RichardsonTODAY

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LIBRARY

RICHARDSON READS ONE BOOK INTERVIEW

William Kent Krueger's "This Tender Land" and "Ordinary Grace" were RROB book selections. ▶page 4



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NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

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PARKS AND RECREATION

HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER'S 75-YEAR-OLD INSTRUCTOR

Decades of dance continue for mother-daughter instructors. ▶page 5



NEWS

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The city is looking for interested candidates to fill a variety of positions. ▶page 3

BOND ELECTION SET FOR NOV. 2

A \$190 million no-tax-rate-increase bond election will appear on the ballots of Richardson voters on Election Day this November. The package includes five propositions, each of which will be voted on individually.

The propositions include:



Proposition A: Streets (\$102 million)



Proposition B: Public Buildings (\$64 million)



Proposition C: Sidewalks (\$8.5 million)



Proposition D: Drainage (\$8 million)



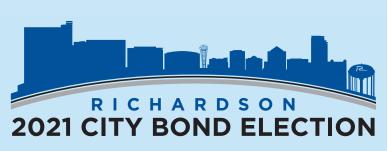
Proposition E: Parks (\$7.5 million)

Propositions approved in the election would become part of a future bond program that would see the sale of the bonds take place over the next five years with the projects being slated for completion sometime in the next six to seven years.

Like borrowing money for a home, or other large purchase, cities use bond programs to finance major capital projects, the cost of which cannot be covered as part of the normal annual funds raised through property or sales taxes. The money borrowed, plus interest, is then repaid over a period of time (usually 20 years) using the debt service portion of the property tax rate. Richardson has held four bond elections in the past 25 years: 1997, 2006, 2010 and 2015. The past programs have funded projects like new recreation centers, new fire stations, a new police station, and water, street, sidewalk and other infrastructure projects.

For more information on the 2021 bond election, visit www.cor.net/bondelection.

EARLY VOTING: Oct. 18-29 **ELECTION DAY:** Nov. 2



CENTER BOLSTERS CITY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS, FIRE TRAINING

Training Operations

Nestled at the end of Lookout Drive on the northern face of Sherrill Park Golf Course, the City has a high-security facility designed to test the mettle of first responders. Depending on the day, you could see flames engulfing a three-story building, vehicles overturned throughout a parking lot, or a tunnel system filled with debris and stranded mannequins from a simulated collapse. It is all part of the Richardson Fire Training and Emergency Operations Center that was designed to help the City prepare and respond to future emergencies.

Opened in 2013 as one of the 2010 bond program projects, the center houses the Office of Emergency Management and Fire Department training personnel. Most of the building is set up for training and operations and also serves as a base for specialized and reserve equipment.

"It's really an all-encompassing facility," Buddy Hughes, Battalion Chief of Training, said. "It's given us a helpful resource. In 2014, when I assisted with the first Fire Academy held here, it was a major upgrade. The amount

▶page 7



INCLUSION IS MAGICAL COMING TO THE EISEMANN CENTER SEPT. 9-11

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Richardson, TX

The City of Richardson is hosting Inclusion is Magical Sept. 9-11 at the Eisemann Center. The inaugural event will showcase the art and performances of the autistic community in partnership with local business and community groups, bringing awareness to the opportunities and capabilities of those on the autism spectrum.

Inclusion is Magical will feature activities including the Hacking Au-

tism Hack-a-Thon, a show by magician Kevin Spencer and an art show featuring works by teens and young adults.

"We are very excited to be able to hold Inclusion is Magical at the Eisemann Center," said Richardson Mayor Paul Voelker. "The event will be part of a three-day celebration that will raise awareness about the abilities of people at varying levels of the autism spectrum through the celebration of art, entertainment that inspires and conversations that inform."



National data shows most people with autism are underemployed or unemployed. Eighty-five percent of autistic college graduates are unemployed, compared to the national average of 3.6 percent.

For more information visit www. eisemanncenter.com.



VIDEO STORIES

Enjoy an enhanced, in-depth news experience through the Richardson Today video series.



CITY REINSTATES WATER BILL PAYMENT REQUIREMENTS AND PENALTIES

October, the City will begin reinstating late fees and disconnections for nonpayment of water bills according to prior policy. City Council suspended late fees and disconnections in March 2020 to ease the financial pressure felt by customers related to the pandemic.

to COVID-19 "Due unprecedented times with businesses closing and rising unemployment, the City Council tried to be understanding of people's financial situations," said Kisha Morrison, Customer Service Manager.

The City has communicated with households and businesses since June 2021 by sending out letters to all pastdue customers and placing notices on the doors of those with larger outstanding balances. Although October is the deadline, Morrison emphasizes that water customers behind on payments should contact the office immediately.

"Payment arrangements can be

made on a case-by-case basis," Morrison said. "We will do our best to work with accounts that owe large balances in an effort to bring their accounts current and avoid disconnection."

Contact Water Customer Service at 972-744-4120 or by e-mail at customer.service@cor.gov. Online payments can be made at www.cor. net/waterbill.



Mayor Paul Voelker paul.voelker@cor.gov

Last month, the City Council approved the 2021-22 budget, and with it, a 1-cent decrease in your property tax rate. With the economic conditions that have affected us all the past two years, we felt it was an important budgetary step to help our residents and businesses alike. We also maintained the \$100,000 senior tax exemption, which provides our seniors with an annual savings of \$615 on their property tax bills.

Like last year, this year's budgeting process was made difficult due to the uncertainty caused by COVID-19. While this year's budget remains conservative in its spending, it still provides the high level of service that you have come to expect.

We are once again focused on our core services. As a council, we often hear from you that infrastructure maintenance is one of your top priorities. You tell us that we need to properly maintain our aging streets and park facilities. We have

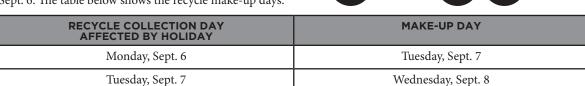
heard you, which is why the budget includes \$6.3 million for street and alley maintenance and another \$450,000 for park maintenance projects.

Part of what makes Richardson great is our community events such as Wildflower! and Cottonwood. I know a lot of people, myself included, were disappointed that we were not able to have these events over the past year due to COVID-19. Thankfully, the 2021-22 budget includes funding for a phased restarting of these events as health and safety guidelines allow.

There is a lot to be excited about in this year's budget. You can find more information on the budget, including video of the discussions that led up to its passage, by visiting www.cor.net/budget.

LABOR DAY HOLIDAY SANITATION SCHEDULE

Due to the Labor Day holiday, there will be NO solid waste pick up, special pick up, or recycling pick up Monday, Sept. 6. The table below shows the recycle make-up days.

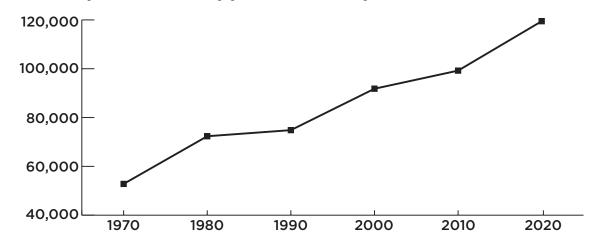


CITY FACILITIES SCHEDULE

FACILITY	CLOSING DATE/TIME
Animal Shelter, City Hall/Civic Center, Eisemenn Center, Gymnastics Center, Library, Municipal Court, Recreation Centers, Senior Center	Closed Sept. 6
Heights Family Aquatic Center	Open Noon-8 p.m., Sept. 6
Sherrill Park Golf Course	Open
Tennis Center	Open 8:30 a.m5 p.m. Sept. 6

CENSUS UPDATE—RICHARDSON GROWS BY MORE **THAN 20,000**

The US Census Bureau released Census data in August showing that Richardson's population grew by more than 20,000 over the past decade. Richardson's population is now 119,469, up from 99,223 in the 2010 Census.



CITY NEWS BY E-MAIL

Sign up to receive the City's "Week In Review" e-mail, which is sent each Friday, as well as to receive important notifications concerning City events, projects, services and information about weatherrelated activities and the West Nile virus.

Visit www.cor.net/ENews, and select the options you would like to subscribe to.

RICHARDSONTODAY

Richardson Today is a monthly publication of the City of Richardson. It is free for Richardson residents. The publication is designed to keep citizens of Richardson informed of activities and news that may be of interest to them. If you have any comments or suggestions concerning this or future issues, please send them to:

Citizens Information Services City Hall/Civic Center

411 W. Arapaho Rd., Suite 204 Richardson, Texas 75080

972-744-4104 richardsontoday@cor.gov

REQUESTING AN ACCOMMODATION

The City of Richardson will make all reasonable modifications to policies and programs to ensure that people with disabilities have an equal opportunity to enjoy all City programs, services and activities. Anyone who requires an auxiliary aid or service for effective communication, or a modification of policies or procedures to participate in a City program, service or activity, are requested to contact:

ADA Coordinator 972-744-0908 411 West Arapaho Rd., Ste. 108 Richardson, TX 75080 ADACoordinator@cor.gov Please contact the ADA Coordinator as soon as possible, but no later than 48 hours before a scheduled event.



