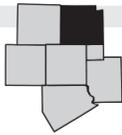


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Collin County



ALLEN

Children's singer to be at schools' arts center

Children's singer-songwriter and Dallas native Eddie Coker will perform at 9:30 a.m. Oct. 17 at Allen ISD Performing Arts Center.

The center is at 300 Rivercrest Blvd.

Tickets are \$4.50 for children and seniors, \$6.50 for adults, and can be purchased online at allenisd.org/communityed or at the door.

Charles Scudder

FRISCO

Ground broken for new office building on tollway

Heady Investments and other project partners gathered Wednesday morning with city leaders to break ground on Frisco Bridges Place, a planned six-story office building along the Dallas North Tollway near Dr Pepper Ballpark.

The 170,000-square-foot office building, with lead tenant Strasburger & Price LLP, will also be leasing the city-owned parking garage next door. The garage with nearly 1,000 spaces was built several years ago with the expansion of Dr Pepper Arena to handle the crowds attending games and other events there as well as at Dr Pepper Ballpark. But it sits largely unused during the week.

ANPH Inc. is the project architect and Ed Henry Building and Engineering is the general contractor. Construction is expected to be completed late next year.

Valerie Wigglesworth

Author to speak on 'History of Collin County'

Randolph W. Farmer, the author of *From Blackland Prairie to Blacktop*:

A History of Collin County, will speak Oct. 18 at the Frisco Heritage Museum, 6455 Page St.

His talk is part of the free lecture series "Saturdays at the Museum" that's hosted by the Heritage Association of Frisco.

Coffee and snacks will be served at 9:30 a.m. The lecture will be from 10 to 11 a.m. Learn more at friscoheritage.org.

Valerie Wigglesworth

Clothe a Child seeks helpers for shopping trips

The annual Clothe a Child event still needs volunteers for the next two Saturdays.

Children in need get a \$100 voucher to shop at Kohl's in Frisco for clothes and winter items. Volunteers are needed to help the students' families during the shopping trips. Volunteers must be at least 16 and be available at least one shopping date. Shopping days start at 6 a.m. Saturday and Oct. 18.

Donations are also being accepted. Organizers say 100 percent of the financial donations are used for the children. John Hamilton, one of the organizers, said about 900 children are expected this weekend and another 1,200 next week.

"The need is really great in the community," he said at Tuesday's City Council meeting. "We're always in need of volunteers." Learn more about donating or volunteering at clotheachildfrisco.com.

Valerie Wigglesworth

MCKINNEY ISD

Eddins choir one of two to perform in San Antonio

The Eddins Elementary School choir is one of two elementary choirs statewide selected to travel to San Antonio for the 2015 Texas Music Educa-

Taking a hammer to Wylie crime



Stewart F. House/Special Contributor

Sgt. Randy Hooker with the criminal investigation unit of the Wylie Police Department took a turn with a sledge hammer on a car seized in a felony crime, part of National Night Out at Olde City Park on Tuesday.

tors Association Clinic/Conference in February.

The choir of 69 third-, fourth- and fifth-graders and is led by choir director Melissa Ringel. They will prepare six songs for their 20-minute TMEA performance.

Charles Scudder

PLANO

Fire stations to host open houses today

Plano Fire-Rescue will host open

houses at its stations from 6 to 8 p.m. Thursday as part of Fire Prevention Week.

Visitors will tour stations, see fire equipment, meet firefighters and learn about how they can make sure their smoke alarms work.

For more information, visit plano.gov.

Meredith Shamburger

Collin Theatre Center to stage 'Our Town'

The Collin Theatre Center at Collin College will open its 2014-15 sea-

son Thursday with Thornton Wilder's Pulitzer Prize-winning play *Our Town*.

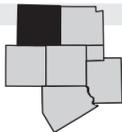
The play explores life, love and death in small-town America.

Performances will take place at the John Anthony Theatre, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway, at 8 p.m. through Saturday and Oct. 15-19 and 2:15 p.m. Sunday and Oct. 18.

Tickets are \$15 for general admission and \$10 for students, staff and seniors. For more information, visit www.collintheatrecenter.com.

Meredith Shamburger

Denton County



AREA

Denton County to mail out 2014 tax statements

Homeowners can expect to see 2014 tax statements in their mailboxes soon — about 500,000 of them will be mailed out this week.

Michelle French, Denton County tax assessor-collector, encourages residents to pay attention to their statements and pay early to meet the deadline and avoid late fees. If anything looks amiss, residents are urged to contact the Denton Central Appraisal District or the tax office.

French touted the numerous ways residents can pay their taxes, including credit and debit cards, phone, bill pay, in person, mail and electronic check, before the Jan. 31 due date.

