



RICHARDSON TODAY

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What's Inside



20 Years of Wildflower! Page 3

The City's Wildflower! Festival celebrates 20 years in 2012. Its success is made possible with the help of generous corporate sponsors.



"Tree Cycle" Page 3

The City will pick up your Christmas tree until Jan. 31. It will be turned into mulch instead of going to the landfill.



Lorrie Morgan and Pam Tillis at the Eisemann Center Page 7

Lorrie Morgan and Pam Tillis will bring their "Grits & Glamour Tour" to the Eisemann Center Jan. 14 at 8 p.m.

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City launches radio communications system

The City of Richardson will officially launch its new communications system at a ceremony this month to be held at Richardson City Hall/Civic Center 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.

According to Richardson's Chief Information Officer Steve Graves, the City's new system was developed in a unique way.

"The traditional approach to purchasing a new radio system was to use only one vendor for the entire project," Graves said. "Cassidian offered us a non-proprietary solution that is 100 percent P25 compliant. Our City Council

recognized that by choosing Cassidian we would be able to make choices that have ultimately saved the City almost \$5 million."

Cassidian was chosen to provide the system, or the core LMR infrastructure, because it uses the 100 percent open-standards model the City required. Also, the CORP25 system is compact and based on advanced internet protocol technology which allowed the

City to easily integrate it into the existing data networks and data centers.

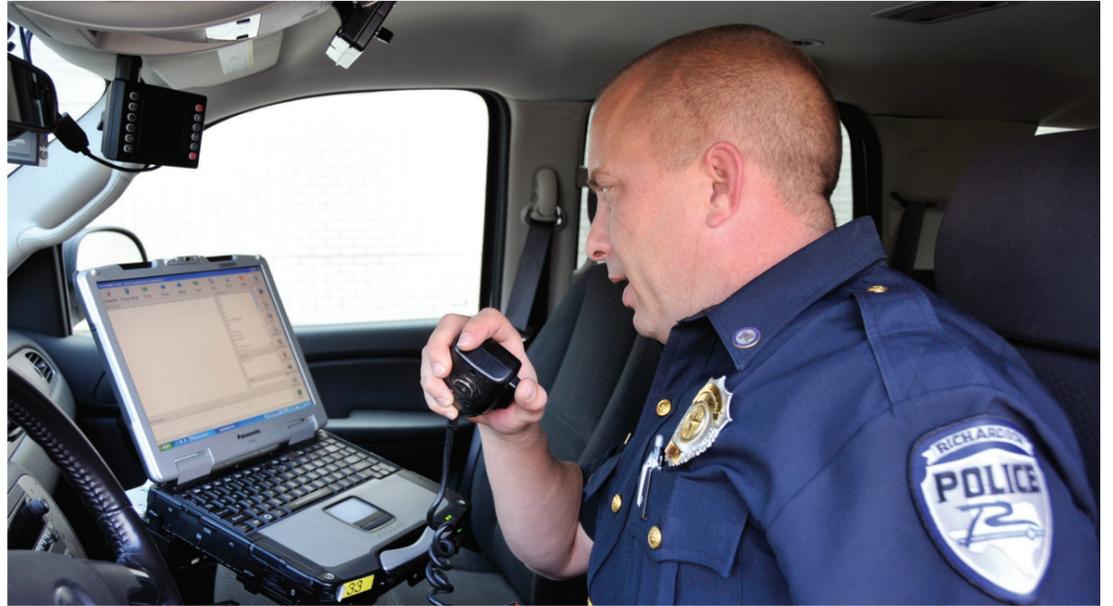
"Our City Council had the vision to approve what is really a ground-breaking concept when it comes to purchasing a public safety radio system," Graves said. "The proven cost-saving success of the Cassidian Communications solution combined with our purchasing approach has set an example

for other agencies to follow."

Graves indicated that representatives from Shawnee County, Kan., toured City facilities in December to learn more about Richardson's new radio system and the procurement process.

The purchasing for the project was divided into three different parts: P25 radio consoles, radio equipment and construction.

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New Fire Station 4 construction is on schedule

The construction of the new Fire Station 4 is well underway as the foundation has been completed, the structural steel has been erected and the concrete slab was poured at the end of December.

"We are extremely pleased with the progress of the project and the contractor is doing a great job keeping it on schedule," Fire Chief Alan Palomba said. "If the weather does not cause too many delays we are hoping to open the new station in mid-summer."

The new Fire Station 4 is part of the \$66 million bond program that was approved by voters in May 2010. It will replace the current 7,500 square foot station that was built in 1972 and is located at 1500 Apollo Rd., the former site of the Huffhines Recreation Center.

According to Palomba, the location of the new station will reduce the response time to southeast Richardson by approximately two minutes. "When we respond to a 911 call for a heart attack victim

or someone suffering from respiratory problems, we know that if we can begin administering advanced life support sooner, the survivability rate of the patient improves."

Last year, the American Heart Association presented an award to the Richardson Fire Department and Methodist Richardson Medical Center for having the fastest response and treatment time for treating a man who had a heart attack. Between the time his wife called 911 and the time doctors inserted a catheter to clear his arteries, only 43 minutes had elapsed. That is a substantially better time than the state average treatment time of nearly two-and-a-half hours—time which doctors say is critical in saving muscle tissue in the heart that is being deprived of oxygen.

Palomba indicated that when the station is completed, Fire Station 5 will have its coverage area extended. "We are going to adjust the district boundary for Station 5 by extending it a little to the



Architect's Rendering of Station 4

south," Palomba said. "Station 4 shares its boundary with Station 1, our busiest station, and Station 5, which has the second-lowest call volume. This change will allow us to better distribute the call volume to assure that units will be available to respond as soon as possible."

The existing Station 4 is almost 40 years old and was designed

for an eight-person crew; it currently houses 10 firefighters on each shift. There are no separate accommodations for female firefighters and the station is not ADA compliant. The vehicle bays were not designed to handle the larger, heavier fire trucks; it lacks a vehicle exhaust ventilation system and the HVAC system cannot be

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Moody's revises City's bond rating outlook, restores it to "stable"

City of Richardson officials were officially informed last month that Moody's Investors Service has improved the outlook for Richardson's bond rating from "negative" to "stable." The revised rating comes after a four-month review of state and local governments, which began last August. At that time, Richardson had a "stable" outlook, but was placed on "negative," along with more than a 100 other state and local governments, when the U.S. government's Aaa sovereign rating was revised to "negative."

Richardson holds a "Aaa" rating from Moody's, which places the City among only 6.4 percent of cities in the nation and only 2 percent of cities in Texas to achieve this status. Moody's has given only four other cities in Texas the same designation.

Richardson also holds a "AAA" rating from Standard and Poor's (S&P) credit rating agency.

Richardson's Financial Accolades

In addition to holding "Aaa" and "AAA" ratings from both Moody's and S&P respectively, the City of Richardson has also earned the following accolades:

- "Unqualified" clean audit opinion from KPMG
- "Certificate of Achievement in Financial Reporting" from the Government Finance Officer's Association (33rd consecutive year)
- "Certificate of Distinction" from the Government Treasurer's Organization (7th consecutive year)
- "Gold Member" of the Texas Comptroller's Leadership Circle for financial transparency
- "Achievement of Excellence in Procurement" from the National Purchasing Institute (14th consecutive year)

State of the City Address

Wednesday, Jan. 25

6 p.m.

Eisemann Center Bank of America Theatre
The event and parking are free and open to the public.

The event will be shown live on the City's website and on Time Warner Cable, channel 16 and AT&T U-Verse, channel 99.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Resident,

I would like to take this opportunity to invite you to attend this year's State of the City Address.

The State of the City is an informative event where we present all the major events that have occurred in our community during the past year and give you a peek at the way we envision our future. The State of the City address will be presented this year at 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 25, in the Bank of America Theatre at Richardson's Eisemann Center. Both the event and parking are free, open to the public and will take place regardless of the weather conditions.

We hope you are able to join us but, if you can't attend in person, the event will be shown live on the City's website and on CTV cable channel 16 to Time Warner Cable customers or channel 99 on AT&T U-Verse. The Eisemann Center is located in the Galatyn Park Urban Center, on the northbound service road between Campbell and Renner. If you turn off the service road onto Lookout, you can take the first right into the parking lot driveway.

We also hope you enjoy this latest edition of *Richardson Today*, which focuses on Public Safety. On page 1 you can read all about the latest and greatest radio communications system we are implementing in the City this month, at great cost savings to the taxpayers. This improved system will serve us well for many years to come, and



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

will improve the safety in our community.

As always, if you have any concerns or questions, please contact the City Manager's Office at 972-744-4203, or write me directly at bob.townsend@cor.gov. The contact information for all of the City Council members is available below and on the City's website. We are at your service, so please feel free to contact us any time you have a concern.

Sincerely,

Bob Townsend
 Mayor
 bob.townsend@cor.gov

Municipal Court named after Raymond D. Noah

The City of Richardson held a ceremony last month to celebrate the renaming of the Municipal Court Building to the Raymond D. Noah Municipal Court Building.