Mayor Pro Tem Janet DePuy Place 3 janet.depuy@cor.gov



Joe Corcoran Place 4 joe.corcoran@cor.gov



Council Member Bob Dubey Place 1 bob.dubey@cor.gov



Council Member Ken Hutchenrider Place 5



Council Member Jennifer Justice Place 2 jennifer.justice@cor.gov





Council Member Arefin Shamsul Place 6 ken.hutchenrider@cor.gov arefin.shamsul@cor.gov

CONTACT THE CITY COUNCIL

Richardson City Council 411 W. Arapaho Rd. Richardson, TX 75080

972-744-4203 www.cor.net/council

ABOUT CITY COUNCIL MEETINGS

The City Council typically holds business meetings on the second and fourth Monday of each month in the Council Chambers, and work sessions are typically held every Monday. Meeting times and locations are subject to change and are posted at www.cor.net/citycouncil. The meetings are open to the public, and citizens are welcome to attend. Each meeting's 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/citv and on the City's cable TV channel on Spectrum (channel 16) and AT&T U-Verse (channel 99). Taped replays of the meetings are also available on the website within 24 hours.

CONTACTING THE CITY

Normal Operating Hours: 972-744-4100 After Hours: 972-744-4111

SEPTEMBER IS NATIONAL PREPAREDNESS MONTH

Often the best plan and resources at your disposal during an emergency are the ones that were put into place before the event happened. That's why being ready as an individual, family and community is so important.

Alisha Gimbel, Emergency Management Coordinator, said it's ideal to think through an emergency before needs ever arise.

"People have great intentions but it's easy to get busy and have the idea to do something but never get there. It's never going to be convenient to stop and plan ahead, but it's worth it."

The City's Office of Emergency Management helps residents stay informed about emergency events through a local alert system, and provides information and resources for household emergency planning. In large-scale events such as severe storms, Emergency Management coordinates the City's emergency response and recovery. Additionally, the office coordinates relief efforts to other areas and their residents, such as following Hurricanes Laura and Delta last year.

In North Texas, preparing for winter storms, rain events, hail and tornadoes is vital.

"We say that there is not a tornado

season because it can happen at any time of the year," Gimbel said.

A key emphasis in preparedness education this year is documenting household items. Whether a homeowner or a renter, personal property insurance is often easier to make claims upon if the content owner has proof the items previously existed. Recording receipts, item serial numbers, making lists and simply taking photos of each room in the residence goes a long way to ensure the cost of any lost contents can be reimbursed.

Community members can bolster their own readiness and help others by befriending neighbors. In emergencies, residents will likely call upon those closest to them for things like rides or checking on their home and

"It's good to have a support network that you can count on with give-and-take," Gimbel said. "We encourage people to get involved. Know the resources and the needs around you. The more connected you are, the better."

For help with emergency plans, lists and kits, visit www.cor.net/oem. Sign up for alerts and notify first responders of any need or medical condition at www.cor.net/alert or by calling 972-744-0900

PREPAREDNESS MONTH 2021 WEEKLY THEMES

WEEK 1 SEPT. 1-4: MAKE A PLAN

Talk to your family and loved ones about how you will communicate and act before, during and after a disaster.

WEEK 2 SEPT. 5-11: BUILD A KIT

Gather supplies that will last for several days after a disaster for everyone living in your home. Don't forget to consider the unique needs each person or pet may have in case you have to evacuate quickly.

WEEK 3 SEPT. 12-18: PREPARE FOR DISASTERS

Limit the impact that disasters have on you and your family. Know the risk of disasters in your area and check your insurance coverage. Learn how to make your dwelling stronger in the face of storms and other common hazards. Plan to act fast if you receive a local warning or alert.

WEEK 4 SEPT. 19-24: TEACH YOUTH ABOUT PREPAREDNESS

Talk to your children about preparing for emergencies and what to do in case you are separated. Specifically talk about rally points and communication methods.

WEEK 5 SEPT. 26-30: REVIEW YOUR PLAN

Review your plan and supplies. Check with your loved ones about their understanding of and their part in the plan.

(courtesy of www.ready.gov)

MAYOR'S SUMMER INTERNSHIP PROGRAM WRAPS UP FOURTH YEAR



Forty-three high school students recently returned to school for their senior years after a summer of working at jobs throughout the city as part of the Richardson Mayor's Summer Internship Program.

The program, which is in its fourth year, allows students to gain invalu-

able real-world experience during eight weeks of paid summer employment. This summer, interns worked at 26 local businesses, nonprofits and government agencies.

"It was really fun to learn all of the things I was able to do, and what I wanted to do later on in life and what I didn't want to do," said Richardson High School's Ella Gray, who interned in RISD's Office of Career and Technical Education. "[I learned] the good and the bad aspects of working in a job and in an office building."

For interns such as Richardson High School's Tasmuna Omar, this was their first work experience, allowing them to gain a glimpse of what it is like in the working world. "It was really interesting to work in a professional environment that I had never been in and to work with so many different departments," said Omar, who interned with UT Dallas' Office of Facilities Management. "I really enjoyed working with the Office of Sustainability because I am interested in climate change and it was good to make an impact in something I believe in."

In addition to the work the interns completed at their jobs, they also took part in a service project. In early August, interns spent a week at Network of Community Ministries filling bags with healthy snacks the interns collected through their Healthy Kids Snack Drive. The 1,800 bags were dis-

tributed to RISD students along with backpacks containing school supplies and other back-to-school essentials as part of the Backpack Bash at Richardson ISD.

"It was really cool to see how Richardson helps its community and how it joins together with businesses and nonprofits to get everyone back to school safe and sound," said Cameron Conard, a Plano Senior High student who interned at the Richardson Police Department.

Applications for the 2022 Richardson Mayor's Summer Internship Program will be accepted in early 2022.

For more information, students should contact their school counselors or visit www.rmsip.org.

CITY HIRING FOR A RANGE OF JOB ROLES

Like many industries in North Texas and across the country, the City of Richardson is looking for candidates for hard-to-fill positions due to rising demand for labor associated with the recovery from the pandemic. Positions range across a variety of different specialties, from administrative duties to field work on infrastructure, and include both full- and part-time work. Roles also encompass many functions, including public services, parks and recreation, transportation and engineering.

Requirements for the openings are as varied as the positions themselves, from some high school to higher education, and a range of experience levels. The City recently increased the pay for positions that are some of the hardest to fill.

"These are essential positions like custodian, solid waste loader, maintenance helper and traffic sign aide," said Baby Raley, Assistant Human Resources Director. "For many of the positions, a person could step in, show their basic skill sets and their ability to learn, and earn the certifications and additional skills along the way."

and provides employees with competitive pay and benefits. Many City employees spend a majority of their careers with Richardson.

"The average employee tenure is around 12 years, with the longest so far being 40 years of service. There is stability and no layoffs were made during COVID," Raley said. "That's another contributor to our vacan-

cies. A generation of employees are becoming eligible to retire and we need that next generation to come in, learn, grow and lead."

Eric Robison, Director of Public Services, said, "There are advancement opportunities, license/certification training, strong work-life balance, pay on bad weather days, tuition reimbursement and paid holidays."

Shohn Rodgers, Superintendent of Parks, said the department needs to fill several positions.

"Working for the City of Richardson has lots of benefits, and working for the Parks and Recreation Department is particularly choice," he said. "This department really promotes a positive culture, and the services we provide are more valuable than they

may seem at first. Especially over the pandemic, we saw park use rise precipitously because residents needed a safe and useful outdoor space to pursue gatherings, athletics, exercise and recreation. Everyone in the department gets to see how their work pays off."

The City needs project engineer, construction inspector and facilities maintenance specialist positions, Shawn Poe, Director of Engineering, said.

"We offer an awesome culture, amazing community support, wonderful team members and environment, and a tremendous opportunity to make a difference and define your purpose," he said.

"I think we have a family culture here and we care for one another. We

also have a learning culture. If you come in at the bottom, you have the opportunity to learn, train and advance," Raley said. "For many people, I believe it is the sense of purpose. If you work for a municipality, it's the public service. No matter what position you're in, you're giving back to the community and you're contributing to the same goal. Employees at the City of Richardson have a passion to serve this community."

Interested candidates are invited to search job opportunities and apply.

For more information, visit www.cor.net/jobs. E-mail askhumanre-sources@cor.gov or call 972-744-



FEATURED JOBS

Chosen candidates will be trained!

Parks Maintenance Helper II – Perform manual labor tasks safely in all sections of the Parks Department. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$15.21-\$19.67)

Solid Waste Loader – Work in a small crew to collect, load, compact and dispose of refuse, garbage, recycling and brush. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$15.21-\$17.31)

Custodian – Clean facilities and perform event setups and breakdowns. Work schedules will vary between days and evenings. However, schedules may change due to the needs of the division and employees may be required to work weekends. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$11.84-\$17.42)

Driver/Loader – Drive and operate residential refuse and/or recycling collection equipment. Work in a small crew to collect, load, transport and dispose of refuse, garbage, recycling, and brush. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$17.27-\$21.63)

Maintenance Helper II (Public Services) – Perform installation, maintenance and repair of water distribution and wastewater collection systems. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$15.36-\$20.28)

Traffic Signs Aide – Install, repair and maintain traffic control devices, signs, pavement markings, screening walls, barricades and the Speed Monitoring Radar system. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$12.20-\$18.00)

Traffic Signal Aide – Assist in the installation, maintenance and repair of traffic signals and signal systems as needed or assigned. Perform other related work as required. (Hourly Pay Range: \$14.39-\$20.25)

RICHARDSON READS ONE BOOK PARTICIPANTS ENJOY LITERARY GEMS

Program Encourages Readership, Community Connection

For the 18th year, the Richardson Public Library is bringing residents together with the draw of a story. Readers never outgrow the benefits of literacy, and Richardson Reads One Book helps ensure that reading continually enriches the lives of residents.

Inspired by the national One Book program, Richardson Reads One Book (RROB) began in 2004. With the help of community partners, the program has not only encouraged readership, but has brought in renowned authors annually.

