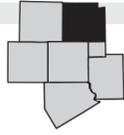


More coverage, more content and more pages devoted to where you live, seven days a week

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

Collin County



FRISCO

Plans for Custer Bridges development advance

Plans are moving forward for the Custer Bridges development at the northwest corner of State Highway 121 and Custer Road.

The 44-acre project will include a 189,543-square-foot Wal-Mart with gas pumps and seven retail and restaurant buildings.

Unlike the most recent Wal-Mart cases, which required a zoning change or a specific-use permit, this one is allowed by the property's commercial zoning. That means it needs only administrative review to make sure the project complies with the city's development standards.

As part of the Custer Bridges project, a trail will be built over West Rowlett Creek to connect to the Six City Hike & Bike Trail. The Six City Trail eventually will connect to trails leading to White Rock Lake in Dallas.

Neighbors had expressed concerns about noise from the development, the trail connection to their neighborhood and the screening wall between the commercial development and the neighborhood. The Planning & Zoning Commission approved the preliminary site plan for the development earlier in April.

Valerie Wigglesworth

Rotary Farmers Market opens for season Saturday

The Frisco Rotary Farmers Market will open for the season on Saturday.

Managed by the Rotary Club of Frisco, the market offers fresh fruits and vegetables as well as breads, honey, arts and crafts and other items. Hours are 8 a.m. until 1 p.m. or sellout in Frisco Square.

See friscorotaryfarmersmarket.com.

Valerie Wigglesworth

City names Hal Thomas 2014 volunteer of the year

Hal Thomas was named 2014 Volunteer of the Year at a city reception last week in honor of National Volunteer Appreciation Month.

Thomas logged 600 hours for his work with Citizens on Patrol (COPs), a program affiliated with the Police Department.

Kenneth Ditmore was named 2014 Teen Volunteer of the Year.

The MVPs Spirit Award was given to Julia Cleath, who serves at Fire Safety Town. Rene Gracia, who volunteers at the Police Department, was named 2014 Rookie of the Year. Donna Anderson picked up the Silver Award for her service at the Frisco Heritage Museum, and Lee Wilson was recognized for his service in the COPs program and received the 2014 Gold Award.

Last year, 972 volunteers donated 24,275 hours of their time for various city events and programs.

Valerie Wigglesworth

MCKINNEY

Woman injured when wheelchair catches fire

A McKinney woman is in the intensive care unit at Parkland Memorial Hospital after her wheelchair caught fire Thursday morning, said a spokeswoman with the McKinney Fire Department.

Firefighters headed to an apartment complex near the 4900 block of



Photos by Louis DeLuca/Staff Photographer

Taste of Wylie a filling experience

Melissa Stone (above left) and Jasmine Bayliss of Confection Perfection by Melissa provided sweet treats for patrons during the Taste of Wylie fundraiser Monday at the Wylie First Baptist Church Events Center. Local restaurants were on hand to offer samples of their wares. The annual fundraiser supports Wylie Christian Care Center.



Eldorado Parkway around 6 a.m. Thursday when a woman in her 70s pressed her panic button, Fire Department spokeswoman Stacie Durham said. The woman reported that her wheelchair had caught fire and she couldn't get out, Durham said.

Authorities didn't identify the victim. Investigators are looking into the cause of the fire, Durham said.

Julieta Chiquillo

MURPHY

Applications being taken for youth police academy

Applications for the Police Department's Youth Citizens Police Academy are now being accepted.

The free class for Murphy students in grades six through 12 will focus on what being a police officer is about. Sessions will be July 27-31 and Aug. 3-7.

Apply at murphytx.org. For more information, call 972-468-4259 or email kriebschlager@murphytx.org.

Meredith Shamburger

PLANO

Man gets 40-year term for abusing relative, 12

A Collin County jury sentenced Victor Lopez of Plano to 40 years in prison for the continuous sexual abuse of a 12-year-old relative, according to the Collin County district at-

torney's office.

Prosecutors showed that Lopez, 36, abused the girl at least three times while her mother was at work.

The girl told her mother about the abuse after a friend at school encouraged her to discuss it with someone. Plano officers investigated, and a forensic interviewer met with the girl. She also had a medical exam.

