

Mayor delivers State of the City Address

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Catalyst

The City has retained the services of Metroplex-based Catalyst Commercial to help identify other redevelopment opportunities and to enhance the City's existing retail areas. They were hired to not only do research but to implement the product of their work. Using the research it creates, Catalyst will strategically recruit prominent retailers to the areas the City targets. By using this process, Catalyst has filled more than 2 million square feet of retail and office space in the Metroplex.

P25 Radio System

Project 25, better known as P25, is the single largest public safety initiative sweeping the country today. P25 fixes an issue

identified by the 9-11 commission, as a result of the communication's challenges experienced in the World Trade Center Towers. It allows first responders from different communities to easily speak to each other in the event of an emergency. The City officially launched its new P25 System Jan. 19. The City partnered with Cassidian Communications, and saved nearly \$5 million to implement the system. Through the partnership, the City got the best infrastructure for the emergency communications system, while also buying the most robust and dependable Motorola radios for public safety and other City workers.

Parks and Recreation Gold Medal

Last March, the City of Rich-

ardson Parks and Recreation Department received the 2011 Texas Recreation and Park Society's "Gold Medal for Excellence." It is the most prestigious award in Texas for a parks and recreation program. One of the best reasons for living in Richardson is the many recreation and leisure opportunities created by the Parks and Recreation Department. Among other things, the department is responsible for signature events like *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival, Blue Cross and Blue Shield Corporate Challenge, Cottonwood Art Festival and Huffhines Art Trails. The department is also responsible for athletic fields, recreation centers, public pools, hike and bike trails and even City street sweepers and median landscaping.



Members of the Richardson Parks Department display their gold medals.

State of the City Address available for viewing

The 2012 State of the City Address held Jan. 25 at the Eisemann Center is available on the City's website at www.cor.net and will be replayed on Time Warner Cable, channel 16 and AT&T U-Verse, channel 99 at 6 p.m. Sundays.



Spring Creek Trail now open after repair work

The repair work on Spring Creek Trail has been completed by the contractor ahead of schedule and the trail is again open for all users.

The trail was closed in three phases beginning Jan. 3 and the rehabilitation work along the 1.1 mile section had been expected to last until Feb. 7. The City contractor tore out and replaced concrete trail sections that had become damaged by growing tree roots and shifting soil.



City Council Action

The following is a listing of some of the main items considered by the Richardson City Council at the Dec. 12 meetings. Citizens are welcome to attend Council meetings (second and fourth Mondays of each month at 7:30 p.m.) and work sessions (every Monday at 5:30 p.m.). The Richardson City Council Agenda is posted at City Hall on a bulletin board at the west end of the building and can be found on the City website, www.cor.net. The agenda is posted on Friday evening prior to the Monday night meeting. You may request a copy of the agenda or more information by calling the City Secretary's Office at 972-744-4292.

City Council meetings and work sessions are broadcast live on the City's website at www.cor.net and on the City's cable TV channel on Time Warner Cable, channel 16 and AT&T U-Verse, channel 99. Taped replays of the meetings are also available on the website within 24 hours.

Dec. 12

Public Hearing, Zoning File 11-18: A request by Howard L. Lawson, representing the Lawson Co., for a change in zoning for a self-service warehouse with associated outdoor vehicle storage for a portion of 528 W. Arapaho Rd. (north side of Arapaho Road, west of Custer Road), was denied.
Public Hearing, Zoning File 11-20: A request by Aubrey Ellington, A&S Ellington Properties, LLC, representing Chicken Express to amend the zoning to allow for a drive-thru

restaurant at 1240 W. Campbell Rd. (Northwest corner of Campbell Road & Lake Park Way), was approved.
Public Hearing, Zoning File 11-21: A request by Eyal Avnon, representing David Weekley Homes, for a change in zoning with special conditions on a property located at the northwest corner of Lake Park Way and Jonsson Boulevard, was approved.
Public Hearing, Zoning File 11-26: A request by the City of Richardson to amend the Code of Ordinances by adding the definition of smoking establishment and to allow smoking

establishments upon approval of a Special Permit, was approved.
Consent Agenda
Resolution No. 11-38, approving the terms and conditions of the Advance Funding Agreement for a Safe Routes to School Project for Pedestrian Walkway Improvements at Yale Elementary School.
Resolution No. 11-39, approving the terms and conditions of the Advance Funding Agreement for a Safe Routes to School Project for Pedestrian Walkway Improvements at Richard Elementary School.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Resident,



Mayor Bob Townsend
Place 1
bob.townsend@cor.gov

On Wednesday, Jan. 25, the City Council and I hosted the annual State of the City Address at the Eisemann Center. The event was free and open to the public.

The event was well attended, and those who could not join us in person were able to watch the address live on the internet. This issue of *Richardson Today* highlights many of the achievements we described during the program.

If you would like to view the actual presentation, it is now available on-demand on the City's website at www.cor.net and will be broadcast on CITV cable channel 16 to Time Warner Cable customers or channel 99 on AT&T U-Verse, according to the schedule on this page of *Richardson Today*.

The State of the City address included updates on a number of accomplishments from the past year, including:

- Receiving recognition from the Texas Legislature as the official International Business Capital of North Texas;
- Rezoning more than 140 acres adjacent to the DART Bush Turnpike Station for transit-oriented development and earning a CLIDE Award for leadership in planning for this project;
- Upgrading the City's public safety communications system and 9-1-1 Communications Center, resulting in a \$5 million savings through innovative deployment;
- Earning the 2011 Texas Recreation and Park Society's Gold Medal for Excellence for the City's commitment to long-range park planning, park and recreation resource management and agency recognition; and
- Maintaining a AAA bond rating (the highest ranking) from the two major credit rating agencies.

In addition, the City completed all of the projects funded under the 2006 Bond Program and began working on projects approved in the 2010 Bond Program.

Our stability and success are results of decades of careful planning to achieve the enviable quality of life we enjoy in Richardson today. The City Council and I sincerely hope you feel the way that we do about our community and that you have an opportunity to view the State of the City presentation so that you, too, can share in our pride.

If you have any questions about our community, please feel free to visit the City's website at www.cor.net or contact me or any of our City Council Members directly.

Sincerely,

Bob Townsend
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bob.townsend@cor.gov

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972-744-4203

Richardson Today Contact Information

If you have any comments or suggestions concerning this or future issues of the *Richardson Today*, contact:
richardsontoday@cor.gov

Citizens Information Services
City Hall/Civic Center
411 W. Arapaho Rd.,
Suite 106
Richardson, Texas 75080
972-744-4104

Goal: Public Services . . . continued

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grant from FEMA and the Department of Homeland Security and the money will pay for an emergency driver training simulator that can create a variety of hazardous road conditions. It will be the only one of its kind in the region.

Continuing its commitment to providing a high level of service to Richardson residents, the RFD began its new, "Fill the Gap" program which is an initiative designed to provide assistance to victims while they await other resources. This help may include direct assistance in the form of vouchers for clothing, prescriptions, hotel stays, gasoline for their vehicle or other essential items. The Richardson Citizen Fire Academy Alumni Association provides the funds for the vouchers, which are given to the victims in need.

Richardson's Emergency Management Office is at the heart of the City's preparedness efforts. Last year, a new round of training was provided to better prepare City departments for disaster response. Emergency management also implemented a new service for people with special needs called S.N.A.P., which allows residents to register and provide vital information for a database, which can then be used by response personnel in the event of an emergency. This program is an expansion

of the existing Lockbox and Vial of Life projects, which help residents who are on vacation or those who have serious medical conditions

Police Department

Police Chief Jim Spivey recently reported to the City Council that total crime in 2011 was down 6 percent from the previous year. The Richardson Police Department (RPD) deploys many programs to help crack down on crime and two of its most successful programs are the neighborhood crime watch patrol and the business crime watch program. Through the programs, more than 84 percent of homes in Richardson are covered by a dedicated group of more than 650 crime watch patrolers. The department's business crime watch program represents more than 600 local businesses.

The department also estab-



lished a new program called "Know Your Stuff" in 2011 which is an online service that allows residents to catalog belongings and register the serial numbers from electronics for inclusion in a national database. If the property is ever stolen

or destroyed, the information can help with insurance claims or allow police to return the missing items to the owner.

Last October, a record number of neighborhoods participated in Texas' National Night Out Against Crime. More than 202 neighborhood gatherings were held and more than 5,000 pounds of food was collected for the NETWORK of Community Ministries food bank.

The department recently launched its intelligent asset management system that allows the RPD to electronically scan and catalog inventory, like weapons and uniforms. The new system allows the department to move away from paper records and manual entries, simultaneously increasing both efficiency and accuracy.

Sherrill Park Golf Course

In 2011, Sherrill Park's Course 1 earned top honors as the number one ranked economy course in Texas while Course 2 was ranked 8th in the state in the same category. Sherrill Park also hosts tournaments, lessons and clinics and provides a facility for group rentals.

Parks and Recreation

The 2011 Blue Cross Blue Shield Corporate Challenge was the most successful ever, with a record-breaking 54 companies participating in the 10-week Olym-

pic-style competition. Corporate Challenge also marked another milestone last year, surpassing \$1 million in donations to Special Olympics Texas over the course of its 14-year history.



The department continues to connect the dots with its trails program. The Glenville Trail, which was completed last year, links four Richardson parks, three RISD schools and the neighborhoods in between with a new concrete hike and bike path.

Last October, the City purchased four properties in the Heights area to create one of two new community parks approved in the 2010 Bond Program. Design of the new park began in December with a community input meeting to ask neighborhood residents for direction on future amenities

Animal Shelter

In July, the Richardson Animal Shelter opened its new canine

visitation area, a project funded through the 2010 Bond Program. This new facility has become a vital part of the pet adoption process, allowing potential adopters to socialize and connect with their future pets. The Animal Shelter also launched a new e-commerce site for pet licensing. This expanded service allows residents to register their pets using a mobile phone or any other electronic device with an internet connection.

Library

The Richardson Public Library continues to be one of the busiest in the state and circulation reached the 1 million mark last summer, the earliest it has reached that milestone. In fact, in 2011 the Library had a record 1.3 million items checked out.

The Library's new e-books program allows members to download content onto their smart phones, iPads, Nooks, Kindles or other reading devices. And the Library also offers a selection of electronic resources in addition to books, DVD's and CD's.

This level of service helped the Richardson Public Library earn the Achievement of Excellence in Libraries Award from the Texas Municipal Library Directors Association for the 8th consecutive year.

Goal: Communication



The City recognizes that effective, strategic communication with key stakeholders is a critical part of affirming that Richardson is a great place to live, get an education, conduct business and enjoy recreational and cultural activities. The City works to promote a meaningful flow of information and two-way dialogue with the community through a variety of communication mechanisms, including the new City website at www.cor.net to be launched next month, the enhanced use of social media and regular delivery of easy-to-digest electronic and printed materials.

Richardson Today is a community newsletter mailed every

month to 39,000 homes and in 2011 it was recognized as the winner of the Texas Association of Municipal Information Officers Silver Star Award.

The publication is produced by the Communications Department, which was created in 2010 to better coordinate information and

an online electronic newsletter provided through the City's e-notification service. E-notification registration increased 25 percent last year, as people signed up to receive community and emergency information.

