

# Thunder Bridge

RICHLAND COLLEGE THUNDERSTAFF NEWSLETTER  
Information Services 972-238-6194 Dallas, Texas

Nov. 3, 2006

## DuckBytes

### snack-size news

- **Art exhibits:** "Candace M. Briceño: Flora," through Nov. 10, Lago Vista Gallery; "Ojo-the Unexpected: Contemporary Latin-American Artists of the Metroplex," through Nov. 22, Brazos Gallery. Call ext. 6339.
- The **RLC Yoga Club** meets Wednesdays from 4:30-5:45 p.m. in Room E076. Wear comfortable clothing and bring a towel or mat. Call Amy at ext. 6112 for info.
- The **RLC Knitting Club** meets from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on the second and fourth Friday of each month outside C150. Call ext. 3784.
- Keep up with **ThunderSports:** [www.richlandcollege.edu/sports/latest\\_scores.htm](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/sports/latest_scores.htm).
- What's on the DCCCD **Board of Trustees** meeting agendas? [www.dcccd.edu/About+DCCCD/Board+of+Trustees/Board+of+Trustees+Meeting+Agendas/2005+Board+Agendas.htm](http://www.dcccd.edu/About+DCCCD/Board+of+Trustees/Board+of+Trustees+Meeting+Agendas/2005+Board+Agendas.htm).

## THUNDERDUCKS GIVE GENEROUSLY

The State Employee Charitable Campaign (SECC) is over! The Thunderducks gave a record-breaking \$102,754 – that's \$31,801 or 45 percent more than RLC's 2006 goal of \$70,953! Eighty-two percent of Thunderducks participated in the campaign.



State  
of Texas  
Employees  
**TOGETHER  
WE CARE**

Click here to see RLC's final SECC ThunderTotal: [www.richlandcollege.edu/secc/secc.htm](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/secc/secc.htm).

President Steve Mittelstet commended the Thunderducks for opening their hearts and pocketbooks in such a generous way.

"In the true spirit of *building local and global sustainable community*, once again Richland College employees, through their generous giving to the 2006 SECC, have opened their hearts and shown their compassion for those individuals in our community who are in need," Dr. Mittelstet said.

Last year, RLC gave \$101,455, which exceeded the 2005 goal of \$68,886 by 47 percent or \$32,569. The Thunderducks have exceeded their SECC goals every year for the past five years.

The 2006 campaign ended on Oct. 31. The following workgroups met or exceeded their goal with 70 percent full- and limited full-time staff participation by the **Early Thunderduck Special** deadline. They will receive matching funds plus a celebration lunch with door prizes: Academic Enrichment • Accounting, Financial Services, Business Office, Mailroom, Printshop • ACCESS • Administrating Computing (I.T.) • Administration • Campus Police • C.E., Career Placement, Corp. Services, RSTC • Educational Transitions, RCHS • Emeritus • Facilities Services • Financial Aid • Health Center • Humanities • Information Services • Library • Media Technology • Physical Education • Program Development • Research • School of Business & Info. Technology • School of Engineering & Technology • Testing Center • TRIO/Upward Bound • WLCC, Multicultural Center.

The following workgroups made the **Fifty Percent Matching Funds** deadline: Employee Services & Professional Development • Human & Academic Development (HAD) • Math, Science & Behavioral Science (M/S/BS) • Student Programs and Resources. 🌿

### Strategic Planning Priorities for Student Learning



Response to Community



Student Success



Employee Success



Institutional Effectiveness

# NEWS

## 'Inspector Mom' airs Nov. 18 on Lifetime

The made-for-TV movie "Inspector Mom," which was filmed partially at Richland College, airs at 8 p.m. ET on Saturday, Nov. 18, on Lifetime.

"Inspector Mom" stars Danica McKellar who played Winnie on "The Wonder Years." Click here for a preview of "Inspector Mom": <http://www.lmn.tv/movies/details.php?id=MOV+3995>. 🌟

## Dance recital, Nov. 10

Richland's Dance Theatre presents the Student Showcase, an informal dance program, at 11 a.m. on Nov. 10 in the Arena Theatre. Admission is free. Call ext. 6250 for more information. 🌟

## Upcoming SPAR events

The following are some upcoming events presented by Student Programs and Resources (SPAR). For more info, call ext. 6130.

