



City of Dallas

DALLAS DELIVERS

# CITY HALL HIGHLIGHTS

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## In this Issue:

Safe Community program reaching local students	2
Environment award presented to City Aviation Administration	3
New Pavement management system to begin	4
It's been a busy year for Office of Special Events	5
Legendary Calif. politician coming to Authorspeak	6
Family fun and events in January at Latino Cultural Center	7
Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration and events	8

## Dallas is first in the nation with exclusive "green" Web site



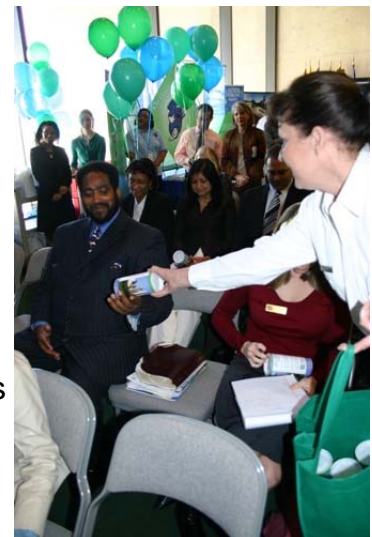
Dallas is now the first major city in the country to have a Web site devoted exclusively to environmental issues. The new site, [www.GreenDallas.net](http://www.GreenDallas.net) was officially launched at Dallas City Hall on Jan. 9.

The new site is dedicated solely to Dallas' green efforts and accomplishments along with offering tips residents can use to "go green" at home.

Important topics such as air quality, water, energy, recycling, waste reduction, land use and green buildings are highlighted. Residents who visit the site will also find lots of tips on saving energy and water, cleaning the air, how to have a green home, a green lawn and much more.

"This is an exciting day for all of us at the City of Dallas," said Assistant City Manager **Jill Jordan**. "GreenDallas is a one-stop center for people who want to find out what the City has done and the environmental initiatives that we have going on. It's a great resource for residents who want to become environmental leaders in their community," she said.

A detailed announcement was also made about a new program that will give free Compact Fluorescent Light (CFL) energy efficient light bulbs to Dallas residents, helping them take the first step in greening their homes. Green Mountain Energy is donating 5,000 CFL bulbs, which use 72 percent less energy than conventional light bulbs. Dallas Fire-Rescue will distribute the free bulbs as part of their smoke detector replacement program.



*A Dallas Fire-Rescue employee hands out CFL energy efficient light bulbs to attendees at the City Hall announcement.*

“Risk Watch gives us the opportunity to make a difference in possible injuries to children in our city,” said Fire Prevention Lt. **Melanie Forbes-Scott**.

## Safe Community program is reaching out to students

Dallas Fire-Rescue (DFR) is bringing some life-saving messages to students in West Dallas. DFR has teamed with Risk Watch, a program developed by the National Fire Protection Association to help lower the incident of injury to children.

The program links teachers with community safety experts and parents to help students learn injury prevention skills. Topics covered are motor vehicle, bicycle, pedestrian and water safety, and fire, burn, choking, suffocation, poisoning, falls and firearm injury prevention.



Senior Fire Prevention Officer **Natarsha Price** makes a Risk Watch presentation at Lorenzo DeZavala Elementary School in West Dallas.

In the U.S. these types of unintentional injuries are more often fatal to children than drugs and disease combined, annually killing more than 5,500 kids and permanently disabling more than 92,000. In Canada, injuries are the leading cause of death for children over one year old.

“Risk Watch gives us the opportunity to make a difference in possible injuries to children in our city by going beyond the confines of our fire safety campaigns,” said Fire Prevention Lieutenant **Melanie Forbes-Scott**. “We’re thankful for the Fireman’s Fund Grant award because it will allow us to participate in this all-hazards program that we hope will equip children with the information they need to make their lives safer.”

## DFR providing smoke detectors for hearing impaired

A \$25,000 grant from Colemont Insurance Brokers and Fireman’s Fund Insurance Company has allowed Dallas Fire-Rescue to purchase 231 single station smoke detectors for persons with hearing impairments.

The portable photoelectric single station smoke detectors with audible battery backup provide a reliable early warning and feature an audible alarm and strobe light. When the alarm sounds, the strobe flashes a constant bright light, then reverts to normal stand-by condition once the smoke has cleared.

“Many people with mild or moderate hearing loss will not be awakened by typical smoke alarms that contain a small, high pitched speaker,” said Assistant Fire Chief **Debra Carlin**. “We are extremely grateful to Colemont and Fireman’s Fund for allowing us to provide this much-needed equipment to the hearing impaired throughout Dallas,” Carlin said.