As part of Richardson's convergence media initiative, print, video and web resources are brought together so anyone can use a variety of different media to satisfy their information needs.

The integration of video comes from the Citizens Information Television division, which was recognized in 2011 as the Best in Texas in overall excellence by the Texas Association of Telecommunications Officers and Advisors.

Week in Review



outreach efforts. Since the department's creation, communications have expanded to include social media and have created award-winning online programs like the 2010 Bond Program Tracker.

Each week, the department also publishes *Week In Review*,

Goal: Community Vitality and Neighborhood Integrity



The City demonstrates its commitment to this goal by promoting healthy neighborhoods through the fair and reasonable enforcement of codes and ordinances, the support of residents' efforts to organize and positively affect their community and through partnerships

with residents and neighborhood associations to enact enhancement strategies that help achieve a shared community vision.

The City preserves neighborhoods with community investment in infrastructure and incentive programs that add value. The 2010 Bond program includes more than \$8 million for new screening walls, neighborhood entry features and bridge aesthetic projects. It also dedicates an additional \$16 million for neighborhood improvement projects that will bring new alley segments, resurfaced residential streets and flood erosion and prevention projects to many areas. Several miles of new sidewalks will also be constructed in 11 neighborhoods across the City.

The City's Home Incentive Improvement Program also continues to grow. Through this program, residents can take advantage of property tax rebates by making significant improvements to their homes. In 2011, 66 people applied for benefits from the program for improvements valued at an estimated \$5.2 million. Since its establishment in 2007, the program has awarded more than \$500,000 in incentives, and brought nearly \$28 million in added value to local neighborhoods.



Goal: Education



The City is an active partner with local educational institutions in the achievement of excellence in education for Richardson residents and the corporate community. The City of Richardson is served by two of the highest rated independent school districts in Texas and the nation, the Richardson Independent School District serving Dallas County residents, and the Plano Independent School District serving Collin County residents of Richardson. The University of Texas at Dallas calls the City home and Richland College is just south of the City limits.

RISD has 23 national blue ribbon schools and has earned the rating of "recognized" for six consecutive years by the Texas Education Agency. Ninety-one percent of RISD schools are rated as "exemplary" or "recognized" under the Texas accountability system. RISD has also been named best academically performing school district in Texas by Education Resource Group.

PISD also enjoys broad recognition for excellence and SAT and ACT composite scores for students continue to far exceed their state and national peers. Of the 2011 school year's high-performing students, 96 seniors have been awarded National Merit Semifinalist status.



Richardson-based UT Dallas is well on its way to achieving Tier One national research university status, signifying a strong commitment to academics and research. Since its founding in 1969, the university has grown to include 130 degree programs, with cutting-edge curricula serving a variety of undergraduate and graduate student interests. The quality of the university is reflected in its student body: 74 percent of UT Dallas freshmen rank in the top 25 percent of their high school class, and UT Dallas traditionally leads Texas public universities for incoming students' average SAT scores.



Richland College is located on the Richardson-Dallas border and is a vital educational resource for residents and businesses. With its strong focus on teaching, learning and community building, Richland College stands as the only community college in the U.S. to have earned the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award from the White House and the U.S. Department of Commerce.

Goal: Governance



The City of Richardson is committed to principles of good governance, including transparency, ethical behavior and fiscal accountability. Richardson works diligently to foster open, transparent and accountable government through proactive communications and other efforts, including its financial transparency website: <http://www.cor.net/transparency.aspx>. For its efforts, the City has earned the Texas Comptroller's Gold Leadership Circle Award for the last two

years. The City Council continues to search for ways to expand access to public information. Recently,

meeting handouts were made available online and a decision was made to begin live broadcasting of the City Plan Commission meetings in the near future. Last year, for the first time, Council budget retreat meetings were broadcast live and provided on-demand on the City's website.



Goal: Environmental Management



Richardson is committed to encouraging and implementing programs that contribute to a sustainable quality of life and economic benefits, such as reduced energy bills, green space preservation, air quality improvements, storm water quality improvements, reduced traffic congestion, improved transportation choices and job creation through energy conservation and new energy technologies. The City's environmental management strategy encompasses a wide variety of initiatives.

Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED)

Richardson's Fire Station Number 2 and Huffhines Recreation Center both earned LEED Silver Certification in 2010. The City's future Heights Recreation Center, new gymnastics center and Fire Station Number 4 will all include designs that also achieve LEED certification. Building LEED certified buildings helps ensure the City Council's goal of sustainable construction for municipal facilities.

Tree North Texas

Richardson's Tree the Town project was launched in the spring of 2010 and was the largest urban forestry program in North Texas at the time. The project is now in second place in the region, but served as the catalyst for the City's participation in the Tree North Texas project. Launched in Richardson last year, Tree North Texas is now the largest urban forestry initiative in the country.

Community Gardens

Local community gardens are starting to sprout and grow thanks to a new partnership program the

City initiated last spring. The City now partners with community gardens by supporting their growth through subsidized water rates. The gardens in Richardson produced hundreds of pounds of fresh produce for charities last year.

Rainwater Harvesting

Richardson paved the way for homeowners to install rainwater harvesting systems on their property by passing the City's rainwater harvesting ordinance, one of the first in the region. It provides homeowners with a streamlined process to meet zoning requirements and permit approval and



promotes water conservation efforts in the community.

Huffhines

Recreation Center

Already a Silver LEED certified building, Huffhines Recreation Center underwent a renewable energy project upgrade in November and December. Solar panels at the facility utilize the sun to help heat water and create energy and a small wind energy generation system was also installed. Two elec-

tric vehicle charging stations and a new educational kiosk on renewable energy are also now part of the facility.

Eisemann Center Parking Garage

A major lighting overhaul was completed at the Eisemann Center parking garage in November as every light was replaced with more efficient L-E-D fixtures. The first year's energy savings are expected to be more than \$40,000.

Recycling

Recycling is a benchmark for any city's solid waste program. In 2011, the City's landfill costs were reduced by more than \$300,000 due to residential recycling efforts. Currently, a pilot program is underway to improve recycling collection at multi-family complexes and commercial entities. In its Near Term Action Items, the City Council has chosen to concentrate on improving recycling efforts and on exploring ways to increase participation among local businesses.



Goal: Fiscal Responsibility



Richardson is committed to sound financial management practices based on conservative budgeting policies, aggressive collection efforts and conscientious capital financing and bond security programs. Through these efforts, Richardson has earned the "Aaa" bond rating from Moody's Investor Services, placing the City among only 6.4 percent of cities in the nation and only 2 percent of cities in Texas to achieve this status. Richardson also holds a "AAA" rating from the Standard and Poor's

credit rating agency.

Since successfully weathering the challenging telecom downturn a decade ago, the City has concentrated on diversifying its economic base. Today, a stable tax base coupled with solid management and strong financial policies continue to earn Richardson the highest credit ratings from rating agencies.

Richardson's independent auditing firm, KPMG, gave the City an "unqualified," or clean opinion in 2011. There were no issues or concerns identified during a five-

week audit of the City's financial records and the rating further demonstrates that the City meets the highest level of audit industry standards in the organization's accounting practices.

In a move that will save more than \$100,000 in the first year alone, the City has outsourced its property tax billing and collection activities to the Collin County and Dallas County Tax Offices who now collect these payments on behalf of the City.

Goal: Health Care Facilities and Community Wellness



Recognizing the importance of a quality health care system as a valuable community asset, the City of Richardson actively partners with Methodist Richardson Medical Center (MRMC) and other health care providers in their efforts to achieve excellence in medical care for Richardson residents and businesses. The City also promotes healthy lifestyles and community wellness through a variety of programs and recreational opportunities.

Health care is an important amenity for any thriving city and Richardson is surrounded by many of the region's finest health care facilities and at the heart of the community is MRMC. It is fully owned and operated by Methodist Health System and since 2009 has expanded its clinical services, including the addition of a cardiac catheterization lab, a Da Vinci Robotic® Surgery System and new advanced equipment in the cancer center. MRMC has recruited new physicians to the community to expand upon its cancer treatment and robotic surgical techniques.

The City of Richardson also continues to benefit from its new employee health and wellness partnership with MRMC. It is the established preferred provider for the City's insurance plan and this allows for significant cost-savings to City employees through a rebate program which resulted in a savings of \$30,000 to tax-payers last year.

Goal: Land Use and Development



Richardson guides land use and development within its borders to maintain compatibility between residential and non-residential uses, taking into account both existing conditions and concerns and long-range community needs and environmental sustainability. Among the City's current areas of emphasis are transit-oriented development opportunities and redevelopment efforts in special study areas across the City, including the West Spring Valley corridor, Central Expressway corridor, Coit Road corridor, West Arapaho corridor, Main Street/Old Town and East Arapaho/Collins.

The City Council has identified the following core strategies for land use and development: improving under-performing retail centers; controlling the proliferation of unwanted businesses; creating high-quality employment centers; improving the visual appeal of the City, and looking for partnerships.

The City Council is also taking the charge to place restrictions on smoking establishments. The new regulations will limit the proliferation of such busi-

nesses, much like was done with ordinances adopted to control predatory lending establishments.

New regulations are also being studied to bring improvements to Richardson's historic downtown, where there are numerous opportunities for redevelopment.



Conceptual rendering of possible development at Bush Turnpike and U.S. 75

Goal: Transportation and Mobility



The City of Richardson is committed to the safe and efficient movement of people, goods and services, since a safe and efficient transportation and mobility network is essential to both economic vitality and a high quality of life. As an example of this commitment, Richardson was the first suburban community in North Texas to host four DART light rail stations, and the City is aggressively pushing for further expansion of transit options in the community through its ongoing support of the Cotton Belt Rail Line Innovative Financing Initiative.

As part of the 2010 Bond Program, more than \$24 million have been committed to local roadways. Traffic signal, school zone and

backup battery equipment were updated last year and the design is currently underway for street and signalization enhancements to improve traffic flow and safety.

Transportation upgrades don't always involve street projects and last year the first phase in a series of sidewalk replacement projects was completed and design is underway for 36 alley reconstruction projects, to improve access for local neighborhoods.

In 2011, signage and pavement markings were installed for new bike lanes along Yale Boulevard and Apollo Road and in November, the City completed the Spring Creek Nature Trail, another segment in the hike and bike system that connects east

and west Richardson and links to North Texas' regional trail network.



Goal: Marketing



The Richardson City Council is aware of how important it is to effectively market the community to a variety of audiences, including potential residents, prospective businesses, meeting planners, business travelers, visitors, media, surrounding municipalities, affiliated professional organizations and other key influencers. The goal is to use marketing strategies that are designed to further enhance the reputation of the City regionally, nationally and globally and support the community's continued development.

The City promotes the community in many different ways, with

events such as the *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival and the Cottonwood Art Festival that attract crowds from across the region. Performances and programs at the Eisemann Center draw visitors from beyond City borders as well.

Supporting local businesses is an important component in Richardson's marketing plan and the City's Convention and Visitor Bureau's Dine Smart-Dine Local program is one of the most direct ways of achieving this goal. Every week, coupons for local restaurants are e-mailed to more than 3,000 subscribers to the Dine Smart-Dine Local service.