Nov. 10, Veterans Day observance, 11:30 a.m.-1:30 p.m., Room C140

Nov. 13, Salvation Army Angel Tree starts (gifts for the needy), Room E040

Nov. 18, 8th Annual Native American Pow Wow, 1-10:00 p.m., Large Gym. 🌟

## Music recital series

Each week, the Humanities Division of Richland College presents its Recital Series.

All performances are Tuesdays at 12:30 p.m. in Fannin Performance Hall and are free. Thunderwater Credit is available for employees who attend.

Upcoming performances include:

Nov. 7, Guitar Ensemble

Nov. 14, Univ. of North Texas Jazz Singers

Nov. 21, Richland Choral Groups

## SPOOKY CREW



Photos by John Pollock

Above: Participants of RLC's Halloween Costume Contest, sponsored by SPAR, line the stage in the cafeteria. The Statue of Liberty, center, was the winner.

Left: Avast, ye scurvy scum! It's Jay Wooldridge, SPAR, or is it Captain Jack Sparrow?



Nov. 28, Richland Symphonic Winds and String Orchestra

Dec. 5, Richland Music Student Recitals  
EVENING PERFORMANCES:

Nov. 9, Richland Rocks! Richland's Rock/Pop Showband, Fannin Perf. Hall, 8 p.m.

Nov. 14, Richland Jazz Showcase, Fannin Perf. Hall, 8 p.m.

Nov. 16, Richland Evening Jazz Ensemble, Fannin Perf. Hall, 7:30 p.m.

Nov. 17, Fall Choral Concert, Fannin Perf. Hall, 8 p.m.

Nov. 20, Richland Guitar Ensemble, Brazos Gallery (Room C140), 7:30 p.m.

For more info, contact **Joe Perea**, Humanities, at ext. 6254, or visit [www.richlandcollege.edu/human/music](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/human/music). 🌟

## Needle-free HIV testing

RLC's Health Center and the Greater Dallas Council on Alcohol and Drug Abuse are offering needle-free HIV testing, in the Health Center for students and employees from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Nov. 9, Nov. 20 and Dec. 7 in the Health Center, Room T110.

There is no charge for the test. Results will be given the same day as the test. All testing is anonymous or confidential, and private consultation is provided. No records will be kept by RLC's Health Center.

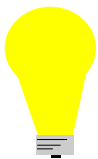
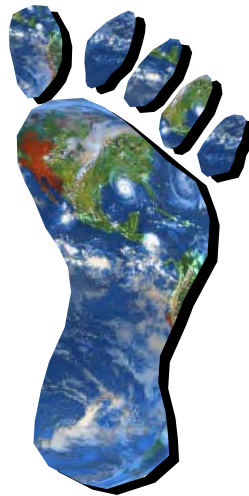
Testing is by appointment only, so call ext. 6135. Walk-in appointments will be taken on a limited basis. 🌟

## DON'T BE A BYSTANDER! GREENRichland's upcoming events

### It's not too late to enter the **BYSTANDERS TO CHANGE MAKERS** CONTEST

Share your best ideas for expanding RLC's environmental efforts, with a chance to win a Home Energy Audit valued at \$500.

Employees and students can turn in entries at [www.richlandcollege.edu/greenrichland](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/greenrichland).



### SAVING ENERGY IN YOUR HOME

Nov. 21  
10 a.m. to 1 p.m.  
Room C140

- The winner of the Bystanders to Change Makers Contest will be announced.
- Presentations and exhibits by Lowe's General Electric, Sierra Club and more!

*GREENRichland is an employee and student task force dedicated to promoting a sustainable natural environment and an abundant quality of life for future generations. For more information, visit [www.richlandcollege.edu/greenrichland](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/greenrichland).*




## Physical inventory time


It is time again for the yearly fixed asset physical inventory. **David Williams**, Facilities, began scanning items on Oct. 31 in campus classrooms and offices. This work takes place between 3-3:30 a.m. each morning in order to cause the least amount of disruption.

David is being assisted by **Charmayne Hightower**, Facilities, and representatives from I.T., C.E. and Media Services.

