



**December 2006**

## Duncanville Digest

### Garbage & Recycling Holiday Schedule

Christmas Day and New Years Day are garbage & recycling holidays. Garbage will be picked up on the next regularly scheduled trash day (Thursday).

Monday Recyclers will receive collection on Wednesday, December 27 and Wednesday, January 3.

### Christmas Tree Recycling Offered

Duncanville residents may recycle their Christmas trees at the Duncanville Service Center, located at 330 Shady Trail, from December 26 to January 13.

The ornaments and stands must be removed.

### Recreation Center Closings During the Holidays

- ☐ Thursday-December 14, 2006-Closing at 5:00pm
- ☐ Monday-December 25, 2006-Closed
- ☐ Monday-January 1, 2007 - Closed

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!



## Annual Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting

Please join the City of Duncanville for the 2006 Christmas Parade on Friday, December 1st. This year's parade theme is "Twas the Night Before Christmas."

The parade will start promptly at 7:00 PM with the tree lighting and pictures with Santa at Duncanville City Hall at approximately 7:40 PM.

Check for more information online at [www.duncanville.com](http://www.duncanville.com).

## Christmas Tree Fires

Carefully decorating Christmas trees can help make your holidays safer.

### Facts & figures

- Christmas trees were the items first ignited in an estimated average of 310 reported U.S home structure fires per year in 1999-2002. These fires caused an average of 14 civilian deaths, 40 civilian injuries, and \$16.2 million in direct property damage per year. These statistics include both real and artificial trees.
- On average, one in every 22 reported home Christmas tree fires resulted in a death.
- More than four of every ten home Christmas tree fires are caused by an electrical problem or malfunction. One in four (24%) home Christmas tree fires resulted from a heat source placed too close to the tree. Seven percent were started by children playing with fire.
- When equipment was involved in the ignition of the fire lamps, bulbs or lighting (18%), and cords or plugs (13%) were cited more often than any other type of equipment. No equipment was involved in 44% of these fires.
- Candles were the heat source in 8% of the home Christmas tree fires per year between 1999 and 2002.
- Sixty-one percent of the home Christmas tree fires were reported in December, 22% were reported in January. Not surprisingly, the number of these fires spikes during the week of December 22-28. These statistics are based on fires that started with Christmas trees and do not include fires starting with other products. A small fire



continued on page 4...**See Holiday Fires**

# City Information Index

## Duncanville City Offices

### GENERAL GOVERNMENT

City Manager's Office	972-780-5017
Asst. City Manager's Office	972-780-5017
City Secretary	972-780-5017
Community Information	972-780-5043
Duncanville JobLine	972-780-5006
After Hours Calls	972-780-4959

### ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Development Director	972-780-5090
----------------------	--------------

### POLICE DEPARTMENT

Chief of Police	972-780-5038
Community Relations	972-780-5027
Criminal Investigations	972-780-5037
Animal Control	972-780-5025
Police Records	972-780-5024

### FIRE DEPARTMENT

Fire Chief	972-780-4920
Assistant Fire Chief	972-780-4921

### FINANCE DEPARTMENT

Director	972-780-5005
Municipal Court	972-780-5055
Teen Court	972-780-5063
Water Billing	972-780-5010

### COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Library	972-780-5050
Community Center	972-780-5070
Senior Center	972-780-5073
Director	972-780-5076
Special Events Coordinator	972-780-5086

### PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

Director	972-780-5015
Building Inspections	972-780-5040
Garage Sale Permits	972-780-5040
Health Officer	972-780-4963

### COMMUNITY INFORMATION

Radio	1250 AM
Internet	www.duncanville.com
Television	Charter Comm. Cable Channel 26

### SPECIAL INTEREST NUMBERS

#### License Plate Renewal

Dallas County Govt. Center	214-653-7811
----------------------------	--------------

