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Wildflower! Singer-Songwriter Stage
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The Wildflower! Festival's Singer-Songwriter Stage gives music lovers an up close look at some of the country's best musical talent.



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Garage Sale Permit
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Beginning April 1, residents who wish to conduct a garage sale will have to obtain a free City permit.

City launches redesigned website



The City of Richardson unveiled its redesigned website, www.cor.net, March 5 and it offers a variety of enhancements that promote easy access to municipal services and information. Online renovations include new "quick link" features that promote greater access to City services and mobile web technology. The new website can recognize when it is being accessed by a mobile device and provides an easy-to-use menu system for smart phones.

"Richardson has always been a leader in providing online access to municipal services," said Mayor Bob Townsend. "We were the first city in Texas to have a website and one of the first in the nation to offer online services such as utility bill payments. Our new site continues our tradition of providing easy access to information and services, and it has a variety of new features that take advantage of the changes in mobile communications and social media."

The City of Richardson's first website went operational in 1991. It was the first municipal website in the state of Texas, and, to the City's knowledge, it was the third municipal website in the world. It has also grown to be the primary portal people use to interact with City services, which is what made a redesign of the site such a high priority with the City Council.

One of the main goals for the new website was to create an intuitive design for the City's pages that would make it easier for visitors to find the information they want. The City looked for a web design vendor that could provide municipal "modules"—programs built into the website that are tai-



lor made for local government services.

California-based Vision Internet was contracted by the City to provide design features and a new Content Management System (CMS). The company was chosen for its experience working with hundreds of municipal governments across the nation to provide website design and online services. Its CMS includes several unique interactive components that allow for expanded community interaction and website management that include:

- a citizen notification service

- a civic calendar module
- a facilities directory tool
- an emergency alert function that provides instant updates on the home page

The new website uses quick action buttons on the home page and on several departments' landing pages to allow easy access to the City's most used services. It also features an easy-to-use issue reporting tool. Anyone having problems finding services or using the new website can submit a request for help using the tool. It can be found under the "I want to..." tab

on the upper right hand corner of the City's new home page.

Design enhancements for Richardson's web pages have been under way since February 2011. Its creation is intended to align with the City Council's Statement of Goals, which aims to improve citywide communications, transparency in government operations, marketing of community assets and encouraging public involvement.

Page 3 of this issue provides an overview of the City's website and highlights some of the features available to visitors.

City retains "Triple A" from Moody's, S&P

Two credit rating agencies recently informed the City that they have again given Richardson their highest possible bond ratings, citing strong fiscal management and a growing economy. The City has maintained a AAA rating from Standard and Poor's for four years, and this is the third year in a row that the City has received a Aaa rating from Moody's.

"These ratings have become a tremendous source of pride for our community," said City of Richardson Mayor Bob Townsend. "The City Council has placed a tremendous amount of focus on responsible fiscal management, and these ratings by external examiners reinforce that we are making good decisions. We are ecstatic about our continued exceptional performance, and with the stability and strength of our local economy that helps make these ratings possible."

Every year, the City sells bonds to fund replacement of capital equipment and infrastructure improvements. This year the City plans to sell \$6.98 million, which includes funding for infrastruc-

ture, demolition of dangerous structures, technology, equipment purchases, an ambulance and pumper, drainage improvements, solid waste equipment and other long-term capital needs. This amount is an 8.7 percent reduction from the \$7.65 million originally budgeted.

An estimated \$15.1 million in existing debt will be refunded to result in interest savings. The refunding bonds will not add new debt, and they will not extend the final maturity date of the existing bonds.

Moody's rating places Richardson among the top 6.6 percent of rated cities in the nation and 2.1 percent of rated cities in Texas to hold Aaa status. It has given only four other cities in Texas the same designation.

Standard and Poor's AAA rating places Richardson among the top 5.3 percent of rated statewide communities, and Richardson is one of only five communities in Texas to hold both a Aaa and AAA rating from both agencies.

Cottonwood art festival

There's an art to having fun!

For more than 40 years, Richardson, Texas has been home to this fabulous juried art show. Cottonwood is proudly ranked #9 out of the top 100 art festivals in the nation!

- Museum-quality works from over 240 artists •
- Live music • Hands-on Kid's Area - ArtStop •

May 5-6, 2012
Sat. 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
Sun. 10 a.m.-6 p.m.

Cottonwood Park - Richardson, TX
Free Admission - Free Parking
www.cottonwodartfestival.com

Featured Artist: Mark Keller

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P.O. BOX 830309
RICHARDSON, TEXAS 75083

Postal Customer
Richardson, TX

Bill Keffler chosen as Citizen of the Year

The Richardson Chamber of Commerce honored outgoing Richardson City Manager Bill Keffler as Citizen of the Year at its annual meeting March 22. The presentation was made by former Richardson Mayor Gary Slagel, the 2010 Citizen of the year.

Keffler was chosen for his long tenure with the City, and for his strong leadership in promoting City-wide and regional partnering efforts. He was also recognized for his commitment to fiscal responsibility and transparency, support for municipal operations innovations, willingness to undertake new initiatives in the areas of urban planning, economic development and community revitalization, and strong focus on professional leadership and mentoring.

"Bill has long been a huge part of the Chamber's efforts, with economic development being key," Richardson Chamber of Commerce 2011 Chairman of the Board Jim Strand said. "Considering his commitment to the City, its businesses and the community, he was the natural choice to be selected."

The meeting's featured guest speaker Andrew Card, former chief of staff for President George



Last year's Chamber Citizen of the Year and former Mayor Gary Slagel (left) presents City Manager Bill Keffler with the Citizen of the Year award.

W. Bush, gave his perspective of the days around 9-11.

Also recognized were Chamber volunteers of the year whose contributions impacted the Chamber and ultimately the Richardson business community's success. Winners included: Stan Bradshaw of The Bradshaw Group for volunteer of the year, Executive Press

for small business of the year, Dianna Gell of Clearly Creative Promotions for rookie of the year, EarlyNet as the committee of the year (tri-chairs Sandra Ward, Marilyn Castleberry and George Simons) and Bob Krombach of Preferred Office Products as ambassador of the year.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

Dear Resident,

Early on the morning of March 5, City Council members and the City's Information Technology team officially launched the new version of the City's website, www.cor.net.

Hitting the button to launch the new site was the easy part. The process to redesign the website took more than a year of hard work by staff in every City department. They worked closely with Vision Internet, the company the City contracted with to create the design and a content management system for the site. Vision Internet was selected because of its experience working with hundreds of other municipalities across the country, and its expertise was instrumental in creating a site that will be easy for users to navigate and reflects the forward-looking vision of our community.

Richardson has long been a leader in having a presence online. When the City's website went operational in 1991, it was the first municipal website in Texas and one of the first in the world. Since then, it has grown to be the primary portal for people to access and interact with City services.

Never before have there been more ways for you to get information about our community. In addition to the new website, the City has recently launched Facebook and Twitter accounts for Richardson Today, as well as a Facebook page for the Corporate Challenge. They join a growing number of so-



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



cial media portals the City uses to connect with the community.

In addition, the City Plan Commission's March 6 meeting was the first to be broadcast on CITV and online. Plan Commission meetings will now be archived online, just as City Council meetings have been for more than two years.

Communication is an important part of the City Council's Transparency Initiative, and I encourage you to use the tools available for you to connect with the City.

Sincerely,

Bob Townsend

Bob Townsend Mayor bob.townsend@cor.gov

LEARN 2 LIVE GREEN

The City of Richardson is proud to be a sponsor of this event. Visit Richardson's Public Services booth inside the Angelika theater.

Saturday April 14 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The Shops at Legacy



Learn how to:

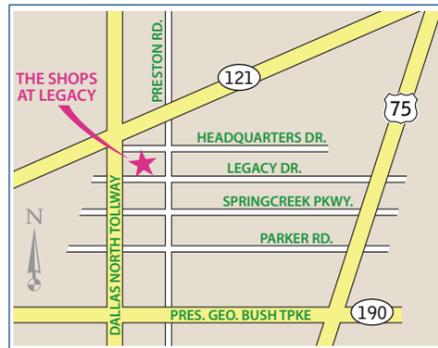
- Care for trees during drought
- Convert to drip irrigation
- Maintain landscapes during drought
- Create low water use landscapes
- Protect your foundation

Go to the website to pre-register for DIY workshops on: Food waste composting, Homemade green cleaners, Container gardening

Entertainment:

- Crafts for Kids
- Blackland Prairie Raptor Center
- BMX Stunt Riders
- Bubble Show with Linda Berman

learn2livegreen.com



City Council Action

The following is a listing of some of the main items considered by the Richardson City Council at the Jan. 23 and Feb. 14 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.

