



the

Irving Rambler

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"The Newspaper That Irving Reads"

DECEMBER 09, 2004

**THIS
WEEK**



The Pied Piper performed for youngsters



ISD Combined Choir sings with Philharmonic Orchestra

14 Baylor Irving physicians named "Best Doctors" in metro area

D Magazine recently published its annual list of the "Best Doctors of Dallas", and 14 Baylor Irving-affiliated physicians made the prestigious list. The list is assembled through a confidential poll sent to 6,000 local doctors in several specialties. About 2,000 of those surveyed are general practitioners, internists, and family practice physicians – those who typically make referrals and recommendations. Participants were asked to name two physicians that they would send their own patients or loved ones to in each of 37 specialties. Ballots were also made available through the Internet to doctors not included in the initial mailing. A panel of

Baylor Irving also had 10 nurses named to the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council's 2004 list of 100 Great Nurses this year.

esteemed local physicians then reviewed the list of names submitted to determine the final published list.

Jim Thaxton, CEO of Baylor Medical Center at Irving, noted that, "each year we have more and more physicians recognized by the "Best Doctors" list, which is a credit to the quality and reputation of our medical staff."

The Irving-based physicians honored this year include: Alvin J. Aubry Jr., MD (Allergy & Immunology); Edward Clifford, MD (Surgery); Ralph J. Cox, Jr., MD (Family Practice); Neville F. Fernandes, MD (Gastroenterology); Rodney R. Fritz, MD (Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery); Peter J. Heidbrink, MD (Pulmonary Medicine); Steven M. Katzman, MD (Gastroenterology); Sina Matin, MD (Surgery); Joseph L. Milburn, Jr., MD (Endocrinology); Peter J. Rappa, MD (Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation); Allen W. Rubin, MD, FACP (Gastroenterology); Steven B. Sanders, MD (Orthopedic Surgery); Larry W. Schorn, MD (Cardiothoracic and Vascular Surgery); and Gary R. Tylock, MD (LASIK Eye Surgery).

In addition to this honor, Drs. Rodney Fritz and Larry Schorn, both highly-accomplished cardiothoracic and vascular surgeons at Baylor Medical Center at Irving, received top accolades from *Texas Monthly*, named as "Texas Super Doctors," in its December 2004 issue.

Baylor Irving also had 10 nurses named to the Dallas-Fort Worth Hospital Council's 2004 list of 100 Great Nurses this year.

To read more information these physicians and others or learn more about Baylor Irving, please visit www.baylorhealth.com. Contact the Irving Healthcare Foundation to schedule a tour of the Hospital at (972) 579-4390.

Christmas Parade

Irving celebrates the holidays with parade and tree lighting

People lined downtown Irving to watch the Downtown Association's annual Christmas parade.

Over 50 entries made up this year's parade including the Nimitz High School marching band, the DFW New Beetle Club, Red Hat Society and the Irving Fire and Police Museum. A bright sunny day and cool but

not cold weather encouraged people to be a part of this year's holiday festivities.

Following the parade, festivities continued in Heritage Park where

See Holiday Extravaganza, Page 8







From beauty queens and celebrities to bands the annual Christmas parade had a little bit of something for everyone. Nice weather encouraged a large number of people to attend the parade. Photos include a young beauty queen, Santa Claus, Ms. Mature Irving 2004, Lauretta Jensen; and the Nimitz High School marching band.

Irving Film students featured in public access program

Irving residents Maggie Truitt, 18, and 15-year old triplets Christine, Kathryn, and SuzAnne Slaughter, will be featured in a local television program, *Aspiring Young Filmmakers*. The show follows a group of young actors and filmmakers through a series of short productions from start to finish. In all, eight teenagers, students at the Young Actors Studio & Performance Center, are the subject of the 30-minute program chronicling in their journey to become Hollywood's future filmmakers.

Students began by holding creative meetings to discuss important topics relevant to their age bracket. These topics evolved into seven short stories, and in a collaborative effort, the stories were translated into production scripts. Budgeting, casting, wardrobe fitting, location scouting, and storyboarding were included in the pre-production process. Crew positions were rotated from production to production, giving the filmmakers experience as boom operators, lighting technicians, hair/makeup

artists, set photographers, prop masters, script supervisors, and assistant directors.

The cast was comprised of ten actors, also students, and five members of the production team. All productions were shot on location in and around the Dallas area. *Texas Country Reporter* followed the *Aspiring* crew and will air a story about Young Actors Studio on Saturday, December 11th at 9:00 AM. *Aspiring Young Filmmakers* is scheduled to air on Irving Public Access (Channel 78) at 12:00 p.m. Dec 18.

POLICE BRIEFS

Intoxication Manslaughter: 12-1-04, 9:40 p.m. The defendant was s/b on Story Rd., driving a 2002 Chevy Camaro, at an estimated speed of 70-80 mph with her 4 year old daughter in the back seat. The defendant ran the red light that controls the exit from Plymouth Park Shopping Center and struck the drivers side door of a 1992 Nissan Sentra, exiting the shopping center. The driver was transported to Irving Baylor Hospital where he was pronounced dead at 10:09 pm. Officers responding to the scene and determined that the defendant was intoxicated and transported her to Parkland for a blood test. The defendant's daughter suffered a cut on her chin and was transported to Children's Hospital where she was treated. Invs. The defendant was arrested and will be charged with Intoxication Manslaughter.

Pursuit: 12-2-04, 12:10 a.m. An officer initiated a traffic stop on a 1999 Ford Expedition on Darr St. south of Grauwlyer. The vehicle attempted to evade the officer driving east on Grauwlyer, north on Loop 12 into Dallas, east and then north on Lombardy, east on Brockbank. The driver lost control of the vehicle hitting a utility pole at Timberline and Norwalk. Both the driver and passenger were taken into custody. The driver was transported to PMH with a possible broken leg and will be charged with Evading Arrest, Weapon Possession by a Felon (9mm semi-auto pistol, .22 cal revolver) and Poss. Methamphetamine U/1 gram. The passenger was wanted on multiple traffic warrants.

Aggravated Robbery: 12-2-04, 10:24 a.m. Complainant was sitting in his vehicle in complex parking lot. Two adult male suspects approached. One had a handgun and demanded his money. The suspects took \$24.00, threw complainant's keys in the bushes and left.

Poss. Marijuana/Arrest: 12-02-04, 1:28 p.m. On 12-01-04 several of our officers responded to neighborhood complaints of possible drug dealers working out of house at location. On 12-02-04, Officers were driving by when they noticed a man hiding something under the seat of a car parked in front of the location. Investigation by Officers resulted in the arrest of the subject for Possession of Marijuana. Seized from the subject arrested was 8.7 gr. marijuana and \$2,580.00 cash.

Aggravated Assault: 12-3-04, 12:13 a.m. The complainant and the suspect live together in a boyfriend/girlfriend relationship. They got into an argument and the suspect stabbed the complainant with a kitchen knife causing a small laceration to his right arm. The complainant refused medical treatment at the scene, and the suspect in the case was not located.