Raymond D. Noah served as mayor of the City of Richardson for 15 years. After serving as mayor, Noah utilized his professional skills as an attorney and became a presiding municipal judge for Richardson, where he still presides today. And, until recently, he also continued his regional transportation leadership as a member of the DART board of directors, on which he served for more than 25 years, representing not only Richardson but also Addison, Highland Park and University Park.



From left: NCTCOG Exec. Dir. Mike Eastland, Richardson Mayor Bob Townsend, Cynthia Noah, Ray Noah, DART President/Exec. Dir. Gary Thomas, Former Richardson Mayor and DART Board Member Gary Slagel and Richardson City Manager Bill Keffler.

Sanitation schedule/recycle make up days

Due to Martin Luther King, Jr. Day, there will be NO solid waste pick up or special pick up Monday, Jan. 16. The table below shows the recycle make-up days.

Recycle collection days affected by holiday	Make-up day
Monday, Jan. 16	Tuesday, Jan. 17
Tuesday, Jan. 17	Wednesday, Jan. 18

City facilities close for holiday Jan. 16

Facility	Closing dates
City Hall/Civic Center and Municipal Court	Jan. 16
Library and Animal Shelter	Jan. 16
Recreation Centers, Senior Center, Tennis Center and Sherrill Park Golf Course	Open normal hours

City Council Action

The following is a listing of some of the main items considered by the Richardson City Council at the Nov. 14 and 28 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.

Nov. 14
Public Hearing, Zoning File 11-19: A request by Roy L. Wilshire, representing Kimley-Horn and Associates, Inc. for a change in zoning from Local Retail and O-M Office with special conditions and A-950-M Apartment to Local Retail with modified development standards for properties located at 314, 318 and 320 E. Main St. and 335 and 337 E. Polk Street (south side of Main Street and north side of Polk Street, west of Abrams Road) was approved.

Public Hearing and Consider Ordinance No. 3844: Designating a certain area within the City of Richardson as Tax Increment Financing Reinvestment Zone Number Two, also known as the Bush/75 Partners Zone, was approved.
Public Hearing and Consider Ordinance No. 3845: Designating a certain area within the City of Richardson as Tax Increment Financing Reinvestment Zone Number Three, also known as The Caruth Zone, was approved.

Nov. 28
Public Hearing and Ordinance No. 3843: amending the Code of Ordinance by amending Chapter 23, to add Article VIII Municipal Drainage Utility System, to establish a Municipal Drainage Utility System; providing for drainage service, billing, exemptions, drainage charges and appeals was approved.
Public Hearing and Resolution No. 11-33: Adopting the Municipal Drainage Utility System schedule of charges, and establishing charges for Municipal Drainage Utility System services was approved.

Mayor Pro Tem Laura Maczka
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Council Member Kendal Hartley
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Contact by mail or phone:
Richardson City Council, 411 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson, TX 75080
972-744-4203

Richardson's E-Notification Service



Sign-up to receive the City's "Week In Review" e-mail, and to receive important notifications concerning City events, projects and services. Visit www.cor.net and click on the e-NOTIFY logo.

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

Wildflower!

Richardson tradition turns 20

More than 20 years ago, the Richardson horticulturist John Guthrie and then Director of Parks and Recreation Dave Loughridge decided it would be a good idea if vibrant beauty and springtime fun burst forth from the earth around the City every year just as winter was ending. Guthrie and his staff sowed seeds at strategic locations around the City in the fall and waited for the springtime explosion of color. The experiment was a great success.

A few years later, City officials were so inspired by their City in bloom that they decided the flowers should be celebrated in one of the City parks with a community event and so was born the *Wildflower!* festival. The first festival was held at Breckinridge Park in April 1993. Parks crews scattered around some hay bales for seating, a tent was erected and some country-western bands were booked for a daytime family funfest at what was then the City's newest park.

The next year, the festival expanded to include the Taste of Richardson on Friday night with a performance by the Dixie Chicks. The Saturday/Sunday festival featured appearances by former Doobie Brother Michael McDonald and country star Lee Greenwood.

The venue moved from Breckinridge Park to the Greenway Office Park in 1995. The "name" headliner was The Temptations, but the show is most memorable

for the performance by up and comer LeAnn Rimes, then 13, who recorded her breakout hit "Blue" the next year. The 1995 festival was the first time that Richardson's corporate citizens got in on the fun, with the festival taking place on their property and corporate donations accepted for the first time. That year, the festival incorporated not only the Taste of Richardson but also the "Sounds of Freedom" concert by the Richardson Symphony Orchestra that had been held previously on Flag Day in June.

Wildflower! stayed at the Greenway Office Park until 2002 when it moved to the City's Galatyn Park Urban Center with the opportunity for festival planners to utilize the space inside the Eisemann Center. That year, the festival was a one-day affair featuring Wilson Pickett, but since then, the festival has really blossomed with popular headliners such as the Beach Boys, Roberta Flack, America, the Doobie Brothers and last year's Jerry Lee Lewis and REO Speedwagon.

This year's *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival will be held May 18-20 at Galatyn Park Urban Center. The music lineup will be announced in the spring. For more information, see www.wildflowerfestival.com. The festival also has a presence on Facebook and Twitter.



Sponsors help support *Wildflower!*

Richardson's *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival wouldn't be in the position of celebrating 20 years of success without the help and support of corporate sponsorships.

"The *Wildflower!* festival is an attractive way to promote a product or service," said Richardson Assistant Director of Parks and Recreation Robbie Hazelbaker who heads the corporate sponsorship aspects of the festival. About a third of the revenue required for the festival is gleaned from corporate sponsorships. This year's goal is \$320,000.

"We work on *Wildflower!* sponsorship year round," Hazelbaker said. "Most of the time, we are trying to be good ambassadors to our sponsors. We won't create a sponsorship unless it is a win-win situation."

Sponsor names are used on all five stages as well as at the entry

gates, on the video screens and in other areas of the festival. Hazelbaker says he has an 82 percent retention rate among sponsors which is very high. Sponsor dollars of course can be hard to lure, with so many events seeking support from similar companies. Hazelbaker says he makes every effort to create special niches of sponsorship opportunities, based on the sponsor's goals and the festival's needs.

Blue Cross and Blue Shield of Texas (BCBSTX), for example, sponsored an entry gate last year and provided 76 volunteers to staff it. "Our employees love this festival and it is one of our most popular volunteer activities. We usually have a waiting list," said Margaret Jarvis, BCBSTX senior manager for media and public relations.

A side benefit of Hazelbaker's work has been added participation

in his other area of responsibility, the City's annual Corporate Challenge event. Even Santa's Village has benefited from the connections made from sponsor relationships.

The festival has put the City on the map of fun in many ways. Many families have staged annual family reunions around the weekend of art and music. Sponsorship support helps keep festival tickets low. A three-day pass for the entire festival costs just \$30 with day passes running \$20. People who live or work in Richardson can buy single-day tickets in advance for \$10.

"We want the City of Richardson to be a fun place to live, work and play," Hazelbaker said. "This city of ours stands out. There are very few cities our size that have been able to sustain a festival this large and this fun for 20 years."

City property taxes due to county Jan. 31

Property taxes owed to the City of Richardson are due Jan. 31 and should be 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.

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.

Collin County residents can make City, school and Collin County tax payments at the Collin County Tax Office branch, 920 E. Park Boulevard, Plano, TX 75074, 972-881-3014.

Unpaid property taxes become delinquent 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.

Former Mayor Gary Slagel appointed to DART Board

Former Richardson Mayor Gary Slagel has been appointed by Richardson, Addison, Highland Park and University Park to represent them on the Dallas Area Rapid Transit (DART) board of directors. He replaces former Richardson Mayor and current Municipal Court Judge Ray Noah who served on the board for more than 25 years and resigned in October.

Slagel, elected to the City Council in 1987, served as mayor from 1991 to 2007, then again from 2009 to 2011. He is currently the president and CEO of CapitalSoft, a company that develops and implements program management software for the public and private sector construction markets.

"It's a tremendous honor to be able to accept this position, and I

have some very big shoes to fill," said Slagel. "DART is part of the backbone of future growth in the region, and I look forward to being a part of the projects and opportunities that DART will bring."

Slagel brings years of transportation experience to the DART board having served on the Regional Transportation Council from 1987 to 1991, the North Central Texas Council of Governments Executive Board from 1991 to 1996, and the Executive Committee of the Dallas Regional Mobility Coalition from 1991 to 2006. For his service, he was named Citizen of the Year by the Richardson Chamber of Commerce in 2011.

A member of the Texas Transportation Institutes Advisory Council, Slagel graduated from Il-

linois State University with a bachelor's degree in industrial technology and received a master's degree in business administration from Amberton University in Dallas.



