

NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES

RV enforcement delayed until July 2007

The City of Richardson's ability to enforce an ordinance that establishes regulations for parking recreational vehicles in the City becomes effective July 1, 2007.

According to Neighborhood Services Manager Don Magner, ample notice will be given to residents leading up to this date. "Warning notices will be sent well in advance reminding residents of the July 1, 2007 enforcement date," Magner said. Residents who have questions or would like to discuss compliance options in the meantime are encouraged to contact Neighborhood Services. "Our staff is available to meet with residents at their property to discuss their unique circumstances," Magner noted.

The ordinance defines a recreational vehicle as a vehicle primarily designed as temporary living quarters for recreational camping or travel use, including a travel

trailer, camping trailer, truck camper and motor home. The ordinance also applies to boats, trailers, jet skis and similar equipment.

The ordinance prohibits the parking of recreational vehicles on vacant or unimproved property. It does not allow parking in the front yard between the building and the front property line or in the side yard of corner lots. This applies to the owner or tenant of the property as well as the owner or person in charge of the vehicle.

The ordinance does permit recreational vehicles to be parked in the side or rear yard if they are screened by a minimum six-foot high wooden fence; or screened by a landscaping shrub wall that is a minimum of three feet high and five gallon in size when planted (the City has an approved plant list for shrubs that will provide a continuous unbroken solid visual screen which, at maturity,

will reach a height of six feet or the height of the recreational vehicle, whichever is greater).

A temporary on-street parking permit for a maximum of two weeks may be requested from the Richardson Police Department and will be issued based on evidence of need. A recreational vehicle may be temporarily parked on the property for the purpose of loading or unloading. This is limited to four occasions per year and a maximum of 72 hours per occasion. Each occasion must be separated by at least seven days. A recreational vehicle may be temporarily parked on the property of the owner four times per year for no more than seven days. Each occasion shall be deemed a seven-day continuous parking period and should be separated by at least seven days.

For more information, call Neighborhood Services at 972-744-4166.

Neighborhood Assessment Program Update

The two neighborhoods participating in the 2005-06 Neighborhood Assessment Program recently hosted their introductory meetings. Approximately 50 residents attended the Cottonwood Creek meeting, which was held Jan. 19, while approximately 75 residents attended the Richland Park/Richland Oaks meeting, which was held Jan. 26.

According to Neighborhood Services Manager Don Magner, the public input gathered at each meeting will be utilized to help establish priorities for each neighborhood. "We were extremely pleased with the input residents provided. Their enthusiasm and dedication to their neighborhood will be a great foundation to build on in the coming months."

Over the next month, City staff will be working with residents from each neighborhood to gather data, conduct one-on-one interviews and neighborhood tours. Residents who are interested in participating are encouraged to contact Neighborhood Services at 972-744-4166 or via e-mail at neighborhood.services@cor.gov.

Eateries get food safety awards

Local food service establishments received a certificate and a letter of congratulations from the City of Richardson Health Department in February. The letters, with an accompanying certificate suitable for display, were sent to all establishments that have maintained a high level of commitment to food safety as observed during food service inspections conducted in 2005.

Only those establishments that serve or handle food and have had no violations of 3, 4 or 5 points observed on the unannounced food service inspections qualify. Additionally, the establishment must maintain documentation of the proper food handler certification requirements for food service workers.

"We are pleased to see a number of facilities have qualified for this award, now in its second year," Richardson Health Director Tom Hatfield said. "The 86 recipients should be proud of their accomplishment in maintaining high standards throughout the course of last year."

"This award recognizes those who have made a special commitment to food safety and sanitation," Assistant Health Director Elise Dixon, who oversees all food inspection activities, added. "This award offers the Health Department a tangible way to express appreciation for a sustained effort."

The award is presented annually and all recipients are recognized on the City of



Richardson Health Department Assistant Director Elise Dixon (center) presents an Award of Excellence in Food Safety to El Dorado Retirement Residence Manager Felix Cintron (left) and Executive Chef Juan M. Gonzalez.

Richardson's web site at: www.cor.net/CityHall/Health/homepage.html (On the left side under News-Current Events).

Some recipients are listed below. The web site lists other winners in the categories of Public and Private Schools and Day Care Centers.