From left, **Todd Teitell**, President, Colemont Insurance Brokers; Assistant Fire Chief **Debra Carlin**; and **Shawn Fabors**, Business Development Manager, Fireman’s Fund Insurance.

According to the United States Fire Administration, there are 11 million deaf or hard of hearing Americans who are unable to rely on a working smoke alarm to alert them of fire.

“The new smoke detectors are superior in waking people during a fire because of their power and low frequency,” said Assistant Fire Chief **Debra Carlin**.

## Aviation Administration receives environmental achievement award

The City of Dallas and Love Field Airport has been recognized for outstanding environmental achievements by the National Partnership for Environmental Priorities (NPEP). Aviation Administration staff members **Karen Everitt** and **Steven S. Peacock** accepted the award at the NPEP's Washington, D.C. conference.

The City was honored for its role in removing and recycling significant amounts of PCB ballasts from lighting fixtures. Love Field removed and recycled 4,484 pounds of PCBs by removing more than 12,000 light ballasts. Love Field also recycled more than 14,000 mercury-bearing fluorescent bulbs.

"It's good of the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to make note of those organizations that go the extra mile in cleaning up our environment," said Peacock. "As much of the dangerous chemicals we can keep out of our landfills the better off we all will be. Our next goal will be to go after the various sources of mercury in our work areas and get that metal poison into the proper recycling channel."

The NPEP encourages public and private organizations to form voluntary partnerships with the EPA to reduce the use or release of toxic priority chemicals. NPEP is part of the EPA's National Waste Minimization Program which supports a more sustainable society and efforts to reduce waste; and the Resource Conservation Challenge, a national effort to conserve natural resources and energy by managing materials more efficiently.



*Aviation Administration Environmental Manager Steven S. Peacock accepts the NPEP Award. At left is Matt Hale, Director of EPA's Office of Solid Waste; at right is Susan Bodine, Assistant Director of EPA's Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response.*

## City of Dallas to launch garage/estate sale Web site

Responding to an increase in the number of illegal garage sale signs, the City of Dallas will soon launch a garage/estate sale Web site. The site will allow residents to create, search, locate and post garage sale information on the Internet.

Residents will be able to register and advertise garage sales free of charge; view and print maps of registered garage sale locations; and provide education and information on City ordinances regarding garage sales. The Web site will be integrated with the 311 online system to allow residents to report suspected garage sale violations

Code Compliance responds to approximately 1,300 garage sale violations annually, according to Code Compliance Director **Forest Turner**. "Code requires that all garage sale signs be located on the property where the sale is being conducted, however, there has been an increase in illegal garage sale signs as residents feel the need to advertise outside their properties," Turner said.

The new Pavement Management Program is expected to save the City nearly \$300,000 in operating expenses.

“Better and smoother roads mean more satisfied customers and lower street network costs,” said Public Works Assistant Director Errick Thompson.

### City begins operation of new pavement management system

The City of Dallas can now measure just how rough your ride actually is on city streets. Public Works and Transportation is now using a specially equipped vehicle which collects data on street conditions.

The enhanced Pavement Management Program (PMP) is expected to save nearly \$300,000 a year in operating expenses and improve long-term maintenance and repair of city streets. The PMP replaces a labor intensive system in which data was manually entered into a mainframe computer.

The vehicle’s cameras record the right of way from front, rear, and side views, while ground penetrating radar assesses the stability of the pavement layers. Another powerful video camera detects cracks in the pavement, often a warning sign of future problems. This information is then analyzed to detect and identify issues before they become major potholes.

“Many people relate the “quality” of a street to its roughness,” said Public Works Assistant Director **Errick Thompson**.

“Our new vehicle’s lasers allow us to quantify the street’s roughness and actually measure the ride in terms of the International Roughness Index,” he said. (The Index is a worldwide standard for measuring pavement smoothness.)

“The PMP’s mission is to provide better data to result in better roads,” Thompson said. “And better (and smoother) roads mean more satisfied customers and lower street network costs. Most service requests are based on visible pavement distress, like potholes, but with the new vehicle we can now assess these issues early, making it possible for us to take care of them before they become problems.”



*Now patrolling the streets of Dallas, the City’s new Pavement Management Program vehicle has all the equipment it needs to measure just how rough the street is. This information will help the City identify minor problems before they become big ones for citizens.*



## Office of Special Events provides multitude of services to City

It was a busy year for the Office of Special Events, which permitted more than 700 events in 2007. Located in the Dallas Convention Center, the Office coordinates city-wide and neighborhood festivals, dedications, inaugurations, parades, marathons, fun runs, galas, ground-breakings, and holiday celebrations.

