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Collin County



AREA

RECAP: Transit cuts catch many off guard

People who rely on TAPS Public Transit aired frustration Thursday about coming service cuts. "What are we supposed to do?" asked Ramona Hereford, whose 23-year-old nephew is disabled and relies on TAPS to get to and from his restaurant job. "We want our family members to be independent. How long will this go on?"

TAPS interim CEO and executive director Tim Patton didn't have any answers yet. He met earlier Thursday with McKinney officials, who will play an integral part in deciding what service will be delivered and where. They decided to hear from riders before offering any proposals in McKinney.

"We cannot provide service to everyone in our service area," Patton told the crowd. "The needs are great. The funding is very small, unfortunately."

The Sherman-based agency is making drastic cut because of mismanagement and overspending.

Valerie Wigglesworth

FRISCO

Story time set for kids prone to sensory overload

The Frisco Public Library will offer a special story time for kids 8 and younger who are prone to sensory overload.

The Sensory Story Time will be at 3 p.m. Saturday. Register at friscolibrary.com/youth.

The children's families may also attend the free 45-minute session, which will include books, songs, sensory activities and the opportunity to explore educational play options.

Families are encouraged to view the Library Social Story before attending. The social story is a visual tour of the library designed to increase comfort and familiarity.

Valerie Wigglesworth

PLANO

Annual gift market to benefit Junior League

The Junior League of Collin County will host its annual 'Neath the Wreath holiday gift market Wednesday through Sunday to raise money for its charitable programs.

The market will be open Wednesday at 7 p.m. for a Ladies' Night Out preview. Regular admission will be Thursday from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Friday from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Saturday from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. and Sunday from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Tickets are \$10 in advance at Tom Thumb stores or \$13 at neaththewreath.org or at the door. Children 12 and under get in free. Ladies' Night Out tickets are \$50.

The market will be at the Plano Centre, 2000 E. Spring Creek Parkway.

Meredith Shamburger

PROSPER ISD

RECAP: Teacher who went to police alleges retaliation

A former Prosper ISD teacher filed suit Wednesday alleging that she was retaliated against after passing on to Prosper police a student's allegation that another teacher had made a sexual advance.

MariBeth Thomas was castigated by school administrators at a meeting in March, the same day Thomas reported the accusation.

Thomas recorded the meeting, in which Prosper High School principal Greg Wright told her she should have told only school district police. Wright emphasized several times that the image of the school was important.

"I'm all about the team," Wright is heard saying on the recording. "I'm all about PR and how this high school looks."

Thomas told police and school officials that the girl, a junior, told her that a teacher had gotten too close, touched her thigh and repeatedly told her, "I like you," according to the recording.

The school district has said it did nothing wrong in its handling of the allegation or the meeting with Thomas.

Jennifer Emily

Halloween came early in Wylie



Left: Denyel Brennan, dressed as Maleficent, handed out candy Thursday at Boo on Ballard in Wylie.

Below: Trick-or-treaters filled the streets Thursday at Boo on Ballard.



Photos by Anja Schlein/Special Contributor

Tarrant County



Carving artists

Emery Sill, 8, was among dozens of people who came out to participate Thursday in the Guinness Pumpkin Carving World Record Challenge at Grapevine Mills mall. They fell short of their goal of 1,500 people.



Photos by Lawrence E. Jenkins/Special Contributor

Starving for carving: Helen Wilson (from left), Holly Wilson, 14, Ben Wilson, 10, and Julie Griffin gathered around to make the first of many cuts on their pumpkins.

ARLINGTON

'Shark' scheduled for UTA's speaker series

Entrepreneur Daymond John will give the next UTA Maverick Speaker Series lecture on Nov. 10.

The CEO and founder of FUBU appears on NBC's *Shark Tank*, where

entrepreneurs pitch their ideas to five investors, including John and Dallas Mavericks owner Mark Cuban.

John will discuss "Shark Tank Entrepreneurship" and answer questions after his lecture.

Admission is free but tickets are required. They are available at utatickets.com.

The lecture will be at 7:30 p.m. at

College Park Center, 600 S. Center St.

Holly Ann Rusak

BEDFORD

Hospital Auxiliary plans holiday bazaar Friday

Texas Health HEB Auxiliary Holiday Bazaar will be from 7 a.m. to 4

p.m. Friday in the main lobby and atrium of Texas Health Harris Methodist Hospital Hurst-Euless-Bedford, 1600 Hospital Parkway.

The event will feature more than 50 local vendors with a variety of crafts, jewelry, candies, clothing and more. Those who attend can enter for a chance to win a Valentine's Day cruise for two to Mexico. The winning

ticket will be drawn at 3 p.m. during the bazaar. Tickets are on sale through Friday.

All proceeds from the bazaar will go toward the auxiliary's pledge of \$400,000 to Texas Health HEB. For more information, call 817-858-9474.

Deborah Fleck