



The Village Window

THE STAFF NEWSLETTER FOR EASTFIELD COLLEGE

3737 Motley Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150

www.eastfieldcollege.edu

December 2011

Eastfield Holiday Party 2011



Choral students



Enjoying the treats



All the Songbirds



Visiting with friends



Discussing holiday plans

Welcome new Harvesters!
John R. Lozano – College Police
Jean M. Baker – Library

Several members of Eastfield, including President **Dr. Jean Conway**, Upward Bound Director **Romilio Castillo** and Director of College Communications **Sharon Cook**, attended the Garland Association for Hispanic Affairs Banquet on November 19 at The Atrium. The theme was “Getting Involved: Our Families, Our Community, Our Nation.” **Dr. Cindy Castañeda**, Eastfield Government professor, was the special keynote speaker. Dr. Castañeda currently serves on the Garland ISD Board of Trustees and several community organizations. Eastfield was also a community partner for the Balch Springs Chamber’s 50th Anniversary Gala on November 4 and the Hispanic Forum of Mesquite’s annual gala on November 12. Staff participants included President **Dr. Jean Conway**, Dean of Resource Development **Whitney Houston**, Vice President of Business Services **Dr. Adrian Douglas**, Upward Bound Director **Romilio Castillo** and several UB students, Pleasant Grove Executive Director **Javier Olguin**, and Director of College Communications **Sharon Cook**. Also joining college staff was DCCCD Trustee **Bill Metzger**.

Eastfield President **Dr. Jean Conway** and a delegation of staff including Vice President of Organizational Development **Dr. Tom Graca**, Vice President for Teaching and Learning **Michael Gutierrez**, Dean of Educational Resources **Karla Greer** and Art Instructor **David Willburn** attended the annual meeting of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges. The meeting was held in Orlando on December 3-6 and the theme was “Innovation, Imagination, and Excellence: Rethinking Accreditation in the 21st Century.” The keynote speakers were James Merisotis, President and CEO of the Lumina Foundation; Sir Ken

Robinson, Ph.D., an internationally recognized leader in the development of creativity, innovation, human potential and the people side of organizations; and Hilda Solis, U.S. Secretary of Labor.

Rebecca Carter, Eastfield adjunct instructor of art appreciation and 2D design, participated in several exhibitions/ events in November. Her solo exhibition, “Re: Reading The Love Letter,” was on display through November 26 at The Reading Room in Dallas. “The Love Letter” is an ongoing project which originated with a personal letter from an older relative. Carter has deconstructed/ abstracted it for its linguistic, psychological, familial, historical and aesthetic properties. Carter was part of a group exhibition/ event at the Dallas Museum of Art as part of the November 18 Late Night Events and in conjunction with Oil and Cotton Creative Exchange, a creative space for education, exhibition, performance and exchange between the public and the art community; she had a video and groundless thread drawing installation in the concourse. Carter’s last exhibit is another group exhibition, “Things Held and Never Understood” with Terri Thornton and Sally Warren, at the Free Museum of Dallas now through December 5.

Karen Marshall, Eastfield Advisor for Child Development and Teacher Prep, **Nancy Beaver**, Program Administrator for Child Development/Teacher Prep and **Dawn Hallman**, adjunct faculty, attended the National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC) conference in Orlando November 2-5. Hallman presented a session on “You Can Teach Anything with Balls and Scarves.” Beaver, along with the rest of the NAEYC committee, presented the draft of “Early Childhood Education Professional Development Training: Technical Assistance and Education Glossary” This document is a joint project of the NAEYC and the Alliance of Early Childhood Teacher Educators (a collaborative effort of the National

Service Learning Reflections



CC Young residents

Approximately 100 Eastfield students, staff, faculty and administrators attended the Service Learning Reflections program, part of the Common Book Series, on December 1. History students Ryan Washington, Abigail Jenkins and Brittany Sherman discussed their experiences interviewing residents of CC Young Retirement Community. Guests included

CC Young residents Shirley Woodward, Paul Harris and Howard Riggs, and CC Young employees Cameron Hernholm and Janet Cohan.



