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"Irving's weekly community newspaper"

November 13, 2008

THIS WEEK

Charity struggles with demand Page 6

Classifieds Movies **Obituaries** Police **Puzzles Sports**

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A few votes determine balance of power

By Jess Paniszczyn

Now that the November elections are over, people everywhere can go back to watching their favorite television programs and lis-

tening to the radio without those pesky political advertisements ruining the fun. However, many people may not realize that one of the most interesting and hotly con-

Residents rally for troops

tested state races involves Irving.

Republican Linda Harper-Brown, Democrat Bob Romano and Libertarian James Baird battled to serve as the District 105 House representative in the 81st Texas Legislature. With 40,690 votes cast, a mere 29 votes or .071 percent of the vote separate Ms. Harper-Brown and Mr. Romano.

"There has not been a request for a recount," Ms. Harper-Brown said. "So we are just waiting to see whether he will request a recount or not. At this point, we have won. I feel confident we will be victorious should they do a recount.

"If there were a recount, I think I would pick up votes. I picked up votes in the early election when they recounted those votes. Originally, I was ahead by 25. But then they found some his votes had been double counted. So they moved votes over to me and took votes away from him, which gave me a 29 point lead."

The eyes of Texas are watching this race carefully, because it could decide which party holds the majority in the House.

"This seat is very important to the Texas Legislature, because it means we maintain a Republican a majority in the House. If I lose, that would change to a tie. It is a very important seat right now.

"The Republican majority at this time is 76 to 74. It would become 75 to 75 if we lost this seat.

"I feel wonderful about the vote. Of course, everyone would love to have a higher margin of a win. With the momentum that Obama had in this election cycle, I am one of the very few Republicans

left standing in Dallas County. As a matter of fact, I am the only Republican left standing who had a Democrat challenger in the general election as far as a House member except for Dan Branch (District 108.)

"The majority of the Republicans who ran and had Democrat opponents lost by over 2,000 votes in Dallas and Tarrant County. So for me to be up even 20 is incredible.

"I think the number of people who participated in the vote was wonderful. Encouraging more people to vote is something I have been working for ever since my days on the City Council. We have looked at various options to make it more convenient for people to come out and vote.

"I appreciate the vote and the support I have gotten. I think it verifies the voters approve of the work I am doing in the State Legislature.

See TEXAS, Page 5

PERIODICALS POSTAGE PAID IRVING TEXAS

Women helping women rise from poverty

By Jess Paniszczyn

Standing outside St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church, a quiet unassuming structure on Grauwyler Road, no one would expect something extraordinary to be taking place inside. However, those who ventured inside last weekend found a remarkable event taking place.

The church's Women's Bible Study reached out to help women and children in a Ugandan community halfway across the world through Bead for Life. Ugandan women create handmade beads out of paper and string them into necklaces, bracelets and earrings. But their work means little if they cannot sell their wares. Through Bead for Life, the ladies of St. Stephen's hosted a bead party to display and sell this unique jewelry while educating shoppers on the plight of the Ugandan poor.

Porters Army and Navy, the USO and the City of Irving presented the Unite for Troops celebration

The celebration also served as a collection point for care package items and children's books for the United Through Reading Military Program. Individuals brought, sorted and packaged items for the

on Nov. 8. Honoring veterans, past and present the event offered tributes and entertainment throughout

troops such as snack foods, travel pillows, disposable razors, batteries and playing cards.

the day, as well as a very rare special fly over by military fighter jets.

"When I heard about Bead for Life, I thought this was something our group could do," Cindy Carter, the bead party coordinator, said. "This is not a handout to people, it is a hand up. These ladies have worked very hard, and they have cleaned up their little community. Some of the women are even working to own their own homes now. It is a really wonderful effort they are

"We thought this is a women's group, and that is a women's community. So we will be women helping women. We thought this was a great project for us."

War, poverty and disease have taken a toll on the people of Uganda.

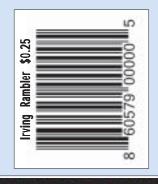
"In this community, there are predominantly women and children, because most of the men have died of AIDS. Some of the women are suffering with HIV and have health problems themselves. Some of their children also have health problems. They have adopted children from the infectious disease ward to make the children's lives

better. They have a lot of children in this community. They are trying to buy school books, medication, and clothes in an effort to lift them from poverty," she said.

'Bead for Life's credo is 'Eradicating poverty one bead at a time.' These women spend their days rolling beads. After they get their children off to school and get their household chores done, they sit and roll beads until dinner. They feed their family, and then they roll beads until bedtime.

"The beads are gorgeous. The women take recycled magazines

See JEWELRY, Page 6



IRVING ARTS CENTER

November 7-22 **NOISES OFF**

ICT MainStage

2:30 & 8 PM

Dupree Theater



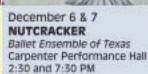
Friday, November 28 NUTCRACKER Momentum Dance Company Carpenter Performance Hall 7:30 PM (Fri & Sat) & 2:30 PM (Sun)



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UD students host book drive

Provided by Mary Parker

University of Dallas College of Business (COB) students, in conjunction with the Prison Outreach Program, are collecting books for the Prison Entrepreneurship Program (PEP).

This fall COB graduate and undergraduate students delivered seven boxes of business and personal development books to the Cleveland Correctional Facility in Cleveland, TX, for participants of PEP. The books will be part of the facility's library collection.

An additional three boxes of books were donated to Casa Blanca, a halfway house in Dallas where many recently released PEP participants live upon release from prison.

The community is invited to donate business and personal de-

Advertise in the Rambler EVERY WEEK

Keepers

velopment books for the ongoing PEP Book Drive. Donations can be dropped off at the Center for Entrepreneurship office on the first floor of Augustine Hall at 1845 E.

Northgate Drive, Irving, TX 75062.

For more information or to schedule a drop off, please contact John Watters at 972-721-5271 or watters@sbcglobal.net.

Vision for new facilities

To provide residents with better public library access, the City of Irving is in the initial planning stages of examining ways to build two additional free-standing libraries to service more customers.

These changes will offer four, full-service libraries, which will place 95 percent of Irving residents within three miles of a library. The two new facilities will replace existing storefront locations—Southwest and Northwest branch libraries—eliminating annual lease payments.

"This plan provides an innovative approach to enhancing li-

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brary services to reach more residents," said Patty Landers, library director. "The new Northwest Branch Library will more than triple the size of the existing storefront location. We are particularly excited about collaborating with the Parks and Recreation Department in building a joint senior activity center/library complex in the next few years."

In addition to the new facilities, the plans include a 5,000-square-foot build-out of the Valley Ranch Library—with expanded space for teen and children's services and a larger program/meeting room—as well as renovations to the Central Library.

Upgrades will include the installation of new carpet, paint, wall coverings and lighting; an expanded children's program area; a teen area; a larger computer lab; and a quiet area. The East Branch Library will be consolidated into the Central Library.

Residents may provide input regarding the new library facilities at www.cityofirving.org. Select "Public Input Opportunities" on the left side of the home page. The survey will be available through November. For more information, call 972-721-2628.

Irving ISD Schedule for Thanksgiving

All Irving ISD schools and offices will be closed for the Thanksgiving holidays, Nov. 26-28.

Monday and Tuesday, Nov. 24-25, are holidays for students and IISD employees will participate in staff development. During these two days, all schools will be closed, but central administrative offices will be open for regular business hours.

Offices reopen and classes resume Dec. 1.

Foreclosure prevention assistance programs provided

The City of Irving Housing and Human Services Department, along with the Irving Housing Finance Corporation (IHFC), offer programs such as foreclosure intervention and debt management, and provide first-time homebuyer education classes to assist Irving residents.

Foreclosure Intervention and Debt Management

Families in danger of losing their homes will receive counseling, and staff will work with lenders to develop payment plans and other means to help keep families in their homes. Recent legislation may provide assistance to homeowners facing foreclosure. For details, visit www.foreclosure-support.com.

First-Time Homebuyer Classes

In first-time homebuyer education classes, prospective homebuyers learn about costs associated with owning a home. Participants also receive one-on-one counseling from homebuyer assistance specialists concerning savings, budgeting and debt reduction. Occasionally, prospective homebuyers are referred to credit counseling and encouraged to develop a plan to be ready for a mortgage in 90 days, six months or a year, depending on the severity of the issue. Estimated monthly payments are calculated using expected increases to property values including escrow for taxes and

Homeownership Workshop

In addition to these programs, residents are invited to attend a free Homeownership Preservation Workshop from 9 a.m. to noon Nov. 8 at Plymouth United Methodist Church, 1615 W. Airport Freeway. The event is sponsored by the Irving Community Development Corporation.