"If a person decides to mail their tax payment Jan. 31, there is no provision to waive penalty and interest if they are one day late," she said.

French said the same rule applies to online payments.

Statements should arrive in mailboxes no later than Nov. 15. If a statement hasn't arrived by then, homeowners should call the tax office, French said.

Bj Lewis,

Denton Record-Chronicle

DENTON

Construction pains cost businesses on Hickory

Several shops and restaurants on the downtown stretch of Hickory Street report major losses since the start of a project to beautify the area.

Christye Price, buyer at Noles General Store, said she and her business partners have seen a major decline in business as the stretch in front of the store was torn up in recent weeks. The biggest loss has been the parking spaces along the street that often lead to window shoppers stopping in for a peek.

Project manager Greg Blackstone

said crews are in the third and fourth phases of the project, which will include major construction to the road and sidewalks in front of many of the stores.

Until the end of the year, that will mostly affect the businesses on the north side of the street; the south side will see the bulk of its work starting in January.

Brian Scott, KXAS-TV (NBC5)

LEWISVILLE

Learning area to release tiny tarantulas Saturday

Area residents are invited to adopt, name and release a tarantula at 1 p.m. Saturday at the Lewisville Lake Environmental Learning Area.

Tarantula expert Leah Patton and LLELA staff members will be on hand to discuss the spiders and answer questions. Hundreds of tiny tarantulas will be released, and LLELA staff and volunteers have high hopes that they will help successfully repopulate habitat where they once thrived.

Patton, who has bred, hand-raised and donated the hundreds of tarantulas to LLELA, said tarantulas were once common in the area, but habitat loss and other factors are threatening their survival in North Texas.

Cost is \$5 per tarantula. Registration is required by contacting Erin Taylor at erin.taylor@unt.edu or 972-219-3930. There is also a \$5 fee to enter LLELA.

The entrance is at the intersection of Jones and Kealy streets. For more information, call 972-219-3930 or visit ias.unt.edu/llela.

Les Cockrell, Denton Record-Chronicle



For complete community coverage, visit neighborsgo.com and look for it in your Friday edition of *The Dallas Morning News*.

Tarrant County



African culture showcased



Tom Fox/Staff Photographer

Lawrencia Owusu of Dallas showed Sylvester Gyan of Arlington the bone earring she put in his ear at Taste of Nigeria at the Knights of Columbus hall in Arlington on Saturday. She was displaying necklaces, purses, handbags, wallets and jewelry from Mali and Ghana.

EULESS

Church to hold annual Mid-Cities GreekFest

St. John the Baptist Greek Orthodox Church will hold its annual Mid-Cities GreekFest with food, music and more from Friday through Sunday.

Hours are 11 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday, and 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Sunday. Admission is free. The church is at 303 Cullum Drive. Call 817-283-2291.

Deborah Fleck

killing 23-year-old Darrell Page, said Melody McDonald, spokeswoman for the Tarrant County criminal district attorney.

On March 8, 2013, Page went to the house of a friend in the 4000 block of Killian Street and asked her to call a relative he had previously dated.

Young confronted Page with a gun and told him to leave. A short time later, he shot Page in the chest and arm, McDonald said.

Young, who has previous convictions for assault and criminal trespassing, fled and called his brother,

admitting to having killed a man, officials said. He was arrested three weeks later in Killeen.

Claire Z. Cardona

Two teens arrested after standoff on gun store roof

Police arrested two teenagers, ages 15 and 16, after a two-hour standoff outside a gun store early Wednesday.

Officers responded to a burglar alarm around 12:15 a.m. at the Noble Gun Store in the 2900 block of Cravens Road. When officers arrived at the store, the teens were on the roof of the store and refused to come down.

SWAT and police negotiators were called, and the teens surrendered around 2:10 a.m., police said. Both have been charged with burglary of a building. They have not been identified.

Tim Cato

NORTH RICHLAND HILLS

Library plans book sale Friday, Saturday, Monday

The North Richland Hills Public Library will hold its annual book sale this weekend.

It starts with a preview sale from 6 to 8 p.m. Friday. Admission is \$5; Friends of the Library get in free.

The sale continues from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday and 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday. No Sunday hours. Free.

The library is at 9015 Grand Ave. For more information, call 817-427-6800 or visit library.nrhtx.com.

Deborah Fleck

FORT WORTH

Jury hands man 42 years for 2013 fatal shooting

A Fort Worth man was sentenced Wednesday to 42 years in prison for a fatal shooting in 2013.

Jurors deliberated for two hours before convicting Kedric Young of

Metro

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