E-Mail program informs

In 2004, the City of Richardson launched the E-Mail Update Program and according to Director of Community Services Don Wagner, the initiative has accomplished what it set out to achieve by establishing permanent lines of communication between residents and staff so that information about ongoing code enforcement activity can be shared.

Residents who register for the program receive an e-mail every other week detailing code enforcement activity in their neighborhood.

“Residents are also encouraged to contact staff with questions and/or to report possible violations

that are not listed in the report,” Wagner said.

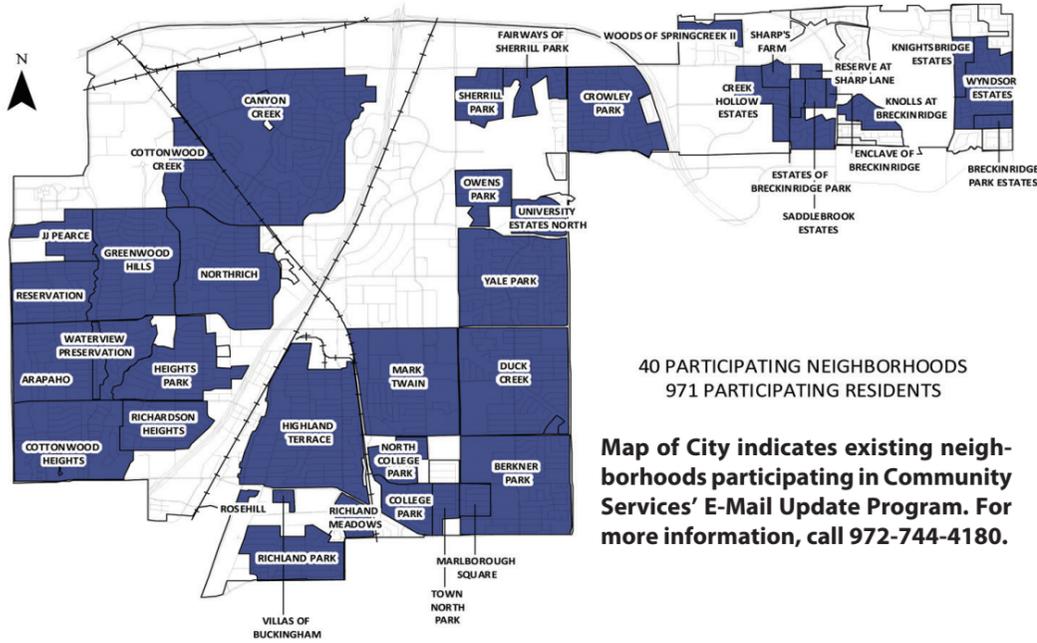
Also included in the update is a feature that highlights topics of interest to community leaders. Features are carefully crafted to communicate timely information about City services and events, to inform leaders of City policies and procedures, to encourage leaders to take action to reinforce positive standards and to work with City officials and staff to develop policies that foster an attractive and safe community.

Today nearly 1,000 residents from 40 different neighborhoods participate in the award-winning program. Year after year, Community Services experiences a

decrease in the number of citizen complaints and an increase in the number of residents working with staff to identify issues that need to be addressed.

“The program has been very successful,” Wagner said. “The two-way communication encouraged by the program has resulted in a better working relationship between residents and staff that has carried over to other initiatives.”

To join the existing E-Mail Update Program of any of the neighborhoods indicated on the map, or to start a new E-Mail Update Program in your neighborhood, please contact Community Services at 972-744-4180.



40 PARTICIPATING NEIGHBORHOODS
971 PARTICIPATING RESIDENTS

Map of City indicates existing neighborhoods participating in Community Services' E-Mail Update Program. For more information, call 972-744-4180.

New fee to fund drainage

A new fee was added to Richardson water bills starting Feb. 1 that will be collected each month. The fee has been added to raise money for the City's new storm water/drainage utility system.

Richardson currently has nearly 300 miles of drainage pipes over 44 miles of creeks throughout 12 drainage basins. The establishment of the drainage utility system allows the City to sustain its environmental and regulatory obligations for storm water management, and will help the City enhance its annual maintenance and capital work plan in response to community needs.

The charge for residential properties is a flat rate of \$3.75 per household. Commercial and industrial properties are charged \$0.105 per 100 square feet of impervious area (areas where water is not readily absorbed, such as roofs, driveways and parking lots) with a minimum charge of \$3.75.

Why is the City doing this now?

Improving the City's drainage system is not only a goal of the City

Council but there are also specific regulations required by the Texas Pollution Discharge Elimination System. In responding to these increasing regulations, the City budget has been absorbing increased operating costs within its annual budget cycles without the benefit of a fee levy.

What type of projects will the money fund?

- Inspections and compliance
- Debris removal and clean out
- Vegetation management
- Hazardous spill management
- Public awareness and outreach
- Storm preparation
- Pipe and channel repair
- Flood control
- Erosion protection
- Bridge and culvert construction
- Storm water treatment structures
- Spillways and dam structures

For more information on the new fee, contact the City's Capital Projects Office at 972-744-4280. For all other billing questions, please contact the Utility Customer Service Desk at 972-744-4120.

City property taxes delinquent Feb. 1

Property taxes owed to the City of Richardson were due Jan. 31 and should have been paid to either the Collin County or Dallas County Tax Office, depending on where you live. Beginning in April of last year, the City began outsourcing its property tax billing and collection service to the county tax offices.

The change does not include the Richardson Independent School District (RISD) tax collection. RISD taxes will continue to be billed by and paid to the school tax office at 970 Security Row, Richardson, TX 75081, 469-593-0500.

Collin County residents can make City, school and Collin County tax payments at the Collin County Tax Office branch located at 920 E. Park Boulevard, Plano, TX 75074, 972-881-3014. For Dallas County residents, City and Dallas County taxes are now paid to the Dallas County Tax Office at 516 Twilight Trail, Richardson, TX 75080, 214-653-7811. Unpaid property taxes are delinquent as of Feb. 1 and are subject to penalty and interest charges. Eventually, a delinquent taxpayer may have to pay court costs and suffer seizure and sale of the property in order to pay the delinquent taxes.

| If you live in: | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|
| Dallas County | | Collin County | |
| Tax | Pay to | Tax | Pay to |
| City | Dallas County | City | Collin County |
| County | Dallas County | County | Collin County |
| School | RISD | School | Collin County |

Library parking lot traffic flow changes

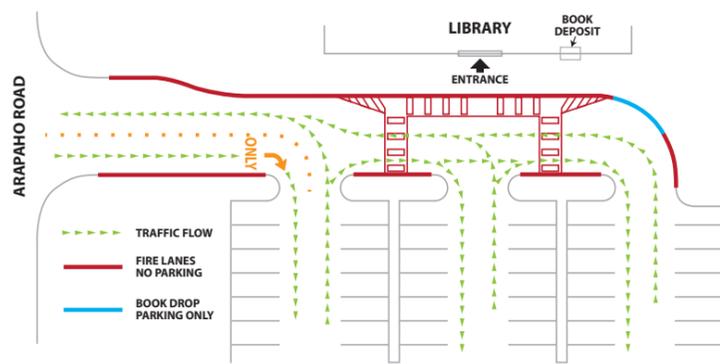
Traffic flow into the Richardson Public Library parking was recently modified. City crews painted new traffic arrows and identified no parking zones to prevent vehicles from traveling in the left-hand lane and parking in front of the Library to use the outside book deposit drop.

Vehicles entering the Library parking lot from Arapaho Road now are required to turn right immediately. A double line of ceramic/reflective pavement buttons has been placed on the driveway to help drivers navigate correctly.

A 25-foot length of curb was painted and identified as the designated parking zone for the out-

side book deposit while other areas that have been used for temporary parking in the past were marked “Fire Lane-No Parking.”

The new traffic and parking requirements will make it safer for both pedestrians and drivers.



Sign up for special restaurant discounts, coupons, offers and promotions. Dine Smart, Dine Local deals and information are delivered directly to you by e-mail. For more information, go to www.cor.net/dsdl and go to the Dining Page to sign up for e-mail updates.

30th annual RISD Council of PTAs USED BOOK FAIR

Thursday-Saturday
Feb. 16-18
10 a.m.-8 p.m.

Sunday
Feb. 19
noon-6 p.m.



Dal-Rich Shopping Center
Southeast corner of Belt Line and Coit Road

Proceeds benefit the Dr. J.J. Pearce Memorial Scholarships Fund, the RISD Council of PTAs and local PTAs.

Make your event special at the



Meetings, Receptions
Trade Shows,
Seminars
Social Functions
Career Fairs

Affordable Rates
Personalized Service
Convenient Location
Clean and Comfortable

Accommodates groups
from 10 to 750
Call us! 972-744-4090

— Coming up at the Richardson Civic Center —

Dallas SMTA Expo & Tech Forum
Feb. 7
www.smta.org.expos/#dallas

Dallas Bead Market
Feb. 11-12
www.thebeadmarket.net

Daddy/Daughter Dance
Feb. 10
City of Richardson
972-744-7850

Antique Elegance
Feb. 18-19
www.victorianshow.com

411 W. Arapaho Rd.
Richardson, Texas 75080
www.cor.net/civiccenter

February Calendar

Richardson Civic Organizations

Civic Groups

Altrusa International of Richardson, Inc.
972-231-4683 or bnperry@aol.com

Plano-Richardson Elks Lodge
972-234-2485

The Junior League of Richardson, jlrtx.com

Richardson Central Kiwanis Club
214-739-5610

Richardson Kiwanis Club
www.richardsonkiwanis.com or steagle@sbcglobal.net

Richardson Host Lions Club
972-385-3321 or http://www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/RichardsonHost

Richardson Rotary
972-690-0637

Richardson East Rotary
972-442-5295

Richardson Central Rotary
972-690-0637

Exchange Club of Richardson
972-680-8613

Family Groups

Single Parent Action Network
suehardin@att.net

MOMS Club of Richardson—East
momsclubrichardsoneast@yahoo.com

MOMS Club of Richardson—West
momsclubrichardsonwest@gmail.com

Canyon Creek Moms Club
972-690-7609 or www.canyoncreekmomsclub.com

Social Groups

Richardson Newcomers and Neighbors Club
972-527-4632, 972-690-8525 or 214-750-0506

The Woman's Center
972-231-9206

Special Interest Groups

AARP Chapter 1651
972-234-2815

Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association
972-690-4075

Helping Agencies Serving Richardson
972-239-3501
http://hasr.org/about/

League of Women Voters of Richardson
972-470-0584
www.lwvrichardson.org

NARFE Eppard Chapter #1273
972-238-8438 or 972-234-6922

Plano/Richardson Coin Club
214-287-4817

Richardson Galaxy American Business Women's Association
214-762-2304 or www.abwa-richardson.org

Richardson Humane Society
972-234-5117

Richardson-North Dallas Christian Women's Club
972-386-6041

Richardson Poets' Group
214-478-4870 or richardsonpoetsgroup@gmail.com

Richardson Republican Women, 214-675-1849 or kerrylgaines@gmail.com

Richardson Retired School Personnel
214-890-6989

Richardson Tea Party
dleopard@aol.com

Richardson Wireless Klub
http://k5rwk.org

Seniors' Net
972-437-0598 or jennifershuler@tx.rr.com

Support Groups

Dallas Amputee Network
972-470-0505 or www.dallasamputeenetwork.org

Dallas Area Parkinsonism Society
972-231-1005

National Osteoporosis Foundation North Dallas Support Group
972-965-1467

DFW Spondyloarthritis Support Group
degrowkingsley@gmail.com

Toastmasters Groups

Richardson Icebreakers Toastmasters
972-387-4709

Richardson Evening Toastmasters
214-534-0885

Hallelujah High Toastmasters
vppr@hallehigh.freetoasthost.net

Richardson Noon Toastmasters
469-235-3586

Texins Toastmasters
214-566-4086 or http://texins.freetoasthost.org

Veteran's Groups

Richardson VFW Post 8627
972-671-8627

Richardson Ladies Auxiliary to VFW Post 8627
972-231-0495

North Dallas VFW Memorial Post 3530
972-231-3269

Korean War Veterans
972-279-7000

WWII Veterans
214-361-6294

Military Officers Women's Club
972-644-6871

Military Officers Association of America Greater Dallas Chapter
972-437-2345

Richardson American Legion Post #368
972-479-1505

At the Senior Center

820 W. Arapaho
972-744-7800



Special Events

Carter Eye Care Center Mobile Van, Feb. 15 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Carter Eye Center Van will be at the Senior Center's north parking lot for free visual and cataract screening.

