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DATE DISTRIBUTED 12/14/10 DATE OF ARTICLE 11/25/10 NEWSPAPER DMN

Asian culture and community events in the Dallas area

Thursday, November 25, 2010

DEBORAH FLECK

Ikebana news

The elegant and stylized Japanese art of floral arrangement called Ikebana has fans around the world. Locally, interest in the art has grown. The Dallas chapter is now the second-largest U.S. chapter behind San Francisco's.

Mary Lib Saleh, the longtime mayor of Euless, shared her love of Ikebana with more than 30 members and guests at a recent Ikebana meeting at her city's library. She created autumn arrangements and talked about her love of baskets.

The Dallas chapter's next event is a holiday luncheon Dec. 16, which includes a demonstration by Jossephine Harp of the Sukothai School. The demonstration will be at 11 a.m., followed by a potluck lunch at noon at 3841 Stratford Ave. in Dallas. For reservations, call 817-652-1646. Visit www.ikebana-dfw.org

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AREA BRIEFS

Marchant recovering from double bypass

COPPELL – U.S. Rep. Kenny Marchant, R-Coppell, is recovering from double-bypass heart surgery on Monday. Marchant, 59, expects to return to Washington in January, when he will be sworn in for a fourth term, according to a campaign spokesman. He was first elected to the U.S. House in 2004. His district covers a section of Tarrant County, including Bedford, Grapevine, Euless, Colleyville and far east Arlington.

– Aman Batheja

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Holiday parades and festivals

Today

Parade of Lights 6 p.m.

Fort Worth

The 28th annual Chesapeake Energy Parade of Lights will begin at Throckmorton and Belknap streets and will feature over 100 entries and a Holiday Fun Zone. The lighting of the Sundance Square Christmas tree, just after 7:30 p.m., will follow the parade.

Monday

Carol of Lights 7 p.m.

Grapevine

Millions of lights will be turned on throughout downtown. The event, presented by Grapevine Towne Center at the Town Square Gazebo in the 300 block of Main Street, will feature youth choirs and special performers.

Tuesday

Tree lighting 6 p.m.

Kennedale

The city's annual Christmas tree lighting will be at Town Center Park in the government complex, 405 Municipal Drive. The high school and junior high school bands and choirs will perform, and churches will serve hot chocolate and apple cider with cookies, fudge and popcorn.

Thursday

Parade of Lights 7 p.m.

Grapevine

The annual event, sponsored by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Grapevine, will feature more than 100 floats and local marching bands passing through downtown Grapevine beginning at Main and Vine streets and going north on Main to Wall Street.

Dec. 3

Hometown Holidays 5 p.m. Mansfield

The city event will feature a real snow hill, bounce houses, penguins from the Fort Worth Zoo, a tree lighting, fireworks, children's choirs and Santa Claus at City Hall, 1200 E. Broad St. Rides on the snow hill will be \$2, and concessions will be available. *How the Grinch Stole Christmas* will be shown at 7 p.m. in the Mansfield Activities Center, 106 S. Wis-teria St.

Holiday Tree

Lighting Celebration 6 p.m.

Bedford

The free event at Old Bedford School, 2400 School Lane, will feature Christmas carols, dance performances, stories, cookies, hot chocolate and other refreshments, and visits with Santa. Parking at the school is limited to handicapped. A hayride will bring guests to the school from parking at City Hall, 2000 Forest Ridge, and the

library, 1805 L. Don Dodson Drive.

Holly Days

at Keller Town Center 6-9 p.m.

Keller

The annual event at 1100 Bear Creek Parkway will feature the Holly Jolly Light Parade, a tree lighting, Santa Claus, a two-lane snow hill, arts and crafts, and live entertainment.

Ring in the Holidays

6:30 p.m.

Saginaw

The annual event, featuring holiday music and performances by schoolchildren, a tree lighting and a visit by Santa, will be at the Saginaw Recreation Center, 633 W. McLeroy Blvd. Admission will be one nonperishable food item that will be donated to Community Link Mission of Saginaw. 817-230-0350

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Dec. 4
Breakfast With Santa
7 a.m.-noon
Mansfield
The Kiwanis Club will host this annual event at the Mansfield Activities Center, 106 S. Wisteria St. Admission will be \$6 for adults and \$3 for ages 3-12. Photos with Santa will be available.

Hometown
Holidays Parade
2:30 p.m.
Mansfield
The sixth annual parade, A Storybook Holiday, will begin at St. Jude Catholic Church on Dallas Street and roll down Main Street before winding up back at the church.

Christmas
Parade of Lights
6:30 p.m.
Eules
The 17th annual parade, An Out of This World Christmas, will begin at Midway Drive and Bear Creek Park-

way and end at Trinity High School. www.eules.org

Christmas on Broadway
Tree Lighting
3-6 p.m.
Haltom City
The annual event at the Haltom Recreation Center, 4839 Broadway Ave., will feature a visit from Santa, carriage rides, a petting zoo and live entertainment.

Night of
Holiday Magic
4-8 p.m.
North Richland Hills
The 11th annual festival will be at NRHO Family Water Park, 9001 Boulevard 26, and will feature a tree lighting, a visit from Santa, music, minitrain rides (admission \$1), fireworks, a snow-tubing hill (admission \$2) and shopping in the holiday market. Parking will be free at Tarrant County College Northeast Campus, across from NRHO. Admission will be a new, unwrapped toy or canned food.

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DATE DISTRIBUTED 12/14/10 DATE OF ARTICLE 11/30/10 NEWSPAPER Odessa American

Midland to welcome fire chief

November 30, 2010 *Odessa American*

The City of Midland has scheduled a reception to welcome new Fire Chief Robert Isbell 1:30 p.m. Tuesday Dec. 7 at Central Fire Station, 1500 W. Wall St., Midland, in the engine bay.

Isbell comes to Midland from the Eules Fire Department, where he was also fire chief. His fire -service career started in 1985 as a firefighter/paramedic. He has an A.A.S in Fire Protection Technology, B.S. in Public Safety Administration, M.S. in Executive Fire Service Leadership and also completed the Executive Fire Officer Program.

Isbell will start working for the Midland Fire Department on Monday.

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Sales tax allocations climb

By Scott Nishimura
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Texas municipalities enjoyed an increase in December sales tax allocations as monthly receipts grew for the eighth straight month, the state comptroller said Wednesday.

Comptroller Susan Combs said this month's payments to cities, counties, special purpose districts and transit systems, based on October sales, will be \$435.8 million, up 4.5 percent from a year ago.

The latest gain in sales tax receipts "showed

growth in a range of sectors like manufacturing, the oil and natural gas industry, retail trade and restaurants," Combs said.

Tarrant County allocations will be \$26.9 million, up 11.5 percent. Other cities, their allocations and the percentage change from December 2009:

- Arlington, \$6.7 million, up 16.6 percent
- Bedford, \$657,664, up 2.1 percent
- Euless, \$843,032, up 14.8 percent
- Fort Worth, \$7.7 million, up 8.9 percent
- Grand Prairie, \$2.7 mil-

- lion, up 3.4 percent
- Grapevine, \$2.6 million, up 13.2 percent
- Haltom City, \$587,324, up 8.9 percent
- Hurst, \$982,677, up 2.3 percent
- Keller, \$479,052, down 2.5 percent
- Mansfield, \$973,476, up 1.9 percent
- North Richland Hills, \$880,900, up 2.3 percent
- Southlake, \$1 million, up 3.5 percent
- Westlake, \$609,213, up 257.1 percent

Scott Nishimura, 817-390-7808