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The Gazette

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August 15-31, 2001



On the Homefront:

The Little Off The Square Theatre in downtown McKinney presents the drama "Steel Magnolias." Showtime is at 8:00 p.m. and tickets can be reserved by calling 972-562-LOST (5678).

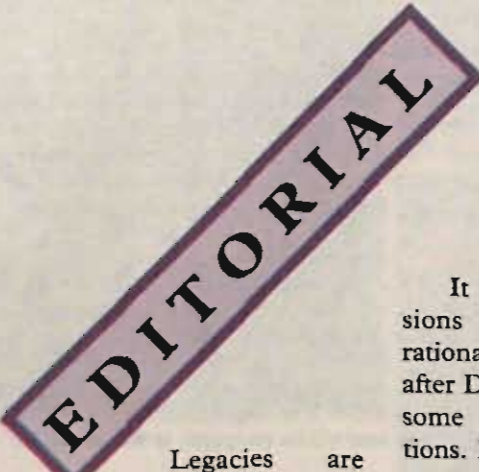
"The Circle Of Success Homework Center" is open at the Harrington Library in Plano. Sessions are held Wednesday afternoons 5:00 p.m.- 6:30 p.m. throughout the entire school year for students in grades 1 - 6.

The Plano Chapter of Mothers & More is seeking to find worthwhile causes to donate time and energy to in the community. They will meet August 20 at 7:00 p.m. at the community room of Robb & Stucky Furniture. Guest speaker will be Billie Meador, an Investment Rep. For Edward Jones. For more information call, 972-994-1118.

The Frisco Public Library will be holding "Storytime for Toddlers" at 10:30 a.m. and "Storytime for Preschoolers" at 11:30 a.m. every Tuesday and Friday. For more information on youth reading programs call, 972-335-5510.

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Plano's African-Americans Lack Focus

Leaders Don't Appear to Have Game Plan for Realizing Their Dreams-Street Named in Dr. King's Honor

Legacies are truly interesting. On one hand, we laud the contributions of the famous as we consider their accomplishments and life's work. On the other hand, our interpretation of their life and work can often get blurred in the light of history. In other words, the real, the authentic person's legacy can overlook all of their dimensions. We are watching this dilemma unfold in the debate regarding the naming of a street in Plano to honor the late civil rights hero Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. If he did nothing else, Dr. King lifted up a mirror for each of us to see ourselves as we really are. Whether in poverty of mind, spirit or money, one real aspect of the life of Dr. King is the challenge he brings to each of us to deal with things as they really are. Dr. King would not have tolerated political correctness.

It is ironic that the discussions about the reason and rationale for naming a street after Dr. King, has brought out some very problematic situations. For example, during the recent public hearing in Plano regarding the renaming, an array of opinions, while expected, covered a full continuum from political grandstanding to racial bigotry. In one instance, much of the discussion concluded that Dr. King was worthy of recognition in Plano, that doing so would reflect the appreciation for diversity and racial harmony in the city, and to suggest to the world that Plano is a full-fledged member of the community of major cities in the world. Unfortunately, while it may give us all a moment of pride in our city, the reality is that the renaming of a street is not much more than symbolism. It may say, in fact, that

Plano does embrace the life and works of one slain civil rights leader. However, we should also realize that the characteristics and appreciation that truly make us a world-class city, is not

African-American community, have verbally supported the renaming effort. While this is commendable, it is troubling that there is no apparent plan for moving from discussion to

churches, collectively, with a united and consistent voice for the King recognition? Much work remains to be done.

Most disconcerting is the coarse rhetoric that argues against the renaming of the street. Comments like "It's not my dream to live near Independence and Martin Luther King Drive," and "I have yet to find a book that states that every town has to have a Martin Luther King Drive," speak in volumes about the residual and lasting effects of bigotry and cultural ignorance. While the lack of logic and reasoning is fairly apparent in these comments, they do, nonetheless, remind us of how much work Dr. King would still have to do if he were still alive.

Yes, legacies are important. However, the greatest impact of legacies comes from the reminder what a positive life well lived can give and for us to remember what we must do. For both our shortcomings and accomplishments, we still have a long way to go.



Fred Moses speaks at MLK public hearing.

simply achieved by renaming a street.

We should also be challenged to call things (and people) for what they are. For example, several religious leaders, particularly from the

realizing the dream of a street named for Dr. King. Making eloquent speeches can be helpful, but speeches are no replacement for a well-considered, thoughtful and actionable plan. In this same vein, where are the

Back to school time for Collin County

by: Angela D. Jones

It's that time again! And as it does every year, back to school time has crept up on everyone; leaving so much to do in too little time.

For the Allen Independent School District (AISD), "it's business as usual," says Public Relations Director Tim Carroll, as classes for Allen's 14 schools begin on Monday, August 6th. Meet the Teacher nights for Allen's 10 elementary schools are scheduled for August 2nd and August 3rd, while Schedule Pickup for its two middle schools was on July 30 and 31st for Ford Middle School, and August 1st & 2nd for Curtis Middle School. Allen High School held registration and schedule pickup on July 26th through July 30th.

So what's new in AISD schools this year? Not much, according to Carroll. In addition to a newly elected superintendent, three new principals have also been appointed within the school district. In line with last year's figures, the district is expecting enrollment to surpass the 10,500 figure from last year.

"While we have grown from last year, this year marks the first in a couple that we haven't had to open a new school to accommodate our growth," Carroll says. "We have a reputation for continual growth and for having fairly new schools too. We are fortunate to have schools that were built no earlier than the 1980's. And the one school that was built in 1970 has been renovated," he adds.

While minority enrollment in

terms of African-American, Asian and Native-American students has been virtually stagnant in recent years, Carroll reports a steady growth in Hispanic enrollment within Allen I.S.D. and anticipates that the other groups will follow suit - adding to AISD's diversity. According to last year's figures, 0.8 percent of AISD students were Native-American, 3.1 percent of Asian decent, 5.3 percent African-American, 7.7 percent Hispanic, and 83.1 percent White or Anglo.

