of Ministry (SOM) at the University of Dallas (UD) will present Dr. Amy-Jill Levine, the E. Rhodes and Leona B. Carpenter Professor of New Testament Studies at Vanderbilt University Divinity School, at the tenth annual Landregan Lecture. The lecture, titled "Dangers on the Road from Jerusalem to Jericho: Hearing the 'Good Samaritan' through Good Jewish Ears," takes place at 7 p.m. in Lynch Auditorium on the University of Dallas campus (1845 E. Northgate Dr., Irving). The lecture is free and open to the public.

December 7 from 9:00 - 12:00pm

Breakfast with Santa - Join us for Breakfast with Santa from 9:00 - 12:00 p.m., plan to visit Santa with your wish list. Professional pictures with Santa will be available or you may use your camera. Your family can enjoy breakfast for a donation benefiting the Parenting Ministry. Holy Family of Nazareth Church, 2323 Cheyenne Street, Irving. Call 972-252-5521 for more information.

December 7 from 3 - 5pm

Heritage House - Visit the Irving Heritage House, 303 S. O'Connor

Road, from 3 to 5 p.m. for a view of yesterday. Docent-led tours are provided at 3 and 4 p.m. The Heritage House is a restored pioneer home that was originally built in 1912. Admission is free, and group tours may be scheduled. For more information, call 972-252-3838 or visit www.irvingheritage.com.

December 7 at 6:30 p.m.

Christmas Program - Come join us for a Christmas Program 6:30 p.m. performed by the children's choirs of First United Methodist Church @ 211 W. Third in the Sanctuary. There will also be special music of the Older Children/Youth Handbell Group. All are invited to attend this special Christmas celebration.

December 9

Holiday Luncheon - The Irving Women's Network annual holiday luncheon will be at the Glass Door Restaurant located at 1735 N. Story Road, Suite 172 in Irving. This is a great opportunity to treat special friends, clients, vendors or relatives to an outstanding meal and a fun event. This event is by prepaid reservation only. The cost is \$25 per person. Send your name, any guests' names and a check payable to IWN, Attn: Holiday Luncheon, P.O. Box 153672, Irving, TX 75017. Please contact Lydia Garcia with any questions or to donate a door prize 469-524-0630. Guests are welcome with a prepaid reservation.

December 9 at 7:30pm

Latin Connections - The New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving pre-

sents Latin Connections conducted by Sergio Espinosa at 7:30 pm at the Irving Arts Center. Latin Connections blends the freshness of salsa with the antiquity of Rome, topping off the premier of ¡Saada! by award-winning Dallas composer Mary Alice Rich with Respighi's evocative Pines of Rome. Come early - at 6 pm - and put down a bid to support the orchestra at the Annual Silent Auction prior to the concert in the Carpenter Hall lobby. Then enjoy the Irving ISD All-City Orchestra perform the pre-concert recital. \$15 general admission, \$12 seniors, \$8 students through the IAC Box Office 972/252-ARTS For information, check the website www.npoirving.com.

December 12 at 10:00am

IRSPA Silent Auction - The IRSPA (Irving Retired School Personnel) will hold its annual Silent Auction and luncheon at 10:00 AM. The luncheon and auction will take place at the First Christian Church Family Life Center, which is directly behind the church at 210 E. Sixth Street in Irving. The meeting is open to all retired school personnel. Members are asked to bring a covered dish for the luncheon and two or more items to be auctioned off for the IRSPA Book Project and Scholarship fund. Donations to the project will also be accepted. The IRSPA Book project promotes reading for young readers in the IISD Early Childhood Centers. Evelyn Clifton Early Childhood Center will receive the donation for the 2008-2009 year. If there are any questions, call 972-717-4213.

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

972-554-1031

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!

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



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

Why grandma's \$10 holiday gift could be the worst

Provided by Staasi Heropoulos
You know that little check you can always count on from grandma or grandpa around the holidays? It could be the worst gift your child gets this year, if he or she is a child with special needs.

If a child with disabilities accumulates more than \$2,000 in total assets – including money in a bank

account, bonds, or CDs – the child and his family could lose thousands of dollars in government funding and services. These resources are crucial and help keep some families from going broke paying to care for and educate their children.

"The government has strict limits on how much money can be in the child's name, and the limit is very low," said Joanne Gruskos, Director of the SpecialCare program at Massachusetts Mutual Life Insurance Company (MassMutual).

The SpecialCare program gives special needs families access to information, specialists, financial products and critical services.

"If a child with special needs has more than \$2,000 in his name, the government could freeze ben-

efits such as Medicaid, Medicare, Supplemental Security Income, or Social Security Disability Income," Gruskos said.

It doesn't take a huge gift to push a child over the limit; as little as \$10 could do it. If the child has \$1995 in his name, \$10 puts them over the limit at \$2005.

"Families of children with special needs must be very careful about accepting gifts from well-meaning friends and family," said Gruskos. "Families have literally lost thousands of dollars in aid and services because they didn't know how to plan."

MassMutual created a Holiday Gift Giving Guide to help friends and families of children with special needs.

Here is a small sampling of the

tips, available for free at www.massmutual.com/specialcare.

1. Do not give or accept financial gifts in the name of a child with special needs.

2. Deposit gifts into a special needs trust that benefits the child.

3. Without knowing it, interest could increase the value of your child's account; carefully monitor your child's assets and make sure they do not quietly grow to exceed \$2,000.

4. Volunteer to help care for a child with special needs, so the parents or guardians can have some time to themselves. Caring full-time for children with special needs can be very intense, expensive and demanding.

5. Create a Letter of Intent that spells out exactly how you want your child with special needs to observe the holidays and with whom, if you pass away - what type of gifts he or she should or should

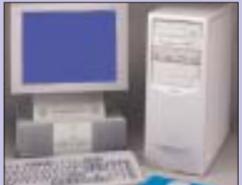
not be given, and what kind of life he or she wants to lead. A free Letter of Intent is available at: www.massmutual.com/specialcare/resources.

Setting up a special needs trust is the first step in creating a life care plan for a child with special needs. This type of planning is crucial, yet highly complicated and difficult to do without help, because the issues are so complicated and the laws are so complex. The services of an attorney specializing in special needs planning are essential.

Special Care planners can provide additional information and help people assemble an integrated team of professionals experienced in the area of special needs.

For more information about MassMutual's SpecialCare program call 800-272-2216 or visit www.massmutual.com/specialcare/resources.

ONLINE Read the Irving Rambler



Show Your Talent from: Irving, Texas
Presents: *Holiday Can Food Drive**
Looking for: All Music Artists
Dance Crews/ DJ's/ Spoken Word/Singers

Metro PCS on 183 between Story & Beltline Road

2605 W. Airport Frwy, Suite 160
Irving, TX 75062

Saturday, Dec. 13th 2008
From : 6am - 6pm

CONTACT: EARL G. WELLS JR.
(972) 294-9158



Block Grant Funds available

Continued from page 1

are to be matched equally (dollar for dollar) by a private source of funds, labor or in-kind contributions. Last year, \$20,000 was awarded to 20 neighborhood associations for physical improvements, neighborhood beautification, street sign toppers, special events, newsletters and Web site development.