Out to Lunch Bunch Feb. 21

Siciliano "Taste of Italy"
Cost for the trip is \$2, payable on the day of the trip, plus the cost of your lunch.

Fat Tuesday! Feb. 21, 6-8 p.m.
Mardi Gras! Dallas Banjo Band! Red beans and rice! Tickets: \$8.50 on sale now! Hope to see you.

Health Connections "Powers of Attorney and Other Advanced Directives" Feb. 23, 11 a.m.

Attorney Steven Popp will discuss powers of attorney and other advance directives. What are they, why are they important, what are the risks without them, and why everyone should have them. Come learn the importance of proper planning. Refreshments will be provided.

Travel Opportunities

Check our Travel Board at the Senior Center for 2012 travel opportunities with Eagle Travel and Heritage Tours. Call Beth Owens at 972-744-7810 for cancellation policy and questions.

2012 Trip Show Rescheduled date: Feb. 9, 1:30 p.m.

You are invited to our 2012 Trip show, highlighting trips planned by both Eagle Travel and Heritage Tours for the new year. Get your bags ready!

Eagle Travel: Cunard Cruise: Boston Harbor for the 4th of July Fireworks

Call Beth Owens at 972 744-7810 for information.

Branson's Magical Christmas

Nov. 2-6, 5 days, 4 nights

- Round trip luxury motor coach transportation from Senior Center to Branson
- Hotel accommodations for four nights
- Breakfast/dinner daily
- Meals and tour guide, including gratuities

- Reserved seating for seven shows: Tony Orlando, Doug Gabriel, The Bretts, Andy Williams, Yakov, Dixie Stampede, Branson Area Festival of Lights

Single per person—\$1,663

Double per person—\$1,384

Triple per person—\$1,318

Final payment due: Aug. 1.

Call Beth Owens at the Richardson Senior Center 972-744-7810 for more information.

Wines and Wildflowers, Springtime in the Hill Country

April 17-19

Enjoy a relaxed, three-day trip through the Hill Country's spring display of wildflowers, its beautiful rugged scenery and explore the taste of wines from one of the country's most significant wine-growing regions.

- Stop at the village of West for kolaches and coffee
 - Texas Hills Vineyards tour and tasting of the Hill Country wines
 - Visit Wildseed Farm that offers acres of rainbow-colored wildflowers
 - Two nights at the Fredericksburg Inn and Suites
 - Gourmet dinners with wine at Navajo Grill and the Cotton Gin
 - Two breakfasts at Fredericksburg Inn and one lunch at Auslander's, the quintessential German Hill Country eatery
 - Tour of Quintessential Chocolates that hand-makes European style liqueur-filled chocolates. Plan to bring some back home!
 - Time to stroll along the picturesque streets and shops or take in the National Museum of the Pacific War.
 - Tour LBJ Ranch on the drive back through the legendary Luckenbach
 - The route back home to Richardson will take you past the Enchanted Rock, onto Llano and Burnet
- Single per person—\$796
Double per person—\$684
Deadline for registration: March 16
Call Beth Owens at 972-744-7810 for more details.

Do not miss February at the Eisemann Center

This month is a remarkable time at the Eisemann Center when seven different and entertaining shows take to the stage(s) at the Center. All seven are part of Eisemann Center Presents, a special series of programs selected each year to offer something for every taste and every member of the family. The exact dates, times and ticket prices for all the following shows are listed in the box on the lower right of page 7 and tickets are available for purchase from the box office or through www.eisemanncenter.com.

Fabulous February begins when **Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet** brings its box office sensation "Moulin Rouge® – The Ballet" to the Eisemann Center at 8 p.m. Feb. 3. Along with a rousing French soundtrack, "Moulin Rouge® – The Ballet" features high-kicking choreography and a passionate story of love, ambition and heartbreak.



Keyboard Conversations returns to the Bank of America Theatre at 7:30 p.m. Feb. 6 with "Russian Rapture—Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky." This program will feature the soaring melodies and sensuous sonorities of these ever-popular composers—the colorful preludes, captivating etude pictures and the scintillating humoresques.

Get ready to laugh when **"Women Fully Clothed"** hangs its hat in the Bank of America Theatre at the Eisemann Center Feb. 8-12. Astute and hilarious, "Women Fully Clothed" seamlessly mixes friendship, family dynamics and self-preservation with international relations, career responsibilities and the environment. The show stars Kathryn Greenwood from "Whose Line Is It Anyway," Robin Duke from "Saturday Night Live" and SCTV,



RWC offers scholarships

The Richardson Woman's Club Charitable Foundation, Inc. is offering multiple one-year scholarships of \$3,250 each to Richardson ISD high school seniors and to Plano ISD high school seniors residing in Richardson. To qualify, a student must be a United States citizen, have a grade point average of 2.86 or better, meet the residency requirement of living in the City of Richardson or attending a Richardson ISD high school, need financial assistance, meet the entrance requirements for a state-

supported Texas college, university or vocational school and attend a state-supported college, university, or vocational school during the 2012-2013 academic year.

Applications are available from high school counselors. Forms must be completed and returned to respective school counselors by March 8. For more information, contact Paula Harkey, RWC Philanthropy Chairman, at 972-248-4419.

Altrusa marks 45 years

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson will celebrate its 45th birthday at 7 p.m. Feb. 16 at the Richardson Woman's Club. Altrusans can be found on the boards of organizations, volunteering for other groups and non-profit agencies, and working on signature Altrusa projects such as the ongoing support of children at Terrace Elementary School.

Guests are always welcome at meetings; visit www.AltrusaRichardson.com for more information.



Eisemann Center Presents fabulous February



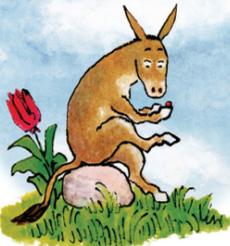
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Jayne Eastwood from "My Big Fat Greek Wedding," "Chicago" and "Hairspray" and Teresa Pavlinek from "The Jane Show" and "History Bites."

Chris Brubeck's "Triple Play" hits the stage at 8 p.m. Feb. 17. "Triple Play" is the name given to three outstanding and versatile musicians, Peter Madcat Ruth (on harmonica, guitar, jaw harp, percussion and vocals), Joel Brown (folk and classical acoustic guitar and vocals) and Chris Brubeck (electric bass, bass trombone, piano and vocals). Collectively they bring virtuosity and joy to the folk, blues, jazz and classical music they perform. This program is presented in partnership with the UT Dallas School of Arts & Humanities.

Enchantment Theatre Company
presents

Sylvester AND THE MAGIC PEBBLE



A delightful stage adaptation
Based on the book by William Steig
Author of Shrek

The beloved children's story, "**Sylvester and the Magic Pebble**" appears at the Eisemann Center at 2:30 p.m. Feb. 19.

When Sylvester, a winsome donkey, picks up a shiny red pebble, its magic spins a heartwarming story that reveals to him the true importance of family and friends. This charming story has now been adapted for the stage by Enchantment Theatre Company, drawn from the much-loved children's book, Sylvester and the Magic Pebble, written and illustrated by William Steig, author of "Shrek"—inspiration for the popular film series and the hit Broadway musical.

Tuna lovers are in for a real treat during the month of love when "**Tuna's Greatest Hits: 30 Years of Laughter**" takes the stage Feb. 21-March 4. Previously scheduled special attraction "I Heard That!" starring Jaston Williams and Tony Award-nominee

Joe Sears is being replaced by this greatest of the greatest hits shows.

Director Ed Howard explained, "We found out we needed more time than we had available to get everybody together to work on 'I Heard That!,' and coming back to Tuna and all the comforts of home and the characters from Tuna we've grown to love over the last 30 years was just too enticing.

"We've done 'Best of...' shows before, recently at Joe's alma mater and early on at the White House, and those were great fun for all concerned and this will be too. Jaston and Joe are delighted to bring this show to their faithful patrons at the Eisemann Center.

"'Tuna's Greatest Hits' is the celebration of the characters that came into the lives of playwrights Jaston Williams, Joe Sears and Ed Howard 30 years ago and cracked them up and kept on cracking them up and most everybody else for the next 30 years of laughter and tears and somewhere along the way made us fall in love. So here's to the characters! Here's to Bertha and Didi, Petey and Pearl and all the rest, even Vera; this is a grateful, affectionate salute to them."

Come see why critics have called Sears and Williams "living treasures of the American theatre."

Eisemann Center Presents fabulous February wraps up with **Max Raabe & Palast Orchester** at 8 p.m. Feb. 25.

Max Raabe & Palast Orchester embodies the high style and musical glory of the 1920s and 30s. Led by the charismatic baritone Max Raabe, the Berlin-based orchestra celebrates this timeless music with uncanny precision, drama and irony. Max Raabe & Palast Orchester is slick and nostalgic, yet unmistakably modern through Raabe's skewed humor, sardonic wit and spot-on interpretations.



At the Library

900 Civic Center Drive
972-744-4350



Art Exhibit Young People's Scholarship Show

Through Feb. 18, Second Floor. Presented by the Richardson Civic Arts Society.

Rosemary Cheney Memorial Art Show for RISD Elementary Students

Feb. 24-March 23, Second Floor.

General Interest

Lunchtime Lectures presented by Richard Cudlipp. "Miracle in Philadelphia: the Constitutional Convention"

Feb. 7, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Basement Program Room. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376 for information.

"Untold: The New Orleans 9th Ward You Never Knew"

Feb. 18, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Basement Program Room. More information, see page 12.

Library Health Resources 24/7

Feb. 28, 10-11 a.m., Basement Program Room. To register, call Margot Burchard, 972-744-4356.

Book Groups

First Wednesday Book Club Feb. 1, 7-8:45 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room.

Second Wednesday BOOKbabble Group

Feb. 8, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins. Registration requested. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376.

Third Wednesday BOOKbabble Group

Feb. 15, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Shadow of the Wind" by Carlos Ruiz Zafon. Registration requested. Call Penny Manly, 972-744-4350.