"We had a great year last year and we're expecting to have an even better year this year. We have people coming here because of our reputation for having a good overall district. And while we're not as big as Plano, we are ever-changing and doing our best to keep up with the changing times," says Carroll.

And speaking of Plano - the anticipated first day enrollment figure for the Plano Independent School District (PISD) is a "whopping" 46,773. And according to Nancy Long, Communication Specialist for PISD, that figure is expected to inch closer to 48,000 as the first day of school approaches.

Thursday, August 2nd, marks the first day of school for Plano's 38 elementary, 11 middle, five high and three senior high schools. Among its many credits, Plano ISD boasted 40 "exemplary" rated schools in the 2000 State Accountability Report

released by the Texas Education Agency. These ratings were based on Texas Assessment of Academic Skills (TAAS) test passing rates,



Long. In keeping with the tradition of Collin County's constant growth, the Frisco Independent School District (FISD) is projecting an enrollment of about 7,800 or more students in its nine elementary, two middle and one high school. Registration for all schools began on July 31st. The first day of classes begins on Monday, August 13th.

During the last five years, FISD has grown by 116 percent and that growth trend is projected to continue, gaining 22-23 percent in student population annually. FISD students come from a variety of backgrounds. In fact, of the 7,400 estimated students, 77.47 percent are white, 14.5 percent Hispanic, 4.99 percent African-American, 2.35 percent Asian, and 0.68 percent Native-American. For most African-American parents, these numbers can be a little frightening when placing their children in school systems where they are truly a minority. And while private school has become an increasingly popular trend, the costs can be astounding for the economically challenged - leaving homeschooling as a more affordable and appealing option.

Nationwide, an estimated 1.23 million children are homeschooled by their parents. Out of these, about 2.5 percent are minorities. The Minority Homeschoolers of Dallas Metroplex (MHDM) is a bible-based support group that was

formed to promote homeschooling and motivate minority educators as they nurture and train their children. In addition to providing support, MHDM provides a forum for minority homeschoolers to exchange ideas and provide public awareness that homeschooling is for all. Johnson Obamehinti is founder and president of the MHDM. He says, "Our focus is not in giving academic instruction only, but in building godly character in our children. We believe that academic success without godliness is a waste of God's bountiful resources."

Currently, MHDM has 35 families, with over 130 parents and students that are involved in activities offered by the organization. The group looks forward to expanding its vision and raising community awareness that homeschooling is and can be for all.

For more information on the Minority Homeschoolers of Dallas Metroplex, call 972-354-2520 x7693. And for more information pertaining to school registration and other general information for the Allen, Plano, Frisco, McKinney and Richardson School Districts, please contact the districts below:

- Allen ISD - 972-727-0510
- Plano ISD - 972-727-0511
- Frisco ISD - 469-633-6000
- Richardson ISD - 469-593-0000
- McKinney ISD - 469-742-4000

Immunizations, essential for back to school



Vision's Women's Expo 2001, Dallas



J.C.Penny stylist Jose Pena and Corie Slack

Women of Faith, L to R, Traci Means, Lisa Greene, and Erika Greene



By Monica Thornton
For many parents, keeping up with the paper trail of immunization records can be as painful as the shots themselves. From birth to the time a child goes off to college, immunization records are needed for entry into daycare, schools, and sometimes traveling. Shot records are important and should be given priority in parents' filing systems. Enrolling your children in school may be the farthest thing from your mind when you are gazing into the eyes of your newborn. However, if you want your child's transition to school to be as smooth as possible and your headaches few and far between, shot records must be kept in a safe and organized place. Without complete shot records, schools will not admit children into their system, as part of their effort to stop the spread of sometimes fatal and disfiguring communicable diseases.

Ann Mayo, Plano Independent School District (PISD) School Health Coordinator said, "I don't think we place enough emphasis on shot records when children are born. It would be good if parents were told they are as important as the child's birth certificate."

After the child is born, the next step caregivers should know is where to get the immunizations done. For the underinsured and non-insured, Collin County Health Department provides a list of clinics in McKinney, Plano and Allen that provide shots to children on an income-based, as needed basis. Presbyterian Community Medical Center in east Plano also provides low cost services while Plano Children's Medical Clinic gives free shots on Wednesday and Thursday nights to the first 20 people in line.

Lu Katopody, Immunization Coordinator at the Plano Children's Medical Clinic, says that the clinic has free shots and sick care at night

available and the services have expanded to daytime care to include patients on the Medicaid and CHIP programs. However, anyone going to the clinic during the day and is not on Medicaid or CHIP, must have an appointment and will be charged \$10.00 for shots. Katopody says the clinic has already given 300 shots since July 22, 2001 and believes that number will increase close to 700 before the end of August. From August 2000 to August 2001, the clinic has given

Immunization Requirements 2001

Oral Polio:
a. Series of three (through age 17) b. One must have been since 4th birthday (may be in the month prior to or of 4th birthday)

D.P.T./DT:
a. Series of four (as of 8-1-96); Seven years and older require series of three b. One must have been since 4th birthday (may be in the month prior to or of 4th birthday) c. Booster required every 10 years d. DtaP will satisfy all DTP immunization requirements at all ages

Rubeola (measles):
a. Two doses of measles vaccine are required for all students age 5 and older, who were born on or after 9-2-91 b. First dose must be on or after 1st birthday c. Proof of immunity or booster is required by age 12 for all other children d. ONLY serologic confirmation of measles disease will be acceptable in lieu of vaccine

Rubella:
(German measles)
a. One dose vaccine required on or after 1st birthday, OR b. Serologic confirmation of immunity

Mumps:
a. One dose vaccine on or after 1st birthday, OR b. ONLY serologic confirmation of mumps illness will be acceptable in lieu of vaccine

Varicella:
(chickenpox)
a. One dose on or after 1st birthday for children born on or after September 1, 1994 b. Children born on or after September 2, 1998 and before September 1, 1994 will be required to have one dose at time of the 12th birthday c. Parent or physician validated history of illness, OR d. Serologic confirmation of immunity e. If dose is after age 13, two (2) doses are required

HIB:
a. Required for children 15 months through 4 years. One dose on or after 15 months, unless schedule for a primary series and booster was completed at 12 months of age

Hepatitis B:
a. Three doses are required for all students age 5 years and older, who were born on or after September 1, 1992 b. Three doses are required for all students born on or after September 2, 1998, but before September 1, 1992, by 30 days after their 12th birthday, OR c. Serologic confirmation of immunity or serologic evidence of infection

immunizations to over 4,000 patients as part of their commitment to providing the non-insured and underinsured with the State of Texas required vaccines.

