

North Texas

COMMUNITY BRIEFS

We have Lift Off



Craig Kelly/Courtesy

Wylie city officials and artist John Davis tossed ceremonial first discs Friday to dedicate Lift Off, a public art piece at the city's nine-hole disc golf course in Oncor Park.

AREA

Eules student, Texas team win MATHCOUNTS titles

Luke Robitaille, a 14-year-old eighth-grader from Eules, won the 2018 Raytheon MATHCOUNTS National competition. For the first time in the competition's 35-year history, a student has won the championship for the second year in a row.

Luke's Texas team won first place in the team competition. Other team members were Andrew Cai of Sugar Land, Jacob David of Fort Worth and Rithvik Ganesh of Plano. Michelle Nal is their coach. The students each won a \$2,000 scholarship and a trip to U.S. Space Camp.

This is the third consecutive year for a Texas team to place first. The California state team took second place and the New Jersey team third.

Deborah Fleck

'Manhattan Beach' author to visit two libraries

Jennifer Egan, author of *Manhattan Beach*, will make appearances at two libraries on Monday.

She'll be at the North Richland Hills Library, 9015 Grand Ave., for a free program at 1 p.m. A reception by reservation only will be at 12:15 p.m. The cost is \$40, which includes the book. To register, go to library.nrhtx.com/BehindTheBook.

An evening program will be at 7 p.m. at the Haggard Library, 2501 Coit Road in Plano. A reception will be at 6 p.m. by reservation only. The cost is \$35, which includes the book. To register, visit plano.gov and click on the library tab.

Deborah Fleck

COLLIN COUNTY

Reliant gives \$100,000 to CASA of Collin County

CASA of Collin County, a local nonprofit advocating for the best interests of children in foster care, received a donation of \$100,000 from Reliant's charitable-giving program, Reliant Gives.

The nonprofit received the top donation thanks to tremendous support during a weeklong online voting period.

It served more than 550 victims of child abuse in 2017, and it has a goal of serving 100 percent of the abused and neglected children in the community. Learn more at casaof-collincounty.org.

Deborah Fleck

COLLIN COUNTY

Semi crushes back of school bus near Hunt County border

Fourteen students were taken to the hospital Thursday afternoon after their bus was rear-ended by a tractor-trailer at the Hunt-Collin county border. Officials said none of the injuries were serious.

The Bland ISD bus was stopped at an apartment complex on U.S. Highway 380 shortly before 1 p.m. when it was struck, said Lonny Haschel with the Texas Department of Public Safety.

The bus driver and 14 of the 16 students on their way home from summer school were taken to the hospital as a precaution, Bland ISD officials told KXAS-TV (NBC5). Troopers are investigating the crash.

Sara Coello

DALLAS

Teen leads police on chase from Longview to downtown

A 16-year-old boy led several law enforcement agencies on a chase Thursday morning through downtown Dallas after it started in Longview.

The teen, who has not been identified because he is a juvenile, was arrested after he lost control of his father's pickup — which officials said he had stolen — about 6 a.m. near Interstate 30 and Ervay Street.

The chase began about two hours earlier in Longview, Dallas County sheriff's office officials said. On Interstate 20, one of the truck's tires blew out and threw sparks all over the roadway, but the driver didn't stop.

Longview police initiated the

DENTON

'Dallas Opera: 60 Years' is subject of UNT exhibit

An exhibit called "Dallas Opera: 60 Years" will run through June 29 in the Sandborn Music Reading Room on the fourth floor of the Willis Library at the University of North Texas.

The exhibit showcases memorabilia from Phillip Barbosa, a retired Dallas Opera chorus member.

Hours of the exhibit are 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. Monday through Friday. The library is at 1506 Highland St. For details, call 940-565-2860 or visit unt.edu.