Each fall, RROB board members, some of whom have been part of the program for many years and are elected during an annual RROB meeting, begin reviewing a stack of fiction and nonfiction books for consideration for the following year. By January, the group has narrowed down their selection to a handful of options. The board votes on book finalists and reveals the work in the spring.

Criteria for the chosen book includes broad appeal, about a seventh-grade reading level and universal issues that provoke thought. Ideally, books are available in paperback, large-print and audio formats, as well as in other languages. The author must also agree to come for a community event and author's luncheon.

Residents may check out the year's chosen book from the Library or purchase their own copy. Partici-

pants can read on their own or take part in a number of book clubs. RISD high school students read the book as well. The group dynamic helps make each book come alive, said Vrena Patrick, Assistant Director of Library Services.

"The chosen book pulls people together to read and to be able to discuss a topic," she said. "Everyone can have different opinions, but that is part of the fun of discussion. We're all able to find a common thread."

Richardson resident Carol Claunch has participated in RROB since 2011 and has served as cohost of the RROB luncheon annually. She calls her book club days her favorite days of the month.

"I am so excited about this year's author, William Kent Krueger. He is a brilliant writer. I loved both "Ordinary Grace" and "This Tender Land." I was disappointed when last year's event had to be postponed," she said. "Writers are true celebrities to me. I get my books signed each year, and I have a special shelf in my personal library for my RROB selections. I think the City of Richardson has one of the finest public libraries in the country. The RROB program is an example of what makes our library exceptional."

Getting to hear in person from the acclaimed authors of a book they just enjoyed is a highlight for many RROB participants.

"All of our past authors are some of the biggest names on bestseller

lists," Patrick said. "I think residents really enjoy hearing more about the author's experience, and they can talk to the author if they stay for the book-signing."

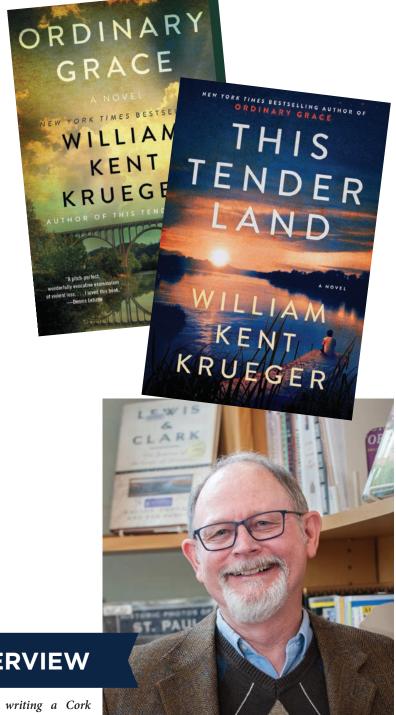
Until 2020, each author came to Richardson in the fall. Last year's event, featuring William Kent Krueger's "This Tender Land," could not be held due to the pandemic. Participants will still be able to hear from Krueger, since his novel, "Ordinary Grace," was chosen as the 2021 RROB selection.

Selected books have often included diversity in age, experience, time in history, ethnicity, country, religion, perspective, circumstances and challenges. The stories foster contemplation, empathy and understanding, and Patrick emphasizes the importance of community support in making RROB possible.

"It's a point of pride that we don't charge for any program, so we depend entirely on community support for a program that reaches about 2,000 people annually," she said. "We have quite a variety of donors-from organizations to individuals."

A free public lecture with author William Kent Krueger is planned for 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 14. Please check **www.cor.net/library** for the location. Free tickets are available at the Richardson Public Library first-floor information desk.

For more information, visit www.cor.net/onebook.



Author, William Kent

RICHARDSON READS ONE BOOK AUTHOR INTERVIEW

What led to the writing and publishing of "Ordinary Grace" and "This Tender Land"?

They came from different places and for different reasons. With "Ordinary Grace," I'd been looking for a story that would allow me to do two things: 1) Explore more deeply the importance of the spiritual journey in our lives; and 2) Go back and recall an important period in my own life—the summer I was 13 years old. I wanted to recall that summer and use bits and pieces of my own life, my own memories, my own perceptions to create the story. So, my own family was the template for the Drum family, and the town of New Bremen is so very like the small midwestern towns where I spent my adolescence. I wanted to write this piece in such a way that even readers who were born decades after the events of the story could read the novel and understand what it was like to be a 13-year-old boy in a small midwestern town in the summer of 1961.

"This Tender Land" was a story I've wanted to write since I was 11 years old. Toward the end of my fifthgrade year, our teacher read to the class "The Adventures of Tom Sawyer." I loved that novel about a kid who seemed just like me. After that, of course, I had to read "Adventures of Huckleberry Finn," which I loved even more. Honestly, across my entire career as a storyteller, I've wanted someday to write a novel that would pay homage to Mark Twain, that might be in its own way an updated version of "Huckleberry Finn." "This Tender Land" was the result.

What parts of "Ordinary Grace" and "This Tender Land" do you find most satisfying?

I loved both the prologue and epi-

logue of each novel. But what I loved most were the relationships, particularly the deep love that the children have for one another. In "Ordinary Grace," it's the brotherly love that Frank and Jake Drum share. In "This Tender Land," it's the deep caring that all of the Vagabonds have for one another. This love and these relationships are really the foundation for both stories.

How did you come up with the titles for "Ordinary Grace" and "This Tender Land"?

The working title for "Ordinary Grace" was "Awful Grace," taken from the Aeschylus quote that's important in the story. But as I worked with the manuscript, I realized that what I was talking about were really the ordinary blessings we offer one another in our daily lives—our willingness to forgive, our willingness to embrace the woundedness and brokenness that is a part of being human. At that point, I decided to call the novel "Ordinary Grace."

For a long time, I didn't have a title for "This Tender Land." But one day, as I was driving through southern Minnesota doing some geographic research for the novel, I happened to be listening to our classical public radio station. A beautiful piece of music came on; one that was completely unfamiliar to me. When the piece ended, the announcer explained that we'd just been listening to an excerpt from the only opera Aaron Copland ever composed called "The Tender Land." But what I heard him say was "This Tender Land" and I knew I had my title.

Would you share with us how you researched "This Tender Land"? Did your research include any real-life

experiences?

For the historical underpinnings, I spent hours and hours in the Minnesota History Center, pouring over newspapers from 1932, looking at old photographs, reading first-person accounts by those who'd experienced the Depression in cities, small towns, and on farms. I read a number of first-person accounts by survivors of the Native American boarding school experience. And of course, I visited every place in which I chose to set a section of the novel. Because the Vagabonds were on river journey, I canoed or kayaked sections of the rivers the kids travel in the course of that summer. When my wife and I canoed the section of the Mississippi, our canoe was nearly swamped several times by the huge wakes left by the enormous barges that ply the

For "This Tender Land," how did you know that you wanted to write it looking back at the events that transpired instead of as the events happened?

It was a technique I first came across in Harper Lee's fabulous "To Kill A Mockingbird." I found it to be such a moving way in which to tell a story, using two different narrative perspectives, the older voice of wisdom and the younger voice of impulse and naivete. It allows a storyteller to take you into the moment but also stand outside that moment and make judgements or indulge in regret. It's a technique that offers the reader intimacy and melancholy but also the promise of a hope, often on the same page.

In another interview, you mention that writing "This Tender Land" was a very different experience than writing a Cork O'Connor story. How so?

A Cork O'Connor story is essentially a mystery, which is a tightly woven fabric of storytelling. When I write a Cork

O'Connor manuscript, I think that plot through as completely as I can before I ever put my fingers to the keyboard. By the end of that thinking process, I know how the story begins, how it ends, and who to what to whom and why. With "This Tender Land," I wanted a totally different approach, more organic. I wanted the story to feel as if it were coming directly from my heart, which it was. Going into the writing of the manuscript, I knew only three elements of the story I was going tell: 1) It would be my updated version of "Huckleberry Finn"; 2) the adventures the Vagabonds would experience in their epic journey were going to mirror many of the adventures Odysseus had in his long journey from Troy back to Ithaca; and 3) The story would be set during the Great Depression. I launched into the writing without any outline, and I let the story reveal itself to me as I wrote. In the end, this was one of the most extraordinary creative experiences I have had in all my years as a storyteller.

Why does it matter to you to tell stories based on what it means to be human instead of holding discussions about it?

Discussions are about the head, about thinking, about processing. Good stories go for the heart. When you capture someone's heart, they

don't just listen. They feel. And it's only when we feel that what it is to be human makes sense.

What do you consider your greatest success?

My marriage and my family. I wouldn't be the storyteller I am without these people I love being a deeply important part of my life.

What has your journey to becoming a New York Times best-selling author been like?

A long journey. I didn't hit the Times list until I'd published 10 novels. But I try to keep this accomplishment in perspective. The measures the world sets for success are pretty arbitrary—the Times list, sales figures, starred reviews, awards—are for the most part, beyond our ability to control. The only real control we have as writers, as storytellers, is the quality of the work we do. What's most important to me is believing that what I've offered to readers is the best that I have to offer in that moment. The rest I try to let go.

What are you working on now?

I'm completing revisions for #19 in my Cork O'Connor mystery series. Then I return to work on the next stand-alone novel, which will be a companion to both "Ordinary Grace" and "This Tender Land."



HEIGHTS FAMILY AQUATIC CENTER SCHEDULE

The Heights Family Aquatic Center will close for the season on Labor Day, Sept. 6. The final weekend's hours of operation will be noon-8 p.m. Sept. 4-6. For more information, visit www.cor.net/aquatics.