Each vaccine designed to prevent diseases are accompanied by a small list of side effects, however the complications are less severe than the symptoms the diseases cause. One of the most recent required vaccines is for chickenpox. It has long been seen by some people as an inconvenient disease that causes bumps and severe itching. The chickenpox virus can spread over the entire body and sometimes cause blindness. At its worse, it can even kill.

"The chickenpox vaccine has been available, but was used mostly for high risk, immuno-suppressed children, but now it's a requirement," says Mayo.

Children born on or after September 1, 1994 are required to have the chickenpox vaccine and children born on or after September 2, 1988 but before September 1, 1994 must have proof that they have had the disease or been immunized by the age of 12. It is best that the child be immunized before that age.

Apart from immunizing their children to protect against communicable diseases, the biggest thing parents can do for their children is teach them to wash their hands properly. The best way to do this is to model good hygiene for children. "If you have parents that wash their hands, you will have children that wash their hands," says Mayo

For further information regarding immunizations, please contact Collin County Health Department at 972-424-1460.

AUTO ACCIDENT INJURY?

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If you have experienced these symptoms more than once in your life, are drug free and not currently in psychiatric treatment, please call the Psychosocial Research and Depression Clinic at 214-648-5351.

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Lets Build A Performing Arts Hall In A Financially Responsible Manner

By David M. Smith
The Plano City Council should aggressively pursue the construction of a new performing arts hall using the citizen approved \$19.4 million bond money and not much, if any, more.

In the wake of the voters turning down an additional \$15.6 million bond authority, it was disappointing to see the city still pursuing the construction of a \$35 million edifice. In the words of Council Member Pat Evans, who previously was a strong supporter of the additional bond money, "It is pretty cynical three months after the election to go for the full \$35 million."

Ms. Evans, Deputy Mayor pro Tem Phil Dyer and others on the Council are beginning to recognize the voter mandate to build a hall at a reasonable cost. I encourage them to continue down this path.

Thirty-five million dollars would have been the cost for a stand-alone ball in an isolated location.

If you consider making the

hall part of the planned expansion of the Plano Centre convention facility, the costs can be dramatically lower. One, two or more walls of the auditorium could be shared with the Plano



David Smith

Centre. Convention meeting rooms can double as rehearsal space. Office facilities can be shared with the Convention and Visitors Bureau. Other economies, such as a shared air conditioning plant, also come into play.

What if we charge the architect handling the Plano Centre expansion with the mission of enlarging the expansion to add a 1500 seat auditorium with acoustics and other char-

acteristics the same as previously envisioned? What if we gave him or her a \$19.4 million budget target? I bet we would be pleasantly surprised at how nice a facility we could build for that.

If we need a bit more money, a portion of the expected increase in our hotel-motel tax revenues can be tapped. It may also be possible to design a tax increment-financing district that can divert any property tax windfall from related new development to the arts hall.

It is important that any public funds in addition to the voter authorized \$19.4 million be limited only to additional tax revenues directly attributable to the new facility. Otherwise, the city would be playing a "shell game", using general fund property tax revenue to replace funds from other sources. This would directly contradict the voters who just said they do not want a general fund impact greater than \$19.4 million for an arts hall.

We can all be proud of a new performing arts hall that can be built within our means. The performing arts community has waited long enough. Let us now proceed with planning and construction.

David M. Smith is a former Plano City Council Member. He was a member of .There is A Better Way Committee, which successfully opposed the May 2001 arts hall bond proposition. In this article Mr. Smith expresses his personal views, which are not necessarily those of the Better Way Committee or its members.

It's not about you!!

Luke 22:42



Ron Shaw

Have you ever considered how many things are only about you? Although we disguise them and cloak them in the facade of "doing them for others", the truth is, it's really all about us. Recently, I was addressing a group of unmarried ladies about men and women relationships and as usual, one was treading down the path of "all men want is..." and "there are no good men out there." During the two-hour discussion, I asked a question that I most often ask whenever I address relationship issues; "What part do you plan to contribute?" In most relationships, we tend to spotlight what the other person should be doing. However, when Jesus addressed the issue of friendship, He said, "To lay down ones life is the greatest demonstration of love that could ever be displayed." To be full of yourself means that no one else matters and that you are in the center ring of your life and everyone else is in the outer perimeters.

Friendship is the strongest of all relationships. In fact, every other relationship should begin with friendship. Our relationship with God is a covenant of friendship. The marriage relationship was intended to be a friendship with a few added components. When the question of divorce rises, you should remember that Jesus said the reason why it's often considered is because people only think of themselves. That's the primary reason for unresolved issues in relationships because you have

only thought about yourself. The key to successful and longstanding friendships is elevating others over us. To be friends, we must always do what's best for the other person no matter how uncomfortable it may be for us. All forms of sexual sin are about self-gratification and not because we want to do what is best for the other person. I talked to a young man not long ago who told me his girlfriend was pressuring him to have sex. He seemed to think that since they had been together a while and seemingly had made a commitment to each other, why not? He asked me if he should and I didn't tell him no. Instead, I asked him what he thought was best for her. I asked him to think about her getting pregnant, her becoming so emotionally involved she loses focus of accomplishing goals or other issues that could surface consequently. He concluded that if he loved her, he should always do those things that were in her best interest and not jeopardize her future. That's what love and true friendship does. It always considers the other person before itself.

Consider our text, Luke 22:42. Jesus is in his most agonizing hour. He has come to the place of prayer and He's talking with his Father concerning His eminent crucifixion. It's obvious that his personal desire is to remain with His friends and for God to, if possible, seek an alternate plan for the redemption of mankind. However, after analyzing His thoughts, He concludes His prayer by saying, "Not my will but Yours be done."

