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The Community Update from Collin County Community College District

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Collin professor named best in Texas

Texas' top professor is not at one of the Lone Star State's public or private universities. The number one faculty member in the state is a professor of psychology at Collin County Community College. The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) named Collin's own Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks the Texas Professor of the Year!

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Collin, Texas A&M University join forces to celebrate the new 'Aggie Bound' admission agreement

Dogs and cats may be natural enemies, but one canine/feline combo just called a truce. Reveille, the famed Collie mascot of Texas A&M University, and Collin the Cougar joined forces in December when their respective colleges signed a special agreement. Now students who begin their college education at Collin can have guaranteed admission to complete certain degrees at Texas A&M.

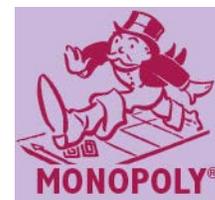
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MONOPOLY® back by popular demand!

Back by popular demand, the fast-paced fundraiser MONOPOLY® returns this spring! Take a stroll on the Boardwalk at [MONOPOLY® Madness](#) at 7 p.m. Saturday, Feb. 24 at The Shops at Willow Bend to help raise scholarship funds for deserving students.

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Recently, Collin was recognized as one of six colleges and universities and one of 16 civically-engaged organizations to watch across the United States.

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Former Collin student is celebrity in hit TV series *Ugly Betty*

Former Collin student Michael Urie shared his acting talent with more than 16 million television viewers in the premiere episode of ABC's new comedy "Ugly Betty." Now North Texans can see his hit character every Thursday night.

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High school students double up with dual credit

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Lev Zaltsberg is proud of his son Dmitry for many reasons. But when Dmitry started college full time, Dad was glad he suggested "dual credit" classes at Collin for his son's senior year at Plano West.

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College honors Living Legends

Collin honored (from left) Mike Newman & Jean Newman, Fred Moses & Mazzie Moses, Raymond B. Cooper and (seated) Helen Hall at the Fourth Annual Living Legends Tribute, underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano

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On Nov. 16, the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE) named Collin's own Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks the Texas Professor of the Year at a Washington, D.C., ceremony. This is the only national program recognizing college and university professors for their teaching skills.



Texas Professor of the Year, Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks

This is the second time a Collin professor has been honored as Professor of the Year. Theatre professor Brad Baker was named U.S. Professor of the Year in 2000.

"I am humbled by this award and honored to be recognized for what I find rewarding, challenging and exciting," Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks said. "I teach because it is my passion, and I truly could not imagine being in any other profession. Each student whose life is touched or positively changed by my methods continues to fuel my teaching."



Jennifer O'Loughlin-Brooks at the CASE ceremony in Washington D.C.

Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks first joined the college as an associate professor in 1995 and has been a full-time professor since 2002. She is well-known by students for her commitment to research and for leadership of the Psi Beta national psychology honor society. In fact, she helped Psi Beta earn national acclaim by overseeing student research projects. She also was the first Texas Liaison for National Psi Beta, and the American Psychological Association highlighted her work in *The APA Monitor* magazine.

Jeff Fortney is a Collin alumnus at the University of North Texas. He said the research experience he received under the wing of Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks was invaluable in applying for graduate school.

"Before meeting her, I never expected to participate in any research effort at a community college," Fortney said. "My (graduate school) academic advisor...informed me that I had an instant advantage over other prospective applicants. He bluntly asked me how it was possible that I had accomplished all this in such a short amount of time. My answer: Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks."

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Former Collin student Marissa Bridgman said Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks inspired her and helped her connect with scholarships to attend Southern Methodist University (SMU). "These covered the cost of my entire tuition for five semesters at SMU, and it would never have been possible without Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks' help," she said. "It was her guidance, mentoring and innovative teaching that gave me a future in psychology."

Jennifer L. O'Loughlin-Brooks graduated from Texas Christian University in 1991 with a B.A. in psychology and speech/communications. She attained her M.S. in experimental psychology from Emporia State University in 1994.

