

Concierge Connection

"Helping Professionals Get Back to Business"

HOW TO USE THE CONCIERGE SERVICE

ORDER TICKETS MONDAY-FRIDAY

9:00 am - 5:00 pm

The delivery day for your building is every Friday by 12:00 pm; please pick up your tickets no later than 4:00 pm that same day.

All orders must be placed by 2:00 pm on Thursday, the day before, to make the Friday delivery.

3 WAYS TO ORDER

PHONE

972-770-4045

EMAIL

services@conciiergeconnection.org

WEB

texasconciiergeconnection.com

WE DO NOT ACCEPT PERSONAL CHECKS OR CASH.

We do accept ALL major credit cards, debit cards and company checks.

PLEASE have your credit card ready when calling. There is a \$25 NSF fee for all returned checks.

Candace Rozell

President & CEO

candace@conciiergeconnection.org

(Please do not send ticket orders to this email.)

Sales Tax Holiday

August 8-10, 2014

Texas shoppers get a break from state and local sales taxes on August 8, 9 and 10 - the state's annual tax holiday. Layaway plans can be used again this year to take advantage of the sales tax holiday.

As in previous years, the law exempts most clothing and footwear priced under \$100 from sales and use taxes, which could save shoppers about \$8 on every \$100 they spend. Backpacks under \$100 and used by elementary and secondary students are also exempt. A backpack is a pack with straps one wears on the back. The exemption during the sales tax holiday includes backpacks with wheels, provided they can also be worn on the back like a traditional backpack, and messenger bags. The exemption does not include items that are reasonably defined as luggage, briefcases, athletic/duffle/gym bags, computer bags, purses or framed backpacks. Ten or fewer backpacks can be purchased tax-free at one time without providing an exemption certificate to the seller.

Clothing & Footwear

Baby clothes, belts with attached buckles, boots (cowboy, hiking), caps/hats (baseball, fishing, golf, knitted), coats and wraps, diapers (adult and baby), dresses, gloves, gym suits and uniforms, hooded shirts and sweatshirts, hosiery, jackets, jeans, jerseys (baseball and football), jogging apparel, neckwear and ties, pajamas, pants and trousers, raincoats and ponchos, robes, shirts, shoes (sandals, slippers, sneakers, tennis, walking), socks (including

athletic), shorts, suits, slacks, and jackets, sweatshirts, sweat suits, sweaters, swimsuits, underclothes, work clothes and uniforms.

School Supplies

The 81st Texas Legislature passed HB 1801 (2009) expanding the list of items qualifying for exemption from Texas state and local sales and use taxes during the annual sales tax holiday in August. In addition to clothes, footwear and some backpacks, Texas families also get a sales tax break on most school supplies priced at less than \$100 purchased for use by a student in an elementary or secondary school.

Qualifying school supplies (if priced less than \$100): Binders, book bags, calculators, cellophane tape, blackboard chalk, compasses, composition books, crayons, erasers, folders (expandable, pocket, plastic, and manila), glue, paste and paste sticks, highlighters, index cards, index card boxes, legal pads, lunch boxes, markers, notebooks, paper (loose leaf ruled notebook paper, copy paper, graph paper, tracing paper, manila paper, colored paper, poster board, and construction paper), pencil boxes and other school supply boxes, pencil sharpeners, pencils, pens, protractors, rulers, scissors, and writing tablets.

For additional information, log onto <http://www.window.state.tx.us/news2014/140711-salestax-holiday.html>. The site also includes information for purchasing supplies under a business account.

Texas Motor Speedway presents Big Hoss Ultimate Drive-in with The Little Rascals

August 16 at 8:30pm
3545 Lone Star Circle, Fort Worth 76177

Pack up your family, the lounge chairs... even your cooler...and enjoy *The Little Rascals* drive-in style on "Big Hoss TV," the world's largest, high-definition LED video board at Texas Motor Speedway. Proceeds from this movie showing will benefit Speedway Children's Charities-Texas Chapter.

Speedway Children's Charities-Texas Chapter will be charging \$20 per carload. The feature film will begin at 8:30pm and the South Tunnel will open at 7:30pm to allow moviegoers access to the infield drive-in parking area. Access the South Tunnel directly by turning onto Allison Way off State Highway 114 that runs directly in front of the facility.

You will be permitted to bring your own food and beverages, but Levy Restaurants will also have concession stands open on site. Those attending are encouraged to bring lawn chairs if you would like to enjoy the movie under the stars instead of inside your vehicles. For more information, visit texasmotorspeedway.com or call 817-215-8564.



