



The Village Window

THE STAFF NEWSLETTER FOR EASTFIELD COLLEGE

3737 Motley Dr., Mesquite, TX 75150

www.eastfieldcollege.edu

September 2009



The 2009 Eastfield Big Thicket Summer Research Institute (BTSRI) culminated with student research presentations and receptions on July 29.

L-R: Mary Blake, Mark Riofta, James Mueck, Stephanie Campos, Nathaniel Dulin, Aracely Vazquez, Charles Bannister, Rocio Santiago and Jamison Hammett

The evening audience was estimated to be 90 attendees representing family and friends of the researchers. This was the largest crowd to ever attend the presentations. BTSRI is part of Project Pathways, a Science Talent Expansion Program funded by the National Science Foundation (NSF). BTSRI was one of two summer research projects conducted from the first of June through the end of July. All researchers had to compose a research paper, design a Power Point presentation, create a scientific poster and give a public presentation on their projects.

The Big Thicket National Preserve was the site for the Field Research team conducting summer projects.

- Charles Bannister, III – surface morphology of entolomataceae spores
- Mary Blake – lateral lines of blacktail shiners
- Stephanie Campos- comparison of achene plant dimensions;
- Nathaniel Dulin – water quality in the Big Thicket and Trinity River
- Jamison Hammett- micro habitat of the leopard frog
- James Mueck- characteristics of particular mushrooms
- Mark Riofta - comparative analysis of North and South Texas surface water
- Rocio Santiago – variation in the lesser smooth cap moss
- Aracely Vazquez – comparison of dentition of four Big Thicket snakes

Students were assisted by expert mentors in the research topics including Eastfield Professors Jeff Hughes, Rik Post and Mark Kelly, and other.

Welcome new Harvesters!



Shazia Ali, English



Pebble Barbero, Biology



Buster Bramall, Auto Technology



Rose Deike, Dev. Math



Maria Ferrer, Admissions



Ann Friederich, ESOL



Vera Guillen, ESOL



Tuesday Hambric, Human Dev.



Karen Matthews, Admissions



Yolanda Manzano, Dev. Math



Renita Rollerson, Dev. Math



Jennifer Sanchez, Gateway



Dora Saucedo-Falls, Psychology



Selena Stewart-Alexander, Dev. Writing



Reem Soliman, ESOL



John Teel, NSF Grant



Michael Walker, History



Marques Washington, CADD



Martha Weaver, Psychology



Terrance Wickman, Dev. Math



Marcus Wood, Talent Search

If you happen to be in Rowlett, stop by Amelia's Restaurant, owned by former Eastfield student **Jehieli Contreras**. After being at Eastfield for two years, Contreras then transferred to TAMU-Commerce and graduated with a teaching degree. She taught high school Spanish at South Garland High school for three years and then decided to follow in her parent's footsteps (owners of Tortillas Del Rancho in Garland) and go into the restaurant business. Amelia's is family run; Contreras' little sister and brother both work there.

J.J. Johnson, former Eastfield College basketball player, will be inducted into the Garland Hall of Fame this month. At one time, J.J. was one of the fastest men in the world running the 100 meters in 9.95 sec. and the 220 in 19.88. Johnson played basketball at North Garland High School before coming to Eastfield. Johnson is a two-time World Outdoor Championship Gold medalist in the 4x100 meter relay, Goodwill Games Bronze medalist and Grand Prix final champion. Johnson now works as a Fitness/Sports Performance Trainer and Massage Practitioner, in charge of the Metroplex based Synergy Bodywork & Elite Training.

More than 600 students attended the Back to School Welcome-Palooza sponsored by the **Office of Student Life**. The Mechanical Bull, Dunking Booth, and Super Trampoline highlighted games available. The two Henna Tattoo artists and chair massages proved to be a great hit among students. Music and announcements were provided by former DCCCD student Bill Cody, of Bill Cody's Party Time Productions. He promoted the upcoming Club Fair and encouraged students to become involved in clubs.

STARS Summer Research Projects



L-R: Thara Issac, Struthy Issac, Daniel Stanley, Sara Linehan, Amanda Collins and An Lu.

Science Teacher Access to Resources (STARS) is also part of Eastfield College Project Pathways, funded by

the NSF. The Graduate School of Biomedical Research at UT SW hosted the STARS Research team in various scientific laboratories in the medical center during June and July.

The UTSW research team members, their faculty mentors and topics were:

- Amanda Collins/Zenyi Ma, Ph.D., protein cells relationship to lung cancer
- Struthy Issac/Sherwood Brown, M.D., Ph.D., studied corticosteroid-induced changes on the Hippocampus
- Thara Issac/Juan Arenas, M.D., on blood and oxygen perfusion during surgery
- Sara Linehan/Harold Garner, Ph.D., researched a gene suspected to be involved in the development of breast cancer
- An Lu/Joel Pessa, M.D., analyzed a new anatomic boundary on the lateral neck
- Daniel Stanley/Xiankai Sun, Ph.D., to design an apparatus that could enable multiple mice to be scanned simultaneously to improve future studies in early cancer detection

The STARS researchers presented findings at the UTSW campus on July 30. Eastfield Staff and BTSRI researchers attended the forum along with area high school teachers and UT staff. Summer research students receive a \$3,000 stipend and college credit for the eight week program.