For more information, call the Housing and Human Services Department at 972-721-4800.

POLICE & FIRE

Homicide Investigation: 11-07-08 at 6:15 p.m. Officers responded to the 2900 block of Britain Rd. after receiving a call from Joshua Williams (19) of Irving reporting that he had gone inside and found his sister, Sarah Williams (21) deceased. Officers secured the residence pending the arrival of homicide investigators. During that time, the 19-year-old assaulted one of the offic-

Briefs

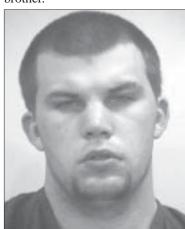


Aggravated Robbery: 11-06-08 at 9:23 p.m. Suspects entered the Auto Zone in the 2100 block of W. Rochelle

with guns and demanded money from the registers. A third party, who was on the telephone with an Auto Zone employee when the suspects entered the store, reported the robbery to the police department. As officers approached the business, the suspects escaped through the back door and were not located. CID responded to the scene and completed the offense report.

ers in an attempt to reenter the crime scene, and he was taken into custody. As the investigation evolved, homicide detectives and crime scene investigators were able to develop facts and information that led to the charging of Joshua Williams for the stabbing death. He is currently in the Irving City Jail, charged with murder and assault on a public servant. Through his arraignment bond was set at \$750,000 for the murder charge and \$2,500 for the charge of assault on a public servant. Investigators believe that Sara Williams confronted her brother regarding the theft of items from the home, the confrontation

became violent, at which time she was stabbed to death by her brother.



Joshua Williams

Irving Fire Department

Activity summary Nov 6 - 7, 2008

Irving Fire Department responded to 109 incidents.

The Fire incidents

- 22 Miscellaneous Fire
- and Rescue Calls
- 2 Structure Fires0 Special Operations
- 0 Vehicle Fires

Medical calls

- 7 Major Accidents
- 2 Major Medical
- Heart AttacksDifficulty Breathing
- 12 Trauma Related
 - CPR Situations

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Stacey Starkey - Director John Starkey - Publisher

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the world is in our sites?

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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Eagle Scout's project improves trails

Provided by Rosa Gordon

The Dallas Off-Road Bicycling Association (DORBA) and the L. B. Houston Trail located at 1600 California Crossing in Dallas is the recipient of the Eagle Scout service project of Sudhish Srikanth, 13, of Boy Scout Troop 606 that meets at the Irving North Hills Preparatory School. Srikanth is a ninth grade student at North Hills Preparatory School.

Srikanth spent two months planning and working on his project as he led and supervised a group of 31 Scouts and adult leaders to execute the huge task of improving the approximately seven mile bicycling trail. The project involved making and installing halfmile markers replacing the dilapidated mark-

ers currently in place. Additions were also a degree in business. made to the trails' various pre-made informational signs provided by DORBA. The trail's informational map was also updated indicating the distance markers and locations of informational signs. This update enables the cyclists and hikers using the trail to plan out the length of their trip by looking at the map. This knowledge should help users appreciate nature and yet feel secure they will not get lost.

Big plans lay in the future for Srikanth, the son Srikanth Srinivas and Preethis Srikanth, following high school plans to attend Wharton School of Business at the University of Pennsylvania and graduate with

"I would like to make a difference in the world by donating money to eliminate poverty, finding a cure for cancer and improving Boy Scouts camps," he said. "I will give back to Scouting by serving as a Scoutmaster. I want to be remembered as a person who was always prepared and who did a good turn daily." His future Scouting plans include a trip to Philmont Scout Ranch in Cimarron, NM, and the 2010 Boy Scout World Jamboree at Fort A.P. Hill in Virginia.

Eagle Scout Sudhish Srikanth sits beside one of the trail markers benefiting cyclists and hikers on the Campion Trails.

Photo by Teri Dodson



November 15 from 8am to 2pm Garage Sale

The city of Irving employees are currently in the middle of fundraising as part of their 2008 United Way Campaign. City employees are hosting a garage sale/ flea market on the parking lot of Irving City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd. Residents or other interested parties can rent space at the same event to sell their own items. Spaces (actual parking spaces) will rent for \$20 for 1, \$30 for 2, \$40 for 3 and so on. The Flea Market/Garage Sale will be held from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. (Everyone must set up between 7 a.m. and 8 a.m.) All rental space fees from the Flea Market will be donated to the United Way. All sale proceeds from the Garage Sale will be donated to the United Way. For more information, call Karen Siddall, 972-721-

November 15 from 10am to noon **Saturday Scholars**

Students in grades 1–8 can receive free tutoring from 10 a.m. to noon on select Saturdays at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. Upcoming tutoring sessions are available Nov. 15 and 22. Students should bring current homework or school assignments. Parent/caregiver participation is requested. The program is offered through a partnership with the Saturday Scholars Foundation. The schedule is subject to change due to holidays, bad weather and tutor availability. Registration is not required. Call 972-721-2458.

November 15 from 2 to 3pm **Moda Fabric Designer Talk**

Moda Fabric Designer Talk (QUILT MANIA II) at 2-3 p.m. in suite 200, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Jenny McLean designing as Tula Pink, a fabric designer for Moda Fabrics discusses her work as a fabric designer. Free. www.irvingartscenter .com.

November 15 at 3:30pm **Drum Circle Performance**

Students who participated in the four-week Drum and Rhythm Circle workshops perform for children of all ages, featuring a special guest appearance by Len Barnett, at 3:30 p.m. The program, held at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd., will demonstrate skills the students acquired during the workshops, as well as offer the audience handson experience with drums and other rhythm instruments. No registration is required. Children under the age of 8 must be accompanied by an adult caregiver. Call 972-721-2458.

November 15 at 6pm Salute to our Veterans

VFW Post 2494, the Ladies & Men's Auxiliaries and Junior Girls

Unit will hold a Program with a Salute to our Veterans including a presentation of the "13 Folds of the Flag" by the Junior Girls; Origins of Veterans Day and a History of Post 2494 presented by the Commander and Presidents. The program will begin with the annual Post Thanksgiving dinner at 6 P.M. The Post and Ladies Auxiliary are celebrating the 57th Anniversary of their Charter, the 16th Anniversary of the Junior Girls Unit and the 2nd Anniversary of the Men's Auxiliary. All members and Past Officers of the Post, Ladies Auxiliary and Junior Girls are invited and encouraged to attend. For further information, contact the Post at 972-790-1611. VFW 2494 is located at 3375 Beltline Road in Irving.

November 15 at 8pm J'aime Paris

Presented by Las Colinas Symphony Orchestra - An evening of excerpts and arias from great operas set in Paris, including Puccini's La Boheme, Massenet's Manon, Charpentier's Louise and Verdi's La Traviata! at 8 p.m. in the Carpenter Performance Hall \$15-45, 972-252-2787 for tickets. www.irvingartscen ter.com.

November 15 **America Recycles Day**

Recycling is one of the easiest ways Americans can help slow climate change and global warming. By recycling at home, residents can help significantly lower carbon emissions associated with extracting virgin materials, manufacturing products and waste disposal.

November 16 from 2pm to 3pm **Memorial Service**

The Visiting Nurse Association will be hosting a memorial service to honor the memory of loved ones on from 2 p.m. to 3 p.m. The memorial service will be held in the Preston Hollow United Methodist Church at 6315 Walnut Hill Lane in Dallas. The event is open to the public and will feature special music, readings, and the lighting of memorial candles. Attendees of all faiths are welcome. For more information, call Sue Rafferty at 214-689-

November 17 at 11:30am **Electoral College**

The League of Women Voters of Irving will explore the Electoral College 11:30 a.m. at its regularly scheduled meeting at the Irving Public Library, Central Auditorium. The National League took a position in 1970 to abolish the Electoral College, revised the position in 1982, and updated it in 2004. The position will be apart of a Texas study of voting procedures in 2009. The meeting is open to all who are interested. It is free and no reservations are required. Please direct any questions to Genie Mitchell at 214-697-2587.