Entertainment Passbooks

All the Fun. Half the Price.

We will be carrying Dallas and Fort Worth Entertainment Passbooks again this year at **\$30 each**. With hundreds of half-off and two-for-one coupons, the Entertainment Passbook is the best way to save money on dining, shopping, attractions and much more! **We expect to receive our shipment by mid-August, so contact your concierge and order yours today.**

Cut College Textbook Expenses

This textbook shopping program site can save students hundreds of dollars a year on the cost of books for college. Christian Genco paid about \$1,200 for college textbooks one semester and decided that was enough. The next semester, Genco decided to shop online and after a couple of days of searching, he found books for \$800-\$900. Genco liked the fact that the books were cheaper online, but was dismayed that it took two days to find the best deals. Genco, then a student at SMU, went to work. Using computer coding and information already available on the Internet, he created a program that automatically searched for the lowest priced textbooks he needed. After graduating in May, he continued to fine tune the program, which has evolved into a free service for college students called textbooksplease.com. Genco's website offers college students a chance to compare prices for textbooks with a series of computer clicks. The program pulls books from a variety of retailers or shopping sites such as amazon.com. Genco said he gets an "affiliate's fee" from retailers to help maintain the website.

The Otis Uduebor Sickle Cell Foundation 5K & Family Day

On Saturday, September 13, The Otis Uduebor Sickle Cell Foundation will host its annual "5K & Sickle Cell Family Day" from 9am to 3pm at Bachman Lake Park, 3500 W. Northwest Highway, Dallas, Texas 75220. The festivities will start with a 5K run/jog/walk (registration starts at 9am and race starts at 10am) followed by the 5th annual family-style picnic in the park. Lunch will be served at 12pm (first come, first served) and this event includes inspirational speakers, health information, mentor opportunities, food, fun, games, music, prizes and activities for all ages. It is designed to connect sickle cell families with each other and increase public awareness of sickle cell disease.

All food and festivities are FREE to the public! There is a **\$25** registration fee to participate in the 5K (includes t-shirt). Register by **September 5** to qualify for early-bird and group discounts of **\$20** (individuals) or **\$17** per person (teams of 4 or more). Proceeds raised through the 5K help support the Otis Uduebor Sickle Cell Foundation in their on-going mission to provide programs like Sickle Cell Family Fun Day and will also benefit efforts to raise funds to provide free sickle cell screening in the North Texas area. Pre-register by September 5 online at www.theotisfoundation.org or by phone at 800-455-8949 to be eligible for the grand prize give-away! Must be present to win. Free food is served on a "first-come, first-served" basis.

Sponsorship and volunteer opportunities are available; simply email contactus@theotisfoundation.org if you are interested.

Concierge Connection Exclusive:

Have you visited the new Cowboys Stadium yet? If not, here's your chance to take your family to an affordable live game! A limited supply of tickets will be available to these two pre-season games while supplies last. Contact your concierge for more details on placing orders for these two specific games. Should you be interested in regular season games throughout the year, call your concierge for pricing.

Pre-Season Games:

- Thursday, August 28
Cowboys vs. Denver Broncos at 7pm
- Saturday, August 16
Cowboys vs. Baltimore Ravens at 6pm

Concierge Pricing:

- Lower Levels (levels 1-3) **\$53**
- Upper Levels (level 4) **\$21**



DFW Restaurant Week: August 11-17

Preview: August 8-10; Extensions: August 18-31

As part of the 17th annual Restaurant Week, presented by Central Market, more than 125 of the finest local restaurants will offer a prix fixe dinner menu for **\$35-\$45** (beverage, tax and gratuity not included). 20% of each meal will be donated to the North Texas Food Bank (Fort Worth restaurants will donate to the Lena Pope Home). Select restaurants will also offer a **\$25** lunch option (beverage, tax, and gratuity not included), with \$5 going to NTFB or the Lena Pope Home. Make your reservations today!

Back for a second year, diners can once again satisfy their mid-day appetites by taking advantage of the Cadillac Lunch Experience brought to you by Oak Farms Dairy. Impress business clients, colleagues or friends this August with a tasty lunch that also gives back. Spotighting some of DFW's hottest lunch spots, a select number of establishments will offer special three-course lunches, priced at **\$25 a person**.

