

More coverage, more content and more pages devoted to where you live, seven days a week

Send your news tips and ideas to
counties@dallasnews.com

Collin County



Photos by Anja Schlein/Special Contributor

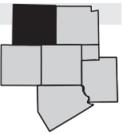
Having a Harlem Holiday night

Top: Guests who roared back to the 1920s on Saturday at Plano Centre sorted through props to wear in the photo booth at the Harlem Holiday Extravaganza: Bringing the Harlem Renaissance to Collin County.

Right: Simon Williams was in the holiday spirit at the event, which was sponsored by the Collin County Black Chamber of Commerce.



Denton County



AREA

Emissions program can help fix or replace vehicle

Denton County residents whose cars and trucks have failed emissions tests can get help making repairs or buying a new car.

The state of Texas has reopened its AirCheckTexas Drive a Clean Machine Program for applications.

If you qualify, you can get vouchers worth up to \$600 to make repairs. The program also has vouchers worth up to \$3,000 to buy a new vehicle, or up to \$3,500 for hybrids and some other fuel-efficient models.

Residents must meet income criteria, and the car or truck must be at least 10 years old and have failed the emissions test in the last 30 days.

A full list of requirements, including additional household income criteria, is available at driveacleanmachine.org.

Denton Record-Chronicle

DENTON

City chosen to join national data program

Denton is among 13 cities chosen by Bloomberg Philanthropies to join a new nationwide program that helps local leaders make the most of their data.

What Works Cities began with a \$42 million initiative in April to help 100 U.S. cities better tackle local issues with data and evidence. The first eight were named in August: Chattanooga, Tenn.; Jackson, Miss.; Kansas City, Mo.; Louisville, Ky.; Mesa, Ariz.; New Orleans; Seattle; and Tulsa.

The program focused on cities with a population from 100,000 to 1 million that are ready to identify the data they collect and figure out the best way to use that data to solve problems.

In addition to Denton, Bloomberg also added Anchorage, Alaska; Bellevue, Wash.; Cambridge, Mass.; Denver; Independence, Mo.; Las Vegas; Lexington, Ky.; Saint Paul, Minn.; San Francisco; San Jose, Calif.; Tacoma, Wash.; and Waco to the program this week.

Peggy Heinkel-Wolfe, Denton Record-Chronicle

FRISCO

Tips sought in robbery of radio personality

Popular radio personality Russ Martin was robbed by three armed men in his Frisco home Wednesday, police say.

The masked men confronted Martin shortly after he arrived home in the gated Stonebriar Creek Estates northwest of the Dallas North Tollway and State Highway 121, police said.

The men led Martin inside his home, where they held him at gunpoint while they stole valuables, according to police, who were called to the home about 9 p.m. The robbers fled in Martin's black 2010 Dodge Challenger.

Frisco police declined to release more details about the case Saturday, and Martin could not be reached for comment.

Anyone with information about the robbery may call police at 972-292-6010. Anonymous tips also may be submitted by texting "FRISCO PD" and the tip to 847411 (tip411).

Valerie Wigglesworth

Cowboys to sponsor chamber awards gala

The Dallas Cowboys will be the presenting sponsor of the Frisco Chamber of Commerce's 32nd annual awards celebration scheduled for Feb. 5 at the Embassy Suites Dallas-Frisco Hotel.

The theme of the event is "Big City Dreams, Small Town Heart." The event is where the chamber names its winners for Developer of the Year, the Entrepreneur of the Year, the Non-Profit of the Year and the Small, Medium and Large Business of the Year, Citizen of the Year, the Silver Citizen of the Year and the Spirit of Frisco.

Learn more about the event at friscochamber.com.

Valerie Wigglesworth

FRISCO ISD

Liberty journalism students earn national recognition

The Liberty High School online student newspaper has been named one of the best in the country.

The Columbia Scholastic Press Association, a national student journalism group based at Columbia University, has named Liberty's Wingspan one of 13 finalists for its Crown Awards for digital news sites. Winners will be announced at the CSPA Spring Convention next March in New York City.

Mansfield Legacy and Lovejoy were also Crown Award finalists from North Texas.

To read the students' work, go to libertywingspan.com.

Charles Scudder

PLANO

Hope's Door receives Bar Foundation grant

Hope's Door, a local women's shelter serving Collin County, has received a \$15,000 grant from the Texas Bar Foundation that will go toward providing critical legal representation for those affected by domestic violence.

For almost 30 years, Hope's Door has been specializing in comprehensive prevention and intervention services to domestic violence victims and their children.

For more information about Hope's Door, visit hopesdoorinc.org or call 972-422-2911. Individuals seeking safety from abusive relationships can contact the 24-hour crisis hotline at 972-422-7233.

Deborah Fleck

Downtown redevelopment on today's council agenda

The City Council may approve a number of redevelopment agreements and incentives at its Monday meeting, many of which revolve around enhancing historic downtown Plano.

The council may approve the sec-

ond year of a special tax to fund the Downtown Plano Public Improvement District, a third, multimillion-dollar renovation phase for the historic Sailing House, multiple economic incentives and a revised agreement with Southern Land Co. to redevelop properties at 14th Street and K Avenue.

The council will also invite public comment on how it spends funds received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development.

The council will meet Monday for a preliminary open meeting before convening into a regular meeting at 7 p.m. at 1520 K Ave.

Kristen Taketa

ST. PAUL

Council to look at flood evacuation plans

The Town Council will meet Monday to discuss flood evacuation at Collin Park with county officials.

The board will also consider a new three-year contract with TXU Energy and hear an update on the storm cul-

vert installation on St. Paul Road.

The board will meet at Town Hall, 2505 Butscher's Block.

Meredith Shamburger

WYLIE

Parks board to discuss county grant project

The Wylie Parks and Recreation Board will meet Monday to hear an update on the Collin County grant project, as well as the acquisition and improvement fund project.

The board will meet at 6:30 p.m. at City Hall, 300 Country Club Road.

Meredith Shamburger

Planning, library boards cancel meetings this week

Wylie has canceled Tuesday's Planning and Zoning Commission meeting because no proposals were submitted. The next meeting is planned for Jan. 5.

The Wylie Library Advisory Board also canceled its Monday meeting. Its next one is planned for Jan. 11.

Meredith Shamburger

Tarrant County



ARLINGTON

Public's help sought after body found in apartment

A 26-year-old's death is being investigated as a homicide after his body was found in an Arlington apartment Saturday, police said.

Jonathan Lee Cole was found dead in the living room of an apartment in the 2500 block of Park Village Drive. Investigators think he was shot sometime before noon, when police received a call.

The Tarrant County medical exam-

iner's office said Cole died of a gunshot wound to the head. Police said the shooting does not appear to be a random act of violence.

Anyone with information about Cole's death is asked to contact Arlington homicide Detective Ben Lopez at 817-459-5373. Tipsters can also remain anonymous by contacting Tarrant County Crime Stoppers at 817-469-8477.

Claire Z. Cardona

Rangers are selling tickets to Fan Fest

The Texas Rangers are selling

tickets to their 2016 Fan Fest on Jan. 23. The annual event will be from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. at Globe Life Park, 1000 Ballpark Way.

Presented by AT&T, the fest will include sessions with executives, players and announcers, on-field events, clinics and photos. Admission is \$10 for adults, \$8 for season ticket holders and \$5 for children 13 and younger.

For more details, call 972-726-4377 or visit texasrangers.com/fanfest.

Deborah Fleck