Jan. 23

A request by Chris Ray, representing Centennial Park Richardson, Ltd., for approval of a concept plan and exceptions to the area regulations and various standards for multi-family development for 77 apartment units in multi-family buildings D and E at Brick Row, 3.3-acres located on the north side of Brick Row at McKamy Park Circle, currently zoned PD Planned Development, was approved.

A request by Chris Ray, representing Centennial Park Richardson, Ltd., for approval of a concept plan and exceptions to the area regulations for a pool and cabana at Brick Row, 0.24-acres located on the south side of Brick Row at McKamy Park Circle, currently zoned PD Planned Development, was approved.

A request by Bruno Pasquinelli, representing CB Jeni Homes, for approval of revised building elevations and an exception to the minimum

floor area for the remaining undeveloped townhome lots within Brick Row, 9.46-acres located on the west side of Greenville Avenue, north of Spring Valley Road, currently zoned PD Planned Development, was approved.

Feb. 14

Approve appointment of Dan Johnson as the City Manager effective June 1, 2012 and authorize the Mayor to negotiate the terms of employment for City Council approval, was approved.

Ordinance No. 3852: Request of Justin Milander, representing Toll Brothers, Inc., for amendments to the existing special conditions to allow an increased number of stucco homes, add regulations regarding attached/detached cedar arbors and setbacks, and to revoke the Special Permit for an Independent Living Senior Housing Facility granted in ordinance 3705 for the development located at the south-

east corner of Renner Road and Sharp Lane, currently zoned PD Planned Development for the RP-1500-M Patio Home District, was approved.

Request by Eyal Avnon, representing David Weekley Homes, for approval of a revised concept plan and amendment of the development standards for a proposed patio home development on a property located at the northwest corner of Lake Park Way and Jonsson Boulevard, currently zoned RP-1500-M Patio Home was approved.

Request by Jeff Gibbens with Pro Med Signs, representing Harrington Chiropractic, for a variance to the City of Richardson Code of Ordinances, Chapter 18, Article I, Section 18-5(4) to allow a 13.33 square foot time and temperature sign in addition to the approved 36 square foot illuminated channel box sign at 1980 Nantucket Drive, #104, was denied.

Mayor Pro Tem

Laura Maczka Place 4 laura.maczka@cor.gov



Council Member

Kendal Hartley Place 5 kendal.hartley@cor.gov



Council Member

Mark Solomon Place 2 mark.solomon@cor.gov



Council Member

Steve Mitchell Place 6 steve.mitchell@cor.gov



Council Member

Scott Dunn Place 3 scott.dunn@cor.gov



Council Member

Amir Omar Place 7 amir.omar@cor.gov



Contact by mail or phone:

Richardson City Council, 411 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson, TX 75080 972-744-4203

MRMC spring clean for babies

Methodist Richardson Medical Center (MRMC) will host a community yard sale to raise money for March of Dimes Saturday, April 14, 8 a.m.-5 p.m. at the former Methodist Richardson Cancer Center, located at 1977 North Collins Boulevard (corner of West Campbell Road and North Collins Boulevard). The event will also include concessions and a car wash.

You may drop off donated items at Methodist Richardson Medical Plaza 1, 403 W. Campbell Rd., Monday-Friday, April 9-13 from 6-8 a.m., noon-2 p.m., and 6-8 p.m. MRMC staff will pick up large items donated to the sale Wednesday through Friday, April 11-13. Call 972-498-4731 to schedule a pick up.

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

Things you can do on cor.net!

ONLINE SERVICES

ANIMAL SHELTER

- View Animal Shelter pets to adopt
- Post a lost or found animal report on the website
- Create a profile for the type of animal you want to adopt

CONTACT INFORMATION

Sign up for e-mail news updates on:

- Crime Statistics
- Community Emergency Notification System
- Dine Smart Dine Local

Find forms for:

- Open records requests
- Conflict disclosure statements
- Conflict of interest questionnaire

FINES AND RENEWALS

- Pay traffic tickets online
- Renew driver's license through link to Texas Department of Public Safety
- Find out if you have an outstanding warrant

PERMITS

- Purchase an electrical, plumbing or mechanical permit
- Search for information on a specific permit
- View or schedule inspections for a permit
- Pay your alarm bill online
- Apply and pay for your new alarm permit

UTILITIES

- Request a bulky item pick-up on your recycling day
- Pay your monthly water bill
- Find your recycling day, view list of accepted materials to recycle, link to holiday recycling make-up days
- View map showing collection days for regular trash pick-up
- Link to the official Electric Choice website of the Public Utility Commission of Texas. Here you can learn about electric competition in Texas and shop for electricity providers

I WANT TO...

View Animal Shelter pets to adopt

APPLY FOR A...

New alarm permit

- Download and print an alarm permit application

Health Permit

- Food Service Permit Application
- Temporary Food Service Permit Application
- Mobile Food Service Permit Application
- Registered Family Home Permit Application
- Public/Semi-public Swimming Pool Permit Application
- Liquid Waste Hauler Permit Application

Job

- View positions for which the City is currently accepting applications

Pet Registration

- Register pet with the City

Solicitation Permit

CONTACT

- City Council Member
- City Department or Services
- City phone numbers

ONLINE SERVICES

See Online Services at the top of this page

PAY ONLINE

- Alarm Permit
- Fine/Citation
- Pet Registration
- Property tax
- Red Light Violation
- Water Bill

REPORT AN ISSUE ONLINE

- Online report form for general issues
- Choose from a list of issues
- Report nonemergency crimes and public safety issues
- Find out how to submit anonymous crime tips

SIGN UP

- To receive weekly crime stats e-mail
- To have your house checked while you're on vacation
- To enroll in Parks & Recreation Classes
- To receive *Week in Review* e-mail

VIEW

- Agendas, Notices & Actions
- Crime Stats
- Garbage Schedule
- News releases
- Municipal Code
- CITV Video Vault

VOLUNTEER

- Animal Shelter
- Library
- Eisemann Center
- *Wildflower!* Festival
- Police Department

EXPRESS A CONCERN

- Code Enforcement Issues
- Building Inspection Issues
- Environmental/Health Issues



LIBRARY HOME PAGE BUTTONS (The Library is one of 22 City departments that can be accessed through this link.)



LIBRARY CARDS

Get all the information you need to obtain a Richardson Public Library card

COMMUNITY PARTNERS

Links to Friends of the Library, Richardson Adult Literacy Center and others

VOLUNTEERING

Print and complete an application to volunteer at the Library

RICHARDSON READS ONE BOOK

Get all the latest information about this popular Library annual program

STORYTIMES

Descriptions, dates

COMPUTER CLASSES

The Library offers computer classes each month to teach the basics of

many popular programs and the Internet itself

BOOKBABBLE

Library-hosted book discussion groups meet three times each month. Find the times, see the reading lists for the whole year

DEWEY KNIT

Info about the Library's popular knitting group meetings

BEST SELLERS/AWARD WINNERS

Find links to lists of best-selling books, award-winning books and librarians' favorite books (you can also sign up for these e-newsletters from the Library on 28 different topics ranging from fun things for kids to do to romantic interludes to sports stories)

INTERNET LINKS

Lots of links to interesting and perhaps less-known sites concerning arts and entertainment, book groups, writers groups, community aid, consumer information, job searching, sports, travel and more

Other Library website activities:

- Request an Interlibrary loan to get items the RPL doesn't own
- Sign up for a TexShare library card for use in many Texas cities
- Sign up for the Elf to be e-mailed a reminder when your holds are ready for pick up and your library materials are due

Alternate web address for RPL:
www.richardsonpubliclibrary.com

TIPS

- Click the big blue R on any page to get back to the home page
- A link to the Eisemann Center and its ticket office is under "Residents" and "Visitors" at the top of the page under "Things to See and Do"



Find a list of departments and a staff directory (phone and e-mail) by clicking this envelope on any page



RSS news feed. Subscribe to have updated City news downloaded to your computer



Takes you to a page that shows all the Facebook sites for the City



Subscribing to Richardson CITV on YouTube is like having an entire news broadcast at your fingertips

HOME PAGE BUTTONS



TRANSPARENCY

Links to financial information and online databases that provide information on how City tax dollars are budgeted, spent and invested as well as information about City salaries and pay structure

WATER BILL

Pay or view your water bill

TRASH & RECYCLING

Find your recycling day, view list of accepted materials to recycle, link to holiday recycling make-up days

EMPLOYMENT

View positions for which the City is currently accepting applications

2010 BOND PROGRAM

Track the progress of the projects approved in the 2010 Bond referendum

PERMITS

- Purchase an electrical, plumbing or mechanical permit
- Search for information on a specific permit
- View or schedule inspections for a permit

ALARM PERMIT

- Download and print an alarm

permit application or complete it online and submit

- Log in to pay for or renew permit

TRAFFIC TICKETS

- Pay your court ticket online
- Review fine schedule
- Get directions to Court
- View outstanding warrants



Singer-Songwriter stage enhances Wildflower!

