

GUEST COMMENTARY

Area organizations, businesses committed to building community

By **Melanie Fahey**
Community Affairs Director, NNWD

Northwest Houston is fortunate to have so many organizations and groups committed to building our community. It is the ability of all of these groups to work together that is making a difference in improving our quality of life.

This month I would like to highlight the upcoming events that the Near Northwest Management District and Near northwest Houston Weed & Seed Grant are working on for our area so that those who wish to join in our efforts may find the opportunity that fits their interest.

The Weed & Seed Grant is offering a Grant Writing Seminar for all area non-profit organizations Aug. 21 from 9 a.m. to noon at Shepherd's Tabernacle Church. The Seminar will cover how to find local and federal grants and how to write a proposal that will get funded. The class will be taught by Anne Buddill, grant writer for the Fort Bend Women's Center. This informative class is being offered

to help other organizations to pursue grants to increase the resources available in our community. Contact Shalu in the District office to reserve your seat.

We are grateful to local businesses for all their commitment to the northwest Houston area. Business owners and managers are invited to our next Business Network Breakfast at 7:30 a.m. Sept. 2. The topic will be "Financing Your Business" and will offer helpful advice on finance options for local businesses. Contact Shalu at the District to reserve your space.

We also encourage local businesses to send their security personnel to our monthly security meeting. These informative meetings are an opportunity for law enforcement and security personnel to share information on crime in the area and to foster collaboration in confronting these issues. Our next security meeting will take place Aug. 10 at 9 a.m. in the District offices at 5300 Hollister.

Melanie Fahey is Community Affairs Director for the Near Northwest Management District and can be reached by calling 713-895-8021, or by e-mailing melfahey@nearnorthwestdistrict.com.

Weed & Seed, NNWMD set grant writing seminar

The Near Northwest Houston Weed & Seed Grant and Near Northwest Management District will offer a Grant Writing Seminar from 9 a.m. to noon Saturday, Aug. 21, at Shepherd's Tabernacle Church, 6700 Antoine.

The seminar will be led by Anne Buddill, grant writer for the Fort Bend Women's Center.

"One of the Weed & Seed Grant's main goals is to seed in community revitalization and that takes money," said Carla McGowen, Weed & Seed Program Director.

"By empowering nonprofits to write successful grants, we increase the amount of money coming

into the area and increase the likelihood that our community will improve," she said.

This workshop is only \$25 for any nonprofit organization in the Near Northwest Management District, or any organization that serves the residents of the Near Northwest Management District.

Seating for the workshop is limited and spaces are available on a first-come, first-served basis, so it is important to register early.

Call 713-895-8021 or send name, agency, address, zip, e-mail and work phone number to cmcgowen@nearnorthwestdistrict.com.

Share your organization's activities with the community. Send your notices and photos to The Leader. Photos must be at least 300 dpi and in jpeg format.

AISD announces free/reduced meal guidelines for 2010-11 year

Aldine Independent School District's Child Nutrition Services Department administers

the federal free/reduced meal program that provides both breakfast and lunch to all stu-

dents in Aldine Independent School District.

Meal application forms

are being distributed in each school to all households with a letter informing households of the availability of free and reduced-price meals for their children. Applications also are available at the Child Nutrition Services Office.

To apply for free reduced-price meals, households must fill out the application and return it to the school. Applications may be submitted anytime during the school year. The information households provide on the application will be used for

determine eligibility for free and reduced-price benefits, households receiving Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program benefits (formerly Food Stamps/Temporary Assistance for Needy Families) only have to list their child's name and SNAP or TANF case number. An adult household member must sign the application.

Households that do not list a SNAP/TANF case number must list the names of all household members, the amount and source of

must be signed by an adult household member.

Under the provisions of the free and reduced-price meal policy, Ashley Ross-Nolan, Reviewing Official, will review applications and determine eligibility. Parents or guardians dissatisfied with the ruling of the official may wish to discuss the decision with the reviewing official on an informal basis. Parents wishing to make a formal appeal for hearing on the decision may make a request either orally or in writing to

LIBRARY NEWS

COLLIER BRANCH

6200 Pinemont
832-393-1740

Wednesday, Aug. 18:

10:30 a.m., Story time for Pre-K.

Thurs. Aug. 19: 1

p.m., Collier Book Group; 6 p.m. Knitting circle

Tuesday, Aug. 24: 10:30 a.m., Preschool story time.

Wednesday, Aug. 25: 10:30 a.m., Toddler time.

HEIGHTS BRANCH

1302 Heights Blvd.
832-393-1810

a.m. to 6 p.m. Closed Saturday and Sunday.

Collier Branch: Monday and Thursday, 10 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.; Saturday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Closed Sunday.

Fairbanks Branch: