



the Irving Rambler

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"The Newspaper Irving Reads"

June 2, 2005

**THIS
WEEK**



Butterflies are free



Clowns gather and share fun

Tanker explosion kills driver, disrupts traffic

Irving Police responded to a two-vehicle accident eastbound 183 at MacArthur Blvd at 6:30 a.m. on May 28. Initial indications are that a pick-up truck and an 18-wheel gasoline tanker truck collided; the pick-up spun around and came to rest against the inside median wall of the freeway and the tanker veered right, careening over the railing and onto the street below (MacArthur).

The tanker caught fire and there were several explosions as the vehicle burned. The driver of the tanker was found deceased in the wreckage. Due to the severity of the accident and the resulting fire, S.H. 183 and Mac Arthur were closed in both directions. The

westbound lanes of S.H. 183 were re-opened at approximately 11:15 a.m. but the remainder of the roads remained closed. The inside lane of eastbound S.H.183 was opened by early evening.

MacArthur Blvd under S.H. 183 remains closed until further notice, and bridge inspection and repair are expected to be completed by July 2005. The middle lane of S.H. 183 has been opened. Only the right outside lane remains closed.

Alternate routes for north and south travel in lieu of MacArthur are O'Connor to the east and/or Story Road to the west. Alternate highway routes for east and west traffic passing through the area are

See *EXPLOSION*, Page 2



A deadly wreck involving a gasoline tanker and a drunk driver caused the closing of Highway 183 and MacArthur Boulevard. Three firefighters were injured while trying to contain the resulting blaze.

Memorial Day MVMC motorcycle ride supports veterans



Motorcycles fill the street during the Military Veterans Motorcycle Club's Memorial Day ride to VA Medical Center in Dallas.

Photo courtesy of Nate McReynolds

The Military Veterans Motorcycle Club (MVMC) presented its first annual Memorial Day bike ride starting at Tommy's Barbecue in Irving and ending at the VA Medical Center in Dallas on May 29.

MVMC member, Nate "Navigator" McReynolds, and Southern Cruisers member, David Barron organized the event, which encouraged people to donate items to and spend time with veterans confined to the VA hospital. Upon learning about the event, local radio station 92.5 KZPS, the Classic Rock Station, offered their on-air support and provided a van to carry donations while following behind

the riders. KZPS' drive-time disc jockey and Vietnam veteran, Bob "Magoo" McMahon, volunteered to ride in the front of the pack.

When personal business prevented Nate McReynolds from joining the MVMC "Run for the Wall" to Washington D.C., he came up with the idea for a local ride. He said that he decided to promote the event by word of mouth and if six people participated, that would be five more than he originally expected.

"My main purpose for the run was to remind people that you didn't need to ride all the way to Washington D.C. in order to help,"

See *VA*, Page 10

Foosball elite compete in \$25,000 Texas State Championships

Jess Paniszczyn and David Radack

Some of the biggest names and highest ranked players in American and Canadian foosball converged in Irving for the 13th annual \$25,000 Texas State Championships played at the Clarion Hotel South on May 27 - 29. With over \$25,000 in cash and prizes, this is the fourth largest tournament held in the U.S. each year and is the country's largest independent tournament.

More than 50 Tornado regulation foosball tables, each equipped with an overhead light, filled two of the hotel's meeting rooms. Pro Master competition was featured on two tables set in a professional pit area surrounded by bleachers. The Pro Master games were broadcast live to a large screen

located in a separate 75-seat theater.

Teenage sensation Billy Pappas from Boston, MA tripled for the second straight year. He captured all three of the main events. In Open Doubles, he and his partner Tony Spredeman defeated Terry Moore from Chicago, IL and his partner Tracy McMillin from Houston, TX. In the Open Singles Final, he defeated his doubles partner Tony Spredeman from Milwaukee, WI. In the Mixed event, he played With Joy Steward from Lafayette, LA and defeated her husband Matt Steward and his partner Brittany Cersosimo from Atlanta, GA.

During the tournament, two competitors were inducted into the Texas Legends of Foosball. This

year the honorees were "Fast" Eddie Lueras from Lubbock and Joe Compean from Houston. Eddie is credited with maintaining foosball in West Texas for over two decades. He was the only professionally ranked player there until both his sons also recently achieved this status. In addition, Mr. Lueras is also known as one of the most dominant Goalie Wars players ever. He won the World Title in this event three times in a span of four years in the late 1990s. Joe Compean, like Billy Pappas is today, was a teen sensation. Mr. Compean has won numerous tour titles, as well as many regional events. Most notably, in the 1970s he won a new

See *TEXAS*, Page 7



In singles competition, Tony Spredeman faces off with the legendary Terry Moore in the pit area while surrounded by onlookers.

POLICE & FIRE BRIEFS

Explosion kills driver, disrupts area traffic

Continued from page 1

S.H. 114 through north Irving, S.H. 356 southeast through Irving, or to the south, I-30 through Grand Prairie.

The driver of the tanker has been tentatively identified as a 34-year-old Cedar Hill man. The driver of the pick-up truck is

identified as a 21-year-old male of Dallas.

Investigators state that there are indications of alcohol being involved and a factor in this accident and that at this time the 21-year-old driver of the pick-up is facing the charge of Intoxication Manslaughter.

Irving Police announces policy change regarding uninsured vehicles

The operation of uninsured vehicles has become an increasing and clearly recognizable problem on public roadways. It is the policy of the Irving Police Department to conduct traffic enforcement that will provide the maximum protection to all individuals who use the roadways. As part of this strategy, the department's goal is to ensure that all vehicles are operated with the insurance coverage required by law.

When officers encounter individuals who fail to maintain the required coverage, enforcement action will be taken. Responding to this problem, which continues to plague law enforcement and responsible drivers across the state, a policy has been authorized allowing a stronger approach to gain compliance to the law.

Effective June 1, Irving officers may impound any uninsured vehicle involved in an accident or those determined to be uninsured during a traffic stop. Additionally, a vehicle impounded for a violation of this policy will not be released from the police impound lot until current proof of insurance is provided whether the vehicle is towed or driven from the impound lot.

Jimmy Perdue, Assistant Chief of Field Operations Bureau, said that this policy will help protect citizens.

"We feel this policy will provide effective and needed assistance to our efforts to gain compliance with the law, and it also demonstrates our commitment to protecting the rights and safety of citizens who use our roadways, responsibly, every day," Officer Perdue said.

Irving Fire Department activity summary May 26-31 & June 1

Irving Fire Department responded to 297 incidents

The Fire incidents

- 92 Miscellaneous Fire and Rescue Calls
- 6 Structure Fires
- 1 Special Operations
- 1 Vehicle Fires

Medical calls

- 20 Major Accidents
- 68 Major Medical
- 16 Heart Attacks
- 41 Difficulty Breathing
- 34 Trauma Related
- 18 CPR Situations

Comments:

5-28 Gasoline tanker fire at 632a.m. at Airport Frwy and MacArthur Blvd. escalated into a Hazardous Materials incident. Resulted in one civilian fatality and three firefighter injuries. Two firefighters were transported to Parkland Hospital for burns and one was taken to Baylor Irving for neck pain.

Comments:

5-26 Ambulances went into overload once.
5-28 Ambulances went into overload four times.

REPORTS

Sudden Death: 05-27-05 11:20 a.m. Officers dispatched to a deceased male, 54 years of age, with a history of health problems. The body was released to the M.E.'s office.

Fatality Accident: 05-28-05 6:25 a.m. A male, who was later found to be intoxicated, lost control of his vehicle eastbound 183 at MacArthur. This caused a gasoline tanker truck to collide with him. The tanker truck went off of 183 and under the MacArthur bridge, where it exploded, and the driver was killed. The bridge was damaged and 183 was closed until 11:20 a.m. when westbound 183 was opened. TXDOT responded along with IPD, Traffic Units, Tactical Units and Reserves. The driver of the at-fault truck will be charged with Intoxication Manslaughter.

Robbery: 05-29-05 11:00 a.m. Adult male was at the car wash located at 902 N. Nursery when adult male suspect approached and asked for change. When complainant pulled his money out of his pocket (\$250 cash), the suspect grabbed it and ran away.

Sudden Death: 05-30-05 11:51 p.m. Officers were dispatched to a male laying in a courtyard. The reporting party stated that it appeared the male was not breathing. IFD checked the male and determined there was no pulse, lividity was present in his back. It

is unknown how long the body had been in the courtyard. The Medical Examiner, I.D. and C.I.D. were notified.

Sexual Assault: 06-01-05 3:10 p.m. Officers were dispatched to a sexual assault. The complainant is a 10-year-old female. The offense occurred four days ago. Youth Services was notified and took over the investigation.

Pursuit: 06-01-05 7:04 p.m. Officer Johnson attempted to stop a vehicle on a traffic violation at Northgate and William DeHaes. The driver refused to stop and fled. The driver surrendered at Finley and Esters. No injuries or damaged property. The driver was taken into custody for evading and active warrants.

Squad Car Accident/Officer Injury: 06-02-05 11:00 p.m. Citizens reported a DWI being followed W/B 635 at our east city limits. An Officer stopped on the shoulder W/B 635 just west of Olympus with his rear overhead light on, to wait for the DWI. The DWI, driving a 2005 VW Beetle, ran into the back end of the squad car injuring the Officer's back, neck, and separating his shoulder. The driver was arrested for DWI. DWI Officers conducted the investigation to get the mandatory blood draw, and Hit and Run investigators worked the accident.

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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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Stacey Starkey -Director
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Herniated or Bulging Disc?

You May Not Need Surgery After All!!!

FDA Approved treatment is now available in Irving

Irving – Most people have tried pain medications, muscle relaxers, anti-inflammatory drugs, steroid injections, physical therapy, chiropractic, or even surgery with little or no improvement. Thankfully, there is relief in sight and the treatment is called Decompression Therapy.