Big musical acts on big stages may attract most of the attention at the Wildflower! Festival, but one venue gives music lovers an up-close look at some of the country's best musical talent.

Every year, the Singer-Songwriter Stage brings both emerging and legendary artists to a single stage in Richardson, giving audiences a chance to see the musical craft in a small, intimate setting.

But the program isn't just about a three-day concert. It is a full program that includes a songwriting workshop as well as a nationally recognized contest that awards cash prizes to songwriters from around the country.

"Our whole mission is to expose people to all kinds of music," said Al Johnson, Executive Director of the Richardson Improvement Corp. and the man who has built the Singer-Songwriter program to what it is today. "If it's going to be a music festival, then it has to recognize all kinds of music."

Notable artists from the past include Ruthie Foster, who is making a name for herself by playing venues as diverse as Bass Hall and major folk music festivals.

One of the highlights of the weekend will be a daylong songwriting workshop presented by Beth Nielsen Chapman on Fri-

day, May 18. Workshop attendees will learn about songwriting and the creative spirit from an artist who has written for Bonnie Raitt, Emmylou Harris, Bette Midler, Elton John, Neil Diamond, Trisha Yearwood, Martina McBride, The Indigo Girls, Willie Nelson and many more. (To register, visit the Wildflower! website, www.wildflowerfestival.com.)

Genres represented on the stage include folk rock, bluegrass, country and more. The solo artists or small groups include both local musicians as well as Grammy-winners who tour the nation. The 2012 lineup is no different.

The first act on the stage will be Berkner High School graduate Jillian Edwards, who recently released her second EP, "Headfirst." Chapman, John Gorka and several past Wildflower! contest winners will also grace the singer-songwriter stage throughout the weekend. The final artist on the stage will be the legendary Guy Clark, who started his career in the 1960s and remains an Americana music icon.

"A lot of times, it's by luck that people find us," Johnson said. "It may be hot or humid out, so they come take a seat in the shade. Then they get exposed to the great music."



Wildflower! Festival headliners 2012

- Joe Walsh, Nelly, The Commodores,
- Dashboard Confessional, Mark Chesnutt,
- Chic with Nile Rodgers, John Gorka
- Lou Gramm - the Voice of Foreigner, Neal McCoy,
- Augustana, Guy Clark, AbbaMania - The Abba Tribute,
- Le Freak - the World's Greatest Disco Band,
- Beth Nielsen Chapman, A Hard Night's Day

Richardson Texas

Sign up for special restaurant discounts, coupons, offers and promotions.

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

Property tax valuations mailed to homeowners in May

Property valuation notices for 2012 should arrive in Richardson mailboxes during the first week of May. Homeowners often do not realize that all city, county and school taxes are based, in part, on property valuations determined by their central appraisal district (CAD) office. If owners disagree with the property valuation, they have the right to protest it with the central appraisal district office listed on the notice, not the City.

Homeowners residing in Dallas County will receive a notice in the mail from the Dallas CAD only if their property value increases, the ownership changes, the property was rendered, or the property had a capped value in the previous year. However, an appraisal notice will be available on all accounts via the Dallas CAD website, www.dallascad.org. All homeowners living in the Collin County portion of Richardson will receive a notice from the CAD of Collin County whether or not their appraisal changes.

For Richardson residents living in Dallas County, protests and questions should be direct-

ed to the Dallas CAD (2949 N. Stemmons Freeway, Dallas, TX 75247-6195) at 214-905-9402 or 214-631-0910 or www.dallascad.org. Residents of Collin County should direct their protests and questions to the Collin CAD (250 W. Eldorado Pkwy., McKinney, TX 75069) at 469-742-9200 or www.collincad.org.

general statement as to the nature of the protest. The protest must be filed by the deadline date stated on the notice of value.

If the protest is filed on time, the Appraisal Review Board (ARB) will hear the case in the taxpayer's respective district. The taxpayer will be notified in writing of the scheduled hearing date,

which will be at least 15 days after the date of the original protest. The ARBs begin their reviews of appraisal records in mid May and finishes in July. The decisions made by the boards are binding for one year only. However, the boards' decisions can be appealed to the district court or through binding arbitration.

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

Protests due within 30 days

In the past, many taxpayers have lost opportunities to protest property valuations because they failed to file their written protest within the deadlines set by the Texas Legislature. If taxpayers disagree with the appraised value or exemption status, they should file a written protest with the appraisal district office immediately. This protest should identify the property owner, the location of the property in dispute, and a

Property Tax Basics booklet available

These procedures and all other details about property valuations are further explained in a booklet called "Property Tax Basics." The information is available on the Internet at www.cpa.state.tx.us/taxinfo/proptax/, the Internet site of the Comptroller of Public Accounts.

Early voting for Primary Election begins May 14

Early voting for the May 29 Democratic and Republican Primary Election is available May 14-25 at the Richardson City Hall/Civic Center Complex, 411 W. Arapaho Rd. for Richardson residents who live in Dallas County. Richardson Collin County residents have several locations at which to vote early on the same dates and hours. Visit www.co.collin.tx.us/elections for a list of locations.

If a runoff election is required, it will be held July 31.

For more information, contact the Richardson City Secretary at 972-744-4290, the Dallas County Elections Department at 214-637-7937, Collin County Elections Department at 972-547-1990, or Citizens Information Services at 972-744-4104. More information can be found at www.cor.net on the Dallas County Elections website at www.dalcoelections.org or on the Collin County Elections website at www.co.collin.tx.us/elections.

Dates and times for early voting at all Dallas and Collin County locations:

- May 14-18 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
- May 19 7 a.m.-7 p.m.
- May 20 1-6 p.m.
- May 21-25 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Polls are open Election day Tuesday, May 29 from 7 a.m.-7 p.m.

Richardson City Hall is **NOT** a voting location on Election day.

Voter registration cards to be mailed this month

Registered voters in Richardson should see voter registration certificates (cards) arriving in mailboxes starting at the end of this month as county election offices have been given the go ahead by the State to mail the new cards April 25.

There is no action required of registered voters unless they have moved or changed names. Even if a person's card has expired the voter registration is still intact and he or she may go the polls using

any approved form of identification. Voters can check their registration online at the Secretary of State's voter information website, www.votexas.org.

The State of Texas redistricting plans caused the delay in the mailing of new and renewal cards and the process has also caused a change to the primary election date that will now be held May 29. See early voting information above.

Voters who have moved within the county in which they are registered or changed names should notify the county voter registrar of changes in writing. Voters who have moved to a new county must reregister with the voter registrar in their new county of residence at least 30 days before the next election, by April 29 to vote in the primary election May 29.

Richardson CIVIC CENTER

Coming up at the Richardson Civic Center

Dallas Bridge Tournament
March 30-April 1
<http://www.d16acbl.org/U176>

The Bird Mart
April 14
thebirdmart.com

Glam Galore Shopping Soiree
April 21
glamgalorevents.com

Creative Memories
April 28
creativememories.com

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

Meetings, Receptions
Trade Shows,
Seminars
Social Functions
Career Fairs

Affordable Rates
Personalized Service
Convenient Location
Clean and Comfortable

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

972-744-4180

www.cor.net/cs

Community Services

Council designates April as "Volunteerism Month"

What began as a "Day of Caring" that was included in the Richardson City Council's 2011-2013 Near Term Action Items, has now evolved into a month-long celebration of volunteerism in Richardson. Last month, the City Council

approved an initiative to expand upon the City's Volunteer Assistance Program by designating April as a "Month of Volunteerism" that will highlight the work that organizations do for those in need throughout the community.

"Every year thousands of Richardson residents take time out of their busy schedules to give back to their community," Director of Community Services Don Magner said. "Each year, the Volunteerism Month celebration will provide an opportunity to raise awareness about Richardson volunteers and about the important contributions they make to better our City."