Deborah Fleck

FLOWER MOUND

Summer Reading Challenge to kick off on Saturday

The Flower Mound Public Library, 3030 Broadmoor Lane, will host a Summer Reading Challenge Kick-off from noon to 3 p.m. Saturday. Children 4 and older are welcome for games and activities. They are also invited to register for the reading program.

The challenge runs through July 31. Find more at fmlibrary.net.

Deborah Fleck

FORT WORTH

See 'American Graffiti' free in Sundance Square series

Sundance Square's 11th Annual

Movie Nights will be on Thursdays through July 12 in the plaza area. The films start about 7:30 p.m.

The schedule is *American Graffiti* on Thursday; *Who Framed Roger Rabbit* on June 21; *You've Got Mail* on June 27; *Bottle Shock* on July 5; and *Peter Rabbit* on July 12.

Admission is free and parking is free after 5 p.m. in the square's parking garages. For details, visit sundancesquare.com.

Deborah Fleck

GARLAND

Texas Gypsies jazz band to perform for free Saturday

The Nicholson Memorial Library System presents the Texas Gypsies in concert at 2:30 p.m. Saturday at the Central Library, 625 Austin St. The band is known for its interpretation of classic jazz, swing and big band music.

Part of the Adult Summer Reading program, the event is for people 18 and older. Admission is free. For details, call 972-205-2502 or visit library.garlandtx.gov.

Deborah Fleck

IRVING

Library Friends book sale is today through Sunday

Friends of the Irving Public Library will host its 2018 Annual Book Sale through Sunday at 3000 Rock Island Road (two blocks east of Belt Line Road).

Hours will be 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.

PUBLIC SAFETY BRIEFS

FAR NORTH DALLAS

In standoff, man injures self, sets fire to condo

A man is in custody at a hospital after wounding himself in the stomach and setting fire to a Far North Dallas condominium during a standoff with police Thursday morning.

The man entered a second-floor unit in the 6200 block of Bentwood Trail, threatening to harm himself and a man in the home, police spokeswoman Tamika Dameron said. The victim got out and called 911 at 8:35 a.m., and the suspect followed him.

When police arrived, the man re-entered the apartment and began throwing furniture out the bedroom and stairwell windows, then lit a fire and wounded himself in the stomach, police said.

When officers told the man to exit the apartment, he complied and was taken to a hospital for evaluation. His name has not been released.

Police do not know the relationship between the two men, Dameron said.

Sara Coello

Pedestrian hospitalized after being hit by 2 cars on tollway

A pedestrian walking south along the Dallas North Tollway has been hospitalized with serious injuries after getting run over twice by passing cars Thursday morning.

The incident happened about 1:45 a.m. in Far North Dallas near the Bush Turnpike. According to Department of Public Safety officials, a silver car traveling south hit the victim first and did not stop to render aid.

A second car also struck the victim.

Friday and Saturday and 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday. Find more about the Friends at friendsofirvinglibrary.com.

Deborah Fleck

MESQUITE

Genealogical Society offering annual workshop

The Mesquite Historical and Genealogical Society offers its annual workshop from 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Saturday at the Mesquite Arts Center, 1527 N. Galloway. Randy Whited, a researcher who works for state and national genealogy societies, will present programs on World War I and II military service research, photo and document digitization and organization, federal land records research and understanding DNA and genetic genealogy.

For more information and registration details, call 214-930-2748 or visit the group's Facebook page.

Deborah Fleck

NORTHEAST DALLAS

Pops in the Park fest to be Saturday at C.C. Young

C.C. Young, 4847 W. Lawther Drive, will host its 3rd Annual Pops in the Park Music Festival from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday.

The event kicks off the summer and features big band swing music by Matt Tolentino and The Singapore Slingers. Admission is free and the public is welcome. To register, call 214-841-2831.

Deborah Fleck

RICHARDSON

UT Dallas announces new research vice president

Dr. Joseph J. Pancrazio, associate provost and professor of bioengineering at the University of Texas at Dallas, has been named vice president for research for the university. Pancrazio succeeds Dr. Bruce Gnade, who held the post from 2006 to 2017.