November 17 from 1:30 to 3pm **Better Breathers Club**

Baylor Medical Center at Irving will hold the monthly session of the Better Breather's Club, a support group open to anyone with a chronic respiratory disease from 1:30 p.m. to 3 p.m., at the Irving Cancer Center located on the campus

of Baylor Medical Center at Irving, 2001 N. MacArthur Blvd. Learn tips and techniques to better manage your disease, share stories of support and help, and connect with those in your community with chronic lung disease. For more information, call 972-579-4404.

November 18 from 8:30am-3:30pm Free Well-Child and Immunization

Baylor Medical Center at Irving is sponsoring a well child and immunization clinic along with the Dallas County Department of Health and Human Services and Northgate United Methodist Church from 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. at Northgate United Methodist Church, 3700 W. Northgate Dr. in Irving. Well-child exams for children ages birth to four years-old and immunizations for children ages birth to 18 yearsold, will be provided from 8:30 a.m. to 10:30 a.m. Immunizations only, will be given from 1 p.m. to 3:30 p.m. Immunization records must be provided for each child. The free services of this clinic are available to residents of Irving only. For more information call 972-579-4095.

November 18 at 11:30am Irving Women's Network

The November meeting of the Irving Women's Network will be held on at The Glass Door located at 1735 N. Story Road, #172 in Irving. Networking begins at 11:30 a.m. with the meeting beginning promptly at noon. The program will be "Five Minutes of Fame". Five accomplished women will share intimate highlights from their

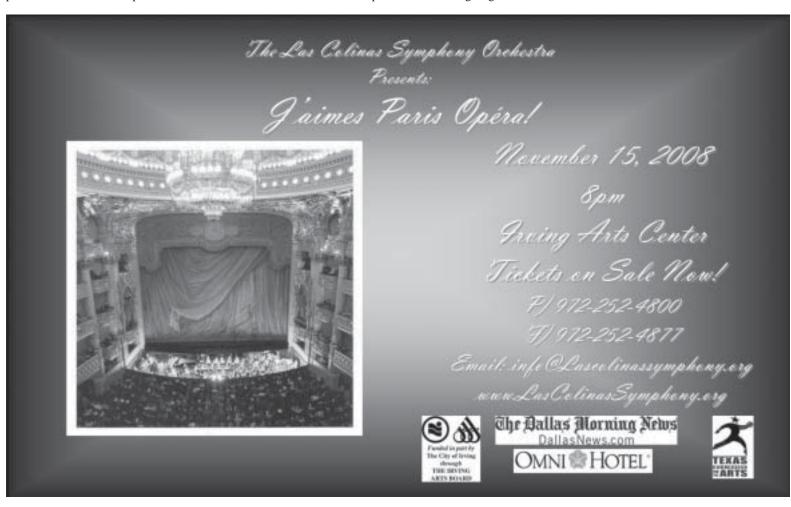
lives...each defining success through their own story. Reservations should be made on or before noon on Nov. 14 by e-mailing Jodi Reynolds at Jodireynolds@yahoo .com. The cost is \$15.00 with a reservation or \$20.00 with no reservation. Please contact Lydia Garcia with any questions or to donate a door prize 469-524-0630.

November 18 from 7 to 8pm **Irving Democratic Club**

The Irving Democratic Club will hold a meeting from 7 PM to 8 PM at the Glass Door Banquet Hall, 1735 N. Story Road. Admission is free. A review the election results with some of our newly elected Democratic office holders and plan for our blow-out Christmas party. The optional dinner by Chef Richard Pratt is \$10 and will start being served starting at 6:30. Contact Michael McPhail at 972-513-9522 for more information. No RSVP

November 19 from 1 to 2:30pm **Healing Through the Holidays**

The Visiting Nurse Association will be conducting a free workshop from 1 p.m. to 2:30pm on how to cope during the holidays while grieving the loss of a loved one. The workshop will be held at the Visiting Nurse Association's headquarters building, The Patrick and Beatrice Haggerty Center, located at 1440 W. Mockingbird Lane in Dallas. There is no cost to attend the workshop, but reservations are requested and can be made by calling Sue Rafferty at 214-689-2922.



Las Colinas Elementary celebrates Veterans Day

Third, fourth and fifth grade students from Las Colinas Elementary listened to Robert Swofford, World War II Air Force Veteran and Jim Gilbert, Vietnam Marine Veteran through the Take a Vet to School Day program. The Veteran's Day program, sponsored by Time Warner Cable, included a video from the school honoring veterans as well as a question and answer time. The students received t-

shirts, bracelets and necklaces to honor the event

Students were encouraged to serve their community and their country. Students serving as Ambassadors in the Las Colinas Mini United Nations had a chance to speak one-on-one with the veterans during a reception.

"When you serve, you make the world better," Gilbert said to the Ambassadors. "The more you open up, the bigger your world is."

Through this event, Las Colinas students had the opportunity to talk with men who were a part of history. The students

learned to value the service and commitment that Veterans gave to our nation.

"In C-FB ISD, we believe it is important to instill in our children an appreciation for the sacrifice and service of our nation's veterans," said Dr. Charles Cole, assistant superintendent for student, family and community services.

Jail internship launched program

Four seniors from The Academy of Irving ISD were recently selected to join the new Irving Police Department Jail Internship Pro-

Academy seniors selected for the program are Elizabeth Garcia, Sesilie Rico, Maclovio Martinez, and Ricardo Ordaz. Application requirements included: an essay about why they wanted to work at City of Irving Detention Facility; a letter of recommendation written by Justin Harper, Academy criminal justice teacher; a written application to the city; and attend an open house at the city detention facility

with their parents. Selected students were interviewed by detention facility supervisors and a background check was conducted on each student - two standard processes the city conducts when hiring any employee for the facility.

The only program of its kind in the nation, Irving Police Department was selected as a pilot site for a national high school internship program for recruiting students interested in a career in corrections, detentions and police work. The internship will consist of 300 hours of non-contact jail training, meaning students' duties will not expose

them to inmates. Additionally, students will receive 77 hours toward their Corrections Certification as part of class work at the Academy. For interns selected to the jail program, City of Irving will also contribute reimbursement for college

In the coming year, the internship will expand to include emergency dispatch training with the city. Interns will begin the year either at the detention facility or at emergency dispatch centers and students will exchange mid-year. At the Academy, Harper is preparing students for dispatch internships through his new emergency communications class. Over the past year, Harper attended state and local training to earn a dispatcher's license, dispatcher's instructor's license, and Texas Commission on Law Enforcement Officer Standards & Education instructor's license. All these licenses are state required instructor licenses that will allow Academy students to receive a dispatcher's certification at age 18 after taking Harper's classes.

IISD sponsors Holiday **Adopt-A-Family**

Irving ISD will sponsor the annual Holiday Adopt-A-Family program from Nov. 3 to Dec. 5. This valuable program gives individuals, organizations and companies the opportunity to "adopt" one or more disadvantaged Irving ISD students and their families for the holiday

When someone "adopts a family" they will receive a wish list from a school counselor giving them a list of items that the family can use such as linens, clothing, toys and food. The list includes sizes and other details that will help the buyer make the purchases. Once they purchase the items, buyers will work with the school counselor to determine delivery date and whether the items will be delivered to the school or directly to the family.

"The project has been very successful, resulting in many smiles and genuine appreciation for their generosity," said Thelma Cantu, Partnerships in Education coordi-

Individuals, organizations and companies interested in adopting a family in need are encouraged to contact Thelma Cantu at 972-215-5017 or tcantu@irvingisd.net. She will connect you to a counselor at a participating school.

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

Resident honored for service with **Nurse Association**

Provided by Robert Smith

Irving resident Sandra Holland was honored for her service with the Visiting Nurse Association at an Employee Recognition Awards ceremony held Oct. 29 at VNA's Dallas headquarters.

Ms. Holland, a physical thera-

pist, was recognized for 25 years of employment with the Visiting Nurse Association. She was presented with the award by Robert Carpenter, president and chief executive of the home care and hospice agency.

BITUARIES

JAMES C. WOMACK



Christ.