Student Ryan Washington introduces veteran Howard Riggs and relates what he learned from his interview.

The oral history project was coordinated by Victoria Jones, CC Young Volunteer Coordinator; Dr. Jerry Henson and Michael Noble, Eastfield History Professors, and Theresa Sternat, Service Learning Coordinator. The students, CC Young interviewees, and employees of CC Young and Eastfield look forward to continuing the partnership in future semesters.

Association of Early Childhood Teacher Educators [NAECTE] and Associate Degree Early Childhood Teacher Educators [ACCESS]). This document will be published by NAEYC and will serve as a guide for common nomenclature for researchers and groups providing early childhood educational professional development. Beaver, who serves as ACCESS Vice President for Collaboration, coordinated a joint lunch and sharing session with members of NAECTE, the university professional group with the similar goals as ACCESS. Beaver also facilitated an ACCESS round table discussion of assessments, rubrics and learning opportunities for the NAEYC Early Childhood Associate Degree Accreditation Standard #4. ACCESS participants were from community colleges across the nation.

Linda Richardson, Eastfield Executive Dean, Student Services, **Dina Sosa-Hegarty**, Dean, Outreach and Student Development, and **Judy Schwartz**, Interim Director, Student Life, recently attended the National Orientation Directors Association (NODA) National Conference in New Orleans. During the conference, they presented a workshop titled "From What to Wow! Making New Student Orientation Meaningful for Non Traditional Students." Approximately 75 participants attended the workshop that focused on the use of assessment in planning and implementing changes in New Student Orientation program. This is the second time Eastfield has been represented at a NODA conference, and proposals have been submitted to present at the regional conference in Oklahoma City next spring.



Eastfield's **Psi Eta Chapter** of Phi Theta Kappa International Honor Society held its fall

induction Saturday, November 19 in the Performance Hall. Michael Gutierrez, Vice President for Teaching and Learning, and Raul Magdeleno, Associate Dean and Director of the Diversity



and Community Engagement Office at SMU and DCCCD graduate and Phi Theta Kappa member, were our speakers. The Psi Eta chapter was awarded a Pinnacle Award from Phi Theta

Kappa for increasing membership by five percent this fall. There were 37 new members who were formally inducted. They were part of a larger group of students who accepted membership into our chapter this fall, and they're still coming! We have 91 who applied online and many others who applied through Student Life.

On Friday, November 11, **Liz Nichols**, Eastfield Dean of Academic Enrichment; **Shizuko Watanabe**, Geology Professor; **Theresa Sternat**, Service Learning Coordinator and Director of the Learning Assistance Center and representatives from Brookhaven, Richland, and North Lake Colleges and the District Office attended the first North Texas Service Learning Institute at Tarrant Co. College in Fort Worth. In addition, Susan Kast, Director of Operations at Groundwork Dallas, attended as Eastfield's guest. The event was sponsored by the Service Learning Intercollegiate Council (SLIC) of Dallas/Fort Worth and the Texas Campus Compact. Participants received a wealth of information on the philosophy and benefits of service-learning programs. Sternat led a breakout session titled "The Start of a Beautiful Relationship: Creating Long-Term Partnerships Between Agencies and Faculty." The day-long institute ended with a reception for participants and college administrators. **Dr. Wright Lassiter**, DCCCD Chancellor, **Dr. Jean Conway**, Eastfield College President, and **Justin Lonon**, Vice Chancellor for Public and Governmental Affairs, were among the honored guests.

The Eastfield **Criminal Justice Program** hosted training on November 30 for 25 law enforcement officers in Standardized Field Sobriety Testing. This is a refresher class for officers who are certified in this area and have to have this class every two years. Officers from the following agencies attended: Mesquite, Dallas, Rockwall, Ennis, Crandall, Garland, Dallas ISD, Eastfield and UTSW Medical School Police

Departments; Dallas County Sheriff's Office; and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department.