This FDA approved and clinically-tested advanced treatment has helped thousands become pain free. Research has shown outstanding results even when surgery and other types of treatments have failed. Decompression Therapy is 86% effective because it gets to the CAUSE of the pain by gently taking the pressure off of the discs and pain producing nerves allowing them to heal naturally. It treats bulging or herniated discs, sciatica, hip or leg pain, neck or arm pain, degeneration, facet syndrome and arthritis.

This computerized treatment is painless

and takes only minutes. Best of all, there is no hospitalization and no harmful side effects that you may experience with drugs or surgery.

Local doctor, Robert Hanson, D.C. states, "If you want to get relief from pain in the lower back, pain in the hip or buttocks, pain shooting down one leg, or numbness in the legs or feet, I highly recommend decompression therapy... you have nothing to lose... surgery should be the last option."

If you are one of the millions of Americans suffering from lower back or neck pain and looking for a non-surgical solution, this treatment may be for you.

"I no longer limp and my pain is gone. I only wish more people knew about this therapy. My sincere thanks," Todd Nelson.

"I believe everyone with degenerated or herniated discs should try decompression therapy first," Ronnie Dutton.

NO Obligation Offer: This week Dr. Hanson is offering back and neck evaluations and demonstrations to the **First 17 Callers!**

Come in to see if you are a candidate for this life-changing treatment.
Call (214) 596-1051 for your consultation and demonstration.
Conveniently located on Beltline/183 in Irving.

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Wrestling

Friday, June 10, 2005 7p.m. Corner of Rock Island & Main Street

Tickets are \$5 to \$15

MAIN EVENT - 5 MINUTE EXHIBITION MATCH



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The Shady Grove
Ramblers
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The Travis Brothers
11:30 AM - 12:30 PM

Sons of Wrestling Legends Match



Clayton Brooks with Killer Tim Brooks
vs.
Chad Hart with Gary Hart



James Shepherd & Brett Barnes
vs.
Kit Carson & Bash



Bull Man Downs
vs.
Black Bart

Action Jackson
vs.
Chris Stevens



**Chinese Shaolin
Hung Gar Tiger
Lion Dance**
11:00 - Noon



**Indonesian
Community Angklung
Ensemble**
12:30 - 1:30



**DECT Ballet
Folklorico**
3:30 4:30



**Grace Wahine
Dancers, Polynesian
Dances**
2:00 - 3:00



**African Drum
Dancers**
4:45 - 5:45



**Rockabilly Legend -
Ray Sharpe**
2:30 - 4:00 PM



**Texas Music Artist -
Tommy Alverson**
4:30 - 6:00 PM

FREE ADMISSION Saturday, June 11, 2005 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

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Letters to the Editor

The Letters to the Editor section is devoted to giving the people of Irving a voice. *The Irving Rambler* needs your input, letters, comments – good as well as bad, and opinions. This section can only be successful with your support.

If you would like to see your ideas in print, please email them to Letters@IrvingRambler.com or mail them to:

The Irving Rambler
 Re: Letters to the Editor
 P.O. Box 177731
 Irving, Texas 75017

Dear Editor,

The City of Irving is facing a number of difficult challenges. The declining tax base, the urgency for revitalizing our neighborhoods to protect our investments in our homes and a sense of not being heard; all impact the future of our city. We will be facing decisions resulting from the Cowboys' move to Arlington that will chart a course for the next 30 years. Never in our history has the need for strong, experienced leadership been so apparent.

It is my belief that Lowell Cannaday is the kind of man that can help build the

partnerships to oversee the creation of a new vision for Irving. We can no longer afford to "wait and see" what happens. Lowell has an extensive financial and administrative background managing multi-million dollar budgets in both the private and public sector. He can begin immediately, using his talents in defining issues and crafting solutions that will be invaluable in charting our new course for the future.

Lowell has served us well for the past 10 years. We would do well to take advantage of his expertise and successful record by electing Lowell Cannaday to the Irving City Council in Place 5.

Joe Goddard

Letter to the editor:

In the near future our city will be going through a critical election for City Council and

Mayor. As a long time resident of Irving, my wife and I have seen many changes in our city. We feel it is time to elect a strong leader to guide and direct our cities future. We will be supporting David Cole for City Council Place 5.

David has been raised in this city, and currently is a business owner here. He has shown integrity and dedication in his past civic responsibilities, but most importantly, are his concerns for family, friends and the citizens of Irving. David will work to unify the city and will focus on the immediate challenges that we face today. His experience will help him in supporting the cities economic development, while maintaining neighborhood integrity. He will bring a fresh, new attitude to city hall.

My family and I look forward to our city moving in a positive direction and by electing David Cole he will get Irving back on track.

Sincerely,
 Darin and Erika Furbush

Dear Editor:

When I started searching for the best mayoral candidate, I first began reading flyers that came through the mail. I then went to the Internet to check and verify some of the information. That search convinced me that Herbert Gears would be the best choice.

Not knowing Herbert personally, I decided to become involved in his campaign. In the following weeks of labeling flyers and delivering yard signs I was able to talk extensively with Herb. What impressed me most was that he did not go out of his way to tell me what I wanted to hear. He focused on my ideas and what would be best for Irving. As a high school teacher for the past 34 years I can relate to the importance of doing what is best for the majority of people. A good mayor must listen to people from all parts of the city and bring them together with a common goal of "we" not "me". To do that takes a person who has INTEGRITY, is honest and is willing to hear all input before making a decision. I believe that Herbert Gears is that kind of person.

Gary Wendzel

Dear Editor:

My husband is stationed in Iraq and I received the following email that he wanted to be sent to all Irving Citizens. My husband wrote this on his own accord.

Donna Reeves

Citizens of Irving,

My name is D'Wayne C. Reeves and I am a Platoon Sergeant (SFC/E-7) in the US Army currently serving a 12 month tour of duty at Camp Taqaddum, Iraq which is about 7 miles due west of Al Fallujah. I am also proud to be a citizen of the city of Irving. When I return home, I want to be returning to the best Irving possible. Though I have a busy schedule here in my current

position, I feel it most important to take the time to write down my thoughts on the mayoral race in our great city.

Let me begin by saying that our city is in a time of great change. If you look around, you will see the face of Irving is changing on a daily basis. New people, new business and new challenges. With change comes the necessity for good, strong, competent leadership that will focus and channel this change for the greater good of our fair city. Marvin Randle is a solid, intelligent, faith-based man whose contributions to the city of Irving have been a standard for many years. He always has and always will look out for the best interest of the citizens of this city. Bottom line, Marvin Randle is the leader that is necessary for this time.

In closing I ask just one thing, do a big favor for the future of our city. Take the time to learn more about Marvin Randle. I believe that you will find, like I already know, that he is about the future of Irving. Then I truly believe that you, the citizens of the city of Irving, will elect Marvin Randle to this critical post. Thank you and may you all be blessed.

D'Wayne C. Reeves SFC, USA
 HQ PLT SGT, CO B, 2/112 AR BN
 Camp Taqaddum, Iraq

Dear Editor:

I know that many of you did not have your "1st" choice make it to the Mayoral run-off for the June 11th election. However, with that said, I believe we now need to group together and vote for the man who will best run our city. I believe that man to be Herbert Gears.

Herb has done many good things for this City. I know I cheered when he did away with the gas chamber for unwanted dogs and cats. We should be getting a Parkland Clinic in the future thanks to hard work from Herb. Herb wants better pay for our police officers and fire fighters. Something these good people need and deserve! Herb has received the Elected Leader of the Year award from Keep Irving Beautiful for his work in environmental issues. Herb was a huge supporter of the VOTE NO side (and still is) concerning the alcohol issue. He gave his time and money to support this effort. I consider Herb the most qualified to run our City and the person to make the best choices concerning City issues. I urge ALL of you to get out and vote and to elect **Herbert Gears** as our next Mayor of Irving, Texas....

Karen Harmon

WHAT HERB GEARS DIDN'T TELL ME...

When I received a campaign brochure a few weeks ago from Herb Gears, I was surprised to read that he had been endorsed for mayor by The Dallas Morning News, Irving edition editorial. A quote from the editorial was printed in his brochure.

THEN I noticed the DATE under the endorsement. It was April 24, 2004. It was NOT a mayoral endorsement at all, but rather the endorsement in his race against Beth Van Dyne for Irving City Council. Herb Gears lost that race.

Comments from a 13 year old

everyday I ask myself who's the one person that I cherish with all my heart and that person is marvin Randle. I'm not just saying this so he could win his election, I'm saying this from the bottom of my heart. He is truly one of a kind. You don't know how much he has helped my family and I through our hard times. Mr. Randle is a big part of my family. I just thank God for blessing me with such a great friend. Whether or not marvin Randle wins this election he will always be a winner in my heart. I love you Mr. marvin Randle and may God bless you. Good luck on your election.

always
 Desiree Cisneros

VOTE Lowell Cannaday
 Irving City Council Place 5

★★★★★★★★

Positive Leadership for Irving's Future

★★★★★★★★

RUN-OFF ELECTION
 Election Day - Saturday June 11th
 Early Voting - May 25th to June 7th www.lowellcannaday.com

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Irving crime rates are 2nd highest in the suburbs. Irving police officers rank near the bottom in salary in the metroplex.

“Herbert Gears understands the importance of safe neighborhoods. Like police officers, he cares about the people he is responsible for protecting and serving. He is committed to public safety being priority one. We are asking every person in Irving to support Mr. Gears for Mayor.”

Officer Keith McCain, President
Irving Fraternal Order of Police



**The Irving Daily News
Letters to the Editor
May 13, 1981**

Randle a “spoiled child”?