C. James Womack, age 89, a 49 year resident of Irving died Nov. 8, 2008 at his home.

Born Dec. 31, 1918 at Murfreesboro, AR, he was the son of James E. and Annie Bell Wood Womack. AU. S. Army veteran of World War II, he served in the European, African, and Middle Eastern theatres. Married to Velora Rather Dec. 25, 1948 in Delight, AR, he was retired from the City of Irving. He was a member of the South MacArthur Church of

Preceded in death by four brothers and one sister, James is berly Ross of Irving; mother Billie survived by his wife, Velora of Irving; three daughters, Glenda Lloyd, Sherry Hinson and husband Billy of Irving and Tammy Rutledge and husband Tommy of Mineola; nine grandchildren; thirteen great grandchildren; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral service was Nov. 11 at the Chapel of South MacArthur Church of Christ. Tim Lewis officiated. Burial followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving. Friends were received by the family at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Monday. In lieu of flowers, memorials may be made to South MacArthur Church of Christ Mission Fund, 1400 South MacArthur Blvd., Irving, TX 75060.

JOHN "TINY" ROSS

John "Tiny" Ross, of Irving, passed away Nov. 11, 2008.

He was born Jan. 22, 1969 in Dallas. He was a lifetime resident of Irving, a member of Celebration Worship Center, and enjoyed playing softball.

Survivors include his wife Kim-Ross; son Christopher Payne; brother Joe "Jody" Ross; sister Kristie Ross; and several nieces and nephews.

Funeral services were held Nov. 14 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel with Pastor Joshua Price officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

DAVID LEACH BAIRD



David Leach Baird, of Irving, passed away Sep. 24, 2008.

He was born Feb. 11, 1920 in Pueblo,

CO. He was a Lt. Colonel and retired pilot from the Air Force and superintendent of the Dallas Times Herald Composing Room. He enjoyed art, woodworking, and vacationing with grandchildren. People would always ask Dave and his wife Anna why they would take their grandchildren on so many vacations. Their most truthful answer was, "Because they are fun!" They spent many years at a cabin in Cripple Creek, CO and at the Florida

shores. They enjoyed hiking and many of the grandchildren have climbed Pike's Peak with "Grandpa

Preceded in death by parents Carl and Marian Leach Baird, brothers Fred Baird and Richard Baird, and granddaughter Dana Baird, survivors include his wife of 68 years, Anna Baird of Irving; sons David Baird and wife Stephanie and Mark Baird and wife Lauren, both of Houston; daughter Kerry Dixon and husband Wade of Tribune, KS; and the joys of their lives from the time of their birth, grandchildren David Baird, III, Melissa Baird, Amy Baird, Christopher Dixon, Erin Dixon, Alexander Baird, and Emily

Inurnment services will be held Cemetery, Lane A, 2000 Mountain Voca, TX. Creek Pkwy. in Dallas. Memorial

donations may be made to the Salvation Army.

JEFFREY DALE DIEHL

Jeffrey Dale Diehl, 42, passed away on Nov. 6, 2008 in Ft. Worth.

He was born on Jan. 15, 1966 in Roswell, NM. Jeff was a prior resident of Ft. Worth and a resident of Farmers Branch, and a flight dispatcher for Ameristar Jet Starter.

He is survived by his wife, Laura Diehl, son, Preston Thomas Diehl both of Ft. Worth, parents, Dale and Becky Diehl of Farmers Branch, brother, Darren Diehl of Carrollton, and numerous aunts, uncles and cousins.

Funeral Services were held on Nov. 11 at Chapel of Roses Funeral Home. Interment followed on at 10 AM Nov. 24 at DFW National Wednesday at Voca Cemetery in

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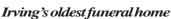
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Texas House seat won by slim margin

Continued from page 1

My winning even by a slim margin is monumental in this election cycle with the way the other Republicans fared," she said.

Ms. Harper-Brown serves as a member of the Sunset Advisory Commission.

"We are very fortunate in the State of Texas, because not every state has a Sunset process. State agencies must come before the Sunset Commission and prove they should remain in existence. They have to justify what they are doing within that agency and prove the agency is still worth the taxpayers' money. The Sunset Commission can dissolve an agency, make changes to it, or combine it with another agency. The Commission verifies the agencies are doing what the Legislature told them by law to do. The Sunset Commission reviews agencies thoroughly and decides whether they live or die.

"The next session of the Texas Legislature is very important, because there are so many major agencies of the state government up for Sunset. The Texas Department of Transportation, Parks and Wildlife, the Texas Youth Commission, and the Insurance Commission are up for Sunset. There are a number of large agencies up for Sunset this time. Those bills will take precedence in the next session.

"Those bills will be like Christmas tree bills. When they cover an agency like that, when you are Sunsetting them or telling them they can continue to exist, it makes it a Christmas tree like bill. There are all sorts of opportunities to add amendments to those bills. We will have to be careful about what amendments go on those bills," she

With the upheaval in the mar-

stock market, the economy will be an important issue in the upcoming Legislative Session.

"We are the number one state as far as economy. We are doing better than any other state. We have created more jobs than any other state. The Dallas/Fort Worth area is the number one region in the nation for the economy. We are very fortunate that we live in Texas and in the North Texas area. I am not saying people aren't having hard times, but it is not as bad as it is everywhere else. In the next session, I think we are going to have to work very hard to try to make sure we continue to do that.

"I believe the reason we are in such a good position right now is because of the things we have and have not done at the state level. Keeping taxes low, not having a state income tax, the fact we don't have more regulation, and we don't regulate people and businesses more all benefit Texas," Ms. Harper Brown said.

"One of the reasons Irving had

so many voters this time, is because we had so many new voters. Irving (north of Rock Island) had 11,000 newly registered voters. The reason people come to Texas is because they can find work. They want to live here, because we have such a vibrant economy and have created so many new jobs.

"Most of those people live in apartments. They are not people who knew me. Only 400 of that 11,000 voted in the Primary. So the majority of those people moved after the March Primary. The only

way we could reach new voters in apartments was going door to door or through written materials. We couldn't have a one on one conversation with them by phone, because they have cell phones rather than landlines. We are going to have to start using more and more new methods to campaign. I always want to hear what the public has to say. Finding that mechanism that will allow me to hear from them is important."

ORSHIP

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 Sundays 10:45 a.m. 6:30 p.m Sunday School 9:30 a.m.

214.404.1899 www.wordofgodchristianfellowship.com Sundays 4:00 p.m. Tuesdays 7:00 p.m.

Independent Bible

Meeting at Plymouth Park Baptist

Church

1714 N. Story Rd., Irving 75061

Fellowship Center FH 103

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. Sunday School 9:45 a.m. Wednesday Bible Study/Prayer Meeting 7:00 p.m.

United Methodist

First United Methodist Church 211 W. Third St, Irving 75060 972.253.3531

www.fumcirving.org Sundays 10:30am Sanctuary 6:30pm Chapel

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



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DBITUARIES

SARA ELAINE WILLIAMS

Sara Elaine Williams, of Irving, passed away Nov. 7, 2008.

She was born July 5, 1987 in Las Vegas, NV. She enjoyed drawing, reading, and music.

Preceded in death by her mother Harriet C. Williams, she is survived by her father Wyatt W. Williams; and brother Joshua R. Williams.

Her family received friends Nov. 13 at Brown's Memorial Funeral Home Chapel. A Service of Celebration followed. Memorial donations may be made to the Susan G. Komen Foundation.

RONALD GENE RATLIFF

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

He was born on Sep. 8, 1944 in Commerce, TX to Robert and Lena Ratliff. Ron was a 1961 graduate of Irving High School. He went on to serve the Lord as a minister at Greenview Hills Baptist Church, South Euless Baptist Church and worked with prison ministries for many years. He lived many years in Irving and Euless, he was also a the owner of the Polar Bear Ice Cream Store in Irving for many

He is survived by his wife, Glenda Ratliff, daughter, Bethany Joe Ratliff, grandson, Cameron Riley Ratliff all of Irving, and brother and sister-in-law, Duane and Margaret Ratliff of Jenks, OK.

Funeral services will be held on Nov. 15 at Plymouth Park Baptist Church at 10:00 a.m. Interment will follow at Prairie Valley Cemetery near Greenville. Funeral services will be conducted under the direction of Chapel of Roses Funeral Home.



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Charity fights to keep up with increased demand

Provided by Colleen Petersen

Around the corner, a mom is going hungry so her child can eat." It's just one of the hard-hitting messages of the North Texas Food Bank's (NTFB) new holiday public awareness and fundraising campaign launching this month and running through December. The program's billboards and other outreach reveals an increased need for assistance this holiday season as a result of the tough economy.