"This is a great opportunity for neighborhood groups and also a way for us to show appreciation to

our neighborhood leaders who work tirelessly to improve the quality of life for everyone," said Community Outreach Manager Susan Rose. "The spirit of the grant is about getting your neighbors involved and creating a plan that will help our community thrive."

The application deadline is Jan. 20. Those interested in receiving an application or forming a neighborhood group should contact the Corporate Communications Department at 972-721-2533.

WORSHIP

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 multi-media 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:
"Is That The Way It Occurred?"

Second Sunday of Advent
Family-Friendly Advent Concert at 6:00 p.m. with music and tastes of the season plus a special Birthday Cake for Jesus!

For more details go to 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

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
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
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
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
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.

First United Methodist Church
211 W. Third St, Irving 75060
972.253.3531
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
Sundays 8:30, 9:15 & 11:00am

CALVARY CHURCH

Sunday | Dec. 7
9:30 & 11am
special guest speaker:
Maury Davis

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

1611 Hwy 161 @ Walnut Hill - Irving 972.261.1897 [calvarychurchcc](http://calvarychurchcc.com)

HANDEL'S MESSIAH

The Chancel Choir at First United Methodist Church of Irving invites you to join us for our presentation of Handel's "Messiah".
Sunday, December 14, 2008
8:30 AM
Worship Center

Then come on Christmas Eve to celebrate the Birth of Jesus. We will have 3 services: all different. 1:30pm gazebo for families with children. 3p with Chancel Choir doing Lection & Carols both in Worship Center and nursery available for children 4 yrs & younger then @ 11p in Chapel will have Candlelight & Communion. No nursery available. So come join us both on December 14th to hear this beautiful music from Handel's Messiah then on 14th for a Christmas Eve Service.



First Christian Church Invites You

December 7 - First Christian Church 67th Anniversary
Breakfast 9:00 a.m., Worship 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, 6:00 p.m.

210 E. 6th Street, Irving
972-579-0911



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.

Texas Leadership Forum welcomes students

Provided by Emily Davis

Sponsored by Dallas-based Today Foundation, the Texas Leadership Forum (TLF) is an innovative, dynamic program for select high school students that seeks to foster civic involvement, leadership and character building in participants while educating them about government and public policy.

"The Texas Leadership Forum is an outstanding opportunity for select students in North Texas to learn firsthand the business skills, leadership abilities, and public



Irving High School: Congressman Pete Sessions, Irene Alvarez, Jillian Attan, counselor Allana Patterson, and Keenan Webster.

policy knowledge essential for informed civic involvement and leadership within their communities," said U.S. Congressman Pete Sessions, honorary chair of TLF. "I congratulate the 2008 TLF students on their selection to this program, and I look forward to seeing them discover new horizons of learning and opportunities through comprehensive leadership development."

The Texas Leadership Forum inaugural meeting welcomed the new students to this year's program on Oct. 26. For the 2008 Texas Leadership Forum, 12 North Texas students were selected, representing four Irving and Dallas area high schools: Irving High School: Irene Alvarez, Jillian Amada Attan, Keenan Webster; Molina High School: Angelica Alvear, Arlene Beltran, Ruben Moreno, Desiree Rios; Sunset High School: Eidi Tanya Lule, Margie Mijares, Yanela Montoya, Eric Saucedo; Conrad High School: Sonia Mohammad.

Each student is selected based upon his or her academic performance, community involvement and leadership ability, and application requirements include a résumé, two one-page essays and a letter of recommendation by a teacher, principal, counselor or community leader.

Throughout the school year, the students will attend local leadership forums and company site visits with area leaders, participate in community outreach programs, and complete assigned projects and writing assignments. In the summer, the students will travel to Washington, DC for a one week conference featuring a unique, inside view of national government operations and public policy debates.

"At the Today Foundation, the Texas Leadership Forum is one way in which we are helping shape

young Americans into productive and respectful citizens," said Gary Griffith. "I am proud of the students' commitment to learning and dreams of new opportunities that will enable them to take the business and leadership tools acquired through the Texas Leadership Fo-

rum and build a brighter future for themselves and their community."

For more information about the Texas Leadership Forum and the Today Foundation, visit www.todayfoundation.org or call 214-739-1900.

-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
Call: 469-450-3936
Email: info@irvingvoices.com
Write: Irving Voices
2505 Texas Drive, Suite 10420
Irving, TX 75062



CAROLING TO CARROLLTON

From Dickens in Historic Downtown Plano to Carrollton's Christmas on the Square, DART connects you to all the magic this season. By riding instead of driving, you'll also give your holiday budget some wiggle room. It's enough to make even Scrooge smile.



214.979.1111
www.DART.org

CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS

<p style="text-align: center;">AUTO FOR SALE</p> <p>1989 Chevrolet 2500 PICKUP Silverado Extended Cab, LOW MILES 1 owner \$2500. 469-450-7218</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELP WANTED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">DRIVERS WANTED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">NEW REGIONAL FREIGHT</p> <p>• .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.</p> <p style="text-align: center;">888-202-3569 Ext. 114 Nights & weekends: 501-240-7348 or 501-247-7511</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Freight Systems, Inc</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELP WANTED</p> <p>Part-Time Dog wash attendant 972-252-7908 Groom & Zomm Dog Wash</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HELP WANTED</p> <p style="text-align: center;">WORK WANTED</p> <p>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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ITEMS FOR SALE</p> <p>4 Window A/C units, about one year old. Your choice \$50 each 972-259-7000</p> <p>1987 Chevy truck hood, left driver's door, right & left front fenders. \$15 each part. Call Bob 972-255-6932</p> <p>White Amana Gas Stove 214-675-6493</p> <p>FOR SALE-Hot Wheels Collection-Treasure Hunts, Final Runs and many other series 972-438-4522</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">ITEMS FOR FREE</p> <p>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</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOUSE FOR RENT</p> <p>3/1/1 house for rent 123 Wanda Dr. \$950/month rent, \$900 deposit 972-259-7000</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">HELP WANTED</p> <p>Delivery / Courier Computers, phone, Irving/Metroplex area. Appointments only. 972-254-2603 Business dress and excellent driving record required.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LEGAL NOTICE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">APARTMENT FOR SALE</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">LOST PETS</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">WANTED TO BUY</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">APARTMENT FOR RENT</p> <p>FOR RENT- Huge upstairs room, Pvt. bath, Kitch. Priv. All bills paid. \$550/month, \$275 deposit. Avail. 12/01/08. CALL 972 7903599</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">HOUSE FOR SALE</p> <p>1716 John Smith Dr, Irving 972-254-7200 4 bedroom, huge family room, sunroom and workroom, large trees, fenced yard, move-in ready</p>

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. 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.