Many DFW Restaurant Week participants feature fantastic bars in addition to great tasting cuisine. Some will showcase their mixology magic with a special cocktail that will be offered throughout their DFW Restaurant Week. Restaurants are also encouraged to offer wine selections or pairings and many are really outstanding, competing for an award from the DFW chapter of the American Institute of Wine and Food (AIWF) for the best DFW Restaurant Week pairing! Please note that **alcohol is an extra charge** not included in the special prix fixe dinner price. A price list for accompanying wine pairings will be made available by each establishment.

Restaurant Week Preview and Extensions

Experience DFW Restaurant Week before anyone else during Restaurant Week Preview dates of August 8-10. In addition, a number of participating restaurants are extending the \$35-\$45 promotion for an extra week or two (August 18-31).

Central Market Fourth Course

Central Market shoppers who spend \$25 or more will receive gift certificates (while supplies last) that they can exchange at participating restaurants for an additional course. Certificates will be accepted as long as the restaurant is participating in DFW Restaurant Week.

Ever wondered what products your favorite DFW Restaurant Week chefs love to use in the kitchen? New this year, several chefs are showcasing their preferred products that foodies can find at their local Central Market stores. These items are marked with a shelf talker explaining how the chef incorporates the product/ingredient along with a reminder to dine out during DFW Restaurant Week.

Additional Information

For Restaurant Week, including the preview and extensions, ordering off of the regular menu is not included in the special pricing. Beverages, tax, and gratuity are also not included. Reservations are required, and seating is limited. The participating restaurant list can be viewed at OpenTable.com or DFWRestaurantWeek.com. You may make your reservations by calling the restaurant, or reserving online at OpenTable.com.

For each prix fixe dinner or lunch purchased, participating restaurants will make a 20% donation (of \$5-\$9) to the North Texas Food Bank in Dallas or Lena Pope Home in Fort Worth to benefit families in need. The event has raised millions of dollars for the charities since its founding, raising a record \$760,000+ last year alone—a 9 percent increase in charity contributions compared to the previous year.

Dallas Arboretum Dollar Days

August 1-31

8525 Garland Road, Dallas 75218

The dog days of summer bring Dollar Days in August at the Arboretum. **Throughout the entire month visitors can enjoy a summer day filled with wonder and excitement for only \$1 (general admission).** As always, members receive free general admission and parking year-round. This is a perfect opportunity for new Arboretum visitors to take the kids out to experience the eight-acre Children's Adventure Garden for just an additional \$3 per person. (Presented by Time Warner Cable.)



Panther Island Pavilion presents Clearfork Music Festival

August 30 - All Day

395 Purcey St, Fort Worth 76102

Presented by Keep Texas Live, the Clearfork Music Festival is a full day music and art experience held alongside the Trinity River at Panther Island Pavilion. This 40-acre outdoor venue is located in the heart of Fort Worth, just minutes from Downtown. The festival features something for everyone: two stages of music, art installations, face painting, bounce houses, hammock gardens, plus food trucks, tasty craft beer, and a family friendly setting to enjoy the Labor Day weekend. For more information, visit clearforkfest.com or call 817-698-0700.

25th Annual Yellow Rose Classic Car Show

August 10-11

Sat, 10am-9pm & Sun, 10am-6pm

**Arlington Convention Center
120 Ballpark Way, Arlington 76011**

Admission for this event is \$12; children 12 and under are FREE. You may also obtain a coupon by visiting their website for **\$2 off admission**. For more information, call 817-595-6900 or visit yracs.ntmc.org

Discount Ticket Listing

We continue to offer discounts to many theater, sporting events, theme parks, and attractions; however, due to space limitations in our monthly newsletter, we cannot list all of them. You will find an updated discount listing posted to our website each month. Simply log onto www.texasconciiergeconnection.com and click on the "newsletter" tab at the top of the page. Then scroll down to the hyperlink titled "Discount Tickets" to obtain a copy. In addition, many of you are unaware that you can utilize us for more than just discount tickets. We are a full service concierge company and can help you with many things on your to-do list. The management company/owners of your building have contracted us to provide these services to you. Although the services are complimentary for those of you who work in a building within our network, there will be a few things that require additional manpower and fees will apply. Those will be discussed prior to fulfilling your request. Let us know how we may be of assistance to you and consider it done!



DALLAS ARBORETUM
AND BOTANICAL GARDEN

The End of Waterpark Season is Near!