Following is an overview of the inventory process for this year:

- Early November: Current active fixed asset inventory lists will be received from the District Service Center and distributed to each department or division for review.
  - Nov. 1-Dec. 15: Initial team scanning takes place daily with weekly updates on progress. For the purpose of scanning bar codes, the campus will be split into east and west teams.
  - Dec. 15-Jan. 31: Once the initial scan is completed, an updated inventory report will be distributed to each department/division that will include unlocated items. The scan team will set an appointment with a representative to identify and locate the remaining items.
  - Early February: Formal report will be prepared for the campus Business Office outlining inventory status for each department.
  - March 15: Final report will be presented to District inventory control identifying the status of all Richland fixed inventory items.
- The campus goal this year is to have 100 percent of all items identified and documented before the March deadline. Everyone's cooperation will help achieve this goal. Call David at ext. 6359 for info. 

## Fall Safety Forum

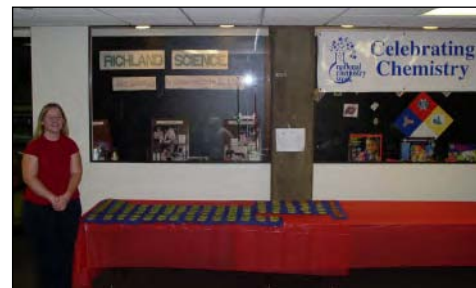
Detective Jack McQuarry of the Richardson Police Dept.'s Fraud & Forgery Unit will speak on "Identify Theft Prevention" at the Fall 2006 Safety Forum from 12:30-1:30 p.m. on Nov. 7 in the Brazos Gallery (Room C140). TOLI credit available. 



Richland College

DALLAS COUNTY COMMUNITY COLLEGE DISTRICT

IT ALL BEGINS HERE.



## RLC celebrates National Chemistry Week with moles, elements and cookies

By Terah Coffman, M/S/BS

The chemistry faculty from the Math/Science/Behavioral Science Division celebrated National Chemistry Week, Oct. 23-27. National Chemistry Week was first observed nationally in 1989 with a kick-off parade down the streets of Washington, D.C.

The week was designed as a community based program of the American Chemical Society as an effort to communicate the importance of chemistry to our quality of life.

In keeping with its vision, this year's National Chemistry Week theme was "Your Home – It's All Built on Chemistry," highlighting the ongoing contributions chemistry brings to our lives.

Local chapters of the American Chemical Society, businesses and academia join in celebrating chemistry with a variety of activities.


RLC chose three fun activities for the week.

On Oct. 23, students and faculty gathered in the halls of Sabine for a "Mole Moment." A mole (Avogadro's number:  $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ ) can be thought of as a chemist's dozen. The number is used in numerous calculations in chemistry and is considered so useful that there exists a saying, "When in doubt, convert to moles." To honor this momentous occasion, students and faculty shared in donut moles, juice, coffee, calculations and a toast to the mole precisely at 6:02 a.m. on Oct. 23 and 6:02 p.m. on Oct. 23. An atomic clock was used to ensure accuracy in time.

In between these festivities on National Mole Day, chemists **Becki Williams**, **Weldon Burnham** and **Terah Coffman** joined RLC's Conversations group to present a short, but brilliant, demonstration on energy.

The fun continued on Oct. 24, with the chemistry faculty dressed as their favorite element. Most notable was Becki Williams' rendition of Tungsten (along with a light bulb on her head) and a competition for Carbon from Organic chemists **Jo Blackburn** and Terah Coffman.

The festivities ended on Thursday with a periodic table of the cookies on display in front of the chemistry lab in Sabine. Former student and UTD chemistry major, **Amy Millsap**, provided 240 homemade cookies for this yummy salute to the periodic table.

In addition to the celebrations, a brief pictorial history was on display and RLC students presented skits, poems and games about chemistry. As music of the periodic table flowed through the corridors of Sabine, fun was had by all. 

Please make note that the Adjunct Faculty Office has a new name:

**A.C.C.E.S.S.**

**Adjunct Faculty College Center & Evening/Weekend Support Services**



Photo by John Pollock

From left, **Jean Conway**, Administration, gives **Fred Newbury**, Business & IT, a congratulatory hug for being named the Employee of the Month. See other EOMs at [www.richlandcollege.edu/employees/eom.htm](http://www.richlandcollege.edu/employees/eom.htm).