Fourth Tuesday BOOKbabble

Feb. 28, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "One Amazing Thing" by Chitra Divakaruni. Registration requested. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376.

Computer Classes—Richardson Public Library card needed for required registration. Call 972-744-4361 after 10 a.m. weekdays.

Introduction to Microsoft Excel

Feb. 3, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Introduction to Computers

Feb. 7, 10 a.m.-noon.

PowerPoint

Feb. 10, 10 a.m.-noon.

Job Searching on the Internet

Feb. 17, 10-11:30 a.m.

Internet 101

Feb. 21, 10 a.m.-noon.

Introduction to Microsoft Word 2003

Feb. 24, 10 a.m.-noon.

Children's Activities

Family Storytime

every Monday, 6:45-7:15 p.m., Children's Program Room. Everyone welcome.

It's Elementary! Storytime

Every Tuesday, 4:15-4:45 p.m., Children's Program Room. Grades K-4.

Heart-y Arty Valentine Party

Feb. 11, 2:30-4:30 p.m., Basement Program Room.

Tales for Tails, Feb. 12, 3-4:30 p.m., Children's Program Room.

Teen Activities

Edit Yo Friends

Teen Photo Workshop, Feb. 28, 6:30-8:30 p.m., East Conference Room, Civic Center.

Special Interest

Dewey KNIT?

Feb. 4, 2-4 p.m., Children's Program Room. Call Jane Nearing, 972-744-4355 for information.

AARP Tax Assistance

Every Monday through April 16, noon-4 p.m., Basement Program Room.

Community Writers' Critique Group

Feb. 15, 6-8:45 p.m., Basement Program Room. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376 for information.

Richardson Historical and Genealogical Society

Feb. 16, 1:30 p.m., Basement Program Room. Speaker: Barbara Bayliss on "The Huguenots."

Writer's Guild of Texas

Feb. 20, 7-8:30 p.m., Basement Program Room.

Richardson Civic Art Society Meeting and Demonstration

Feb. 21, 6:45 p.m., Basement Program Room. Watercolor.

At the Eisemann Center

Eisemann Center Ticket Office

972-744-4650

Monday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

One hour before performances

Tickets available online at:

www.eisemanncenter.com



EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet in "Moulin Rouge®-the Ballet"

Hill Performance Hall

8 p.m. Feb. 3

Tickets: \$45-\$65

www.rwb.org

VT SEVA presents TARANGINI

Bank of America Theatre

6 p.m. Feb. 4

Tickets: \$12

www.vtsworld.org

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

Keyboard Conversations "Russian Rapture - Rachmaninoff and Tchaikovsky"

Bank of America Theatre

7:30 p.m. Feb. 6

Tickets: \$23-\$28

www.keyboardconversations.com

Back stage with Ray Benson from the Bob Wills show in December at the Eisemann Center.



EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

"Women Fully Clothed - A Theatrical Evening of Comedy"

Bank of America Theatre

8 p.m. Feb. 8, 9, 10, 11

2 p.m. Feb. 11, 12

Tickets: \$37-\$40

www.womenfullyclothed.com

Richardson Symphony Orchestra Romantic Classics

Hill Performance Hall

8 p.m. Feb. 11

Tickets: \$19-\$74

www.richardsonssymphony.org

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

Chris Brubeck's Triple Play

Hill Performance Hall

8 p.m. Feb. 17

Tickets: \$20-\$35

www.chrisbrubeckstripleplay.org

American Friends of Yad Eliezer present

Leon Zilgson with Lev Kardonsky

Bank of America Theatre

2 p.m. Feb. 19

Tickets: \$25

www.yadeliezer.org

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

"Sylvester and the Magic Pebble" produced by Enchantment Theatre Company

Hill Performance Hall

2:30 p.m. Feb. 19

Tickets: \$11-\$21

enchantmenttheatre.org

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

"Tuna's Greatest Hits: 30 Years of Laughter"

Bank of America Theatre

8 p.m. Feb. 21, 22, 23, 24, 25,

28, 29, March 1, 2, 3

2 p.m. Feb. 23, 25, 26,

March 1, 3, 4

Tickets: \$44-\$55

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

Max Raabe & Palast Orchester

Hill Performance Hall

8 p.m. Feb. 25

Tickets: \$20-\$35

www.palast-orchester.de/en/

From the Fire Marshal . . . carbon monoxide is deadly

Carbon monoxide is the leading cause of accidental poisoning deaths in America, according to the Journal of the American Medical Association. More than 1,500 people die annually due to accidental carbon monoxide exposure, and 15,000 seek medical attention.

Carbon monoxide is a flammable, colorless, odorless, tasteless toxic gas produced during incomplete combustion of fuel—natural gas, oil, coal, wood, kerosene, etc.

Carbon monoxide can escape from any fuel-burning appliance, furnace, water heater, fireplace, woodstove or space heater.

If you warm up your vehicle in an attached garage, even with the garage door opened, concentrated amounts of carbon monoxide may still enter your home.

Carbon monoxide poisoning symptoms can often be confused with flu symptoms but become much more serious. Symptoms include headache, fatigue, nausea, dizziness, irregular breathing, mental confusion, unconsciousness and ultimately death.

If you are suffering from chronic flu-like symptoms, see your doctor and ask him if it could be a low-level carbon monoxide poisoning.

To avoid carbon monoxide poisoning in your home, remember the following suggestions.

- Every time a fuel appliance is activated, carbon monoxide is produced. Keep fresh air circulating in your home. Open a vent or a window to eliminate toxic fumes.
- Install at least one carbon monoxide detector in your home.



Install the detector at least 15 feet away from a furnace or gas appliance. If you only have one detector, it should be installed in the hallway near the sleeping area so it will awaken you if the alarm goes off while you are in bed. Additional alarms on each level of your house can provide extra protection. If your carbon monoxide detector sounds an alarm, open windows and ventilate your home with fresh air. If you feel drowsy or dizzy, leave the house and call 9-1-1 from your neighbor's home.

- Maintain carbon monoxide detectors on a regular basis. Keep it clean and free of grease, soot, and debris. Clean it with a slightly damp cloth (no chemical cleansers) or vacuum it. It's best to test your alarms regularly as well.
- Have your heating system checked to make sure it's operating efficiently and all the vents, pipes, flues and chimneys are unclogged and tight. Have your stoves, fireplaces and water heaters checked as well.
- Don't close your fireplace damper until you're certain the fire is out. If smoke enters the room, your chimney may be causing a reverse flow. Open a window. Have your chimney cleaned, inspected and serviced annually.
- Replace smoke alarms every 10 years as they accumulate significant levels of dust, dirt and debris. Since a smoke alarm works 24 hours a day, seven days a week, its life span is about 10 years.
- Make sure the burner flames on your furnace burn blue, not yellow-orange and never use your gas or oven for heating.
- Never use grills or hibachis inside your home.
- Never operate gas-burning appliances in a closed room.

To obtain additional information about carbon monoxide, please contact the Richardson Fire Department, Fire Marshal Office at 972-744-5750.

Stephen A. Dossett
Fire Marshal



Pictured at the P25 radio communications system launch ceremony are from left: Cassidian Security and Communications Solutions CEO Jean-Marc Nasr, former Mayor Gary Slagel, City Council Members Scott Dunn and Kendal Hartley, Mayor Pro Tem Laura Maczka, Cassidian Communications CEO Bob Freinberg, City Council Member Mark Solomon, former Council Member Bob Macy and Council Member Amir Omar.

City celebrates launch of P25 radio communications system

The City of Richardson officially launched its new P25 communications system at a ceremony last month at the Richardson Police Department Public Safety Complex.

Cassidian Communications, an EADS North America company, was chosen as the City's technology partner to replace Richardson's 19-year-old analog communications system with the new CORP25 digital land mobile radio (LMR) network that is Project 25 (P25) compliant. P25 is the digital radio communications standard created by the federal government to enable emergency first responders to communicate more easily between different governmental agencies. Cities are required to meet the communications standard by 2015.

Annual Trash Bash is April 7; document shredding available

To celebrate the Keep America Beautiful Great American Cleanup, the City of Richardson is joining forces with the Keep Texas Beautiful organization to hold Trash-Bash 2012, a City-wide cleanup that removes litter from the streets, parks and waterways of Richardson. All citizens, social organizations and civic groups are invited to participate in this event to help clean up the community from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. Saturday, April 7.

Personnel will hand out trash bags, release forms and area assignments to the contact person Thursday, April 5 from 6-7 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center/City Hall. Groups/individuals can register online at www.cor.net or by phone at 972-744-4076. If this time is inconvenient, please contact our office to make other arrangements.

All participants will disperse from their homes/locations to their designated street, park and/or area on the morning of Saturday, April 7, to fill their bags with litter and recyclables.

In conjunction with Trash Bash, the Citizens Police Academy Alumni Association will offer a document shredding event during the same time as Trash Bash. Bring your bags and boxes of old documents to the paper shredding trucks that will be at City Hall. The documents will be destroyed on site, safely and securely.

Also, in an effort to reduce the number of plastic grocery bags/wraps that enter our environment, we will have an area available for you to recycle them.

After collecting your litter and recyclables, please bring the filled bags to Richardson City Hall/Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd. and dispose of them in the containers located at the west entrance of the building. Refreshments will be provided and door prizes will be awarded. Please come out and make this the best TRASH BASH yet.

For additional information or questions please visit www.cor.net or call 972-744-4076.

SmartScape seminar Feb. 25

The City of Richardson Public Services Department will host a xeriscape seminar Saturday, Feb. 25 from 10 a.m.-noon at the Service Center, 1260 Columbia Dr.

All future landscapes must conserve water to be sustainable. Learn how a few changes in design, plant selection, irrigation and other landscape practices will make water conservation easy while maintaining a beautiful green landscape with flowering plants and trees. Whether you call landscape water conservation xeriscape or Texas SmartScape, attend this class to learn how to "Save Richardson Water."

The seminar will be presented by Dotty Woodson, Ed. D. and will cover water issues, landscape design, plant selection and maintenance for water conservation. The seminar will also demonstrate how to check your irrigation system for efficiency and drip irrigation.

Dotty Woodson is an extension program specialist for water resources at the Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center in Dallas. She is part of the Texas AgriLife Water Resources Team which addresses water conservation and stormwater issues through professional training, public educational programs and demonstrations. Woodson addresses professionals, elected officials and the public about landscape water conservation, rainwater harvesting, rain gardens, drip irrigation and irrigation efficiency.

Woodson has B. S. and M.S. degrees in horticulture from Tarleton State University and a doctoral degree from Texas A&M and Texas Tech. She is a contributing author for "Gardening in Fort Worth" and "The Lone Star Gardener's Book of Lists" and the CD and computer website, "Texas SmartScape."

Woodson and the Public Services staff look forward to seeing you at this fun activity.

Visit <http://www.txsmartscape.com> to learn more about landscape water conservation, from design to plant selection to best maintenance practices for north central Texas.



Richardson Animal Shelter observes Humane Society National Spay Day

The Humane Society of the United States has designated Feb. 28 as Spay Day USA. This national campaign is organized to help heighten awareness of overcrowding in animal shelters and promote the health benefits of spaying and neutering family pets.