#### Community Assistance

Duncanville Outreach	972-296-4986
----------------------	--------------

#### Chamber of Commerce

Chamber Offices	972-780-4990
-----------------	--------------

### Mayor & City Council Phone Numbers

Mayor - David Green	972-780-0348
At Large - Dorothy Burton	972-296-8844
District 1 - Ken Weaver	972-780-9810
(Mayor Pro-Tem)	
District 2 - Scott Cannon III	972-298-8098
District 3 - Anthony Skinner	972-296-1642
District 4 - Deborah Hodge	972-296-1774
District 5 - Johnette Jameson	972-780-8887

### Duncanville

## CHAMPION

is a monthly publication of the City of Duncanville. For information, call the City's Community Information Office at **972-780-5043** or e-mail at **kbilbrey@ci.duncanville.tx.us**

# Keep Your Home Safe This Holiday

The holiday season is often a joyous time of giving, sharing, and spending time with family and friends. Unfortunately, this time of year is also shared with a particularly high crime rate. Hopefully the following safety tips will allow you to have a safe and happy holiday season.

### At home:

- Never let strangers inside your residence.
- Be extra cautious about locking doors and windows when leaving home, even for a few minutes.
- Keep your garage door closed to prevent thefts.
- Keep your outside lights on at night, criminals like to lurk in the shadows.
- Do not display holiday gifts where they may be seen from a window or doorway.
- Store gifts away before you go on a holiday trip.
- After the holidays make sure you record new gifts purchased and serial numbers.

continued on page 4...*See Holiday Crime Tips*

# DUNCANVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY Presents 2006 Fall Programming

## NURSERY RHYME TIME

Head to Toe

Every Monday, 10:15-10:45 AM

Dec. 4-Counting, 11-Colors

## HOME SCHOOL MOVIES

Earth Science in Action

Every Tuesday, 2:00-2:23 PM

Dec. 5-Geological History, 12-Natural Resources

## STORYTIME

How do you handle ...?

Every Thursday, 10:15-10:45 AM

Dec. 7-Clothes, 14-Family

## DAD'S NIGHT OUT WITH THE FAMILY!

Entertainment provided by Friends of the Library

Every-first-Tuesday-of-the-month, 7:00-7:40 PM

Duncanville Public Library welcomes everyone to Dad's Night Out.

Dec. 5 - Magic of Santa (Amazing Attractions)

For More information call Urla Morgan, Youth Services Librarian at

972-780-5044

# Duncanville Digest

## Mayor's Open Line Friday for December is Cancelled

Mayor David Green will not be holding the Mayor's Open Line Friday in December due to a scheduling conflict. If you need to schedule an appointment to meet with the Mayor, please contact Dara Crabtree at 972.780.5017. Look for the event to return in January.

## Water Conservation Information

When washing dishes by hand, fill one sink or basin with soapy water. Quickly rinse under a slow-moving stream from the faucet. For further water saving tips, please call the Duncanville Public Works Water/Wastewater Division at 972-780-4900.

## Duncanville, Texas...A Fishing Hotspot

It may be hard to believe, but one of Texas' biggest fishing hotspots is right here in Duncanville.

With the help of the Texas Parks and Wildlife, Lakeside Park has become one of the hottest fishing "ponds" in the state.

You can find almost any freshwater variety of fish in Lakeside Park. In past years the Texas Parks & Wildlife Department has stocked catfish, bass, trout and other fish.

The Texas Parks & Wildlife Department has designated Lakeside Park Pond as a Community Fishing Lake (CFL). A CFL is a public impoundment, 75 acres or smaller, located within an incorporated city limits or a public park, or any impoundment lying totally within the boundaries of a state park.

### Why Fish?

Do you remember your first fishing or boating trip? Ask anyone to tell the story of who first took them boating or fishing - chances are good the story is deeply personal and meaningful.

Over a dozen studies have shown that being with family and friends, relaxing and being outdoors and close to nature are the primary reasons people spend time on the water. A family doesn't have to spend a fortune on a theme park vacation to have an experience that everyone will enjoy. Although your first meeting with Mickey Mouse will probably be memorable, chances are it will pale in comparison to memories of spending time on the water with the people you love.

The Texas Parks & Wildlife will be stocking Lakeside Park with Rainbow Trout on Nov. 30, Dec. 14 & 28, Jan. 18 & 25, Feb. 8 & 22 and March 8.

