

MAYOR CITY COUNCIL CITY ATTORNEY CRIM HENNIG MCKAMIE RIDGWAY(2) BOYETT  
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## COMMUNITY THEATER

# After four years, Euless theater to close

**By DOMINGO RAMIREZ JR.**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

EULESS — The director of a local theater company has announced that it will close this summer after four years of operation.

Anicia D. Brown, director of Starlight Performing Arts, said she is retiring from the theater operations business, citing health problems, financial strain and a desire for more personal time.

"It was becoming a financial

burden for my family," Brown said Friday.

"I needed to get away from that, and I wanted to spend more time with my family," she said.

Brown is married and has two children.

In a letter to patrons, volunteers, students and participants on Thursday, she wrote, "I only hope that you, in some small way through our productions and programs, have gotten even a fraction of the joy

that I and my family have received."

A community theater director said Friday that Starlight's closing affects all local theaters.

"We all suffer when something like this happens," said Rex Bierko of Hurst, a director of local community theater shows for the past 22 years. "It's all about money."

The theater at 201 S. Ector Drive in Euless opened in 2002. When it closes, the theater will have done 51 shows and more than 350 performances.

Brown's letter said that all future auditions, camps and classes are canceled.

Tuitions paid in advance

will be refunded, and private lessons will continue unless a refund was requested, the letter said.

*West Side Story*, which opened Friday and continues through May 28, will continue as scheduled, as will *The Legend of Pocahontas* on June 16-25, a volunteer dinner on July 8 and a Verlon Thompson concert July 9.

The company will hold a props and costume sale July 14-16.

Brown said she will continue teaching and directing, and that she hopes to continue acting in community productions.

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**HURST-EULESS-BEDFORD SCHOOLS**

# Food program set for summer again

The **Hurst-Euless-Bedford school district** is again offering its **Summer Feeding Program**, which will run from May 30 through Aug. 4. The program will be offered at the **Midway Recreation Center** in Euless and **Bellaire Elementary School** in Hurst.

For more information, call H-E-B at (817) 399-2123.



**Katherine Cromer Brock**

Children 18 and younger can go to either location for a meal.

Midway Recreation Center will serve lunch from 11:45 a.m. to 12:15 p.m.

Bellaire will serve from 11:30 a.m. to noon.

Children do not need proof of income, age or residency, and no registration is required.

Meals will include sandwiches, pizza and chicken nuggets, along with chips, cookies, fruit and milk.

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**EULESS**

# Worming its way to the top

■ Thanks to its "compost-ology" program, the city is one of 15 finalists for a municipal livability award.

By **TERRY LEE GOODRICH**  
 STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

**EULESS** — The city has long received kudos for giving away and planting trees — more than 150,000 of them since 1980.

But it's the city's prowess with worms, waste and dirt that has grabbed the attention of the U.S. Conference of Mayors.

Eules, population 53,000, is one of 15 finalists for a municipal livability award, thanks to its "compost-ology" program begun in January 2005. A panel of former mayors across the country will choose a winner from cities with fewer than 100,000 residents



SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BOB BOOTH

Mayor Mary Lib Saleh shows off the red wigglers at her home. She maintains a compost bin and feeds the worms in a covered rubber bin in her utility room.

and another from cities with 100,000 or more.

Winners will be announced at the 1,180-member organization's conference June 3 in Las Vegas.

Eules has distributed more than 100 pounds of red wiggler worms to dozens of residents and students who tuck them away in soil bins in their homes and classrooms, said Lori De La Cruz, an environmental consultant hired by the city to kick off the program.

Red wiggler or brown-nosed worms, not earthworms, are the composting worms, chowing down on organic cuisine like rotting fruits and vegetables to produce waste that can be used to enrich soil in gardens, she said.

Residents are also building compost piles with grass clippings, tree trimmings, twigs, leaves and food scraps, De La Cruz said. Largely because of that effort, officials say, the city's garbage collection contractor hauled away about 110 tons less waste during the first quarter of this year compared with the same period in 2005 — a drop from about 3,630 to 3,520 tons.

That's good news for plants and those who love them, said city horticulturist Jimmy Beck.

"Healthy plants begin with healthy soil, and using organic compost improves your soil," Beck said. "Roots need to have air space, and compost helps. It

also helps with nutrients and water retention, and it helps stop erosion."

Beck said the city uses compost in its municipal herb garden and greenhouse. Mulch from tree trimmings and recycled Christmas trees is turned into compost and is then turned and watered periodically to keep it hot and moist.