She created and taught the first Honors General Psychology Course at Collin. She also was instrumental in developing the first General Psychology Service-Learning Philanthropy Course. She is a four-time recipient of the Faculty Recognition Scholarship for Exemplary Teaching and Service and was named Outstanding Professor in 2004 and 2006.

"It has been our great fortune to have Professor O'Loughlin-Brooks on our faculty. She brings excellence to the classroom and stellar leadership to every project she approaches," said Collin President Cary Israel. "She is an excellent example of the fantastic faculty at Collin."

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Nicknamed "Aggie Bound," the new agreement shortens the path from Collin County to College Station.

Now students who begin their college education at Collin County Community College (Collin) can have guaranteed admission to complete certain degrees at Texas A&M.

That is particularly significant because Texas A&M is top five university for Collin student transfers. With more than 41,000 attending Collin each year, a large number of North Texas students are destined to earn Aggie rings.

"Having privileges at one of the nation's leading universities will be a major benefit for our students," said Collin President Cary Israel. "Nationwide, it takes the average college student 5.2 years to finish a bachelor's degree. We must shorten the time to degree while maintaining the highest quality education at a cost students can afford."

As a part of the arrangement, TAMU staff at their local Regional Prospective Student Center will work with Collin students and staff on admissions and financial aid.

"We believe this initiative promises to be a tremendous avenue for helping students transfer to Texas A&M to complete their upper-level coursework and degrees," said Mark Weichold, dean of undergraduate programs and associate provost for academic services. To qualify for Aggie Bound, Collin students must maintain a 3.0 GPA and complete at least 24 transferable credits as well as declare a major in one of the programs designated by Texas A&M. These programs include the TAMU colleges of Education and Human Development, Engineering, Science, Geosciences, and Agriculture and Life Sciences, plus programs at the Galveston branch.

According to Dr. Bob Collins, who chairs the Collin Board of Trustees, "Collin is proud to partner with Texas A&M University, and we look forward to sending our first group of transfer students under the agreement to College Station. As a proud Aggie, I am thrilled that Collin students now have this tremendous opportunity," he said. Dr. Collins earned both a master's degree and a doctorate at A&M. "Graduates are a great indication of an institution's success, and we want to simplify the process for our students to get both an associate's degree and a bachelor's degree."

Collin signed its first agreement of this kind in 2000 with the University of North

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Texas. Collin now holds partnerships with The University of Texas at Dallas, Southern Methodist University, Texas Woman's University, Texas A&M University-Commerce and Texas Tech University as well as Texas A&M. To date, more than 400 students have participated in Collin's university partnership programs.

For more information, call 972.985.3734.

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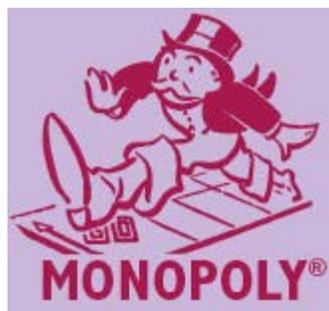
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MONOPOLY® back by popular demand!

Back by popular demand, the fast-paced fundraiser MONOPOLY® will be held on Saturday, Feb. 24 at 7 p.m. at The Shops at Willow Bend, 6121 W. Park Boulevard in Plano. [MONOPOLY® Madness](#) promises to be the county's most unique fundraiser.



It begins with live music, cocktails and hors d'oeuvres at the upscale Mustang Café, and then the fanfare continues with a MONOPOLY® frenzy at Neiman Marcus. The popular MONOPOLY® game tops off the evening in the mall's Grand Court.

One out of every four area high school students begins higher education at Collin, so more and more students are in need of financial aid and scholarships than ever before. This year, with the generous support of local businesses, the college hopes to raise \$300,000+ to cover tuition and fees for deserving students.

Local companies and individuals can join the fun while helping students who may not be able to attend college without financial assistance. For MONOPOLY® sponsorship levels or for more information, please contact the college's Foundation at 972 881 5611.

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Collin named one of six colleges in the nation to watch

Recently, Collin was recognized as one of six colleges and universities and one of 16 civically-engaged organizations to watch across the nation, according to the Case Foundation.