Events and groups affiliated with the Month of Volunteerism include the UT Dallas Alternative Spring Break, the City's Trash Bash and service days organized by the Richardson Exchange Club, TriQuint, YMCA, Kiwanis, Eagle Scouts, the NETWORK of Community Ministries and several churches.

Since 2000, the City's Volunteer Assistance Program, administered by the Community Services Department, has completed 650 home improvement projects for elderly and disabled residents in

Richardson. The goal of the Volunteer Assistance program is to bring together owners who cannot properly maintain their homes and volunteer groups who wish to provide assistance. Community Services helps plan, implement and evaluate every project to ensure a positive experience for all. While eligibility is determined on a case-by-case basis and extenuating circumstances are always taken into consideration, the following guidelines are used to assist in determining necessity:

- A person who needs help must:
- reside in the City of Richardson
 - occupy home as homestead
 - demonstrate a hardship such as age, finance or disability, and
 - have an absence of family or friends who could perform the required work

For groups interested in organizing a volunteer project, the Community Services staff is available to meet with group representatives to discuss the characteristics of potential volunteer projects. These introductory meetings cover topics such as skills, interests and availability. On project day, a member of the Community Services team visits the project while

the group is working to ensure it is progressing as intended, to answer questions and address concerns, and to offer technical advice and counsel.

Personal satisfaction is a key factor in volunteer motivation, so Community Services makes an effort to let every volunteer know that his or her participation was important and appreciated. While there is no predetermined manner in which it does so, the City formally recognizes each volunteer group for its efforts.

"We want every volunteer to

know how much we appreciate the time and energy he or she commits to bettering the lives of Richardson residents," Magner said. "We also work hard to ensure volunteers have a positive experience by making certain they are assigned projects that are consistent with their experience and expertise. Our staff really enjoys working in the community and we want to lead by example in this regard."

For more information about the Volunteer Assistance Program, contact Community Services at 972-744-4180.

Events/participants in Richardson's Volunteerism Month include:

City of Richardson Trash Bash: April 7
 UT-Dallas
 Alternative Spring Break
 Kiwanis One Day: April 21
 NETWORK Day of Caring: April 28
 YMCA Annual Clean Up Day
 Community Services Staff
 Projects: April 28
 Eagle Scout Project: April/May
 Richardson Exchange Club
 TriQuint
 Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church
 Chase Oaks Church ShareFest: April 21 and 28
 First Richardson Helpers
 First United Methodist Church
 Heritage Church Dallas
 Northwest Bible Church



Volunteer team works on home improvements



Yard waste can help, not hurt environment

Recycling usable yard wastes into mulch and compost helps save landfill space, reduces greenhouse gas emissions, promotes water conservation and returns organic matter back to the earth for beneficial use. Help the environment by placing lawn waste (yard clippings, leaves, small twigs and trimmings) in a biodegradable bag at your curb rather than a trash bag headed to the landfill. After you schedule a BABIC pick up, your yard waste will head to a North Texas Municipal Water District composting facility to be turned into high-quality mulch and compost that is available to Richardson residents at a discounted price (www.texaspureproducts.com).

Send your lawn waste to the composting facility by following these simple steps:

1. Put your leaves and small twigs in biodegradable heavy paper bags available at most home improvement stores and some grocery stores
2. Call 972-744-4111, select prompt 2 or 3 to leave a message for a Special Collection/Brush or prompt 7 to speak to an attendant
3. Then simply put the bags in the front on the parkway (grassy area between sidewalk and the street) by 7 a.m. the morning of your special collection day (the same day as your recycling day.)

Note: When doing a brush special collection and a bulky item special collection simultaneously, residents are highly encouraged to keep the two piles separate so that the brush can be mulched.

Richardson Reads One Book announces choice for 2012

"One Amazing Thing" by Chitra Divakaruni was recently announced as the Richardson Reads One Book selection for 2012.

Approximately 80 friends, supporters and sponsors of the community reading program, Richardson Reads One Book, attended a reception at the Library March 28 to hear the highly anticipated announcement of this year's title. "This book is truly 'amazing,'" said Nancy Kubasek, RROB President and head of library services at Richardson High School. "Not only does it explore the Indian American cultural experience within the context of the larger questions about humanity in times of stress,



Chitra Divakaruni



but also reveals the power of our individual stories or the 'one amazing thing' in our own lives."

Dr. Divakaruni, a highly acclaimed writer and professor of creative writing at the University of Houston has written 16 books, two of which have been made into movies. She writes books for audiences of all ages including children's books. Her honors include an American Book award, a PEN/Josephine Miles award, and two PEN Syndicated Fiction awards. Her short stories have been included in "The Best American Short Stories," "O. Henry Prize Stories" and a Pushcart Prize anthology.

The author's personal experience evacuating during Hurricane Rita planted the seed in her mind for writing about why disasters bring out both the best and the worst in people. In "One Amazing Thing," a group of people awaiting rescue while trapped in the rubble of a building collapsed by an earthquake decide to deal with the stress by telling the stories of the most transcendent event in their lives. As Lisa See, author of

"Shanghai Girls" writes, "Chitra Divakaruni understands the power of stories to heal us, make us laugh, and comfort us in the most difficult of circumstances."

Richardson Reads One Book is in its ninth year and is part of a national trend encouraging communities to come together through the discussion of a single book. The highlight of the year's activities will be a free lecture with Chitra Divakaruni at Richardson High School Sept. 20.



Garage sales now require free permits

Beginning April 1, residents who wish to conduct a garage sale will have to obtain a City permit.

There will be no cost for the permits, which will be available from City Hall or from the City website, www.cor.net. Permits will have to be obtained by midnight on the day of the garage sale and are to be displayed on the premises for the duration of the sale.

No resident may conduct more than three garage sales in any 12-month period, and there may be no more than three garage sales in any 12-month period at the same address. In addition, garage sales cannot exceed 72 consecutive hours in duration, and at least four business days shall elapse between two consecutive garage sales on a property.

At apartment or condominium complexes, garage sales must be sponsored by the owner, management company or condominium association. No more than three sales may occur at the same complex in any 12-month period.

April 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, jlr.tx.com

Richardson Central Kiwanis Club

214-739-5610

Richardson Kiwanis Club

www.richardsonkiwanis.com or
steagle@sbcglobal.net

Richardson Host Lions Club

972-385-3321 or http://

www.e-clubhouse.org/sites/

RichardsonHost

Richardson Rotary

972-690-0637

Richardson East Rotary

972-442-5295

Richardson Central Rotary

972-690-0637

Exchange Club of Richardson

972-680-8613

Family Groups

Single Parent Action Network

suehardin@att.net

MOMS Club of Richardson—East

momsclubrichardsoneast@yahoo.com

MOMS Club of Richardson—West

momsclubrichardsonwest@gmail.com

Canyon Creek Moms Club

972-690-7609 or

www.canyoncreekmomsclub.com

Social Groups

Richardson Newcomers and Neighbors Club

214-793-1646, 972-690-8525 or

214-750-0506

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 Retired School Personnel

214-890-6989

Richardson Tea Party

dleopard@aol.com

Richardson Wireless Klub

http://k5rwlk.org

Seniors' Net

972-234-8880 ext. 115 or

dchildre@thenetwork.org

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

Woman's Center in Richardson

972-238-9516

http://www.fumcr.com/pages/missions_womans_center

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

AARP Tax Aid, 10:30 a.m.-4 p.m. April 6, 13

Out to Lunch Bunch

April 17

Babe's

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

Cheryl's Spring Recital

April 20, 1 p.m.

Cheryl's piano and voice students will present their Spring Recital at the Senior Center. Her students are looking forward to showcasing their hard work and accomplishments just for you to enjoy. Refreshments will be served.

Free Orthopedic Screening

April 26, 11 a.m.

Having knee or shoulder pain, lower back or neck pain, difficulty walking or loss of balance? Come for a free injury screening and evaluation by a licensed physical therapist from Baylor Institute for Rehabilitation. Your balance, gait and strength will be tested to determine if you need further evaluation and diagnosis.

Richardson Community Band Spring Concert

May 16, 7:30 p.m.

The time has changed. The flowers and trees are in bloom. It must be spring! That means it is time for our annual Spring Concert with the Richardson Community Band. It always promises to be an evening of laughter and toe-tapping great music. Light refreshments after the concert. No fee.

Ladies Spring Tea

May 30, 1 p.m.

Bring out your spring hats and gloves and join us for a Ladies Afternoon Tea.

If you wish, you may bring your favorite tea cup to enjoy the different tea choices.

Finger food delectables and entertainment will complement your relaxing afternoon.

\$4 per person. Please register ahead to assist with the food preparation. Space is limited.

Travel Opportunities

Check our Travel Board at the Senior Center for 2012 travel opportunities with Heritage Tours.

Wines and Wildflowers, Springtime in the Hill Country

April 17-19

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

- Stop at the village of West for kolaches and coffee
- Texas Hills Vineyards tour and tasting of the Hill Country wines

- Visit Wildseed Farm that offers acres of rainbow-colored wildflowers

- Two nights at the Fredericksburg Inn and Suites

- Gourmet dinners with wine at Navajo Grill and the Cotton Gin

- Two breakfasts at Fredericksburg Inn and one lunch at Auslander's, the quintessential German Hill Country eatery

- Tour of Quintessential Chocolates that hand-makes European style liqueur-filled chocolates. Plan to bring some back home!

- Time to stroll along the picturesque streets and shops or take in the National Museum of the Pacific War.

- Tour LBJ Ranch on the drive back through the legendary Luckenbach

- The route back home to Richardson will take you past the Enchanted Rock, onto Llano and Burnet

- Single per person—\$796
Double per person—\$684
Call Beth Owens at 972-744-7810 for more details.



Eisemann 2012 family season ends with "Alice"

The Eisemann Center Presents Family Theatre Series will wrap up the 2011-12 season with "Alice in Wonderland" at 2:30 p.m. Sunday, April 29 in the Hill Performance Hall. Produced by American Family Theater, "Alice in Wonderland" is performed as a rollicking musical based on Lewis Carroll's enchanting classic story "Alice's Adventures in Wonderland."

Tickets are \$11-\$21 and can be purchased by calling 972-744-4650 or by visiting www.eisemanncenter.com.

The line-up for the 2012-2013 Eisemann Center Presents series should be announced by early May. See www.eisemanncenter.com.



RCT presents "Mattress"

Repertory Company Theatre presents "Once Upon A Mattress" April 20-29 at the Promenade Theatre, 650 N. Coit Rd. Show times are Friday/Saturday, 7:30 p.m. and Sunday, 2 p.m. Tickets are \$25 adults, \$20 seniors, \$14 youths and can be purchased by calling 972-690-5029 or at www.rcttheatre.com.

In this hilarious tweaking of the fairy tale, "The Princess and the Pea," Queen Aggravain has ruled that none may marry until her son, Prince Dauntless, marries. However, she has managed to sabotage every princess that has come along. Carried on a wave of wonderful songs, by turns hilarious and raucous, romantic and melodic, this rollicking spin on the familiar classic of royal courtship and comeuppance provides for some side-splitting shenanigans. Family friendly.

A luncheon with the cast of the show has been scheduled for 10:30 a.m. April 28 at the theatre. Tickets are \$10 in advance and \$12 at the door. Ideal for ages 4-12. Tables will be hosted by princesses from the cast. For information, call RCT, 972-690-5029.

Seniors' Net sets talks

Seniors' Net is hosting free seminars on a variety of topics affecting the aging population and their caregivers. Seminars will be held 10 a.m.-noon the first and third Tuesdays at NETWORK, 741 S. Sherman St.

April 3: "Avoiding Senior Scams";
April 17: "Navigating Senior Care—Get on Board!"
Information: 972-234-8880.

Water conservation workshops scheduled

If you are interested in learning more about conserving water, the Texas AgriLife Research & Extension Center at Dallas has scheduled two informative workshops in April.

"Saving from a Rainy Day—Making a Rain Barrel" will be offered 6:30-8:30 p.m. April 3 at the Center's Whitehurst Atrium, 17360 Coit Rd. Taught by Dr. Dotty Woodson, extension program specialist for water resources, the class will offer participants the opportunity to construct a 55-gallon rain barrel as well as discuss an efficient irrigation system. The rain barrel will be yours to take home. Fee: \$50 per barrel for materials.

Please bring a vehicle sufficiently large to carry the barrel(s) home.

Drip irrigation, "do it yourself" will be the topic for a workshop at the same time and the same place April 24. Woodson will discuss drip irrigation as the most efficient irrigation method for landscape and teach how to install a drip system or convert an existing system to drip.

For more information or to find the forms to register, go to www.cor.net and find Community Services under Departments, then Environmental Services, Green-COR. Call the Extension Center at 972-231-5362.



April Calendar

Wildflower! Budding Talent auditions slated April 22

Calling all vocalists! The *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival is looking for you! We want to hear your voices and see if you have what it takes to perform on the Bank of America Theatre Stage at the Eisemann Center during *Wildflower!* May 18-20.

Auditions will be held at 1 p.m. April 22 at the First United Methodist Church of Richardson, 503 N. Central Expwy.

E-mail wildflowerbuddingtalent@yahoo.com to arrange your audition by sending your name, age and grade, school, city and e-mail address and phone number.

To audition, prepare one song from memory and bring an accompaniment tape/CD. You may also use an acoustic guitar or bring an accompanist for the piano. Please choose appropriate lyrics for a family-oriented festival performance. Songs should be limited to three minutes. Small vocal ensembles

(2-4 singers) may also enter. NO bands, but visit www.wildflower-festival.com or see below for information on the Battle of the Bands registration.

Students will be notified of the outcome no later than May 1. Students will compete by age groups with students from all age categories going on to perform during the *Wildflower!* Festival Sunday, May 20.

The five categories:

- Seedlings: preschool to kindergarten
- Sprouts: grades 1-3
- Buds: grades 4-6
- Jr. Wildflowers!: grades 7-9
- Wildflowers!: grades 10-12

To be eligible to enter you must be 3 years old to current 12th grader. There is no longer a requirement that the performer have a connection to Richardson.

Battle of Bands contest audition scheduled April 21

Four local high school bands will compete Saturday, May 19, for the 2012 *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival Battle of the Bands title. The qualifier event will take place Saturday, April 21, at The Door Dallas. Three bands will be selected outright to compete at the *Wildflower!* Festival and an additional two-three bands will be selected to compete in an online people's choice contest for the fourth and final slot at the festival.

Top prize is 25 hours of studio time at the Recording Conservatory of Austin as well as individual prizes for outstanding performers provided by Williamson Music Company.

Band Requirements:

- Bands must be predominately made up of current high school students, but some members may have graduated
- At least half of the members must be current high school students in grades 9-12:
 - ▲ 3 member band = 2 of high school age
 - ▲ 4 member band = 2 of high school age
 - ▲ 5 member band = 3 of high school age, etc.
- There must be at least three members in every band
- Each band will be allowed to play one 20-minute set

- Each band must perform at least one original song and one cover song
- Winning band will be determined by:
 - ▲ Crowd noise and crowd enthusiasm
 - ▲ Showmanship of band members
 - ▲ Musical talent as determined by our panel of judges
 - ▲ Ability to follow contest rules and perform at least one original song and one cover song within one 20-minute set
- No foul language or crude/offensive/vulgar behavior of any kind: on stage, in lyrics, off stage, or otherwise, including:
 - ▲ Absolutely no moshing,
 - ▲ Proper attire must be worn at all times; and
 - ▲ Band members are only allowed on stage during their set. Bands or band members who go on stage while another band is competing will be disqualified from the competition.
- Producer reserves the right to approve song choices to be performed at *Wildflower!* Arts and Music Festival.
- E-mail booking@thedoordallas.com to apply or for more information.

At the Library

900 Civic Center Drive
972-744-4350



Art Exhibit

Richardson Civic Art Society 50+ Show
Through April 28, Second Floor.

General Interest
"Queen of Texas Romance"
Jodi Thomas

April 3, 10:30-11:30 a.m.,
Basement Program Room. Book signing to follow.

Friends of the Library
Spring Book Sale
April 27, 28, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.; April 29, 2-5 p.m., Basement Program Room.

Book Groups

First Wednesday Book Club
April 4, 7-8:45 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "Half Broke Horses" by Jeanette Walls, presented by Pat Curry. Call Janet Vance for information, 972-744-4376.

Second Wednesday BOOKbabble Group
April 11, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Scent of Rain and Lightning" by Nancy Pickard. Registration requested. Call Janet Vance, 972-744-4376.

Third Wednesday BOOKbabble Group
April 18, 10:30-11:45 a.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Hunger Games" by Suzanne Collins. Registration requested. Call Penny Manly, 972-744-4350.

Fourth Tuesday BOOKbabble

April 24, 7:30-8:45 p.m., Second Floor Conference Room. "The Tennis Partner" by Abraham Verghese. 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 MS Excel 2003 April 6, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.

Job Searching on the Internet

April 10, 10-11:30 a.m.

Introduction to Computers

April 13, 10 a.m.-noon.

Internet 101

April 17, 10 a.m.-noon.

Introduction to PowerPoint 2003, April 20, 10 a.m.-noon.

Introduction to MS Word 2003, April 27, 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.

Tales for Tails, April 15, 3-4

p.m., Children's Program Room.

Teen Activities

Teen Advisory Board,

April 10, 5:30-6:30 p.m.,
Basement Program Room.

Cereal Killer,

April 10, 6:30-8:30 p.m.,
Basement Program Room.

Special Interest

Dewey KNIT?

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

AARP Tax Assistance

Every Monday through April 9,
noon-4 p.m., Basement Program
Room.

Writer's Guild of Texas

April 16, 7-8:30 p.m., Basement
Program Room. "Writing
Narrative Nonfiction" by Carmen
Goldthwaite.

Richardson Civic Art

Society Meeting and

Demonstration

April 17, 6:45 p.m., Basement
Program Room. Figure drawing,
Dr. Jerry McGrew.

Community Writers'

Critique Group

April 18, 6-8:45 p.m., Basement
Program Room. Call Janet Vance,
972-744-4376 for information.

Richardson Historical and

Genealogical Society

April 19, 7-9 p.m., Basement
Program Room. Roger Fortney
discusses "Exiles" by Maya
Jasanoff.

Library closed for Easter: Sunday, April 8.

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



Chamberlain Performing Arts and the City of Plano

"Fable and Fantasy: A Ballet of Enchantment"
Bank of America Theatre
2 p.m. April 1
Tickets: \$10-\$35
www.chamberlainperformingarts.com



EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

"Fancy Nancy & Other Storybooks"
Theatreworks USA
Hill Performance Hall
2:30 p.m. April 1
Tickets: \$11-\$21

EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

Keyboard Conversations
The Power and Passion of Johannes Brahms
Bank of America Theatre
7:30 p.m. April 2
Tickets: \$23-\$28
www.keyboardconversations.com

Gupta Agarwal Foundation in association with Ekal Vidyalaya

4th annual Raas All-Star Championship
7 p.m. April 7
Tickets: \$20
www.raasnationals.com

Richardson Symphony Orchestra

"50th Anniversary Finale"
Hill Performance Hall
8 p.m. April 14
Tickets: \$19-\$74
www.richardsonsymphony.org

Plano Community Band "Spring Pops"

Hill Performance Hall
2 p.m. April 15
Tickets: FREE
www.planoband.com

The Vocal Majority Chorus "Hollywood Nights-Songs of the Silver Screen"

Hill Performance Hall
8 p.m. April 20, 21
2 p.m. April 21
Tickets: \$22-\$43
www.vocalmajority.com

Lone Star Wind Orchestra "As the World Dances" An Earth Day Celebration

Hill Performance Hall
2:30 p.m. April 22
Tickets: \$40/loge box seats
\$20 all other areas
Sit anywhere
in your purchased section
www.lonestarwindorchestra.com



EISEMANN CENTER PRESENTS

"Alice in Wonderland"
American Family Theater
Hill Performance Hall
2:30 p.m. April 29
Tickets: \$11-\$21
www.americanfamilytheater.com



2011 *Wildflower!* Battle of the Bands winner Lantic performs during last year's festival competition.

City's annual Trash Bash is April 7; document shredding available

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

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

All participants will disperse from their homes/locations to their designated street, park and/or area on the morning of Saturday, April

7, to fill their bags with litter and recyclables.

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

Also, in an effort to reduce the number of plastic grocery bags/

wraps that enter our environment, we will have an area available to recycle them.

After collecting your litter and recyclables, please bring the filled bags to Richardson City Hall/Civic Center, 411 W. Arapaho Rd. and dispose of them in the containers located at the west entrance of the building. Refreshments will be provided and door prizes will be awarded. For additional information or questions please visit www.cor.net or call 972-744-4076.

Donations for door prizes provided by:

Hawaiian Falls Waterparks
Repertory Company Theatre
Canyon Creek County Club
Sherrill Park Golf Course
Richardson Greenhouse
Scotty P's Hamburgers
Texas Rangers
Chuy's Restaurant
Frisco Rough Riders



Crowley Park residents hold early Trash Bash

Crowley Park residents got an early start on the April 7 citywide Trash Bash. Residents there have found that by April, when the Trash Bash takes place, foliage can prevent them from cleaning up litter. Seventeen residents took rakes and hoes into the Crowley Park and other parts of their neighborhood in February and removed 23 bags of trash and 11 bags of recyclables.

You can recycle electronics at April 7 Trash Bash

The Richardson Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association will hold an electronics recycling event in conjunction with the Trash Bash April 7 at the City Hall parking lot from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. See the list of electronics below. There is no charge to drop off items but donations will be accepted.

Cell Phones
GPS Devices
Calculators
MP3 Players
PDAs
Portable CD & DVD Players
Calculators
Desktop Computers
Laptop Computers
Computer Speakers
Computer Components
Servers
Keyboards



CRT & LCD Monitors
Mice
Car Amplifiers
Car Audio Receivers
Car Audio Speakers
Headphones
Home Amplifiers
Home Audio Receivers
Home Audio Speakers
Cable Boxes
DVD Players
DVD Recorders
DVR Cable Boxes
Multimedia Projectors
Satellite TV Boxes
VCRs
Cameras
Camcorders
Digital Cameras
Non-Disposable Film Cameras



Copiers
Fax Machines
Inkjet Cartridges
Printers
Scanners
Shredders
Typewriters
Wired Routers
Wireless Routers

Not accepted:
Televisions

Be prepared for storm season

Severe weather season has arrived in North Texas! Did you know that the Outdoor Warning Sirens have activation criteria?

Based on regional guidance, the City of Richardson activates the sirens when:

- The National Weather Service issues a Tornado Warning or Severe Thunderstorm Warning when destructive winds are at or above 70 mph for the Richardson area
- Trained storm spotters have reported a tornado with the potential to affect the City of Richardson
- Hail of 1.25 inches in diameter is reported or imminent
- Deemed necessary by City of Richardson officials (i.e. in the event of any emergency when officials need to get citizens to seek shelter and seek information for their safety)

If a disaster strikes, City services may be cut off and local disaster relief and government responders may not be able to reach you immediately. You need to have plans and supplies in place to make it on your own, at least for a limited time, no matter where you are when an emergency happens.

Creating Your Emergency Supply Kit

Remember how long it took to pack for your last vacation? That's why everyone should have an Emergency Supply Kit ready to go. Pack supplies in a duffel bag, suitcase or storage container and keep it in an easily accessible place. Remember: check and update your kit every year—test batteries, check expiration dates and update important documents.

- Water, one gallon of water per person per day for at least three days, for drinking and sanitation
- Food, at least a three-day supply of non-perishable food
- Battery-powered or hand crank radio and a NOAA Weather Radio with tone alert and extra batteries for both
- Flashlight and extra batteries
- First aid kit
- Whistle to signal for help
- Dust mask, to help filter contaminated air and plastic sheeting and duct tape
- Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities
- Can opener if kit contains canned food (include a manual can opener in case power is out)
- Local maps
- Charger for cell phones
- Cash, travelers checks and change in case ATMs are unavailable or something prevents the use of credit/debit cards

Additional items to consider

- Prescription medicine and glasses
- Infants: formula, diapers, bottles
- Pets: food, additional water, leash, medications

- Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, identification and bank account records in a waterproof, portable container
- Sleeping bag or warm blanket for each person and additional bedding if in a colder climate
- Complete change of clothing including sturdy shoes, long sleeved shirt and long pants
- Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper
- Fire extinguisher
- Matches in a waterproof container
- Feminine supplies and personal hygiene items
- Mess kits, paper cups, plates and plastic utensils, paper towels
- Paper and pencil
- Books, games, puzzles and other activities for children

The KnowWhat2Do disaster preparedness program offers checklists and simple guides for assembling an Emergency Supply Kit. Visit the Emergency Management website: www.cor.net/em for more detailed information on how to get ready for this storm season.



Animal Control Officer

Appreciation Week is April 8-14

The National Animal Control Association has announced April 8-14 as National Animal Control Officer Appreciation Week. This annual national effort celebrates and promotes the continuing upgrade and professionalism of Animal Control.

The week of appreciation gives recognition to the hard-working men and women of Animal Control who risk their lives and spend huge amounts of personnel resources including time away from family and friends while serving the public. This is a week that the whole community can say, "Thank You," for helping when no one else would or would even know how to.

The Richardson Animal Shelter is an open adoption facility and welcomes everyone to visit the facility. The shelter encourages interaction between visitors and adoptable pets. The adoptable animals look forward to daily visits and socialization by volunteers and visitors. The Richardson Shelter is passionate about rescuing, protecting and relocating pets to new homes. The shelter has received three Texas Animal Control Association's "Humane Educators Award" for its community involvement and education activities. Visit Richardson Animal Services online at www.cor.net or stop by at 1330 Columbia Dr. (one block south of the intersection of Plano and Arapaho roads). Call 972-744-4480 during regular hours Monday-Friday 8 a.m.-7 p.m., Saturday 9 a.m.-5 p.m. and Sunday 1 p.m.-5 p.m. For after hours service requests please contact the Response Center at 972-744-4111.

Upcoming events at the Animal Shelter Adoptathon May 5

The Richardson Animal Shelter will hold an adoptathon Saturday, May 5 from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. at the Shelter, 1330 Columbia Dr.

The event is sponsored by Richardson AnimaLuv, Lou's Grooming, Kona Ice and the Animal Shelter and will include treats and animals at the shelter available for adoption. Area humane and rescue organizations will be on hand to answer questions.

The Animal Shelter will offer \$5 nail trimming and a \$15 "Home Again" microchip option for each pet adopted from the Shelter. The microchip will be implanted by trained Shelter staff and will be registered in both the Animal Shelter database and in the national Home Again database. Microchipping does not replace a City issued ID tag but assures that if the tag is lost a pet can be easily identified and quickly returned home. A tag or a microchip is the best tool a pet owner has for finding a lost pet.

Rabies Vaccination Clinic May 12

Richardson's Animal Services will host a low-cost rabies vaccination clinic Saturday, May 12 from 1-3 p.m. at the Animal Shelter, 1330 Columbia Dr.

The cost is \$5 for altered pets and \$10 for unaltered pets and includes a 2012 City registration. Please have dogs leashed and cats contained. For more information please contact the Animal Shelter staff at 972-744-4480.

972-744-4300

www.cor.net/parks

Parks & Recreation



Swimming! Sports! Field Trips! New friends! Fun!

Make summer 2012 a memorable one for your children by signing them up for swim lessons and camp sessions offered by the City of Richardson.

Kids ages 5-15 can participate in week-long camp sessions held this year at Terrace Elementary School. Each week is a new, fun theme with related activities, games, crafts and a field trip or two (except for kinder camps for ages 5-6 who don't travel). Kids of all ages and swimming abilities can learn to swim in lessons offered throughout the summer.

For more information, check the Swimming and Camps Guide that was included in last month's issue of *Richardson Today*. You can view the Guide online at www.cor.net by going to the Parks Homepage on the dropdown menu under the "Departments" tab.

You can also register online at www.cor.net/parksonline or by calling 972-744-7850 or 972-744-7881.



Bike Rally & 5K Timed Run & Fun Run

Saturday, May 19, 2012

2400 North Glenville Dr. Richardson, Texas 75082

Presented by

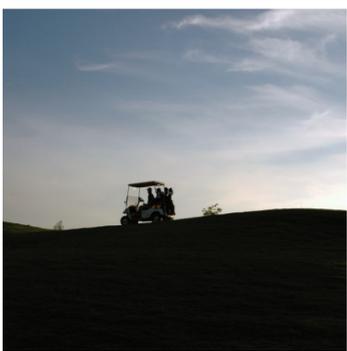


Form a Wild! Team

For Details:
WildRideBikeRally.com
WildRunAgainstCancer.com
972-498-7678



Benefiting Methodist Richardson Cancer Center



Sherrill Park Golf Course

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

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

Private Lessons

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

CITY OF RICHARDSON SWIM TEAM

Year round practices and competitive swimming for ages 5-25, all swimming abilities. Practices alternate between Pearce and Berkner High Schools natatoriums.

For additional information or to schedule a try-out call

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



Huffhines Tennis Center

1601 Syracuse Dr.
972-744-7870

Group Lessons—Adults/Juniors

April 9-27

Adult Leagues

May 14-July 1

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

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

2012 Wildflower! Student Art Contest

"Bugs, Bees & Butterflies"

Draw or design your favorite.

Guidelines

Contest is open to all students in Kindergarten through the 6th grade.

* **Wildflower!** will provide 12" square white poster boards. All contest entries must be designed on these poster boards **ONLY** so that they are uniform in size and fit on our display walls.

* Each entry **MUST** be accompanied by a completed entry form securely attached to the back.

* Cover as much of the square board as possible with your design. Use lots of color and detail.

* Use crayons, markers, paints, colored pencils, tissue paper, etc., - keeping it as light weight as possible for hanging.

* Festival Staff will judge the entries. Ribbons will be awarded to 1st, 2nd, 3rd and Honorable Mention in **EACH** grade level, K through 6th. Winners will be posted on the **Wildflower!** website no later than May 7, 2012. www.wildflowerfestival.com

* Entries may be picked up from the Community Events Office after May 29, 2012.

* For more information or how to pick up an entry poster board, email Suzanne.etman@cor.gov or call 972.744.4584

ALL entries will be on display in the Kidz Korner at the **Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival** May 18, 19 & 20, 2012

OFFICIAL ENTRY FORM

Please securely attach this form to the back of your entry. All entries must be delivered to the City of Richardson's Community Events Office by **APRIL 23**. The office is located at 2100 E. Campbell Rd., Ste. 100, Richardson, TX 75081

Name _____ Age _____
Phone _____ Email _____
Address _____ City _____ Zip _____
School _____ Grade _____

Get instant festival info on your mobile phone!
Text WFF to 88500

www.wildflowerfestival.com



Senior Center

820 W. Arapaho Rd.

972-744-7800

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

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

Classes

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

Adult Piano Lessons

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

Private Voice Lessons

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

iPad Instruction

Do you have an iPad and only play games or use Facebook? This class is for you. Learn how an iPad will make your PC information portable and convenient. Bring your iPad to this four-week class Monday, April 2 from 7-8 p.m. Cost of the class is \$60 with membership; \$63 without membership.

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 next two-week session starts April 16 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Cost for the class is \$50 with membership; \$53 without membership.

Keepsakes for Smiles

Marilyn Richter will help you organize your photos and videos into a story of your life, document special occasions and events or just compile all your photo treasures onto a DVD for you to keep. Create a keepsake that will bring smiles for many generations. The next four-week class starts April 5 from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Cost of the class is \$20 with a membership; \$23 without a membership. Extra: Scan and digitize photos \$15/100 photos, convert HI-8 and VHS tapes to DVD-\$20. Sign up now and bring your pictures and ideas!

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 April 2 from 1:30-4:30 p.m. Cost for the session is \$50 with membership; \$53 without membership.

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.

AARP Driver Safety Classes

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. Classes are held at the Richardson Senior Center as follows:

| | |
|----------|----------------------|
| April 5 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| April 19 | 6-10 p.m. |
| May 3 | 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. |
| May 17 | 6-10 p.m. |

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:

| | |
|---------------|----------|
| April 3 and 5 | 6-9 p.m. |
| May 1 and 3 | 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:

| | |
|-----------------|----------------|
| April 9 and 12 | 6-9 p.m. |
| April 14 and 21 | 1:15-4:15 p.m. |
| April 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.

Friendship Plus

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

Beginner Square Dance Lesson

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

Crochet

Classes are 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 Tuesdays with instruction available from 10 a.m.-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. 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.

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 Wednesdays, 12:15-4 p.m. Cost for the class is \$100 per month. Session began March 28.

Microsoft Excel and Word for Windows

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 April 30.

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.-12:30 p.m. Class fee is \$85 with membership; \$88 without membership. Frank Davis is our instructor. Next four-week session starts April 30.

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 April 2 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 April 2 from 9:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Class fee is \$85 with membership; \$88 without membership. Our instructor is Frank Davis.

Selling on EBay

Basic One-Hour Course

A one hour FREE introduction to selling on EBay will be offered Tuesday, April 3 from 2-3 p.m. Overview and registration, preparing your listings and completing the sale will be discussed. Time permitting, questions and answers available after session.

Learn the Right Way to Sell on EBay

Are you ready to learn how to sell on the internet? Do research and create listings to attract buyers, enhance listings with better descriptions and monitor sales to know exactly what's working and what's not. The next two-class session will be April 17 and April 24 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.