To the editor:

What happened to this newspaper’s coverage of the run-off for mayor election? There was just a small mention in the April 26 paper concerning the election results. This was probably as newsworthy as anything else in Irving. Our mayor, Marvin Randle, had quite a few things to say to the majority of voters who elected a new mayor.

The Dallas Morning News covered it. I was personally amused by Randle’s temper tantrum but was also embarrassed for the city that we would have had such an elected official representing this city. His statements sound as if they came from a spoiled child who was very used to getting his way and finally did not.

According to the Dallas Morning News, Randle said, “It was all the negative elements in Irving that got together to defeat me.” He also said, “Bobby Raper got all the low-class firemen - not all the firemen - but the ones who want to featherbed it, the ones who don’t want to work. He got some of the Christian church vote because he told lies and innuendos.”

The Morning News stated that Randle would not name any specific Raper statement as lies.

In my opinion, he would not name any because there were none. Randle’s last minute dirty tricks did not work for him. the people had had enough and voted him out. Thank goodness!

Sign this one of the negative elements of Irving as well as a low-class firemen’s daughter.

Toni Guenter

Irving Fire Department staffing does not meet national safety standards.

“Herbert Gears is the only candidate for Mayor we can trust to provide firefighters with the attention and resources we need to serve you best. We are encouraging every Irving citizen to vote for Mr. Gears in this important run-off election.”

Larry Miller
Irving Firefighter




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City Hall - Irving Arts Center - Barbara Bush Middle School

Run-off Election - Saturday, June 11th

Softball tournament brings 32 teams to play Memorial Day weekend

Irving Girls Softball Association (IGSA) hosted a national American Softball Association tournament over the Memorial Day holiday. Girls 14-years-old and under from 32 different teams arrived on Irving ball fields ready to play.

Despite the bad weather, it was Kathy Wilkins' job to ensure the tournament ran smoothly. Ms. Wilkins is the assistant tournament director and head scorekeeper for IGSA.

"Saturday morning we had games going on at both Trinity View and Southwest Park. As the rain threatened lightning struck a transformer near Trinity View leaving two of

the playing fields without power. So we had to do things the old fashioned way. Then the rain started and we had to delay the tournament," Ms. Wilkins said.

"We took all the teams playing at Trinity View and brought them to play at Southwest Park. Saturday we had two games played and that was it. I was at the field at 5:30 a.m. Sunday morning to make a decision about whether the games would be played or not."

"We had to play. It was one of those tournaments where we couldn't cancel. If the teams win here, they go on to the Hall of Fame Qualifier in Oklahoma. It is a big deal. Sunday morning at 7:30 the fields were ready.

We told the teams to be there at 10 o'clock to start play. We changed the time limit from 75 minutes to 60 minutes. Some how, some way we got all of the teams played. Our last game Sunday was played at 2:30 in the morning, and we started again at nine on Monday morning. We didn't get to finish the tournament Monday because of rain. However, we did determine which two teams will advance to Oklahoma," Ms. Wilkins said.

"I have been doing this for 12 years, and I have never seen as many people at the

Southwest Park ball field as we had Memorial Day weekend. You could not even go the bathroom. There were just tons of people especially during the game changes. It was awesome to see that many people here; it was just great."

"Overall the tournament went well except the rain delayed everything. All the teams were happy. The girls just want to play ball, they don't care if it is raining," Ms. Wilkins said.

Couple gets stung by telemarketing scam

Mike Carter

With her sly and sometimes earthy sense of humor, Anita Poyner can be fall out of your chair funny, but she was all seriousness when she contacted me and told me about the following scam that stung her and her husband for a hundred-and-twenty bucks.

A couple of weeks ago a telemarketer from Buyers Union representing himself as a Wal-Mart employee called the Poyner home to offer gift certificates good at Wal-Mart as well as local restaurants and other Irving businesses. The telemarketer was convincing, even gave them his employee number. The usual rules applied.

The man told them, "We will send you a promotional package and if you don't like the service you can cancel anytime within 30 days and keep the gift certificates we send you for free. You will only have to pay \$3.95 for shipping and handling of the initial package. We will not charge your account for the service for 30 days."

The certificates, the telemarketer assured Anita's husband, who actually took the call, were genuine gift certificates and not coupons

for merchandise. Anita's husband thought it would be a worthwhile and agreed to receive the promotional package.

A week later the Poyners discovered their checking account had been charged \$119.90 for the package as well as has having been charged \$3.95. They called the 800 number Buyers Union provides for questions and discovered that the promotion was not being conducted by Buyers Union. Rather Buyers Union had hired a company to conduct the promotion for them.

When Anita called that company, they expressed surprise that she thought this promotion was a scam. It also refused to refund the money, so the Poyners are out \$123.85 for a package they were told would only cost them \$3.95 and have had to close their checking account to ensure no other charges go through.

As marketing has become increasingly multi-leveled, the opportunities for rip-off artists have multiplied. Remember when someone calls you offering something for free, that nothing is free. Somebody always pays, and it might be you.

Letters to the Editor

Herb Gears deceived me and anyone else reading that campaign brochure by placing this year-old endorsement under his "Herbert Gears for Mayor" banner, indicating the Dallas Morning News had endorsed him for mayor. They had NOT! What other information in his campaign materials or public statements are deceptive? If we cannot expect integrity in our mayor, what kind of leadership and government will Irving have?

I have known Marvin Randle for over 30 years and have worked with him as a city councilman, mayor, and president of the Irving Chamber of Commerce. He is an individual I trust. He is a man of integrity. I URGE you to support Marvin Randle for mayor and JOIN ME in voting for him in the run-off election.

Carole Shlipak

On September 11, 2004, Irving Voters went to the polls, making an overwhelming decision not to sell beer and wine in the City of Irving. Any other outcome would



have been devastating to many areas of Irving. On June 11th, 2005, you will once again be asked to go to the polls to make a major decision for the City of Irving:

Who will be our next Mayor?

Why do we put these two voting decisions in the same paragraph? Here's why.

Herbert Gears OPENLY opposed the sale of beer and wine in Irving. He attended meetings and gave valuable input. He put all of Irving first in his decision to do so. He does not want further division of North and South Irving and he had the foresight to know alcohol sales would do just that. During his campaign for Mayor, Mr. Gears has NOT accepted donations from those that were most actively involved in promoting alcohol in Irving.

Mr. Randle, on the other hand has accepted over **\$23,000.00 from those that were most actively involved in promoting alcohol sales. Heinz Simon and Ike Guest, committee co-chairs for the proponents of alcohol sales, and several other key activists have written checks to Mr. Randle's campaign for more than \$15,000.00! Think about it. In the world of politics when this much money comes from one special interest group, does this not imply a future "favor" will be in store? Although Mr. Randle has stated that he is against alcohol sales "today", voters should be sensitive to how carefully he has worded this statement and avoided what his stance will be when this issue reappears, and it will. (Proponents claim in 5 months!)

We urge ALL voters of Irving to make a well educated and sound voting decision when going to the polls on June 11th. We encourage all of you to once again make the right choice for the City of Irving.

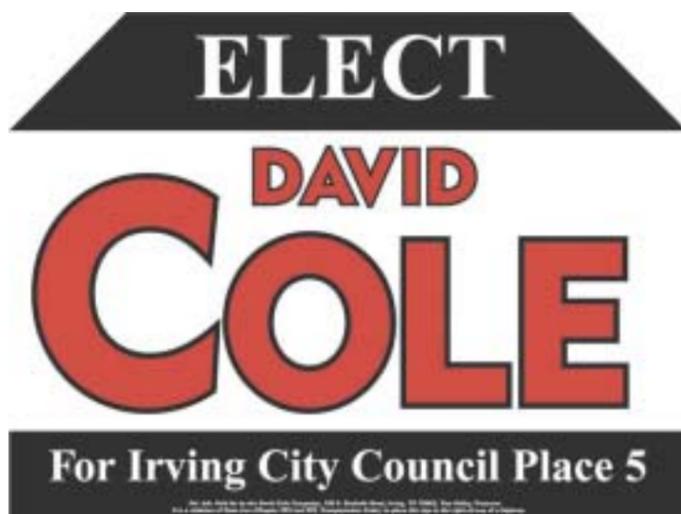
VOTE – HERBERT GEARS A MAYOR FOR ALL OF IRVING!

**** Public Record**

Written by former Irving First Members.

Pd. Pol. Adv. By the Herbert Gears for Mayor Campaign

AN INDEPENDENT, NEW VOICE, REPRESENTING IRVING CITIZENS



**RUN-OFF ELECTION JUNE 11TH
EARLY VOTING BEGINS MAY 25TH**

Voting early is critical!

Please plan to vote before school ends and summer vacation begins. Thank You!

Pol. Adv. Paid for by the David Cole for City Council Campaign Troy Kelley, Treasurer, 105 E. Rochelle Road, Irving, TX 75062

Dear Irving Residents,

I am your candidate for City Council, Place 5. I work hard, am dependable and have a great heart and concern for people; however, I am not a politician! I am a lifelong resident and 18-year business owner/leader who is not influenced by special interest groups. I am deeply concerned about the direction Irving is headed and have no hidden agendas. You can trust that I will do what I truly believe is best for Irving. I will represent the citizens.

I will be a new voice at City Hall. Very important to the citizens of Irving, I am not an "insider" at City Hall. I have not worked in city government which makes me independent from, untainted by, and respectfully and inquiringly skeptical of, city management. Because I am not a retired city employee, have not worked in the trenches of City Hall, made agreements with management, tweaked press and news releases, been in their meetings, or argued for one department over another, I can truly say – I AM AND WILL BE THE CITIZEN'S REPRESENTATIVE – AN INDEPENDENT DECISION MAKER!