Aggravated Robbery Suspects/ DPD offenses: On 12-3-04 at 9 a.m. a Sergeant was checking hotels for a suspect vehicle, listed on the briefing board, as having been involved in 11 Aggravated Robberies of convenience stores along Northwest Highway. The vehicle was described as a maroon Ford Focus with Florida license plates. The suspects, a W/M bald, and a B/M bald, are responsible for a series of robberies with a chrome .45 auto. The Sergeant located the vehicle at 110 W. Airport Freeway on the West side of the Skyway Inn. He immediately set up units to observe and called Investigators from CID. Investigators called DPD and they sent 5 unmarked units within 20 minutes to take over surveillance on the vehicle. Approx. 12:30 PM a suspect entered the vehicle and was arrested by DPD at Shoaf and Britain in a takedown. He fits the description of the W/M actor in the robberies. Dallas P.D. is investigating and handled the arrest.

Sexual Assault: 12-3-04, 8:48 a.m. an officer was sent to the 4500 blk of N. O'Connor on a sexual assault that had occurred the previous night. There she contacted a 19-year-old female

that advised that some friends had sexually assaulted her after a night of drinking and smoking marijuana. The offense happened in an apartment of a friend in the 4500 blk of N. O'Connor. The victim's boyfriend is listed as a witness and the victim and her boyfriend know all the suspects. The case has been turned over to CID.

Criminal Mischiefs: 12-03/04-04, Between the hours of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. thirty five vehicles had their windows shot out with an air gun. The offenses took place at apartment complexes in the Belt Line/Northgate area. There are no leads or suspects in the offenses. **** If you know of anyone that was out and about during this time that has a BB gun and lives or frequents that area and you suspect them in this incident, please call CID at 972-721-2535.****

Squad Car Accident: 12-03-04 11:07 p.m. an Officer was driving vehicle 650 west bound on the North service road of S.H. 161. He had a green light and proceeded through the intersection at S.H. 161 at Las Colinas Blvd. A vehicle ran the red light at the intersection and struck the police vehicle causing significant damage to both vehicles. The Officer went to L.C.M.C. to have his shoulder examined. He was treated and released to full duty on 12-06-04. The driver of the vehicle that struck the police vehicle was arrested for DWI. He consented to a breath test at the jail.

Aggravated Robbery: 12-4-04, 3:15 a.m. Shell station parking lot - 1215 S. Loop 12. Comp. was in his truck (01 Ford 150) at the gas pumps. Adult male suspect walked out of the gas station - up to the window of Comp.'s truck - pointed a handgun at Comp. and demanded he get out. Comp. got out - Suspect got in and drove away. Susp. is on video at the station.

Aggravated Robbery: 12-04-04, 8:23 p.m. Two black males entered the Mr. Jim's Pizza at 3010 N. Belt Line Rd. and robbed an employee at gunpoint. The males stole cash and left the location in an unknown direction. The suspects were not located.

Robbery: 12-04-04, 9:30 p.m., a 43 year old male was in the parking lot at 307 S. Britain waiting on someone. A male who asked him for a dollar approached him. When he stated he did not have one another male hit him from behind. Four males eventually assaulted him and they took \$20.00 from him, he had some cuts and bruises.

Aggravated Assault: 12-4-04, 11:35 p.m., a 39 year old male reported that he had been stabbed in the 2900 Block of Shady Grove Rd. Complainant stated he went to his down stairs neighbor's apartment, to confront him about his girlfriend being there. He stated that the male in the apartment opened the door and cut him with a steak knife before he could even speak. The male was arrested for aggravated assault, the complainant had a deep 2" long cut that will require stitches.

Sudden Death: On 12/05/04, 4:15 a.m., Officers responded to an unconscious person at 3000 block of McCarthy. IFD was already on the scene tending to the victim. The victim was an 18-year-old male who was found dead in bed by his father. The father said he had been having trouble breathing during the night and when he went to check on him later, he had stopped breathing. There was evidence of drug use found near the body. The M.E.'s office was notified and picked up the body.

Sudden Death: 12-05-04, 2:00 pm, Officers were dispatched on an unconscious person at 1200 block of Beacon Hill. The male victim was found dead in the bathroom and his wife was found unconscious but still breathing in the bedroom. Victims were found by their son who has a key to

the house and entered after not being able to reach either of them on the phone and no answer at the door. IFD brought the sniffer truck to the location and immediately identified a gas leak. The female victim was taken to Presbyterian Hospital. CID and ID were called to the scene. ***On that note if you do not have carbon monoxide detectors in your home now is the time to purchase one.****

Sudden Death: 12-06-04, 3:03 a. m., Complainant was found deceased in her bedroom at, 1900 block of Oakhurst, by her son who lives with her. The complainant was 76 years old and suffered from Alzheimer's and Dementia; there were no signs of trauma. The body was released to Chism-Smith funeral home by the Medical Examiners office.

Assault on Public Servant: 12-06-04, 3:30am, a male prisoner that had been brought to jail earlier for domestic violence assault and some traffic warrants became belligerent and was yelling and screaming inside his jail cell and began hitting the cell door with his feet and hands. Detention. Officers entered the cell to restrain the prisoner. He did not comply with their verbal commands and began fighting them by hitting and kicking. During the fight, one detention officer was struck in the forehead causing a small laceration and the other was struck on the left wrist causing visible swelling. The Jail Supervisor tasered the prisoner and quickly gained control.

Pursuit: 12-6-04, 8:57 p.m.. Officers attempted to stop the defendant for a traffic violation E/B Shady Grove at Senter. The defendant refused to stop and turned north on Delaware, E/B on Chamberlain, N/B on Britain, E/B on 6th and N/B on Clark. The defendant stopped at his residence and stated he thought he had a warrant. No warrants were found. Defendant as arrested for Evading.

Sudden Death: 12-6-04. Officers were dispatched to a major accident at Rochelle and Cantrell. The complainant was traveling west bound on Rochelle and lost control and hit a parked vehicle at 3501 W. Rochelle. Officers determined the complainant had a heart attack and died before he had the accident.

Aggravated Assault: 12-6-04, 6:59 p.m., The defendant came to the complainant's home and demanded payment for money that was owed him. The complainant told the defendant he would pay him tomorrow. The defendant became upset

but left the residence. The complainant and a friend got into the complainant's vehicle and as the vehicle was driving in the 1500 block of Rustic, the defendant intentionally drove his vehicle into the path of the complainant, striking the LP of the defendant's vehicle to the RF of the complainant's vehicle. The passenger in the complainant's vehicle was injured and transported to the hospital by IFD. The defendant was arrested and a loaded .38 caliber revolver was found in his vehicle. The defendant was charged with Aggravated Assault and UCW.

Evading Arrest: 12-6-04, 8:00 a.m.. An officer took a BMV report at 1200 block of N., Irving Heights in which the complainant had a gun and cell phone taken from his car. On 12-07-04 the complainant received a call from the suspect saying that he was willing to sell the complainant back his cell phone. The comp agreed to meet the suspect at the 7-11 at Esters and SH183. The comp called the police to meet him at the Starplex Theatre in reference to a BMV follow up. Officers met with the comp. The comp then went to the 7-11 and met the suspect and began talking. Officers surrounded the suspect and were placing him under arrest, when he broke and ran. He was caught running through an apartment complex at 4200 W. Pioneer. He was charged with BMV, Evading, and Poss. Of Cocaine.