In October, Dallas made its mark in history by hosting the Final Series of the U.S. Open Triathlon, which has committed the next four years to Dallas. Events for 2008 include a long time tradition, the Martin Luther King, Jr. celebration; the Greenville Avenue Mardi Gras; St. Patrick's Day Celebration and Parade (one of the largest in the country); the Deep Ellum Arts Festival; and the world renowned Red Bull Air Race, which has been held annually in Hungary, Abu Dhabi, Austria, San Francisco, and San Diego.



The Office of Special Events works closely with the Dallas Film Commission, permitting over 200 film and television shoots in 2007, including Prison Break, American Idol, National Geographic, the CBS Early Show, NFL Films, A&E, Dallas SWAT, First 48 and a BBC documentary.

In November and December more than 350 needy families received food baskets for Thanksgiving and Center staff registered 375 families for the Salvation Army's Red Letter Project. Staff and volunteers worked diligently to make sure that 450 needy families received toys for Christmas and hosted a community holiday party.

In January, the Office will host its first educational session on how to produce a successful event. The session will focus on necessary licenses and permits required by the City. To learn more about the City's permitting process and how to make your event a success, call (214) 939-2701.

"These events enhance the quality of life and highlight Dallas' diverse culture," said Office of Special Events Interim Manager **Deborah Grant**. "The goal of the Office of Special Events is to provide world-class service and promote consistent quality, family-oriented entertainment for Dallas citizens and visitors," she said.

## Fitness Center Manager returns from Australian competition

Fitness Center Manager **Brenda Golderos** was one of 998 athletes competing in last month's Iron Man competition, held in Busselton, Western Australia. Competitors have 17 hours to complete the event, which consists of 2.4 miles of swimming, 112 miles of biking and 26.2 miles of running. Brenda's times were: swimming, 1.38 hours; biking, 7.17 hours; and running, 6 hours. She finished the event in 15 hours, 22 seconds.

"The people were wonderful, and the place is clean and beautiful," Golderos said.

"This coming year I plan to concentrate on short distances. My goal is to be first in my age group and get more sponsors so I can go back to Australia and lower my time to 13 hours. Thanks to the City employees for all the support, and remember to keep moving for wonderful health and fitness!"

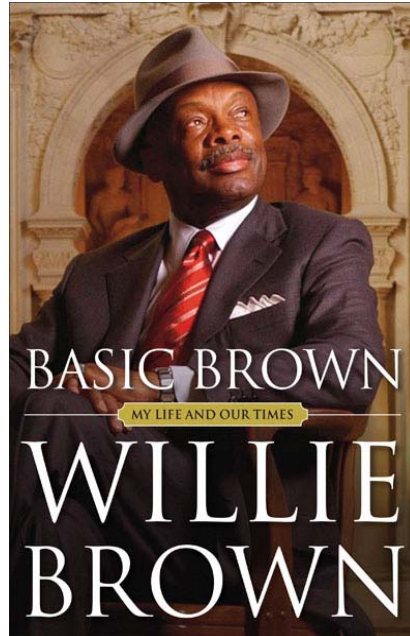
Brenda's sister, Sandra Golderos also competed, as did former Code Enforcement employee Maya Jackson. In Australia to provide moral and logistical support were City employees **Donald Brown** and **Laura DeLeon**, Police Department; **Kwaheri Heard**, Office of Emergency Management; **Josie Marroquin**, Public Works and Transportation; and **Ron Drake**, CIS. Dorila DeLeon, wife of a retired City employee, also attended.

Former San Francisco Mayor and Speaker of the California State Assembly, Willie L. Brown has been at the center of California politics, government and civic life for an astonishing four decades.

“The Young Adult collection was created to stimulate creativity and satisfy the literary needs of children and young adults,” said Branch Manager Lynn Craddock.

## Legendary politician to be featured at Feb. 28 Authorspeak

Willie L. Brown, Jr., author of *Basic Brown: My Life and Our Times* will discuss his experiences and views of the world Feb. 28 at the Dallas Central Library. The long-time California State Assemblyman and first African-American Mayor of San Francisco is part of the Authorspeak series presented by the Library and the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth.