Project Pathways is a collaborative partnership of Texas schools, colleges, non-profits and government entities seeking to increase the number of minorities, females and students with disabilities in the fields of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics. The \$1.8 million grant was awarded in 2005.

The Eastfield Auto Body Soccer Team was invited to play at the Highland Oaks Church of Christ five on five soccer tournament over the summer. After five games the team ended up in the championship final, which they won 3 to 2. Auto Body faculty members **Carlos Ojeda** and **Ramiro Gutierrez** co-founded the club because of their passion for both the game and retention of their students. They strongly believe the soccer team is an effective retention and recruiting tool for the Auto Body program. Currently the entire team is made of Auto Body students. However, it was just opened up to the entire student body. Ojeda says they will probably be looking at a team or possibly two teams made up of EFC students.

Five employees from Eastfield- **Anastasia Lankford**, **Renee Green**, and **Theresa Sternat**, from the Learning Assistance Center; **Fay Guy**, Human Resources Director; and **Johnetta Bolden**, College Police Department Assistant- attended the Take Your Brain to Lunch event at the Park Cities Club in Dallas on August 12. Randy Mayeux, co-founder of Creative Communications Network and Eastfield adjunct faculty member presented synopses of "Women Don't Ask" by Linda Babcock and Susan Laschever and of "Play Like a Man, Win Like a Woman: What Men Know about Success that Women Need to Learn" by Gail Evans. Anastasia Lankford served as a discussion facilitator for the round table discussions of the topics after each presentation.

Nancy H. Beaver, Program Administrator for the Child Development/Teacher Preparation program, was notified that the Child Care Assess Means Parents In School (CCAMPIS) grant was renewed for the last year of the four year period (for '09-10) under our current grant at \$48,387. Beaver also received notice of a new award of four years starting next year ('10-11). Eastfield scored 107 out of 110 points. The award is based on 1% of Pell awards for the Pell fiscal year preceding the grant start, which means that the award was based on the '08-09 school year. The CCAMPIS grant helps support our evening child care program for students taking evening classes.

Eastfield chemistry instructor **Tina Mewhinney** has finally achieved a life-long goal and gave herself a great 60th birthday present—a Ph.D. in Chemistry after two years of study from University of North Texas. Her major area of study was in Organic Chemistry from the College of Arts and Sciences and a minor in Educational Psychology from the

College of Education. Mewhinney's dissertation research was a study of cognitive development of Organic Chemistry students in a large cooperative learning class of 250 students at Virginia Commonwealth University last year. She received her M.S. in chemistry in 1973.

The Fall 2009 New Student and Family Orientation Sessions were held August 18 & 22. New students and their parents/families participated in open sessions geared toward specific majors and steps available to assist students in choosing their major/career choice. Staff from **Admissions, Advising and School Outreach** welcomed more than 500 new students and their parents to campus for these sessions. This year's program included the Road to Success skit moderated by **Courtney Carter**, Speech Faculty, and student **James Casarez** highlighting avenues to make the first-year experience for our new students a successful beginning to their educational journey at Eastfield. **Dr. Conway** welcomed the enthusiastic crowd to Eastfield. Presenters included **Student Services staff, faculty, administrators and instructional deans**. A host of student volunteers from departments across the campus served as guides for students and their parents as they moved from session to session. Each new student received an EFC Flash Drive wrist band filled with an array of service information! At the end of the program students were able to meet with student club representative, get backpacks and book bags and enjoy the jazz band's performance lead by Oscar Passley and the Jazz Lab band.

The Military Veterans Orientation held at Eastfield recently consisted of providing an overview to our military students on the various programs through the Dept. of Veteran Affairs. Military students can receive educational benefits to assist them as they pursue college and in some cases can receive housing and book subsidies. With the new Chapter 33 Post 9/11 program effective this year, Eastfield wanted to provide an informative and interactive workshop for students and their families to attend and receive answers on utilizing their benefits and cover the steps to enrolling in college. These benefits, processed through our office, enable them to receive their monthly stipends from the VA. **Terry Benford**, VA Certifying Official and others conducted four sessions over a two week period. **Brenda Hardaway**, Assistant Director of Financial Aid and VA Certifying Official coordinates the Veteran Services at Eastfield.

Calendar at a glance...

18

Exploring India, 11:30 a.m., S100

Lady Harvesters Soccer vs. Cedar Valley, 4 p.m.

19

Crain Student Leadership Conference, RSVP to Student Life

Lady Harvesters Volleyball vs. Ranger 1 p.m.

21

MISD College Night, 6 p.m., Gym

22

Lady Harvesters Soccer vs. Richland 4 p.m.