In order to fish Lakeside Park a fishing license is required and you will need a trout stamp in order to catch trout.

For more information on fishing in Texas, go to [www.tpwd.state.tx.us](http://www.tpwd.state.tx.us).

For more information on fishing, check out [www.takemefishing.org](http://www.takemefishing.org).



### Time spent fishing and boating connects family and friends.

You know how important it is to spend quality time with family and friends. Many of us have seen how outdoor recreation strengthens the family as a unit and children as individuals. So it comes as no surprise that studies have consistently shown that involvement with family members and friends is a primary reason people go boating and fishing.

### On the water, there are no cars, no rush hour, no deadlines and a chance to relax.

There are news stories every week about the stress and time crunch felt by working Americans and their families. People are searching for ways to escape the daily routine, be closer to nature and focus more on family and relationships. Studies show that people who participate frequently in outdoor recreation are more satisfied with life overall. For a weeklong vacation or just a quiet Saturday morning, recreational fishing and boating are great ways to "get away from it all."

### Fishing and boating enhance appreciation for the natural world.

Many Americans see outdoor recreation as one of the main reasons to protect the environment. Nearly nine in ten Americans say outdoor recreation benefits the environment because it gives people a reason to care about the resources upon which their activities depend.

### By participating, anglers and boaters provide vital funding.

Fewer than 10 percent of recreational anglers and boaters are aware that their participation plays a vital role in sustaining resources and promoting safe and responsible use of our nation's waters. On average, 83 percent of state fish and wildlife agencies' total freshwater fisheries/aquatic resource management budget is supported by fishing license sales and Sport Fish Restoration funds. These funds are derived from motorboat fuel taxes and a special excise tax on fishing tackle and equipment. Sport Fish Restoration funds also support boater education and safety programs around the country.



## Holiday Crime Tips

continued from page 2

### While shopping:

- Shop before dark whenever possible.
- Try to coordinate shopping trips with a friend.
- Never park in an unlit parking lot or area, no matter how convenient it is.
- Lock packages in your vehicle's trunk. Keep the doors locked and windows closed.
- Have your keys in hand before returning to the vehicle.
- As you approach the car, check to see if you see anyone hiding underneath or inside.
- Avoid carrying large amounts of cash. When possible, pay for purchases with a check, credit card, or debit card. Do not count cash in open areas, especially after leaving an ATM.
- Use waist-pack (fanny sacks) to carry items instead of a purse.
- Do not over load yourself, keep your hands free as much as possible.
- Teach your children to go to a store clerk or security guard and ask for help if you become separated. Children should never go into a parking lot alone.



The holiday season is also a time of year when people come together and enjoy each other's company. If hosting a holiday party, have non-alcoholic beverages available for your guests. Also have alternative transportation for intoxicated persons. Do not let your guests drink and drive.

By following these few basic tips, you can ensure yourself a safe and happy holiday season. For more information about Crime Prevention Programs and Holiday Tips contact Officer Doug Sisk with the Duncanville Police Community Relations / Crime Prevention Division at [dsisk@ci.duncanville.tx.us](mailto:dsisk@ci.duncanville.tx.us) or (972)-780-5027.

## Don't Get Burned by a Holiday Fire

continued from page 1

that spreads to a Christmas tree can very quickly become large.

Source: NFPA's One-Stop Data Shop

### Safety tips

- When decorating Christmas trees, always use safe tree lights. (Some lights are designed only for indoor or outdoor use, but not both.) Larger tree lights should also have some type of reflector rather than a bare bulb and all lights should be listed by a testing laboratory.
- Never use electric lights on a metal tree.
- Follow the manufacturer's instructions on how to use tree lights. Any string of lights with worn, frayed or broken cords or loose bulb connections should not be used.
- Check your strands of lights to determine the number of strands that may be connected. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Always unplug Christmas tree lights before leaving home or going to bed.
- Bring outdoor electrical lights inside after the holidays to prevent hazards and extend their life.
- Never use lit candles to decorate a tree, and place them well away from tree branches.
- Try to keep live trees as moist as possible by giving them plenty of water daily. Do not purchase a tree that is dry or dropping needles.
- When purchasing a live or cut tree, check for fresh, green needles.
- Choose a sturdy tree stand designed not to tip over.
- When purchasing an artificial tree, be sure it is labeled as fire-retardant.
- Children are fascinated with Christmas trees. Keep a watchful eye on them when around the tree and do not let them play with the wiring or lights.
- Store matches and lighters up high, out of the reach of children, preferably in a locked cabinet.
- Make sure the tree is at least three feet (one meter) away from any heat source, such as fireplaces and radiators. Try to position the tree near an outlet so that cords are not running long distances. Do not place the tree where it may block exits.
- Safely dispose of the tree when it begins dropping needles. Dried-out trees are highly flammable and should not be left in a house or garage, or placed against the house.