I am humbled by the confidence and trust Irving residents have shown in me and my ability to be an effective leader for the citizens of Irving. I would appreciate your consideration and support. **For questions, campaign literature, yard signs, and volunteer information, I encourage you to contact me at (972) 252-8511 or online at www.votedavidcole.com.**

CHAMBER OF COMMERCE - Seminars

June 10 / 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. Seminar

The Changing Face of Your Customers & Employees

Location: Las Colinas Country Club - 4400 N. O'Connor Blvd., Irving

You're invited to attend a dynamic presentation entitled, "The Changing Face of Your Customers and Employees", a seminar on the changing ethnicity in Texas and Irving to be held at the Las Colinas Country Club, 4400 N. O'Connor Blvd, Irving. Guest speaker, appointed State of Texas Demographer by Governor Rick Perry, will be Dr. Steve Murdock with the University of Texas at San Antonio.

This program targets CEOs, marketing and HR professionals managing the changing culture of customers and

employees. For additional information or to register, please contact Barbara Craig at 972-252-8484. Advanced registration is \$25 per individual, or \$175 for a table of 8, which includes company recognition.

June 22 / 7:30 a.m. – 9:30 a.m. HR Alliance Seminar

Mark your calendars for June 22, which will be the second seminar this year for the HR Alliance, entitled "Meeting the Needs of a Multi-Generational Workforce", presented by Linda Haneborg, Senior Vice President of Communications/Public Relations for Express Personnel Services. Haneborg oversees communications, public relations, crises management and media relations for Express' 500 offices worldwide and is a frequent speaker at universities and

professional conferences across North America. She has won numerous awards including: Communications Award from American Staffing Association; Associations for Women in Communications Clarions; Mercury Awards; Girl Scouts' Woman of the Year; and the *Journal Record's* Corporate Woman on the Move.

The program will include material on the four generations of workers who are side-by-side in the workplace for the first time in history - Traditionalists, Baby Boomers, Generation Xers, and Millennials. Haneborg will: (1) identify the typical characteristics of the four generations in the workplace; (2) discuss each generation's unique contributions and potential areas for growth; (3) diagnose workplace issues from a generational perspective; (4) identify potential workplace clashes; and (5) offer

motivational and retention tips to protect a company's most valued investment - its people.

The seminar will convene from 7:30 to 9:00 a.m. at the University of Phoenix, 1707 Market Place Boulevard, Irving. The cost to attend is \$15.00 for Chamber members and \$35.00 for non-members. To register, contact the Chamber at 972-252-8484 or email bcraig@irvingchamber.com and reference June HR Alliance Seminar. Payment to attend is required in advance via cash, check or credit card. The registration deadline is 5:00 p.m., Friday, June 17.

As a special bonus, Express will provide a Generational Self-Assessment quiz to all attendees and a complete set of training program materials to 10 companies in attendance.

Texas State Championships attract foosball players and fans

Continued from page 1

car in a tournament before he was old enough to drive.

Steve Murray, Foosball Hall of Fame Member and tournament director, estimated that in addition to the 260 competitors participating, approximately 150 family members, friends and foosball enthusiasts attended this year's tournament.

"This is the largest, most prestigious state championship of all the state tournaments. Even though this is a smaller tournament, as far as the tour events, they have dubbed this the fourth major. We have three major events during the course of the year: the International Championships, the Nationals and the World Championships. However, Texas State has become so popular it has been labeled the fourth major," Mr. Murray said.

"We have players from at least 18 different states. We have some international

players, some Canadians and some guys from England. We probably have more out-of-towners than we have local players."

"People at the tournament can listen to a play-by-play, live-action broadcast on an FM station. We also have the internet radio going for people who are not at the tournament. The stats, as the tournament progresses, are posted on the internet. So, people who are not here who wanted to be here can keep up with what is going on," he said.

The level of competition is good and everybody is having a great time," Mr. Murray said.

Stacey Myers, remote sales coordinator and webmaster for foosball.com, said that foosball is a great sport for everyone, especially youngsters.

"The best thing about foosball is anyone can play. Many sports like golf, you really have to be strong and you have to be able deliver the club with strength. In foosball we have guys that are 6 ft. 5 in. and 4 ft. 8 in. even women are competitive. There are plenty of women who whoop-up on men. It is such a unilateral sport. A person can become relatively good very, very rapidly. You can go from zero to decent in a short period of time assuming you follow techniques," Mr. Myers said.

"It is like many other sports because it has a good camaraderie; everybody likes each other. Foosball has something that many other sports don't have, foosball has eye contact. You play across a table and you looking right at the other person so there is conversation during the game. When

competitors are playing a tournament for big money, there is not much conversation. When people are playing at a recreation center or billiards hall, they can make fun of each other, laugh at each other's silliness, there is so much more conversation than exits in other sports. In pool, there is one person at the table playing and everyone else watches. In ping-pong, players are busy jumping around. In foosball, players are standing right there and they can laugh and goof-off. The game is quick, it's not slow. Four people can play at once, it is not a my turn - your turn type of sport."

"Churches and recreation centers are a big deal to foosball.com. We go out of our way to help them provide foosball for the youth. Ten years ago, foosball was in lots of bowling allies, recreation centers and arcades. Now unfortunately because of the desire to have rip-the-guy's-head-off video games, foosball has been pushed out. Video games are fine, but they do nothing for the human. Whereas foosball allows human interaction dealing with victory and defeat, it teaches kids how to be descent people involved in competition and not to become jerks. The hand-eye coordination, motor skills and physical aspects of foosball are really good for the body," Mr. Myers said.

"The younger, newer players are able to get so much out of coming to a tournament like this and playing with the older guys. More experienced players will take any amount of time to help young players improve their game."

"The tournament itself, the Texas State Championship, is one of the oldest state tournaments. Texas foosball spread like a virus across the state back in the 70s and 80s. When Texas-style foosball really became strong, it took over the rest of the country. Texas-style foosball is the quickest foosball in the world," Mr. Myers said.

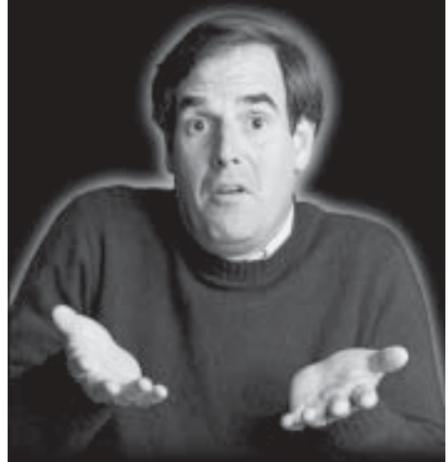
"American foosball is very strong, hard and fast. European foosball is much more controlled, catching the ball and moving it around. American foosball is pow, crushing shots, dominant passing and super-strong. Everyone here exemplifies the American-style. The players here demonstrate power; finesse is not what we go for. Everyone drives the ball home. Most beginners who come to a tournament like this can't even see the shots, because they are blindingly fast."

"All of the top dogs in America come here. This is a regional tournament that has escalated up to a major tournament by itself. The Texas State Championship has walked up to the top of the list and really should be considered a major because of the turnout. Everybody who is anybody in foosball comes to this tournament. The competition level and the number of entries is equivalent to any tournament in the national championships. The only tournaments that rival the Texas State Championship are the world championships and the international championships," Mr. Myers said.

Gregg "Jeep" Perrie, Foosball Hall of Fame Member and Pro Master competitor, has been playing foosball for 31 years and said that he hopes to be able continue to play well into his 100's.

"It's always nice to come play foosball and see your friends. Foosball is a hobby. Four or five times a year, I get to travel around the country and the world to play foosball. It becomes part of your life. The people become very close friends. When you're good at something and you're competitive, then you want to do that. You want test your skills against other players and see how you fare. I've played in tournaments in Switzerland, France, Germany, England and Canada. I played for a beer on a little island that is part of Thailand called Cosa Mui and lost the first one; but I won a couple back," Mr. Perrie said.

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Irving

The Sandwich Generation
How to balance your aging parents and your life

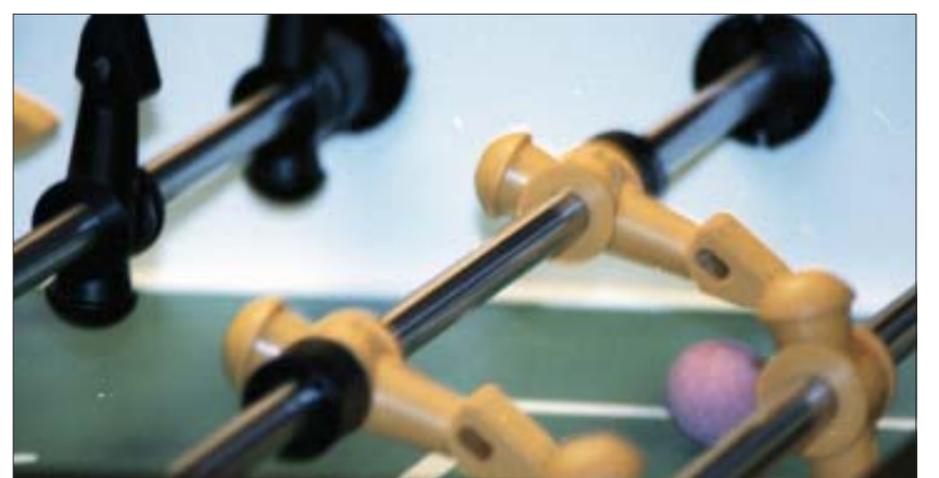
Speakers are: Karen Weatherford, Customer Relations Counselor at 12 Oaks Irving and Tena Burrell, CSA of Financial & Estate Planning Services, LLC

June 23rd 6:30 p. m (refreshments and door prize)
June 30th 12 noon (door prize and lunch provided)

Registration required as space is limited

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Irving, Texas 75061
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SCHOOL BRIEFS

Vals, Sals Get Dells

The valedictorian and salutatorian from each of IISD's four high schools this year will receive a laptop computer courtesy of Dell. Announcement of the donation was made by Dr. Alice Owen, executive director

of technology, at the annual Academic/Career & Technology Awards on May 25 at the Irving Arts Center. Dell agreed to donate the computers after Irving High School student and District Improvement Committee member

Cody Cotten suggested it. Cotten, is the eighth-ranked student in his class.