GENERATIONS LEGACY AT HEIGHTS RECREATION CENTER

Decades of Dance Continue for Mother-Daughter Instructors

At age 75, dance instructor Robin Horn says she has "only" taught dance for 57 years since there were 18 years of her life when she wasn't leading classes. The last 43 years of that instruction has been at Heights Recreation Center, where she's taught generations of dancers from toddlers to senior citizens.

Residents have learned ballet, tap and jazz under her direction. Some students have gone on to become accomplished in the sphere of dance competitively and professionally. Horn began teaching dance at Heights in 1978, and her daughter, Holly Baxter, began teaching there in 1998.

For Horn, a family legacy of dance began with her own mother, who was a dance instructor in Indianapolis. Horn grew up learning and performing ballet, tap and jazz. By the time she was 15, she became an instructor at the family's competitive dance studio. At Butler University in Indianapolis, Horn was a member of the celebrated ballet company. There, she met her husband Larry in a lighting class.

His career led the couple and their three daughters and one son to Pennsylvania, Maryland and Iowa, before the family moved to Richardson in 1978. Robin began teaching at Heights Recreation Center's former location. While some parents and participants approached classes as a diversion rather than a serious pursuit, Horn always taught with the professionalism and skill ingrained in her.

"I lived dance," she said. "And recently I redid my curriculum. I'm always trying to find new ways to teach. I'm always reading and getting ideas to see what I can do to be a better teacher."

Through the years, Horn organized dance recitals for class participants, complete with characters, costumes and event programs. She has helped the most dedicated students progress to the highest levels they wanted to go.

Baxter grew up dancing in her mother's classes and joined a competitive dance studio as a teen. By 18, she had become a dance instructor at Heights as well and danced at Collin College. Baxter was inspired to introduce ballet to the youngest audiences, and began Baby Ballet classes at the rec center.

Baxter continued to teach dance while she earned a teaching certification through UT Dallas. As an educator for RISD, Baxter still instructs dance. She teaches children's classes and an adult adaptive class.

"I couldn't not teach dance," Baxter, who is known in classes as "Ms. Holly," said. "I always enjoyed dancing and the challenge of learning new skills and pushing hard and getting better, but now I love teaching more than performing. I love to see the students' excitement."

Heidi Scalice, Heights Recreation Center Manager, said, "Teaching dance is not work; it's fun for them."

Horn and Baxter are deeply ingrained in the community. Horn has taught two generations of dancers, and some of Baxter's former dance classmates had children who then came to her class. Baxter even has some of the same students in dance class and the school classroom.

"My husband Dan says, 'We can't go

anywhere without someone knowing who you are," Baxter said.

Baxter's daughters, Taylor and Kathryn, grew up in their mother's and grandmother's classes. They danced in both the former and current Heights classrooms. It's not unlikely there could be three generations of dance instructors at Heights, Horn and Baxter said.

Horn said it's fulfilling to see new

classes of dancers each year and to have longstanding, generational friendships.

"It's a circle of life and it circles around," Horn said. "It's been fun and I love to see the joy on children's faces."

Horn plans to dance into the future.

"I think the plan is I'll look at it again at 80," Horn said. "I still live dance."

For class information, visit www.cor.net/park-sonline.



VENUES AVAILABLE TO RENT FOR SPECIAL EVENTS

Spaces Provide Opportunities for Business and Private Use

As the recognized International Business Capital of North Texas, Richardson has developed several public facilities available for rent to accommodate special and business events. Residents have many options for private celebrations also. The following locations are among those that could meet your needs:







There are many other options within Richardson not affiliated with the City including hotels, restaurants, and event and entertainment venues. For more information, e-mail Geoff Wright at Geoff.Wright@cor.gov.

The Charles W. Eisemann Center for Performing Arts and Corporate Presentations

Since its opening in 2002, the Eisemann Center in Galatyn Park has served as a premier destination for performances and events. The 1,563-seat Hill Performance Hall and 395-seat Bank of America Theatre allow audiences to take in music, theater, dances, presentations and more. Residents may not know, however, about the Bank of America Hall, a large multiuse room located in the building's lower level. The 3,000-square-foot hall accommodates up to about 300 people, depending upon its usage. Its audiovisual equipment, wood floor and colored lights make it versatile.

For rental inquiries, e-mail ec.admin@cor.gov or call 972-744-4600. Learn more at www.eisemanncenter.com/rent-al-information.

Parks and Recreation Locales

Park pavilions can serve as convenient locations for events like birthday parties and graduation celebrations. The City offers park pavilion reservations at an hourly rate for the Breckinridge Park Gazebo, Breckinridge Park Pavilion A and B, Breckinridge Park Fire Pit, Cottonwood Park, Crowley Park, Huffhines Park and Discovery Point at Prairie Creek Park. The capacities vary by location from 20 to 100-plus people.

Rooms and the gym at each of the recreation centers, Heights and Huffhines, are available for rental. At Heights, the Multipurpose, Creek and Park rooms can be reserved hourly. At Huffhines, the Huffhines and Richardson rooms may be reserved hourly. The Meadows room, gym and game room are available for reservations on Saturday evenings as well. Additionally, Richardson Senior Center classroom space is available for rent.

The Richardson Gymnastics Center leads staffed birthday parties for children ages 3 and older, including gym time and party room time. The Bush Central Barkway, Richardson's dog park, offers a paddock rental for dog-centric celebrations. During the summer, Richardson pools are available for rent. For golf-related events only, a Sherrill Park pavilion is available for up to about 100 people.

For Parks and Recreation reservations, including park pavilions, recreation centers, pools, the Senior Center and the dog park, call the Heights Recreation Center at 972-744-7850 or the Huffhines Recreation Center at 972-744-7881. Call the Richardson Gymnastics Center at 972-744-7860 or e-mail gymparty@cor.gov. Call Sherrill Park at 972-234-1416.

The Richardson Woman's Club

The Richardson Woman's Club facility provides a tranquil destination within the city with spaces that are ideal for celebrations and for business or organization events. Located on three-and-a-half acres adjacent to Sherrill Park, the Woman's Club facilities and property are maintained jointly via a partnership with the club and the City. The Woman's Club maintains needed staffing and rents out the grounds.

The historic acreage was deeded to a Texas family in 1868. A well that provided water to the early residents remains near the property entrance. The City Council dedicated the turn-of-the-century home and land to the Richardson Woman's Club in 1969. The club raised funds for the site by organizing home tours and through crafts and baked goods sales. Their efforts provided for the 1930s home on the property to be renovated. It now serves as the clubhouse. In 1989, the club built the Founders Hall, thanks in large part to club members' creation and sale of "The Texas Experience" cookbook.

Today, the Woman's Club members' care and artful touches continue to define the property. The club's grounds are shaded by oak trees, pecan trees and crepe myrtle bushes. Vines and flowers grace the grounds. Past the wishing well, a stone and wooden arbor provides space for seating up to 25 people. Further down the path, a whimsical white gazebo has room for seating about 120 people nearby.

The clubhouse has four rooms, accommodating up to 120 people. It contains antiques, furnishings and items that tell the story of the club. A sizeable kitchen and a deck round out the space.

The Founders Hall offers room for up to 200 guests. It includes a stage, dance floor and kitchen. Like the clubhouse, the hall is versatile, offering a venue for ceremonies, receptions, parties, luncheons, dinners, business meetings, training sessions, school events and more.

Although the grounds are historic, the facilities have modern conveniences including WiFi and sound systems, and the Founders Hall has a presentation screen. The property offers convenient parking and guest restrooms. The facility's indoor and outdoor spaces are available to rent in their entirety or à la carte by area.

 $For facility\ reservations,\ e\text{-}mail\ \mathbf{womansclub@sbcglobal.net}\ or\ call\ \mathbf{972\text{-}238\text{-}0841}.$

For information, visit www.rwctx.org.

NEW AMBULANCE PUT INTO SERVICE IN NORTH RICHARDSON

(MICU) based at Station 3, a location designed to cover calls to the growing North Richardson area, is one of five frontline ambulances on standby at any given moment every day, along with three reserve ambulances. Custom designed by Frazer Ltd. out of Houston, the new unit has a 14-foot box, two feet longer than previous ambulance models, and is equipped with tools including a cardiac monitor, oxygen, IV materials, a chest compression device, emergency medications, and items for bandaging and splinting. It also has more room vertically inside and has

A new Mobile Intensive Care Unit smoother ride for passengers and paramedics. Additionally, it contains a lift system, allowing operators to smoothly lift patients into and out of the vehicle.

> The advanced life-support capabilities of the new ambulance are also above and beyond the capabilities normally found on ambulances with EMTs (Emergency Medical paramedics, which receive sig

allowed to perform a longer list of medical procedures.

"We're kind of a jack of all trades," said David English, Battalion Chief of EMS. "To be a firefighter, there are all kinds of physical things you have to be able to do and know. We have top-ofthe-line equipment. Our paramedics are fortunate to be able to work with the best of medical devices. I'd put us up against just about any city in regard to preparedness."

RFD works with surrounding city

fire departments through mutual aid agreements, giving and receiving help as needed. Generally, RFD transports patients to eight main hospital locations depending upon the proximity to the emergency scene, patient needs and hospital ca-



"As a resident of Richardson, I'm glad to know we have the department we have, the trained people we have, and top-of-the-line equipment."

Battalion Chief of Support Services Allan Journey, a 34-year veteran of the Richardson Fire Department





CENTER BOLSTERS CITY EMERGENCY OPERATIONS, FIRE TRAINING

▶continued from page 1

of training props and space available has made it an ideal location to host an array of training events for all levels. When other cities come here, they reiterate how nice the facility is and how functional the space is for training purposes."