# Fun In Duncanville

## **KARATE SCHOOL**

Learn serious self-defense oriented Shorin Ryu Matsamura Kenpo Karate. Instructors for children & adults;

Class meets: Recreation Center  
Youth age 7+: T/TH from 7:15p to 8:15p

Adults: T/TH from 7:15p to 8:30pm

Location: Aerobics Room

Open: Saturday from 9:00am-10:30am

Location: East Gym

Cost: \$40/Month: Youth;  
\$50/Month: Adults.

Family discounts are available.

Instructors: Kris Howerton & Brady Cooper.

For additional info: call 972/393-0782 or 214/789-3433.

## **DUNCANVILLE RECREATION CENTER – YOUTH COUNCIL**

Youth, what kind of programs would you like to see offered at the Recreation Center? We are looking for members to give us input on youth programs and assist us with the community projects as a youth council member. Applications for memberships are available at the Center front desk.

We'd like to encourage youth males from 13 to 18 to also apply. Your ideas and voice needs to be heard. Youth input is vital to the community. Complete an application today and be a part of the Duncanville Youth Council. This is the perfect time for Community Outreach projects. As a youth council, you will earn additional community service hours.

- Our next meeting is January 16, 2007
- Time: 4:30pm
- Where: The center's Conference Room

For additional information call India at 972/780-5070.

## **MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

When using our wonderful Recreation facility, we'd like to encourage you not to leave personal items in your vehicle or unattended, instead please bring a lock for your cell phones, keys, purse, and bill fold. Secure your personal effects while you enjoy our facility. Lockers are available for your use. See you soon!

## **TEXAS DANCE AND CHEER**

1st Place trophy winners 4 years in row. Learn Chants, Cheers, Jumps, Pom routines, and Cheer Dances in this award winning program. Enhance your dance and cheer skills in an exciting, positive and encouraging atmosphere. A one-time \$12 registration fee is due prior to registering.

**Closed Christmas Week (12/25/06)**

### **Ages 4-7**

Thursdays: 6:00p - 7:00p

Fee: \$8/class

Location: Recreation West Gym

Saturdays: 1:00p – 2:00p

Fee: \$8/class

Location: Recreation Center

Aerobics Room

### **Ages 8 & up**

Thursdays: 7:00p – 8:00p

Fee: \$8/class

Location: Recreation West Gym

Saturdays: 2:00p – 3:00p

Fee: \$8/class

Location: Recreation Center

Aerobics Room

Register at class

Instructor: Diversified Youth Services  
T-shirts, & shorts are available for order at class.

Attire: T-Shirts, shorts or warm-ups and white-soled tennis shoes.

For more info call 1-877/604-6697.

## **VOLUNTEERS**

We need volunteers for City Events and Special Center programs.

Community Service Hours are available for students who need hours for School, Church, or Duncanville Teen Court. For additional information on how to sign-up for community service hours, please call the Center front desk at 972/780-5070.

"2007 High School Seniors" Now is the time to sign-up and complete your hours. We will have volunteer openings for our After School program. We have volunteer hours available at the center Monday-Friday. Please apply at the Center Front Desk.

## **LOST & FOUND**

For lost and found items, please inquire at the Center front desk.

Items are donated to Charities on Friday of each week. Personal Items such as cell phones and jewelry are kept 3 weeks to a month. Call the center at 972/780-5070 for additional information.