Gary Slagel

Don't send it to the landfill— "Tree Cycle" Christmas tree

Many Christmas trees are thrown away at the end of every holiday season. This practice wastes potential uses of the trees and uses vital landfill space. Instead, the City of Richardson encourages residents to mulch their unflocked Christmas trees. From Dec. 26 to Jan. 31, Richardson residents may "tree cycle" in two ways:

1. Drop trees off at the Municipal Service Center, 1260 Columbia Dr. The site is open 24 hours, seven days a week.

2. Call 972-744-4111 and request a Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC), then set the tree out at the front curb for collection.

Tree cycling guidelines

- Trees must be real (not artificial) and unflocked.

- All ornaments, tinsel, tree stands, nails, lights, etc., must be removed.
- Calls for Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC) must be received before the designated collection day (your BABIC day is the same as your recycling day).



Arts Master Plan under development

In the most recent State of the Arts Assessment provided to the City Council by the Arts Commission, it was recommended that the Council consider developing a Master Plan for the Arts in Richardson. In June of this year, Lord Cultural Resources was selected to assist in the project.

The four areas of focus in the development of the plan include:

- Leverage Richardson's network of attractions and venues
- Support culture as an engine for a creative economy, attracting and retaining young professionals
- Nurture Richardson's future cultural leaders, artists, volunteers and audiences

- Position culture as an integral part of Richardson's overall municipal responsibilities

The process for developing a Cultural Arts Master Plan has been divided into three essential phases: 1) needs assessment and initial recommendations; 2) community outreach; and 3) setting direction. Phases 1 and 2 are currently under way. A public forum was held in December to gather input. Additional outreach efforts continue and input will be gathered from individuals from the culture sector, educators from RISD, PISD and Richland College, young professionals, Leadership Richardson Class XXVII members and business representatives. An online survey will also be created.

Plans call for the initial recommendations to be presented to the Arts Commission this month and then to the City Council. A draft of the Cultural Arts Master Plan will be produced and reviewed and will also be presented at a community meeting. A final report is planned for later this spring.



New Fire Station 4 construction is on schedule

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upgraded. The department is required by the state to maintain and clean protective gear and the current station lacks adequate equipment to do this. There is also not enough secured storage space for medical supplies used by the paramedics.

The new station will not only remedy the above mentioned issues but will include the following features:

- A secure lobby, or safe haven, will allow persons to lock themselves in the lobby and a phone will be provided with a direct line to 911;
- Drive-through bays will eliminate the need for backing vehicles into the station;
- The facility will be built using guidelines from the United States Green Building Council to attain the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) certification;
- The building and landscaping will include design elements that will complement Huffhines Park and the nearby Huffhines Recreation Center.

"The new station will not only benefit the community it serves but we anticipate that the new location may improve the City's overall Insurance Services Office rating," Palomba said. "The City currently has a Class II rating but we believe that it could change to

a Class I."

The design elements of the new Station 4 will include gabled roofs and earth tone colors for the stone and brick to match the architecture of the homes in the neighborhood and Huffhines Recreation Center. The landscaping will include elements that will complement the neighborhood and nearby Huffhines Park.

Before construction began on the new station this past fall, crews spent the summer months making improvements to the medians on Apollo Road and the entry and exit lanes at Apollo Junior High. Upgrades to the parking lots for the junior high and the new station were also completed.

"The changes really improved the traffic flow in the area when school started last August," Palomba said. "We expect it will be even better once the construction is fully complete."

Fire Training Center

The construction of a new fire training center was also included in the 2010 bond program. According to Palomba the project is currently in the design stages and construction is projected to begin sometime this summer.

The new center will include a classroom/office building with larger storage space for equipment and protective gear, an outdoor classroom area and a single two-story/four-story training tower that

will combine the functions of the old tower and the old burn building. The building will use clean-burning propane for structural fire training, eliminating the use of less environmentally friendly materials.

"The original center was built in 1970 and was designed just for firefighter training," Chief Palomba said. "With the addition of hazardous material response, confined space rescue, rope rescue, trench rescue and urban search and rescue training, the department has had to improvise and create temporary structures. The new facility will accommodate these training functions and will be able to handle the larger, heavier vehicles in our fleet."

The facility will be used for training on new apparatus and equipment, Citizen Fire Academy, area fire certification classes and will accommodate the Training Officer. It also will provide firefighter certification training for recruits, multi-company in-service training, officer development training, fire extinguisher training to schools and businesses in the City, CPR training for City employees and will serve as the location for physical training certification for firefighters and police officers. The center will also be used for testing and processing job applicants.



Communications system launched

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New P25 radio control consoles and audio components were purchased and installed in the City's 911 Communications Center and new furniture was customized to fit the equipment. Numerous features of the center were replaced or altered to accommodate the new system and the radio equipment room and the computer-aided dispatch and record management system have been upgraded.

Because of Cassidian's open-standard system, City staff was able to test 30 different radios from five manufacturers over a period of several weeks to determine which units best met the needs of the different users. While all of the radios that were tested worked well within the system, the City chose Motorola as the provider. As a result of using an open-system, the City was able to apply savings toward state-of-the-art P25 radios for public safety personnel.

During the construction phase of the project, the City was able to upgrade shelters and shelter equipment. The original cost estimates included three radio tower sites but cost savings allowed the City to add a fourth site, improving the system coverage.

The old analog system relied on a single radio transmitter to cover the entire City. Now the four simulcast radio transmitter sites provide a 99 percent coverage area for outdoor mobile communications and 95 percent for at-the-hip indoor radio use.

Non-public safety staff received radios Dec. 6 for a "shakedown under load" which allowed for thorough testing and adjustments before moving the police and fire departments to the new system. A full system acceptance test was done Dec. 12 which confirmed all features of the system and in-building and out-of-building coverage.

Watch program protects businesses



The City of Richardson has a nationally recognized Neighborhood Crime Watch Program and the City has complemented it with a Business Crime Watch Program. "This program is designed to promote partnerships between the business community and the Police Department," Chief of Police Jim Spivey said.

According to Spivey, more than 600 local businesses have signed up for the program and Crime Prevention officers meet regularly

with business owners to discuss crime trends, solutions, employee safety and other related issues. The program also provides other services to the businesses including:

- Business security surveys
- Robbery prevention training
- Workplace violence training
- Personal safety training
- Crime Prevention through environmental design analysis
- Partnership with the Chamber of Commerce
- Crime watch notification via Facebook, Twitter and Nixle.com

Business Crime Watch educates participants in the principles of deterrence, delay and detection. The program depends on a communication network organized with three levels of participants: the tenants, business captains

and police officers. It encourages neighbors to defend each other's property by securing their own businesses and reporting suspicious circumstances to the police.

According to Spivey, Business Crime Watch is a self-help business community crime prevention program with the main objective of reducing crime and the opportunity for it. The program is not designed to substitute for police protection, but to supplement police activities by providing extra eyes, ears and caring.

The Crime Prevention Unit is always looking for new information and would be happy to discuss business-related crime problems. For more information contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 972-744-4955 or visit www.richardsonpolice.net.

When do I call 911?

"When Do I call 911?" might seem like a simple question, yet to some it is a question that creates mental confusion. Police Department staff members are constantly asked this simple, yet complex question. The simple answer is, "If it is an emergency to you, then it is important enough for us to check it out." An emergency, from an emergency responder perspective, is any situation that requires immediate assistance from the police, fire department or ambulance. This can include, but is not limited to:

- A fire
- A crime, especially in progress
- A suspicious person
- A car crash with injuries
- A medical emergency (i.e. unconscious person not breathing or grasping for air, chest pains, or any other symptoms that require immediate medical attention)

When calling 911, be prepared to answer the call-taker's questions. Don't worry about how to relay the information, the call-taker will prompt you. The questions may include:

- The location of the emergency (street address)
- The number you are calling from
- The nature of the emergency
- Details about the emergency (i.e. physical description of sus-



pect who may have committed a crime, description of any fire that may be burning, or description of injuries or symptoms being experienced by a person having a medical emergency)

The call-taker's questions are important to get the proper attention needed for the emergency. Be prepared to follow the call-taker's instructions, especially in a medical emergency; they may provide step-by-step instructions to aid someone who is choking or needs first aid or CPR. Finally, do not hang up until you are released by the call-taker.

As a rule, when in doubt dial 911, the call-taker will determine whether you need immediate emergency assistance.

Please feel free to contact the Richardson Police Department Crime Prevention Unit at 972-744-4955 if you have additional questions.

City's National Night Out earns recognition

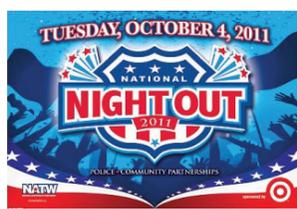
An outstanding show of support from Richardson residents has once again helped the City's National Night Out event earn recognition as one to the top events in the nation.

The National Association of Town Watch awarded Richardson 2nd place for the 2011 National Night Out competition, which showcases citizen participation between police departments and the communities they serve.

Richardson has been recognized as one of the top National Night Out communities in the nation for the past 18 years and was awarded 1st place in 2001, 2005, 2007 and 2010 for communities in the 50,000 to 99,000 population category.