The program will begin at 6:30 p.m. in the O'Hara Exhibit Hall, located on the 7<sup>th</sup> Floor of the Central Library at 1515 Young St. Tickets are \$20 per speaker or \$50 for the series for World Affairs Council and Friends of the Library. Non-member tickets are \$30 per speaker or \$80 for the series. For tickets, go to [www.dfwworld.org](http://www.dfwworld.org) and click on Events Calendar. Authorspeak is sponsored by KTVT-CBS11, TXA21 and WRR Classical 101.1 FM.

The final speaker in the Authorspeak series will be Ted Fishman, author of *China, Inc.: How the Rise of the Next Superpower Challenges America and the World*. The veteran journalist and former commodities trader paints a vivid picture of the megatrends radiating from China with his best-selling book. This program will be presented on March 6 in cooperation with the Crow Collection of Asian Art.

For more than half a century, the World Affairs Council of Dallas/Fort Worth has been educating and enlightening metroplex residents on the crucial issues of international affairs and foreign policy. With a mission of connecting North Texas with the world, the nonprofit, nonpartisan Council presents more than 100 events each year and directs the City of Dallas' Protocol Office, the International Education Initiative and the International Visitor Program. For more information on the Council visit [www.dfwworld.org](http://www.dfwworld.org).

## Young Adult collection now in place at Pleasant Grove Branch

The Pleasant Grove Branch Library at 1125 S. Buckner Blvd. has received a \$2,500 grant from the Texas Book Festival and the Texas Library Association to build a new Young Adult Teen Collection. The collection includes classics, fiction and non-fiction books, DVD's, videos, magazines and comics for ages 12 to 19.

“The Young Adult collection was created to stimulate creativity and satisfy the literary needs of children and young adults,” said Branch Manager **Lynne Craddock**. “We would like to invite schools, community groups, parents, teachers and young adults to use this new collection at the Pleasant Grove Branch Library.”

The Texas Book Festival celebrates authors and their contributions to the culture of literacy, ideas and imagination. In 1995, First Lady Laura Bush convened a task force to plan a book festival that would promote the joys of reading and benefit public libraries. Since then, the Texas Book Festival has contributed more than \$2 million to over 650 Texas public libraries, enabling them to expand their book collections and literacy programs

## January is another event-filled month at the Latino Cultural Center

People of all ages can enjoy free art exhibits, programs, festivals, cultural activities and more at the Latino Cultural Center. Here are some of the events and activities coming up this month:

**Jan. 12, 19 and 26: The Frame Project Workshop**, 9 a.m. to noon, in the Multi-Purpose Room. The Frame Project is a program designed to encourage the use of art as a teaching tool. All workshop participants will work individually on a take-home art piece and will also receive a Teacher's Guide which is available in Spanish. Call Drema Chavez at (214) 671-0051 or Kaleta Doolin at (214) 823-8955 for more information.

**Jan. 12: Target Saturdays**, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. Free activities for the entire family, including dramatized storytelling of family-centered tales and legends for children ages 3-13; an interactive clown show in Spanish; cultural workshops of visual or performing arts; music and dance performances by local artists and a Spanish language film series featuring classics from the Mexican golden age of film.



**Jan. 19 and 26: Ballet Folklórico classes by Ollimpaxqui Ballet Company.** Ages 4 to 12, 10 a.m.; ages 13 and older, 11 a.m. The Ollimpaxqui Ballet Company is a professional dance company whose teachers specialize in folkloric, contemporary and classic dance and theater. These classes will focus on traditional folkloric dance from Argentina, Colombia, Mexico, Perú and Ecuador. For more information, call (972)788-0604 or (214) 244-8868 or e-mail: [mexballet@aol.com](mailto:mexballet@aol.com).