Julieta Chiquillo



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

Tarrant County



AREA

Former Cowboy Ratliff pleads guilty to DWI

Former Dallas Cowboy Jay Ratliff, 33, pleaded guilty Thursday to DWI in a Tarrant County courtroom, the district attorney's office said. He will be on probation for one year.

The defensive tackle now plays for the Chicago Bears and goes by Jeremiah Ratliff.

Ratliff provided criminal court Judge Bob McCoy with documenta-



JEREMIAH RATLIFF

tion that he had undergone a substance abuse evaluation, taken a DWI education class, attended a victim impact panel through Mothers Against Drunk Driving and performed

20 hours of community service for the YMCA.

He was arrested in January 2013 after the pickup he was driving hit an 18-wheeler on State Highway 114.

Police obtained a search warrant to draw Ratliff's blood after he refused a breath test. His blood alcohol content was .16 — twice the legal limit.

Jennifer Emily

ARLINGTON

Rangers set to host stadium event Saturday

Texas Rangers players Elvis Andrus, Derek Holland and Ryan Rua, athletic training staffers and Don

Hooton of the Taylor Hooton Foundation will participate in the 2015 National PLAY Campaign from 10 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Saturday at Globe Life Park.

PLAY, which stands for Promoting a Lifetime of Activity for Youth, advocates for children to have a healthy and active lifestyle. The campaign has held more than 150 events inside all 30 major-league ballparks, reaching tens of thousands of young people.

Visit texasrangers.com.

Deborah Fleck

Denton County



AREA

Boy, 5, taken from home is safe, sheriff's office says

Authorities say a 5-year-old boy taken from a Denton County home Wednesday night was not kidnapped.

The boy was removed from the home at the request of his mother in Mexico, Sandi Brackeen, a Denton County sheriff's spokeswoman, said Thursday. The boy and his sister were safely in the care of their uncle, Brackeen said.

Ehsan Azad

DENTON

City program aims to help create summer jobs

The city is teaming up with local companies to create summer jobs for teenagers and young adults.

The Denton Chamber of Commerce, Denton ISD and United Way of Denton County are among the partners working to provide 11 weeks of employment for youths ages 15 to 21.

Peterbilt Motors Co. and Labinal Power Systems are hosting an informational luncheon from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday for business and city leaders looking to get involved. Those interested can email kayla@unitedwaydenton.org.

The job program will start June 8 and run through Aug. 21. An official list of participating businesses has not been compiled, though Mayor Chris Watts said he expects the city offices, Peterbilt and Labinal to confirm.

Melissa Wylie, Denton Record-Chronicle

FLOWER MOUND

Bike ride to raise funds for missing, exploited children

The Texas Ride for Missing Children, a 62-mile bike ride, will be from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. Friday starting at Lifetime Fitness, 3100 Churchill Drive.

The ride, which promotes child safety and prevention, raises funds for the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's Texas Regional Office.

Law enforcement partners from the Texas Department of Public Safety, Denton County Sheriff's Office and Flower Mound, Lewisville, Highland Village and Double Oak police departments will join riders.

For information, visit missingkids.com.

Adam Schrader

LEWISVILLE

Women Leading Business Expo set for MCL Grand

The Lewisville Area Chamber of Commerce will hold its Denton County Women Leading Business Conference and Expo on May 8.

Christine Cashen, C.J. Lagare and Tracy Lackovich will share their journeys as women leading business and will provide helpful tips and techniques.

The event will also include professional development opportunities and business-to-business networking.

The conference will run from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at Medical Center of Lewisville Grand Theater, 100 N. Charles St. Admission costs \$85 for chamber members and \$110 for nonmembers.

For information, visit lewisvillechamber.org.

Adam Schrader

Pie Five to open today on State Highway 121

Pie Five, a fast-casual pizza chain, will open its first Lewisville location, 4600 State Highway 121, on Friday.

It will be the company's 14th location in the Dallas-Fort Worth area.

The company will donate 20 percent of dinner sales from Monday through Thursday to the East Zone of Lewisville ISD.

Adam Schrader