The Richardson Police Department had 202 registered neighborhood block parties for 2011 in addition to various crime prevention programs throughout the year that

served the residential and business communities. The City thanks all those who participated and looks forward to another great event in 2012.



Lavon Lake level still low despite recent rains

Even though we have seen recent rain showers in the area, the level at Lavon Lake, the City's main source of water, remains critically low. As of Dec. 20, the lake was at 479.98 feet and only 51.25 percent full. The North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) Water Conservation and Drought Contingency and

Water Emergency Response Plan initiates Stage 4 if the Lavon Lake level reaches 475 feet.

The City is currently in Stage 3 water restrictions and limits watering to twice a month. The watering schedule is the first and third Saturday for addresses ending in an even number and the first and third Sunday for ad-

resses ending in an odd number. Watering between the hours of 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. is prohibited.

More information and tips on water conservation can be found on the City's Water Conservation website through the City's homepage at www.cor.net. Further information is also available at www.waterrq.org and www.ntmwd.com.

RPD on Facebook and Twitter

The Richardson Police Department has a Facebook page and you can also follow the department on Twitter at twitter.com/richardsonpd.



CFAAA and RFD provide assistance to fire victims

With the help of the Citizen Fire Academy Alumni Association (CFAAA), the Richardson Fire Department has set up a program to help Richardson residents who are victims of fires and natural disasters.

Called "Fill the Gap," the victims' assistance program is designed to help people when they are perhaps at their neediest and most vulnerable—immediately following the loss of their home to a fire, water emergency or natural disaster.

"For a number of years, we have been able to provide vouchers to local hotels for people who weren't able to stay in their homes, but we decided we could do more," said Assistant Fire Chief Steve Dossett. The program is designed to provide immediate and temporary assistance to people while they are waiting for help from their insurance company or other assistance groups, such as the Red Cross or Salvation Army.

"If you have good insurance, you probably won't need this, but many people don't. This helps those who rent houses or apartments or whose insurance is not immediately available," Dossett said.

When a fire or disaster strikes, everything can be lost or a house can be unsafe to reenter. "Even if they can go back inside for a few things, they are so limited," Dossett said.

In addition to the hotel vouchers, the Fill the Gap program gives fire officials the resources to provide victims with personal hygiene items and gift cards to buy a few items of clothing or gasoline or prescriptions or to use for other special needs.

Members of the CFAAA assemble small bags with personal hygiene items for men and women, including small soaps and shampoos and conditioners from hotels and detergent, tooth brushes and tooth paste.

"The whole goal of the program is to help people out and comfort them a little until additional resources come in," Dossett said.

For more information or to make a tax-deductible donation to the Fill the Gap program, call the Richardson Fire Department non-emergency number at 972-744-5750. Information about attending the Richardson Citizen Fire Academy can be found on this page of *Richardson Today*.



CFAAA president Donna Leach and Assistant Fire Chief Steve Dossett display the bags that are assembled by CFAAA members and given to victims of a fire or natural disaster.

Richardson IT staff develops program that allows personnel to view incident data on smart phones

When public safety hangs in the balance, police and fire department personnel don't always have time to go to their desks and run reports. Getting information updates and alerts while in the field can play a vital role in responding quickly with the right resources and personnel.

The City's Information Technology (IT) staff has developed a program that allows Richardson police and fire chiefs, captains and lieutenants to use smart phones to access all active 911 calls and see which units are responding to them. Personnel are also able to view a real-time narrative log of the communication between dispatchers and the field units as well as the geographical information showing their location.

Before the program was developed, personnel were required to access this information from desk computers or call into the dispatcher. Now, key staff can use their smart phones to retrieve the data and they can do it from anywhere.

"Our public safety staff came up with the great idea to share live 911 data to smart phones they already carry," Deputy CIO for Applications and Development Eric Matthews said. "Because IT has in-house development skills, we were able to quickly respond and develop a secure, effective and user-friendly solution."

Another feature of the new program allows police personnel to use their smart phones to pull up information about inmates housed in the City jail. How many people are in the jail, who is in jail, when they were booked, the charges and bail bond status can all be viewed on the smart phone.

The IT staff has also developed the interactive online crime mapping site on the Police Department's web page at www.cor.net/pd. There are multiple search functions and you can sign up to receive weekly crime stats for your neighborhood via e-mail.

ment's web page at www.cor.net/pd. There are multiple search functions and you can sign up to receive weekly crime stats for your neighborhood via e-mail.



RFD receives \$340,000 FEMA/DHS grant

The City of Richardson Fire Department has received \$340,000 from the Assistance to Firefighters Grant (AFG) Program of the Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) and the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). The grant is part of an important component of the larger, coordinated effort to strengthen the nation's overall level of preparedness and ability to respond to fire and related hazards.

"We are very excited to receive these important grant funds," said Richardson Fire Chief Alan Palomba. "The money will be used to purchase an emergency driving simulator to train firefighters who

operate fire and medical units. With the new equipment, we will be able to simulate a variety of hazardous road conditions for fire and ambulance apparatus, which will allow our first responders to be better prepared when they encounter such conditions."

Since 2001, the AFG has provided approximately \$5 billion in grants to first-responder organizations to obtain much-needed emergency response equipment, personal protective equipment, firefighting and emergency vehicles and training.



FEMA

Next CFA class begins March 1

The Citizen Fire Academy (CFA) is held once a year and is a 10-week program open to persons 21 and older who either live or work in the City of Richardson or the Richardson Independent School District. Class participants meet one night a week for three hours at the Fire Department Training Center located at 2600 Owens Blvd. Academy participants will receive an insider's view of the vast services the RFD provides. Each academy participant is allowed to spend time at fire stations and ride on the fire engines to emergency calls.

The intent of the CFA classes is not to train citizens to become firefighters; rather, it's an opportunity to experience first hand what duties and responsibilities firefighters have. Learn about the firefighter

hiring process, an overview of the RFD, fire prevention, special operations, emergency medical services, fire investigation, hazardous materials, firefighter safety, fire apparatus operations, fire ground operations, emergency management, training requirements and administration of the RFD. After completing the program, participants will be able to use their knowledge to create a safer home and work environment and educate others about the RFD and the services provided to the community.

The next CFA begins March 1 and will graduate May 10. If you are interested in attending the next academy or a future academy, call 972-744-5750 or go to www.cor.net and download an application from the RFD page.



Crime Watch Patrols provide visible deterrents to crime

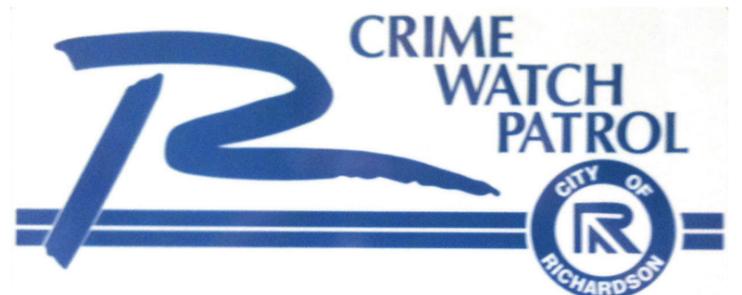
Are you looking for a way to get involved and give back to your community? Becoming a member of a neighborhood Crime Watch Patrol may be the answer. The program started in 1993 in the Richardson Heights neighborhood, with the goal of training and mobilizing residents to act as visible deterrents to neighborhood crime. Today, the program monitors 21,840 homes with 22 active patrols, consisting of more than 650 trained members. Residents volunteer their time and vehicles to patrol and report all suspicious activity to the Richardson Police Department (RPD).

To become a Crime Watch Patrol (CWP) volunteer:

- Members are approved for patrol by the Richardson Police after a background check.
- Members must log a collective total of at least nine hours of patrol time each week.
- One member volunteers to be the coordinator and serve as a liaison for the CWP and RPD; maintains scheduling chart and distributes to members; holds monthly meetings and ensures policies are being followed.
- Each member must actively participate in the CWP at least once every 60 days to be active.
- Members call in suspicious activity and maintain a patrol log to record observations and track their hours while patrolling.

Training consists of a six-hour block of instruction. During this time, instruction is given in random patrol, gang recognition, penal laws related to burglary and theft, juvenile law, drug awareness and communication procedures with police dispatchers. CWP volunteers are provided with magnetic door signs and activity log sheets. The CWP area may request free signs provided by the City of Richardson, to be added to existing Neighborhood Watch signs, indicating the area is an "Active Crime Watch Patrol Area."

For more information on Crime Watch Patrol Groups contact the Crime Prevention Unit at 972-744-4955 or visit www.richardsonpolice.net and complete an on-line application.



Crime Watch Patrol volunteers are provided with magnetic door signs to place on their vehicles as they patrol the neighborhood.

January 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
972-680-0943 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://k5rkw.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 Spondyloarthropathy 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

Out to Lunch Bunch
Jan. 17, Cheesecake Factory
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
"Clean Up and Clean Out"
Jan. 26, 11 a.m.