Again, that's what love does. It overlooks personal ambition and

prefers others first. When we take ourselves off the top shelf, it's amazing how many things in our lives seem to fall in place. No longer will your feelings get hurt. No longer will you take offence to what people say. You would stay free from sin.

Expressions like "my opinion...my feelings...the way I see it...what's fair to me...it you ask me" will be removed from our speech is no longer about us. Jesus died for us, so we should live for him. He is our head in heaven so we must be his body in the earth. It must no longer be about us but about what He wants. I find that whenever I make an issue out of my wants, I miss out. Whenever I make it an issue about what he wants, I'm always happier, healthier, wealthier and wiser.

Let me help you in your quest to live a full life. First, start developing a "you" and "us" way of thinking. Incorporate into your vocabulary the words like "what do you want" and "we can do this" instead of, "I want" and "do this for me." This helps you begin to focus on others instead of yourself. Second, whenever the thought occurs to do something you know you shouldn't, ask yourself this question, "Is this best for my children, my spouse, my parents, or my friends?" Lastly, make a habit of asking God what He wants when you approach decisions such as spending decisions, relationship decisions, employment decisions and etc. He will always put you to shame because what He wants for us is always greater than what we personally desire. As long as life is only about you, you are destined to live miserably. When it's about others, we are destined for greatness.

My summer job, an intern's view on MON

By Keysha Hogan
With my first year of college came many new responsibilities. For the first time I had to worry about things that my parents usually took care of such as replacing the tags on my car, purchasing more than soda and chips from the grocery store, down to the little things like making sure all the doors and windows were locked before going to bed. So needless to say, coming home for the sum-

mer didn't sound like such a bad idea. I figured I'd just be at home taking care of my sister far from the stress of term papers, exams and crowded lecture halls.

After my return home from college, I had several options to keep me busy. Among these choices was working at any one of many restaurants, reading countless magazines and watching my fair share of movies. Just when I thought that nothing was going to make

this summer any different than the others, I was offered a golden opportunity.

This publication offered me a chance to build my resume, meet and befriend many interesting people and regain my focus before returning back to school. My responsibility as an intern included an assortment of office tasks. Daily, I clumsily answered phones and probably hung up on a few people, checked our fax machine

and mail for incoming press releases and worked hard to update our "On the Homefront" and "Community Calendar" sections. At first, I admit, I was a little overwhelmed with what should have been an easy job. I knew very little about the inner workings of a newspaper and was afraid that I would disappoint those over me. Now that I am looking back at those first few weeks, I am so grateful at how supportive and understanding everyone was.

After I mastered the phone system and gained more self-confidence, I was sent out on my first story. I wrote a small article about a lovely

group of young women who played basketball at



Keysha Hogan

after, I wrote many articles about prominent men and women in our community and several special events.

From driving to Dallas to take photos, throwing a surprise party for our publisher, helping other writers do research and memorizing a hundred phone numbers, this was by far the most rewarding summer vacation I could have ever hoped for.

Here at MON - The Gazette I learned a lot more than checking the fax machines and answering phones. I learned to take pride in my work, and how every detail can come together to make one incredible finished product.

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Polls find most Americans back Bush's decision on stem cell

By WILL LESTER
Associated Press Writer

WASHINGTON (AP) — A majority of Americans approve of President George W. Bush's decision to allow limited federal funding for embryonic stem cell research while one-third disapproves, according to two polls released Monday.

Up to six in 10 in polls by ABC News and CNN-USA Today-Gallup approved of the president's decision, announced Thursday.

But the public was more fragmented when asked its preferences. A third would have preferred broader federal funding, a third favored Bush's limited funding, and about a fourth would have preferred no federal funding, according to the ABC poll.

The polls were conducted Friday through Sunday with just over 1,000 adults each and had margins of error of plus and minus 3 percentage points.

Some other findings:

—Just over half in the Gallup poll thought the president made

his decision mostly for political reasons, while a third said the decision was based more on deeply held beliefs.

—Six in 10 Americans in the ABC poll said they have a good basic understanding of the stem cell issue, and they approved of Bush's decision by a 2-to-1 margin. Fewer than half of those who didn't feel informed approved.

—Two-thirds of Republicans and more than half of Democrats and independents said they approved of the decision, according to the ABC poll.

—Four of five of those who approved of the decision in the ABC poll say they would have preferred broader funding. Three-fourths of those who disapproved preferred no funding.

—Four in five in the Gallup poll said the stem cell issue is at least somewhat important to them.

—More than half in the Gallup poll, 57 percent, said they have been following the stem cell debate at least somewhat closely.

By Rod Smyth
Chief Investment Strategist

Capitulation is an important part of an eventual Nasdaq recovery . . .

The last vestiges of the new paradigm are fading away. We have felt that bottom formation and sustained recovery in the Nasdaq was not possible until companies, analysts, and investors acknowledged the inherent cyclical nature of the technology sector. With this now occurring, we believe the pieces are falling into place for an eventual Nasdaq recovery. The near term remains uncertain—but with expectations now approaching reality, a solid base can be formed.

Several important companies have admitted that the sluggish economy is affecting their business. Recently there have been warnings of slower-than-expected profit and revenue growth from industry leaders like Oracle, Intel, Yahoo, Broadcom, and JDS Uniphase. The analyst community has responded with more rating downgrades for high-technology industry groups like storage, optical equipment, and enterprise hardware. We believe this capitulation process is positive for the market for the near and long term. After seeing how momentum worked on the upside in 1999 and 2000, we are now experiencing the effects of downward momentum. After "irrational pessimism" has run its course, we can expect bottoming in the Nasdaq.

But irrational pessimism needs to run its course

Irrational pessimism seems to be pervasive as investors who were overly exuberant during the bubble now exude negativity. There is still cause for concern, but we believe the emotional phases, like the one we're now experiencing, mark turning points for markets, especially when price capitulation follows company and analyst capitulation. The damage has mostly been led by the technology sector. The Dow has outperformed the tech-heavy Nasdaq.