The first **Education 1300 Learning Framework Reunion** event occurred on November 29. The event was produced via a partnership between Eastfield the Office of Student Life and Edu-



cation 1300 Faculty. The event also received support from Eastfield Vice President for Teaching and Learning Michael Gutierrez and College Readiness Division Interim Associate Dean Patrice Johnson. Students enjoyed reuniting with former classmates and instructors. They were provided an opportunity to share their stories concerning the impact the Learning Framework course has made on their academic and life success. Future plans are in the works for this event to occur each academic semester.

Over 400 parents and children from local shelters gathered at Eastfield for an afternoon of entertainment, food and fun with Santa on December 3. This event was sponsored by the Drama Club, for Rainbow Days, a non-profit, and made the season a little brighter for many families across DFW.



A big Harvester thanks to the student athletes from the Baseball, Basketball, Volleyball and Soccer teams for their contributions to the Treats for Troops Service Saturday event. Over 60 staff students, coaches, friends and family members were on hand to pack 15 boxes of treats for about 150 soldiers stationed overseas. (Of the student volunteers, two have a family member serving in the Middle East and also Captain Horack's son is in Afghanistan.) Over the last 9 years, "Treats" has been mostly staff members who participate

Families enjoyed the Eastfield Drama Department and CORP



Theatre production of Miracle on 34th Street, a hot lunch and then were gifted with Christmas stockings filled with donated items from staff, faculty and students. Volunteers from EFC and the community served food, ushered the 12 bus loads of people and did crafts with the children not old enough to sit through an entire show. The cast and crew of the Miracle performed two extra shows in addition to their scheduled evening performance. "It was a lot of hard work and by the end of the night we were all exhausted but like those children, I will never forget that day," said Stephanie Carroll, cast member and stage manager of Miracle.

The Mesquite Chamber's November 17 awards luncheon recognized Eastfield and Dr. Jean 'Conway with the 2011 Community Pride Award. Accepting for Dr. Conway was **John Emery**, Eastfield Associate Dean of Science and PE/ Evening Administrator, and Chairman of the Mesquite Chamber Board of Directors. The college's 2010-2011 major accomplishments were highlighted along with the college's hospitality all year long in hosting Chamber events. Congratulations to John in his many hours of volunteer service to the Chamber!

in the packing part. This year the students marched in and they sorted all the items into separate boxes, packed 225 gallon size baggies, packed the boxes, taped them and we were done in less than 30 minutes! This is a true testament of how our coaches and our teachers play such a vital role in teaching our students how to work together, respect each other, and accomplish a common goal.



Thank you to the Eastfield community for providing the treats for our troops and to Sandy Hampton and Judy Schwartz for organizing the event!



The Eastfield College School Outreach Department hosted

its second annual High School Counselor Update on Thursday morning, December 8 in the Science Building. Dean Dina Sosa-Hegarty opened the event by welcoming the counselors to Eastfield and introducing our the newest Outreach and Dual Credit staff members Maria Caratini Prado (Community Outreach) and Brynndah Hicks Turnbo (Dual Credit Coordinator). About 30 high school counselors from MISD, GISD, DISD, Sunnyvale and several private schools were in attendance. The event included updates from our Student Services departments and our Academic and Career Programs. Representatives from Automotive Tech, Geosciences, Accounting, HVAC, Teacher Education and the English Language Learning Advisement Center provided brief updates from their areas to help counselors be better informed about the areas as they advise students about Eastfield College.



We also had representative, Walter Lancaster from the Health Careers Resources Center at El Centro and Senior Admissions Recruiter Dimitri Lyon from Texas A&M-Commerce to come share with the counselors as well about our partnerships. The highlight of the event were the personal testimonies given by four of our Gateway to College students on their educational journey and how being a part of the program has changed their lives and inspired them to go further in their education. The counselors and presenters were provided breakfast from Southern Maid.