The NTFB, which supplies nutritious food to more than 900 local shelters, food pantries and afterschool, senior and other feeding programs in 13 surrounding coun-

ties, is reporting a 25 percent increase in the number of people served by member agencies in recent months. The charity must raise nearly \$4 million and receive nearly 10 million pounds of food to keep up with anticipated need over the holidays.

"Many people don't realize the extent of hunger's devastating reach in our own community." NTFB CEO Jan Pruitt said. "The holiday ads are inspired by the real faces of hunger that the NTFB and our member agencies are serving every day - - the growing number of families and elderly who are struggling to make ends meet in these tough times."

With increasing need, coupled with higher operating costs for food and gas for the organization, Pruitt says the NTFB needs donations now more than ever.

"We ask North Texans to give what they can because our mission is one that is easy to support," she said, citing results of a study commissioned by the NTFB and performed by Harris Interactive showing that the majority of community respondents (73 percent) believe the NTFB addresses an issue of local importance. While only 20 percent of respondents say they

personally know someone struggling with hunger - - despite the reality of almost one in four Texas children living in a household with hunger - - an encouraging 97 percent of people surveyed say they care about fighting the issue. Even a small donation is put to good use by the NTFB.

"Every dollar donated provides five meals for the hungry and 97 cents of every dollar donated goes directly to hunger relief programs," Pruitt said.

The holiday campaign is part of NTFB's new three-year Close the Gap initiative to unite the community in helping to narrow the food gap, providing access to 50 million meals annually. Supporters can view a sample of campaign ads, developed by RSW Creative, make tax-deductible donations or learn about volunteer opportunities by visiting the organization's Web site.

Last year the NTFB distributed 26 million meals allowing agency pantries to distribute food to more than 50,000 families and on-site meal programs serve 435,000 meals/ snacks each month. To learn more about NTFB, visit ntfb.org.

Jewelry brings women together in battle against poverty

Continued from page 1

with brightly colored pages and create beads. The beads are not painted; they are just colorful pieces of paper that have been rolled into beads. Some of the beads are chunky, some are skinny. They create the beads all different ways. After they get so many beads put together, they shellac them and then string them into necklaces, bracelets and earrings. They are very reasonably priced from \$5 to

"Everybody loved the beads. You tell people the beads are made from paper. They turn them around and say, 'Look, I can see the edge of a letter.' The beads are so interesting. Everyone says they can't believe people make these beads and they are so pretty. So much work goes into the beads, and shoppers can't believe they are sold so inexpensively.

"The beads are all very comfortable to wear. The necklaces are very light weight. The bracelets are not tight. They are easy to slip on and off.

"Our bead party was a great success. We invited some people in the neighborhood and people from our church to come browse and buy. Our small church raised over \$2,000. We are so pleased with it, and we had a ball."



Necklaces, bracelets and earrings, oh my. Colorful beads made by Ugandan women bring St. Stephen's Presbyterian Church's community together to aid the poor.

Located in Colorado, the American Bead for Life headquarters made the arrangements for the bead party easy and inexpensive.

"The liaison office between Uganda and the United States is in Bolder, CO. We never dealt with people from Uganda at all. We dealt with the people in the American liaison Bead for Life headquarters.

"When you tell the people in Colorado you want to host a bead party, they send you a box of beads, African music and a video about the community. We took all the beads we were sent, and set them up on six long tables. We displayed them in various ways that looked like Africa to us.

"The bead party was easy. They sent us the beads postage paid. We sold what we could and we will send them the money and the beads that didn't sell postage paid. It cost the church nothing to host the party. It was a fun fundraising project.

"All of the money goes to them. Of the dollar you spend, very little of it goes to administrative costs. Most of it gets back to the community. I think it is one of the better organized charity things you can do, because so much gets back to the women rather than being spent on overhead. The money goes where you want it to go. It is a very wonderful program," Ms. Carter

Ladies in Ms. Carter's neighborhood had a final opportunity to select jewelry not purchased during the church's party before the beads were shipped back to Colo-

"What is interesting is they haven't had any instruction on how to do this. They are doing it by hand and the quality of it is very good," said Terry Berry, a former jewelry buyer and neighborhood friend of Ms. Carter's. "I think the beads are beautiful. I like that they are a little different and the idea that someone made them by hand."

Shortage of skilled workers addressed by partnership

Provided by JP Clark

With baby boomers retiring from the ranks of the skilled trade workforce in Texas and across the country, a growing number of labor experts predict a shortage of trained industrial workers in fields such as welding, electrical, plumbing and construction management. To aid this need, Grainger, a local distributor of facilities maintenance supplies, awarded a Grainger Tools for Tomorrow scholarship to North Lake College student Raymond Davis during a recent presentation at the Grainger branch in Dallas.

"Students like Raymond represent the best and the brightest of the future of skilled labor," said Joe Seagraves, District Branch Services Manager at Grainger. "Grainger is proud to partner with North Lake College through the Grainger Tools for Tomorrow scholarship program. Together, we can help ensure the communities of Texas have trained professionals ready to meet the demand for skilled trade workers."

Davis, an Arlington resident studying electrical engineering at North Lake College, was nominated

by the school's faculty to receive the award. His nominating instructor describes him as an exceptional student who is eager to learn. Davis is one of 35 technical students across the nation who will receive a \$2,000 scholarship and, upon graduation, a Westward® tool package from Grainger to support him in his future career.

"I am grateful for Grainger's generous contribution that will help further my career," Davis said. "This scholarship provides me an opportunity to focus on my goals of earning an electrical engineering degree and eventually launching my own business."

"The employers in Texas are in critical need of highly skilled workers with an understanding of today's tools, technologies and processes," said Mike Cooley, Executive Dean, North Lake College West Campus. "With the increasing demand for these skilled individuals, it is essential that we continue to invest in their talent, and Grainger is doing just that through this scholarship program."

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Show Manager of the Year Award winners revealed

Five winners have been chosen for The Expo Group Show Manager of the Year (SMOTY) Awards. The 9th annual SMOTY award winners are:

Tier I-1 to 150 booths: Kendra Nicastro, Co-Owner, KC's Creative Events LLC

Tier II – 151 to 300 booths: Paul Kent, Vice President and General Manager, IDG World Expo

Tier III – 301 to 700 booths: Sandra Toms-LaPedis, Area Vice President and General Manager, RSA Conferences

Tier IV - 701 to 1,500 booths: Rob-

Manager named Executive of the Year

Provided by Jamie Carpen

Niki Kooiman, Irving branch manager of OfficeTeam, was recently named "2008 Executive of the Year" by the Las Colinas chapter of the International Association of Administrative Professionals (IAAP). The award was given at a ceremony honoring Ms. Kooiman on Oct. 13.

The Executive of the Year Award is given annually by the Las Colinas chapter to a local executive who has shown visionary leadership in his or her field and has made significant contributions to the community. The award recognizes executives of Las Colinas IAAP members whose lives exemplify community involvement, personal and professional development, and work/life balance. Ms. Kooiman was nominated by Melanie Sinclair, an OfficeTeam staffing manager.

Ms. Kooiman has been branch

manager at OfficeTeam, a staffing service, since 2007. In this role, she oversees the Irving office. She joined the company in 2000 and has eight years of experience in the staffing industry. She has earned a reputation for providing career guidance to job seekers and strategic solutions to clients. Ms. Kooiman has been an active supporter of IAAP and is involved in several Irving community organizations, including Scottish Rite Hospital and Habitat for Humanity. She also helps raise awareness for Cockayne syndrome.

ert Brice, Vice President, Cygnus Business Media

Tier V-1,501+ booths: Larry Schur, President and Show Manager, All Baby & Child Inc.

These five show managers demonstrated innovative practices, a strong customer service philosophy, a commitment to success and an ability to overcome obstacles. All nominations were judged by an independent panel consisting of Robert Dallmeyer, President of RD International; Michael Hughes, Associate Publisher, *Tradeshow Week*; Sam Lippman, President, integrated show management & marketing; and Donna Sanford, Publisher, *EXPO Magazine*.

"The Expo Group Show Manager of the Year award is all about how one person can make a difference in an organization," said Ray Pekowski, The Expo Group President and CEO. "I realize there are awards for size of show and growth already exist, but we started these awards eight years ago to honor the people who make a difference and make our industry great."