The Fed is on our side. Although much has been made of an inter-meeting cut in interest rates by the Federal Reserve Board, we don't believe the timing of a cut is as

important as knowing that the Fed has ample room to lower interest rates aggressively and the wherewithal to do so in order to prevent recession. The fed-funds futures are pricing in a 4.5% rate by the third quarter, and the rate may fall even further if economic conditions weaken. Ongoing Fed rate cuts should do much to improve economic strength and investor confidence. Historically, sustained Fed easing has resulted in positive returns in the Dow. Only during prolonged downturns, such as in 1929 and 1980, have such measures failed to work within 6-12 months.

Investors should use rallies to diversify

Although near-term improving, we have not yet seen a catalyst on the horizon that can sustain rallying much

beyond 2800. The sector's earnings are expected to remain flat and business spending is likely to remain constrained for quite some time. We believe investors who are still overweighted in the technology sector should prepare to sell into Nasdaq rallies and diversify their portfolios.

Non-tech stocks are doing OK

One of the consequences of the collapsed tech bubble has been the re-emergence of interest in non-tech stocks. According to our relative-strength and price-momentum models, industry groups such as railroads, diversified manufacturing, retail drug stores and food chains, retail department stores, textiles/apparel, regional banks, and electric utilities have performed well and continue to look attractive.

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Allen National Night Out Success

By Keysha Hogan

This is the 17th year that Allen, Texas has participated in National Night Out, a unique crime and drug prevention event. This year the special event was held at the Lake Side Pavilion at Bethany Lakes Park August 7th. The National Association of Town Watch (NATW) sponsors the annual event.

"National Night Out is the national night out against crime. This is when we take our city back. It's our privilege to our citizens here in Allen and it is great that we are able to be here and have the chance to meet our neighbors," said John D. Felty, Community Relations Officer of the Allen Police Department (APD).

National Night Out's goals include heightening crime and drug prevention awareness, generating support for local anti-crime programs, strengthening neighborhood spirit and police/community partnerships and to send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and are willing to fight back.

Every year's campaign involves citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups and businesses. It also includes neighborhood organizations and local officials from 9,500 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, 32 million people participate in National Night Out.

This year local groups such as TXU, Centex Home Security, Allen Police Department's Tactical Unit, Animal Control and the Federal Drug Administration were in attendance. Also adding to the list were Allen Citizens on Patrol, the Allen Fire Department, Paramedics, the American Red Cross, Allen Parks and Recreation, PTA, the Panther Creek Chapter of the Harley Davidson Owners and APD's Explorer Post.

"Our goal is to reach the community and get everyone acquainted with the local fire and police departments," said Jennifer Humphries, Sergeant at

APD's Explorer Post. "We pass out information and help set a good example for youth in the area."

This night for all ages filled with refreshments, vintage cars, waterslides, and clown performances. You receive helpful pamphlets about drug use, inhalants, fire safety and latchkey kids at booths along with goodie bags. "We are here to hand out child identification kits so the parent can have some basic information about their child in case the worse ever happens," said Diane Baltzell, Publicity Coordinator for the Allen Early Childhood PTA.

National Night Out was a total success. Everyone seemed to have a great time, and learned a lot about the protection that the city provides them. As the evening came to a close, seven-year-old Marissa Whitaker of Roundtree Elementary said, "The police is good. They help find the bad people and take them to jail, and I am glad they do their job."

Market Outlook-First Capitulation, Then Recovery

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Education in the early days of Collin County

By Brandy Jones

In the first 30 years of Collin County's history, there were no public free schools. Pioneer parents either taught their children at home or sent them to private schools.

At that time families were large and even a small settlement could support a subscription school. Tuition ranged from \$1.00 to \$1.50 per month and a teacher could be secured if there were enough pupils to guarantee as much as a month's

income of \$30. Room and board cost about \$6 a month, but many of these early schools were conducted in the homes of the teachers.

Schools were often held in church buildings and religious services were held on Sundays in most school buildings. The typical schoolhouse was made of logs and had neither windows nor doors. Benches where students sat were made of wooden pegs. Some schoolhouses were used only in the summer because there was no way of heating the buildings. Children walked to school, sometimes long distances and were often endangered by range cattle, wild animals, and desperate men. Some fathers plowed furrows from their homes to the school to keep their children from getting lost. Schools opened at eight in the morning and continued until sundown with two fifteen-minute recesses and one hour for noon. There was no football, basketball, or baseball played in pioneer

schools. Instead, pupils played townball, darebase, rooster fight, hoops, bullpen, crack-the-whip, "anti-over," leap frog, skyball, mumble peg, marbles, and ran races.



McKinney public school class, March 1902.

The law of 1854 was the first attempt of a system of free public education in Texas, but this was voluntary and funds were scarce.

Little progress was made. As a result the Masonic and Odd Fellow lodges contributed materially toward bringing free public education to Texas.

During the Civil War, school facilities that were already poor became worse. In 1862 a state apportionment of 62 cents was sent to qualified schools for the last time and during the war the state school fund was divert-

ed to other purposes.

In framing the Constitution of 1866, an unsuccessful effort was made to improve the schools. During the Reconstruction period, carpetbaggers tried to force an arbitrary and extravagant system of public free education and compulsory school attendance on the people. However, the disfranchised citizens of Texas refused to cooperate. As late as 1871 there were only one or two publicly owned school buildings in the state. Many features of this radical system tried during the reconstruction days

were good, but the methods of operation were faulty. When Texas gained control of its own affairs in 1873, it repudiated the

carpetbag plan and returned to private schooling. Real interest and improvement in education began in 1880. Gradually Texas adopted the principles of the system that the North tried to enforce on Collin County's forefathers during the decade following the Civil War.

One of the earliest schoolhouses in Collin County was

the Liberty school, built near Mantua sometime before 1850. Like many other school buildings, it was used in place of worship on Sundays, and in 1846 it also became the Mantua Christian Church. Also at Mantua, was the "Mantua Seminary," a school opened



The city's first public school building

in 1859 on the lower floor of the Masonic Lodge Building. The Civil War prevented the construction of a real school build-

ing until in 1865, when a sixteen-room structure was completed. This school was closed in the 1880s.