Valedictorians and salutatorians are: Baron Smith and Danielle Seright from Irving High, Diep Vo and Adrienne Gedeon from MacArthur High School, Julie Curry and Paige Campbell from Nimitz High School, and Junia Valente and Ngan Nguyen from The Academy of Irving ISD.

Association of Student Councils (TASC). Ellis was chosen based on her record of service to MacArthur and the TASC. She received the award at the annual TASC conference in Arlington April 30.

Academy FCCLA Pair Places Second in State

The Academy of Irving ISD juniors Ashley Cate and Rachel Reeves placed second in Applied Technology at the state competition in Family, Career and Community Leaders of America, held in Corpus Christi. Their project involved using a SmartBoard to develop interactive reading lessons for children ages 3 to 7.

New Student Registration

Registration for students new to Irving ISD will be held at most schools August 15 through 19, 2005. School starts on August 23, 2005. In order to ensure a smooth start to school, there will be no new student registration August 22 or 23. Registration will resume on Wednesday, August 24 at noon.

For pre-kindergarten students, registration is available from 8 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. August 3 and August 15-18 at the Early Childhood School in their attendance zone. Student must qualify for pre-kindergarten by income, language or homeless status.

For elementary students new to the district, registration will be open from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Monday through Friday, May 2-20 and August 15-18.

For middle school students new to the district, registration will be open at each middle school at the following times:

Monday, August 15, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

Tuesday, August 16, 8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Thursday, August 18, 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Friday, August 19, 8 a.m. - 4 p.m.

High school students new to IISD should register by calling the appropriate high school and making an appointment for



THE LAS COLINAS SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA
ANNOUNCES AUDITIONS FOR THE 2005-2006 SEASON
FOR THE LONE STAR YOUTH ORCHESTRA
AT THE IRVING ARTS CENTER
MacArthur Blvd, Irving, Tx,
Wednesday, June 22nd - 7:00PM-10:00PM
Saturday, August 20th - 10:00AM - 2:00PM
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www.lascalinasymphony.org, click on the LSYO link or
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Students Make Key Connections Next Week

Seventeen local businesses, government agencies, and civic groups will host IISD eighth-graders next week as part of the Key Connection Program. The program, sponsored by the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce and the Irving ISD, gives incoming eighth-graders the opportunity to explore career fields, learn about the knowledge and skills needed to enter their chosen fields, and make the connection between a solid education and a successful career. Groups of 10 to 14 students, accompanied by a teacher, are bused to host sites for half-day visits. For more information about Key Connection, contact Thelma Cantu, coordinator of Partnerships In Education, at 972-215-5017 or tcantu@irvingisd.net.

Academy Sophomore Wins Bridges Scholarship

Fatima Torres, sophomore at The Academy of Irving ISD, is the winner of a surprise \$1,500 scholarship from Bridges Transitions, the company IISD uses for college entrance preparatory courses. Torres recorded more usage and completed more modules and tutorials on the site than any other student in the country. She was chosen from among 34,000 students for the award.

Mac Senior Wins Scholarship

Christine Ellis, senior at MacArthur High School, has been chosen to receive a \$400 college scholarship from the Texas

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BIG FUTURE

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(Prizes include Mavericks tickets and Indy Race tickets)

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DeVry University
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Butterfly celebration allows local school children to spread their wings



While volunteering as a butterfly tent guide, fifth grader Rebecca Holland demonstrates how to use butterflies as hair accessories.

Berean Christian Academy recently hosted its annual Butterfly Celebration and educational fair.

Over the past several months, Berean Christian Academy first graders have hand-raised butterflies in the classroom and studied the habits, behaviors and lifecycle of butterflies, lady-bugs and other insects. The young students and older student volunteers learned about gardening and caring for plants that attract butterflies in a "butterfly habitat" located on the school's grounds which is certified by the Texas Discovery Garden in Fair Park.

As the majority of butterflies reached maturity and became ready for release, the students prepared exhibits and activities to teach others in the community the knowledge they have learned. Students took visitors on tours of the school's garden areas and of a screened tent filled with live butterflies. Visitors touring the tent were invited to coax the butterflies onto their fingers and hands with sugar water. Students answered questions and encouraged their visitors to play games, make crafts, dress in butterfly

costumes and view a short movie about butterflies. The celebration included mounted butterfly displays by local expert Paris Milan and an expanded exotic insect display by Ernest Ryan. After learning about insects, visitors could sample complementary cookies and lemonade or purchase butterfly related items including Dallas author, Judy Hominick's book, *How to Grow Your Own Butterflies for Young Butterfly Lovers in the South*.

First grade teacher, Ruth Gitchel, has been studying butterflies and passing on her knowledge to youngsters for several years.

"We have been raising butterflies for about 18 years now, and we have held a community fair for about five years," Ms. Gitchel said. "We invited people from the senior citizens' group to attend, and I've done programs for 12 Oaks and a home school group. This is an educational fair. Our whole

purpose is to teach our children the metamorphosis of the butterfly; the entire life-cycle. We consider it important in our teachings from a Christian view-point. The fair is a very important part of teaching that."

"We have a lot of activities to show the children the stages of butterfly development. We have live lady-bugs, and live butterflies some wild caught and some hand-raised. All of the first grade children got to raise butterflies in the classroom. This is a school-wide project. We have volunteer students who work after school in the garden. We teach students gardening skills, how to grow plants and keep out weeds without pesticides. This program also teaches students how to interact with other students in the public. Student volunteers teach other kids from the neighborhood the things that they have learned by helping those who come to the fair," Ms. Gitchel said.

SCHOOL BRIEFS

August 15-19. Evening appointments are available.

At all grade levels, parents or guardians should bring current immunization records for their students, an official birth certificates, Social Security cards, and proofs of residence. Parents of pre-kindergarten students should also know their monthly income before deductions.

ISF Hosts Reception

The Irving Schools Foundation hosted a reception to honor recipients of new ISF scholarships and to present plaques for the Perpetual Giving Tree May 23 at the IISD Administration Building. ISF President Phil Sims introduced donors and recipients of two new student scholarships: the Nicholas Scholarship, presented by Irving Councilman Sam Smith and his wife, Carla Smith; and the Larry Allen Spriggs Scholarship, presented by James and Carolyn Spriggs and their son, Larry Spriggs. ISF President-Elect Diana Pfaff introduced donors of several endowed scholarships: the Nissan North America Scholarship, Jerry Roe Memorial Scholarship, Michael Teal Memorial Scholarship, Josiah Vandertulip Memorial Scholarship, and Carol Wood Scholarship. ISF Vice President Myrna Mercer also recognized 12 ISF Fellows including ISF Executive Director Elizabeth Philipp.

Brown Salutes Armed Forces

Students at Brown Elementary School celebrated Armed Forces Day on May 13 by joining hands throughout the school and singing "My Country, 'Tis of Thee". The event kicked off a drive to collect items to send to soldiers serving overseas.

Townsell Students Saving, Shopping

ACE Cashways, one of Townsell Elementary School's partners in education, opened an end-of-year store at the school in May for all fourth grade students to spend their earnings, savings or profits they earned throughout the year. At the beginning of the year, ACE gave each fourth-grader a piggy bank. Students have earned, saved and invested ACE Bucks throughout the year. At the store, students were able to buy TVs, VCRs, CD players, Dallas Mavericks jerseys, and more.

Mac Orchestra Gets Top Rating, Tours

The MacArthur High School orchestra received a superior rating at a competition held at the Meyerson Symphony Center in Dallas May 13. But orchestra director Heather Blanco said the best part of the experience for her kids was the attending tours. Students visited Dealy Plaza, many for the first time. And in the evening, they attended a Dallas Symphony concert featuring Russian violinist Nadja Salerno-Sonnenberg.

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Forcher's Dance Center wants you!
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Area clowns attend annual meeting

Happi Tymes, Mid-Cities, and Cow Town Clown Allies held their second annual joint meeting at the South MacArthur Church of Christ. Almost 100 entertainers from Arlington, Mid-Cities and Fort Worth attended the meeting. Each year the meeting

rotates from one alley to another, so each group has opportunities to be host.

Magician comedian, Bo Gerard, entertained the group. He also spoke about how he develops a show and other performers who have inspired him.

Earl Warren, vice president of the Happi Tymes Alley, said that clown meetings bring entertainers together socially.

"We don't want any splits between the alleys. Clowns are pretty much homogeneous; we share. We felt like we could get together and bring people in to lecture like Bo Gerard tonight as a group with food and entertainment. We had Chuck Lehr lecture last year, a very good children's entertainer. Magicians, face painters and other types of entertainers have not necessarily associated closely with clown allies. We want to foster good relations

between everyone in this type of business," Mr. Warren said.

Hal Hudgins, president of the Happi Tymes Alley, is a caricature artist and magician.

"This meeting is a great chance for magicians, clowns and face painters to get to know each other better rather than simply going separate ways. We are all in the business of entertaining primarily children. We have some clowns who actually make a living entertaining. Some other clowns entertain simply because it is something they love to do. Often clowns visit hospitals and nursing homes and give of themselves as clowns," he said.

Edward Fitzgerald, also known as Buckle the Clown, explained why clown clubs are called allies.

"The clowns never had a very high ranking in the circus. All of the head-liners got their own dressing rooms, and when the circus traveled with the big-top, the dressing rooms were tents. The clowns did not rank high enough to have a tent, so they had to get ready in the alley between the tents. They called the area for the clowns the 'clown alley'. We kept the name, hence, any clown group is known as an alley," Mr. Fitzgerald said.



