Education Notes: Vickery Meadow Learning Center seeks ESL volunteers for West Dallas program

The Vickery Meadow Learning Center’s West Dallas campus needs 24 volunteers to help with an afternoon English as a second language program beginning in January. Call 214-265-5057, ext. 201, or email volunteer@vmlc.org.

Angel Tree effort to benefit needy students

Communities in Schools Dallas Region is offering an Angel Tree program through Dec. 9 to benefit the 20 neediest children in each of the 60 schools it serves. Participants can purchase a $25 gift card for a child, or gifts off a wish list. Unwrapped gifts may be dropped off at the nonprofit, 8700 N. Stemmons Freeway in Dallas. Call 214-827-0955, ext. 213, or email elizabeth@cisdallas.org.

Host families needed for exchange students

Families are needed to host exchange students for five months starting in January. Families provide a home, two meals per weekday and three on the weekends; students have their own spending money. Contact Dorothy Brown at 972-846-2631 or dorothybrown34@aol.com.

Dance Council to offer summer scholarships

The Dance Council of North Texas has 40 scholarships, totaling more than $32,000, to help exceptional dancers from age 13 through graduate school to attend summer programs and workshops. There are also grants for three teachers. Apply by Feb. 9 at dancecouncilscholarships.org.

History channel sponsors essay contest

The cable channel History is sponsoring a national essay competition for high school students, focused on the U.S. Constitution. The essay topic is: “How does the Constitution establish and maintain a culture of liberty?” Submissions are due by Dec. 15. Visit billofrightsinstitute.org/contest for more details.

Carrollton

Creekview AP teacher receives state award

Brian Horn, who teaches Advanced Placement human geography and U.S. government at Creekview High School, received the 2011 Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award from Humanities Texas. Horn will receive a $5,000 cash award and Creekview will receive $500. Visit humanitiestexas.org.

Creekview symphony to perform in Chicago

The Creekview High School Wind Symphony has been invited to perform at the 65th annual Midwest Clinic band and orchestra conference in Chicago. The Dec. 14-17 clinic is the world’s largest instrumental music conference. Visit creekviewband.org.

District’s foundation selling Kids Cards

The Carrollton-Farmers Branch ISD Educational Foundation is selling C-FB Kids Cards, all-occasion greetings created by third- through fifth-graders, to raise funds for student scholarships, teacher grants and other projects. Visit cfbkidscards.com.

Dallas

Focus charter school starts work on facility

Focus Learning Academy broke ground for a new athletic facility on Friday. The charter school, which serves prekindergarten through 10th-grade students, is at 2524 W. Ledbetter Drive in Dallas. Call 469-600-3754 or visit focusacademies.org.

DeSoto

Freshman Campus to present Shakur play

The DeSoto Freshman Campus will present The Rose That Grew From Concrete, a play based on the works of Tupac Shakur, at 7 p.m. Dec. 2 and 3. Tickets are $5. The campus is at 620 S. Westmoreland Road. Call 972-274-1818.
District announces online parent portal

The DeSoto ISD, in partnership with Tyler Technologies, has launched a new Web-based portal to help parents access student information. The portal, available via www.desotosisd.org, allows parents to view grades, monitor progress, keep track of assignments, view school and district announcements and more.

Flower Mound

Flower Mound High School to screen film

Flower Mound High School will screen the documentary Finding Kind at 6:30 p.m. Nov. 30 and 4:30 p.m. Dec. 1. The school is at 3411 Peters Colony Road. Call 469-713-5192.

Lewisville

Cheerleaders to offer parents’ day out

The Lewisville High School cheerleaders will hold a "parents' day out" program for children ages 3 to 12 from 7:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Friday and from 6 to 10 p.m. Dec. 9 at the school, 1098 W. Main St. The cost is $20 in advance or $25 at the door. Call 214-226-2986.

Southlake

Carroll students stage 'Beauty and the Beast'

The Carroll Theatre Department is selling tickets for Beauty and the Beast. The musical will be at 7:30 p.m. Dec. 2, 3, 9 and 10, 2:30 p.m. Dec. 4 and 11 and 7 p.m. Dec. 7 at Carroll Senior High School, 1501 W. Southlake Blvd. Tickets are $15-$25. Visit dragondrama.net.

Community colleges

Brookhaven College paper wins awards

The Brookhaven College newspaper, Brookhaven Courier, earned 11 awards at the Texas Community College Journalism Association Convention. Editor-in-chief Erin Russell received three awards and the paper received the General Excellence Award. Visit brookhavencollege.edu.

Book inspires exhibit at Mountain View


Collin College presents sculpture exhibit

Collin College presents "Parallels," a free exhibit by sculptor Frances Bagley, through Dec. 10 in the Arts Gallery on the Spring Creek Campus, 2800 E. Spring Creek Parkway in Plano. Call 972-881-5873 or visit collin.edu.

Universities

University of Dallas presents lecture on poetry of Leopardi

The University of Dallas presents a free Rome Walking Tour Lecture on "The Eternity of Leopardi’s Poetry" by Valeria Forte at 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Art History Auditorium on the campus, 1845 E. Northgate Drive in Irving. Visit udallas.edu.

UTD announces awards

University of Texas at Dallas students and faculty were recently awarded three competitive awards from the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association during the group’s annual conference in San Diego. The awards were based on peer-reviewed measures of excellence. Dr. Emily Tobey received the association’s Research Mentoring-Pair Travel Award with Dr. Sophie Ambrose of Boys Town National Research Hospital.

UNT jazz band to play with Terell Stafford

The University of North Texas’ One O’Clock Lab Band will perform with jazz trumpeter Terell Stafford at 8 p.m. Tuesday in the Murchison Performing Arts Center, 2100 N. Interstate 35E in Denton. Tickets are $15 and $10. Call 940-369-7802 or visit thempac.com.

UTA announces grants for cancer research

The Cancer Prevention and Research Institute awarded more than $1.2 million for cancer research to two University of Texas at Arlington bioengineering researchers, Baohong Yuan and Liping Tang.

George Alexandrakis, an assistant professor of bioengineering, has secured two grants worth $1.13 million to track how cancerous cells damaged by radiation work to repair themselves.
UTA has announced it plans begin offering a bachelor of science degree in biomedical engineering. Visit uta.edu.

**TWU chancellor’s gift to establish fund**

Texas Woman's University Chancellor Ann Stuart is donating $120,000 to the university to establish the Ann Stuart Fund. The fund will underwrite the TWU Chancellor’s Alumni Excellence Award, a 20-year program that will bring award recipients to campus for events to start in 2012. Visit twu.edu.

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