## **SELF-DEFENSE/ANTI-KIDNAPPING**

This program is designed to promote a high level of self-confidence, improve self-esteem and, discipline. This class will improve the student's social interaction and social performance.

**Closed Christmas Week (12/25/06)**

### **Ages 4 to 7**

Tuedays: 6:00p – 7:00p

Fee: \$8/class

Fridays: 6:00p – 7:00p

Fee: \$8/class

### **Ages 8 & up**

Tuesdays: 7:00p – 8:00p

Fee: \$8/class

Fridays: 7:00p – 8:00p

Fee: \$8/class

A one-time \$12 registration fee is due prior to registering.

Location: Recreation West Gym

Instructor: Diversified Youth Services

Uniform is available but not mandatory.

An Alert Child of Texas T-Shirt is available for purchase. For more info call 1-877/604-6697.

## **DISTINCT DANCE**

Distinct Dance members learn hip-hop, modern dance, basic dance steps, turns, foot positions, pom routines, and dance sequences in an exciting and positive atmosphere. Focus is on Drill and Pom Team or Pop style dances. Styles may vary by instructor. Polish your moves or prepare for tryouts.

A one-time \$12 registration fee is due prior to registering.

**Closed Christmas Week (12/25/06)**

### **Ages 4-7**

Friday: 5:30p - 6:30p

Fee: \$8/class

### **Ages 8 & up**

Fridays: 6:30p – 7:30p

Fee: \$8/class

Register at class

Location: Recreation Center Aerobics Room

Instructor: Diversified Youth Services

No required uniform for the classroom.

We offer optional uniforms for purchase.

For more info call 1-877/604-6697.



## **COMING SOON YOUTH ANGER MANAGEMENT CLASS PACKAGES**

Call the Center at 972/780-5070 for more information.

### **BEGINNER LINE DANCING**

If you are 16+ and looking for a fun way to exercise, join us. This class is a beginner line dance class.

- ❑ When – Friday from 1:30p to 3:00p
- ❑ Where – Duncanville Recreation Aerobics Room
- ❑ Fee: \$14.00/month
- ❑ Instructor – Judy Sides
- ❑ Minimum of 6 participants needed

For additional information, please call 214/957-7833.

### **FENCING CLASS**

Fencing classes involve conditioning training, understanding of technique and tactics & learning the rules of the sport for competition. We are now taking registrations for a beginning fencing class. Safety is emphasized in every class. It is not too late to register for this class session. We now offer a Tuesday & Thursday class.

Tuesday's Class meets in the West Gym  
Thursday's Class meets in the East Gym  
Time: 7pm to 8:30pm

Fencing Fee: \$30/month

Guest drop-in fee: \$8

Instructor: George Stone

For additional information, please call George at 214/948-0233.

### **KIDZART**

Both the young and old in Duncanville now have a fun new way to experience creativity - and learn about themselves. KidzArt®, a unique arts enrichment program for children and seniors, is introducing its programs at the Duncanville Recreation Center. Class are every Thursday for ages 2-3 from 10-10:30am, Ages 4-5 from 11-11:45am, Ages 6-9 from 4:00pm-5:00pm, and on Friday Ages 10-12 from 4:00-5:00pm at the Duncanville Recreation Center please contact Rachel Gonzales at 972-266-8503 or Rachel@KidzArtTX.com for more details.

### **CROP 'TIL YOU DROP**

Crop 'Til You Drop meets once monthly. Bring photos and work on your album. You must pre-register. Pay fees to instructor by Wednesday before the class is to meet.

Day: Saturday, December 2, 2006

Time: 6p to 12a

Cost: \$10.00. Pay instructor by December 1, 2006

Location: D.L. Hopkins – Parkview Room

Instructor: Kim Spurlock

For more Information, call Kim at 972/298-4006.