In recognition of the event, the Richardson Humane Society and Richardson AnimaLuv are providing \$50 spay/neuter rebate certi-

icates to the first 50 adult (1 year+) pet adoptions at the Richardson Animal Shelter in February.

For more information about the benefits of spaying and neutering please contact your local veterinarian. For more on Spay Day activities, contact the Animal Shelter at 972-744-4480. The City of Richardson Animal Shelter is located at 1330 Columbia Dr.

Microchip Clinic

Sunday, Feb. 12, 1-4 p.m.

1330 Columbia Dr., Richardson

Microchip - \$15
Nail Trim - \$5

By appointment only!
Please call 972-744-4480



SPONSORED BY

 Richardson AnimaLuv

972-744-4300

www.cor.net/parks

Parks & Recreation



Valentine Jubilee

Heights Recreation Center

Saturday, Feb. 11

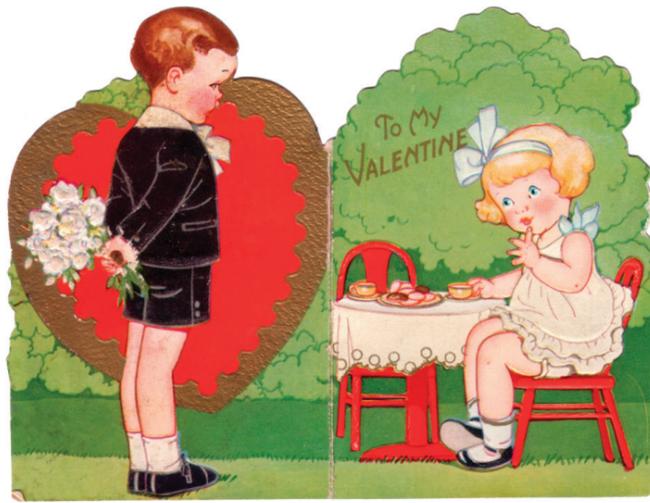
7-9:30 p.m.

Registration #65783

Ages 18 and older

Fee: \$20 per person

Join us at Heights Recreation Center as we celebrate this exciting and romantic holiday with a dance. It will surely be all your heart desires! No date necessary. You will enjoy a sit-down dinner as well as a full night of dancing! We will have plenty of fun with food, dancing, contests and more! Space is limited, so register today. Due to catering, registration ends Feb. 7, or when full. Sorry, no drop-in registration will be available.



LITTLE SWEETHEARTS Valentine Party

Huffhines Recreation Center

Friday, Feb. 10

10 a.m.-noon

Registration #65446

Ages 2-5

Pre-registration fee is \$10 per child

Parents and caregivers, bring your little ones to a sweetheart of a Valentine's Party! You may come and go anytime between 10 a.m. and noon. There will be a bounce house, games, prizes and arts and crafts. Light refreshments for the children will be served.

**Register
online!**
**www.cor.net/
parksonline**
**It's easy,
it's quick!**

You can now register online for recreation classes offered by the City of Richardson. Three items are required to register online:

- a Member ID number,
- a Family Personal Identification Number (PIN) and
- a credit card.

Individuals who have registered for a class offered by the Parks and Recreation Department in the past three years have been assigned a Member ID number and a Family PIN. If you have forgotten these numbers, you can request them online (click "forgot my password" link) or call or visit Heights (972-744-7850) or Huffhines (972-744-7881) recreation centers.

Classes can be searched by age division, class location or a specific program of interest. During the registration process, an e-mail address is requested. Though an e-mail address is not required to complete the registration, it will allow the Parks Department to send the Member ID number and PIN to the registrant in the event it is forgotten. The City of Richardson does not provide e-mail addresses to any outside companies.



2012 Photo Contest

2012 Contest

Results Exhibit

Through Feb. 20

Library 3rd Floor

2012 Awards Ceremony

& Workshop, Feb. 21

Civic Center Grand Hall,

6-8 p.m.

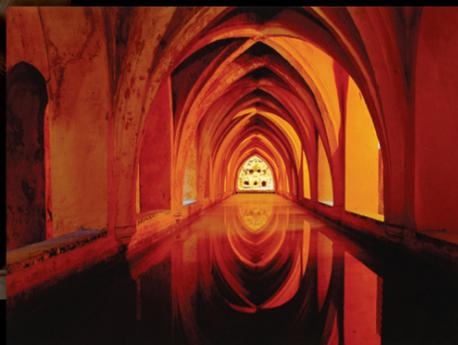
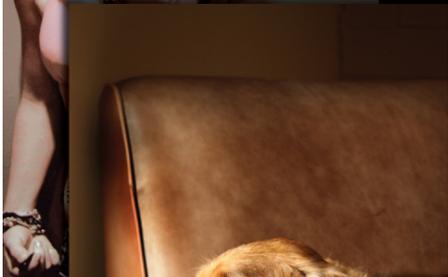
For more information on the City's annual Photography Contest, visit www.cor.net and click on the Photography Contest link.

2011 Winners:

Far left, Student Best of Show: Miranda Moses (human figure)

Middle, Adult Best of Show: Tim Judson (domestic animal)

Left, Proficient Best of Show: Jerry Comer (architecture)



Huffhines Tennis Center

1601 Syracuse Dr.
972-744-7870

Group Lessons—Adults/Juniors
Feb. 6-24

Meet twice per week for three weeks. Cost: \$42

Private lessons available. Fees vary depending on instructor and length of lesson. Call the Tennis Center for more information.



Sherrill Park Golf Course

2001 E. Lookout Dr.
972-234-1416
www.sherrillparkgolf.com

Two award-winning courses, individual and group lessons for seniors, adults and juniors. Open every day but Christmas.

Private Lessons

\$90 per hour; \$50 per half hour. Golf instructors include Dave Hasse, Perry Arthur and Debra Spain. Call 972-234-1416 for information.

CITY OF RICHARDSON SWIM TEAM

Year round practices and competitive swimming for ages 5-25, all swimming abilities. Practices alternate between Pearce and Berkner High Schools natatoriums. For additional information or to schedule a try-out call



972-669-TEAM (8326)
or visit
www.corswim.org.

Senior Center

820 W. Arapaho Rd.

972-744-7800

All activities listed on pages 10-11 take place at the Richardson Senior Center unless otherwise noted. Additional Senior Center related activities can be found on page 6. Call 972-744-7800 for more information.

Special Events and Trip Information
Special events and trip information can be found on page 6 of this publication.

Classes

For all classes, unless otherwise noted, you may pay online (www.cor.net and scroll down to online registration), by phone with a credit card or in person with a credit card, check or cash.

Adult Piano Lessons
Cheryl Hayes, who has more than 40 years of teaching experience, offers adult piano lessons on a monthly basis. Cost is \$55 per month. Call 972 744-7800 for an appointment.

Private Voice Lessons
Private Voice Lessons are available by appointment. The cost for voice lessons is \$25 per hour. Call 972-744-7800 to make an appointment.

Internet Usage
Learn about the Information Superhighway through discussion and "hands-on" experience. You will be informed about such things as internet service providers, Web browsing, Web searching, e-mail, newsgroups, etc. The new two-week session starts Feb. 20 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Cost for the class is \$50 with membership; \$53 without membership.



Create a Website
This class focuses on the creation of a personalized website. We will use the Yahoo Site Creation tool set. You can have your own registered domain name. We will include information on how to create multiple pages, including text, photos and videos. One of the pages will be a Contact Us page so that interested parties can easily send you an e-mail. We will also look at putting your video on Google, You Tube and Yahoo. The new two-week session starts Feb. 6 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Cost for the session is \$50 with membership; \$53 without membership.

Microsoft Excel and Word for Windows/Power Point
This class is an introduction to electronic spreadsheet management using Microsoft Excel and Word for Windows. The power and possibilities of Windows are fully utilized in these versions of the popular spreadsheet and word processing manager. You will learn how to build, print, save and retrieve well-organized documents. Classes are from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Cost for the class is \$85 with membership; \$88 without membership. Frank Davis is our instructor. Next four-week session starts March 5.

Fundamentals of Windows XP

This class is designed for the novice. Learn the meaning of many buzz words. Learn about hardware components and get hands-on experience. This class is a prerequisite for taking future classes, such as Word, Excel, Quicken and many other informative classes. Classes are from 9:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Class fee is \$85 with membership; \$88 without membership. Frank Davis is our instructor. Next four-week session starts March 5.

VISTA (Fundamentals of Windows)

This class is designed for the novice. Overcome your fear of personal computers and be introduced to the basics of personal computing. Learn about hardware components, the meaning of many buzz words and get hands-on experience using the VISTA software. (Taught concurrently with Windows 7.) The next four-week session starts Feb. 6 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Class fee is \$85 with membership; \$88 without. Our instructor is Frank Davis.

Windows 7 (Fundamentals of Windows)

This class is designed for the novice. Overcome your fear of personal computers and be introduced to the basics of personal computing. Learn about hardware components, the meaning of many buzz words and get hands-on experience using the new Windows 7 software. (Taught concurrently with VISTA.) The next four-week session starts Feb. 6 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Class fee is \$85 with membership; \$88 without. Our instructor is Frank Davis.

Learn the Right Way to Sell on EBAY

Are you ready to learn how to sell on the internet? Do research and create listings that will attract buyers, enhance listings with better descriptions and set pricing that will maximize and monitor sales to know exactly what's working and what's not. The next two-class session will be Feb. 28 and March 6 with a morning class from 9 a.m.-noon and an evening class from 6-9 p.m. Cost for the class is \$50 with membership; \$53 without membership.

Plus Square Dance

Every first, third and fifth Monday 7-9 p.m. All Position Plus Dance-\$50 per dancer per quarter. First quarter began in January and ends March 19.

Friendship Plus

The second and fourth Monday 7-9 p.m. Club Level plus Dance-\$7 per dancer.

Beginner Square Dance Lessons

Classes started Jan. 10 and will run for 20 weeks through May 20.

Crochet
Barbara Stevenson teaches Crochet Class Thursdays from 1-3 p.m. The price is \$5 per class. For new students, please bring a #J or #H crochet hook and a skein of four-ply yarn.

Quilt Essentials
Learn the art of both hand piecing and quilting as well as sewing machine piecing and quilting. Beginner and experienced quilters are welcome. The class meets on Tuesdays with instruction available from 10 a.m. to 8:30 p.m. Cost for beginners and first-time students is \$35 per month and for advanced students is \$15 per month. Free buddy-sewing time (no instruction) is from 8-10 a.m. on Tuesdays. All adults are welcome. The class offers specialty projects, field trips to quilt shows and quilt shops and annual quilt retreats. Darlene Martin is the instructor.



ABC Quilting

Beginning appliqué techniques will be taught. Encouragement and challenges for intermediate and advanced appliqué students will be shared. Beginning students will go through the basic appliqué techniques to build their skills and tabletop basting will be taught. A large standing basting frame will be available for those who have constructed quilt tops and need to pin, thread baste or tie their quilts. Hand piecers are welcome in this class, as are other quilters needing extra time to "catch up" on their quilt tops. This class meets every Monday from 2-6 p.m. Cost for the class is \$16/month. Jan Eby instructs.

Ceramics

Ceramics meets each Tuesday from 10 a.m.-3 p.m. No fee. This is a self-paced class. You provide your own supplies and pay firing fees.