Outside, the Fire Department has a series of training areas for Fire Academy students and for continuing education. The center utilizes a mock structure and tower to train on maneuvers and safe practices. An underground pit area and manhole-entry tunnels provide for confined space and trench training. The department receives totaled cars and practices extraction techniques. A vehicle frame is set ablaze to practice safe approach and fire extinguishing.

"The training and high level of skills in the Fire Department are shown every day in our ability to respond to all emergencies in the city", Curtis Poovey, Richardson Fire Chief, said. "The center has been helpful and the building is always being used."

Activating the EOC

Attached to the fire training facility is the Emergency Operations Center (EOC). This facility is activated when major incidents occur that need a larger organized and coordinated response.

"It's like the spoke of a wagon wheel; everything comes from under this roof," said Emergency Management Coordinator Alisha Gimbel.

When an F3 tornado swept through the Richardson community in October 2019, damaging hundreds of homes, housing units and businesses, the EOC coordinated response efforts including search and rescue, damage assessment, debris removal, resource support and volunteer coordination. For weeks, the department continued to coordinate tornado-related response, working with offices locally, regionally and nationally. Within Richardson, the EOC served as a lifeline for resources and information.

"I would be hard-pressed to find a City department that wasn't involved somehow, ranging from the Police Department, to the Library, to Building Inspection, to the Tax Office," Gimbel said. "We've seen other places where they try to manage an emergency from a parking lot or in a temporary location somewhere, but having a central building really helps."

The work at the building also doesn't stop with response and recovery. With each activation or assistance activity, there is no "mission accomplished" moment. Each incident is

followed by evaluations to see what can be learned, implement changes, and train accordingly.

"Ultimately, we want to serve Richardson residents," Gimbel said. "We hope emergencies and disasters don't happen, but if they do, we want to make sure we're on our game. This facility helps us to do that and save lives."

HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH SPOTLIGHTS LANGUAGE AND CULTURE

Hispanic Heritage Month runs from Sept. 15-Oct. 15. The following events and services are opportunities to take part:

Library

The Library will showcase works by Hispanic American authors, scientists, artists and innovators in the first-floor display. Darbey's StoryWalk outside of the Library will feature "Dreamers" by Yuyi Morales.

The Library offers Pronunciator, a digital tool for language learning. Learning Express Library classes in English and Spanish improve English reading, writing, speaking and grammar.

Additionally, the Library is a resource for connecting residents with community organizations such as the Richardson Adult Literacy Center for English as a Second Language classes. The Library hosts ESL conversation classes for the center.

Books, magazines and audiobooks in Spanish are housed in both adult and youth services sections. Hispanic heritage books are available as well.

For more information, visit www. cor.net/library or call 972-744-4350.

Parks & Recreation

Hola Spanish Academy begins in September at Heights Recreation Center. Beginner Spanish Club (ages 6-11) and Hola Amigos! (ages 3-4) classes teach children words and phrases through interactive exercises that help them build a foundation in basic words, phrases and grammar. Each class is an hour one day per week

Spanish Fiesta (ages 6-8), beginning in September at Huffhines Recreation Center, teaches children basic Spanish with songs, games, stories and craft activities.

For more information, call Heights at 972-744-7850, Huffhines at 972-744-7881, or visit www.cor.net/parksonline.

Senior Center

The Senior Center offers classes for both English learners and Spanish learners of various skill levels. Beginners Conversational Spanish is for learners who are new to the language or who are rusty. Intermediate Conversational Spanish takes learners to the next level, and Advanced Conversational Spanish builds greater fluency. Each of the classes is one hour for eight weeks.

The Center offers a new English as a Second Language class for an hour twice per week for eight weeks. Learners build upon the basics for everyday and job-related English. All classes begin in September.

Call 972-744-7800 or visit www. cor.net/seniorcenter.

Police Department

The Richardson Police Department launched a Spanish Facebook page this spring. The page was created to reach Spanish-speakers more effectively with useful news and information.

The department conducts outreach under UNIDOS for events like back-to-school drives and information sessions to help the Hispanic and Latino community be informed and engaged.

For information or to leave a message, call the non-emergency line at 972-744-4765. Visit www.facebook.com/richardsonpdespanol.



PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE BEGINS SEPT. 1

Richardson is again participating in the annual North Texas Food Bank peanut butter drive that is being held throughout September, with a goal of receiving 300,000 pounds of peanut butter donations to benefit local food banks. Peanut butter is perpetually on food bank lists of most-needed foods, since it's nutritious, kid-friendly and high in protein.

Local donations may be taken directly to Richardson's Network of Community Ministries, which operates a Mobile Food Pantry and other food programs and is a recipient of the drive. Drop off jars at Network's

new facility, 1500 International Pkwy., during regular food donation hours (Mondays-Thursdays 8 a.m.-3:45 p.m. and Saturdays 9 a.m.-2 p.m.) or give online through Amazon at www.cor.net/pbdrive.



SPREAD THE HOPE COLLIN COUNTY PEANUT BUTTER DRIVE

COMMUNITY REVITALIZATION AWARD NOMINATIONS DUE OCT. 8

Nominations are now open for the Community Revitalization Awards, presented annually to property owners who have enhanced the community by making significant improvements to their properties.

The awards have been handed out to nearly 300 properties since their inception in 1994. Past winners include renovated and rebuilt residential properties as well as commercial and industrial buildings.

"The Community Revitalization Awards is a great program," said Senior Planner Keith Krum. "It's always exciting to see the improvements that Richardson's residents and businesses make to their properties. The projects really add to the city's vibrancy." Because no one knows the city and its neighborhoods better than residents, the City depends on community nominations to identify award candidates. Nominations may be submitted by anyone, including the property owner, through Oct. 8.

Community Revitalization Award submissions can be made at www.cor. net/cra.



FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY INVITES RESIDENTS TO BOOK SALE

The Friends of the Richardson Library's Semiannual Book Sale offers numerous literacy materials to residents of all ages. Proceeds from the FOL Book Sales help fund a variety of Richardson Public Library programs, mobile hot spots and the popular Little Free Libraries. Additionally, the FOL awards an annual scholarship.

After a two-day book sale in the spring, FOL President Billye John-

son said, "We are excited to be returning to our full three-day schedule this fall."

Since 1986, FOL has supported the Library and its patrons through fundraisers aimed at increasing the Library's services and encouraging literacy community-wide.

Learn more at www.richardsonfol.org.

WHAT:

Friends of the Richardson Public Library Fall Book Sale

WHEN: Oct. 1-3

Friday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.: *Tax-free Day!* Saturday, Oct. 2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m.
Sunday, Oct. 3, 2-5 p.m.: *Fill a bag with books for \$15!*

WHERE:

Library Basement 900 Civic Center Drive

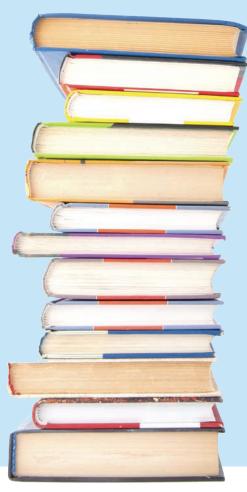
FOR SALE:

Books, audiobooks, CDs, DVDs and more

COST:

Most books are less than \$2; most media is under \$3; the sale accepts cash, checks (with ID) and all major credit cards

The Friends of the Richardson Library spent \$13,270 in the last two years on Little Free Libraries and now have an estimated 65 installed by FOL in Richardson.





FIRE DEPARTMENT RECEIVES MISSION: LIFELINE EMS GOLD PLUS AWARD

The Richardson Fire Department recently received the Mission: Lifeline EMS Gold Award from the American Heart Association for the fifth year in a row with the last four being the Gold Plus.

The award recognizes the department for its success in treating and transporting patients who suffer a type of severe heart attack known as a ST-Elevation Myocardial Infarction (STEMI), which is caused by the complete blockage of blood flow to the heart.

Every year, more than 250,000 people experience a STEMI that requires timely treatment to prevent death, and restoration of blood flow as quickly as possible.

"I am proud that the Richardson Fire Department has once again received the Gold Plus Award," said Richardson Fire Chief Curtis Poovey. "This award is the reflection of the hard work and commitment of both our emergency medical personnel as well as the local hospitals that we transport patients to."

To reach gold recognition, the American Heart Association requires first responders to get STEMI victims from first contact into catheterization surgery in less than 90 minutes at least 75 percent of the time. Richardson emergency medical personnel far exceed that standard by working with Methodist Richardson Medical Center and other area hospitals.





SENIOR CENTER EVENTS

Around The World!

Join us for a fun series of monthly presentations as we learn about various parts of the world our next tour will be "Montreal, Canada to New York" Just sit back and relax. Enjoy the journey! Wednesday, Sept. 15, 1 p.m., free.

Autumn Leaves Concert

The New Horizon Band will welcome the fall season with a musical afternoon. George Jones, retired from the Richardson Community Band in May 2017, will be the guest conductor. Wednesday, Sept. 22, 1 p.m., free.

Flu Shot Clinic

Sept. 28, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Call 972-744-7800 to make your appointment.

Special Guest Author Dave Eagleston

Dave Eagleston will share about his book "West of Alva," written about war times in WWII. "West of Alva" is a city boy's excursion into the farmland of Oklahoma in 1961, where 20 years before, Alva, Oklahoma, became the largest Nazi prisoner of war camp in the United States. It was known as Camp Alva. Wednesday, Sept. 29, 1 p.m., free.