Do Not try this at home. The extremely well trained and talented Bo Gerard rips a paper towel in half with a leather bull whip, while both he and assistant, Matthew Fisher, have their eyes covered.



Demonstrating his funnier side, Bo Gerard coaxes Matthew Fisher to eat toilet paper. We do not recommend that you do this at home either.

VA Hospital visited by motorcycle club

Continued from page 1

Mr. McReynolds said. "There are veterans in our own backyard that need our support. I wanted to show VA residents that they are not forgotten, and people want to show their support and appreciation for what veterans have done."

"I've lived in Dallas for three years and just recently, in February, I found out that we had a VA Medical Center. I want to show people that giving time to the VA is just as cool as attending a Toy Run at Christmas time. I talked with a few VA residents, and

they had heard earlier in the week that radio station representatives were going to be at the VA Medical Center, and they didn't believe it would happen. The residents thought no one would come to the hospital for something like that. We had 35 bikes show up this first time, and I'm counting on doubling that next year, and the year after that, and the year after that, and on and on. Five of my Brothers from the Military Veterans MC rode down for this; one Brother came all the way down from Illinois. This run is about bikers coming together to show their appreciation for those who have served, whether you're a veteran or a supporter, just being there is enough," Mr. McReynolds said.

Steve Mills, a MVMC member, rode his 2005 Harley from Bloomington, IL to participate in the Memorial Day bike run.

"I rode down to support one of our members who put on the VA run. I feel the people forget about the veterans, and most of the VA hospitals in the country have limited funds. So any time that I can, I like to help out as much as I can, being that I am a military veteran myself. I served in the U.S. Army from '84 to '87, so I feel very strong about military veterans. When we go to VA hospital, the veterans are so happy to see us. The veterans like seeing the bikes and talking about the bikes. We had a little bike show at the hospital and the veterans got to vote for the bikes they liked best. At the end of the day they said 'thanks for coming', but I told them 'thanks for serving and thanks for helping to keep our great country free'," Mr. Mills said.



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

Boots



Breed
Basset Hound
Sex
Male / neutered
Weight
about 40 lbs.
Age
about 1 year
Color
Tri-colored
Reason for Surrender
Cat would not accept him.

Comments: Boots is very sweet and housebroken. He is looking for a home without children.

Foxmoor



Breed
DSH
Sex
Male / neutered
Weight
about 8 lbs.
Age
about 1-2 years
Color
Red Tabby
Reason for Surrender
Found as stray
Comments:
Foxmoor was

found covered in tar so he had to have his head shaved. He is sweet and affectionate.

The DFW Humane Society, 1611 West Irving Blvd, Irving, TX 75061
972-253-3333



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ICT MainStage presents the North Texas Premiere of *The Unvarnished Truth*

Currently, ICT MainStage is presenting the North Texas premier of *The Unvarnished Truth* and audiences reap the laughs from this farce by renowned playwright Royce Ryton. A favorite of major playhouses and community theaters across the United States, the ICT production opened May 27 and runs through June 11.

The play crackles with wit, fast-paced action, and surprises that are on target with theater audiences. An argument between married couple Tom and Annabel over who loves each other more, unleashes a series of mishaps that finishes with a comic crescendo that leaves ICT audiences dying with laughter.

Stage vets and ICT newcomers Keith Kubal and Karyn Lushwright give murderous

attention to their roles of Tom and Annabel. Harry Reinwald trades in his director's chair for the part of *Bill*, Tom's inept ex-army pal. Tory Padden makes her exciting ICT debut as *Mrs. Cartwright*, while Guinn Powell adds the role of *Lieutenant* to his impressive theater credits and honors.

Versatile stage talent Debbie Hurley brings an end to her long absence from the ICT stage in her role as *Mrs. Stewart Dubonnet*. Sheila D. Rose also returns to the ICT limelight as *Isabel*, after brightening Dallas area stages, while James West joins the roster of inspiring new ICT talent as *Bert Hopkins*.

Dave Schmidt helms his second North Texas premiere for ICT MainStage, bringing a trove of stage credits from both the

director's chair and stage. Evelyn G. Hall keeps stage operations running smoothly for the fast-paced action and Jo Anne Hull's properties design skills are put to good use on the set.

Lighting designer Adam Lozuk shows his magic, while Paul Fiorella's set designs enhance the comic confusion of the onstage chaos. Gwen Ward's costume design also adds to the comic element in what promises to be a wickedly funny night of entertainment. That's the unvarnished truth!



The bodies pile up as Harry Reinwald, Keith Kubal and James West hope to say no evil, see no evil and hear no evil in *The Unvarnished Truth*.

Movie Review

The Longest Yard runs short on humor

Matt Mungle
Rated: PG-13

Staring: Adam Sandler, Chris Rock, Burt Reynolds, James Cromwell, Walter Williamson, Michael Irvin, Nelly, Edward Bunker, Lobo Sebastian

Adam Sandler as a golfer? Okay. Wedding Singer? Sure. Ex Pro Football player in prison garb? Fine, if it's funny.

The Longest Yard is a remake of the 1974 prison movie where the cons put together a rag tag team in order to take on the guards. Paul Crewe (Adam Sandler) is a famous quarterback whose life takes a plummet, and he ends up in prison for a drunk driving binge. When the warden (James Cromwell) has Paul put together a scrimmage team to help his guards get ready for the season, the inmates decide to use this as a chance to inflict some retaliatory abuse on the sadistic jailers.

If this movie does anything, it proves that you can have some very funny moments with no script, terrible acting and sophomoric locker room humor. Chris Rock (Caretaker) does for *The Longest Yard* what Wanda Sykes did for *Monster-in-Law* a few weeks back. He adds the one-liners that are the vital link in this chain-gang chuckler. Another element that keeps this film from totally tanking is its array of oddball inmates. Director Peter Segal does a decent job of

helping the characters feed off of each other for a handful of laughs.

Burt Reynolds also stars as Coach Nate Scarborough, a former Heisman Trophy winner doing a long stretch for some crime or another. Reynolds starred in the original film playing the same lead role as Sandler plays in this version. Football fans will be excited to see former Cowboy Michael Irvin back in action even if it isn't a real jersey. While rap icon Nelly turns in a surprisingly well acted performance showing he might just have some big screen skills.

Though this movie has quite a few funny moments it is still a renter at best or more fitting for a couple of buddies wanting to beat the heat and catch an afternoon flick after dropping the wife and kids off for *Madagascar*. If you frequent the movies often you may be okay with this movie, but if this is your one chance to get out of the house for a while, there are better things to see.

The Longest Yard is rated PG-13 for crude and sexual humor, violence, language and drug references. The language is fairly strong and you might not want your 10 year old repeating most of what is heard in this 90 minute plus run.

I give it 3 and a half out of 5 missed tackles. With a Spin on *The Longest Yard*, I'm Matt Mungle.

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Home Sweet Home

Contracts: It's the Details that matter

Tammy Davis

In contracts, it's all about the bottom line, right?? Yes...and no.

The terms, how much the seller will net, the closing costs for the buyer, and who's

paying for what can mean a difference of thousands of dollars. A lot happens from the acceptance and execution of a contract to when the closing takes place and it's important that the little things have been taken care of.

When your Realtor writes your contract, it's imperative that he or she pay attention to detail. A lot can happen between the buyer and seller of if a box is checked or left unchecked or something required of the contract is not completed.

The title items in a contract may cost you a lot of money or sabotage your contract altogether if not handled properly. Especially if the situation is competitive, the listing agent is looking for reasons to reject contracts and as much as reasons to keep one that's going to be a win-win scenario for the seller. These little items may make the difference in accepting or rejecting your offer. Even if you're proposing more money the terms may stop your offer dead in its tracks.

Below are some "small" items that can cause a lot of headaches or kill your contract if not handled well.

Checking the appropriate boxes

Within the body of the Texas Real Estate promulgated contract form are several "boxes" that need to be checked, basically the "who will pay for what" and the "what happens when" of the offer, for instance, who is responsible for paying for the Title Policy, Survey, Residential Service Contract, Buyer Additional Closing Costs, and more.

Many deadlines are also built into the contract form such as the expected closing dates by which the buyer should receive property, disclosures, and length of option period, just to name a few. In a competitive market, correctly navigating these terms can make the difference in your offer being accepted, or another buyer getting the nod from the seller.

Amendments, addenda

Home Owner Association Amendment, Third Party Financing Addendum, Buyer or Seller Temporary Lease are just a few of the amendments that you might be including in an offer. Neglecting to pay attention to these "extras" could come back later to haunt you.

Home owner associations transfer fees and special assessments can cause a surprise at the closing, dates for approving financing can make a difference in your ability to meet your contractual obligations and terms of temporary lease, or the absence of one can negatively affect you, even leave to briefly occupy the property without insurance.

Disclosures

Buyers and sellers will be asked to sign several forms that have nothing to do with the transaction as far as the commitment is concerned, it's just a form designating that you've been told something for example—property condition disclosure, RESPA disclosure, agency disclosure, federal lead based grant disclosure, disclosure of brokerage relationship. For the protection of all parties, being informed of the purpose of each of these disclosures is essential.

Having a professional will be helpful to insure the appropriate boxes have been selected, correct disclosures correlated, and necessary addenda included can make a difference to the real bottom line.

Most importantly, don't wait until the day before you actually write a contract to sit and read it over first so you get to know the document ahead of time. The average home search is 45-60 days; review the contract form with your professional any time during the home search process preferably sooner, rather than later.

There's no good reason for not knowing what it says and what it may require of you before you actually have to submit it for your next home. Discuss with your realtor the approach you want to take so that when you find the right home, you are prepared to write the contract to make it yours.