Officer Injury: 12-7-04, 8:45 a.m., An officer was assisting another officer with searching a female suspect at SSR 183 and O'Connor. During the search of the defendant's purse, a used syringe punctured the assisting officer right hand. The defendant stated that she had used the syringe on three occasions. The defendant was arrested for possession of Heroin U/4oz. The assisting officer went to Baylor Irving for treatment. The defendant agreed to voluntarily give a blood sample and she also went to Baylor Irving. The assisting officer was treated, released and will contact North Texas Infectious Disease Control for follow up treatment.

Fatality Accident: 12-08-04, 2:46 a.m., A 1998 Honda 2dr was traveling E/B in the W/B lanes in the 4000 block of W. Airport Fwy. The Honda collided head on with a tanker truck that was W/B at this location. The driver was the only occupant of the Honda and she was pronounced dead at the scene. The driver of the tanker truck was not injured. The W/B lanes of Airport Fwy were shut down for several hours. The M. E., PIO, and I.D. also responded to the scene.

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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.

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PALM FREELANCE PHOTOGRAPHY

CONTACT FOR YOUR NEXT EVENT

Pam Tolliver

469-855-8076



Serving churches participate in Thanksgiving outreach

By Leann Callaway

For more than a decade, Oak View Baptist Church in Irving has been participating in a Thanksgiving outreach, called *Serving Irving*.

Other congregations including Willowbend Baptist Church in Plano and Irving Baptist Fellowship helped with this year's effort, which donated more than 2,000 traditional Thanksgiving meals to 17 apartment complexes throughout the city. The meals consisted of turkey, mashed potatoes, gravy, stuffing, cranberry sauce, green beans, fruit salad, and a slice of pie.

This year's outreach was coordinated by Dr. Jim Gerlach, Oak View's assistant pastor, and Sergio Matassa, Oak View's minister of missions.

"*Serving Irving* is a great way to meet people in the community and show them we care," Dr. Gerlach said.

Six teams of volunteers were assembled to help with this project. The "Promotion Team," delivered door-knocker flyers in the area around each serving site to let people know of the event. The "Pie Baking Team," baked more than 100 pies of assorted flavors. The "Packaging Team," gathered the supplies that were used at each serving location. The "Cooking Team," began food preparation on Wednesday evening and finished Thursday morning. The "Serving Team," consisted of 150 volunteers who served food. The "Setup Team," loaded and distributed tables and chairs to the various sites.

"*Serving Irving* is very helpful to many people out there that have a need, and we can show them that our church cares," volunteer Barry Newman said. "It's also a great opportunity for young people in our church to understand how to serve and reach out to the community."

Nick Kendall, a student at Texas A&M University, home for the holidays volunteered his time to *Serving Irving*.

"It is an honor to serve my church and community," Mr. Kendall said.

All ages volunteer to help with *Serving Irving*, and many make it a tradition. For several years, David and Becky Staley have been the "chefs" for this service project, and it has taught their daughters Emily and Allison valuable lessons about helping others.

"I like helping people," six-year-old Emily said. "Not everyone has a family, and we get to help them."

"I think some people need a little extra help during the holidays," eight-year-old Allison said.

Along with providing Thanksgiving meals, this ministry also provides food for the soul. Volunteers passed out gospel tracts and had opportunities to tell others about Jesus Christ.

"By helping with *Serving Irving*, we get to show Christ's love to others," volunteer Lynn Andrews said. "I'm thankful that our church serves the community in this way, and I think it shows that our church members have a servant's heart. Everyone was pitching in and giving of themselves."

SCHOOL BRIEFS

69 Named AP Scholars

Sixty-nine IISD students and graduates have been named AP Scholars by the College Board in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement Program exams. Students from the classes of 2004 and 2005 earned one of four distinctions as AP Scholars.

One student in the district, Nimitz' Kimberly Noneman, qualified for the National AP Scholar Award.

From Irving High School, nine students were named AP Scholar. They are Rene Argueta, Poonam Dubal, Sarahi Lopez, Angela Minimah, Caitlyn Phillips, Lillian Pitcher, Baron Smith, Louis Standridge and Kyle Weatherford. One student, Janell Kahl, was named AP Scholar with Honor. And one student, Amy Yu, was named AP Scholar with Distinction.

Twenty MacArthur High School students were named AP Scholars. They are Samantha Bartlow, Phillip Fite, Adrienne Gedeon, Nancy George, Seana Hall, Quang-Minh Hoang, Dagan Lavee, Tiffany McAlister, Shayna Montgomery, Keith Rafferty, Michael Ragsdale, Wayne Rowe, Joanna-Ruth Rutledge, Paul Sanborn, Lushia Taylor, Amrita Tharappel, Aimy Tran, Aisha U-Kiu, Elizabeth Woolverton and Francisca Zavala. One MacArthur student, Dennis

Wilke, was named AP Scholar with Honor, and Vo Deep was named AP Scholar with Distinction.

From Nimitz High School, 22 were named AP Scholars. They are Arturo Aguero, Andrea Canafax, Scott Canto, Helena Cohen, Sonya Crocker, Eric David, Kalena Davis, Jared Eggers, Annelise Garner, Sherri Harrington, Sneha Idiculla, Sarah Israel, George Jacob, Kevin Kirkman, Emily Maletic, Raul Mireles, Katherine Owens, Stephanie Rhoades, David Solis, Jimmy Tran, Aaron Vera and Hope Zimlich. Eight from Nimitz were named AP Scholars with Honor. They are Randi Chance, Kaitlin Harvey, Jamie Helton, James Janscha, Amber Louviere, Penny Morris, Rachael Ratz and Jeanie Shery. And six were named AP Scholars with Distinction: Paige Campbell, Aaron Christenberry, Julie Curry, Kimberly Noneman, Amanda Revier and Victoria Todd.

Grusendorf Visits IISD

State Representative Kent Grusendorf toured two IISD schools and spoke with staff about technology in modern schools and the state's school funding system Monday. Grusendorf is chairman of the House Public Education Committee and the Public School Finance Select Committee. At The Academy of Irving ISD, he spoke with Superintendent

Jack Singley, Executive Director of Technology Dr. Alice Owen, principal Robbin Wall, and others. He also toured de Zavala Middle School.

The visit was intended to give Grusendorf a closer look at a successful instructional technology program, and to serve as a fact-finding trip in preparation for his work with his committees. The House Public Education Committee meets today to hear more testimony from educators about technology in education.

Holiday Happenings

Here are some of the holiday celebrations, service projects, and other events going on at IISD schools this season.

Lively Elementary School nurse Phoenicia Eliert organized a diabetes walk in which 105 students raised \$1,577 for the Diabetes Association.

Brandenburg Elementary School students raised \$572.43 for the Irving Family Advocacy Center.

The National Honor Society at Nimitz High School conducted a blood drive for Carter Blood Care in which 125 pints of blood were collected.

Travis Middle School is holding its annual holiday fund drive, collecting donations for Irving Cares. The Las Colinas Rotary Club assists the school with this event.

Keyes Elementary School will host a Polar Express Pajama Day with guest readers Friday.

Holiday Closing Schedule

Irving ISD schools will be closed from December 20 to 31 in observation of the winter holidays. The IISD Administration Building will be open from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. with limited staffing on December 20, 23, 27 and 30.

Irving ISD security will be on duty throughout the break. In case of any emergency during this time, please contact the Security Department at 972-261-5134.