## November 2006 Outstanding Employee

Dear Fred:

Congratulations on being selected the Richland College Outstanding Employee for November 2006. Your award is well-deserved recognition of the exemplary service you have provided Richland College.

As a Charter Member of the faculty at Richland College, you have spent 34 years of your teaching and administrative career in service to students – students on three continents. Your embrace of educational technology brought students from Australia through distance learning media to the classrooms of Richland College to collaborate with our students in learning global economic principles. Your most recent effort took you to Saratov State University in Russia to set up collaborative classes involving Richland and Saratov students beginning this fall.

You are always ready to take on a challenge for the good of our students, your colleagues, and the college. In your role as Faculty President, you represented not only Richland College faculty for the past four years but also District faculty for the past three years as President of the Faculty Council. Your skills in the art of negotiation enable all parties to feel that they and their input are highly valued, and your willingness to listen to various viewpoints results in sound decisions based on facts. Your calm, understanding, and tactful manner in difficult situations demonstrates your professional and patient demeanor. You are admired for your tenacity, dedication, and determination to do what is best for those you represent.

Your ability not only to adapt to change but also to thrive upon the challenges of change has greatly benefited our students and college. Perhaps your greatest strength is the support and positive feedback that you provide students and colleagues. All colleagues who have served with you agree that it is a pleasure to work with you.

Fred, symbolic of our deep appreciation of your efforts, you will receive Richland's Certificate of Recognition, complimentary cinema tickets, special parking privileges through November 2006, a plant from our Horticulture department, and a coveted Thunderduck mug.

An announcement of your selection will appear in the *ThunderBridge*. Congratulations, Fred!  
Yours sincerely,

Stephen K. Mittelstet

## Lifeguard on duty

RLC now has a lifeguard on duty, **Charity Phillips**, at the Guadalupe Pool during the following hours: Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 1:30-5 p.m. and Tuesday from 2-5 p.m. No hours on Thursday, Saturday and Sunday.

All Thunderducks are welcome to swim. Kickboards, pull buoys, hand paddles, swim noodles will be available for use.

Call ext. 6260 for more info.



## RLC Retreat, Nov. 14

Feeling overwhelmed? Need a break to refresh your resources and restore your energy? Then the Richland Retreat for Reflection and Renewal is what you need.

The retreat is from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Nov. 14 at Briarwood Retreat Center in Argyle, Texas. All Richland full-time and limited full-time administrators and support staff, and all faculty (adjunct and full-time, credit and non-credit) are invited to participate.

Get your supervisor's approval for your participation in this retreat, then contact **Sue Jones** via e-mail or at ext. 3738 with your name, division or department, and phone extension or phone number. Deadline for registration is Nov. 6 at 5 p.m.

**Gwen May** and **Martha Timberlake** will be the facilitators. Because this is a retreat, not a workshop or seminar, attendance is required for the entire day. Participants will receive 9 hours of TOLI credit.



Need signs to promote your on-campus event or info session?

Be sure to work with Info. Svcs! We can design materials for you,

or help make sure you meet RLC's style standards. For info, contact Whitney at [wrosenbalm@dccd.edu](mailto:wrosenbalm@dccd.edu) or ext. 6023.



## Listening Outpost

The Listening Outpost provides opportunities throughout the semester for staff and students to visit informally with Richland's president, vice presidents and other leaders.

You are invited to bring your ideas, dreams, concerns and plans to the Outpost located in El Paso Hall near the cafeteria.

Participants for the week are listed at the Outpost. Evening Outpost participants can be reached from 5-9 p.m. in Adjunct Faculty, A110.