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
----------	--------	--------------------	--------

BIZ BRIEFS

A business activity report by the Irving Economic Development Partnership.



ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT INVESTORS

The Irving Economic Development Partnership would like to thank the following entities for their continued support and investment in our program:

Strategic Investor

City of Irving
Irving Convention & Visitors Bureau
Las Colinas Marketing Alliance
TIAA Realty, Inc. / Cousins
US-Mexico Chamber of Commerce

Chairman's Investor

Aviall, Inc.
ExxonMobil
Flowsolve Corporation
Microsoft
NEC Corporation of America
RIM

President's Investor

AboveNet
Allstate Insurance
Atmos Energy
Avistas
Carrington Laboratories
Citi
Comerica Bank
DeVry University
EF Johnson Technologies, Inc.
Gardere Wynne Sewell LLP
IBM
Las Colinas Country Club
North Lake College
Oncor Electric Delivery
Reliant Energy
WaveTwo LLC
AboveNet

Commercial Real Estate Investor

Archon Group
Coldwell Banker
Crow Holdings / Apollo Real Estate
Granite Properties
Jones Lang LaSalle
Koll Development Company
PS Business Parks
Staffelbach Design Associates
The Woodmont Company
Triple L Management Corporation

Partner Investor

Akili
Avaya
Classic Fare Catering
Compass Bank
DeLaPorte & Associates
Driver Pipeline Co., Inc.
Eisenberg & Associates
Frymire Services
Imlach & Collins Brothers
Irving ISD
James Hardie Building Products, Inc.
Knight Security Systems, LLC
Las Colinas Medical Center
Medco Health Solutions
Northrup Grumman
Office Resource Group
Quantum Custom Homes
San Jacinto Public Affairs
University of Texas at Arlington /
College of Engineering
Villa's Grill & Catering

To see a list of all of our investors or to share in the benefits enjoyed by these entities go to www.IrvingChamber.com

FLOWSERVE ENTERS 10-YEAR AGREEMENT WITH ARAMCO

Irving-based Flowsolve Corporation has entered into a 10-year supply agreement with Saudi Aramco to provide the company, which is owned by the Saudi Arabian government, with a full-range of flow control products. Flowsolve is the recognized world leader in supplying pumps, valves, seals automation and services to the power, oil, gas, chemical and other industries. Flowsolve has more than 14,000 employees in more than 56 countries around the world.

FLUOR ACQUIRES TWO EUROPEAN ENGINEERING FIRMS

Fluor Corporation, with world headquarters in Las Colinas, announced that it has acquired two European engineering firms: UNEC Engineering NV based in Antwerp, Belgium and Europea de Ingenieria y Asesoramiento based in Tarragona, Spain. The two acquired companies will become a part of Fluor's global services business group and support the company's strategic focus on providing engineering, procurement, construction and maintenance services throughout the world.

IRVING HOSPITALITY FIRMS EARN DIAMONDS

Three Irving-based businesses have earned high ratings from AAA. The Omni Mandalay Hotel at 221 E. Las Colinas Boulevard has received the AAA Four Diamond Award for the 22nd consecutive year. Also receiving Four Diamonds was the Café on the Green located inside the Four Seasons Resort and Club, which also retained its Five Diamond rating for a 6th consecutive year. The Four Seasons remains the only Five Diamond resort in Texas and is located at 4150 N. MacArthur Boulevard.

NEW CAFÉ IN HERITAGE DISTRICT

J.J.s Café, a 50s décor restaurant, has opened in the Heritage District at 231 W. 6th Street. The café offers buffet service for breakfast and lunch, or you may order off the menu. The cafe's specialty is home-style cooking.

IRVING CONGRESSIONAL MEMBERS TO GOP LEADERSHIP ROLES

Two of Irving's elected Congressional officials have been named to key positions within the Republican Party. Congressman Pete Sessions was elected Chairman of the National Republican Congressional Committee and Senator John Cornyn will serve as Chairman of the National Republican Senatorial Committee.

NORTHLAKE COLLEGE SEEKING PAYROLL TRAINING PROGRAM

North Lake College's Continuing Education department is searching for workforce trainers who are licensed, practicing Payroll professionals qualified to provide instruction in payroll concepts and management. Proposals for training through North Lake College must be submitted to Helen Warren, Program Coordinator at hwarren@dccc.edu or call 972-273-3359.

BOECKMANN TO SPEAK AT WORLD AFFAIRS COUNCIL

Alan Boeckmann, CEO of Irving-based Fluor Corporation, was the featured speaker at the World Affairs Council's Global Business Series, Friday, December 5th, at the Adolphus Hotel in Dallas. Boeckmann's topic was "Leveling the Playing Field in Global Business: The Fight Against Bribery and Corruption in International Commerce". Fluor has consistently been named one of the most ethical companies in the world.

TEXAS STATE BAR HONORS EXXONMOBIL

The Texas Minority Council Program honored ExxonMobil Corporation with its 2008 Champion of Diversity award for the company's long-standing efforts to support minorities in the legal profession. The award is given annually by the State Bar of Texas. ExxonMobil was honored for its demonstrated commitment to hiring minority attorneys and using minority-owned firms as outside counsel.

DALLAS CITY COUNCIL SELECTS OMNI

The Dallas City Council has voted to name Irving-based Omni Hotels as the preferred operator of its planned convention center hotel. City Council support was a major step as Omni negotiates a final contract to manage the yet to be built hotel.

Celebrate The Season With The Chamber & Support Irving Cares

The Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce is hosting an open house and After Hours Holiday Mixer, Tuesday, December 16, at the Chamber's main office in Williams Square. The holiday season provides a great opportunity to mix, mingle and network with Chamber Investors and business colleagues. In the spirit of the season, the Chamber is requesting that each guest bring a new, unwrapped toy that will be donated to Irving Cares. The Chamber's main office is located at 5221 N. O'Connor Blvd., Ste. 100. If you will be attending, please RSVP to Vanessa Segovia at vsegovia@irvingchamber.com or 214-217-8473.

Irving Cares, Inc. was organized in 1957 by a group of citizens in Irving who were interested in the social welfare of the needy people in their community. Since 2001, Irving Cares has consistently achieved United Way's #1 top stewardship rating for fiduciary management and board oversight. In 2005, Irving Cares received the City of Irving's Housing and Human Services Department's Award for Outstanding Community Partner. The demand for Irving Cares' programs continues to grow as evidenced by annual increases in the numbers of people served; 25,317 in the past fiscal year, 12% of the City of Irving's population. Irving Cares is proud to exceed industry standards, by insuring that eighty-one cents of every dollar raised goes back into the community as a program related expense. To learn more about Irving Cares, please visit www.irvingcares.org, or for information about this event, please visit www.irvingchamber.com.