Junior Achievement Board Does Business at Austin

The Executive Board of Junior Achievement of Dallas met at Austin Middle

School this week. The school was asked to host the meeting because of Principal Cynthia Bean's support of the program.

Some Austin students who are involved in Junior Achievement also attended, mingling with executives from EDS, ExxonMobil, Allstate, J.C. Penney, SBC, CitiGroup, Deloitte & Touche, Cingular, Ernst & Young, and Frito Lay.

Bean was asked to host the meeting after she spoke at a Plano country club last summer about the importance of Junior Achievement for minority and low-income students.

Grants Galore

The Irving ISD Grants Department announced two successful grants from the State of Texas last week and another came on behalf of the HIPPY Program.

Community Connections, a coalition formed by Austin Middle School, Houston Middle School, Brandenburg Elementary School and Townsell Elementary School has been awarded a 21st Century Community Learning Centers grant. The three-year grant provides \$700,000 per year for after school programs at each school with the potential for continuing for two additional years.

Nimitz High School has been awarded \$150,000 under the Comprehensive School Reform - Texas High School Initiative. The funding will support educational strategies that target struggling students.

The HIPPY Program (Home Instruction for Parents of Preschool Youngsters) received \$11,000 from Allstate. That grant will be used to serve 25 families with training in English, computer literacy, financial management, interview and resume-writing skills, and public speaking.

Academy Students Attend Engineering Conference

Seventeen students from The Academy of Irving ISD attended the National Society of Black Engineers conference in Houston November 19-21. Students took part in workshops on subjects from career choice to rocketry. Four students, Mehedi Islam, Jeff Okeke, John Torres, and Michael Preston, placed second in a mathematics contest at the convention.

MacArthur High School

Jazz Singers

A Cappella

Choir



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VINE RIPE TOMATOES



Irving Arts Center invites the public to celebrate the holidays

The Irving Arts Center began its free annual holiday celebrations including a Greeting Card Workshop, children's play and visits with Santa on Dec. 4.



ICT Children's Theatre and Kids Arts perform *The Pied Piper*, a 30-minute, interactive play designed to entertain young audiences.

Members of the Irving Art Association hosted a Holiday Greeting Card Workshop as part of the Irving Arts Center's holiday celebration. Youngsters could color stamped

holiday cards, draw their own holiday card creations and create a spin-art cards. Irving Art Association members offered face painting, applied washable tattoos and created personalized greeting cards with a drawing of individual children whispering to Santa.

As part of the day's activities, ICT Children's Theatre and Kids Arts performed *The Pied Piper*, a 30-minute, interactive play

designed for young audiences.

In the Main Gallery, Santa Claus spoke with children and posed for pictures.

The Greeting Card Workshop and visits with Santa will also be available free to the public on Dec. 11 and 18 from 2 to 4 p.m. ICT Children's Theatre and Kids Arts will perform a 30-minute version of *The Wizard of Oz* on Dec. 11.

For more information about the holiday celebrations and related activities call Irving Arts Center at 972/252-7558 or visit the website at

www.irvingartscenter.com.

Pearce and Katie Wallach make sure Santa knows everything they want for Christmas.



Chamber of Commerce

2005 State of the City Address Celebrates the Spirit of Irving in elegant style!

Irving – Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce will host the 24th State of the City Address at the Dallas Marriott – Las Colinas. The address, sponsored by Verizon, will feature City of Irving Mayor Joe Putnam. Mayor Putnam will reflect on 2004 with information on the direction of Irving for 2005.

The 2005 State of the City Address will Celebrate the Spirit of Irving in elegant style! In keeping with Irving's progression and technology, many new updates have been added to this year's program including performances by Tony Marruchella, Kathy Whiteman and the Irving Symphony.

Attendees will also note a new level of technology assisting the program including a special overview of Verizon, Irving highlights and interviews with local residents of all ages. This event will prove to be an evening of information and direction for the city of Irving, as well as, an outstanding look at what the business community has to offer.

The 2005 Address will host a patriotic theme to celebrate the spirit of America; our hero's fighting for freedom, but more specifically our home, Irving! Tickets and sponsorships are on sale now. If you are interested in participating in this exciting

event please contact the Chamber at 972-252-8484. You will be blown away at this amazing opportunity to visit with the local businesses, celebrate your country and learn about your community.

With so much continual focus on the war, a presidential inauguration year and the impact that businesses are experiencing economically, the Chamber is encouraging the entire community to attend. Additional information about this event (or others) can be obtained by visiting the Chamber website at www.irvingchamber.com or call 972-252-8484. Make plans now to attend!

Calendar of Events

Greater Dallas CityScapes Book to be Published

Reservations are now being accepted from Irving-Las Colinas businesses and organizations wishing to participate in the Greater Dallas photo-journal. This book, highlighting the Irving and Dallas area, is part of the acclaimed CityScapes series. The high quality "coffee table" type book will feature narrative author Ray Nasher as well as profiles of Irving businesses and work by local photographers. Irving-Las Colinas Chamber members will first be given the opportunity to participate. Tamera Nielsen with *Greater Dallas Visions* will be contacting you to determine your interest.

If you would like to contact Tamera directly to find out more information, she can be reached at (214) 315-0596 or artisan99@cablespeed.com.

Holiday After Hour's Business MIXER

Tuesday, December 14, 2004 / 5 – 6:30 pm Sponsored by: The Dallas Morning News Location: Irving Arts Center, Carpenter Hall / 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd

You will be able to create invaluable relationships and make your business work for you! Plan to attend and bring 100-150 business cards for networking and prize

drawings. The Chamber's Business Mixer is for Members ONLY and FREE to attend. Please RSVP, no later than Monday, December 13th, 972-252-8484.

Women's Group Networking Luncheon

Wednesday, December 15, 2004 / 11:30 am – 1 pm La Cima Club, 5215 N. O'Connor Rd., Flr.26

Just as last year, this December we will celebrate the holiday season with a special networking activity. Each attendee will be placed in a group to create a holiday wreath with items donated by various Chamber members. These types of activities always bring forth fun, networking and relationship building. Join us in December for one the most fun lunches you will ever attend.

Call today and make plans to attend. Luncheon cost is \$13 in advance or \$18 at the door, you won't want to miss out on this opportunity to lunch and learn! Contact the Chamber to reserve your seat at any of the upcoming luncheons 972-252-8484.

Ribbon Cuttings, Ground Breakings and Special Invites Comcast Anniversary Celebration: Thursday, December 16th – 11:30 am / 3301 W. Royal Lane, Irving

Legislative Send-Off Breakfast

The Greater Irving Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce will hold its 2005 Legislative Send-Off Breakfast on Thursday, January 6, 2005, 7:30am – 9:00am at the Embassy Suites in Irving (4650 W. Airport Frwy.). The Chamber extends an invitation to anyone interested in local issues, to join the members of the Irving Delegation and extend best wishes for the 79th Legislative Session.

This forum provides an excellent opportunity for representatives to meet and

discuss priorities for the upcoming session, as well as, meet local citizens. Local issues covered at this event include, but not limited to: schools & education; city & community needs; healthcare; transportation and environmental topics.

Please call 972-252-8484 to purchase your ticket to attend. Ticket prices are \$25 per person in advance and \$30 per person at the door. Be heard, your opinion matters!