### Evening Outpost

Monday, Nov. 6

**David Henry**, Multicultural Center

Tuesday, Nov. 7

**Marcia Hines Parrish**, Career Svcs.

Wednesday, Nov. 8

**Bonnie Hueston**, Edu. Transitions

Thursday, Nov. 9

**Eddie Hueston**, Facilities

Monday, Nov. 13

**Olga Ivanova-Nuss**, Program Dev.

Tuesday, Nov. 14

**Kay Eggleston**, Administration

Wednesday, Nov. 15

**Sherry Dean**, Humanities

Thursday, Nov. 16

**Bao Huynh**, Inst. Research



## Letters

Dear **Steve Mittelstet** and **Kay Eggleston** (Administration),

**Mitzi Werther** recently was quoted in a New York Times story about Richland's Emeritus Program; the article focused on learning opportunities for adults over 50. I sent a text copy of the story and mentioned that I thought the reporter got her source from information that our office sent to Norma Kent at AACC; Norma frequently provides story ideas/tips/contact info to reporters from national news organizations.

What I did not say – and should have (instead of inferring it) – is that the information we provided about four of our seven colleges came through district media relations by way of those colleges' marketing/news operations... in your case, **Jenni Gilmer** and **Whitney Rosenbalm**. I just wanted to give them the credit they are due for always responding to news media inquiries that I send to our colleges; RLC is usually the first to respond, which often means that Richland is "in the news" frequently and in a variety of places.

Jenni and Whitney are wonderful professionals who are always willing to help and who have the perfect sources and stories. Thank you for encouraging them to work with me on a regular basis.

Ann Hatch  
DCCCD Director of Media Relations

Dear **Karon Yeager** (Academic Enrichment),  
Many thanks to Richland College for sponsoring my participation as a Community Agency/Partner at the Community College National Center for Community Engagement Conference in Scottsdale Arizona. As you know I am already a huge fan of the work that Richland College and the DCCCD have done to create Service Learning opportunities that are so relevant and play such an important part in this community and Neighborhood Service Council, Inc.'s efforts.

The Conference was extremely helpful in expanding my scope and understanding of what is being done in other areas. The variety of projects was mind-boggling and I loved being able to use the information gained right now, today. I, too, was impressed with the potential of new programs and/or program elements that we might want to develop for the low income, multi-cultured, "on the edge" children and their families in North Dallas and Richardson. I think I have also come away with a better understanding of the tremendous responsibility of the individual campus staff. Again I thank you for your continued dedication.

You and Carol helped make me feel most welcome at the conference I appreciated the opportunity to visit with so many others who share our concerns both in workshops and informally. Also, thank you for allowing me the chance to learn in such a lovely, fun setting. See the next letter for a thank you from one of Richland College's Service Learning students. I think it speaks volumes of the special work that can happen when student meets community. Thank you again.

Janis Reid Dumas,  
Executive Director,  
Neighborhood Service Council, Inc.

Dear Mrs. Dumas and everyone at NSCI,  
Thank you for the opportunity to volunteer on Tuesday afternoons as part of Richland College's service learning program. It is easy to see that everyone — all the ladies that run the after-school program and the tutors in the B.U.G. room, are all dedicated to the success of the children in school and in life. I will carry this experience with me as I continue my education and pursue my goal of being a nurse. Volunteering here has inspired me to continue volunteer work wherever I go. Once again, thank you for the wonderful experience!



Melissa Rivera,  
student

# PEOPLE

## Thanks, Thunderducks

To: **Ron Hill, Lori Krone, Allen McNeal, Kellie Pollock, Greg Rife** and **Joel Weiner**; Testing Center

From: **Judy Whitted**, Multicultural Center, and **Barb Dogger**, WLCC

Thank you for your unflagging efforts in putting together the COMPASS pilot in mid-September. You persevered in getting the system set up, and you were available to get the job done at a time that was feasible. Many thanks from all credit-ESOL folks!

To: **Jeanetta Burnham, Gary Duke, Amy Ferguson, Alice Fulbright, Sharlee Jeser-Skaggs** and **Doris Smith**; Library

From: **Nicole Goode**, ACCESS, and **Barb Dogger**, WLCC

Thank you for your interest in putting together a streamlined and electronic research piece for our Level 4 ESOL writing students. The time that we spent brainstorming was very helpful and the preparation that you put into the research package, Alice, was awesome! Thanks, again.

To: Adjunct Faculty Recruitment Fair planning team

From: **Zarina Blankenbaker**, ACCESS

I would like to commend **Andy Tubbs** and the Adjunct Faculty Recruitment Fair committee for the outstanding job they did in planning the recruitment fair. It was extremely well-organized and I know our attendees were impressed with how efficiently we directed them to where they needed to go.