IRVING BUSINESSES RECOGNIZED AS FASTEST GROWING

Nine Irving businesses have been recognized by the SMU Caruth Institute for Entrepreneurship with its Dallas 100 Award which identifies and honors the 100 fastest-growing privately held companies in the Metroplex. To qualify for the Dallas 100, a company must meet a number of criteria based on its legal status, location, sales history, credit report, and character. The Irving-based companies are: #9 True.com; #19 Driver Pipeline; #42 Enkitec; #45 Paperless Transaction Corporation; #51 Optimal Solutions Integration; #62 AVIDwireless; #65 Buchanan Associates; #71 The Expo Group; and #85 Signal Metal Industries. The Dallas 100 was created to honor entrepreneurs who build their own businesses and create jobs.

TEXAS GAINS JOBS, IRVING UNEMPLOYMENT UPSLIGHTLY

Although Texas gained 23,000 jobs in October, the State's unemployment rate grew to 5.6%. Irving's unemployment increased slightly from 5.1% to 5.2% in October; significantly better than the US unemployment rate of 6.5%.

DECEMBER NETWORKING OPPORTUNITIES:

December 13 – Coffee Break, 8:30am, at Receptions on the Main, 109 S. Main Street; December 17 – Women's Alliance at La Cima Club, 5215 N. O'Connor Blvd. Ste. 2600 (Reservations required).

ZALE INTRODUCES CELEBRATION DIAMOND

Irving-based Zale Corporation has launched its Celebration Diamond across its stores and online. Celebration Diamond is a new patented diamond cut that features 102 facets; available in round and princess cuts. Each Celebration Diamond ring is set in an 18 karat white gold cathedral mounting with platinum prongs and "Celebration" inscribed inside the ring. Prices range from \$1,499 to \$44,995 depending upon the cut, color, clarity and carat size of the diamond, as well as selected piece.

ECONOMIC & FINANCE SUMMIT

Irving-based Minority Business Enterprise Center will host a 2008 Economic and Finance Summit in its offices at 545 E. John Carpenter Freeway Ste. 120, Wednesday, December 10th, from 11:00am – 1:00pm. The program will focus on small and emerging businesses. Cost is \$10 and includes lunch. Register at www.cdcs.org or call 214-688-1612.

EFJOHNSON TECHNOLOGIES RECEIVES FIPS CERTIFICATION

EFJohnson Technologies, Inc. has received the Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS) 140-2 encryption validation on several of its broadband products. Validated certifications on its products provide an excellent solution to government and military need to secure assets and confidential information.

EXECUTIVE OF THE YEAR

Niki Kooiman, Branch Manager of Irving's OfficeTeam office, has been named the 2008 Executive of the Year by the Las Colinas Chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals



Please contact the Chamber at 214.217.8484 if we can assist you.

Main Office
5221 N. O'Connor Blvd., Ste. 100
Irving, TX 75039

Heritage District Office
301 W. Irving Blvd.
Irving TX 75060

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

Zahner brings innovation and art to architecture

While navigating traffic and construction along Rock Island Road in south Irving it is easy to pass the rather plain building that houses the A. Zahner Company's base in the Metroplex. Headquartered in Kansas City, MO, the company is known for its inventive architecture and revolutionary use of glass and metals.

"Zahner set up our shop in Irving after being awarded the contract for the DFW International Airport, Terminal D Expansion in 2004," said Roger Reed, Architectural Liaison for A. Zahner. "That project featured an 11 acre, stainless steel roof with a challenging dual curvature roof form, so Zahner needed a base of operation to work on a project of that size. As that project began to wind down, we evaluated the operation there in Irving and found the work force to be very effective and rooted in the Midwest work ethic so we began pursuing projects to keep that facility operational. Among other

projects, currently the plant is producing a custom polish on stainless steel shingles for the NASCAR Hall of Fame and assembling components for the Wyley Theatre and the Winspear Opera House both in downtown Dallas. Additionally, today we are working with architects to help shape the cityscape in the greater Dallas and Forth Worth areas in the near future.

"The A. Zahner Company is a 4th generation architectural metal manufacturing and construction firm. For the past 110 years Zahner has pioneered advances in the development and promotion of metal used in architectural applications. We work in all metals and constantly expand the available options to the design community. By setting the standards for innovation in the field of architectural metal design, fabrication and installation, A. Zahner Company has firmly established itself as the industry leader.

"Today, Zahner regularly em-

loys over 150 engineers, union sheet metal craftsmen, and support personnel. We treat our people with respect and dignity and in return we have some of the most innovative and talented interactive teams possible."

A number of the structures designed by Zahner look more like giant works of art than traditional, function driven structures.

"At Zahner we believe that the heart of our product rests at the intersection of art and function. While the quality and reliability of our work is second to none, it is, perhaps, the beauty that strikes the most lasting impression," Reed said.

"By digitally defining what we manufacture into a three-dimensional, parametric, solid computer models, we can achieve accurate, proficient products that exceed the expectations of the customers. This technology goes beyond the engineering and drafting levels and is interwoven throughout the manufacture and installation processes allowing us to incorporate lean manufacturing principles into our engineering, fabrication and installation processes.

"We have successfully combined world-class craft persons with state of the art digital definition, which enables us to create the products we sell for designers such as Frank O. Gehry, Stephen Holl, Antoine Predock, Moshe Safdie, Daniel Libeskind, Randall Stout, Jacques Herzog and Pierre de Meuron. One of the greatest compliments that is paid to us is the fact that many of these designers are repeat clients, coming back to us again and again with their new projects.

"Zahner is involved in high profile projects that regularly push the boundaries of the architectural design profession. We do not design the buildings, we work to make the buildings that architects are designing more build-able, more capable of successfully executing the assigned task of providing shelter and keeping out the elements."

Whenever art offers innovative and public designs, critics are always quick to question its value and aesthetic.

"Remember, at one time, cars had tail fins and they created a stir when the first one came out. Today, they are considered classics. Architecture today is also creating a stir. Today's architectural forms engage the viewer, causing a reaction - making one pause and think. Some times those thoughts are good and sometimes they aren't. But, no mater what your view of the building's design, the bigger picture to consider here is that people are being engaged, they are thinking about their environment around them and they are developing opinions about what is or isn't good design - from their perspective.

"Zahner, as a company, really considers itself to be a valuable member of the Design Team as a whole, working together to find solutions that benefit the overall

project without sacrificing the design intent or compromising the budget. And, while Zahner places a high value on the team approach, it places equal value on the individual team members too. Their individual efforts, no mater how small, have a considerable contribution towards the successful completion of the project.

"The projects we work on often become signature calling cards for the cities in which they are built. In essence, we become ambassadors for the city's future and how we perform our work has a significant impact on how the project looks when it is completed and how well it is received. Visitors to a completed project do not get to see the footing and foundations, the stud work or the electrical components

contained within. It is our work that is front and center, it is often the most visible element of the design. Our employees individual efforts help make that happen," he said.

Recently, the following awards have been bestowed upon Zahner:

In 2007, Bill Zahner, was named an Honorary Member of the American Institute of Architects.