Linda Strobel, a professional residential organizer with Organize and Rejuvenate, will discuss fun ways to de-clutter and organize your home for the new year. She will have tips for downsizing, organizing and becoming clutter free.

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
Jan. 12, 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, 2012
5 days, 4 nights

- Round trip motor coach from Senior Center to Branson
 - 4 night hotel accommodations
 - Breakfast/dinner daily
 - Meals and tour guide, including gratuities
 - Reserved seating for shows
- Single per person—\$1,663
Double per person—\$1,384
Triple per person—\$1,318
Call Beth Owens at the Richardson Senior Center 972-744-7810 for more information.
- Heritage Tours:**
Cowboy Stadium/American Airlines Center Tour
Call Beth Owens at 972 744-7810 for more details.

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."

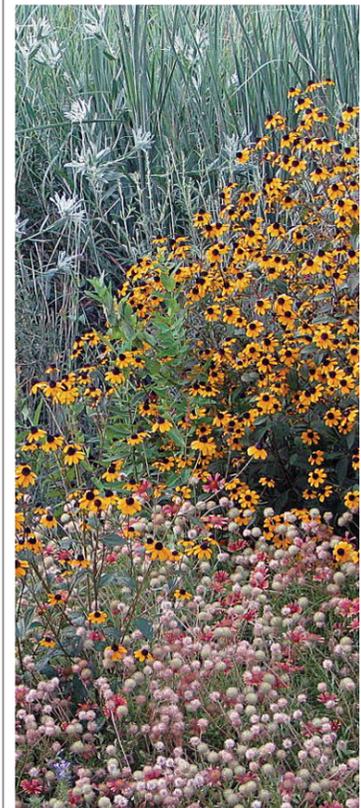
The seminar will be presented by Dotty Woodson, Ed. D. and will cover water issues, landscape design, plant selection and maintenance for water conservation. The seminar will also demonstrate how to check your irrigation system for efficiency and drip irrigation.

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 List" 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.



The Business and Industry Public/Nonprofit/Education Award was presented recently to NETWORK of Community Ministries. For more than 25 years, NETWORK has provided assistance to individuals seeking to achieve long-term independence, both in Richardson and beyond the City's borders. The organization offers health and emergency services to children, low-income families and senior citizens in need. Pictured from left to right are: Jim Strand, Chairman of the Board of the Richardson Chamber, Linda Reed, President, Board of Directors, NETWORK of Community Ministries, and Richardson Mayor Pro Tem Laura Maczka.

Annual B&I awards presented

The Richardson Chamber of Commerce held its annual Business and Industry Awards Luncheon in November to honor businesses and organizations for their contributions to the local economy and the community. The Chamber and the Richardson Rotary Clubs have held the event for 29 years. This year, seven awards were presented by the Chamber and three individuals were recognized by the Rotary Clubs.

Rotary Awards

Ethics: Sandy Garza
Service Above Self: Dr. Mark Denny, D.D.S.
Unsung Hero: Kent Stone

Chamber Awards

Commercial Real Estate Project: Fossil Inc., KDC, Pillar Commercial
Community Involvement: ViewPoint Bank
Environmental: Eltek Valere
International Business: Ericsson Inc.
Newcomer Business: Virtual Computing Environment (VCE)
Richardson Loyalty: TriQuint Semiconductor
Public/Nonprofit/Educational: NETWORK of Community Ministries

Animal Shelter to offer dog flu shot Jan. 7

The Richardson Animal Shelter will offer the Nobivac® Canine Flu H3N8 vaccination 1-5 p.m. Jan. 7. Owners must set up appointment by calling the Shelter at 972-744-4480. The cost is \$10 per dog.

The website <http://www.doginfluenza.com/owners/> offers important information on canine influenza, including information on treatment and prevention. If you have specific questions about canine influenza or would like additional information about Nobivac® Canine Flu H3N8, please talk to your veterinarian.

January Calendar

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS lights up Hill Performance Hall

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS brings a little bit of everything to the Hill Performance Hall at the Eisemann Center in January and early February. From country music stars to a beloved children's story to classic music mixed with pop culture to the Moulin Rouge, January and early February is a fun time at the Eisemann Center!



LORRIE MORGAN & PAM TILLIS - GRITS & GLAMOUR TOUR

The Grits & Glamour Tour starring country divas Pam Tillis and Lorrie Morgan makes its Dallas debut in a hit-filled evening at the Eisemann Center at 8 p.m. Jan. 14. Pam Tillis was one of the first women in Nashville to produce her own album, and she was awarded the coveted Female Vocalist of the Year by the CMA in 1994. Lorrie Morgan made her first appearance on the Grand Ole Opry with her father George Morgan as a teenager in 1975 and has built a reputation as a bona fide country star.

Saturday, Jan. 14, 8 p.m.; Tickets: \$44-\$62



JUNIE B. JONES

Outspoken, precocious, lovable Junie B. Jones stars in a colorful, funny, fast-paced musical about new friends, new glasses, sugar cookies, the annual kickball tournament, and other various first-grade angst-ridden situations. Follow her adventures as she writes down the story of her life in her "Top-Secret Personal Beeswax Journal." This musical is based on four volumes in Barbara Park's Junie B. Jones series of books, illustrated by Denise Brunkus and published by Random House: Junie B, First Grader (at Last!); Junie B, Boss of Lunch; Junie B, One-Man Band; and Top-Secret Personal Beeswax: A Journal by Junie B (and Me).

Sunday, Jan. 22, at 2:30 p.m.; Tickets: \$11-\$21



IGUDESMA & JOO – A LITTLE NIGHTMARE MUSIC

Aleksey Igudesman and Hyung-ki Joo are two classical musicians who have taken the world by storm with their unique and hilarious theatrical shows, which combine comedy with classical music and popular culture. Their clips on YouTube, to date, have gathered more than 15 million hits, and they will make their Dallas debut at the Eisemann Center with this performance.

Saturday, Jan. 28, at 8 p.m.; Tickets: \$32-\$52



CANADA'S ROYAL WINNIPEG BALLET

Canada's Royal Winnipeg Ballet is bringing its box office sensation "Moulin Rouge® - The Ballet" to the Eisemann Center at 8 p.m. Feb. 3. "Moulin Rouge® - The Ballet" features high-kicking choreography and a passionate story of love, ambition and heartbreak from the longest operating ballet company in North America.

Friday, Feb. 3, at 8 p.m.; Tickets: \$45-\$65

At the Library

900 Civic Center Drive
972-744-4350



Art Exhibit

Young People's Scholarship Show

Jan. 4-Feb. 11, Second Floor. Presented by the Richardson Civic Arts Society.

General Interest

Kate Delaney: "Level the Playing Field: Balls, Brats & Other B.S."

Jan. 7, 10:30-11:30 a.m., Basement Program Room. For more information, contact Janet at 972-744-4376.

Checking out e-Books with your Kindle, a demonstration

Jan. 10, 10-11 a.m., Basement Program Room. Call 972-744-4361 to register.

Library Board Meeting

Jan. 18, 7-9 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room.

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

Jan. 31, 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m., Basement Program Room. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376 for information.

Book Groups

First Wednesday Book Club

Jan. 4, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "

Second Wednesday BOOKbabble Group

Jan. 11, 10:30-11:45 a.m.,

Second Floor Conference Room. "Crooked Letter, Crooked Letter" by Tom Franklin. Registration requested. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376.

Third Wednesday BOOKbabble Group

Jan. 18, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Wake of Forgiveness" by Bruce Machart. Registration requested. Call Penny Manly, 972-744-4350.

Fourth Tuesday BOOKbabble

Jan. 24, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Scent of Rain and Lightning" by Nancy Pickard. 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

Jan. 13, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Internet 101

Jan. 17, 10 a.m.-noon.

Job Searching on the Internet

Jan. 20, 10-11:30 a.m.

Introduction to Microsoft Word 2003

Jan. 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.

Teen Activities

Circus Freaks Teen program, Jan. 3, 7-8 p.m., Basement Program Room. For teens, grades 6-12.

Special Interest

Dewey KNIT?

Jan. 7, 2-4 p.m., Children's Program Room. Call Jane Nearing, 972-744-4355 for information.

Richardson Civic Art Society Meeting and Demonstration

Jan. 17, 6:45 p.m., Basement Program Room. Oil painting.

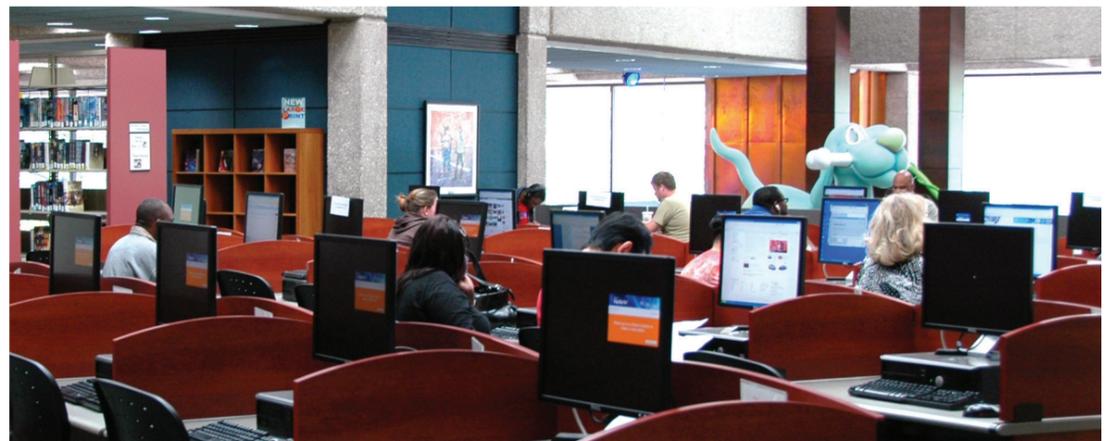
Richardson Historical and Genealogical Society

Jan. 19, 7-9 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room. Paula Perkins, "Making Sense of the Census: Including the 1940 Census—Tips & Repositories."

Craftivity!

Jan. 31, 6:30-8:30 p.m., Basement Program Room. For all ages.

Library closed
Jan. 1-2, Jan. 16



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



Pegasus Theatre
"The Frequency of Death!"
Bank of America Theatre
8 p.m. Jan. 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 119, 20, 21
3 p.m. Jan. 7, 8, 14, 15, 21, 22
Tickets: \$30
(except Jan. 5: \$5-\$20)
www.pegasustheatre.org

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS
Lorrie Morgan and Pam Tillis
"Grits and Glamour Tour"
Hill Performance Hall
8 p.m. Jan. 14
Tickets: \$44-\$62
lorrie.com, www.pamtillis.com

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS
Igudesman & Joo
"A Little Nightmare Music"
Hill Performance Hall
8 p.m. Jan. 28
Tickets: \$32-\$52
www.igudesmanandjoo.com

Local Spiritual Assembly of Bahai's of Plano
"One World Concert"
Hill Performance Hall
8 p.m. Jan. 7
Tickets: \$35
www.niloo.org

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS
Theatreworks USA
"Junie B. Jones"
Hill Performance Hall
2:30 p.m. Jan. 22
Tickets: \$11-\$21

Richardson Community Band
"The Wild Wild West"
Hill Performance Hall
2 p.m. Jan. 29
Tickets: \$7
www.richardsoncommunityband.org

972-744-4166

www.cor.net/cs

Community Services

Residential rental registration requirements change

The purpose of the City of Richardson's Residential Rental Registration Program is to protect the vitality and integrity of the City by ensuring its rental housing stock is maintained in a safe and healthy manner and that tenants are provided dwelling units that meet minimum fire, building and health standards. According to Don Magner, Director of Community Services, staff seeks to ac-

complish this through proactive yet fair and reasonable enforcement of the applicable codes and ordinances.

The Richardson City Council adopted Ordinance 3847 at its Nov. 28 meeting, thereby enacting the Residential Rental Registration Program enhancements listed below, which take effect Jan. 1:

- Assess an annual registration fee of \$75.

- Require an inspection of every rental property when a change of occupancy or change in tenancy occurs. Said inspection must be conducted within 30 days of the new tenant moving in.
- Utilize a score sheet to assess the condition of rental properties (a copy of the evaluation criteria can be found online at www.cor.net/cs).
- Require a habitability score of 85 or higher to pass an inspection. Require a re-inspection of all properties.
- If a property earns a habitability score of less than 85, assess a \$90 fee for the first re-inspection and \$120 for all subsequent re-inspections.
- Offer early morning, evening and weekend inspections.

According to Magner, it is important to note that property owners are still only required to schedule an inspection when a change of occupancy or tenancy occurs. The only difference is that the inspection must be scheduled within 30 days of the new tenant moving in.

"Owners should be assured that Community Services staff is committed to being ac-

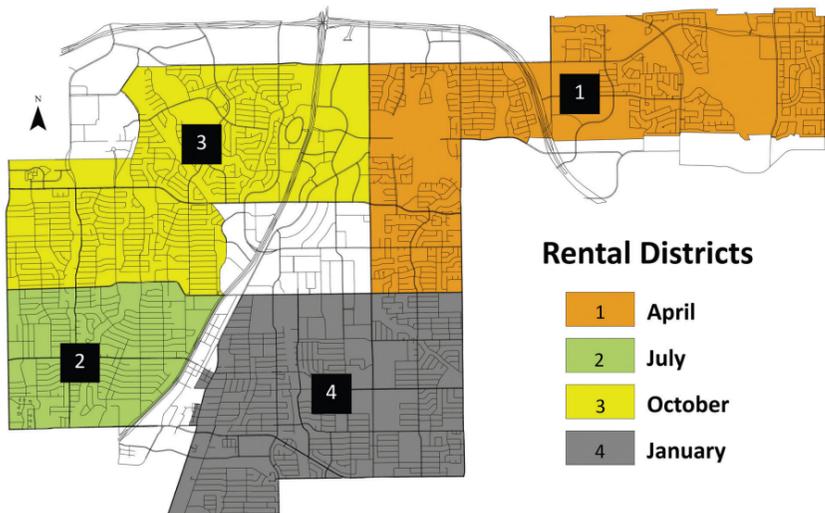
cessible and providing timely inspections," Magner said. "We will work diligently to avoid any unnecessary delays for owners or tenants."

Absent a change in occupancy or of tenancy, a property owner's only obligation remains submitting the annual registration renewal form at the assigned time. A map indicating registration renewal dates is at left.

Should you have any questions regarding any of the enhancements or future requirements, please do not hesitate to contact Community Services Residential Rental Registration Program staff:

Patricia Guerra
Assistant Director of
Community Services
972-744-4173
patricia.guerra@cor.gov

Andrew Edwards
Code Enforcement Officer
972-744-4185
andrew.edwards@cor.gov



Drainage fee begins in February

A new fee adopted in November by the Richardson City Council will appear in February water bills. The residential fee of \$3.75 per month per household will be used for the Drainage Utility System as adopted by the Richardson City Council in November. The non-residential rate is \$0.105 per 100 square feet of impervious area per month, with a minimum charge of \$3.75.

The Drainage Utility System will allow the City to continue to sustain its environmental and regulatory obligations for storm water management and enhance its annual maintenance and capital work plan.

New Year's resolution: No grease down the drain

The New Year usually brings resolutions: plans to exercise, quit smoking or eat better. We resolve to do something, or change something to help ourselves. How about a resolution that helps you, the City and the environment? While cutting the fat in your diet, also cut the fat that you put down your drain.

Restaurants and other businesses that produce grease are required to install equipment in their sewer lines to capture grease and other food by-products, preventing these from entering the sewer lines. However, the City still has a problem with grease and food products clogging sanitary sewer lines. The concern is oil and grease coming from private residents. The problem is exaggerated at apartments and other multi-family dwellings where many families are connected to the same sewer line.

Oils and grease that are poured down the kitchen sink will cool and solidify in the sewer pipes. As they do, they cling to the pipes of the sewer causing narrowing of the pipes and grease blockage in the sewers. This will cause a sewer back-up, either in your house or out of a sewer manhole. Backed-up sinks and overflowing toilets can cause major problems in your home, but if the back-up is in the main line, the problems get even bigger. Data collected by the Environmental Protection Agency suggests that grease is the primary cause of 40-50 percent of sewer overflows nationwide and a secondary cause in an additional 10-25 percent. The "stuff" you send down the kitchen drain is supposed to go to the wastewater treatment plant, but a sewer overflow sends it directly to the creeks and rivers causing pollution, unsafe conditions and fish kills.

In Richardson, about half of the sewer main overflows are caused by

grease build-up. **Sewer overflows and the pollution they create are a major concern and can result in substantial ecological damage to streams and the imposition of costly fines to the municipality.** There are a few simple steps that we all can do to prevent costly sewage overflows in the future:

- Do not pour any oils or grease from cooking down the kitchen sink. Even if you run hot water down the drain, the grease will eventually harden either in your sewer line or the City sewer main causing a blockage.
- Pour all fats, oils and grease into a coffee can or other durable container. Put the can in the refrigerator to solidify and dispose properly. Take 1-5 gallon containers of cooking oil to the Dallas County Home Chemical Collection Center at 11234 Plano Rd. Small quantities of fat can be disposed in the trash if solidified but send it to the landfill only as a last resort. Find an approved drop off location near you at the ceasethegrease.org website.
- Wipe out excess grease from plates, pots and pans with a paper towel or newspaper before washing or placing in the dishwasher. Toss the paper towel in the trash.
- Put food scraps in the trash, not down the garbage disposal.

These suggestions can and will save you money. Most sewer back-ups occur between the house and the City's sewer main, where the property owner is responsible for correcting the problem (hiring a plumber). It will reduce the need for City crews to unstop sewer lines, and reduce the cost of sewage treatment. Resolve to dispose of your grease properly.

Winterizing home can avert problems

With colder temperatures looming, it's once again time to start thinking about winterizing your home. According to Director of Community Services, Don Magner, preparing your home for winter does not have to be a considerable chore if you do so one step at a time. By following the suggestions below, you'll not only protect your home, you'll save dollars in heating costs as well.

Seal, Caulk and Wrap

- Add or replace worn weather-stripping around doors and windows. Caulk gaps where necessary.
- Replace worn doorstops at the bottom of doors.
- Use caulking and weather-stripping around entry points for all pipes and ducts that travel through an exterior wall.
- Install insulating kits behind electrical plugs that are on a wall with an exterior side.

Heating & Plumbing Systems

- Have a heating professional do a routine check before cold weather arrives.
- Take care of known issues with pipes that freeze. Heat tape and foam insulation can be used to keep them warm during extremely cold weather. Insulate your water heater with an insulating blanket.
- Drain water from outdoor faucets when you think a hard freeze is coming and install freeze cover.
- Have the chimney inspected and cleaned. Close the fireplace damper when not in use.

Roof

- Replace loose shingles. Make sure the flashing around the

chimney or vent pipes is water-tight.

- Install a screen at the top of the chimney to keep leaves and other items out.
- Clean drain gutters and point downspouts away from the house.
- Trim tree limbs that are hanging over or touching the roof.

Outdoor Items

- Check the foundation and siding for cracks or gaps. Repair as necessary.
- Put the storm windows down.
- Drain garden hoses, roll them up and store them inside.
- Close and cover the swimming pool.
- Cover outdoor furniture or store it inside.

"In addition to the previous recommendations, proper insulation is key to keeping your home warmer in the winter and cooler in the summer," said Magner. "Ask the staff at one of our local home improvement centers or with the City's Building Inspection Department how much insulation is recommended for your home, then check to make sure it's adequate."

Notwithstanding the previous preparations, each year countless homeowners are burdened with bursting pipes and water leaks.

"If this occurs, residents should be prepared to minimize damage by learning how to turn off water at its source," said Magner. "Or if water is leaking in your home, call the City at 972-744-4111 for emergency water cut-off. A representative of the City will come to your home and shut off the water free of charge."

For more information, please contact Community Services at



972-744-4166 or Building Inspection at 972-744-4180.

Sprinkler shut-off prevents hazard

As the weather turns colder, it is important to remember to purge and turn off sprinklers prior to temperatures dipping below freezing. Water that finds its way to the sidewalks and streets could freeze and create hazardous conditions for pedestrians and motorists. To prevent a serious accident from occurring, please exercise caution and remember to turn off sprinklers if there is even a chance of freezing temperatures.

Remember, Stage 3 water restrictions went into effect Nov. 1, allowing for a twice per month irrigation schedule. Why not turn off your sprinkler system during the winter months? Your water conservation efforts will help! More information on water conservation can be found on the City's Water Conservation website available on the City's homepage at www.cor.net. Further information is also available at www.watერიq.org and www.ntmwd.com.

To report dangerous conditions, call Community Services at 972-744-4166 or send an e-mail to neighborhood.services@cor.gov.



Make your event special at the Richardson Civic Center
411 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson, Texas 75080
972-744-4090
www.cor.net/civiccenter

Coming up at the Richardson Civic Center
Dallas Bridge Tournament
Jan. 20-22
www.d16acbl.org/U176
DMN Career Expo
Jan. 24
www.expexpertsllc.com
Real Estate Investor Expo
Jan. 28-29
www.reiexpo.com

972-744-4300

www.cor.net/parks

Parks & Recreation

Many thanks from Santa and the village people

The following groups and organizations generously donated their time and talent during the craziest time of the year for the continued success of Santa's Village. Many thanks to all. We couldn't do it without you!

Sponsors and Volunteers

- COR Animal Shelter
- COR Fire Department
- COR Library
- COR Police Department
- COR Recycling
- COR Swim Team
- Leadership Richardson
- Alumni Association
- Methodist Richardson
- Medical Center
- Neighborhood Credit Union
- Richardson Family YMCA
- Richardson Jaycees
- Richardson Junior League
- Richardson Rotary
- Richardson East Rotary
- Richardson Woman's Club
- Symphony League
- ViewPoint Bank
- Youth Leadership Richardson

Entertainment

- America's Girl Pageant
- Arapaho Magnet
- Brownie Troop 1579
- Berkner High School Bandolera
- Drill Team, Ramblers Burning Embers, Encore
- Canyon Creek Christian Academy
- Canyon Creek Elementary Choir and Musik-Spiel
- Class Act Tap Company
- Contemporary Chorale
- Dallas Tap Dazzlers
- Dallas Power House of Dance
- Dance, Etc!

- Dance Unending
- Performing Company
- Dartmouth Elementary Choir
- Dixie Grand Cloggers
- Dove Academy of Dance Arts
- Emily Minyard
- First Baptist Church
- Richardson Jazz Band
- Garland Divas Dance Group
- Jay Wilson & Friends
- J.J. Pearce High School Forté and Mustang Stampede, Pearce Theater Family Series, Pearce Brass
- Joseph Gomez
- Kassy Levels
- London School of Dance
- Matille Torres
- Melva Smith School of Dance
- Miranda Marie Garcia
- Nathan Johnson
- Next Step Dance Hip Hop Crew
- North Junior High School Encore
- Park Cities Baptist Church
- Youth Choir
- Prairie Creek Elementary
- Sign Choir
- Praise Party School of Dance
- Richardson Community Band
- Richardson High School
- Desperados and Legacy
- Rich-Tone Chorus
- Sounding Brass
- St. Paul the Apostle Parish
- Children's and Teen Choirs
- Studio Dance Center
- Talent N More Dance Centre
- Yale Elementary Honor Choir

A **SPECIAL THANKS** to all the families, individuals and group volunteers who gave their time and energy to help make the holiday season brighter.

Huffhines Tennis Center

1601 Syracuse Dr.
972-744-7870
Group Lessons—Adults/Juniors
Jan. 9-27
Meet twice per week for three weeks. Cost: \$42

Adult Leagues
Jan. 9-Feb. 24
Singles cost: \$30
Doubles cost: \$24



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.

Daddy/
Daughter

Valentine Ball

Richardson Civic Center Grand Hall
Friday, Feb. 10
6:30-9:30 p.m.
Attire: Sunday Best-Formal
Registration #65782

Ages 5 and older with a dad, grandad, uncle or other father figure.

The pleasure of your company is requested at the 11th annual Valentine's Ball. Daddies, this is your chance to treat your little girl(s) like the princess(es) she(they) is(are). You will enjoy a buffet style dinner and a full night of dancing to music from a professional DJ. You will have plenty of fun with food, dancing, special effects lighting, contests and more! Don't miss this opportunity to dance the night away with your little sweetheart(s)! This will truly be a night that your little girl(s) will always remember! See you at the ball!

Fee is \$60 per couple and **INCLUDES** a photograph of you and your daughter from a professional photographer.

Additional daughter is \$20 without an additional photograph or \$30 with an additional photograph.

LIMITED SPACE AVAILABLE!!!
REGISTRATION DEADLINE, FEB. 3, OR WHEN FULL!



Best of Show 2011 Winner's Exhibit and 2011 Judge's Exhibit
Jan. 9-26, 2012
Library 3rd Floor

2012 Photo Contest Dates

Entries accepted Jan. 9-22
Huffhines Recreation Center
Results available Jan. 31 at www.cor.net

2012 Contest's Results Exhibit, Jan. 30-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)



Register NOW!
Richardson Soccer Association
Spring 2012 Season!

Top Ten Reasons to Play Soccer!

1. It's fun!
2. It's an equal opportunity sport for both boys and girls.
3. There's no size requirement.
4. It's inexpensive.
5. It's physically beneficial.
6. It's the world's game. It's a universal language that can be spoken regardless of nationality.
7. It develops friendships on and off the field.
8. It encourages family engagement and community building.
9. It teaches life skills, like teamwork, discipline and fair play.
10. It builds a lifelong habit of being active.

- The 2012 Spring Season begins mid-February to mid-March, depending on the age group.
- Seasons are typically 6-10 games. Kids as young as 3-years-old can play!
- RSA offers coach and referee clinics, as well as player skills clinics – no experience required!

Registration Dates and Deadlines:*

Regular Registration: Through Jan. 15
Late Registration: Jan. 16-31
Wait List: Starts Feb. 1

How to Register:

Online: www.richardsonsoccer.org
In Person: 651 N. Plano Rd. #421 (S. of Arapaho, N. of Belt Line)
Mon-Thur: 1-6 p.m.
Sat: 10 a.m.-4 p.m.
972-234-2571

*Special requirements for new players and those outside of the City of Richardson.

Please see www.richardsonsoccer.org for details!

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.

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 Jan. 9.

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 Jan. 9.

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 Jan. 24 and Jan. 31 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.

AARP Driver Safety Classes

Classes are held at the Richardson Senior Center as follows:

Jan. 5	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Jan. 19	6-10 p.m.
Feb. 2	8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.
Feb. 16	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:

Jan. 3 and 5	6-9 p.m.
Feb. 7 and 9	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:

Jan. 9 and 12	6-9 p.m.
Jan. 14 and 21	1:15-4:15 p.m.
Jan. 23 and 26	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.