Fluor reports increased earnings

Fluor Corporation announced financial results for its third quarter ended Sep. 30. Revenue rose by 38 percent to \$5.7 billion, compared with \$4.1 billion in the third quarter

of 2007. Net earnings for the third quarter were \$183 million, an increase of 95 percent over \$94 million a year ago.

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

New project awards for the third quarter were a record \$8.8 billion, including a \$3.4 billion award for the BP Whiting Modernization Project in the U.S., a large gas processing project in Russia and a \$1.3 billion mining project in Latin America. Consolidated backlog at the end of the third quarter rose to a new company record of \$36.5 billion, which is a \$3.5 billion sequential increase over last quarter and a 31 percent increase from the same period a year ago.

Corporate G&A expense for the quarter was \$45 million, level with \$45 million reported in the third quarter of 2007. Cash and marketable securities at quarter end were \$2.2 billion, up from \$1.6 billion a year ago.

"Fluor's focus on major, longterm capital projects with wellfunded clients continues to generate significant growth and opportunity for the company," said Chairman and Chief Executive Officer Alan Boeckmann. "Although the current economic environment has created uncertainty on a number of fronts, we are optimistic that our substantial backlog and industrial and geographic diversification will allow Fluor to continue to grow in Award winners were honored at a dinner and ceremony on Nov. 6 at The Walters Museum in Baltimore. The awards this year are sponsored in part by Baltimore Area Convention & Visitors Bureau and Wyndham Jade.

Honorees received \$1,000 for their favorite charity as well as the iconic SMOTY crystal obelisk. Winners' charities are posted at www.theexpogroup.com so their peers and friends will have the ability to show their support by making a donation online.

The Expo Group SMOTY awards are open to anyone in the industry responsible for producing a show, regardless of any affiliation with The Expo Group. This year's nominees were suggested by coworkers, vendors, exhibitors, board members and themselves.

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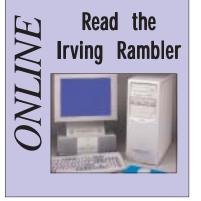
SGCA girls' volleyball team achieves state runner-up

Provided by Chip Black

Irving's StoneGate Christian Academy (SGCA) girls' volleyball team capped a successful season when they played Wichita Falls' Notre Dame High School at the Merrell Center in Katy on Nov. 8, in the TAPPS Division IA State Championship. Unfortunately, the Lady Lions came up short as they were defeated in the championship game. The Lady Lions defeated Houston Texas Christian in the Semi-Final game on Friday to reach the title match.

The Lady Lions were 23-7 in the regular season. At the beginning of this season Bailee Stewart, junior outside hitter, coined the phrase, "Straight to state in 2008!" and the team was determined to follow the motto throughout the season.

Following the game Saturday, Coach Melanie Manor stated that



the team, "truly believed they could make it all the way, the teams in the past saw the dream and had the talent but just didn't believe in themselves enough to see their way to the finals. These girls are also very spiritually bound and connected and have tremendous faith in the power of God, that is what makes them more special than any team I have ever had."

With only seven girls on the team, the team faced much larger teams throughout the season.

"I believed in all of these girls from the beginning, small in numbers, but mighty in the way they play," Coach Manor said. All seven girls on the team received District honors:

Amanda Lee, senior, MS/S, Most Valuable Player of the District

Jessica Lee, sophomore, S/OH, 1st Team All District, Offensive Player of the Year

Bailee Stewart, junior, OH, 1st Team All District

Rebecca Groves, junior, OH/DS, 2nd Team All District

Mary Amon, junior, RS/DS, Honorable Mention

Jocelyn Murray, freshman, RS/DS, Honorable Mention

Amanda McCormick, freshman, RS/DS, Honorable Mention

Further information about SGCA can be found at www.sgca.net.



Front Row — Amanda McCormick, Jocelyn Murray Back Row — Coach Melanie Manor, Mary Amon, Jessica Lee, Amanda Lee, Bailee Stewart, Rebecca Groves, Asst Coach Spencer Woods

Lady Blazers make historic run

By Lotis Butchko

Last weekend the Lady Blazer soccer team of North Lake College made history when they became the first soccer team in North Lake History to make the regional tournament.

The Blazers came into the playoffs 9-1-1. They beat the third seeded Mountain View College Lions 2-1 in the first round match.

They anticipated playing the first seeded Richland Thunderducks next; however, Richland was upset by the fourth seeded Cedar Valley Suns 2-1.

The championship game was another nail biter. The Blazers had beaten the Suns twice during the season and hoped to pull the sweep. After a back and forth game with both teams having multiple opportunities to score the Blazers won in a 2-1 victory.

"We were obviously happy making the championship game," said Adrian Gonzales head coach of the Blazers soccer team. "But to make regionals was really great."

Since North Lake won the Metro Athletic Conference they hosted the Region V tournament. Teams from all over the United States played for a shot to make the National tournament.

Their first opponent was the College of Dupage Chaparrals, who

were ranked third in the country by the National Junior Collegiate Athletic Association. The Chaparrals hammered the Blazers 4-1.

Their next match was the Hibbing's Community College Cardinals. The Cardinals were unranked going into the match but had played a tough schedule, and won the match in a disappointing 3-1 loss for the Blazers.

"I wouldn't consider this season a disappointment," Gonzales said. "I am really proud of our girls, they did a great job."

Next season the Blazers return five starters, and look to make it back to the regional tournament.

Sports Briefs

By Lotis Butchko Irving - 31

MacArthur - 28

MacArthur - 28

Irving faced off against MacArthur Friday night in a battle for a play off spot.

Irving (6-4) displayed a passing game all year that struck fear into their opponents, while MacArthur (5-5) dominated with their running game.

MacArthur struck first when running back James Sims scrambled in for a 7-yard touchdown.

Irving quarterback came right back with a 12-yard strike to wide receiver Winford Tennell.

Irving then scored with a 29-yard field goal.

But MacArthur would not be held down, quarterback Michael Brooks threw a 41-yard touchdown pass to Daniel Vinson, and ran in a 16-yard scramble to take a 21-10 lead.

But Bradley came battling back when he threw two touchdown passes to J.J. Thompson.

James Sims rushed for a 36-yard touchdown, but his efforts came up short, as Bradley answered back with a 4-yard touchdown run of his own to cap off the victory.

Bradley finished the night with 351-yards passing and three touchdowns.

Irving plays Wylie on Nov. 14 at Texas Stadium

Cedar Hill -64 Nimitz – 30

Cedar Hill's running back Ben Malena stole the show finishing the night with five touchdowns and 131-yards rushing.

But at the beginning of the game, it started rough for Cedar Hill. Nimitz led after the first quarter 3-0. Cedar Hill's offense sputtered. But in the second half they scored 17 points.

The Cedar Hill (9-1) offense continued to ride Malena as they went up 44-17.

After finding the end zone three more times in the fourth quarter Cedar hill emerged as the winner.

Nimitz (1-9) played well scoring 30 point for the first time in several games.

Nimitz Quarterback J.J. Gaines fought hard and finished the game with 91-yards rushing, 144-yards passing and 28-yards receiving.

Student-athletes honored as Built Ford Tough

Provided by Lorraine Pulido-Ramirez

Six Texas high school football stars are being recognized as the Built Ford Tough Texas High School Football Players of the Week. Listed below are the athletes being honored for their accomplishments on and off the field.

Class 5A: Jercolby Bradley, QB, Irving High School, Irving

Class 4A: Kendial Lawrence, RB, Rockwall-Heath High School, Heath

Class 3A: Josh Schneider, QB/LB, La Grange High School, La Grange Class 2A: Jordan Hernandez, RB/S, Banquete High School, Banquete Class 1A: Jared Murray, QB/DE, Grapeland High School, Grapeland Private Schools: Reid Fitzgerald, RB, Liberty Christian High School, Argyle

CLASS 5-A: Jercolby Bradley, QB, Irving High School

In one of those intense loseand-go-home arch rivalry games, Irving's senior QB Jercolby Bradley proved that a little pressure is probably a good thing. The 6-1, 185pound first-year starter saw his

team trailing three times, the last at 28-17 in the fourth quarter. But Bradley wound up with 27 completions on 42 attempts for 351 yards and 20 rushes for 58 yards and another TD (the game winner) to lead the Tigers from behind (31-28) and earn their first playoff berth since 2004. They'll meet Wylie at Texas Stadium in Friday's playoff opener. Bradley, who also plays basketball for Irving, is a member of the Student Council and the National Honor Society, is active with his church youth group and was elected Irving's Homecoming King. He also sports a 3.7 GPA.