Fun with Oils

A new session of oil painting classes begins the first Thursday of each month from noon-4 p.m. Learn from an experienced painter and teacher how to improve your oil paintings. Instructor Andrew Wages has 20 years experience teaching and has painted for 50 years. Cost for the class is \$85 a month. Classes start the first Thursday of each month.

Oil Painting

Gail Dixon begins a new session of oil painting instruction the first Thursday of each month from 1-4 p.m. All levels of painters are encouraged to attend. Cost for this four-week class is \$50.

Becky Parks Art Lessons

These monthly classes are designed for all levels of painters. Learn technique, color mixing, shading, etc., to create your own masterpiece. Class is taught by award-winning local artist Becky Parks. Classes are held on Wednesdays, 12:15-4 p.m. Cost for the class is \$100 per month. Next session begins Feb. 1.

AARP Driver Safety Classes
Classes are held at the Richardson Senior Center as follows:

| | |
|----------|----------------------|
| Feb. 2 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| Feb. 16 | 6-10 p.m. |
| March 1 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| March 15 | 6-10 p.m. |

Anyone 50 years and older may attend. The completion certificate is used for automobile insurance premium reductions. Please check with your insurance company for percentage of reduction. The certificate does not qualify for a traffic citation dismissal. Fee is \$12 for AARP members and \$14 for non-members. Reservations may be made by calling 972-744-7800. Please pay the instructor at the time of the class.

Drug and Alcohol Driving Awareness

Completion of this six-hour course provides attendees with an additional 5 percent discount on their auto liability and collision insurance, good for three years. The course provides information on how alcohol and drugs affect driving and summarizes current laws. Classes are held at the Richardson Senior Center as follows:

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| Feb. 7 and 9 | 6-9 p.m. |
| March 6 and 8 | 6-9 p.m. |

Cost for the class with membership: 55 and over \$15; 54 and under \$25; without membership: 55 and over \$18; 54 and under \$28. Please call 972-744-7800 or e-mail lakesidedriving@yahoo.com to register.

Defensive Driving for Ticket Dismissal

Got a ticket or just want to reduce your auto insurance rates? This course is approved by the Texas Education Agency for ticket dismissal. You must contact the court having jurisdiction over your ticket before you can take the class for dismissal of a traffic ticket. Classes are held at the Richardson Senior Center as follows:

| | |
|---------------------|----------------|
| Feb. 13 and 16 | 6-9 p.m. |
| Feb. 11 and 18 | 1:15-4:15 p.m. |
| Feb. 27 and March 1 | 6-9 p.m. |

Cost for the class is \$27 with membership; \$30 without membership. Please call 972-744-7800 or e-mail lakesidedriving@yahoo.com to register.

NEW!!! English as a Second Language (ESL) and English as a Second Oratory Language (ESOL)

Tatyana Sherman will bring her 34 years of experience teaching languages at universities, community colleges and corporations to the Senior Center. Both ESL and ESOL will be offered Saturdays starting Feb. 4. Both classes will last four weeks.

ESL Beginning English 1

1 p.m.-2 p.m. \$50

Speaking English 1

2 p.m.-3 p.m. \$50

Tatyana is available for private tutoring and teaching additional languages (German, Russian and Ukrainian). For more details on tutoring and additional languages please call Tatyana Sherman at 214 570-1619.

Conversational Spanish

Brush up on your Spanish skills by joining our intermediate Spanish class. Some knowledge of the Spanish language is required. Call the instructor, Susan Garza, at 972-479-9367 for more details. Next class will start March 8. Class is 10-11 a.m. and runs for eight weeks. Cost is \$48.

Programs

AARP TAX AID Program

AARP's income tax assistance program will have trained volunteers at the Senior Center every Friday, 10:30-4 p.m. from Feb. 3-April 13, to assist you with your income tax preparation. Persons seeking tax preparation assistance should bring last year's tax return, Social Security card, W-2 and 1099 forms and expense records as appropriate.

Bingo

Bingo anyone? We play the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. Prizes... fun... laughter... See you there! No charge to play.

Happy Birthday Party

We will now celebrate birthdays that are in the seasons of SPRING, SUMMER, FALL or WINTER on the last Monday of the first month of each season at 2 p.m. Fall-September; Winter-December; Spring-March; Summer-June. We will celebrate Spring birthdays (March, April, May) March 26.

The Vintage Dance Club

The following calendar lists this month's senior dances.

| | |
|---------|-------------|
| Feb. 4 | Russ Dorsey |
| Feb. 11 | Bill Briggs |
| Feb. 25 | Doc Gibbs |

Dances begin at 7 p.m. at the Senior Center, 820 W. Arapaho Rd., and end at 9:30 p.m. Dances are \$5 per person. Light refreshments are served.

Pool Tournaments

Pool tournaments are every Friday at 1 p.m. with registration beginning at 12:30 p.m.



Shuffleboard Tournaments

Shuffleboard tournaments are on the second and fourth Wednesdays of the month. Register by 12:30 p.m. the day of the event; play begins at 1 p.m.

Tennis League

Richardson's Huffhines Tennis Center offers times exclusive to seniors. The senior men's group plays Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8 a.m. to noon. The ladies group plays Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10 a.m. to noon. A 3.0 (intermediate skill level) is required for both men and women players. Lessons are available to help players achieve this level. The Tennis Center also offers private and group lessons for all ages with ball machines and tennis court reservations. For more information, contact Tennis Pro Shawn Foster at 972-744-7870.

Robin's Nest Craft Store

For those special gifts, shop at the Robin's Nest Craft Store in the Senior Center. Our senior consignment shop is open Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. and is located inside the Senior Center at 820 W. Arapaho Rd. Stop by, browse and admire the handmade crafts which are for sale. Open to the public.

972-744-7800

820 W. Arapaho Rd.

Senior Center

Senior Golf League

The Richardson Senior Golf League is open to men and women 60 years or older playing at all skill levels. The members are divided evenly into four flights. All play is at Sherrill Park on Monday mornings with a shotgun start and alternates between Course 1 and Course 2. The league is for the enjoyment of golf and several league rules have been adapted to speed up play and increase the pleasure of the game. Please contact Fred Williams, president, 214-537-4914, or Jim White, treasurer, 972-234-6167, for more information.

Senior Bowling League

Have you signed up for bowling with the Roadrunner Bowling League? It's a great way to meet new people and exercise at the same time. We have openings for regular members and subs for the 2012 season. For more information, contact Bill North-Pres., 214-676-0411; Lina McFerrin-VP, 972-596-4035; Charles Turner-Sec./Treasurer, 972-783-2248.

**Senior Table Tennis**

Serious players who love the game are invited to play on Monday and Thursday night from 7-9 p.m. and Saturday from 1-4:45 p.m.

Needleworks

Bring your own needlework and join us for a day of friendship and handcrafts. Everyone is welcome to come. We meet every Tuesday from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Yarn Arts

A group of like-minded people meet together to do yarn arts Monday evenings from 6-9 p.m. Call Barbara at 972-235-4976 for more information.

Sing-A-Long

Come and sing your favorite melodies at our sing-a-long at 1 p.m. the second Tuesday of each month.

Reelers Square Dance

The Reelers Square Dance Club hosts a square dance the first and third Friday evenings each month from 7:30 to 10:30 p.m. Admission is \$6 per person. Open to all who like to square dance.

Password and Mental Aerobics

Mental Aerobics is Monday at 10 a.m. at the Senior Center. Have fun while exercising your mind.

Richardson Public Library

The Richardson Public Library provides the Richardson Senior Center with books on CD, and large-print books.

Tatting

Tatting is an ancient art of making lace with a shuttle and string using only one stitch! Come join the fun, even if you've only wondered what that shuttle was for. Come by to see it in action. We have supplies for you to start. We meet every Tuesday from 3:30 to 8 p.m. Free and open to all ages.

Let's Play "42"

Regular "42" games are scheduled on Thursday afternoons from 12:30-4 p.m. at the Richardson Senior Center. There will be a teaching table for beginners. Everyone is invited join us.

**Book Club**

Come join a lively book discussion group the second and fourth Tuesday of each month from 2-3:30 p.m. at the Senior Center. Our current selection is "The Book of Matthew." Call 972-744-7800 for further information. We welcome all perspectives for discussion!

Chess Club

New members wanted! Experienced chess players preferred, but beginners welcome. Chess instruction is available. The chess club meets on Thursday nights from 6-9 p.m. The chess club is a member of the U.S. Chess Federation. Call the Senior Center 972-744-7800 for more information.

Emeritus Plus 50 program at Richland College

Explore life long learning with many opportunities from computers to art to history and more! Day, evening and Saturday classes are available. Some upcoming classes and events include a Middle East Series, Storytelling and Lone Star Movie Stars. Call 972 238-6972 or log on to www.richlandcollege.edu/emeritus.

Services**The Senior's Net**

The Seniors' Net helps seniors in our community to remain as independent as possible in their own homes by providing a variety of services. For more information call Debbie Childre, Director of NETWORK of Community Ministry/The Seniors' Net, at 972-234-8880. The Seniors' Net "Loaves of Love" program has expanded! Seniors residing within the Richardson ISD may shop for free loaves of bread at the NETWORK offices located at 741 S. Sherman St. in Richardson. The program is open Thursdays from 9-11 a.m. and Fridays from noon-2 p.m.

Benefits Counseling

The Dallas Area Agency on Aging is able to assist with questions about eligibility requirements for Medicare, Medicaid, SSI and other public health benefits. Appointments are scheduled for the first Friday of every month. Please call 972-744-7800 for an appointment.

Counseling Services

Private counseling sessions are available for individuals, couples and families. Issues such as depression, grief, loss, retirement, career and other life stage issues are dealt with in a safe, confidential environment by a licensed professional counselor. Fees are \$40 per hour. Please call Liz Polanco at 972-898-5803 for an appointment.

RSVP Volunteer Program

We would be happy to welcome you as a new member in our Richardson Rowdy RSVP group. We serve non-profit organizations throughout the metro area. Our activities are minor clerical duties, such as handling mail-outs and labeling or filling "goodie bags" for various charitable organizations. Transportation and lunch is provided by the agency we are volunteering for. We enjoy the opportunity to give back to the community while making new friends. For more information, please call Mary Kelley at 214-823-5700 ext. 228.

City of Richardson Transportation Service

Transportation is offered to Richardson residents aged 55 and over. The City's van service operates Monday through Friday from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. Persons may ride anywhere within the city limits of Richardson for 25 cents each way. For general transportation, we begin taking reservations on Friday at 8:30 a.m., prior to the week you need service. For doctor's appointments, we begin taking reservations at 3 p.m. on Thursday. Call 972-744-7805 for reservations.

Friendly Visitors

VNA Eldercare provides one-on-one companionship and transportation for seniors who are no longer driving and still living independently. A volunteer can take the client to the grocery, pharmacy or department store. If you would like to help and would rather not drive, we have a telephone reinsurance program. For information, call Nancy Jellinek at 214-689-2209.

Blood Pressure Checks

Free blood pressure screenings are available Wednesdays from 9-11 a.m. at the Richardson Senior Center.

**Volunteer Opportunities**

Call Scarlett at 972-744-7811 for various volunteer opportunities at the Senior Center.