In 1874 Collin County was ranked twelfth among all the counties in Texas in the number of scholastics with 5,258. Grayson County ranked first with 7,625. Other counties ranking above Collin County in sequential order were Dallas, Bexar, Smith, Galveston, Washington, Lamar, Fayette, McLennan, Fannin and Harris.

The McKinney Advocate of April 3, 1880, stated that there were 100 school communities in Collin County but there were no public schools in 18 to 20 of

See SCHOOL page 6

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Make the Grade With A+ Study

ST. PAUL, Minn., Aug. 14 /PRNewswire/ — Students everywhere are heading back to school and filling their calendars with football games, play rehearsals and homework assignments! Balancing schoolwork and extracurricular activities requires organization and solid study habits. In a recent poll conducted by Post-it(R) Flags, 50% of American parents say staying organized is a challenge for their children.



Reading, Writing, Arithmetic ... and Soccer Practice!
Participating in after-school clubs can help students develop a sense of teamwork, build self-confidence and become well-rounded people. According to the parents polled, 64% of children are active in at least two extracurricular organizations, with 39% involved in at least three activities.

Balancing the Equation!
If it seems that children spend just as much time practicing volleyball as they do calculating math formulas, it may not be your imagination! Reportedly, students spend an average of 8.7 hours each week in extracurricular activities and

8.1 hours studying or completing homework assignments.

When asked which tool their children use most frequently to help remember homework assignments and practice schedules, respondents were closely divided between planners (37%) and notebooks or notepads (35%).

Home is Where the Work Is!
After a busy day at school, home seems like the coziest place to settle down with the History book! Eighty three percent of those polled said their children study most frequently at home, while 14% said they study most often in school study halls. When asked how often they assist with their children's study habits, an overwhelming majority of respondents (90%) help at least sometimes, with 30% helping always.

A Head Start to Get Head Smart!

Keeping up with reading and beginning assignments early are great ways to help students digest material and prevent the stress and frustration of last minute cramming and deadline pressure! According to polled parents, 47% of children always keep up with reading as it is assigned. Reportedly, 59% of students begin special projects

at least one week before the due date, but 16% start at the last minute or day before. Only 27% of those polled said their children keep school materials very organized, and 14% admitted that materials are not at all organized. Fortunately, busy students can stay organized with trendy Post-it(R) Portable Flags and Notes, which combine Post-it(R) Flags and Notes

in a colorful protective cover that easily slips into backpacks and attaches to notebooks and planners. Using Post-it(R) Portable Flags and Notes, students can color-coordinate and label notebooks and textbooks and also highlight important ideas.

This Post-it(R) Flags report presents the findings of a telephone survey conducted among a national probability sample of 2034 adults comprising 1016 men and 1018 women, 18 years of age or older, living in private households in the continental United States. All respondents have children currently attending middle school or high school. Opinion Research Corporation International of Princeton, NJ conducted the interviewing during the period

of July 20 - July 29, 2001.

Post-it(R) Products can be found in office supply stores and the school/office supply section of many retail stores. From computer and fax machines, to schoolbooks and the refrigerator, Post-it(R) Products help people organize, remind and communicate at work, school and home. For more information, visit our website at <http://www.3M.com/Post-it>.

3M is a \$16.7 billion technology company with leading positions in electronics, telecommunications, industrial, consumer and office, health care, safety and other markets. Nearing its 100th anniversary, 3M has operations in more than 60 countries around the world and serves customers in about 200 countries. Headquartered in St. Paul, Minn., 3M manufactures more than 50,000 products. 3M businesses share technologies, manufacturing operations, brands, marketing channels and other important resources. 3M is one of the 30 stocks that make up the Dow Jones Industrial Average. Additional information about the company is available on the Internet at <http://www.3M.com>. Post-it(R) is a registered trademark of 3M.



Plano Opportunity 2001

By Keysha Hogan
The North Texas Minority Enterprise Development Committee, the Plano Chamber of Commerce, and this year's signature sponsor Nortel Networks, are gearing up for the Tenth Annual MEDWeek Celebration. The celebration provides an opportunity to focus on the outstanding achievements of minority and women business owners. This year's event will be held on August 21, 2001 at the Plano Centre, 2000 East Spring Creek

Parkway in Plano. This celebration will include a CEO Panel Discussion entitled "A View From The Top", the Opportunity 2001 Awards Luncheon, Focus Networking and a Cyber Café. The Opportunity 2001 theme is "Providing Business Solutions for Today and the Future." If you are interested in registering to be a part of Opportunity 2001, please call 972-964-3991.

SCHOOL from page 5

them. After 1880 the number of free public schools in this country multiplied rapidly. Between 1905 and 1918 there were 162. After that date, improved roads and the increased use of automobiles and school buses resulted in the consolidation of many small schools,

so that in 1957 the number had decreased to only twenty. In that year the only new name not on the 1905-1918 list was Community, a school that was formed by the consolidation of the Nevada, Josephine, and Lavon districts.