"Jercolby is like an extra coach on the field," Coach Jim Bennett said. "He's normally a lead-by-example type, but when he needs to be, he can get extremely vocal. But his greatest strength is his character. Combined with his outstanding athletic ability, he's what every football coach is looking for."

The Built Ford Tough Texas High School Football Player of the Week Program crews travel to communities across the state to shine the spotlight on players of the week who've excelled not only on the field, but also in the classroom and in their neighborhoods. Individual performance on the field, including significant game statistics

Contribution to the team's success through individual leadership abilities

Performance off the field, including academic success and good community citizenship

"The 'Built Ford Tough Texas High School Football Player of the Week' program is designed to recognize qualities particularly valued in Texas: citizenship, dependability, toughness and strength," said Brad Brownell, Ford Southwest Regional Sales Manager.

Texas high school football coaches, athletic directors and fans are invited to nominate players each week. Collectively, these nominations, as well as those submitted by the Built Ford Tough Texas Football Advisory Board are evaluated by a panel from Ford and Scholastic Coach & Athletic Director who vote on and decide the weekly honorees. To nominate student-athletes for this award or for additional information, visit

www.playeroftheweek.com.

The Irving Rambler November 13., 2008 Page 9 214-675-6493

Men's Soccer wins NEAC Tournament, reaches NCAAs

The University of Dallas' Crusaders couldn't be denied a place in the history books as they won the championship game of the

NEAC Tournament Sunday afternoon against the Keuka College Storm, 3-1. With a NCAA Tourna-



University of Dallas' Crusaders mens soccer team

year to complete the comeback victory and advance to play another

Facing an early one goal deficit, senior forward Adam Lunger (Keller, TX/Keller H.S.) scored his first goal 33:11 into the first half. Lunger was assisted by sophomore midfielder/defender Ryan Meske (Niwot, CO/Niwot H.S.) and junior midfielder Aaron Tucker (Keller, TX/Birdville H.S). With the game tied 1-1 at the break, Lunger kicked in his second goal of the game, what proved to be the game winner, 13:41 into he second half. Lunger's 3rd goal of the tournament and 17th of the season was on a penalty kick. Once the Crusaders pulled ahead for the 2-1 lead, the UD defense did their job and held the Storm scoreless in the second frame to preserve the win. With just under 30 minutes to play, freshman midfielder Michael Chapman (Madison, MS/St. Joseph Catholic H.S.) added a much needed goal to give the team some breathing room as they went on to claim the 3-1 victory over the defending NEAC Tournament champs. Chapman's 3rd goal of the tournament was off an assist from senior midfielder/defender Bennett Rawicki (Bakersfield, CA/Garces Memorial H.S.).

Overall, the team dominated the three day tournament starting with their 5-0 shutout victory over Cazenovia College, 6-1 blowout win against SUNY-Cobleskill, and their thrilling 3-1 win in today's finale. In three games, UD outscored their opponents 14-2, out assisted them 12-0, and took 63 shots to compared

to 21. The leading scorers for the team were Lunger and Chapman with 3 goals apiece, while senior midfielder and Stuart Brown (Boerne, TX/Boerne H.S.) and senior midfielder/defender Rawicki each scored 2 goals. Senior forward Brandon Washatka (Topeka, KS/ Hayden H.S.) led the team in assists with 3, while Brown and sophomore midfielder/defender Sam Sheetz (Alexandria, VA/Bishop Denis J. O'Connell H.S.) had 2 apiece.

Guaranteed of an NCAA bid for the first time in program history, the 16-3-1 Crusaders and winners of their last 10 games now wait for the official NCAA announcement. Tournament information will be posted on the UD website as well as on the NCAA website at www.ncaa.com.

North Lake College student newspaper named national winner

Provided by Kathleen Stockmier

The News-Register, the student-produced newspaper of North Lake College, earned a 2008 Pacemaker Award Nov. 1 at the National College Media Convention in Kansas City, MO. Given by the Associated Collegiate Press and the Newspaper Association of America Foundation, Pacemakers recognize general excellence and outstanding achievement by college newspapers throughout the country.

North Lake was one of five twoyear colleges in the nation to receive a 2008 Pacemaker.

Only one other Texas college was awarded the coveted Pacemaker: The Battalion, Texas A&M University's four-year daily.

The News-Register now has two Pacemakers, having earned its first recognition in 2004 and having been named a finalist for the past two years. The paper qualified for the award on the basis of its coverage and content, quality of writing and reporting, leadership on the opinion page, evidence of indepth reporting, design, photography, art and graphics.

News-Register editor Matt

in student journalism. Keyser was in the running with two other writers, one from Iowa and the other from California. Reporters submitted three of their best single news or feature stories published in their college newspapers in order to compete. The Herald & Review, a daily newspaper in Decatur, IL, judged the entries.

"It is an honor to have worked at such a quality paper," Keyser said. "The expectation that every issue could be great inspired me to work harder."

Newspaper Pacemakers are judged in three categories: fouryear dailies, four-year non-dailies and two-year papers; and are selected by the staff of a professional newspaper in the host city of the ACP/CMA National College Media Convention.

ACP is a division of the National Scholastic Press Association, a nonprofit education organization that strives to educate and recognize the work of student journalists, to improve the quality of student media and to foster careers in media.

The recent Pacemaker Award

Association convention in College Station, the paper won the highest award in its division - the Sweepstakes Award (for the second consecutive year) - plus Overall Excellence and 21 individual awards.

At the Texas Community College Journalism Association convention Oct. 3 in Corpus Christi, News-Register writers took home 13 awards.

'We wouldn't have done so well without the support of our North Lake family," News-Register advisor Kathleen Stockmier said. "Their backing keeps moving us forward."

The 2007-2008 News-Register was under the leadership of the following editors: Jason Joyce, Matt Keyser, Amanda K. Witt, Tom Ritchey and Lotis Butchko. Staff writers were Oscar Bissot, Vincent Cervantes, Cassady Clark, Tim French, Zuri Garcia, Pradip Giri, Alyssa Guiliani, Kristin McClain, Yuliana Rangel, O'Neal Rodges, Victoria Stafford, Glen Sovian, Dawn Thomas and Myka Williams. The instructor for the 2007-2008 academic year was Bill Lodge.

For more information about the



News-Register designer Tom Ritchey, sports writer Myka Williams, sports editor Lotis Butchko and editor Matt Keyser show off the Pacemaker Award and Keyser's second place Reporter of the Year plaque at the ACP convention in Kansas City, MO.

Photo by Neli Tokleh

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on Movies

By Matt Mungle Title: Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa Rated: PG

The sweet smell of sequel success. It is very difficult to pull off a sequel that stays true to the previous film yet has enough originality to hold its own. We can all think of films that have flopped due to try-

Read the Irving Rambler **EVERY WEEK**

Mungles Get ready to laugh your crack-a-lackin off

ing to bank off the popularity of the cast or story while having nothing to offer in the way of creativity or originality.

DreamWorks decided to take the risk with Madagascar 2 and are cocky enough that they already have Madagascar 3 scheduled for 2011. But they have nothing to worry about. What works for Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa is a template that all sequel films should try and follow whenever possible. It isn't a tough standard and almost seems like a no brainer. Take what worked in the first one and increase those elements while being careful not to simply rehash. Also, keep the story simple and moveable. Especially in an animated comedy.

In this installment we find our four, four legged friends trying to return to New York. When they end up in Africa instead, they discover a whole new world and learn a lot about themselves and each other. Alex (Ben Stiller-v) finds he has an entire family he never knew existed while Marty (Chris Rock-v) comes to terms with what true originality looks like. All the while Gloria (Jada Pinkett Smith-v) hunts for a man and Melman (David Schwimmer-v) tries to man-up to his true feelings. There is a lot said in this film about acceptance and being who you are. Not conforming to society's or individuals' interpretation of what you should and shouldn't be. Alex's dad (Bernie Mac-v) is the alpha lion of the tribe and as happy as he is with his son's return, he still wants him to be the King of the Jungle. And he has a preconceived idea of how that should look. When they join forces to overcome a revenge seeking lion (Alec Baldwin-v), they have to rely on each others strengths.