Chair Massage

Lavona Kirtley, our chair massage therapist, offers chair massage on Tuesday mornings. Call 972-744-7800 to make your appointment.

Fitness**Zumba Gold**

The new fun fitness rage of Zumba has now been modified to target older participants. Zumba Gold is a fitness program that is geared to active older adults, as well as those just starting their fitness journey. You will learn easy-to-follow moves to zesty music in a party upbeat atmosphere. Classes will be held Mondays at 9:30 a.m. and Thursdays at 5:30 p.m. Drop in fee is \$5.

Hatha Yoga for all Ages

Hatha (physical) yoga stretching and breathing exercises not only relieve stress and relax the body, they increase the body's strength, stamina, vigor, flexibility, endurance and resistance to disease. Yoga gives relief from neck/back/shoulder/knee pain, sinus problems, headaches, sciatica, arthritis, rheumatism and insomnia. Also learn eye exercises to relax and keep your eyes healthy. Bharti Amin, who has been teaching yoga for more than 35 years, is your instructor. Classes are held every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 9:30 to 11 a.m. and Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 5:30-6:45 p.m. Cost is \$5.

Tai Chi for all Ages

Join teacher Philip Russell in learning this fun and energizing way to better health. The cost is \$7 per class. Classes are Mondays from 10:30-11:15 a.m.

Stretch and Strengthen

This class is designed for men and women at all fitness levels. You will regain or improve muscle tone, balance and flexibility. Wear comfortable loose-fitting clothing. Classes are Wednesday from 10 to 11 a.m. Cost is \$4.

Pilates Class

Learn the basics of Mat Pilates from certified instructor Becky Parks. Classes meet every Monday from 10-11 a.m. and are for beginners as well as those with some experience. This class is totally done on the floor with a mat. Strengthen your core muscles to help improve posture, reduce lower backaches and gain balance. This class is for all ages and fitness levels. Class fee is \$5.

Fit For Life—Beginning Strength Training Class

Come and participate in strength training that works all muscle groups to fun and motivating music. Two classes offered: Mon., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., four weeks; begins the first Monday each month. Wed., 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., four weeks; begins the first Wednesday each month. Fee is \$20 for four weeks or \$7 per class.

Fit For Life—Intermediate Strength Training Class

If you are ready to take it to the next level of fitness, then this is the class for you. You will have fun and be motivated while you challenge all your major muscles to the next level. Class begins the first Wednesday of the month for four weeks from 10-11 a.m. Fee is \$20 for four weeks or \$7 per class. Our certified personal trainer Elaine Hosage is the instructor.

Aerobic Exercise

Exercise classes are held Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 8:15 to 9:15 a.m. Renata Racher teaches Tuesdays and Thursdays. Class fee is \$2 for her class.

WaterAerobic Classes

Popular instructor Laurie Wilder continues with the WaterAerobic instruction. Classes meet Monday, Wednesday and Friday at Pearce High School Natatorium located at 1600 N. Coit Rd. Class is held from 9:30-10:30 a.m. Cost for the class is \$30 a month or \$40 for a 10-class punch card (three-month expiration). For more information, call the information line at 972-744-7813 or the Senior Center at 972-744-7800.

Personal Training

Building strength in later years helps sidestep the frailty, disability and loss of independence that often accompanies aging. It's not too late to start accruing these rewards. Studies of men and women in their 70s and 80s have shown that they can dramatically improve strength, power, agility and mobility in just 10 weeks of strength training. Personalized fitness programs are designed to help increase cardiovascular endurance, strength and flexibility. All sessions are in a private room and are just \$60 each with a six-session commitment (\$90 each session for couples). Call 972-744-7800 to make your appointment with personal trainer Elaine Hosage. She is certified in special population and general population by the Cooper Institute.

Games**Pinochle**

Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

Duplicate Bridge

Wednesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m.

Party Bridge

Friday, 10 a.m.

Bunco

Friday, 12:30 p.m.

Scrabble

Saturday, 1:30 p.m.

Cribbage

Tuesday, 10 a.m.

Mah Jongg

Wednesday and Thursday, 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Many other games such as Chess, Skip-bo, Rummi-Cubes, Dominos and "42" are played by our patrons.

Dance Classes at the Senior Center

| Class | Day | Time | Fee | Instructor |
|-----------------------|-------------|-----------------------|---|------------|
| Adv. Line Dance | Mon. | 3-4:30 p.m. | \$3 | Kindle |
| Beg. Line Dance | Tues. | 9:30-10:30 a.m. | \$11/Month | Halvorson |
| Int. Line Dance | Tues. | 10:45-11:45 a.m. | \$2 | Halvorson |
| Int. Line Dance | Tues. | noon-1 p.m. | \$15/Month | Sides |
| Adv. Line Dance | Thur. | 3:15-4:45 p.m. | \$3 | |
| Int. Tap | Tues. | 11:15 a.m.-12:15 p.m. | \$5 | Bass |
| Senior Tap (beginner) | Tues. | 12:30-1:30 p.m. | \$5 | Bass |
| Beg. Ballroom | Wed. | 2-4 p.m. | \$50 Couple/Month \$25 Single/Month or \$10 per class | Faris |
| Easy/Int. Line Dance | Wed. | 1:30-2:45 p.m. | \$3 | Simpson |
| Int./Adv. Line Dance | Wed. | 2:45-4 p.m. | \$3 | Simpson |
| Group Ballroom | Fri. | 3-4 p.m. | \$10 Couple \$5 Single | Faris |
| Adv. Tap | Thur. | noon-1 p.m. | \$5 | Bass |
| General Line Dance | Thur. | 2-3 p.m. | \$5/Month | |
| Open Line Dance | 3rd Thur. | 6:30-8:30 p.m. | \$3 | Simpson |
| Private Ballroom | Appointment | | \$40 | Faris |

Author explores effects of Katrina

Lynette Norris Wilkinson, author of "Untold: The New Orleans 9th Ward You Never Knew" will be at the Library 10:30-11:30 a.m. Feb. 18 to present the true stories of individual survival and courage from her book about the lower 9th Ward survivors of Hurricane Katrina.



Lynette Norris Wilkinson

Like millions of Americans, Wilkinson was horrified at the images of devastation that were emerging from the Hurricane Katrina disaster. But for Wilkinson, the media coverage literally hit close to home. Wilkinson is a New Orleans native who grew up in the lower 9th Ward. These were her friends and neighbors who worked, played and went to church in this close knit New Orleans neighborhood where there was a long-standing feeling of community.

Although Wilkinson was able to give comfort to the friends and family who arrived on her doorstep in the Dallas area after fleeing Katrina, she wanted to create something more tangible to give back to the people from the neighborhood. Wilkinson decided to use her writ-

ing skills to interview the survivors and record their histories. She interviewed 16 residents of all ages whose lives were forever changed by Katrina as memories, jobs and homes were washed away.

Wilkinson plans to use proceeds from her book to benefit the New Orleans 9th Ward in the areas of health and education. It is her hope that the neighborhood can be reborn and can emerge

even stronger than before Hurricane Katrina.

"Untold: The New Orleans 9th Ward You Never Knew" recently won the "Book of the Year" designation from the Sankofa Literary Society. The Midwest Book Review noted that the book "is a top pick for those who want to better understand the personal cost of Katrina." Wilkinson was recently contacted by the producer of a *National Geographic* documentary on Hurricane Katrina who had heard of her book and needed help finding survivors to interview. Wilkinson was able to provide a subject for the documentary and she and the Katrina survivor recently returned from the documentary's filming in Canada. The documentary will be released late in 2012.

"Untold: The New Orleans 9th Ward You Never Knew" will be available for sale and signing after the author's presentation followed by Q & A. Everyone is invited to this free program in the Library's Basement Program Room. For more information call Janet Vance at 972-744-4376.



Tales for Tails For Readers in Grades K-4

Read to canine reading buddies from Heart of Texas Therapy Dogs!

3-4 p.m.,
Sunday, Feb. 12

Children's Program Room

Winter Storytimes

For Richardson residents—valid Library card is required. **REQUIRED REGISTRATION BEGAN JAN. 9.** Go to the Children's Department or call 972-744-4358.

BabySteps

For children 6 weeks to 12 months old accompanied by at least one parent. Designed to assist parents in preparing prewalkers for reading readiness by introducing them to books, stories, rhymes, fingerplays, music and other early literacy tools. BabySteps ends Feb. 27.

Choose one of the following times:
Mondays: 10:15-10:45 a.m. or 6-6:30 p.m.



Wiggle Worms (formerly LapSit)

For children 12-36 months old accompanied by at least one parent. Walking and wiggling toddlers will be introduced to books and reading using stories, fingerplays, rhymes and music. Wiggle Worms ends March 1.

Choose one of the following times:
Mondays: 11-11:30 a.m.
Thursdays: 10:15-10:45 a.m.; 11-11:30 a.m. or 7-7:30 p.m.



Storytime

For children 3-6 years old. Storytime is filled with stories, puppets, songs and fingerplays. Children attend Storytime independently. Parents, please meet your child in the Children's Program Room promptly at the end of each session. Limit one guest per child—one time only. Storytime ends Feb. 28.

Choose one of the following times:
Tuesdays: 3:30-4 p.m. or
Wednesdays: 11-11:30 a.m.



Edit "yo" friends

Photoshop your friends to look like aliens, monsters and cartoons!

Tuesday, Feb. 28
6:30-8:30 p.m.

East Conference Room
Richardson Civic Center
(Next door to the Library)

For more information, call 972-744-4358
For teens in grades 6-12.



Library offers class on running meetings

Are you tired of attending meetings that go on for hours without productive results? Are you the president, vice president or parliamentarian of a service club or volunteer organization but are unsure how to run a meeting effectively?

The Library will offer a two-hour class on improving meetings you attend whether you are a leader or a group member. The class will be held from 10:15 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. March 17 and will be led by two experienced members of the National Association of Parliamentarians and its Texas affiliate, the Texas State Association of Parliamentarians.

This program is free and open to all adults. Advance registration is required. To sign up, call Janet Vance at 972-744-4376.

Lecture focuses on historic convention

"The Miracle in Philadelphia: The Summer of 1787" will be the subject of a "Lunchtime Lecture" focusing on America's Constitutional Convention of 1787. The lecture will be held 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Feb. 7 in the Library's Basement Program Room.

Presenting the programs will be Richard Cudlipp, a popular history lecturer from Collin College's SAIL (Seniors Active in Learning) program. He has also been a history lecturer in the Richland Emeritus program as well as for other organizations in the community.

The program is free and open to all adults. No registration is required and attendees are invited to bring a brown bag lunch. For more information call Janet at 972-744-4376.



Heart-y Arty Valentine Party

Make a Valentine craft, enjoy a puppet show
Saturday Feb. 11, 2:30-4:30 p.m.

Recommended for preschoolers - 4th graders
Basement Program Room

For more information, contact the Children's Department at 972-744-4358.



It's Elementary!

STORYTIME FOR KIDS IN GRADES K-4

Tuesdays, 4:15-4:45 p.m.
Children's Program Room

Drop in—NO REGISTRATION REQUIRED!

Don't miss it!

Family Storytime

Every Monday
6:45-7:15 p.m.
Geared for children
ages 3-7 but the whole family can attend!

Children's Program Room