2021 Annual Wellness and Safety Fair

This event is for ages 50+ and will feature a wide range of wellness and safety topics, vendors with interactive booths and door prizes. *Thursday, Sept.* 30, 10 a.m.-1 p.m., free.

2021 Annual Senior Holiday Bazaar

Registration is now open! Held Friday and Saturday, Nov. 12 and 13, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Richardson Senior Center.

SENIOR CENTER TRIPS

Dallas Holocaust Museum

Join us as we visit the Dallas Holocaust Museum for an unforgettable experience and interactive journey like no other. Thursday, Sept. 23, 9 a.m.-3:30 p.m., \$26 plus money for lunch. Tickets are non-refundable.

Dallas Arboretum

Autumn at the Dallas Arboretum is the perfect way to celebrate the fall season in North Texas. Check out the nationally acclaimed Pumpkin Village, which includes more than 75,000 pumpkins, gourds and squash! You can grab lunch at one of their "to-go" food counters or dine in at one of their restaurants. Thursday, Oct. 21, 9:30 a.m.-4 p.m., \$25 plus money for lunch. Tickets are nonrefundable.

Cavanaugh Flight Museum

This museum is awesome! Anyone that appreciates history and airplanes needs to visit the Cavanaugh Flight Museum. Located in Addison, this museum's aircraft collection is a one of the finest in the world. Thursday, Nov. 18, 9:30 a.m.-2:30 p.m., \$25 (includes a boxed lunch.) Tickets are non-refundable.

These events may be modified or canceled at any time based on current or forecasted health and safety conditions in the community, or as a result of regulatory factors that the city is required to follow. Please continue to follow us at www.cor.net or on Facebook for the most up to date information. When attending events, please make health and safety choices that are best for you and your family.

September 2021 events calendar

1 Wednesday



"Inclusion is Magical"

Art exhibit features the work of UT Dallas student Teresa Mayo. Events held Sept. 9-11. Art exhibit on display all month, Monday-Friday, noon-5 p.m. and during all public events. Free. For more information, visit www. eisemanncenter.com/art. Eisemann Center

2 Thursday



"The Curious Savage"

Aug. 27-Sept. 12, For tickets and more information, visit www. richardsontheatrecentre.net. Richardson Theatre Centre

3 Friday



Computer Class: MS Word 2016, beginner

level. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Richardson Public Library Card needed to register. Call 972-744-4359 for information. Richardson Library

J?

CityLine Live Outdoor Music Series

CityLine's live music series returns to CityLine Plaza. 6-9 p.m. Free. For more information, visit www.citylinedfw.com. CityLine

4 Saturday



Dewey KNIT? Knitting Group

2-4 p.m., call Hanna at 972-744-4377 for information. Richardson Library

Shen Yun

Saturday and Sunday. For tickets and more information, visit www. eisemanncenter.com. Eisemann Center

6 Monday

Richardson Library Closed Labor Day

9 Thursday



In beTWEEN Book Club

For ages 9-12. Registration required; call 972-744-4358 for information. *4:30-5 p.m.* Richardson Library

Droids and Druids Book Club

Theme for discussion, "Latin American Influence." Webex Meeting 7:30-8:30 p.m., registration required; e-mail Kayla.Hollis@cor.gov for information. Richardson Library



Grow Native: "Plants for Texas"

Virtual event. Co-sponsored by the City of Richardson and Rooted In. 6:30-8:30 p.m. Free. For more information, visit www.rootedin.com. Online

10 Friday



Computer Class: MS Excel 2016, beginner level.

10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Richardson Public Library Card needed to register. Call 972-744-4359 for information. Richardson Library



Outdoor Boho Night Market

6-10 p.m. Free. For more information, visit www.citylinedfw.com. CityLine Plaza

11 Saturday



Saturday Morning Kids Family Storytime

10:30-11 a.m., free tickets available at 10 a.m. Richardson Library

14 Tuesday



"Richardson Reads One Book" Lecture

Features author William Kent Krueger. 7:30 p.m. Free with ticket. For more information, visit www.cor.net/onebook. Location TBD

15 Wednesday



Romantic Interludes Book Club

Theme: "Buns and Roses Authors." 6:30-8:45 p.m., e-mail Karen.Gibbs@cor.gov for information. Richardson Library

16 Thursday



REAL Reads Book Club

"The Velvet Rope Economy" by Nelson D. Schwartz. 7:30-8:45 p.m., call Tamara at 972-744-4393 for information. Richardson Library



Spectacular Follies: "Return to the '50s"

Thursday-Sunday. For tickets and more information, visit www.eisemanncenter. com. Eisemann Center

17 Friday



Tech-Savvy

Computing 101 with Windows 10. 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., Richardson Public Library Card needed to register, call 972-744-4359 for information. Richardson Library



Talk Like a Pirate

History vs. Hollywood with Sam Nash. 4-5 p.m. Richardson Library



"Noises Off"

Sept. 17-26. For tickets and more information, visit www.rcttheatre.com. Repertory Company Theatre

18 *Saturday*



Saturday Morning Kids Family Storytime

10:30-11 a.m., free tickets available at 10 a.m. Richardson Library



Teen Advisory Board Meeting

2-3 p.m. Registration required; call 972-744-4358 for information. Richardson Library

Teen Program

Jellyfish bracelets. 3-4 p.m., call 972-744-4358 for information. Richardson Library

23 Thursday

North Texas Giving Day

The annual 18-hour giving event offers a "one-stop-shop" opportunity to donate online to any of more than 3,200 area nonprofits. For more information, visit www. northtexasgivingday.org. Online

Butterfly Gardening

Virtual event. Co-sponsored by the City of Richardson and Rooted In. *Free. For more information, visit www. rootedin.com.* Online

24 Friday

C-TECH Kids Club

Ages 9-12. 4-5 p.m. Required registration begins Sept. 10, call 972-744-4358 for more information. Richardson Library

STEAM Starters

Ages 6-8. 4-5p.m. Required registration begins Sept. 10, call 972-744-4358 for more information. Richardson Library

25 Saturday



Saturday Morning Kids Family Storytime

10:30-11 a.m., free tickets available at 10 a.m. Richardson Library



Beginning – 3D Printing with Tinkercad

10:30 a.m.-noon. Richardson Public Library Card needed to register, call 972-744-4359 for more information. Richardson Library

Public Safety Expo

9 a.m.-noon. For more information, visit www.richardsonpolice.net/services/community-engagement/national-night-out.

26 Sunday



Tales for Tails

Grades K-4. 3-4 p.m., free tickets available at 2:30 p.m. Richardson Library

28 Tuesday

North Texas Asian Photographer's Association Exhibit

On display through Oct. 24. Monday-Friday, noon-5 p.m. and during all public events. Free. For more information, visit www.eisemanncenter. com/art. Eisemann Center



Sept. 19, 2021 · 1-4 p.m.

1500 International Pkwy.

Family Fun Day

Join us in our NEW home as we celebrate with food, games, door prizes and other fun activities.



Don't miss this fun, special evening, the "BIG REVEAL" of total funds raised for our capital campaign and our vision for programs to serve our neighbors!

\$75 per person

\$500 sponsorships starting at

thenetwork.org/2021-fork-off



SENIOR CENTER

RICHARDSON, T<u>ex</u>as

820 W. Arapaho Rd. 972-744-7800

Modified Hours of Operation: Monday – Friday 8 a.m.- 4 p.m. Saturday and Sunday Closed

The Richardson Senior Center welcomes adults ages 50 and older. This facility is especially designed for senior enjoyment, and the staff looks forward to the opportunity to provide an atmosphere of enrichment and fellowship. Unfortunately, the Center is not licensed to provide the services of an Adult Care facility. For the benefit of all patrons, the Center requires that all participants take full responsibility of their own physical care and hygiene. Those patrons needing assistance, or who lack the ability to navigate a wheelchair or walker independently, are welcome to be accompanied by a caregiver or an assistant. Your understanding and cooperation is appreciated.

CLASSES

For all classes, unless otherwise noted, you may pay with a credit card by phone or in person, or with check or cash. For some classes, payment may be made online. Membership is required for class registration.

ADD Plus Dance

Start the week with an evening out of Plus Square dancing. 1st, 3rd, 5th Monday of the month. Quarter sessions; 6-8 p.m. \$50 a quarter per dancer, \$10 drop-in fee. Instructor: Mike Bramlett. For more information, call 972-744-7800.

Plus, Square Dance Lessons

Square dancing is a great way to participate in a low-impact activity, meet new friends and be part of a fun, friendly community of dancers. Every Tuesday, 6-8 p.m., \$85/dancer. Instructor: Mike Bramlett. Next session: Call 972-744-7800 for more information.

ABC Quilting

Beginner students will learn basic appliqué techniques to build skills and tabletop basting. A quilt frame will be available for students. Hand quilters and others needing catch-up time are welcome. Every Monday, 2-6 p.m., \$16/month. Instructor: Jan Eby. For more information call 972-744-7800.

Quilt Essentials

Learn the art of hand-piecing and quilting as well as sewing-machine piecing and quilting. Beginner and experienced quilters welcome. Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.-noon.

Advanced students - \$35/month Beginner students - \$15/month Instructor: Darlene Martin. For more information, call 972-744-7800.



How to Use Ride Share

This class will answer: What is ride share? How much does it cost? Where is it available? Is it safe? How do you request the service and food delivery? You will also learn about other transportation services available. Please bring your iPhone or Android smartphone to class. Dec. 4, 11 a.m.-

without. Instructor: Ron Bemis

AARP "Smart Driver"

Program

The course 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.

First Thursday of the month, date and time TBA. \$15 for AARP members; \$20 for nonmembers.

Third Thursday of the month, date and time TBA. \$15/AARP members; \$20/nonmembers.

Beginners Conversational Spanish

Learn Spanish as a first-time beginner student or refresh your Spanish conversational skills. Eightweek session, starting Sept. 9. Every Thursday, 10-11 a.m., \$52. For more information call 972-744-7800.

Intermediate Conversational

Brush up on your Spanish skills by joining this class. Some knowledge of the Spanish language is required. Every Thursday, eight-week session, starting Sept. 9, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., \$52 with membership. For more information call 972-744-7800.

Advanced Conversational Spanish

Advanced Spanish class will build on the Intermediate class. Every Thursday, eight-week session, starting Sept. 9, 1-2 p.m., \$48. Call 972-744-7800 for the next eightweek session.

New! ESL Class (English as a second language)

Come learn Basic-Everyday useful English, Advanced-Job and Community-related English. Join, learn and have fun with us. Eightweek session on Mondays and Wednesdays, starting Sept. 1. 10-11 a.m., \$55/month. Instructor: Chris Oppermann

New! Technology 101

Assistance navigating the technology world of smartphones, tablets, computers, laptops and learn how to avoid being a victim of cyber fraud, Virus and malware. Every Monday, 11 a.m.-noon, \$10/month. For more information call 972-744-7800.

New! Ukulele Afternoon Group

Attention all ukulele enthusiasts and potential ukulele players. Let's get together to play, share songs and techniques. All levels of players are welcome. Mondays 1-3 p.m. No fee.

"Color My World"

Come join the adult coloring craze. Coloring reintroduces art as an important component of health and wellness. Please bring your own color pens, crayons and pictures. A multigenerational table is available for you to enjoy coloring with your grandchildren. Thursdays, 1-3 p.m. No fee. (Come and go.)

Watercolor

Watercolor instructions offered for all painting levels. Students

1 p.m., \$10 with membership; \$13 learn the basics of materials, tools and techniques of watercolor. Intermediate and advanced selfpaced students are welcome. Classes are held Tuesdays for four consecutive weeks from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. New session starts Sept. 7. Cost is \$22/class or \$80/month. Please call 972-744-7800 for the class supply list. Instructor: Renata Sharman



Oil and Acrylic Painting

Beginner and intermediate levels of painters are welcome to attend class. Every Thursday, starting Sept. 2, 1-3:45 p.m., \$80/month. Instructor: Joanna Clifton

Fun with Oils

Instructor Andrew Wages provides over 20 years of instructional experience with oils and has painted for more than 50 years. Thursday, Sept. 2, 11 a.m.-3 p.m., \$85/month.

Pocket Billiards Class

Two-hour billiard classes are provided for individual students or two student class maximum. Beginner to advanced skill levels are welcome. Register before day of class or call 972-744-7800. Every Monday and Thursday, 1:30-3:30 p.m., Saturday time TBA, \$10/student/ class. Instructor: Ted Swanson



Crochet

Learn how to crochet or learn more difficult patterns. New students, please bring a #J or #H crochet hook and a skein of four-ply yarn. Every Thursday, 2-3:45 p.m., \$5/class. Instructor: Barbara Stevenson

Bridge Lessons

Learn how to play Party Bridge Wednesdays from 2-3:45 p.m. Call 972-744-7800 for next five-week session. \$50. Next session: TBA. Instructor: Esta Puckett

PROGRAMS

Tennis League

Huffhines Tennis Center offers play times exclusive to seniors. Lessons are available to help players achieve different skill levels. A 3.0 (intermediate skill level) is required for both men and women players. For more information, call 972-744-

Senior ladies' group: Tuesdays and Thursdays:

10 a.m.-noon.

Senior men's group: Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays:

8 a.m.-noon.

Senior Bowling League

The Roadrunner Bowling League is a great way to meet new people and exercise at the same time. We have openings for regular members and subs for the 2021 season. For more information, contact Richard Steffen, president, at 972-865-9613.

Senior Golf League

The Richardson Senior Golf League is open to men and women 50 years or older playing all skill levels. The members are divided evenly into four flights. All play is at Sherrill Park on Monday mornings with a shotgun start. 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 Tom Zale, president, at 972-238-9258, or Jim White at 972-234-6167 or jmjwhite@tx.rr.com for more information.

Senior Table Tennis

Players are invited to come and play. Every Thursday starting Oct. 7, 6-8 p.m., and every Saturday starting Oct. 9, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.

AARP Richardson Chapter

The Richardson AARP Chapter #1651 meets the third Monday of the month. All are welcome. For more information, e-mail Regina Burton at burton.regina@yahoo.com. Starting on Sept. 20, 1-3 p.m. No fee.

Scrabble Club

Meet new friends, exercise your mind and have a fun day playing scrabble. Children over 16 are welcome to participate. Players age 12-15 must attend with an adult. Every Monday, 10 a.m. No fee.

New! Thinking Things

Riddles, word games, puzzles, trivia, and a general mental playground will help keep your brain activity sharp. We have a large room and welcome drop-ins who enjoy thinking activities that require no study, memorization, practice, or stress. Held the first Tuesday of each month starting in Oct. at 1 p.m. Drop-ins welcome. No fee.

The Richardson Senior Dance

The calendar lists the dates for this month's Saturday night ballroom dances.

Sept. 4 Doc Gibbs

Sept. 11 Kelly Fletcher (Ballroom) Sept. 25 Final Showdown (Country Western)

Dances are held 7-9:30 p.m. at the Richardson Senior Center. Light refreshments are served. \$5/person.

Texas Reelers Square Dance

Reelers Texas Square Dance Club sponsors square and round dancing. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/ thetexasreelerssquaredance. first and third Friday of each month, 7:30-10 p.m., \$8.

Rebel Rousers Square Dance

The Rebel Rousers Square Dance Club hosts a square dance the third Saturday of every month, 7:30-10:30 p.m., \$7.

Bingo

Bingo Anyone? Held on the third Thursday of the month, 2-3 p.m. No fee.

Learn the ancient art of making lace with a shuttle and string. Only one stitch is used. Every Tuesday, first class starts Oct. 5, 5-8 p.m. (come and go) No fee.

Needleworks

Bring your needlework and join us for a day of friendship and handcrafts. Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. (come and go) No fee.

Free Afternoon Ballroom

Dances

"The New Kings of Swing" will be at the Senior Center to play for our afternoon dance. Come listen to the sounds of the band, dance and enjoy light refreshments. Held on the first Thursday of the month, 1-3 p.m. No fee.



Pool Tournaments

Pool tournaments are held every Friday at noon, register at 11 a.m. No fee.

Let's Play "42"

Senior Center membership required. Every Thursday, 12:30-3 p.m. No fee.

New! Drop Everything & Read (Book Club)

Looking for a fun way to enjoy books and meet new people? Join our book club! Held the last Wednesday of each month at 11 a.m. September's book "West of Alva" by Dave Eagleston.

50+ Chess Club

All playing strengths are welcome. Call 972-744-7800 for more information. Every Thursday starting Oct. 7, 6-8 p.m. No fee.



Emeritus Plus 50 Programs at **Richland College**

Explore lifelong learning with classes at Richland College for ages 50 and over. If you are 65 years or over and live in Dallas County, you may be eligible for FREE classes. Day, evening and Saturday classes are available. Call 972-238-6972 or visit www.richlandcollege.edu/emeritus.

The Richardson Red Hatters

The Richardson Red Hatters welcome all women to put on their red hats and have some fun. Please bring a sack lunch or you may purchase a lunch from the Senior Center's concession. Monday, Aug. 2, noon.

NARFE (National Active and Retired Federal Employees)

Informational speakers are planned for each meeting. Please arrive before meeting begins at 10 a.m. Second Thursday of every month, 10 a.m.-

Richardson Public Library

The Richardson Public Library provides the Richardson Senior Center with books on CD and largeprint books.

SERVICES

City of Richardson **Transportation Service**

Transportation is offered to Richardson residents ages 50 and over. The City's van service operates Monday through Thursday from 8:30 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 Thursday at 3 p.m. Call 972-744-7805 for reservations.

First Richardson Helpers

First Richardson Helpers (FRH) is staffed by senior volunteers who provide minor home maintenance and repair service to seniors. Basic services include installation of bathroom grab bars and outdoor handrails, repair of dripping faucets, running toilets and minor electrical problems as well as maintenance items such as caulking, light bulb and A/C filter replacement. In addition, FRH provides assistance with code enforcement issues. To request service, call the 24-hour hotline at 972-996-0160 or online at www. firstrichardsonhelpers.org. Click on "Request for Services."

The Seniors' Net

The Network of Community Ministries Seniors' Net program provides a variety of services to help seniors in the community remain independent and in their own homes for as long as possible. Programs include handyman services, senior informational seminars, Loads of Love, home-delivered groceries and holiday baskets. The Loads of Love program has expanded to not only include bread but also canned goods and fresh produce when available. Seniors residing within Richardson ISD may come to Loads of Love at the Network offices located at 741 S. Sherman St. in Richardson every Thursday from 9-11 am. Call 972-234-8880.

New! SIP Talks (Senior **Informational Presentations**)

Questions about Medicare? Come Balance? find out about your choices for Designed Medicare coverage. Michael Carr is a licensed Texas health insurance agent. He is ready to help you make an informed Medicare decision

before the 2022 open enrollment season. Sept. 2, Sept. 23, 10-10:45 a.m.