### **RECREATION CENTER CLOSINGS DURING THE CHRISTMAS/NEW YEARS HOLIDAY**

- ❑ Thursday – December 14th, 2006 – Closing at 5:00pm
- ❑ Monday - December 25th, 2006 – Closed
- ❑ Monday - January 1st, 2007 - Closed

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

### **EMPOWERED YOUTH OPEN HOUSE REGISTRATION**

Empowered Youth is a community focused program that endeavors to provide adolescents with key steps for a successful life. We would like to say thanks to the City of Duncanville, Parents, Mentors, and Mentees for their outstanding support for August-May 2006 and we are looking to make 2006-2007 better than ever. We are very excited about our new session for this school year. Come out and have a festive time with us for Open for House at the Duncanville Recreation Center December 21, 2006 at 5:00pm. Registration is free!!! This program is for Males and Females Ages: 13 –17. All Homemakers, Business owners, College students are welcome. For more Information please call L'eron or Marilyn @ 972.780.4971.

### **DECEMBER OUT OF SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Come and join the Duncanville Recreation Center for the Out of School Explosion in December, blast off the Christmas holiday's with this one week program. This is a great program for those parents who have to work while their kids are out of school. The kids will go bowling, skating, to the movies, and do arts and crafts. The program will start December 18, 2006-December 22, 2006. Register now at the Duncanville Recreation Center, for more information please contact L'eron George or Marilyn Chapple @972-780-4971 or by email at lgeorge@ci.duncanville.tx.us or mchapple@ci.duncanville.tx.us  
**After school participants for December cost:** \$20.00 per child/for 2 kids or more  
**Non-After school member cost:** \$25.00 per child/ and \$40.00 for 2 kids

### **NEW PROGRAMS**

If you have any new ideas or a new program that can help the community. Please contact: L'eron at 972/780-4971.

### **MORNING YOGA**

Learn basic yoga postures designed to celebrate the spine.

Class meets: Tuesday, Wednesday, & Friday

Time: 10a – 11:30a.

Location: Recreation Center Aerobics Room

Class Fee: \$7 per class

Register at Center - Front Desk

A Special class for Restorative Yoga will be taught on the last Wednesday of every month.

Instructor: Carolyn Smith

Attire: Comfortable clothes & tennis shoes. Bring a towel and sticky mat.

For more info call 972/780-5070.

## **DUNCANVILLE**

The Perfect Blend of Family,  
Community and Business

### **COMPUTER CLASSES**

Come on Duncanville! This is the class that you asked for. We have a great instructor who is waiting to teach you. So Sign up today!

#### **Class I - Introduction to Computers**

- Learn all about the keyboard and how it operates.
- Learn the importance of your F1 to F12 function keys
- Learn the do and don'ts of computers and much MORE.
- Learn what happens when you don't sign off!!!
- For ages 10 and up

We need 7 students to begin class.

Time: 7pm to 9pm

Class Location: Library Computer Room

Class session: 2 class meetings

Fee: \$40 per session

7 students class minimum required to begin class

#### **Class II – The Internet and Your Computer**

- o Learn how to use the Internet properly.
- o Learn how to book Air Travel correctly.
- o Learn how to use Google.
- o Learn how to obtain free e-mails and MORE.
- o For ages 10 and up.

Time: 7pm to 9pm

Class Location: Library Computer Room

Class session: 2 class meetings

Fee: \$40 per session

Instructor: Matt Lewis

7 students class minimum required

to begin class. For class schedule

information, please call the center at 972/780-5070.

# December 2006

## **BREAKFAST WITH SANTA**

The Duncanville Recreation Center will host Breakfast with Santa on December 16, 2006. Breakfast will be served sausage, biscuits, hash browns, and Orange Juice. You will be able to take a picture with Santa, play games such as pin the nose on the reindeer, how many M&M's in the jar, arts and craft activity, bingo, watch a movie and a coloring contest. These are just a few activities we will have at this event. The cost is just \$10.00 a person. For more information please contact L'eron George @ 972-780-4971 or by e-mail at lgeorge@ci.duncanville.tx.us

## **ROBIX FITNESS: AEROBICS & YOGA UNLTD**

Aerobics/Toning/Yoga

Certified Instructor:

Roseanna Needham-Dryden, B.S.

CALL: (972)709-1906

e-mail: fit\_in\_Duncanville@yahoo.com

**Aerobics Room/Community Center**

**Mon/Wed**

5:30-6:15pm

"Muscles 'n' Motion" Toning  
(Toning ONLY, NO Cardio!)