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IRVING MALL

WHERE TO SHOP FOR THE HOLIDAYS

Police department offers tips on shopping safely

Sergeant Stephan Granberry

This is the time of year when we are preoccupied with shopping for our loved ones and we get careless with our personal safety while shopping. Here are some tips to get you through the last of the season safely.

When you arrive at the shopping center or mall you may be thinking about which stores you want to shop at and may park closest to that store or entrance. Here are some other things to consider.

Place any packages you may already have in the trunk so they are not visible when you first pull up at your destination.

Keep your doors locked and windows up while driving.

Never leave your car unattended with the keys in the ignition and running, even if your returning a basket or loading the trunk. A thief can jump in and steal your car much quicker than you can react.

When picking a space to park, look at the surroundings, including pedestrians and vehicles that are running with occupants who appear to be checking you out. You might consider parking at an adjacent store or entrance if that space is closer to the entrance or more visible to the entrance. Look at the lighting; will it be dark when you return to your car? If so, consider the lighting where you are parking.

Many malls or shopping centers offer rides to your vehicle or will offer escorts to your vehicle. Take advantage of these escorts; try not to walk around parking lots alone.

If you are walking in the parking lot use caution whenever a vehicle or pedestrian approaches you. Do not get too close, but you do want to watch them. If someone in a vehicle approaches you and tries to ask you a question (directions etc) and they mumble or talk quietly, do not approach them. They may be baiting you to get closer so they can grab a purse or expose themselves to you.

If you make some purchases and need to carry them to the car, place them in the trunk. Do not leave valuables in plain view! Also consider getting in your car and moving it so that if anyone is watching you, they may think you are leaving.

Do not carry large sums of cash, try to use credit or checks. If you must carry cash do not flash it around, and consider splitting your cash up so you only have to reveal a small portion each time you must make a purchase. Keep a portion in your wallet and some in your pants pocket etc. Be

aware of who is around you when you use an ATM machine also. Protect your PIN and again don't count your cash right there in plain view of whoever might be watching.

Keep your purses on your person and zipped, not in the basket etc.

Beware of con artists, if something seems too good to be true it probably is. Also be aware of the con artist posing as a store employee. This con artist will approach you and ask if you are paying with cash. If so, he will offer to take the

item and your cash to a register. Once he has your money he will walk to a register, drop off your item and run off with your cash.

The bottom line is Trust your instincts! If a situation or place makes you uncomfortable or uneasy, then leave. Also call 911 and have the police come out to check it out.

I hope each of you have a safe holiday!

Irving Mall supports blood drive



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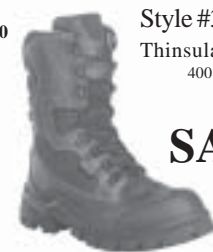
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WOLF Camera

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City presents Holiday Extravaganza *Songs of the Season*

Continued from page 1



Extravaganza emcee, Selinza Mitchell, is dressed for the occasion.

Apple cider, a kids' Christmas tree craft project and petting zoo were also available to the public free of charge.

awards for winning parade entries were announced. Santa and Mrs. Clause visited with numerous youngsters (and a few oldsters) in the park during the post-parade activities.

After the parade activities, the city of Irving presented its Holiday Extravaganza *Songs of the Season* a musical revue. Hundreds of people filled the park areas between city hall and the central library to participate in the tree lighting ceremony.

Local schools and churches joined the city celebration of the holiday season with a variety of dances and songs. Santa led the tree lighting countdown, which was immediately followed by a winter fire-works display.

Carnival games, bingo, free hot chocolate and adoptable animals from the Irving Animal Shelter were also a part of the evening's activity. Crafts, balloon art, face painting, letter writing to Santa and Santa visits took place in the Central Library Auditorium.



Holiday fireworks light in front of the city's Christmas tree.



Local dance students performed selections from *The Nutcracker Suite*.

Irving Senior Arts Program offers seniors entertainment and friendship

Approximately 200 members of the Irving Senior Arts Program attended its ninth annual Christmas party in the Sterling Hotel on Dec. 6.

The black-tie affair featured dinner, gift bags, door prizes, a twenty-piece orchestra, music by Doc Gibbs and a very special appearance by Santa Claus, a well-known senior art enthusiast.

Kitty Baker, director of the Irving Senior Arts Program, organized and hosted the Christmas party.

"We have at present 390 members in this program, all seniors, all who are very active," Ms. Baker said. "We attend different theaters. We see musicals, comedies, ballets and concerts. Recently, 120 of our members went to see Cirque de Soleil. What we need

to improve our group is drivers; people who can drive others to events because we do a lot of carpooling."

"When Ms. Kitty throws a party, it's wonderful," partygoer, Harriett Marcus said.

The Irving Senior Arts Program is planning a 12-day, 11-night Panama Canal cruise from March 10 to March 21, 2005. Senior Arts members will carpool or drive to Galveston to board the Celebrity Cruise Line ship "Galaxy", making its debut in Galveston. If you have never traveled to the Panama Canal, this is an engineering miracle that you won't want to miss.

Cozumel and Costa Maya both in Mexico; Puerto Limon, Costa Rica, Georgetown in the Cayman Islands, and of course the Panama Canal are all part of the

travel itinerary. The senior group rate is as low as \$930.50 per person, including government taxes and port charges. Rates apply as long as there is one person in the cabin 55 years or older.

If you are a senior interested in the arts and you enjoy going out with others or if you are interested in joining the cruise, call 972-254-9389 for more information about the Irving Senior Arts Program.



Elvira and Allen Bradley, Kitty Baker, Ed and Nita Miller, Josephine Bonfiglio, Judy Edge, Walter Idol, and Irv and Harriett Marcus enjoy the Irving Senior Arts Program's Christmas party.

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Margaret's Corner

Hi Irving,

Have you ever been so busy that you wonder whether you're coming or going? At one time, I had four daughters in four different schools, involved in four PTAs, elections, etc. I recently found a note I wrote, I just had to laugh and I am glad I can take my time with things now. The note said, "I have gone to meet myself. If I return before I get back, please keep me here because it is important that I see myself when I get back, before I get confused. Thank you." Oh my goodness. It is a wonder that I made time for prayer. Christmas time is a time to enjoy every part of it, but most important each other. Don't get so rushed that you feel like writing this yourself.

This is the 26th annual "Blue Christmas Drive". Wow, a long time, it is wonderful. The Irving Police and Fire departments need our help to make Christmas a little brighter for a lot of families less fortunate. They need unwrapped toys, gifts and/or money. You may drop them off at any Irving Fire Station, Police Department or at the Heritage Center (downtown Irving). On Dec. 20th police and firefighters will begin delivering them to children and their families.

The "Blue Christmas Drive" has always been a big success. This well organized program deserves our community support. Officer Gary Brockett says our donations can help

kids realize that kindness, love, hope and happiness continue to exist in our community. You may call him for more information at 972-721-2544. You will be blessed when you bless others.

I wish people that celebrate Christmas would not cross out Christ in Christmas. I've heard all kinds of reasons why some people write Xmas, so sad. I wonder if they realize what they are doing? Also have you heard people say Happy Holidays to you? I wish they would say Merry Christmas or Blessed Christmas.