The Office of Research oversees research funding, grants and contracts; campus research facilities and information systems; technology commercialization and licensing; compliance and safety; and the institutional review board, which approves research involving human subjects. Learn more at utdallas.edu.

Deborah Fleck

UNIVERSITY PARK

SMU names new dean of libraries

Holly Jeffcoat, University of Connecticut associate dean of libraries, has been named dean of SMU libraries. She will assume the position Aug. 1.

Jeffcoat will oversee DeGolyer Library; Fondren Library Center; including the Norwick Center for Digital Services; Hamon Arts Library; Bridwell Library; Business Library; and human resources needs for the libraries. She will serve as an ex officio member of the SMU Libraries Executive Board and the Friends of the SMU Libraries.

She's a graduate of Greensboro College and earned master's degrees from Utah State University and the University of Arizona.

Deborah Fleck

WYLIE

Summer Reading Club is launching with a party

The city's Summer Reading Club will kick off with a free party from 9 to 11:45 a.m. Friday at the Municipal Complex, 300 Country Club Road. Co-hosted by the Smith Public Library and Wylie Recreation Center, the event will include a bounce house, an inflatable slide, music by a DJ, a petting zoo, train rides and the Perot Tech truck.

The Reading Club runs through Aug. 4 with free programs and activities throughout the summer. For details, call 972-516-6250 or visit wylitexas.gov/library.

Deborah Fleck

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Longview police initiated the

chase, and once the truck arrived in Dallas, the Dallas County sheriff's office and Dallas police assisted.

No injuries were reported.

Lloyd Brumfield

DALLAS COUNTY

SPCA offers reward in fatal shooting of shelter dog

The SPCA of Texas is offering a reward for information about the death of a dog who was shot and dumped last month in Dallas County.

The pit bull, reportedly named Titan, was found on Dowdy Ferry Road near Teagarden Road on May 26, days after he had been adopted from Garland Animal Services, the SPCA of Texas said.

Dallas Animal Services picked up the dog and called the SPCA to take on the investigation.

The Dowdy Ferry Animal Commission said the dog was found with its leash on and had a puncture wound to the head. A veterinarian determined the dog died of a gunshot to the left thoracic cavity. The SPCA said there have been no credible leads into the investigation of who killed the dog.

The SPCA of Texas through funding by the Murrell Foundation is offering \$5,000 to anyone who provides information that leads to the arrest and conviction of the person or people who shot the dog.

Anyone with information about Titan's death or the death of any animals in the Dowdy Ferry Road area may call the SPCA of Texas at 214-461-1850.

Claire Z. Cardona

Clothes Circuit in the 6100 block of Sherry Lane at 6:30 p.m. May 28, wandering around the store like she was shopping.

Surveillance footage released by police shows the woman holding up handbags and shirts before running out of the store with them.

Police described the suspect as a black woman in her 30s, about 5 feet 10 inches tall and about 190 pounds.

Anyone with information on the suspect's identity is asked to call 214-671-8066.

Dana Branham

KESSLER STEVENS

Man seen on video trying to enter home sought

Police are looking for a man who lingered outside the front door of a Kessler Stevens home last week and appeared to attempt to gain access before leaving.

Surveillance footage taken about 6:30 p.m. May 29 shows the man standing on the porch of the home, in the 1600 block of Junior Drive, just north of Methodist Dallas Medical Center.

Wearing long dark shorts and a white T-shirt, he lingers at the front door, intermittently examining the area above the door with his hand and then looking toward the street. Eventually he puts on a pair of gloves and appears to fiddle briefly with the door.

He is described as a Latin male with prescription glasses and tattoos on his arms and calves. He was driving an early-2000s white Cadillac CTS.

Anyone with information is asked to call 214-671-0701.

Marc Ramirez