6:30-7:30pm

"Step'n' Motion" Cardio

Bring: floor mat/hand & ankle weights/towel

7:45-8:45pm "Vinyasa Flow Yoga"

Intermediate Level

Bring: yoga sticky mat/blanket/  
towel

**Hopkins Sr. Center/Exercise Room**

**Tues/Thur**

5:45-6:45pm "Intro Yoga"

7:00-8:00pm "Circuit Express"

Cardio/Toning

Cardio Bring: floor mat/hand &  
ankle weights/towel

Yoga Bring: yoga sticky mat/  
blanket/towel

**Aerobics Room/Community Center**

**Saturday**

9:15-10:15am "Yoga-on-the-Ball"

Stability Ball Challenge

Bring: Yoga sticky mat/stability  
ball/towel

10:30-11:45am "Cardio

Challenge"

Cardio-Hi/Lo/Step/Kickbox/  
Toning

CLASS FEES: ARRIVE 15 minutes early!  
Register at the class!

Walk-in-rate: \$8; 4-Class ticket: \$20;

8-Class ticket: \$30; 16-Class ticket: \$52

Other options to register...See Registrar!!

Classes ongoing and continuous!

Ages: 16+

## **CREATIVE WRITING CLASS FOR ADULTS**

Join the introductory class for Beginning and Intermediate Writers and learn how to put your treasured family stories down on paper. Beginning with the basics, this class is designed to give you the confidence and inspiration needed to leave a legacy to your children and grandchildren through the written word. Class will feature one-on-one mentoring with a published author, weekly writing exercises, and instruction on drafting, editing and completing your personal stories. You may contact Charlotte A. Lanham @ charlotte.lanham@sbcglobal.net or 972 780-8212 to find out when the next class starts, and a there is minimum of 7 students.



## **CREATIVE WRITING CLASS FOR HOME-SCHOOL**

Join this introductory class of Creative Writing and tackle the fundamental writing skills needed to take you on that journey. This class focuses on writing, editing, and revising both fiction and non-fiction. The Instructor is Charlotte A. Lanham, and the minimum enrollment is 5 students. You may contact Charlotte A. Lanham @ charlotte.lanham@sbcglobal.net or 972-780-8218 to find out when the next class starts.

## **SHINING STARS AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

Program began August 14th and will end May 24th, hours of operation: Mon. - Fri. 3:00 pm - 6:00 pm. The program is open to both residents and non-residents with children entering 1st-6th grade during the beginning of each school year. (August/ Fall ). Transportation is not provided.

Packets are available and must be completed at the Recreation Center's front desk. The cost is \$60 per month for the 1st child, \$50 per month for the 2nd child. Payment for each month must be made by the 1st of each month. A \$30 late fee charge will be added to any payment made after the 4th.

All payments are non-refundable or transferable. Please call the Duncanville Recreation Center @ 972-780-5070 for information.

## **DOG OBEDIENCE**

This class will meet once a week for an hour. The curriculum will include walking politely on lead, coming when called, sitting and downing on command, and staying in position when left. Emphasis will be placed on practical exercises that students will put into use in their daily routine with their dogs; not jumping up on you or the kids, not mouthing hands or clothes, not bolting out the door or gate, how to go to the kennel, leaving objects on command, allowing handling, and much more. Dogs should be at least 16 weeks old. Proof of vaccination will be required. A six-foot leash and slip-type or buckle collar will be needed. Pre-registration is a requirement for this course, and may be completed by contacting the instructor Helen Cario-tis at 972-296-0459 or helen@canine-counselors.org, or from the web site at www.caninecounselors.org

## **KWANZAA FESTIVAL**

The Upsilon Nu Zeta chapter of the international sorority, Zeta Phi Beta will provide the history of Kwanzaa. Come see a special display and special guests to join in this African Celebration Holiday. Call Linda Street at 214/926-0562 for more information. This event is open to the Public.

When - Sunday, December 10th,  
2006

Where - Duncanville Meeting Rooms  
Time - 2:30p to 5:00pm

Come join us as we honor Kwanza.

See you there!