The only community college listed, Collin was selected as a leading institution in company with corporations such as Cisco Systems, Kaiser Permanente, SAP America, Sprint, Nextel and Turner Broadcasting, faith-based organizations and educational institutions including Colgate University, DePaul University and Tufts University.

The Case Foundation is an organization dedicated to finding lasting solutions to complex social problems, including expanding civic engagement and volunteerism.

Collin was selected for the honor for leadership in service learning, a program which merges community service with classroom concepts, and learning communities, a program which combines various disciplines and allows students to take two or three classes simultaneously. The article cites a few of the college's national awards including the Bellwether award garnered for the service-learning and learning communities programs, the Campus Compact Collaboration Award for service-learning and the American Association of University Women Progress in Equity award.

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Where are they now?

Former Collin student is celebrity in hit TV series *Ugly Betty*

"See the stars of tomorrow...today" is more than a slogan for the Collin theatre department; it is a fact. The statement was proven yet again when former Collin student Michael Urie shared his acting talent with more than 16 million television viewers in the premiere episode of ABC's new comedy "Ugly Betty."

"I called my dad and told him Vanessa Williams is playing my boss. [My dad said,] 'Vanessa Williams? Why, she's one of the most beautiful women in the world?!' Yeah Dad, and I am injecting her face with Botox," Urie said with a laugh in an ABC pod cast interview for "Ugly Betty".



Michael Urie

Urie was starring in "Phenomenon," an off-off-Broadway production, when a casting agent spotted him and directed him to audition as a guest star for "Ugly Betty." His performance and ideas for the character landed him a role as a series regular.

"Ugly Betty" has been featured in Entertainment Weekly, TV Guide and New York Magazine as well as in newspapers across the country. Urie plays the flamboyantly dressed Marc St. James, Vanessa Williams' assistant, and describes the comedy as "Touched by an Angel" meets "Just Shoot Me".

According to Urie, renowned actor and "Ugly Betty" producer Salma Hayek is very involved in the show.

"She is well respected, an Oscar nominee and a beacon for the Latino community. Salma is great to work with. She walks onto the set, and she changes the energy of the room. You are in the room with a star. The show's leading actor America Ferrera is also superb and at the top of her game," Urie said.

Urie began his acting career at Collin performing in "God's Country," "Sylvia," "Locked Away" and "Titus Andronicus." Brad Baker, U.S. Professor of the Year for 2000 and Collin theatre chair, advised Urie to apply to Juilliard. Urie was accepted to the legendary fine arts school and graduated with the 2002 John Houseman Prize for Excellence in Classical Theatre. He played a role in the film "Uptown Girls" and was nominated Best Actor for his work in the independent post-September 11 film "WTC View." Urie also has performed in commercials and numerous plays including off- and off-off-Broadway performances.

"While I was taking classes at Collin, I decided I was really going to be an actor. I

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would have been much further behind if I had gone to Juilliard straight out of high school and not gone to Collin. I still go back to things I learned at Collin," Urie said.

Now after weeks of shooting episodes, when Urie has a question, he just asks his friend, Vanessa Williams. His admiration for her talent has increased as he continues to work by her side.

"She commands respect and plays a character that demands respect. She is hilarious, and she could not be happier than where she is right now. In the show, I am the flying monkey to Vanessa Williams' wicked witch. She sends me on her bidding. We keep secrets from each other, but I wouldn't be anywhere without her. It is a very complex relationship. The big wrench in the whole works is Betty. She keeps doing good and making it hard for us to do evil. I constantly fall on my face and fail—that's funny. You have to have humility when you fail every week," Urie said.

According to Urie, his character in "Ugly Betty" is not the most difficult role he has ever played, but it is certainly the biggest. Prior to the comedy, he was playing three different roles in three different plays simultaneously. Urie clearly recalls the ups and downs of starring in plays and then waiting in line for the next audition, and while he has reached a big goal with "Ugly Betty," he looks forward to the future.

"I don't think actors have pinnacles of success. Actors continue to have new life experiences until the day they die," Urie said.

For more information about Collin theater classes visit www.ccccd.edu .