Tammy Davis has been a licensed Realtor since 1994 and is an agent with Coldwell-Banker Residential Brokerage in Irving.

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Horseless Carriages

Schoemaker's Toyota Dealership has grown with Irving

By Brynne Sissom

In every city, there are a few businesses that grow with the city and become anchors. In this city, Toyota of Irving is one of them. Irving was still a bedroom community when Vernon Schoemaker moved his family from Amarillo to Irving so he could run the new Toyota dealership in 1968. Toyota was expanding, and after 19 successful years in the car sales business with his uncle, Shoemaker decided to move to the Metroplex.

Vernon Schoemaker's son, David, 52, is general manager of the dealership.

"Dad was originally from Minnesota. It was the mid-50's; Dad was just released from the Navy after service in Korea. He visited his uncle in Amarillo with the intention of buying a car. His uncle offered him a car and a job. Dad admired his uncle's success and accepted the job," David Schoemaker said.

"When Toyota asked us to take a look, we came to the Dallas area to look at four different locations, Irving, Arlington, Oak Cliff, and Fort Worth. My dad's uncle wasn't sure that the market was big enough and was going to turn the offer down, but my dad told his uncle that if he didn't want it, he did want it. We moved to Irving soon after," Mr. Schoemaker said.

Toyota began building cars in 1937 and their first marketing venture in America was in 1962-63. It failed, but the company tried again in 1965 and succeeded by implementing a national network of dealerships. Toyota

sold nearly 10,000 cars in 1966, and saw steady progress after that. The company sold 135,000 cars in 1969 and averaged 10-12,000 per month in 1970. This success meant that Toyota had a fleet of six ships carrying 1,300 autos apiece on a continuous schedule to the United States.

What is the name of the dealership? The family's dealership was first located on Irving Boulevard at the intersection of Roger's Street. Starting with four staffers, the business grew to fill nine buildings. In 1979, Toyota relocated to its current location at 1999 West Airport Freeway with a staff complement of 195.

Vernon Schoemaker and his son, David, now run the dealership together. David's son Jereme, 28, started working at "the shop" when he was 13, picking up trash and soda cans. Jereme graduated from MacArthur High School in 1994 and now sells cars in the used car division.

"I think it is used cars that make my granddad tick. He's over here at least twice a day. You are expected to do more when it's a family business. You take it more seriously and personally when it is a family endeavor," Jereme Shoemaker said.

His father, David Shoemaker, graduated in MacArthur's second class of seniors, in 1968.

"I believe that we have succeeded because we still offer an economical product. Our cars can still run way over 100,000 miles

with no major repairs. Road Test Magazine awarded the Corona the Import Car of the Year in 1969, and in 1970, the Mark II won it. Our cars are still winners," he said. Who is speaking?

David Schoemaker explained that the family's business has changed with technology.

"With the Internet and technology the way it is, you have to stay on top of things. It isn't brick and mortar the way it used to be. There are more dealers too, so competition is keen," David Schoemaker said.

Toyota of Irving continues to flourish in the middle of the city, a sign of a family's pride and joy.



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Margaret's Corner

Hi Irving!

Are you part of neighborhood association? If not, more than likely there is one near you. It is a lot of fun, but most important, your participation indicates that you really care about your neighbors, your community and your city. Start getting to know your neighborhood. Have you ever noticed a business open near you, zoning changes, new sidewalks, parks, that you didn't know about? Most neighborhood associations have monthly meetings. You can be informed and your input and ideas are important. Call 972-721-2600 for more information about neighborhood associations.

We attended our Congressman Pete Sessions' 3rd annual Memorial Day Barbeque Picnic. It was a real tribute to all

the branches in the military, and a special message from a colonel was quite moving.

Prayers, patriotic songs, music, children's activities, games and Dickey's Barbeque were enjoyed by all. It was wonderful to see so many flags in Irving. Don't put them away though; the Fourth of July is around the corner.

Every year the City's Independence Day Parade gets bigger. Give yourself a gift; go to the parade Monday, July 4th, 9 a.m. sharp. The theme is *Stars, Stripes and Sounds*. Better yet, enter your church, business or organization in the parade. The application deadline is June 17; call 972-721-2501 to apply.

I extend special thanks to Jackie Madden and her hard working committee. You all outdo yourselves every year. I'm

really looking forward to it. It's a blessing to celebrate our country's birthday.

A lot of churches will be offering vacation Bible School. Tune in next week for a list of them. If you haven't emailed me yours, please do so this week to Maggie0720@juno.com so I can include it on the list.

Read and subscribe to the newspaper Irving reads; do it soon—every issue is great.

Attend church Sunday.
God bless you.

Margaret

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

OBITUARIES

CALVIN HOWARD



Calvin Howard, of Irving, went to glory Thursday, May 19, 2005. He was born May 14, 1921 in Yale, Oklahoma. Calvin is survived by his wife, Jenadean; son, Jim Howard; daughter, Joyce Price; brothers, Don, Lyle, and Lynden

Howard; 6 grandchildren; and 6.5 great grandchildren.

Funeral services were held May 26 at Brown's Memorial Chapel with Leon Adkins officiating. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens.

JERRY DONALD WHITSON

Jerry Donald Whitson, 62, passed away on May 25, 2005 in his Irving home.

Mr. Whitson had been a transmission repairman in the automobile repair industry until his retirement. Jerry was born on January 3, 1943 in Goldthwaite, TX to Ernest Dee & Lucille Whitson. He was a graduate of Goldthwaite High School, he had spent the last 40 years living in Irving.

Survivors include one daughter: Cynthia Lennington of Hico, TX, three sons: Kenneth Wayne Whitson of Granbury, TX, Richard Lee Whitson of Arlington, TX, and Scott Alan Whitson of Irving, TX, six grandchildren, three great grandchildren, step-son: Gary Harkrader of Irving, TX, step-daughters: Barbara Harkrader of Tulsa, OK, three step-grandchildren, two brothers: Jimmy Whitson of Arlington, TX and Dee Alvis Whitson of Brownwood, TX, two

sisters: Linda Faye Garrett of Arlington, TX, and Pamela Ann Whitson of Irving, TX.

A Memorial Service will be held at Calvary Funeral Home Chapel.

LORENE BOYER THACKER

Lorene Boyer Thacker of Irving, Texas passed away Thursday, May 26, 2005.

Born November 16, 1919 in Foreman, Arkansas to Henry and Maggie Boyer, she grew up and graduated from high school in Ardmore, Oklahoma. She worked for Southwestern Bell Telephone for many years, moved to Texas in 1949 and lived in Grand Prairie and Irving until her death. She was a faithful member of the South MacArthur Church of Christ in Irving.

She was preceded in death by husband Charles Thacker, son Ronnie Blalock and great-granddaughter Mariah Blalock. She is survived by three grandchildren, Tommy Blalock, Rondya Blalock, and Dawna Blalock and many other loving family members and friends. A graveside service was officiated by Tim Lewis on Saturday, May 28 at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving.

Arrangements were made by Brown's Memorial Funeral Home.

ANNIE MARIE DUNAWAY



Annie Marie Dunaway, of Irving, TX passed away May 29, 2005.

She was born Oct. 31, 1938 in Winters, TX. Preceded in death by her husband, James R. Dunaway in 1999, Annie is survived by her son, Dwayne

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Bratton of Farmers Branch, three grandchildren, Stephanie, Brendan and Holly Ann Bratton, two brothers, Alvagene and Donnie Presley, sisters, Lucille Salge, Glennadene Seelke, Eleanor Hobbs, Thelma Claxton, Dorothy McMinn, Opal Stout, Linda Esman and Judy Faulkner.

Family visitation was May 31. Funeral services were June 1 at Brown's Memorial Chapel. Interment followed at Oak Grove Memorial Gardens in Irving.

DON ROSS



Don Ross, of Granbury, Texas, passed away May 27, 2005 after a valiant struggle with pancreatic disease.

He was born January 7, 1933 in Tulsa, Oklahoma to

Dominic Ross and Elsie Zachary Ross. He was a retired firefighter with the cities of Irving and Comanche Peak.

Don is survived by his wife, Mary Lou Ross; daughters, Leah Pope and Valerie Caraway, both of Granbury, and Terry Patrick of Irving; brother, Billy Joe Ross of Granbury; sister, Betsy Bushnell of Alpine, California; and 6 grandchildren.

Memorial services were at Brown's Memorial Chapel on June 1.

CLYDE H. "PAT" PATRICK

Clyde H. "Pat" Patrick, 79, passed on May 28, 2005 in his home.

Born on August 22, 1925 in Montague, Texas. Mr. Patrick had been a resident of Irving since 1960, was a member of First Baptist

Church. He served in the U.S. Navy during World War II on the USS Nevada and LCS-(L)104. He retired from Shedd's Food 1982 and Dallas Market Center in 1990. He was a member of Teamster's Union #745, and the National Assoc. of LCS -(L)1-130.

He is survived by his wife: Gay Patrick, two sons: Mike Patrick and Tim Patrick, two daughters: Laura Brown, and Linda Snider, 9 grandchildren and 7 great grandchildren.

Visitation was Tuesday evening. Funeral services were June 1 at First Baptist Church. Interment followed at Oak Lawn Cemetery in Cooper, TX.

In lieu of flowers donations to First Baptist Church-Irving or a charity of your choice.

VELMA REE TATUM GREEN

Velma Ree Tatum Green, 61, of Irving, died May 27, 2005 at Baylor Medical Center in Irving.

Born July 18, 1943 in Fairplay, TX, she was a dietician. Survived by daughters, Sonya Grass and husband Rodney, and Cheryl Green all of Cedar Hill; mother, Velma Tatum of Dallas; brothers, Edgar Tatum, Jr. of Erst, TX, Tommy D. Tatum of Longview, and Kenneth Wayne Tatum of Houston, TX; sisters, Nelva Hicks of Beckville, TX and Barbara Taylor of Cedar Hill; three grandchildren, Victoria, Antonio, and Christina.