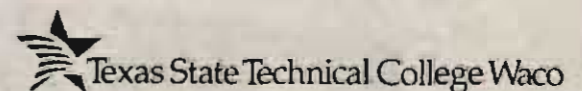


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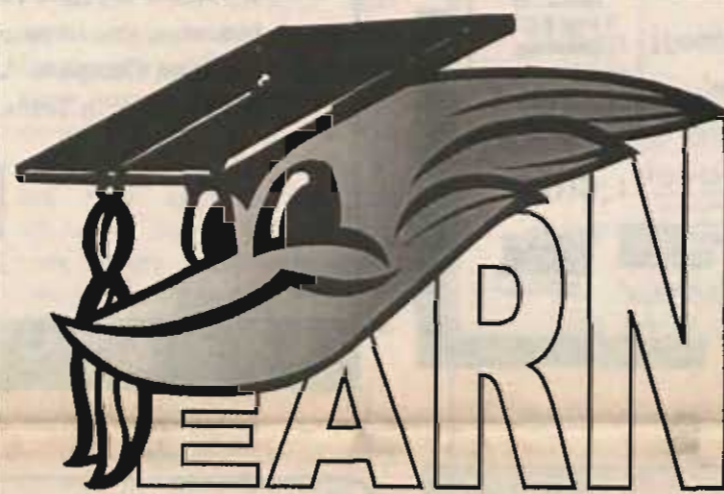
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District Office:
Contract 0094-03-087 for REHABILITATE EXISTING ROAD AND DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENTS in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 0918-46-306 for RECONSTRUCT CITY STREET in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 0918-45-307 for RECONSTRUCT CITY STREET in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 1208-02-015 for REHABILITATE EXISTING ROADWAY in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 2374-07-047 for CONSTRUCT FRONTAGE ROAD in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 6061-58-071 for TREE TRIMMING & BRUSH REMOVAL in DALLAS County will be opened on September 11, 2001 at 10:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$85,852.66.
Contract 6072-28-001 for JOINT AND/OR CRACK SEALING in DALLAS County will be opened on September 11, 2001 at 10:30 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$65,852.66.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO:4338

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200 E. Riverside Dr.
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Minimum wage rates are set out in bidding documents and the rates will be part of the contract. TxDOT ensures that bidders will not be discriminated against on grounds of race, color, sex, or national origin.

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District Dallas
Contract 01916-08-186 for REHABILITATE BRIDGES in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 1047-02-022 for RECONSTRUCT 2-LANE RURAL TO ULTIMATE 6-LANE URBAN in DALLAS County will be opened on September 05, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.
Contract 2374-04-053 for REHABILITATE MEDIAN WITH CTB in DALLAS County will be opened on September 06, 2001 at 1:00 pm at the State Office.

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District Fort Worth
Contract 6073-59-001 for FULL DEPTH CONCRETE PAVEMENT REPAIR in TARRANT County will be received on September 18, 2001 until 8:00 am and opened on September 18, 2001 at 9:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$186,167.80.
Contract 6073-59-001 for CLEANING AND/OR SEALING JOINTS AND CRACKS in TARRANT County will be received on September 18, 2001 until 8:00 am and opened on September 18, 2001 at 9:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$26,752.50.
Contract 6074-65-001 for CRACK SEALING in TARRANT County will be received on September 18, 2001 until 8:00 am and opened on September 18, 2001 at 9:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$185,703.00.
Contract 6074-69-001 for CRACK SEALING in TARRANT County will be received on September 18, 2001 until 8:00 am and opened on September 18, 2001 at 9:00 am at the District Office for an estimate of \$25,612.52.

Plans and specifications are available for inspection, along with bidding proposals, and applications for the TxDOT Prequalified Contractor's list, at the applicable State and/or District Offices listed below. Bidders must submit prequalification information to TxDOT at least 10 days prior to the bid date to be eligible to bid on a project. Prequalification materials may be requested from the State Office listed below. Plans for the above contract(s) are available from TxDOT's website at www.dot.state.tx.us and from reproduction companies at the expense of the contractor. NPO:4416

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Arts & Entertainment

Life size action figure wax hottest new trend in Hollywood



LOS ANGELES, Calif. (AP) — Action film characters that Angelina Jolie, Russell Crowe and Keanu Reeves have played are the newest additions to the Hollywood Wax Museum.

The wax figure of Jolie's video game vixen character in "Lara Croft: Tomb Raider" wore her movie-poster black spandex outfit and stood ready for action, gripping a gun.

Oscar winner Russell Crowe's Roman general Maximus appeared holding his four-pound metal sword, created from a mold of the original used in his epic film "Gladiator," according to a museum statement.

A wax look-alike of Reeves, as computer hacker Neo from "The Matrix," made its grand entrance wearing a full-length black jacket.

The museum's newest wax figures on Monday joined more than 180 statues already there, including such popular action stars as Will Smith and Tommy Lee Jones from "Men in Black," Arnold Schwarzenegger from "Terminator 2: Judgment Day," and Lucy Lawless from "Xena: Warrior Princess."

Jackson 5 returns!

NEW YORK (AP) — Jermaine Jackson will indeed perform with the Jackson 5 at the concerts honoring his brother, Michael.

Concert producers released a statement last month saying Jermaine Jackson had dropped out of "Michael Jackson: 30th Anniversary Celebration, The Solo Years," scheduled for Sept. 7 and 10 at Madison Square Garden.

He had expressed concerns about the shows in a news statement in which he complained about ticket prices, which ranged from \$45 to \$2,500, and said the Jacksons should perform alone. They are scheduled to perform with 'N Sync.

But Danny O'Donovan, the Jacksons' manager, said Jermaine didn't change his mind.

"He always wanted to do the show, and I don't think he ever said he was not doing the show. He was just voicing some of his concerns," O'Donovan said. "The brothers are totally reunited and they will be doing the show together."

Among the artists and celebrities scheduled to perform and pay tribute to Michael Jackson are Whitney Houston, Gladys Knight, Ray Charles, Britney Spears, Marlon Brando, Elizabeth Taylor, William Shatner, Quincy Jones, Kobe Bryant, Willem Dafoe and Macaulay Culkin.



For Sale By Cher?

MALIBU, Calif. (AP) — Cher has placed her 14,000-square-foot, seven-bedroom home on the market for \$25 million.

Cher recently finished building the house on land she bought about eight years ago. She lived there while the home was being completed.

The singer-actress, who is said to have hand-picked all the tile in the house, oversaw the installation of such special features as a hammered-copper dining-room ceiling, the Los Angeles Times reported in Sunday's editions.

Cher's home, which has unobstructed coastline views, is on 2.5 acres with a guest house, a pool that appears to spill into the ocean and a tennis court, under which there is parking for six cars.

The performer reportedly wants to downsize or move on to another project. She sold her former Malibu home in 1999 for about \$3.75 million.

Cher, 55, won a best-actress Academy Award for 1987's "Moonstruck" and a Grammy Award for best dance recording for "Believe" last year.