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High school students double up with dual credit

Lev Zaltsberg is proud of his son Dmitry for many reasons. But in fall, when Dmitry started college full time, Dad was glad he suggested “dual credit” classes at Collin for his son’s senior year at Plano West. It put Dmitry ahead of most incoming freshman.



Dmitry Zaltsberg

The dual credit program allows high school students to take college classes and earn both high school and college credit simultaneously. For example, a student can register for an economics class or take an afternoon government class. The credits fulfill high school requirements and land on a college transcript.

“When I first enrolled at Collin (after high school graduation), I had completed a semester of classes already,” Dmitry said. “The program is great. When I graduated high school I felt I had a leg up.”

He is now in his first year on campus at Collin and plans to transfer to The University of Texas at Dallas to major in business. Before he had registered as a full-time student at Collin, Dmitry had already completed 12 credit hours.

Dual credit is becoming more and more popular as students and families in North Texas look for ways to complete degrees faster and save money. In the fall 2006, 1,158 high school students from Allen, Frisco, Plano, McKinney, Blue Ridge, Wylie and a number of other area high schools enrolled in courses at Collin. That number has increased 33 percent in just two years.

Mr. Zaltsberg said he saw his son morph during the program. “There was a huge change in Dmitry’s demeanor and interest in learning. The change from high school to college is a huge character builder. Nothing speaks louder than accomplishment,” he said. “Just by being there and being available to students who perceive value in getting ahead instead of coasting...the program’s invaluable. It’s an incredible opportunity for high school students.”

Students also find the experience of sitting in a college class and learning under a seasoned professor in the field to be a great advantage. At the same time, they are completing elements of the “core” curriculum—general education courses required for undergraduate programs in Texas—that will transfer seamlessly to a university.

“I would highly recommend this to anyone who wants to advance in their quest for knowledge, and it accelerates the time you spend getting a degree,” Lev said. “Financially, this is more palatable than going straight to a university.”

Allen High School graduate Dezerra Gunter took two classes—economics and

government — through the dual credit program her senior year.

“Dual credit gives students the drive to get through school quickly. It makes college accessible to high schools students,” Gunter, a marketing student, said. “The opportunity to get college credit and set a good standard when you come to college is wonderful.”

For more information on dual credit or any other special admissions programs, call Maria Bridgeman 972.377.1612 or Kirk D. Lee 972.516.5086.

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College honors Living Legends

2006 Living Legends include (from left) Mike Newman, Jean Newman, Fred Moses and Mazzie Moses of Plano; Raymond B. Cooper of Wylie; and (seated) Helen Hall of McKinney.

Collin County Community College District (Collin) honored six distinguished community members at the 2006 Living Legends Tribute Nov. 11. Hosted by the college and the Collin College Foundation, the event was underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano.

This exclusive series honored community involvement by recognizing local individuals whose actions profoundly shaped the progress of Collin County. The tribute also paved the way for future leaders through a scholarship endowment fund for outstanding students.

In its fourth year, the tribute included six honorees from throughout Collin County:

- Fred and Mazzie Moses.
- Jean and Mike Newman.
- Raymond B. Cooper.
- Helen Hall.

Living Legends debuted in 2003, and the late Gladys Harrington, credited for starting Plano's first library, was the first recipient.

To view honoree bios, go to <http://foundation.ccccd.org/livinglegends/> . To view downloadable



Fred & Mazzie Moses



Jean & Mike Newman



Raymond Cooper



Helen Hall

photos from the tribute dinner, go to the online web gallery at <http://www.ccccd.edu/webgalleries/livinglegends2006>

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Student Highlights



Dental hygiene students

The college's **Dental Hygiene** program ranks in the top six percent in the nation among two- and four-year programs, according to the National Dental Hygiene Board. The program ranked 15th out of 256 nationally.

The college's continuing education program has been designated by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners as an approved training and testing center for dental assistants to become Registered **Dental Assistants** in Texas.

The college kicked off the fall semester with the launch of a new academic honor society, **Sigma Delta Kappa**. This national English Honor Society joins the ranks of Collin's current academic honor societies, including Phi Theta Kappa and Psi Beta, the national honor society for community college students and the national psychology honor society, respectively. For membership to Sigma Delta Kappa, students must have completed one English course, have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in English, have a minimum overall GPA of 3.3 and have completed at least 12 college hours.