In 2008, American Rights at Work was recognized on Labor Day as "Partnerships That Work."

The Block School of Business and Public Administration named Zahner the 2007 Regional Entrepreneur of the Year.

In the city of Kansas City, the Zahner Co. has been awarded 12 various AIA Craftsmanship Awards by the local Chapter of the AIA.

City makes changes to convenience store standards

New guidelines have been approved for convenience stores to increase safety measures for residents, customers and store employees. The guidelines are intended to help address the following:

Nearly half of all business robberies occur at convenience stores. Suspects leave little evidence, reducing the possibility of arrests. An unsafe environment exists for employees and customers. Stores are easy targets without proper prevention measures.

"These standards are especially important following the approval of beer and wine sales by Irving voters," said Police Chief Larry Boyd.

The guidelines require the following safety features be put into effect:

An alarm system, silent panic or hold-up alarm must be installed. Surveillance cameras that capture the images of the store's interior and exterior are to be added, with signage and permit required. Enhanced installation requirements for ATMs.

An unobstructed view of the cash register.

A trespass affidavit, which authorizes police to enforce trespass laws on the store owner's behalf. Safety training for employees. A drop safe.

All of Irving's 250-plus convenience stores are required to comply with the new requirements. Equipment requirements must be in place by January 2010. For more information, e-mail crimeprevention@cityofirving.org.



Joe's On
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






Christmas Spectacular A Festival of Lights



December 7th 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

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



404 Mavis, Irving, Texas 75061




All Makes & Models

Chuck's

972-438-8525

Collision Repair & Refinishing Specialists

body shop

GUARANTEED WORKMANSHIP
INSURANCE CLAIMS WELCOMED

New Patient Special

Initial Exam Cleaning
& Necessary X-Rays
*New Patients Only Without
Dental Insurance*

\$49.00

**DENTISTRY
OF LAS
COLINAS**

Byron L. Mitchell, DDS
Cosmetic & General Dentistry
972-717-1100

Kick Start Programs graduates students



Last Wednesday the Kick Start Program, performed their 2008 Winter Belt Ceremony at Lamar Middle School with approximately 450 attendees. 144 students graduated to their next belt level. Kick Start was created by Chuck Norris of Walker Texas Ranger and other movie fame. It has been at Lamar for 3 years helping building character in youth using martial arts at one of the most crucial points in a young person's life. Kick Start reaches children between the ages of 11 to 14, to help give them the decision making tools that will make a positive influence to resist drugs, gang peer pressure and encourage self discipline, respect, courtesy and to believe in themselves that anything is possible. For more information please visit www.kick-start.org



Irving Massage Therapy

*Warmest Thoughts and Best Wishes
for a Wonderful Holiday Season
and a Very Happy New Year*

15% OFF on Every Visit
Through the Month of December
on All Services and Products (except Gift Certificates)

10% OFF of Gift Certificate Packages

(972) 256-3565 3325 W. Rachelle Rd., Irving, TX 75062
www.irvingmassage.com

Gift Certificates Available for the Holidays !!!

KINGDOM SENIOR SOLUTIONS

469-713-1862

OPEN ENROLLMENT

NOVEMBER 15TH – DECEMBER 31ST

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

OBITUARIES

Walter Tedro Bonner

Memorial services for Walter Tedro Bonner, age 78, of Irving formerly of Fort Sumner, NM were held Nov. 25 at Saint Stephen Presbyterian Church in Irving.

Mr. Bonner passed away Nov. 21, 2008 at his residence after a sudden illness.

He was born on Sep. 8, 1930 in Fort Sumner to Thomas and Almarine Atkinson Bonner. Mr. Bonner married Beate Bath on Jan. 31, 1957 in Fort Sumner. He was a retired Lieutenant Colonel with the Marine Corp serving as a pilot. After retiring from the Armed Services, he worked for Associated Aviation, retiring as a senior underwriter. Mr. Bonner was also a member of the Masonic Lodge serving as a 32nd degree Mason.

Survivors include his wife Beate Bonner of Irving; one daughter, Christine Conway of Dallas, TX; 2 sons, Gordon Ray Bonner of Irving, and Thomas F. Bonner of Beaumont, TX; 2 grandchildren, Cyndi and Justin.

Jeraldine Waggoner Lloyd



battle with cancer.

She was born Jan. 2, 1932. She was born and raised in Irving and with few exceptions lived in Irving all her life. In 2004, she moved to Lake Limestone to live near her son and daughter. Jerry gave so much love and was loved by many.

She is preceded in death by her father C.C. Waggoner and mother Exie Opal Cunningham Waggoner and husband Frank Lloyd. She is survived by her sister Gwendolyn Simpson, brother Craig Waggoner and his wife Joy, sister Mary Jo Sinclair, and sister Tommie Sue Mayfield. She is also survived by her son Frank Lloyd, Jr. and his wife

Donna, and daughter Nancy Nelson and her husband Andrew. Other survivors include her granddaughter Kim Goss and family, grandson Brad Boyd and family, and granddaughter Andra Rutherford and family. These families include 6 great grandchildren.

Graveside services were held Dec. 3 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving. Visitation was Tuesday at the funeral home.

Evelyn Dolores Miller



Evelyn Dolores Miller, of Irving, passed away Nov. 29.

She was born Oct. 31, 1929 in San Antonio. Dolores was raised in Granger and

Taylor, attended Southwestern University, and lived the last 44 years in Irving. Dolores was a very active member of St. Luke's Catholic Church in Irving.

Preceded in death by her parents John and Frances Velicka and husband Otis Miller, whom she married in 1949, survivors include her four boys Mike and wife Liz, Mark and wife Cindy, Patrick, and Timothy. She was the proud Nanny of seven grandchildren and six great grandchildren.

Mass of Christian Burial was celebrated on Dec. 4 at St. Luke's Catholic Church. Interment followed at DFW National Cemetery in Dallas. Visitation was Wednesday followed by a Rosary. In lieu of flowers, the family asks that dona-

tions be made to St. Luke's Catholic School. Local arrangements by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

Mark Olive



Mark Olive, of Greenville, passed away Dec. 1, 2008.

He was born Aug. 15, 1969 in Irving. He was a member of the Vansickle Baptist Church in Greenville.

Chapel of Roses Funeral Home



Owned & Operated by the Chism & Crouch Families

972-554-1031

1225 E. Irving Blvd. 75060

www.ChapelofRosesfh.com

Directors:

Charlotte Chism Waldrum
Harrell Chism
Austin E. Raney

Offering:

Traditional Funeral Services
Cremation
Military Services

ACCEPTING ALL Pre-Need Funerals



DONNELLY'S
Colonial Funeral Home

**606 West Airport Freeway
Irving, Texas 75062**

(972) 579-1313

www.donnellyscolonial.com

**Serving Irving families
since 1963**

Residents invited to provide input on Heritage Crossing

City of Irving staff will present the draft design guidelines for the Heritage Crossing area, formerly called Olde Towne, during an informational meeting at 7 p.m. Dec. 8 at the Irving Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. The meeting will provide residents who live within the

Heritage Crossing area an opportunity to ask questions and receive information.