Mayor Mary Lib Saleh said she is a compost-ology enthusiast, maintaining a compost bin in a corner of her yard and feeding worms in a covered rubber bin she keeps in her utility room. The worms' diet includes shredded newspapers and food scraps, she said. The result is a mushy mess that she said works wonderfully when she adds it to the soil in her dozens of begonia pots.

Eules distributed canisters — each filled with a few hundred worms — as well as composting bins, workbooks, composting thermometers and spray bottles to dozens of residents and students during free workshops and educational events at schools.

The city also alerted residents through mailings and its Web site.

The program was financed through a \$32,000 grant from the North Central Texas Council of Governments and \$6,750 from city funds and contributions.

**ONLINE:** [www.ci.eules.tx.us](http://www.ci.eules.tx.us)

Terry Lee Goodrich, (817) 685-3812  
 tgoodrich@star-telegram.com



SPECIAL TO THE STAR-TELEGRAM/BOB BOOTH

Eules has distributed more than 100 pounds of red wiggler worms. Mayor Mary Lib Saleh's composting efforts go to her begonias.

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## NORTHEAST AFTER HOURS

### End of school celebrated

**EULESS** – The beginning of summer and the end of school will be celebrated with a free concert by Vocal Trash from 2 to 5 p.m. Thursday at the Midway Recreation Center, 300 W. Midway Drive.

Band members, who play everything from trash cans to kitchen sinks in their concerts, add guitars, horns and comedy to their performances. Also, the Midway Pool will open, and bounce houses, face painters and strolling magicians will be part of the event. (817) 685-1666 or [www.euleless.org](http://www.euleless.org).

# Out of School Bash

featuring 'Vocal Trash'



Thursday, May 25, 2 - 5 pm

Midway Recreation Center, 300 W. Midway

Hey Kids! After you get out of school at noon, head on over to a party to kick off the summer! The band Vocal Trash has left room in their national touring schedule to visit the City of Euleless. Vocal Trash will have you dancing and singing your way into the new summer. We all are familiar with "Stomp," a popular drum act of which the members are known to play everything from trash cans to kitchen sinks. Toss in some horns, acoustic guitars and a touch of comedy and you have Vocal Trash. The Midway Recreation Center swimming pool will be open. There will also be bounce houses, face painters, strolling magicians and much, much more! Free for everyone! Concessions will be available for purchase. Call 817-685-1666 for more information.

Star-Telegram Euleless

What do you want to know?

Parks & Community Services

MAYOR CITY COUNCIL CITY ATTORNEY CRIM HENNIG MCKAMIE RIDGWAY(2) BOYETT  
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**EULESS** — June Christina Masters Lipman, 49, beloved daughter, sister, wife, mother and friend, lost her courageous battle with breast cancer at her home and passed into the glorious arms of the Lord Tuesday, May 23, 2006.

**Funeral:** 10 a.m. Saturday at First United Methodist Church of Colleyville, 5601 Pleasant Run Road. Burial: Bluebonnet Hills Memorial Park. Visitation: The family will receive friends 6 to 8 p.m. Friday at Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home.

June was born Oct. 1, 1956, in Fort Worth, the oldest daughter of Bill and Patricia Masters. After graduating from Arlington High School, June went to work for her father at Masters International. She continued in the automotive industry, working 18 years in the claims department at Warrantech Automotive.

June showed everyone that a strong will, determination, and the prayers of many can help you survive numerous life-threatening complications. The Lord eventually decided it was time to end the suffering and take her to a better place.

The family wishes to thank Dr. Lea Krekow; her nurse, Sandy; and the staff of Texas Oncology and Harris Methodist HEB Oncology Department for the support and care provided to June over the past four years.

June will be greatly missed by her family and friends.

**Survivors:** Loving husband and best friend for 25 years, Mark Lipman; daughter, Rae Lipman; parents, Bill and Pat Masters of Grandview; sisters, Holly Masters and Laura Martin and husband, Richard, of Katy; nephew, Will Martin; niece, Ruth Martin; stepsons, Chad Lipman and wife, Amanda, of Anaheim, Calif., Greg Lipman and wife, Heather, of Yorba Linda, Calif.; father-in-law and mother-in-law, Don and Jean Howard of Azle; grandchildren, Journey Lipman, Amber Wilson and Riley Lipman; and numerous aunts, uncles, cousins and other extended family and friends.