## **DUNCANVILLE**

The Perfect Blend of Family,  
Community and Business

## **JAZZERCISE**

**Aerobics, Tone, Stretch**

**Mon & Wed** Jazzercise Step

6:30-7:30 p.m. in West Gym

**T & Th** 6:20-7:05pm in Aerobics Room

**Sat** Jazzercise 9:15-10:15am in West Gym

All classes demonstrate low impact,  
high energy moves.

Tuesday and Thursdays classes are  
great for beginners. Mon/Wed/Sat  
- strengthening/toning muscles. Bring  
your weights and mat.

Certified Instructor: Sheilla (SHAY-la)

Contact Number: 214-794-1765

More information?

Visit [www.jazzforhealth.com](http://www.jazzforhealth.com)

## Winter and Holiday Safety

The winter holidays are a time for celebration, and that means more cooking, home decorating, entertaining, and an increased risk of fire due to heating equipment.

### Facts & Figures

- In 2002, there were 240 Christmas tree fires in U.S. homes, resulting in 23 deaths, 12 injuries and \$11.4 million in direct property damage.
- During 1999-2002, an average 310 home fires started when Christmas trees ignited. These fires caused an estimated annual average of 14 civilian deaths, 40 civilian injuries and \$16.2 million in direct property damage.
- During 2002, an estimated 18,000 home fires started by candles were reported to public fire departments. These fires resulted in an estimated 130 civilian deaths, 1,350 civilian injuries and an estimated direct property loss of \$333 million.
- Fourteen percent of the candle fires occurred in December. This is almost twice the 8% monthly average. Christmas was the peak day for home candle fires. Ten percent of the home fires reported on Christmas were started by candles.
- In 11% of the December candle fires, the fires began when a decoration caught fire. This was true in only 3% of the fires during the rest of the year.

Source: NFPA's One-Stop Data Shop

### Safety tips:

#### Holiday decorating & lighting

- Use caution with holiday decorations and whenever possible, choose those made with flame-resistant, flame-retardant or non-combustible materials.
- Keep candles away from decorations and other combustible materials, and do not use candles to decorate Christmas trees.
- Purchase only lights and electrical decorations bearing the name of an independent testing lab, and follow the manufacturer's instructions for installation and maintenance.
- Carefully inspect new and previously used light strings and replace damaged items before plugging lights in. Do not overload extension cords.
- Check your strands of lights to determine the number of strands that may be connected. Connect no more than three strands of push-in bulbs and a maximum of 50 bulbs for screw-in bulbs.
- Always unplug lights before replacing light bulbs or fuses.
- Don't mount lights in any way that can damage the cord's wire insulation (i.e., using clips, not nails).
- Keep children and pets away from light strings and electrical decorations.
- Turn off all light strings and decorations before leaving the house or going to bed.

#### Holiday entertaining

- Unattended cooking is the leading cause of home fires in the U.S. When cooking for holiday visitors, remember to keep an eye on the range.
- If you smoke, smoke outside.
- Wherever you smoke, provide plenty of large, deep ashtrays and check them frequently. Cigarette butts can smolder in the trash and cause a fire, so completely douse cigarette butts with water before discarding.
- After a party, always check on, between and under upholstery and cushions and inside trash cans for cigarette butts that may be smoldering.
- Keep matches and lighters up high, out of sight and reach of children (preferably in a locked cabinet). When smokers visit your home, ask them to keep their smoking materials with them so young children do not touch them.
- Test your smoke alarms, and let guests know what your fire escape plan is.

## December 2006

**December 1** - Christmas Parade and Tree Lighting. 7:00 p.m. parade and 7:40 p.m. tree lighting.

**December 6** - Teen Court. 5:30 p.m. at City Hall

**December 11** - Planning & Zoning Commission. 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. 203 E. Wheatland Rd.

**December 11** - DISD Board Meeting. 7:00 p.m. at DISD Technology Center

**December 18-29** - DISD Winter Break. No classes.

**December 19** - Duncanville City Council Meeting. 7:00 p.m. at City Hall. 203 E. Wheatland Rd.

**December 25** - Christmas Holiday. City owned buildings closed.