Design guidelines will provide development standards for the re-development of property within the area, which is bounded on the north by Pioneer Drive, on the east by

Britain Road, on the south by Shady Grove Road and on the west by MacArthur Boulevard. The design guidelines will include requirements for:
Landscaping
Signage
Parking
Building orientation
Other design elements

The Heritage Crossing Advisory Committee, established by the City Council, completed its review of the draft document and provided comments to the developer, Delbert McDougal. The design guidelines have been presented to the Planning and Zoning Commission for discussion and the commission will hold a formal public hearing on Jan.

5. This will be the first opportunity for the commission to vote on a recommendation to be forwarded to the City Council. Every property owner shown on the most recently approved tax roll will receive a mailed notice of the public hearings before the Planning and Zoning Commission and City Council.



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

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

NOBEL SON R 1:40 4:50 7:40 10:20	TWILIGHT PG13 1:05 4:10 7:00 9:45
PUNISHER WAR ZONE R 1:45 4:30 7:25 9:55	BOLT PG 11:55 12:45 2:10 3:05
* FOUR CHRISTMASSES PG13 12:25 1:00 2:40 3:15 4:55	QUANTUM OF SOLACE PG13 12:00 1:15 2:25 4:00
# AUSTRALIA PG13 5:35 7:10 8:00 9:25 10:15	MADAGASCAR 2 PG 12:30 2:50 5:05 7:20
TRANSPORTER 3 PG13 12:00 1:45 4:00 5:30 7:30	
9:00	
12:05 2:30 5:10 7:35	
10:05	

* FULLY RESTRICTED # NO PASSES

Tickets on sale NOW! - Online or at the Theater

Why wait in lines? PURCHASE TICKETS AT HOME www.gohollywood.com

Buy the Irving Rambler WEEKLY

Mungles on Movies

By Matt Mungle
Title: *Frost/Nixon*
Rated: R

Ron Howard has a reputation for directing stellar films. Well, until 2006 when he brought us the disappointment that was *The Da Vinci Code*. But because of *Apollo 13*, *A Beautiful Mind*, *Cocoon*, *Backdraft*, and others we can forgive him a slip or two.

His latest offering *Frost/Nixon* has already gained much momentum and critic acclaim. Words like best picture and best director are already floating through the thick Hollywood air. But I wouldn't dust off mantel space just yet. True this film is better than most that we have endured this dismal year but Oscar worthy? I am not completely convinced.

Based on the actual interview that British talk show host David Frost (Michael Sheen) did with a recently resigned President Nixon

Ron Howard takes on recent history

(Frank Langella) it is a film that is well directed and certainly entertaining. There were many in our nation that thought Nixon got off way too easy with the pardon granted by newly seated President Ford. There was outrage at the lack of a trial and penalty for Nixon's involvement in Watergate. Frost and his producers and advisors thought that they could give Americans the trial and conviction they wanted. By subjecting Nixon to a rigorous Q and A he would be forced to not only admit his guilt, but offer up a well warranted and long expected apology. What they did not foresee was Tricky Dicks' ability to sway things his way. They underestimated the man who had three years earlier led our country.

There was little about this film that I didn't enjoy. I love watching anything from that era that is tastefully recreated. The look, style and characteristics of the 70's always

make me smile. Howard does a good job of showing the struggles of each side leading up to the interview. Frost's being financial and Nixon's personal. The film took on the face of a gold medal boxing match as each side trained and prepared for this jousting of words and perspectives. The supporting cast, including Sam Rockwell, Kevin Bacon, Matthew McFadyen and Oliver Platt all give worthy performances, though again, not sure if award winning.

Ron Howard made the statement, "A lot of the greatest dialogue comes right out of the transcripts. But it is so much more than a recreation of the interviews. That is what was sort of dazzling about the writing and what was exciting about directing the movie."

I personally think this was a smart balance. The movie doesn't feel wordy in its movement, and it is not just two guys droning on. There is a lot of side line drama that carries the film to its final point. The same perspective rolls in to the character of Nixon. Though Langella does a believable Nixon he doesn't have the exact Nixon personification down pat. He explains why by stating, "If you are playing somebody who is famous and has a whole host of mannerisms that are terribly identifiable you are honor bound to watch them and incorporate them but not imitate them. Then I would be a stand up doing an impression, and I was determined not to do an impression."

Frost/Nixon is rated R for some language. This two hour movie is other wise free of anything offensive or scandalous. Unless Watergate still offends you. I will be honest and give it a very solid 3.75 out of 5 missing minutes. I found it entertaining and informative. Though I do not base my history knowledge on what Hollywood tells me it did cause me to look up a few things and broaden my historical trivia. Most will find this film a decent watch as Howard redeems himself nicely from the director's chair. It is a drama laced with solid characters and intriguing dialogue. Not quite Oscar worthy but short only by a small margin.

OBITUARIES

Preceded in death by his father Miles Olive, survivors include his mother Norma Olive of Caddo Mills; sister Tina McCommas and husband Tim of Arlington, sister Judi Ratliff and husband Roger of Caddo Mills; brother Stephen Fisher and Kathy Smith of Lewisville; and sister Lisa Olive of Roanoke.

Family to received friends Dec. 4 at the funeral home. Funeral services were held Dec. 5 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Brian Grey officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

John William Stewart

John William Stewart, age 73 a long time resident of Irving, passed away on Nov. 28, 2008.

He was born on Oct. 1, 1935 in Grand Prairie to Joseph and Lela (Hardy) Stewart. Mr. Stewart served in the United States Air Force until 1964 and then retired from

McCravey Construction Company. He had a love for playing the guitar and his family will miss listening to him play.

He is preceded in death by his parents and a daughter, Mary Moore. Survivors include, wife Susan Stewart; daughters, Judy Lilley and husband Glen, Deborah Remely and husband Darrell; sons, Johnny Duane Stewart and wife Cheryl, Bill Stewart; grandchildren, Jonathan Moore, Crystal Luttrell, Darrell Remeley, Jr., James Moore, Jr., Joey Remely, Megan Anderson, Danni Jo Anderson, Timothy Moore and numerous great-grandchildren.

A graveside service will be held at 2:00 p.m. on Dec. 12 at DFW National Cemetery, Lane A. Arrangements were made through Chism-Smith Funeral Home.

Cindy Swistak

Cindy Swistak, of Irving passed away Dec. 1, 2008. She was born Oct. 9, 1958.

She is survived by her son Aaron Swistak; brother Dan Green; and 2 grandchildren.

Memorial services will be held at 10 a.m. Dec. 6 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel.

Charles F. "Charlie" McPherson,

Charles F. "Charlie" McPherson, age 61, a resident of Irving for 35 years, formerly of Tyler, died Nov. 27, 2008 at his home.