NSF STEP Guest Lecture Series - An Introduction to the TV segment: Ken Burns "The National Parks: America's Best Idea" 6:30 – 8:30 p.m.

23

Student Leadership Workshop Introduction to Leadership, 12:30 p.m., C135

Recital Series: Randal Nye, Guitar 12:45 p.m., F117

NSF STEP Guest Lecture Series - Big Thicket- America's First National Preserve, Todd Brindle, Superintendent of BT Evening Social, 5 p.m., the Pit

28

Lady Harvesters Volleyball vs. Brookhaven 7 p.m.

29

Student Leadership Workshop - Discover Your Strengths! 12:30 p.m., LC 101

Lady Harvesters Soccer vs. Mountain View 4 p.m.

30

Recital Series: 12:45 p.m., F117

Celebrating Historical Hispanic Achievement in America, 2 p.m., LC 101

2

Lady Harvesters Soccer vs. North Lake 4 p.m.

3

Lady Harvesters Soccer vs. Brookhaven 4 p.m.

5

Lady Harvesters Volleyball vs. Mountain View 7 p.m.

6

Dia De los Muertos, TBA, C135

7

Film and Speaker on Mexican Literature, 9 a.m. – 12:45 p.m., Performance Hall

Recital Series: Mariachis "San Louis Band," 12:45 p.m., PH

NSF STEP Guest Lecture Series - Open Forum: The National Parks; Ken Burns Follow-up, 6:30 – 8 p.m., S101

8

Fall Job Fair, 9 a.m.– 1 p.m., C135

9

Dallas Children's Theater presents: "The Most Valuable Player," 7 p.m., Performance Hall

13

Student Leadership workshop, 12:30 p.m., LC 101

14

NSF STEP Guest Lecture Series - Bats of Texas: An Intro to Texas Night Life! Leigh Stuemke, Graduate Student, 12:30 – 1:30 p.m., S101

Recital Series: Guest Performer, Jean Mainous, piano, 12:45 p.m., F117

15

Common Book Panel Discussion, 11 a.m., C135

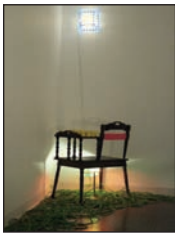
Evening Social, 5 p.m., The Pit

21

Discover Thailand, 11:30 a.m., C135

Recital Series: Mike Drake Quartet, 12:45 p.m., F117

Other news...



Gallery 219 at presents "This Would Be a Big To-do in Georgia," works by Jim Burton and David Willburn Sept. 9 – Oct. 9; an artist reception will be on Sept. 17 from 6 – 8 p.m.

Household furnishings have inherent meaning. Chairs, tables, lamps, and the various collectibles one may choose for interior decoration are often used to announce taste, style, and sensibility, and often at the peril of economy and functionality. Used objects--thrift store bargains, roadside detritus, and garage sale finds--possess a different kind of meaning, one that is often forgotten. In the hands of Jim Burton and David Willburn, these discarded objects hold the potential for new narratives, lending themselves to reexamination. Chairs, tables, lamps, and figurines are altered in both subtle and peculiar ways. What may have been once discarded is now repurposed, but for all the wrong reasons. The old, ugly and outdated is made peculiar, their histories and meanings circumvented and repurposed.

This is Willburn and Burton's second exhibition together and their first collaboration. Their sensibilities merge in this show to represent the sad and sentimental, while keeping an air of whimsy. Their backgrounds and the current themes in their own work lend bits of sentiment that are at times in harmony, while at others being slightly and uncomfortably out of sync, giving This Would Be a Big To-do in Georgia a rich cultural significance and wit.



Eastfield Library presents "Literary East Texas: A Exhibit of Photographs Honoring 25 East Texas Writers" Sept. 10 - Oct. 8. New to Eastfield, this exhibit features 25 well-known East Texas writers. The photographs bring to life the places and events mentioned in the fiction of these authors. The exhibit illustrates specific passages and visual documentation to identify locations.

The breadth of the exhibit encompasses the entire eastern half of Texas from the Red River through the Piney Woods to the Gulf Coast. Writers include J. Mason Brewer, considered America's foremost Black Folklorist; Siddie Joe Johnson, former Director of the Children's Department of the Dallas Public Library and author of well known children's stories such as Debbie, New Town in Texas, and Cat Hotel; William Goyen whose extraordinary literary career included novels, short stories, plays, and non-fiction.

Some of the 25 writers are Madison Cooper, Suzanne Morris, Garland Roark, Elizabeth Forsythe Hailey, William Brammer, Jewel Gibson, Frank X. Tolbert, Francis E. Abernethy and many others. "Literary East Texas" is sure to be of particular interest to students and Instructors and general interest to the public. The project was made possible in part with a grant from Humanities Texas, the state affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities and Eastfield Student Life.

Photograph by Nell Blakely: A barefoot boy walking toward the security of home illustrates William Goyen's poetic novel, The House of Breath, which is set in the fictional town of Charity, Texas.