A friend of mine took me to see "The Polar Express" movie; it was very good. I like the fun of Santa Claus, but I must tell you, I watched that movie with the focus on Jesus and that made it really meaningful. Christmas is Jesus birthday. I can truly say all I want for Christmas is all my family together, healthy and happy. Not to leave out our church family, our services are a great blessing.

Attend Church Sunday
God Bless You!

Margaret Lopez is an independent writer for the Irving Rambler. An Irving resident for more than 12 years, she and her husband have been married for more than 37 years and have four daughters and four grandsons

Irving ISD Combined Choir accompanies the New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving

Approximately 120 high school students comprising the Irving ISD Combined Choir performed in concert with the New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving. The students sang *Gloria* by John Rutter and the *Many Moods of Christmas* by Robert Shaw with the orchestra. Each high school choir also had the opportunity to present selections as an individual choir.



Nimitz High School's Madrigal Singers perform with the Philharmonic Orchestra.

"This performance is one of the highlights of the year," Karen Thomas, Irving High School choir director, said. "Not all students have the opportunity to sing with an orchestra, much less a professional ensemble like this one. So for these children to get to come together and sing a masterwork, which the Rutter is, with the orchestra is a real delight. It is a privilege for us. We are indebted to the New Philharmonic Orchestra of Irving for making this a possibility for us."



Irving High School's Singer Co. sings a nontraditional version of "Oh, Christmas Tree".

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Movie Review

Ocean's Twelve

Jess Paniszczyn

Rated: PG-13

Staring: George Clooney, Brad Pitt, Matt Damon, Don Cheadle, Bernie Mac, Scott Cain, Casey Affleck, Carl Reiner, Elliott Gould, Eddie Jemison, Shaobo Qin, Catherine Zeta-Jones, Julia Roberts

If you could quantify cool, wrap it up in a neat package and sell it, *Ocean's Twelve* would be that package. Filled with beautiful people, witty dialogue and European capitals *Ocean's Twelve* is an adult version of candy, full of sweetness but with very little substance.

Three years prior to the beginning of *Ocean's Twelve*, Danny Ocean (George Clooney), Rusty Ryan (Brad Pitt), Linus Caldwell (Matt Damon), Basher Tarr (Don Cheadle), Frank Catton (Bernie Mac), Turk Malloy (Scott Cain), Virgil Malloy (Casey Affleck), Saul Bloom (Carl Reiner), Reuben Tishkoff (Elliott Gould), Livingston Dell (Eddie Jemison), and Yen (Shaobo Qin) executed one of the most complicated and lucrative robberies in history taking \$160

million from casino executive Terry Benedict (Andy Garcia). Now Benedict has tracked down the thieves and demands they return the money plus interest in two weeks or else be executed themselves.

The plot of *Ocean's Twelve* is so murky it makes the waters of the Trinity River look like the crystal blue waters of the Caribbean by comparison. If you look too closely, you will discover that by the time all of the subplots and double-crosses are explained that there is no reason for the second half of the film to exist. Much of the story seems to be written for the sole purpose of showing off the actors' best qualities. But then again, if the story had ended at a logical point, the film would be missing some of its best footage.

Ocean's Twelve is fun and often funny. With twelve principle roles, there is bound to be a least one actor everyone would enjoy watching in this film. Don't look too closely, don't analyze too much, and you will find that *Ocean's Twelve* is a great way to spend part of an afternoon.

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RELIGION

Salvation offers the promise of reversing the curse of sin

Dr. Jim Gerlach
Oak View Baptist Church

Baseball fans are still talking about what is being called the greatest comeback in sport's history. In the American League Championship series, the Boston Red Sox found themselves down three games to none and only three outs from elimination. Not only did they manage to win that game against the New York Yankees, but they proceeded to win the next three to snatch the American league title. Their streak extended to eight games as they won the next four contests against the St. Louis Cardinals to sweep the World Series.

Some say the Red Sox wins delivered more than a World Championship – they say

it ended the ominous 84 year-old "Bambino Curse." The Red Sox last won the World Series in 1918. But two years later they traded their star player to the New York Yankees where he went on to hit most of his 714 career home runs. Since that trade, the Red Sox have compiled one of the most infamous stories of defeat, near misses, and collapses in the history of sports. Now the faithful say the curse has finally been laid to rest.

The Bible identifies a real curse that causes indescribable suffering for all mankind. It tells us that through Adam's choice, the curse of sin entered the world. From that time, all of us have suffered under its' effects. Sickness, disease, greed, hate and death can be traced to the sin of Adam. But God's Word reveals a way to "reverse the

curse." *For Christ died for sins once for all, the righteous for the unrighteous, to bring you to God.* I Peter 3:18 While there is nothing

you can do to end this blight, you can reverse the curse by accepting Christ's free gift of salvation.

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OBITUARIES

BOBBYE SANFORD



Bobbye Sanford, devoted wife and mother, a forty-two year resident of Irving, Texas passed away on November 30, 2004.

She was born in Taylor, Texas on November 3, 1925 and attended grade schools and high schools in San Antonio, Texas. She attended college in San Antonio at Trinity University. She was the wife of Robert Sanford, a prominent oil exploration geologist. She was active in University social clubs and was made class valedictorian. As a young woman, she moved to New York and became a fashion model where she modeled clothing and hats. She also worked as a secretary at the Rockefeller Center. She was socially active and met the likes of Howard Hughes and Michael Rene.

It was in San Antonio where she met her husband, Sandy. Sandy was a geologist working overseas in Peru and home on leave. They renewed their Air Corps relationship of 1944-45 and were married on January 30, 1948. Both returned to Peru to live. A son, Randolph, was born in Talara, Peru in 1949. Bobbye and her husband lived for 2 years in Peru, 1948-1950, then 2 years in Saudi Arabia 1951-1952, and then 9 years in Brazil during the years of 1952-1961. A daughter, Marleen, predeceased her in 1975, born in 1952 while on stateside leave, between Saudi Arabia and Brazil. Returning to Texas in 1962, the family moved to Irving where he worked for Hunt Oil Company internationally, and she became active in community and social organizations. She was a member of the Junior Book Review, The Las Colinas Women's Association, The Public Affairs Luncheon Club, Preston West Republican Women, Dallas Geological and Geophysical Auxiliary, Pan American Round Table and The Friday Forum. She was active in political campaigns for both local and national issues.

Her husband, Sandy, traveled world wide during his working years and she once in a while accompanied him. After he retired in 1983, she and her husband traveled for recreation to Russia, China, Brazil Greece, Turkey, Peru, Japan, Indonesia, Australia, and New Zealand and nationally throughout the U.S.

She is survived by her husband, Robert M. (Sandy) Sanford; a son, Robert Randolph and his wife Janet and 3 grandchildren, Russell, Michael and Christen currently living in Irving.

ROSEMARY P. SANCHEZ



Rosemary P. Sanchez, age 51, a resident of Irving, Texas went to be with the Lord on Thursday, December 2, 2004 at Baylor Medical Center at Irving. Born August 3, 1953 in Dallas, Texas, she was a homemaker and a member at Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church in Dallas.

She was preceded in death by her parents, John and Sarah Perez. Survivors include her husband, Jerry L. Sanchez; sons, Jerry Sanchez, Jr. and wife Vanessa, Johnny Sanchez and wife Tania; and daughter, Rebecca D. Sanchez, all of Irving; four grandchildren Anthony, Sarah, Joel and Haley; six brothers, Daniel, Johnny, Richard, Abel, Pete and Paul.