Bluebonnet Hills Funeral Home  
Colleyville, (817) 498-5894  
View and sign guestbook at  
[www.star-telegram.com/obituaries](http://www.star-telegram.com/obituaries)

Mark Lipman is a retired City of Euless Fire Department employee.

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## COMMUNITY CALENDAR

**END-OF-SCHOOL BASH:** Vocal Trash, a music group that plays everything from trash cans to kitchen sinks, will have a free concert from 2 to 5 p.m. today at the Midway Recreation Center, 300 W. Midway Drive in Euless. The pool will be open. The event will also include bounce houses, face painters and strolling magicians. For information, call 817-685-1666.

# Go & Do Calendar

## TARRANT COUNTY

**OUT OF SCHOOL BASH:** Vocal Trash, a music group that plays everything possible from trash cans to kitchen sinks, will have a free concert from 2 to 5 p.m. at the Midway Recreation Center, 300 W. Midway Drive in Euless. The pool will be open. The event will also include bounce houses, face painters and strolling magicians. For information, call 817-685-1666.

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# PUTTIN' A LID ON IT



**K**elsey Rae uses two trash can lids as percussive instruments outside Midway Recreation Center where the band she's in, Vocal Trash, was performing a free concert Thursday in celebration of the end of another school year and the beginning of summer. At right, Otsenre Alvarez, 14, gets an earful from Steve Linder playing a large plastic barrel during the concert, sponsored by the city of Euless. The band uses all kinds of instruments — even a kitchen sink — and adds guitars, horns and comedy to round out its performances. The event also featured bounce houses, face painters, strolling magicians and jugglers.



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**CLASS OF 2006**

# Colleyville Heritage High School



STAR-TELEGRAM/KELLEY CHINN

Colleyville Heritage High School seniors Jessica Addy, left, and Adrienne Collins applaud during their graduation ceremony. The pair sat with the choir to perform during the ceremony.

**May 29, 2006**  
**Fort Worth Convention Center**  
**Class size:** 556  
**Mascot:** Panthers  
**District:** Grapevine-Colleyville  
**Number going to college:** 90 percent  
**Number going into the military:** 3 percent  
**Scholarships earned:** \$4.5 million  
**Class notes:** This is Colleyville Heritage's 10th anniversary.

"Be true to your passion and fearlessly follow your dreams."

— Lauren Anderson, valedictorian

### Valedictorian



**Lauren Anderson** (Colleyville) will attend Vanderbilt University and major in neuroscience/psychology with a minor in Spanish.

### Salutatorian



**Ji Yoon Chung** (Colleyville) will attend the University of Pennsylvania and major in psychology and history.

Adrienne was the recipient of the HEB Teen Court scholarship this year.

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## EULESS

# Cat owner, vet clinic at odds over \$922 bill

■ A Grapevine man faces a theft-of-service charge for refusing to pay after his injured pet was put to sleep.

By **DOMINGO RAMIREZ JR.**  
STAR-TELEGRAM STAFF WRITER

**EULESS** — A veterinary clinic is pursuing a criminal charge against a Grapevine man who refuses to pay a \$922 bill after his cat, DJ, was euthanized during the Memorial Day weekend.

Donald Burns says staffers at Airport Freeway Animal Emergency Clinic in Euleless never told him that they were going to put down his 20-year-old pet, who was badly injured when Burns accidentally ran over him in his driveway. Burns also says he was not given an itemized bill.

"It freaked me out when I called and they told me they had to put him down," Burns said. "When I went to pick him up, they wouldn't show me what work they had done on him."

But according to a preliminary police report, Burns told the clinic to euthanize the cat and said he couldn't pay the bill.

The clinic did not return telephone calls seeking comment Tuesday.

Sgt. Troy Remington said Euleless po-



STAR-TELEGRAM/KELLEY CHINN

Donald Burns has refused to pay for services last weekend at Airport Freeway Animal Emergency Clinic because he says he never told the clinic to put his cat to sleep.

lice are awaiting a final report to start an investigation.

The owner of the clinic has notified police that he will pursue a theft-of-service charge, a misdemeanor punishable by up to a year in jail and a \$4,000 fine.

Since October, the clinic has filed five criminal complaints of theft of service.

Two cases were closed for lack of evidence or failure to find the suspect, and the others are active, Remington said.

"It's rare that a warrant is issued," he said. "Once we contact a person about what might happen, they make arrangements to pay."

Veterinarians at the clinic have been sanctioned for no major violations in recent years, according to the Texas State Board of Veterinary Medical Examiners in Austin.