FULL SERVICE RESTAURANTS

AFC Sushi @Nortel
Andreas II
Bon Appetit at Cisco
Cafe Max
Campbell Forum Sandwich Shop
Cappella Court
Richardson Senior Center
d' Kusina
Dewell Events
Int'l. Buddhist Progress Society
Kathy's Choice
Mr. Gatti's
Samsung
Sodexo at Nortel
T-Daddy's

FAST FOOD RESTAURANTS

Burger King #7915
Subs and Spuds
Taco Bell #2333
Taco Bell #2586
Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers on Custer, East Belt Line and South Plano Road

SUPERMARKETS & MEAT MARKETS

Sack 'n Save #225 (South Plano Road) - Bakery, Deli and Meat Market
Target Stores #1430 (South Plano Road) - Deli and Meat Market
Tom Thumb #3641 (Custer Parkway) - Bakery/Deli and Meat Market
Wal-mart Neighborhood Market/Deli

OTHER FOOD SERVICE PERMITS

American Legion Post
Cake Carousel
Maria's Bakery
The Cake Lady

DELI/

LIGHT FOOD MENU

Bradford Homesuites
Bunkie's Donuts
Chilly Mart
Courtyard by Marriott
Donut Depot
Hawthorn Suites Hotel
J-Marquez & Sons at Berkner (Indoor) and Richardson High School

Oakhill Inc. (BINGO)
Palisades Deli & Catering
Paris Donuts
Residence Inn by Marriott
Sherrill Park Concession
Slapshot Hockey Arena
Smoothies Paradise
Southern Maid Donuts
Starbucks Coffee #6244
Starbucks Coffee #6327
Subway (East Arapaho)
Subway (North Jupiter)
Sweet Donuts
UTD - Sushi Bar
Weddings & Celebrations
Weiyee Foods
Wing Stop
CONVENIENCE STORES
Main Street Shell
Perry's C-Store #7/Chevron
Tetco Store # 671
Texaco-East Belt Line Road

MEDICAL/ASSISTED LIVING FACILITIES

Arden Courts of Richardson
El Dorado Retirement Residence
The Leaves, Inc.

For big and bulky trash pickup on your front curb, call 972-744-4111 before you set items out. Your Big and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC) day is the same as your recycling day.

Pollution going down drains

Stormwater runoff, or nonpoint source pollution, has been identified as the nation's main cause of water quality problems. Any time engine fluids, grass clippings, trash or lawn chemicals enter the storm drains, either by rain flow or illegal dumping, the fish, water fowl and other aquatic animals suffer from the pollution going directly to our waterways.

The City of Richardson, as part of a regional effort of more than 30 Metroplex communities, is putting a message in the form of a round plastic marker next to storm drain inlets on the streets in your neighborhood. The marker, which states "This Drain for Rain, Flows to Creek, Don't Dump" is a reminder to you and your neighbors that nonpoint source pollution will end up in our waterways if allowed to enter the storm sewers. Unlike our home's sanitary sewers, the storm drains discharge directly to the City waterways, without treatment.

You can help prevent storm water pollution.

- Don't allow dirt, leaves, or grass clippings to accumulate on your driveway, sidewalk, or in the street. Never dump yard waste into a storm drain.
- Keep your car engine tuned to prevent oil and antifreeze from collecting on streets and parking lots. Never use the storm drain for disposing of engine fluids, lawn chemicals, paints or trash.
- Follow directions carefully when applying fertilizers and pesticides. Do not over apply. Sweep driveways and sidewalks, don't hose them off.
- Consider using a commercial car wash to clean your vehicle. Don't allow detergents, dirt and grease to wash into the storm drains.
- Pick up pet wastes and dispose of them properly.

For more information, call the Richardson Health Department at 972-744-4077.

League of Women Voters of Richardson plans finance drive

The Richardson League of Women Voters kicked off its 2006 Finance Drive Tuesday, Feb. 14. Members are contacting past and potential supporters in the community for donations to fund League activities for 2006. The League has served Richardson for 44 years, working to promote political responsibility through informed and active participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy.

The League of Women Voters is a multi-issue organization whose mission is to encourage active and informed participation of citizens in government and to influence public policy through education and advocacy. The League NEVER supports or opposes any party or candidate. Membership is open to all citizens, male and female, at least 18 years of age.

For information, call the League office 972-470-0584.

"Viva Altrusa" scheduled March 10

Altrusa International, Inc. of Richardson's annual fundraising event, "Viva Altrusa," a live and silent auction and casino party by Blackjack with Class, will be held at 7 p.m. March 10 at the Richardson Civic Center. Tickets are \$50 per person, which includes dinner catered by On the Border, beverages, entertainment and \$250 in casino chips. A Texas Hold'em Tournament will be held on the same evening. A \$25 pre-paid donation is required to reserve a seat at the tournament table (must purchase event ticket to participate in the tournament). Tournament seating is limited.

Proceeds from this event are used for service projects, charitable donations and scholarships. Event and casino table sponsorships are available, call 972-235-3437. For more information or tickets, call 972-231-8931.