But all of that would only have made for a mediocre film that would fall far short of its predecessor. Where the films creators succeeded was in realizing the comedy and scene stealing the penguins did in the original and allowing them more screen time here. The funniest and I mean laugh out loud funny moments in this film come from these black and white flightless birds. They are as sharp and quick and ruthless as before and take this picture from a midgrade kid film to adult worthy animation. Another smart move was having King Julien (Sacha Baron Cohen) return but only enough to keep him hilarious without saturation. He is good in the small parts he has and this makes him funny without becoming obnoxious. Again, he has the most quotable lines and comes close to stealing the film. This was due to the leash they decided to keep him on.

Madagascar: Escape 2 Africa is rated PG for some mild crude humor. It is perfect for kids of all ages and has more than enough to keep the adults tuned in. I was literally laughing at some points until my sides hurt. Also, intended or not, it does show that being different is not always a bad thing. That fitting a mold is good in context but never if it stifles creativity and uniqueness. I think we all need a lesson in tolerance and in looking at our friends and family through eyes of love and acceptance. As Bill Cosby used to always say, "if you aren't careful, you might learn something

before it's done". I give this animated journey 4 out of 5 flight plans. Now let's all go have fun before we come to our senses.

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 interview clipswww.mungleshow.com.

Opinions expressed in any commentary are those of the writer, and not necessarily those of The Irving Rambler, the publisher, editor, or any staff member.



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



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12:25 3:20 6:55 HOUSE R 12:30 2:50 5:05 7:40 10:05 ZACK AND MIRI MAKE A PORNO R 4:55 7:20

* FULLY RESTRICTED

12:15 3:25 6:35 9:40 THE HAUNTING OF MOLLY HARTLEY PG13 12:50 6:45 OTHER END OF THE LINE PG13

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10:00 HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL 3 G 4:25 7:00 SAW V R

3:15 5:35 7:55 10:15 MAX PAYNE PG13 1:40 5:10 BODY OF LIES R 3:05

NO PASSES

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

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.

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PUBLIC NOTICE

Dallas MTA, LP doing business as Verizon Wireless is proposing to construct a new telecommunications tower at 409 N Briery Road, Irving, Texas. The proposed tower will be a 90 foot total height stealth monopole tower. In accordance with 36 CFR Part 800 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, any interested party wishing to comment regarding any effects the proposed facility may have on any historic property may do so by sending such comments to E. Heinemann at Aarcher, Inc. 200 Rufe Snow N., Suite 103, Keller, TX 76248 (817) 946-7156. Refer to number 555-2589.

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.

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Weekly SUDOKU

by Linda Thistle

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

DIFFICULTY THIS WEEK: ★

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214-675-6493

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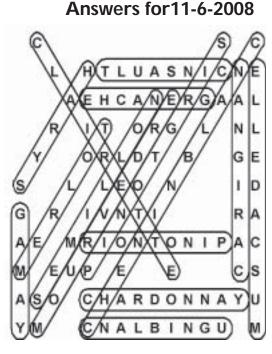
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Answers for 11-6-2008

138





ComParrots by Bonnie J. Malcolm Can you spot 12 differences between these pictures?



www.comparrotpuzzles.com

© 2008 Bonnie J. Malcolm



wider. 11. Tree branch outside window is wider. 12. Table base is different. 8. Hands on clock have moved. 9. Pocket on pants has moved. 10. Table is in. 6. Cuff on boy's shirt is colored in. 7. Neckline on puppet's shirt is colored in. hand appears. 4. Elbow patch on coat is missing. 5. Pocket on shirt is colored Solution: 1. Leg on kettle drum is missing. 2. Tail on drawing is missing. 3. Boy's

GARLIC MAGIC MAZE

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X B D E T A V I T L U C A A A

WSREWOLFVVFSUPL

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions -

Allicin Antibiotic Bulbs Cloves

Cultivated Flavonoids Flowers Head

Medicinal Papery skin Perennial Pill form

Stinking rose Sulfur Vitamin B

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Answers for 11-6-2008

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November 13, 2008

An Official Publication of the City of Irving

www.cityofirving.org

Police Department Combats Crime with Towers

The city will have additional eyes in the sky as four new Sky Watch platforms are added to Irving's police program this fall, bringing the total number of platforms to seven.

Sky Watch platforms are 30-foot tall, mobile units that provide an aerial view of areas with potential for crime such as parking lots. Irving police and ICOPS can monitor from the platforms 24 hours a day, and they can be relocated to areas that experience a spike in crime.

"We see an immediate reduction in car burglaries and auto thefts when a Sky Watch tower is deployed to a new area," said Assistant Police Chief Terry Zettle. "Each of the platforms is equipped with cameras that are capable of recording the activities in the immediate area, so even when a police officer is not in a platform, crime is monitored."

The three Sky Watch towers currently in use are located at the Wal-Mart at State Highway 183 and Esters Road, Irving Mall at Belt Line Road and State Highway 183, and LA Fitness at 5550 N. MacArthur Blvd.

rving Public Library has Vision for New Facilities

To provide Irving residents with better public library access, the city is in the initial planning stages of examining ways to build two additional free-standing libraries to service more customers.

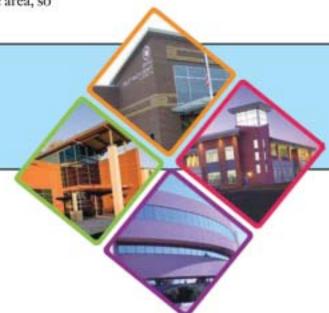
These changes will offer four, full-service libraries, which will place 95 percent of Irving residents within three miles of a library. The two new facilities will replace existing storefront locations, Southwest and Northwest branch libraries, eliminating annual lease payments.

"This plan provides an innovative approach to enhancing library services to reach more residents," said Patty Landers, library director. "The new Northwest Branch Library will more than triple the size of the existing storefront location. We are particularly excited about collaborating with the Parks and Recreation Department in building a joint senior activity center/library complex in the next few years."

In addition to the new facilities, the plans include a 5,000-square-foot build-out of the Valley Ranch Library, with expanded space for teen and children's services and a larger program/meeting room, as well as renovations to the Central Library.

Upgrades will include the installation of new carpet, paint, wall coverings and lighting; an expanded children's program area; a teen area; a larger computer lab; and a quiet area. The East Branch Library will be consolidated into the Central Library.

Residents may provide input regarding the new library facilities at www.cityofirving.org. Select "Public Input Opportunities" on the left side of the home page. The survey will be available through November. For more information, call (972) 721-2628.



ews Notes

Office Closings

City offices will be closed Nov. 27–28 for Thanksgiving. All offices will reopen at their regular hours Dec. 1. City libraries will be closed Nov. 27–28, and all libraries close at 5 p.m. Nov. 26. There will be no residential trash or brush collection on those days, nor will there be any curbside recycling service. Hunter Ferrell Landfill, located at 220 W. Hunter Ferrell Road, also will be closed Nov. 27–28. The city's drop-off recycling centers will be closed Nov. 25–27, but will reopen Nov. 28. All city recreation centers will be closed Nov. 27–28. Heritage Aquatic Center will be closed Nov. 27–28 and North Lake Aquatic Center will be closed Nov. 27–30. The Irving Arts Center administration offices will be closed Nov. 27–28 and will reopen at regular hours Dec. 1. The box office and galleries will be open Nov. 28 for normal business hours.

Fire Safety House

More than \$22,000 in donations have been received to fund a new fire safety house to help teach third-graders about home fire safety. Toys R Us donated the remaining amount, \$15,632, on Oct. 30 during the grand opening of their store at 7730 N. MacArthur Blvd. The existing house is small and does not allow for a full classroom of students to fit inside the facility. As a solution, the Fire Department designed its own fire safety house, complete with stadium seating that will accommodate an entire class.



HOLIDAY EXTRAVAGANZA

Celebrate the holiday season with the City of Irving's Holiday Extravaganza on Dec. 6. The free event will kick off at 4 p.m. with a parade in the Heritage District, followed by the Holiday Extravaganza and tree lighting ceremony at 6 p.m. at City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.

Additional 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.