According to the Better Business Bureau in Fort Worth, the clinic has received three complaints in three years: a billing question, unauthorized treatment, and mishandling of a dog.

The complaints have been resolved, according to BBB reports.

The latest dispute began Saturday after Burns, 46, accidentally ran over DJ, who had lived with Burns since he was a kitten.

"I tried to go to a clinic in Grapevine, but it was closed," Burns said. "My parents told me about a place in Euleless, so that's where I took him."

At 3 p.m. Saturday, the clinic told Burns that it would cost \$1,387.76 to treat DJ and that payment was due at the time of treatment, according to the po-

lice report.

A few hours later, Burns was told of his cat's status and was asked about payment, the report states.

The clinic contends that Burns said he couldn't pay and told the clinic to put DJ to sleep, according to the police report.

Burns went to the clinic Sunday evening and promised that he would pay Monday. At that time, the clinic reduced the bill to \$922.88 and gave the cat's body to Burns, the report states.

Burns said he didn't pay Monday because he was upset with the bill and because the clinic euthanized DJ.

"I've never even been shown an X-ray," Burns said. "I don't know what all they did."

Domingo Ramirez Jr., 817-685-3822  
ramirez@star-telegram.com



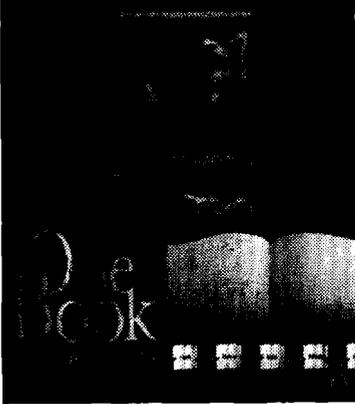
COURTESY OF KATIE RONDEAU

DJ was injured Saturday when his owner, Donald Burns, accidentally ran over him in his car. The cat, which Burns had for 20 years, was euthanized.

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# NE Tarrant READS



## Area Libraries have joined forces for a community reading event!

[www.netarrantreads.com](http://www.netarrantreads.com)

### Sponsored by

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| The Friends of the<br>Bedford Public Library        | The City of Colleyville          |
| The Friends of the<br>Colleyville Public Library    | The City of Euless               |
| The Friends of the<br>Grapevine Public Library      | The City of Haltom City          |
| The Friends of the<br>Keller Public Library         | The City of Hurst                |
| The Friends of the<br>Richland Hills Public Library | The City of Keller               |
| The City of Bedford                                 | The City of North Richland Hills |
|   | The City of Richland Hills       |
|   | The City of Hurst                |
|   | The City of Southlake            |
|   | The City of Watauga              |
|   | Greater Keller Women's Club      |

- June 3**  
Barnes & Noble, 7:30-8:30 p.m.  
North Richland Hills  
*Isaac's Storm* Preview  
with C.J. Critt
- June 5**  
**Begin Reading!**
- June 15**  
Haltom City Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
Emergency Preparedness
- North Richland Hills Public Library  
7:00 p.m.  
*"The General Died Wearing a Tutu"*  
*Ways to Make Non-Fiction More  
Engaging*, by Scott R. Lucado
- June 17**  
Grapevine Public Library,  
1:00 - 3:00 p.m.  
Writing & Marketing Non-fiction  
Workshop
- June 22**  
Euless Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
Emergency Preparedness

- June 24**  
Hurst Public Library, 2:00 p.m.  
A showing of the History Channel  
feature: *Isaac's Storm*
- June 27**  
Keller Public Library, 6:30 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*
- June 29**  
Hurst Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*
- Grapevine Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
A showing of the History Channel  
feature: *Isaac's Storm*
- July 6**  
Keller Public Library, 12:00 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*
- Haltom City Library, 7:00 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*

- July 13**  
Bedford Public Library, 6:30 p.m.  
Preparing for the Worst: **DISASTER!**
- Euless Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*
- Grapevine Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*
- Hurst Public Library, 7:00 p.m.  
*The History of Galveston*  
Presented by Linda Wright
- Watauga Public Library, 6:30 p.m.  
Book Discussion of *Isaac's Storm*
- July 20 Final Event**  
Colleyville Center, 7:00 p.m.  
*Isaac's Storm: a case of tropical  
terrorism from the past, looking at it  
today with Lew Fincher, Hurricane  
Historian*

The Institute of Museum and Library Services, a Federal agency that fosters innovation, leadership and a lifetime of learning, supports the North Texas Regional Library System, Inc. through the Texas State Library and Archives Commission.