Born May 7, 1947 in Tyler to Charles Floyd McPherson, Sr. and

Zera Virginia Parris McPherson, he was an automobile salesman. He adored his daughter and loved hunting and fishing.

Preceded in death by his parents, he is survived by his daughter Monica McPherson of Mansfield; sister, Johnnie Ballard of Tyler; brothers Jim of Garland, Donald R., Michael D. and Ricky P. McPherson all of Tyler; and numerous nieces and nephews.

A Memorial service was held Dec. 1 at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel in Irving with Rev. Tim Kerrick officiating.



Ben F. Brown

Continuing The Tradition

"The Right Choice for Over 50 Years."

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

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

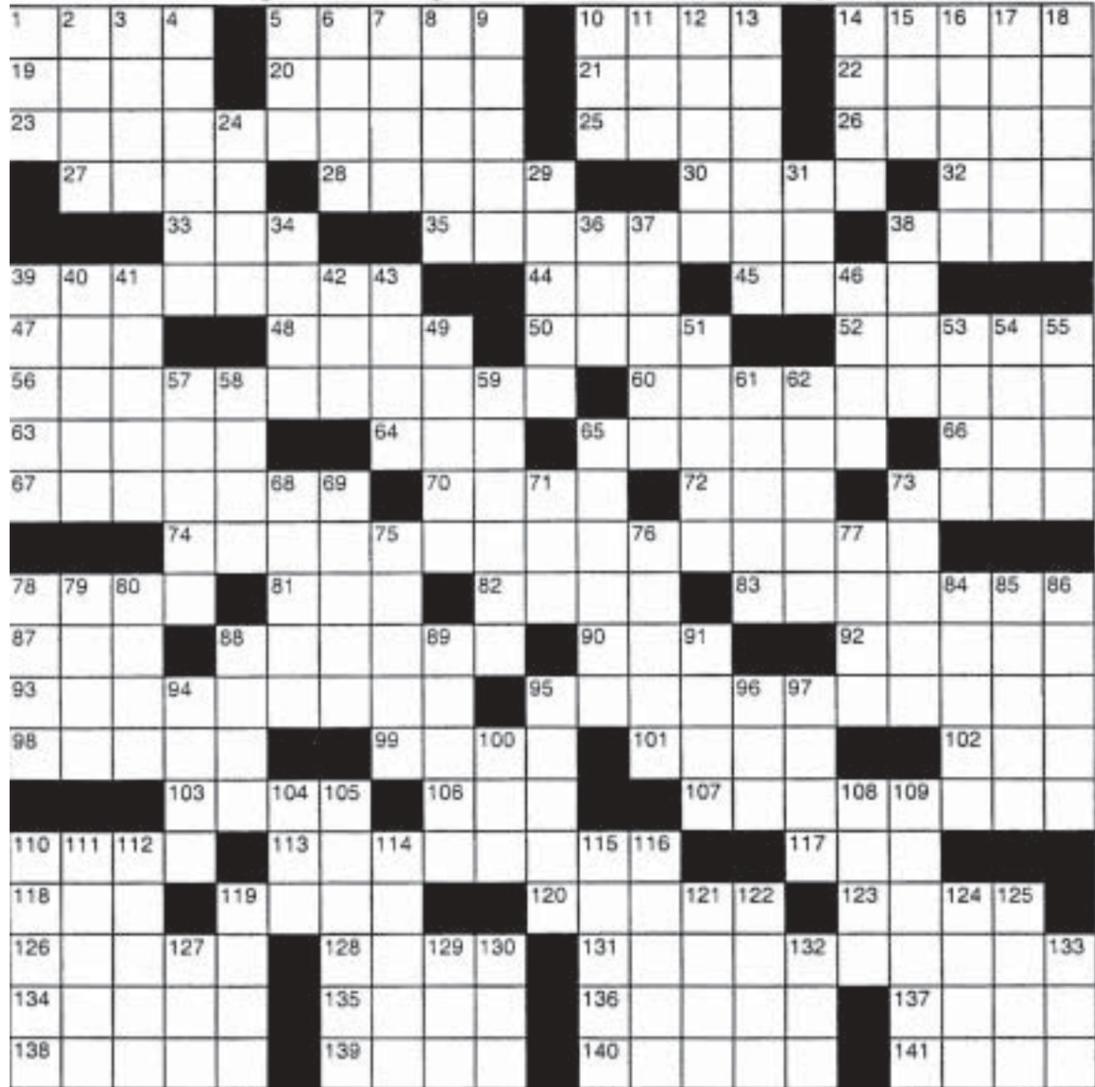
972-259-7644

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.
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.