We appreciate the deans and program coordinators for their presence today and we value the support from the Adjunct Faculty Association, specifically, **Mary Jo Dondlinger, Suzie Baker**, and **Janine Kornegay** for volunteering.

Andy will be sharing with the deans the results of the survey and the number of potential adjuncts who attended and/or submitted their resumes to HR.

Thank you to our District colleagues, **Paul Forte** and **Dawn Segroves**, for representing District and assisting today. We look forward to working with you on planning the next DCCCD Adjunct Faculty Recruitment Fair that Richland will host in the spring.

To: Information Services

From: **Sharlee Jeser-Skaggs**, Library

Thank you so much for the wonderful birthday card and Post-It™ notes. Y'all are great!

To: Richland College

From: **John Carmichael**, Academic Advising

A colossal and very heartfelt thank you to all involved with the

“Juggling for Life, Metaphor’s for Learning” learnshops conducted Sept. 20-21 in the Performance Hall.

We had 300+ people participate over the course of the two days, thanks largely to your fantastic support, enthusiasm, and advocacy.

Specifically, I would like to recognize the following people for their major contributions to the production:

Faculty members and their classes: **Jana Flowers, John Millemon, Phyllis Williams, Calvin Mayfield, Vicki Woods, and Bob Bennett**. Also much thanks to **Susan Wehe, Asther Asmelash, Victoria Glass, and Mary Ellard** for attending and offering extra credit opportunities to your students.

My wonderful colleagues for their encouragement and good thoughts, particularly the Career Advising staff, **Cindy Berry, Lorrie Anderson, Tara Thompson, and Vicki Woods**. Also, **Ora Howard, Eva Higgs-Nixon, Judy Elimelech, Mike Wright, Susie Brown, Susan Stolarczyk, Trudy Gay, Soon Collins, and all other faculty and staff** who expressed their well wishes and sent positive energy.

The uber-talented Chronicle staff for the excellent article in the school newspaper (written by **Jessica Surrey** and photographed by **Brittany Raddazzo**). Also, KDUX station manager, **Jodi Corbin**, and of course, **Lynn Proctor** and **Matt Hinckley** for their coordination efforts and superb organizational skills.

**Jenni Gilmer** for publicity in the ThunderBridge.

**Bobbie Harrison** and **Jay Wooldridge**, SPAR. Great work, as always. We’ve been fortunate for many years to have your talent working on our behalf.

**Jennifer Owen** and **Cris Bay-Andersen** for their insight and behind the scenes stage production expertise. Production was outstanding.

**Jeremy Haldeman** and **David Juliuson** for taking time to tape the event (thanks guys), and of course, **John Pollock** for his gifted photography.

**Roy Bond**, for Thunderwater credit opportunities.

Last (but never least) all of our wonderful students in attendance who make our work possible. A special thanks in particular to the brave souls helping out with the juggling demonstration. You modeled the concept of “letting go” and “going with the flow” very well.

If I neglected to mention anyone, please know that your involvement and support are most greatly appreciated. Without all of you, this couldn’t have happened. Richland College is indeed tops!



## PEOPLE

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*Help for one of our own*

Silent Auction  
benefitting Chie Blumenthal  
Nov. 8  
9 a.m. to 5 p.m.  
Brazos Gallery

The Multicultural Center and the Professional Support Staff Association are co-sponsoring a Silent Auction with all proceeds going to **Chie Blumenthal**.

As many of you already know, Chie suffered traumatic brain and bodily injuries in an auto accident this summer. Chie is still in daily therapy with the medical bills mounting astronomically.

The auction will be held Wednesday, Nov. 8, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. in Room C140, Brazos Gallery.

What we need from you are donations of new/gently used items, hand make items, goods, services promised (such as baked goods, pies for Thanksgiving, a cake, game tickets, pet/house/baby sitting, etc.). Please contact **Noeli Biggs** (ext. 6742), **Diane Graifemberg** (ext. 6980), or **Babs King** (ext. 6817) for more information or to pick up your donations.

Thank you in advance for your participation in such a worthwhile cause for one of our own.