Contact your concierge for discount admission tickets



Schlitterbahn Waterparks

Explore over seventy acres of shared family fun, thrilling adventure, and relaxation at Schlitterbahn



New Braunfels, voted the World's Best Waterpark for 16 years in a row. Challenge the world's longest waterpark ride The Falls, filled with raging rapids, careening waterfalls and giant waves. Enter the 3,600 foot-long whitewater Transportainment river at a variety of locations including Blastenhoff, Surfenburg and new beach areas surrounding the Riverbend heated pool situated at the far end of Schlitterbahn East. The Falls is a continuous rushing river that also features a ride up the park's first Aqua Veyer® (conveyor belt lift hill) back to the beginning of the ride allowing for an endless float. During Blast & Save Days (Aug 25-29), only the Blastenhoff section of the park is open, from 10am-5pm. After Labor Day (Mon, Sept 1) the park will be open weekends only through Sept 21. **However, NEW FOR THIS YEAR... the 1st Annual "Hospitality Days" will be on those weekends, Sept 6-21. Buy tickets to visit the park on any of those specific days and save even more (up to 25% off of your admission).** The Resort at Schlitterbahn is open year round.

Schlitterbahn Galveston Island Waterpark opened in 2006 and features more than 35 refreshing water adventures for all ages. A huge collection of signature thrill rides and family attractions are surrounded by the award-winning Transportainment® River System, which allows guests to float in tubes throughout the entire park without ever leaving the water. During the spring and fall months, a section of the park transforms into an indoor waterpark so you can enjoy even more summer fun. Surf & Save Days for this park are Aug 25-29 from 10am-5pm. After Labor Day (Mon, Sept 1) the park will be open only on weekends. However, only the indoor waterpark will be open starting Oct 18 for the remainder of the season through January 4, 2015. **This park is offering "Hospitality Days" as well on those weekends, Sept 6-21. Buy tickets to visit the park on any of those specific days and save even more (up to 25% off of your admission).** *Note: Additional open weekdays at end of season are Dec 22-23, 26, 29-31 and Jan 2.

Experience the best the gulf coast has to offer at **Schlitterbahn South Padre**, ranked #1 Kid-Friendly attraction by *Texas Family Magazine*. With a 25-acre beachfront paradise, enjoy nearly two dozen world-class attractions, roar down 13 amazing indoor and outdoor water slides, or float one of the multiple river systems. The beachfront resort includes lodging, great Gulf beaches, fantastic dining location options and unlimited use of both the resort's indoor and outdoor waterparks. This park will be open all month in August. During the week of Aug 25-29 only the heated indoor waterpark will be open, from 10am-5pm. After Labor Day, (Mon, Sept 1) the park will be open only on weekends. However, only the indoor waterpark will be open starting Sept 27 for the remainder of the season through January 31, 2015. *Note: Additional open weekdays at end of season are Dec 22-24, 26, 29-31, and Jan 1-2.

All new in 2014, **Schlitterbahn Kansas City Waterpark** added Verrückt, the tallest water slide in the World! Guests can also enjoy shared experiences on over a mile of interconnected river that goes from mild to wild, challenge themselves on towering water slides, catch a thrill on water coasters, ride a wave on the Boogie Bahn Surfing Ride, let the kids splash and play on 13 mini slides, or relax on beaches, in private cabanas or a heated pool with a swim-up refreshment bar. **This park will be open weekends only starting**

Aug 16, with the final operating day of the season being on Labor Day (Mon, Sept 1).

All parks offer family amenities including free parking, free life jackets and free use of inner tubes. Guests are also welcome to bring picnic lunches into the parks with the exception of alcoholic beverages and glass containers.

Hurricane Harbor

Ready, set, race on the (new for 2014) Wahoo Racer, the largest multi-lane slide of its kind in the world. Zoom head-first down one of six racing lanes at up to 40 feet per second. Stay focused on the finish line because you never know which of the other five racers could pass you at the end.



If you missed it, as part of its 30th Anniversary Celebration last year in 2013, Six Flags Hurricane Harbor became even bigger, better, and wetter with the debut of 2 new additions, the Typhoon Twister and Tsunami Surge! After that, head over to Boogie Beach or the family-friendly Hook's Lagoon before floating your cares away along the Lazy River.

This park will be open weekends only after Aug 24 and will include Labor Day, (Mon, Sept 1) with the final operating day of the season being on Sept 21.