Collin hosted the inaugural national conference for the **Psi Beta National Honor Society**. The 2006 Psychology Synergy Conference featured some of the nation's prominent psychology researchers. The event was developed to afford psychology enthusiasts from around the country the opportunity to interact and become informed on current issues in the discipline.

Collin athletes **Alecia Nicole Jenkins** (tennis) and **Alana Britt Lara** (basketball) were named as Academic All-Americans by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Students from Collin's **Fire Academy Class 36** helped children at The Home Depot in McKinney build wooden fire truck banks from a kit while teaching them fire safety. More than 150 kits were assembled. The project demonstrated to firefighter trainees that the job of a firefighter goes beyond fighting fires to include teaching others about fire safety.

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Alecia Nicole Jenkins

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Alana Britt Lara

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Faculty and Staff Highlights



Dr. Lisa Roy-Davis

Dr. Lisa Roy-Davis, professor of English, was named the Lebrecht Endowed Chair for Scholarly and Civic Engagement. Royden L. Lebrecht's \$1 million gift was the largest from an individual philanthropist in the history of Collin. The Lebrecht Endowed Chair was established to recognize Mr. Lebrecht's commitment to education and the community.

The endowment furthers the attraction and retention of highly qualified nursing faculty and supports student scholarships.



Professor Chris Grooms

Professor of English **Chris Grooms** presented at the 41st International Congress of Medieval Studies. The international congress offers a wide range of new perspectives and discussions on literature in the medieval and early modern period. Dr. Grooms also shared course organization and development perspectives with faculty teaching literature surveys in the United States, Canada, Great Britain, Austria and France.

The U.S. Department of Justice Office on Violence Against Women awarded Collin County Community College District, Hope's Door and The Turning Point a \$206,014 grant. **Dr. Linda Qualia**, director of Counseling Services at the college, serves as the project director of the grant. The corresponding project will be a "coordinated community response to violence against women on campus."



Dr. Cary Israel

Collin President **Cary Israel** was selected as a recipient of the Collin County League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Community Service Award. Dr. Israel was saluted for serving as an inspiration to young adults in our community.

[PRINTER FRIENDLY VERSION]



Dr. Joyce Swegle, R.N.



Dr. Linda Qualia

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Did you know?

Did you know the following facts about Collin County Community College?

Special University Partnerships

Collin credits are accepted at universities nationwide. The partners highlighted here have special agreements providing consecutive admission and/or transfer benefits to Collin students.

<i>Partner</i>		<i>Established</i>
	UNT	August 2000
	UTD	November 2000
	SMU	February 2002
	TWU	October 2003
	A&M-C	February 2004
	TECH	May 2006
	A&M	December 2006

80%: 80 percent of the Texas enrollment growth in fall 2006 occurred at the state's community colleges. (Source: Texas Higher Education Coordinating Board.)

CougarLAND: Laptops. iPods. Blackberries. No matter what the wireless device, students can now tap into the college's wireless network for free. The "CougarLAND"

wireless access system is now available at the Spring Creek, Preston Ridge and Central Park campuses. For more information, visit www.ccccd.edu/CougarLANd.html

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Online Student Services

Collin students can access many services online. Here are just a few:

- [Application for admission](#)
- [Bookstore](#)
- [Enrollment verification](#)
- [Grades](#)
- [Library](#)
- [Online writing lab](#)
- [Registration for classes](#)
- [Schedule of classes](#)
- [Transcript request](#)
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- [Web courses](#)

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Collin, Texas Tech sign consecutive admission agreement

Collin County Community College District (Collin) and Texas Tech University (Texas Tech) have teamed up to provide students a new route to a degree. Officials from both institutions signed an agreement – titled “Red Raider Bound” – granting qualified Collin students guaranteed admission to Texas Tech, among other perks.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Destination College©: The Higher Education Help Desk

Destination College© is a new initiative at Collin that will help local families prepare for success in college. Watch for upcoming workshops as well as tutoring services, discounted SAT/ACT reviews, refresher courses and more!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Call for entries is underway for 2006 Living Legends, underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano

Do you know someone who has made a significant contribution to the community? If so, a living legend might be among your circle of colleagues, friends or family.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Where are they now? Dr. Guillermo Ameer's discoveries to make the human body just like new

A quirk of fate steered Dr. Guillermo Ameer from electrical to chemical and biomedical engineering, bringing him acclaim and bringing the world a realm of medicine previously unknown. A Collin graduate, Dr. Ameer is one of 10 Illinois recipients to receive stem cell funding this year, and his research may soon alter the way surgeons practice medicine.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



UTD offers fixed tuition for Collin students

It is a good time to be a student at Collin. More specifically, it is a good time to be a Collin student bound for The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD).

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Student News

Collin's chapter of the League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) swept the national awards competition at the U.S. convention.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

HIGHLIGHTS Student News

HIGHLIGHTS Faculty & Staff



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Faculty and Staff Highlights

The spotlight is shining on Collin faculty and staff. Learn how your community college is earning national acclaim.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Did you know...

How has enrollment grown over the last 20 years? How can college fit into a busy schedule? How do businesses access custom training? What special topics are professors studying this year? Click below to find out.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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Financing Higher Education: Increasing number of students seek financial assistance

While Cindy Garcia worked as a waitress, she imagined what it would be like to stand in front of a classroom full of third graders. She is now pursuing a degree in education at Collin County Community College (Collin) because of the generosity of individuals in the community. Garcia is acting on her dream, but there are more dreamers than scholarships to go around.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Red carpet rolls out March 4 for sponsors of Plain & Fancy Ball Texas-Style

Because student need for financial aid is at an all-time high (see related story, above), the college is now seeking supporters for the second annual [Plain and Fancy Ball](#).

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Where are they now? Former student fights bioterrorism

NAME: Elizabeth Dalton

TITLE: Senior Program Analyst, Anteon Corporation

MISSION: To stop terrorists from gaining or using biological weapons; to protect the public if they do

Her life sounds like a spy novel: Flowing past officers of every branch of the military, winding through the Pentagon's outer ring, opening doors marked "Classified Personnel Only" with her thumbprint...Though it sounds like a work of fiction, this is practically an everyday occurrence in the life of Elizabeth Dalton, a biological weapons expert and former Collin student.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College expands throughout Collin County

Due to student enrollment growth, Collin is expanding facilities at the Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco. Plans are underway to build a 50-60,000-square foot facility for classrooms and faculty offices between Founders and Heritage halls (site pictured at right). The new building will make the campus more comprehensive in order to offer more courses.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin honors 2005 'Living Legends'

Recently, Collin recognized pillars of the community at its annual Living Legends Tribute, underwritten for the

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second consecutive year by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano.

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Did you know?

Collin is growing faster than any college or university in Texas! Check out our interesting statistics.

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Third Collin student in five years named to elite All-USA Academic Team



When Adele Bailey made remarks in Boston on behalf of the new inductees into the All-USA Academic Team, the spotlight was hers alone onstage in front of college leaders and students from across the U.S. However, she was far from alone back home in achieving the honor. She is one of three Collin students in the last five years to earn the ultimate prize for American community college students.

(Pictured at left during the Phi Theta Kappa annual convention are Collin President Cary Israel, former New York Mayor Rudolph Giuliani, Adele Bailey and Collin Board of Trustees Chairman Sam Roach.)

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

2005 Collin County Legends revealed!

Collin is proud to announce the 2005 Living Legends--Richard and Diane Dill of McKinney, Jan Miller of the Anna and Celina communities, Rita G. Smith of Wylie, and Bob Warren of Frisco. Mark your calendar for the third annual tribute ceremony November 12, underwritten by *Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano!*

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College offers new programs

The breadth of any community college is not based on where it has been, but where it is going. Collin has a very bright future, which is showcased in the many new programs, certificates and degrees being offered.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College receives second \$1 million gift

Collin has received an unrestricted \$1 million gift from the estate of Royden Lebrecht . The bequest is the college's second \$1 million gift in as many years, and it will create scholarships as well as the first endowed chair in the college's history--the Lebrecht Chair for the Center for Scholarly and Civic Engagement.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now?