Mariah is Carrey-ing on

NEW YORK (AP) — First the opening date of Mariah Carey's movie was postponed, now the release of her soundtrack has been delayed. "Glitter" was expected to hit stores on Aug. 21, but Virgin Records now plans to release the soundtrack Sept. 11. The movie "Glitter," starring Carey as an aspiring pop star, was to open nationwide on Aug. 31, but 20th Century Fox moved it this week to Sept. 21.

Both projects were postponed after the 31-year-old Grammy winner suffered an emotional breakdown last month. Carey recently checked out of a Connecticut clinic where she received treatment. Her spokeswoman, Cindi Berger, said the singer is with her mother and under a doctor's care.

"Mariah is looking forward to being able to participate in both her album and movie projects and we are hopeful that this new soundtrack release date will allow her to do so," Virgin Vice Chairman Nancy Berry said in a statement Thursday. "She has been making great recovery progress, and continues to grow stronger everyday. Virgin Music Worldwide continues to give its absolute commitment and support to Mariah on every level." The first single off the soundtrack, "Loverboy," got as high as No. 2 on the Billboard singles chart. This week, it's at No. 9.

Drew Carey out of hospital doing fine

LOS ANGELES (AP) — Drew Carey, the portly star of ABC-TV's "The Drew Carey Show," underwent a successful procedure to unblock a coronary artery after experiencing chest pains, his publicist said.



Carey, 43, was admitted to an undisclosed hospital in the Los Angeles area where doctors also

installed a stent to keep the artery open. The procedure was similar to the one Vice President Dick Cheney underwent in March.

Stents are tiny mesh tubes used to prop open arteries cleared through angioplasty, a surgical procedure in which a balloon catheter is snaked through the artery and inflated to clear a blockage.

"It was very successful and he's feeling fine," Carey's publicist, Christina Papadopoulos, said by phone. "He was joking and his usual jovial self."

She said Carey's doctor expects that he'll be able to return to work next week after a few days rest.

Warner Bros., whose television arm produces the show in cooperation with Carey's Mohawk Productions, said it was pleased that the angioplasty went well.

"Drew is a treasured member of the Warner Bros. family. We are so glad that his procedure was a complete success and that he is feeling fine," the studio said in a statement.

The comedian, who once joked that if he wore Speedo swimming briefs he'd look like a pear with a rubber band around it, is recognizable for his rotund figure, black-framed glasses and close-cropped hair. He has starred in "The Drew Carey Show" since 1995.

In the show, Carey is a put-upon executive of a Cleveland department store. His character has made occasional jokes about heart trouble because of his meat-and-beer diet.

The show, which just ended its sixth season, has been renewed through the 2003-04 season.



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Around The Town

August 15th & 16th

- All Plano Libraries will be closed for Staff Development and Computer Upgrades. Harrington Library will be closed from August 13th-19th for carpet installation. For more information call 972-941-7377.

August 15th-18th

- KRLD News Radio is giving you the chance to eat like a king on a pauper's budget. It's usually impossible to dine for \$25 a person at pricey restaurants like Voltaire, Ill Forks and The Mansion on Turtle Creek, but now you can get a taste of the good life at more than 70 area restaurants for less than the cost of a nice bottle of wine. Order with pride, knowing that \$5 from the price of each meal benefits the North Texas Food Bank and the Lena Pope Home. For more information tune into KRLD News Radio.

August 15th-31st

- The African-American Museum in Dallas presents "Facing the Rising Sun: Freedman's Cemetery." Freedman's Cemetery represents what is left of a once-thriving North Dallas community, which existed between the end of the Civil War and the 1970s as one of the largest African-American enclaves in Dallas and one of the largest in the entire country. For more information call, 214-565-9026.

August 16th

- Little Elm Community Library in Frisco will be holding a "Friends of the Library" Meeting at 7:00 p.m. For more information call 972-294-5801.

CITY OF PLANO, TEXAS

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Home Page: www.plano.tx.org
FAX (972) 941-7239

AA / EOE / ADA

August 17th - 18th

- Frisco Career Days will be held at the CCCC Preston Ridge Campus from 9:00 am - 5:00 p.m. For more information contact the Chamber at 972-335-9522.

August 17th - 19th

- The Third Monday Trade Days "Largest Flea Market In North Texas" will be held in McKinney on Hwy. 380, two miles west of Hwy. 75. For more information visit www.tmtd.com.

August 18th

- Hot Summer Nights With Al Jarreau, Rachelle Ferrell and George Duke will be held at the Smirnoff Music

Center. For more information call, 214-421-1111.

August 18th

- The 6th Annual Killis Melton Ice Cream Crank-Off will be awarding prizes in multiple categories. Bring your freezer, pre-mixed ingredients and compete for the best homemade ice cream in Collin County. Contact the Downtown McKinney Association for more information at 972-547-7480.

August 18th

- The McKinney Job Fair will be held from 10:00am-6:00pm at McKinney High School North. Applicants will need to bring several

copies of his/her resume and a copy on disk for customized resume revisions. There will also be free presentations including interviewing skills, resume writing, and dressing for success. All skills desired: Managerial, Medical, Sales, Professional, Clerical, Entry Level, Technical, Full and Part Time, Laborer. For more information call the McKinney Chamber of Commerce at 972- 548-0876.

August 19th

- Anyone who is interested in learning Falun Dafa, an exercise consisting of meditation movements is welcome to join a free class at the Richardson Square

please call, Xuehai Li at 972-705-0452.

August 20th

- Richardson Fall Softball Registration begins at the Huffhines Recreation Center. For registration times and costs call, 972-783-8881.

August 24th

- Luau Day will be held at the Arapaho Pool in Richardson for all ages. For more information call, 972-744-4301.

August 25th

- Petco, at Spring Valley and Plano Rd., will showcase pet adoption opportunities from 11:00 a.m. - 3 p.m. For

more information call, 817-679-0817.

August 25th

- McKinney will be holding it's "Annual Bug Tussle Trek: Antique Car Tour" with approximately 150 antique cars that will depart at 9:00 a.m. from the Collin County Courthouse on Davis St. and head north on Tennessee, east on Louisiana, north on Hwy 5 and across Hwy 380 through north Texas towns to Bug Tussle! For more information call, 972-772-4335.

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