Super Crossword

LETTER PERFECT

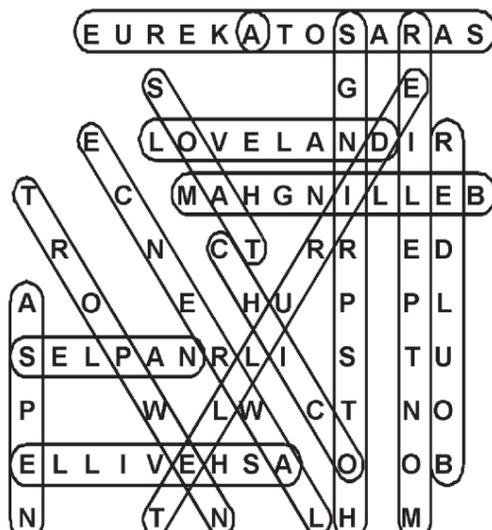
- ACROSS**
- 1 Exercise target
 - 5 Actuate
 - 10 Boston —
 - 14 Denzel Washington film
 - 19 Kansas city
 - 20 — incognita
 - 21 Comfort
 - 22 "Middle-march" author
 - 23 Butcher-shop buy
 - 25 Modern Mesopotamia
 - 26 Numerical word form
 - 27 Theater collection
 - 28 Director Michael
 - 30 Satyric trait
 - 32 Vim
 - 33 Bond rating
 - 35 Neapolitan song
 - 38 Work over?
 - 39 Tarnish
 - 44 PBS benefactor
 - 45 Mrs. Nick Charles
 - 47 ABA member
 - 48 Shipshape
 - 50 Standard
 - 52 Court cry
 - 56 Start of a Nash verse
 - 60 Maestro Arturo
 - 63 Opening remark?
 - 64 To and —
 - 65 Rang
 - 66 Rapper Tone —
 - 67 Rained and snowed
 - 70 Kruger of "High Noon"
 - 72 "— vous plait"
 - 73 To boot
 - 74 Bach favorite
 - 78 Hostage
 - 81 New Deal agcy.
 - 82 — May Oliver
 - 83 Most enthusiastic
 - 87 Diminutive suffix
 - 88 Make minestrone
 - 90 Say please
 - 92 Actress Zellweger
 - 93 Connecticut county
 - 95 It's a guy thing
 - 98 Perplexed
 - 99 WWII site
 - 101 Kenwood competitor
 - 102 Glowing
 - 103 No, to Nureyev
 - 106 Asian soldier
 - 107 Haphazard
 - 110 Disney dog
 - 113 George Peppard series
 - 117 Korf or Sara
 - 118 What a feller needs
 - 119 Keeping
 - 120 Give in to gravity
 - 123 Walked
 - 126 Diacritical mark
 - 128 Author Ambler
 - 131 Famed disc jockey
 - 134 Irving's "The — New Hampshire"
 - 135 Amneris' rival
 - 136 Messy Madison
 - 137 European country
 - 138 High-tech missives
 - 139 Expensive
 - 140 Uses a trepan
 - 141 TV's "Ding — School"
 - 6 "Simple Simon — ..."
 - 7 Type of sch.
 - 8 Thalia's sister
 - 9 Albert and Victoria
 - 10 Mile High Center architect
 - 11 Boathouse item
 - 12 Sacred song
 - 13 Costume sparkler
 - 14 Kid
 - 15 Castilian cry
 - 16 Hefty herbivore
 - 17 Short messages
 - 18 Stick 'em in your ear
 - 24 Actor Morales
 - 29 Singer Summer
 - 31 — Canals
 - 34 Composer Thomas
 - 36 August one?
 - 37 Big revolver?
 - 38 Holstein's home
 - 39 Rome's — of Caracalla
 - 40 Lucy's landlady
 - 41 Marker
 - 42 "Aladdin" frame
 - 43 Grapefruit serving
 - 46 Way
 - 49 Deck of destiny
 - 51 Dewy
 - 53 Picking herb
 - 54 Baseball's Slaughter
 - 55 Puerto —
 - 57 City on the Allegheny
 - 58 Reply to the Little Red Hen
 - 59 One who no's best?
 - 61 Smug smile
 - 62 "The Color Purple" character
 - 65 Kirsch kin
 - 68 Sgt. Bilko
 - 69 Campus digs
 - 71 Designer Lapidus
 - 73 Bronte's "— Grey"
 - 75 Tom, Dick, and Harry
 - 76 Skater Cohen
 - 77 Franco of "Camelot"
 - 78 Cougar
 - 79 Landed
 - 80 Gets hitched
 - 84 "— Gay"
 - 85 Big rigs
 - 86 Choppers
 - 88 Deal with a dragon
 - 89 Newsboy's shout
 - 91 Kamm or Kristofferson
 - 94 Contradict
 - 95 Harnessed the oxen
 - 96 Bird of prey
 - 97 Abbreviated address
 - 100 Sodom escapee
 - 104 JFK abbr.
 - 105 Fine fiber
 - 108 Compassion
 - 109 Moved like
 - 110 Woodworking tool
 - 111 Postulate
 - 112 Nile feature
 - 114 Mysterious
 - 115 Iron clothes?
 - 116 Animal that roared?
 - 119 Convent cubicle
 - 121 Namu or Willy
 - 122 Bloomsbury buggy
 - 124 Roy Rogers' birthplace
 - 125 Bruce or Laura
 - 127 "Agnus —"
 - 129 Journalist Tarbell
 - 130 Roller-coaster unit
 - 132 "— longa, vita brevis"
 - 133 Brew barrel



Answers for 11-27-2008



Answers for 11-27-2008



Answers for 11-27-2008

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

ComParrot[®] by Bonnie J. Malcolm
Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



www.comparrot puzzles.com

© 2008 Bonnie J. Malcolm



Solution: 1. End of girl's hair braid is hidden. 2. Part of horse's rein is hidden. 3. Spot behind saddle is missing. 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 mouth is different. 11. Pattern on chaps is reversed. 12. Puddle is larger.

MAGIC MAZE ● — GALLERY



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

- Art
- Ladies' Music National
- Peanut Photo Picture Portrait
- Press Private Public Shooting
- Tate Web Whispering

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

Ranchview High School Band places sixth at UIL Area Marching Competition

The Ranchview Band traveled to Birdville Stadium to compete in the UIL Area B Marching Competition. In order to qualify for UIL Area

marching, each band must earn a First Division, Superior, Rating at the UIL Region Marching Contest.

Twenty-one bands from a-

round the DFW Metroplex were in attendance. The Ranchview Band marched in semi-finals and earned a sixth place position. The band advanced to finals and competed against the top 10 bands. The Ranchview High School Band maintained its sixth place position. This marks another "first" for the Ranchview Band. This means that the Ranchview Band is one of the top 30 bands in the State of Texas.

Oh named to All-State Orchestra

Daniel Oh, junior violist at Irving High School, was selected for the second consecutive year to Texas All-State Orchestra.

Oh was selected for membership in the Symphony Orchestra, the All-State orchestra program's most elite performing group. He earned the fourth highest score among all violists who auditioned, and is one of five orchestra students from Texas Music Educator's Association Region 20 selected to join one of the three All-State orchestras.

All-State Symphony Orchestra is scheduled to perform Feb. 14 at Henry B. Gonzalez Convention Center in San Antonio.

StoneGate students visit retirement center



Elementary students from the StoneGate Christian Academy (SGCA) visited the seniors living at the Summerville at Irving retirement center on Nov. 13. The students sang, recited poetry, and read scripture verses to the residents. The residents responded with warm wishes, advice, and hugs for the children.

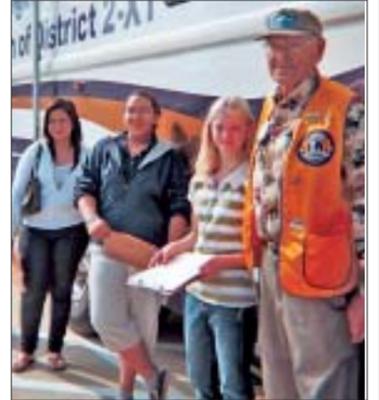
Provided by Joseph Black

Lions Club Vision Van visits Britain

Fifty Irving ISD students will receive new glasses after visiting the Lion's Club "Vision Van" at Britain Elementary School Nov. 12.

Sponsored by Irving Lion's Clubs and LensCrafters, the event was staffed by volunteers, including students from The Academy of Irving ISD and Union Bower Center for Learning (UBCL). Academy students worked in the Vision Van as translators, tested children's vision, and helped select frames for glasses. UBCL students also provided translation services and escorted students between the school building and the Vision Van.

Two additional Vision Van events are scheduled for February and May.



The Glass Door Banquets Catering by Chef Richard Co.

- *New, Clean, & Elegant
- *Audio, Plasmas, Wireless internet
- *Quinceaneras
- *Wedding Receptions
- *Corporate Events
- *Seminars
- *Holiday Parties
- *And Much More



10 to 240 guest
2 separate Rooms
of 1 Large Room

1735 N. Story rd. #172
English 972-986-9630
Spanish 972-704-8100

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