An insider's view of the White House

Geoff Bailey was one of 100 recent interns at the White House, and he was one of only seven interns selected to work in Vice President Dick Cheney's office. Assigned to

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the White House photographer, he has numerous tales of the wonders of life on Capitol Hill. *(Pictured at left is former Collin student Geoff Bailey along with U.S. Vice President Dick Cheney.)*
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Special Faculty Feature: Educational Philosophies

Meet some of our esteemed faculty as they share their philosophies on higher education.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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Special Thanks, Plain & Fancy Ball

Collin County Community College District thanks High Society sponsors of the Plain & Fancy Ball. Watch for details on the next Plain & Fancy Ball set for March 2006!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Did you know?

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Plain & Fancy Ball turns educational fairytale to reality for Collin County Community College students

Time is running out to get the hottest ticket in town! Don't miss your chance to strut your stuff on the red carpet at the first-ever "Plain & Fancy Ball" at Collin County Community College while mystery judges pick the Most Fabulous, Most Elegant, Best Couple and Most Creative attire. Check out the [video!](#) (Load with QuickTime through attached link)

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

College helps area brace for health care shortages

Collin County's population in 2004 was estimated at 615,200, and that number will climb to one million by 2025. Nationwide someone turns 50 every eight seconds, and the fastest-growing age bracket in Collin County is 65 plus. With Collin County's population growing and aging, the demand on the health care industry is mounting. You might be surprised to know what your community college is doing to help.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



College accepting applications for 'SMART' scholarships

High school and college students interested math, science, computer science or engineering take note! Scholarships are available thanks to Texas Instruments.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they NOW?



Dr. Clint Feagin & Amanda Self Feagin

Seven years ago if you asked Clint Feagin and Amanda Self what the Farmersville natives wanted to be when they grew up, Clint would have said he definitely wanted to be an expert in his field and Amanda would have told you she was undecided. Today, after earning their degrees, the high school sweethearts are married and have grown into a veterinarian and a teacher.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

New Frisco addition now open

Preston Ridge Campus in Frisco is now the second-largest campus in the Collin County Community College District with the opening of a 103,000 square-foot

expansion.
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Student Highlights

Collin was one of only three colleges and universities nationwide recognized as an Outstanding Delegation for participation in the Model U.N. program.

From left to right: Professor Dierdre Wendell, Abena Ahenkan, Benjamin Painter, Jon Lucas, Josh Lucas, Josh Curlett, Fauzia Khan, Professor Hope Williams (seated)
[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Faculty & Staff Highlights

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Q: What do Rice and the University of Texas have in common with Collin County Community College?

A: Accreditation by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS)

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Did you know...

You might be surprised to see how many graduates from area high schools come to Collin County Community College. Check out the percentages.

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Texas Instruments makes \$1 million gift to CCCCD

Texas Instruments created a \$1 million scholarship endowment for CCCCD students who want to become engineers. This is largest endowed gift in the college's 20-year history! *(Pictured from left are students Laura Chavez and Abena Ahenkan; Sam Roach, chair of the CCCCD Board of Trustees; Phil Ritter, senior vice president of Texas Instruments; and students Nathan Klick and Raphael Moira.)*



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano to sponsor 'Living Legends' Tribute Nov. 13

Professor John and Dr. Myrtle Hightower of Plano, Gerry Ruschhaupt of McKinney and Dr. Erwin and Elizabeth Pink of Frisco have been selected as the 2004 Living Legends. They will be honored on November 13 in a ceremony underwritten by Baylor Regional Medical Center at Plano.