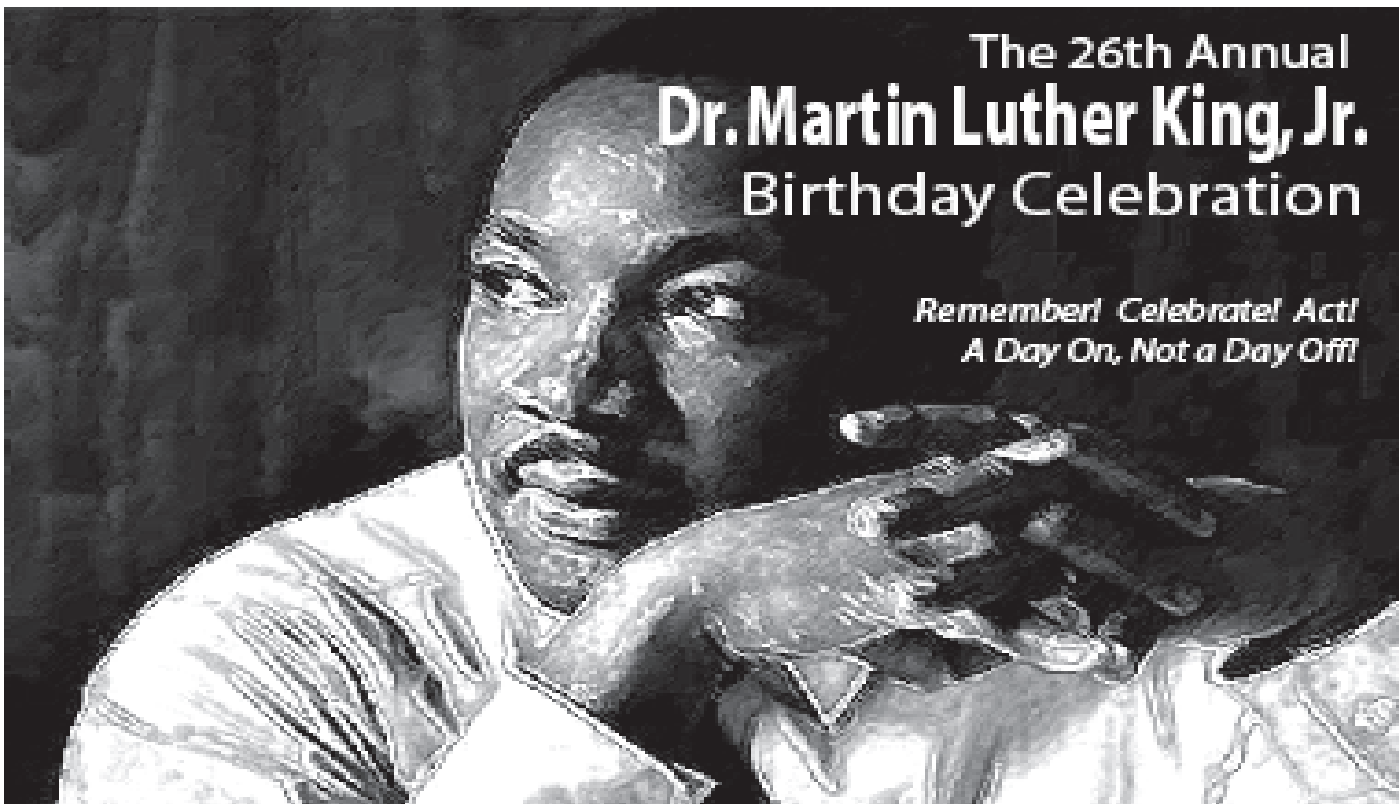
**Jan. 22: Book Presentation:** *Dancing to Almendra* by Mayra Montero, 6 p.m. Presented by The Writer's Garret and the LCC. Free. Havana, 1957. A young Cuban journalist, finds himself embroiled in the mysterious connections between a hippo's death and the Mafioso's, in this intoxicating story of murder, mobsters, and, finally, love. Mayra Montero is the author of eight novels, and a collection of short stories. She was born in Cuba and lives in Puerto Rico



**Jan. 26: Mexican film series**, "Salón México, 2 to 4 p.m. In this remake of the 1940's classic, two lovers murder each other, leading to an investigation and the closing of the "Salón México", a famous place where people used to dance before World War II.

The Latino Cultural Center at 2600 Live Oak St. is open Tuesday through Saturday from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., and later on event evenings. For more information call (214) 670-3320.

*The Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration Steering Committee along with the Martin Luther King, Jr. Community Center Board and Staff invite you to*



# The 26th Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Birthday Celebration

*Remember! Celebrate! Act!  
A Day On, Not a Day Off!*

### Schedule of Events:

**Candle-Lighting Ceremony**  
January 18, 2008, 7 p.m.  
MLK Recreation Center (Senior's Wing)  
2901 Pennsylvania Ave.

**Keynote Speaker:**  
Dr. Karry D. Wesley, Senior Pastor  
Antioch Fellowship Missionary Baptist Church

**MLK March/Parade**  
January 19, 2008, 10 a.m.  
Start at City Hall Plaza,  
Ervey St. South to MLK Jr. Blvd.,  
Pass the MLK Complex, 2922 MLK Jr. Blvd.

**MLK Awards Banquet/Dance**  
January 19, 2008, 7:30 p.m.  
Adams Mark Hotel, 400 North Olive St.

**Keynote Speaker:**  
The Honorable Craig Watkins  
District Attorney, Dallas County

**Banquet Tickets:**  
\$65 Individual \$650 Community Tables (10)  
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**For more information call:  
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