She was preceded in death by her father, Edgar Tatum; brother, Benny Ray Tatum; sister, Jean Evelyn Blankinship; and ex-husband, Frank Green.

Graveside service will be 10:30 a.m. June 3 at Little Bethel Memorial Park in Cedar Hill. A memorial service will follow at Noon Friday at Donnelly's Colonial Funeral Home Chapel. The family will receive friends at the funeral home, Thursday from 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.



Thoughts To Consider

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It is important to recognize that funerals are for the living - for those who will suffer the trauma of losing a loved one. The funeral declares that a death has occurred and commemorates the life that has been lived. At DONNELLY'S COLONIAL FUNERAL HOME, we believe that it is through the funeral process that a number of emotional needs are met for both children and adults. The gathering of family and friends for the visitation and funeral service helps provide emotional support to survivors and helps them face the reality of death. Call us at 972-579-1313 for caring, personalized service. We are located at 606 W. Airport Frwy.

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Trucks, Autos, Tractors & Equipment, Tachs & Speedometers, 414 W. Eleventh St.

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 Amazing Life-Enhancing Benefits! A Unique Nectar that helps achieve optimal health Call Now 972-259-3058

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 Pioneer Rehabilitation and Care Center has adopted employment policies and admission policies in accordance with Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Age Discrimination Act which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex, race, color, creed, national origin, age or handicap.

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 Real Estate for Sale: 2406 Markland; \$105,700; clean, bright, airy; perfect starter home; frig/w/d stay; built-ins; FP; screen porch; cul-de-sac 214-460-2553

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 Wonderful 3/3/2, Ceramic Tile flooring in entry, dining & kitchen, jetted tub in master bath
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 Very nice, 3 Br-1 1/2 Bath, 2 Car Garage, 2 Carport, Large room sizes, Lot size is 229' x 162'
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 972-252-5225

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 Budget Lawn Service, Mow, Weed Eat, Edge, Blow Clean. \$25.00 most lawn. 10% discount for new regular customers. Office 972-255-6325 Cell 972-489-5195.

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 Star Mobile Dog Grooming "Professional Grooming in the convenience of your driveway".

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For Sale
 Northwest area - Updated 3 bd/ 2 ba/ 2 1a/ 2 gar, sprinkler system, alarm \$119,900 972-255-6602 or 469-583-9978

For Lease
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 Providing complete income tax services. electronic and paper filing available. 972-445-1243

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 Web Designers and Web Solutions Providers for the Serious Business 877-513-0553

Photography
 Reasonable prices for your own special event 469-855-8076

Repair
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Pest Control
 Experienced pest control/termite tech. needed. Must be certified. Great opportunity for advancement. Bi-lingual a plus, but not required. Competitive salary and bonus program. Transportation provided. To apply: fax, 214-351-0200 or email: ccrnonin@onduty.com

Help Wanted Sales
 Advertising Sales representative with newspaper or on-line experience needed. 214-675-6493

Memory Flowers
 Floral Assistant 3 yrs. retail exp. Courier/delivery. Benefits. 972-254-2603

Dispatchers Wanted
 No experience necessary. Apply in person Monday thru Friday 9 a.m.-noon, 2525 Irving Blvd, Dallas, TX.

Rental
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'Blueprint' offers researched perspectives for South Irving

Brynne Sissom

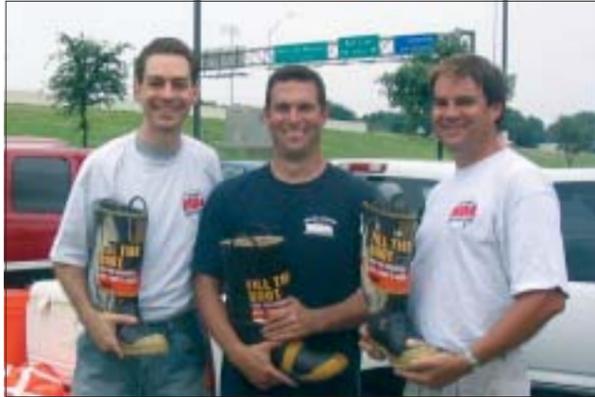
Irving has considerable promise if city officials and investors cooperate to take advantage of opportunities today to revitalize neighborhoods and business areas. In many cases, South Irving is a well-kept secret. A report called *A Blueprint for the Future of Irving* from a group of residents offers recommendations for revitalization that could strengthen and provide direction for the south side of the city.

In response to a request from Mayor Putnam, the Irving South Economic Resources Values and Economics or ISERVE committee was formed to study quality of life issues in Irving, particularly South Irving. The report covers Irving from south of Highway 183 including the areas west of Beltline Road. The *Blueprint* was a completely resident-driven endeavor with the costs of the research and report borne by the committee members.

John Danish, Planning and Zoning Committee Chair, was chair of the *Blueprint* committee.

Fill the Boot Campaign

Chuck Spivey



Jason Watkins, Chuck Spivey (Irving Fire Dept), and Alan Meagher volunteered to help Irving's firefighters raise money for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. The money raised is used to fund research as well as patient support for families in the North Texas region. The Irving Professional Firefighters Association typically raises around \$30,000 dollars over the 3 day campaign. This years total is not finalized yet.

"We feel the report is truly an honest portrayal of where South Irving is in 2005," Mr. Danish said. "Any attempt to develop or redevelop South Irving must take in the complexities of the area and be comprehensive enough to succeed. An ill-considered program could do more harm than good."

Throughout the city, quality of life issues are hot topics. However, there are perceptions and then there are realities, which do not always match. *Blueprint* considers several identified perceptions and through expert testimony, interviews, and research from official state and local real estate records, the police department, city housing department, Census data, Keep Irving Beautiful, human services, etc., the reality became clear.

According to the report, "Irving has the potential to be a gateway to the suburbs if the right mix of revitalization and redevelopment takes place, but the City needs to capitalize on its strengths through aggressive revitalization of both business and residential areas."

The committee reports that quality of life is not dropping, but city officials need to make changes in certain areas and take advantage of opportunities presenting themselves. In order to plan for the future, a city needs to identify and develop its potential. People living in South Irving know the area is showing its age and is ripe for redevelopment. One recommendation from the report encouraged mixed-used zoning so, for example, artists could create, sell their creations or give classes and live in the same building. Businesses based on this model could add charm to a shady avenue of restaurants and boutiques. Irving has two South Irving transit centers, and eventually will include a rail line connecting to the northern part of the city. The presence of expanded transit system creates opportunities for extensive development.

"There is more vitality in the area of Nursery and Irving Boulevard than there is in Plymouth Park," Mr. Danish said. "In the Nursery area, we have set standards for signage, put utilities underground, and the owners of much of the area invested in revitalization of the buildings. We need to pull that revitalization into Plymouth Park now. The Irving Boulevard corridor has so much to offer in terms location and vitality."

One perception of South Irving is that its property value is declining. However, the committee came to the conclusion

that they are not. In fact, South Irving commercial properties are less vacant than in the rest of the City, and valuations are more stable than in Las Colinas. Commercial properties in the southern sector seem to offer the right rent for entrepreneurs launching new businesses and more are minority-owned. Private investment is making a difference with renovations in some locations. Further, rapid improvements would require public-private partnerships or more private investment. Finally, in the vicinity of the DART station, the City must consider community development and take advantage of this hub where people and transit meet.

Residential properties reflect their owner's care and in some cases renovation is a must. From drive-by observation it appears that many owners are actively improving them. From the report:

More than 80% of residential property in South Irving has risen in value each year for the past five years.

More than 2800 new single-family homes have been built in Irving in the past 5 years, a substantial portion in South Irving.

More than 500 new single-family homes in prices ranging from \$150,000-\$220,000 are planned for South Irving.

The City's federal grants program is providing significant new moderately-priced housing in South Irving through partnerships and subsidies with private developers.

More than 49% of Irving homes are 30 or more years old; 6% are over 50 years old.

Blueprint also considered cultural blending and suggests that city leadership needs to reflect the diverse ethnic population. The report outlined the possibility of single-member districts to remedy this. Racism, code enforcement, the school district and crime were also covered in the report.

While South Irving is not perfect and could benefit from more facelifts, it is built on solid ground. It remains to be seen if the opportunities revealed by the report will spur a creative, visionary endeavor to build a pedestrian enclave in South Irving complete with shopping, eating, history, art and music. Vision, coupled with practical changes and creativity, could make all the difference as South Irving waits to emerge in profitable beauty and charm.

FORGOTTEN HOW GEARS SHIFTS?

"I support beer and wine sales in Irving."

Chamber of Commerce,
February 24, 2004

"A Convention Center would be a tremendous boon for Irving."

Irving Morning News, September 27, 2001

"I support a total smoking ban!"

Community Services Meeting,
October 1, 2003

"I will not give up any tax money to keep the Cowboys in Irving."

Hacker Yacker, April 2004

"Beer and wine sales would destroy South Irving."

League of Women Voters Forum,
April 13, 2004

"I wish that the convention center project would just go away. It's interfering with the resources we need to keep the Cowboys."

Dallas Business Journal, August 16, 2002

"I just don't support a smoking ban."

Dallas Morning News Round Table,
April 12, 2004

"Irving can raise its hotel tax 2% to keep the Cowboys in Irving."

Dallas Morning News, April 30, 2004

And that isn't all, on a recent campaign flyer he reprinted a YEAR-OLD Dallas Morning News endorsement from an election *he lost!*

Irving is tired of shifting Gears.

Pol. adv. paid by Marvin Randle for Mayor, 500 Farine Drive, Irving 75062.