[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

National Science Foundation, Texas Workforce Commission announce major grants to CCCCD

Good news abounds at Collin County Community College, where two foundations have announced major grants.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Collin County Community College puts on a new face

Fall and change are in the air. If it has been a while since you set foot on a Collin County Community College District (CCCD) campus, then you might be surprised to find that it has changed quite a bit since your last visit.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Meet the CCCCD Board of Trustees

The business of governing a college rests on the Board of Trustees, which plays a vital role in guiding the college and shaping its success. Community members with a passion for higher education comprise the Collin County Community College District Board of Trustees.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now? Graduate from first class now a counselor at Plano Senior High School

Timing is everything. Ask Collin County Community College District alumna Vanessa Hundley. When she

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arrived late for her college graduation, the ceremony had ended, but that did not stop her from pursuing her dreams. She is now a counselor at Plano Senior High School.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Final 'MONOPOLY®' raises record total for scholarships

Thanks to generous corporate and private sponsorships, "An Evening of MONOPOLY® on Ice" raised a record amount for scholarships this year, bringing in more than \$180,000.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Faculty & Staff Highlights

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Student News

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Did You Know?

Check out charts and graphs showing enrollment, tuition comparisons, distance education growth, and more!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

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Where are they now? Former student featured as lead character in animated cartoon series

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Welcome to our community e-newsletter!

Today, members of the community are receiving the very first issue of Collin County Community College District's electronic newsletter *Connection*. Enjoy!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

ABC News anchor Peter Jennings broadcasts at CCCCD

Peter Jennings of ABC's World News Tonight joined several local journalist in town hall meeting to discuss "Media Matters" with college students.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin County Community College offers challenging academics

True or false: Students want easy classes. Surprisingly, many of today's best and brightest college students want a challenge rather than a walk in the park.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

An Evening of MONOPOLY On Ice: CCCCD Foundation, Inc. hosts fourth annual fundraiser

The Collin County Community College District Foundation, Inc. hosts the fourth annual "An Evening of Monopoly."

The twist this year is that it will be on ice!

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Appraisal District says tax growth down; planning strengthens college

Good news! *The Dallas Morning News* reported recently that Collin County Community College District has the lowest tax growth rate of any educational entity in the county, referring to data from the Central Appraisal District of Collin County.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Where are they now? Former student featured as lead character in animated cartoon series

Riding the crest of a recent tsunami is voice actress and former CCCCD drama student, Laura Bailey. Bailey is a voice-over actress, sometimes called a re-dub artist, in that subculture of Japanese animation known as anime (A-ni-may).

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Collin County Economic Summit set for March 30

Business and community leaders interested in the future of the local economy will get a preview at the 2004 Collin County Economic Summit set for March 30.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)

Faculty & Staff Highlights

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Student Highlights

Hats off and congratulations to our many outstanding students like Bizu Ejigu, picture at the right.

[\[Click Here for Full Story\]](#)



Did you know...

CCCCD is a "College of Firsts."

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Faculty and Staff Highlights

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Student Highlights



Dental hygiene students

The college's **Dental Hygiene** program ranks in the top six percent in the nation among two- and four-year programs, according to the National Dental Hygiene Board. The program ranked 15th out of 256 nationally.

The college's continuing education program has been designated by the Texas State Board of Dental Examiners as an approved training and testing center for dental assistants to become Registered **Dental Assistants** in Texas.

The college kicked off the fall semester with the launch of a new academic honor society, **Sigma Delta Kappa**. This national English Honor Society joins the ranks of Collin's current academic honor societies, including Phi Theta Kappa and Psi Beta, the national honor society for community college students and the national psychology honor society, respectively. For membership to Sigma Delta Kappa, students must have completed one English course, have a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 3.0 in English, have a minimum overall GPA of 3.3 and have completed at least 12 college hours.

Collin hosted the inaugural national conference for the **Psi Beta National Honor Society**. The 2006 Psychology Synergy Conference featured some of the nation's prominent psychology researchers. The event was developed to afford psychology enthusiasts from around the country the opportunity to interact and become informed on current issues in the discipline.

Collin athletes **Alecia Nicole Jenkins** (tennis) and **Alana Britt Lara** (basketball) were named as Academic All-Americans by the National Junior College Athletic Association.

Students from Collin's **Fire Academy Class 36** helped children at The Home Depot in McKinney build wooden fire truck banks from a kit while teaching them fire safety. More than 150 kits were assembled. The project demonstrated to firefighter trainees that the job of a firefighter goes beyond fighting fires to include teaching others about fire safety.

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Alecia Nicole Jenkins

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Alana Britt Lara

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