Plus Square Dance

Every first, third and fifth Monday 7-9 p.m. All Position Plus Dance-\$50 per dancer per quarter. First quarter will start Jan. 2 and ends March 19.

Friendship Plus

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

Plus Lesson

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



Crochet

Crochet class is taught 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 of 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 will begin Jan. 4. Space is limited so sign up early.

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 Jan. 5. Class is 10-11 a.m. and runs for eight weeks. Cost is \$48.

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.

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.

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

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

Programs

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 the dates for this month's senior dances.

Jan. 7	Doc Gibbs
Jan. 14	Ronnie Martin
Jan. 28	Gary Lee

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.



Senior Golf League

The Richardson Senior Golf League is open to men and women 60 years and older. There are members playing at all skill levels. The members are divided evenly into four flights. All play is at Sherrill Park Golf Course on Monday mornings with a shot gun start, alternating between courses one and two. The league is for the enjoyment of golf and several league rules have been adapted to speed play and increase the pleasure of the game. Please contact Fred Williams, president, at 972-392-2252 or Jim White, treasurer, at 972-234-6167.

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 2011 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 is. 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 for a fun time!

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.

Volunteer Opportunities

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

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 reassurance 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.

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 the 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. Strengthen your core muscles to help improve posture, reduce lower backaches and gain balance. 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, Rummikub, Dominos and "42" are played by our patrons.

Sportswriter Delaney speaks Jan. 7

Award-winning national broadcast personality Kate Delaney will appear at the Richardson Public Library at 10:30 a.m. Saturday, Jan. 7, to tell stories from her new book, "Level the Playing Field: Balls, Brats and Other B.S." The book is guaranteed to help you drive the conversation and astound your friends, co-workers and family with interesting facts, trivia and "mind-blowing anecdotes" from the world of sports.

Kate has interviewed more than 12,000 people in her 20 years in radio and television. She is one

of only two women to ever host a sports radio talk show in a Top 10 market including The Ticket and KRLD in Dallas. Kate is the winner of a television Emmy Award and several Golden Mic Awards. She currently hosts a national radio talk show, "America Tonight" and writes a weekly column in the *Dallas Sports Page Weekly*.

This free program will be in the Library's basement program room. All are invited to attend and registration is not required. For more information call Janet at 972-744-4376.



CRAFTIVITY!
Crafts & Games
Fun for the whole family!
Tuesday, Jan. 31
6:30-8 p.m.
Basement Program Room
For residents and non-residents.
No registration required.

Lunchtime lectures focus on constitutional convention

"The Miracle in Philadelphia: The Summer of 1787" will be the subject of two new "Lunchtime Lectures" focusing on America's Constitutional Convention of 1787. The lectures will be held 11:30 a.m.-12:45 p.m. Jan. 31 and 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 two lectures on the Constitutional Convention will add to the just completed "Lunchtime Lectures" series on George Washington and the Revolution. Cudlipp's lectures on the Constitutional Convention will draw upon source material from Catherine Bowen's "Miracle at Philadelphia" and David Stewart's "Summer of 1787" as well as from many other resources.

Cudlipp served for 20 years in the Air Force before retiring at the rank of lieutenant colonel. He

served two combat tours in Vietnam. His second career was in engineering and business where he worked for such companies as NCR, E-Systems and Electro-space as well as founding a new antenna company. Cudlipp is an avid student of history and brings his unique perspective to bringing American history to life for others.

The programs are 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.

Library now offers books for Kindles

Was a new Kindle under the Christmas tree? The Library now offers free eBooks for the Kindle Reader through the OverDrive interface as well as eBooks for Nooks, iPads, and other devices.

Getting Started With Kindle

- Visit www.richardsonpubliclibrary.com on your PC or Mac
- Click on the OverDrive button (right side of screen)
- Enter your Richardson Public Library Card number omitting spaces
- Enter your PIN (Personal ID Number) which is the last four digits of your phone number
- **Browsing and Checking Out**
- Browse Kindle books by clicking on Library eBooks for Kindle
- Click on a selected Kindle Book
- Click on the Add to Cart button for the Kindle Book to check out a title
- Click on My Cart

- Click on Proceed to Checkout and enter your Library card number and PIN
- Select the length of your check out period—choose 7 days, 14 days, or 21 days
- Click on Confirm Check Out
- Click on the Get Kindle Book button to place the title on your Amazon Account

Moving eBook from Your Amazon Account to Your Kindle

- Log into your Amazon account using your PC or Mac
- Click on the green button that says Get library book
- Follow Amazon's instructions on the next screen for your registered device (Kindle, Kindle app, etc.)
- Turn on device
- Sync device to your Amazon Account

Return eBook Early

- Log into your Amazon account using your PC or Mac
- Check on Your Digital Items
- Click on Manage Your Kindle
- Click on the Actions button (right side)
- Click on Delete Item. Deleting the item from your Amazon account will return the item to OverDrive.

Helpful Information

A maximum of three audio books can be checked out at one time. Items may be placed on hold (maximum of three holds at one time). Items must be checked out using a PC or Mac. The process does not work using your Kindle or Kindle app directly.

For information on the use of other devices with Overdrive, visit www.richardsonpubliclibrary.com or call the Library at 972-744-4350.

Winter Storytimes
 For Richardson residents—valid Library card is required.
REQUIRED REGISTRATION BEGINS 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 starts Jan. 23 and ends Feb. 27. (six weeks). 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 starts Jan. 23 and ends March 1 (six weeks). 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.



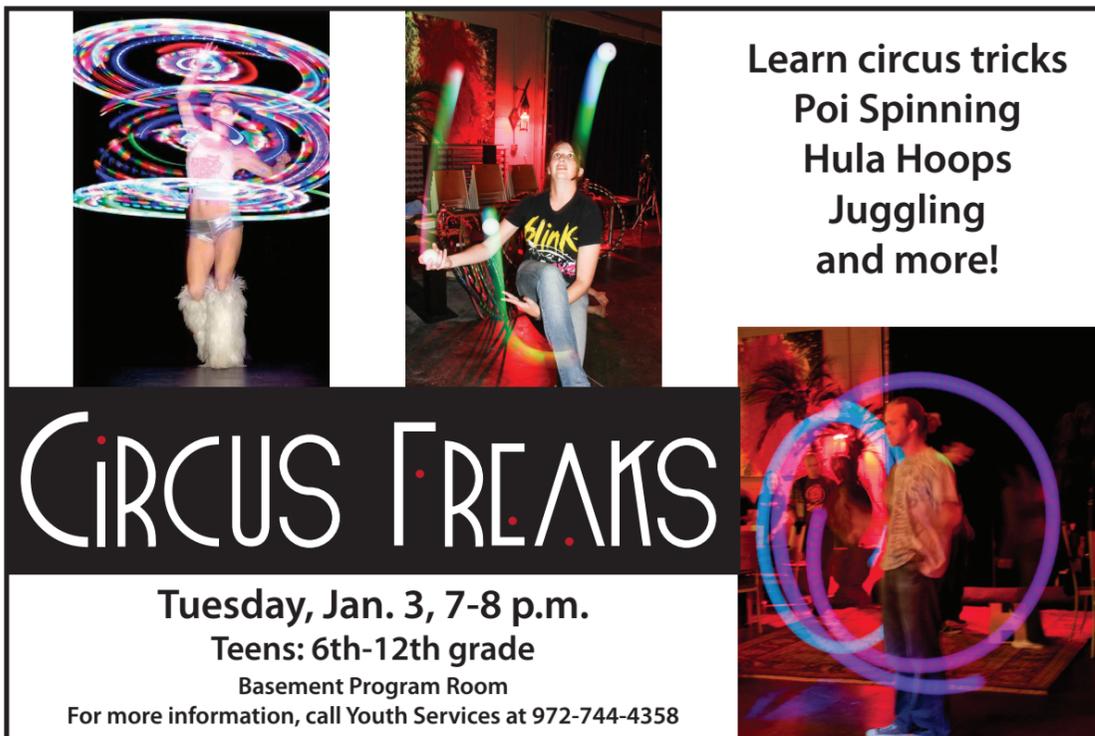
Storytime
 For children 3-6 years old. Storytime is filled with stories, puppets, songs and fingerplays. Children attend Storytime independently. Parents, please meet your child in the Children's Program Room promptly at the end of each session. Limit one guest per child—one time only. Storytime starts Jan. 24 and ends Feb. 28 (six weeks). Choose one of the following times: Tuesdays: 3:30-4 p.m. or Wednesdays: 11-11:30 a.m.



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!

Learn circus tricks
Poi Spinning
Hula Hoops
Juggling
and more!

CIRCUS TREAKS
Tuesday, Jan. 3, 7-8 p.m.
Teens: 6th-12th grade
Basement Program Room
For more information, call Youth Services at 972-744-4358



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