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

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

Tatyana Sherman will bring her 34 years of teaching experience to the Senior Center. Both ESL and ESOL classes start April 7 and will last four weeks.

ESL Beginning English 1

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

Speaking English 1

3 p.m.-5 p.m. \$50

Tatyana is available for private tutoring and teaching additional languages. For more details call 214-570-1619.

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 |

972-744-7800

820 W. Arapaho Rd.

Senior Center

Programs

Photography Club

Is photography your hobby or you just love to take pictures? How about joining a photography club to share ideas and know how? You do not have to own professional equipment, just the love of capturing a moment. An organizational meeting is scheduled April 5, 7-9 p.m.

The Richardson Red Hatters

The Richardson Red Hatters welcome all women to put on their red hats, join the group and have some fun. The Red Hatters hold quarterly meetings the first Monday in February, May, August and November at 11:30 a.m. Bring your own lunch, drinks are provided. Come for an afternoon of celebrating, jokes, raffle prizes and lots of laughter. In April, National Red Hat Day will be celebrated with a lunch outing. Meetings are held at the Richardson Senior Center. Call 972-744-7800 for more information and questions.

Bingo

Bingo anyone? We play the third Thursday of the month at 2 p.m. Prizes... fun... laughter.

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.

The Vintage Dance Club

The following calendar lists the dates for this month's senior dances.

| | |
|----------|-------------|
| April 7 | Gary Lee |
| April 14 | Russ Dorsey |
| April 28 | Bill G Band |

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.

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

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.

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.

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.

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. The group will decide the choice for Spring Reading April 10. Call 972-744-7800 for further information. We welcome all perspectives for discussion!

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.

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 3:30-8 p.m. Free and open to all ages.

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.

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!

Services

Grief Support Group

The Visiting Nurses Association of Texas invites you to participate in a six-week grief support group Mondays, April 2-May 7 from 7-8:30 p.m. There is no fee. "Sharing the Journey: Coping with Grief" is open to adults who are in the grief process. Topics will include: honoring our loved ones, caring for our needs while grieving, handling special days, and from grief to hope. Please call Sue Rafferty at 214-689-2922 to RSVP.

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 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 may be scheduled now for May 4. 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 appointment.

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.

Volunteer Opportunities

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

Chair Massage

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

RSVP Volunteer Program

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

City of Richardson Transportation Service

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

Fitness

Zumba Gold

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

Hatha Yoga for all Ages

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

Tai Chi for all Ages

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

Stretch and Strengthen

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

Pilates Class

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

Fit For Life—Beginning Strength Training Class

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

Fit For Life—Intermediate Strength Training Class

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

Aerobic Exercise

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

WaterAerobic Classes

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

Personal Training

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

Games

Canasta

Thursday, 10:30 a.m.

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.



Richardson Public Library
TEEN ADVISORY BOARD

Teens find fun, purpose, camaraderie at Library

Teens in the Library! Preposterous! No way!

Yeah way! In fact teens are coming into the Library in droves. Is it the Library's great collection of teen books or the cool Teen Room? Maybe. More likely, teen Library use is booming thanks to the efforts of the Library's Teen Advisory Board (TAB) and the Library's Teen Summer Volunteers.

The TAB was formed in 2008 to develop appealing teen programs at the Library and to advise librarians about teen interests. The TAB is made up of teens in 7th through 12th grades who live in Richardson and the surrounding area. Applications are available on the Library website at www.richardsonpubliclibrary.com under the "For Teens" link or at the Youth Services desk in the Library. Each month the group meets for one hour to brainstorm new teen program ideas and to plan the programs.

TAB started in 2008 with just 12 teens. More than 220 teens have served on TAB since 2008 with new members joining each month. In addition to their role in planning teen programs, TAB has held food and fund drives for non-profits including the NETWORK

of Community Ministries and the Richardson Animal Shelter and last year produced a Multicultural Expo showcasing their families' cultures that was attended by more than 400 people. The Library teens have been so successful in targeting teen interests with new programming that attendance at teen events topped 1,300 last year.

The Library's other teen volunteer group, Teen Summer Volunteers, is made up of only Richardson resident teens who are entering grades 9 through 12 in fall of 2012. Since 2008, 332 teens have donated almost 9,000 hours to the Library running the Summer Reading Club desk, straightening the books, and assisting with children's summer programs. Qualified teens can apply during April for the Library's team of summer volunteers by picking up an application at the Youth Services desk or online at www.richardsonpubliclibrary.com.

Teens who volunteer at the Library have the opportunity to work as part of a team while developing leadership skills. Best of all, the Library teen groups help create a relevant, welcoming place where all teens can connect to the Library.

Book Sale

Friends of the
Richardson Library

25,000+ BOOKS, CDs, DVDs and other media
Most books are \$2 and under
except rare, signed and collectibles

Friday, April 27 ... 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Saturday, April 28 ... 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.
Sunday, April 29 ... 2 p.m. - 5 p.m.

Basement Program Room
Richardson Public Library
900 Civic Center Drive

972-744-4350
richardsonfol.org



Celebrate cinco de mayo

Saturday

May 5
3-4:30 p.m.

Basement Program Room

- Enjoy a puppet show
- Teatro de títeres

Sábado

5 de mayo
3-4:30 p.m.

Salón de Programación
en el sótano

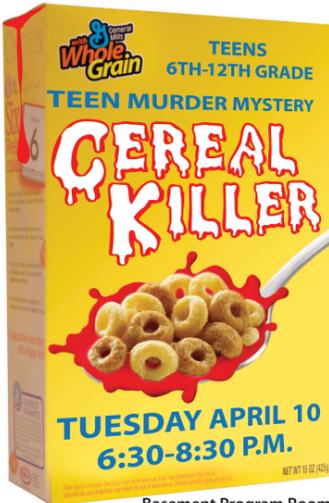


- Make cinco de mayo crafts!
- ¡Manualidades para niños!

- Listen to traditional Mexican music performed by Mariachi Estrellas of Garland
- Música tradicional mexicana con Mariachi Estrellas de Garland

For more information, call the Children's Department at 972-744 4358.
Para más información, llame al Departamento de Niños al 972-744-4358.

Celebre el cinco de mayo



Basement Program Room
For more information, call Youth Services at 972-744-4358.

It's Elementary—Storytime for kids in grades K-4
Tuesdays, 4:15-4:45 p.m.
Family Storytime, for children ages 3-7, but all welcome.
Every Monday, 6:45-7:15 p.m.
Children's Program Room.



Tales for Tails

For Readers in Grades K-4

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

3-4 p.m.,
Sunday, April 15

Children's Program Room

Author to speak April 3

New York Times best-selling author and member of the Romance Writers of America Hall of Fame Jodi Thomas will speak at the Richardson Public Library 10:30-11:30 a.m., Tuesday, April 3.

Known as the "Queen of Texas Romance," Thomas is the author of many award-winning titles including "Texas Blue," "Beneath the Texas Sun," "Welcome to Harmony" and "Somewhere Along the Way." The release of her newest title, "Just Down the Road" (fourth in the series set in the fictional town of Harmony, Texas), is scheduled for April 3.

Thomas was the keynote speaker at Richardson's 2011 Buns and Roses Romance Tea for Literacy and mesmerized the audience of 200 with her personal story



of challenge and perseverance on her way to becoming a successful author. To date, she has written more than 40 books as well as serving as "Writer in Residence" at West Texas A&M University.

Registration for the program is not required and is free and open to all. Her books will be available for sale and signing after the talk. For more information call 972-744-4376.

TOEFL class offered

The Richardson Public Library will offer TOEFL (Testing of English as a Foreign Language) 2-5 p.m. Saturdays, July 14-Nov. 17. Registration for the class begins April 1 and ends May 15.

To register you must pass a Level 5 English test. A course commitment of five months is required. Seating is limited. Course is free but purchase of study guide is required. To register, call Yolanda Medina, 972-744-4368.

MURDER AT THE END OF THE WORLD

SATURDAY, APRIL 28

STARRING

Community Leaders Carl Youngberg, Philip Bates, Bruce MacPherson, and Amir Omar
Interactive mystery play PRODUCED BY & FEATURING the Murder Mystery Players



Richardson Public Library
Doors open: 7:00pm
Play begins: 7:30pm

Tickets = \$45
Purchase at the Richardson Library,
www.ralc.org or by calling 972-644-5119.

Proceeds benefit the Richardson Adult Literacy Center, a non-profit providing free ESL instruction for adults in Richardson.