RUTHUPTON

Ruth Upton, age 84, of Irving, Texas passed away on Thursday, December 2, 2004 after a lengthy illness. Funeral Services were held at First Baptist Church of Irving on Saturday, December 4th with interment at Old Kit Cemetery in Irving.

Mrs. Upton was born on October 20, 1920 in Irving to Jordan and Martha Cunningham who were among the first settlers in Irving. She was a member of First Baptist Church for 74 years and was active in her Sunday school class. Mrs. Upton married Hiram Upton on May 22, 1943 in Irving; he preceded her in death on September 30, 2002. She was a charter member of The Old Kit Cemetery Association.

Survivors include daughters, Margaret Ratliff and her husband Duane of North Richland Hills, TX, Helen Maguire and her husband John of Houston, TX; brother, Gordon Cunningham of Arthur City, TX; grandchildren, Mindy Wheeler, Laurie Taylor, Jill Maguire and Lisa Maguire; great grandchildren, Garrett and Logan Wheeler and Seth and Cole Taylor. Memorials can be made to The Old Kit Cemetery Association or The American Cancer Society.

BOBBYE C. KNIGHT

Bobbye C. Knight age 76, a lifelong resident of Irving, died December 2, 2004 at Baylor Medical Center at Irving. She was born September 9, 1928 in Chatfield, Texas. Survivors include her husband of sixty years, Robert Knight; son, Terry Dean Knight of Palmer; daughter, Carol Lynn Boyle and husband Mike of Irving; five grandchildren; three great grandchildren; brother, Robert Lee Ferguson, Jr. and wife Margie of Palmer; sister, Bea Lettieri and husband Joe of Rockwall; and numerous nieces and nephews. Service 11:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 7, 2004 at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel with Rev. Ken Parlin officiating. Burial 1:00 p.m. at Dallas-Fort Worth National Cemetery. The family will receive friends 6:00 to 8:00 Monday at the funeral home.

FRANCES MINOR



FRANCES MINOR age 98, a long-time resident of Irving, died Friday, 12/3/04 at a Hurst nursing home. Born August 6, 1906 in Dallas County, she was a homemaker and the widow of Carlton Graves Minor. Married April 5, 1924 at Tatum, TX, she was Baptist. She lived in Irving 1948-1995. Preceded in death by 2 sons and a daughter, C. W. Minor, Lester Harris Minor, and Mary Frances Berry, she is survived by sons, Earl Minor and wife, Janice of Grapevine and Archie Minor and wife, Doris Jean of Alvarado; daughter-in-law, Sally Minor of Farmer's Branch; son-in-law, Don Berry of Valley View; 13 grandchildren; 24 great grandchildren; and 16 great-great grandchildren. Funeral service 10:00 a.m. Monday, 12/6/04 at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Burial will be at Southland Memorial Park in Grand Prairie

JOEL HIDALGO CERVANTES

Joel Hidalgo Cervantes, of Irving, passed away December 3, 2004. Mr. Cervantes was born May 19, 1925 in Mexico to Carlos and Angelina Hidalgo Cervantes.

Survivors include his wife, Antonia Cervantes of Irving; son Joel Cervantes, Jr. of Irving; son Jesus Cervantes and wife Nora of Grand Prairie; son Melio Cervantes and wife Carmen of Irving; son Miguel Angel Cervantes of Irving; daughter Griselda Cervantes and husband Trinidad Rocha of Arlington; daughter Blanca Lydia Cervantes of Irving; daughter Ana Luisa Cervantes of Dallas; daughter Veronica Cervantes of Irving; sister Dora Cervantes of Mexico; sister Caroline Cervantes of San Antonio; 35 grandchildren and 10 great grandchildren.

Betsy Pierce

Betsy Pierce, of Irving, passed away Saturday December 4, 2004. Mrs. Pierce was born May 27, 1918 in New Pilgrim, Newfoundland to James and Eliza Warren Callahan. Survivors include her son, Hollis James Pierce of Irving; daughter Helen Marie Payne of Irving; seven grandchildren and five great grandchildren. Graveside services were held Dec. 6 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

TINA R. ALVARADO

Age 68, a resident of Irving for more than 30 years, died Saturday 12/4/04 at Baylor Medical Center in Irving. Born October 24, 1936 at Wharton, Texas, she lived in Lubbock, TX for 34 years where she married Ernest G. Alvarado April 7, 1958. She worked for Frito-Lay in Irving for 29 years. She was a member of Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church. Preceded in death by her parents, Vicente and Natividad Dimas Ramirez, she is survived by her husband, Ernest G. Alvarado of Irving; sons, Ernest R. Alvarado, Jr. of Irving and Ignacio R. Alvarado of Lewisville; daughter, Christine K. Alvarado of Irving; brother, Eduardo Ramirez of Lubbock; sisters, Enriqueta R. Torres of Lubbock, Matilde de la Garza, Lidia Gonzalez, and Maria Ramirez, all of Phoenix, Arizona; five grandchildren and two great grandchildren; numerous nieces and nephews. Rosary 7:00 p.m. Monday, 12/6/04 at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. Mass of Christian Burial 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, 12/7/04 at Holy Family of Nazareth Catholic Church, 2323 Cheyenne, Irving. Rev. Monsignor Jerome Duesman, Celebrant. Burial at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving. The family will receive friends at the funeral home 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. Monday.

WANDA B. ROBERTSON

Wanda B. Robertson, age 76, of Irving, Texas passed away peacefully on Monday, December 6, 2004. Funeral Services will be 2:00 p.m. Dec. 9th at The Church of Christ in Memphis, TX with interment at Lakeview Cemetery in Lakeview, TX.

Mrs. Robertson was born on June 4, 1928 to James and Florence Lowe in Lakeview, TX. She married Weldon Robertson in Ft. Worth, TX in 1952; he preceded her in death on May 2, 1994. Mrs. Robertson retired after 20 years of service from Dallas County where she was a car title clerk at the Irving Branch.

Survivors include son, Larry L. Robertson of Irving, TX; step-son, Randy G. Robertson and his wife Jeanette of Plano, TX; sister, Barbara Bownds of Irving, TX; brother, G. D. Lowe of Memphis, TX; grandchildren, Gary and Holly Robertson of Plano, TX; and many nieces and nephews.

WILSON ANTONIO ESCALANTE

Wilson Antonio Escalante born November 23, 1988 in San Salvador, El Salvador passed away December 5, 2004 in Dallas. He was a student at The Academy of Irving High School.

He is survived by parents Angel S. Escalante and Angela de Escalante of San Salvador; brothers Marlon R. Hernandez of Euleus; Angel Escalante and Alex Escalante both of El Salvador; sisters Karla M. Escalante and Rocio Escalante both of El Salvador and numerous aunts, uncles, and cousins.

Funeral services were held at 11:00 a.m. Thursday, December 9, 2004 at Iglesia De Dios Manantiales De Vida Eterna Palmas De Jerico in Irving with Pastor Ciriaco Reyes officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

PATSY RUTH CAPLEY

Patsy Ruth Capley born March 27, 1930 passed away December 6, 2004 at her home in Irving. She was a member of First Baptist Church of Irving.