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

RSVP Volunteer Program

Are you looking for a way to give back to your community? Why not become a volunteer for the "Richardson Rowdies?" If you are age 55 or older, you are invited to become a Rowdies volunteer. The Rowdies volunteer at various nonprofits throughout Dallas County and Collin County helping with mailouts, assembling "goodie bags" and other light tasks. The Rowdies meet at the Richardson Senior Center. Transportation is provided by RSVP to and from the volunteer locations. For more information on how to become involved, call 214-525-6167.

The Memory Café

The Senior Center hosts a new free program called "The Memory Café" that is designed for both those who suffer from Alzheimer's/dementia and their family/friends. Participants will be able to socialize, share concerns/ideas and learn more about the issues facing those with memory loss and dementia. If interested in participating, please call 972-744-7800 to register. Held on the first Thursday of each month. Starting Thursday, Sept. 2, 10–11 a.m. No fee.

Blood Pressure Checks

Held on the last Wednesday of the month, 8:30-9:30 a.m. No fee.

Benefits Counseling

The Dallas Area Agency on Aging will be at the Senior Center to assist with questions about eligibility requirements for Medicare, Medicaid, SSI and other public health benefits. Please call to RSVP 972-744-7800 for Oct. 1

FITNESS

Hatha Yoga

Every Tuesday, Thursday, Friday, 9:30-11 a.m., \$5. Starting Tuesday, Oct.5, 5:30-6:45 p.m., \$5. Instructor: Bharati Amin



Chair Yoga

Gain all the benefits of yoga without getting on the floor. Tailored to fit abilities and fitness level. Focus is on body alignment and breath awareness. For questions, e-mail yogawithchrissy@live.com. Every Monday, 9:15 a.m., \$7/class. Every Friday, 8:45-9:45 a.m., \$7/class.

Pickleball

Senior Center membership required. For more information or questions, please call 972 744-7800. Huffhines Rec Center, every Friday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., \$2/day, \$8/month. Heights Rec Center, every Monday, 11 a.m.-2 p.m., \$2/day, \$8/month.

Private Trainer How is Your

to help increase cardiovascular endurance, strength, flexibility and balance. All sessions are held in a private room. Call 972-744-7800 for appointment time. \$60/session with a six-session commitment. Trainer: Elaine Hosage

Fit for Life—Beginning **Strength Training Class**

Strength training that works all muscle groups. Every Monday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., \$30/month. Every Wednesday, 11:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m., \$30/month. Instructor: Elaine

Fit for Life—Intermediate **Strength Training Class** For the next level of Fitness

Every Monday, 10-11 a.m., \$30/ month. Every Wednesday, 10-11 a.m., \$30/month. Instructor: Elaine Hosage

New! Barre Class

Combining ballet-inspired moves

with other fitness elements. A great workout for ages 50+. Every Friday, 11:30 a.m., \$30/month. Instructor: Elaine Hosage

New! Early Riser Cardio

The class consists of strengthening your largest and most important muscle in your body, your heart. You will become more active, energized, and empowered while burning 200-300 calories during a class and do 10,000 to 15,000 steps a day without feeling exhausted. Every Monday and Wednesday, 8:15-9:00 a.m., \$50/ month. Instructor: Alex Everson



New! 30-min Interval Training Class

Turbocharged workout routine that mixes cardio and strength training and has you in and out of the gym in 30 minutes. You will go through several exercises using our new strength and condition machines in the fitness room. Spots are limited! Every Tuesday, 11:15-11:45 a.m., \$30/month. Every Thursday, 11:15-11:45 a.m., \$30/month. Instructor: Alex Everson

New! Senior Boxing Class

The TeamTEF Therapeutic Boxing Program is designed to rejuvenate the 50+ community. Benefits include: Hand-eye coordination, sharpens reflexes and fine motor skills and beneficial for individuals with Parkinson's, Alzheimer's and heart disease. Every Tuesday, starting Sept. 7, 11:30 a.m., \$30/month.

Aerobic Exercise

Start your morning right! Every Tuesday and Thursday, 8:15-9:15 a.m., \$2. Instructor: Renata Racher

Tai Chi

A fun and energizing way to better health. Every Monday, 10:30-11:15 a.m., \$7. Instructor: Philip Russell



Fall Water Aerobic Classes

Classes are held at J.J. Pearce Natatorium, 1600 N. Coit Rd. Every Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, starting Sept. 2, 10:30-11:30 a.m., \$30/month. Instructor: Letha Zepeda.

New! Fitness Room Orientation

Not sure how to use the new fitness equipment? This 30-minute consultation gives you a quick overview of how to use the weight machines and cardio equipment. Spots are limited, reserve yours today! Monday, Sept. 13, 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. No fee. Call 972-744-7800.



DANCE CLASSES AT THE SENIOR CENTER

Senior Center membership required

Beginner Line Dance

Every Tuesday, 9:30-10:30 a.m., \$12/month.

Instructor: Frances Halvorson

Instructor: Frances Halvorson

Every Tuesday, 10:45-11:45 a.m., \$3/class or \$12/month.

Improver Line Dance

GAMES

Canasta

Every Thursday and Friday, 9:30 a.m.

Every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday, 9:30 a.m.

Duplicate Bridge

Every Wednesday and Friday, 9:30 a.m.

Party Bridge

Every Friday, 10 a.m. If you are interested in taking bridge lessons, please call 972-744-7800.

Bunco

Every Friday, 12:30 p.m.

Scrabble

Every Monday, 10 a.m.

Cribbage

Every Tuesday, 10 a.m.

9:30 a.m.

Mah Jongg Every Wednesday and Thursday

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

ROBIN'S NEST CRAFT STORE

For those special gifts, shop at the Robin's Nest Craft Store located inside the Senior Center. Stop by, browse and admire the handmade crafts that are made by our older adult patrons. Open to the public. Store Hours: Monday through Friday, 10 a.m.-1 p.m.



Our annual Senior Holiday Bazaar will be held Friday and Saturday, Nov. 12 and 13, from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. at the Richardson Senior Center.

Registration is now open. If you are 50 or older and would like to participate in our annual craft sale, please fill out the registration form and mail it to the Richardson Senior Center, 820 W. Arapaho Rd., Richardson, TX 75080.

Attention: Holiday Bazaar. Robin's Nest crafters who are active crafters as of July 1 will have priority. All items must be handmade by the crafter. Eight-foot tables with two chairs will rent for \$30 each. A Tax ID will be required to participate.

ranne			
D.O.B.: _			
Address			
Phone: _			
Tax ID#:			
Craft ite	ns to be sol	d include:	
Tables re	quested:		





Richardson Reads One Book!

Join us at a free public lecture showcasing William Kent Krueger and his 2020/2021 RROB book picks.

Tuesday, Sept. 14, 7:30 p.m. at the Richardson High School auditorium.

Free tickets available at the Library first floor info desk. Call 972-744-4350 for more info.

Events may be modified or canceled at any time based on health and safety conditions in the community. Please check www.cor.net/onebook or Facebook at www.facebook.com/RROBTX for the most up-to-date information as event date approaches.

Technology Classes



Microsoft Excel – Beginner

Learn how to set up an Excel spreadsheet, how to write an equation, what symbols are associated with a cell and more.

> Friday, Sept. 10, 10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. **Basement Training Room**

Computing 101

Learn how to navigate Windows, how to adjust settings and protect your privacy, plus much more.

Friday, Sept. 17, 10:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. **Basement Training Room**



3D Printing – Beginner

Intro to Tinkercad: Set up an account, use basic geometric shapes and export 3D models to print on the Library's 3D printer. Ages 16+.

> Saturday, Sept. 25, 10:30 a.m. - noon **Basement Training Room**

Laptops provided. Registration for Richardson residents with valid Library card only. Call 972-744-4359 to register.



Cap'n Nash explains the differences between real pirates and the ones we see in the movies. See demonstrations of cool pirate skills using tools of the trade!

Friday, Sept. 17, 4-5 p.m. For all ages

In Person, Basement Program Room. Registration not required. Call 972-744-4358 for more information.



Learn to make cool bracelets using embroidery floss and a paper loom.

Saturday, Sept. 18, 3-4 p.m. For ages 13-18

All supplies provided to make two bracelets. Basement Program Room Registration not required. Call 972-744-4358 for more info.



DEWEY KNIT

JOIN THE LIBRARY'S KNITTING GROUP

Saturdays, Sept. 4 and Oct. 2, 2-4 p.m. First Floor Program Room

The Library welcomes knitters of all ages and abilities to come to the Library's informal knitting group.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

Friday and Saturday, Oct. 1-2, 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Sunday, Oct. 3, 2 -5 p.m.

Basement Program Room

Thousands of books, CDs, DVDs and other media for great prices! Most books are \$2 and under (except rare, signed or first edition books).



Thursday, Sept. 9, 4:30-5 p.m. First Floor Program Room

Tweens, read the best of the best kids'



books and explore them via games, film excerpts and more! Registration required; call 972-744-4358.

STEAM STARTERS

Friday, Sept. 24, 4-5 p.m. First Floor Program Room

For ages 6-8

Discover and explore science, technology, engineering, art and math and make your own back scratcher! Required registration begins Friday, Sept. 10. Call 972-744-4358 to register.



C-TECH KIDS CLUB

Friday, Sept. 24, 4-5 p.m. **Studio RPL**

For ages 9-12

Experiment with exciting STEM activities! Create a story using coding and Disney characters. Required registration begins Friday, Sept. 10. Call 972-744-4358 to register.



TALES FOR TAILS

READ TO REAL DOGS! Sunday, Sept. 26, 3-4 p.m. First Floor Program Room For grades K-4

Work on reading skills by reading to live therapy dogs. Free tickets at the door starting at 2:30 p.m. All ages welcome to meet the dogs at 4 p.m.