Bahama Beach

Cool Off and Have a Blast at the Same Time! Bahama Beach Waterpark is the perfect place to cool off this summer. Conveniently located only ten minutes south of downtown Dallas, you can get away from it all without ever leaving town. They have everything from 45 foot tall slides for the big kids and adults, to an interactive water playground with a 1,000 gallon dumping bucket for the little ones. And for those who want to kick back and relax, grab a tube, wade into one of two zero depth entry beaches, and take a float down the lazy river.



This month the park is closed on Mondays but open every Tues-Sat from 10:30am-6pm and every Sun from Noon-6pm through August 17.

Hawaiian Falls

Make plans to visit Hawaiian Falls before the season ends on Labor Day, September 1. They currently have 7 locations, North Garland, The Colony, Mansfield, Roanoke, Waco, White Settlement and Pflugerville. All are open through Labor Day, September 1. Dates and hours may vary, so log onto www.hfalls.com for accurate hours and directions to each park. **Parking is always FREE.**



NRH2O

NRH2O Family Water Park is conveniently located between Dallas and Fort Worth (in North Richland Hills). Dedicated to providing a safe, clean and fun environment for guests of all ages, the park is specifically designed with families in mind. At 17 acres large, they offer plenty of attractions to entertain all ages, including the world's largest uphill water coaster, a 5-level interactive water playground and the world's first Viper (which opened in 2011). For additional park information, log onto www.nrh2o.com. **NRH2O offers FREE PARKING, FREE TUBES, FREE LIFE JACKETS, AND COOLERS ARE WELCOME!** **This park will be closed Aug 25-29 and re-opens**



for its final days of the season on Aug 30-Sept 1 and Sept 6-7.

Wet n' Wild SplashTown

Houston's largest waterpark has undergone a multi-million dollar transformation and added three new attractions in 2014! New rides include a four person family raft ride called the Big Kahuna and the other is FlowRider, offering a great opportunity to practice surfing and body board abilities. Then the new Wet 'n' Wild Jr. is a fully revamped children's area. Along with these new attractions, you will enjoy additional parking and an upgraded menu. **The park will be closed Aug 25-29 then open on weekends only through Sept 14 including Labor Day, Mon, Sept 1.**



Six Flags Fiesta Texas

Six Flags Fiesta Texas introduced a brand-new expansion and extreme new water slide complex this year at White Water Bay. The all-new tropically-themed area in the water park features several new attractions and guest amenities including two kids' slides, a VIP cabana village, tiki bar, lounging lagoon, and the extreme thrill slide complex, Bahama Blaster. Bahama Blaster is the first of its kind in Texas and uses a unique launching capsule to drop riders down an astounding six stories, where they'll free-fall and twist through loops and coils at 40 miles per hour. **This park will be closed on Aug 25-29 then after Labor Day (Sept 1), will only be open on weekends from Sept 6-21, Oct 4-Nov 2, and Nov 15-16.** *Note: Additional open weekdays during the season are Oct 13, 24, and 31.



Sea World of Texas

Aquatica, SeaWorld's Waterpark™, introduced a 13,500 square feet aviary containing about 300 birds representing more than 50 species. The newest attraction added this year will be one of the park's serene offerings, giving guests the chance to float, wade or walk among hundreds of tropical birds. Some of the birds are considered threatened or endangered and the aviary will help in conservation efforts. For more details, visit seaworldparks.com. **This park will be closed Aug 25-29. After Labor Day (Mon, Sept 1), the park will have the following schedule for the remainder of the season: open weekends only Sept 6-21; then open every Friday-Sunday Sept 26-Oct 31; and back to weekends only from Nov 1-Dec 31.** *Note: Additional open weekdays during the season are Oct 13, Nov 24-28, Dec 22-24, 26, and 29-31.



Six Flags Over Texas

Everything is bigger in Texas—even the Texas SkyScreamer, the world's tallest extreme swing ride. Texas SkyScreamer towers an astonishing 400 feet over Six Flags. Then there is always something new at Six Flags Over Texas. For 2014, experience the expanded children's area complete with new rides, attractions, and rest areas. Bugs Bunny Boomtown features 10 attractions, five of which are new. **This park will be closed Aug 25-29. After Labor Day (Mon, Sept 1), the park will have the following schedule for the remainder of the season: open weekends only Sept 6-28; open every Friday-Sunday Oct 3-Nov 2. After that the park will shut down and open again on Nov 15, then the remaining days are as follows: Nov 22-26, 28-30, Dec 5-7, 12-14, 19-23, 26-31, and Jan 1-4.**