Preceded in death by son James Raymond Cornell in 2001 and husband B. E. Capley in 2002; survivors include daughter Denise Glowney of Irving; one grandchild and one great-grandchild. Memorial services are Dec. 10, 2004 at First Baptist Church of Irving at 11:00 a.m. with Rev. Robert Randall officiating. Local arrangements were by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

ELVIRA CANTU

Age 101, of Irving, former long-time resident of San Antonio, died Friday at her home. Born August 17, 1903 at Elmendorf, Texas, she was a homemaker, and the widow of Robert Cantu, Sr., whom she married September 30, 1931. A resident of San Antonio for 88 years, she was recognized for volunteering over 4000 hours at Methodist Hospital, the Wesleyan Community Center, and had over 8000 volunteer hours at the Thrift Shop in San Antonio. She was an active member of El Divino Salvador United Methodist Church in San Antonio. After moving to Irving in 1992, she volunteered for the Baylor Medical Center (in Irving) for which she was honored as 1997 Dallas County Outstanding Volunteer of the Year, 1997 KRLD radio station Citizen of the Week (5/8/1997), and 1997 Texas Agricultural Extension Service Volunteer of the Year. In 1999, she received a Texas First Families certificate from the Texas State Genealogical Society as a descendant of Ascencio Rodriguez, who resided in Texas before February 19, 1846 when the Republic of Texas officially became the State of Texas. She was a member of First United Methodist Church in Irving. Preceded in death by her husband and two sons, Robert Cantu, Jr. and Hector Cantu, she is survived by a daughter, Irma Jones of San Diego, California; a son, Javier Louis Cantu of Irving; three grandchildren, Diana Cantu of Ottawa, Canada, Welton Jones of San Diego, CA and Debra Morales of San Antonio; three great-grandchildren, Welton Jones, IV, Sophia Jones, and Marissa Morales; one great-great grandchild, Federico Sanchez. A memorial service was held 10:00 a.m., Monday, 12/6/04 at the chapel of First United Methodist Church in Irving. Rev. George Strickland officiated. Another Memorial Service was held 6:30 p.m., Thursday, December 9, 2004 at El Divino Salvador United Methodist Church, 1701 West Woodlawn Avenue, San Antonio, TX 78201. Burial will be at Roselawn Resurrection Cemetery.

12 Days of Christmas

- Partridge
- Pear Tree
- Turtle
- Doves
- French
- Hens
- Calling
- Birds
- Golden
- Rings
- Geese
- Laying
- Swans
- Swimming
- Maids
- Milking
- Ladies
- Dancing
- Lords
- Leaping
- Pipers
- Piping
- Drummers
- Drumming

N Y N R M N U A D N C D H G I K L D L S I G R A T I O N R T F I W
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Stemmons foundation pledges \$100,000 annual matching funds grant for each of the next five years.

"We are raising funds to build a new shelter; named Corky's Cottage. Corky's Cottage is going to be about 10,000 square foot facility. We bought 2.2 acres adjacent to our current facility. We have done all of the architectural renderings, everything is done for the new facility; now comes the hard part, raising the \$2.4 million that we need to get it up and running." Darryn Pope, the D/FW Humane Society board president.

Every dollar you send is worth two dollars with the grant.

The DFW Humane Society

Animals Presently Residing At



Blackie

Breed: Shepherd Mix
Sex: Female
Weight: about 40 lbs
Age: 1 year
Color: Black and Tan

Reason for Surrender: Owners are moving
Comments: I'm a female mixed breed. I'm close to a year old so I'm full grown. I enjoy walks and games, and I'm very affectionate. I love kids, I get along with other dogs, and I've had some houstraining.



Sherry

Breed: Domestic Short Hair
Sex: Female / Spayed
Weight: about 7 lbs.
Age: about 3 years

Color: Tabby
Reason for Surrender: Found as a stray.
Comments: Sherry is sweet and affectionate. She is good with other cats.



The "Make a Wish" room decorated in pinks and purples finds its inspiration in a little girl's wish trip to Australia.

Ebby Halliday "Make-A-Wish" Holiday Home open house benefits Make-A-Wish Foundation of north Texas

If you are looking for ideas to take your holiday décor to the next level the Make-A-Wish holiday home is a great place to begin. Bring the family and join Ebby Halliday, Realtors, and Kristi and Ala Joy Davis, associates in Ebby's Irving/Las Colinas office, to tour the Ebby Halliday "Make-A-Wish" Holiday Home benefiting the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas. This million-and-a-half-dollar home is decked out for the holidays, featuring exquisite décor by local ASID designers.

The Ebby Halliday "Make-A-Wish" two-story, 5,200-square-foot Holiday Home is located at 500 Byron Court and features holiday-themed rooms decorated by 10 ASID. The Holiday Home open house continues daily through Sunday, Dec. 12 from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Pre-purchased tickets are \$10 and benefit the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas. For more information on the home's location, tickets and a schedule of activities, visit holidayhome.ebby.com.

A fun event for the whole family, the Holiday Home includes a cookie decorating and crafts area for kids, and opportunities to visit and have your picture taken with Santa Claus. Santa will be onsite Dec. 11 from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

For adults, holiday cooking demonstrations, table decorating, wrapping tips and other holiday entertaining ideas and events will be scheduled throughout the open house.

"The homeowner, Ruth Walker, thought it was a great opportunity to take this beautiful million-dollar home and open it up for a great cause," says Ebby Halliday Irving/Las Colinas office sales associate and event coordinator, Kristi Davis. "Christmas is all about children, which is why we wanted the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas to be the beneficiary of this wonderful fundraiser."

"We are delighted to be a part of this fantastic holiday event with Ebby Halliday, Realtors. Ebby Halliday has been a tremendous supporter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas for several years," says Barry Smink, President and CEO of the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas.

ASID designers donating their time for this event are Cynthia Adler, Kathryn Bradford, Cindi Cagle, Terri Cooper, R. Scott Frelick, Rosalie McShane, RoseMarie Rene, Barb'ra Reynolds, Julie Reynolds and Kerry Walker. One of the highlights of the open house is the "Wish Room," which is decorated based on the specifications of one of the Make-A-Wish Foundation's wish kids.

"We are so excited to be a part of this wonderful opportunity to spread

some holiday cheer, support the Make-A-Wish Foundation and showoff this beautiful home," stated Ebby Halliday, Founder and Chairman of the Board for Ebby Halliday, Realtors. "We have been a great supporter of the Make-A-Wish Foundation during our 60 years of community service, and this holiday home is a great way to combine our love for children with our love for real estate."

The Ebby Halliday Make-A-Wish Holiday Home is located on the 16th fairway of the TPC's Four Season's Resort and Club and is offered at \$1,590,000.

The Make-A-Wish Foundation is the largest and oldest wish-granting organization in the world, dedicated to fulfilling the wishes of children between the ages of 2 1/2 and 18 who have life-threatening medical conditions. These wishes range from trips to Walt Disney World to visits with celebrities and provide the wish child and family with special moments of joy and laughter – experiences dramatically different from hospitals, doctors and clinical treatment programs. The North Texas Chapter, established in 1982, was one of the first chapters in the national Make-A-Wish network. To date, the North Texas Chapter has granted more than 2,300 wishes. For more information on the Make-A-Wish Foundation of North Texas, please visit www.northtexaswish.org.

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