



**CUTTING THE RIBBON** — Celebrating the grand re-opening of Miss Belle's Place are, from left, City Council Members Jim Shepherd and Tom Rohm, Junior League of Richardson President Vicki White, former owner of the home, Billye Meyer, Mayor Gary Slagel and Council Members Carol Wilson and Bob Nusser.

## Historic house re-opens

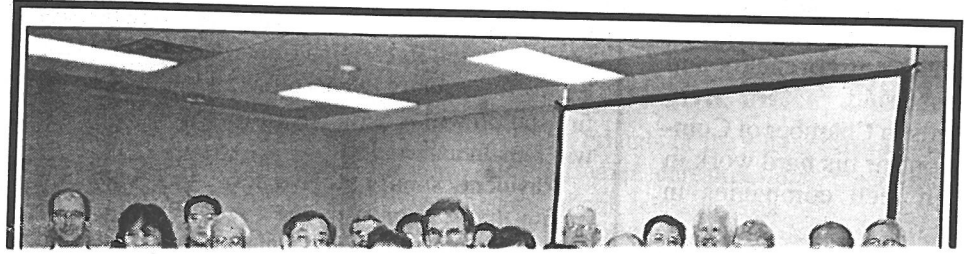
The City of Richardson and the Junior League of Richardson celebrated the grand re-opening of Miss Belle's Place with a ribbon cutting ceremony April 20 at Owens Spring Creek Farms.

The home underwent a major renovation project by the City to correct the effects of years of weather on the home and restore it to its period condition. The project, recently completed, resulted in renovation and/or repair of most of the interior and exterior of the structure.

This home was originally built around 1886 by early Richardson settler A.H. Hill. The house was located at 206 Sherman St. In 1902, Margaret Robberson purchased it for her daughter, Virginia Bell Robberson ("Miss Belle"). Miss Belle operated a private school in the home for nearly 40 years. Subsequently, the home was owned by Lester and Billye Meyer who made improvements to the home in the early 1940s including the addition of electricity and electrical fixtures. The home was last owned by Sterling Couch who purchased the land for investment purposes. In 1979, heirs of Sterling Couch donated the home to the City in Couch's name.

In 1979, the 992 square foot home and schoolhouse was moved to its current site at Owens Spring Creek Farms. In 1982 the home was designated as a Texas Historic Landmark. Since that time, the Junior League of Richardson has maintained the home and provides tours to the public. The City, through the Public Services and Parks Departments, has assisted the Junior League with maintenance of the home and immediate grounds. Owens has continued to provide the location and support activities related to the home.

In the future, the Junior League of Richardson, Owens Country Sausage and the City of Richardson are committed to the continued preservation of this important piece of Richardson history. Tours of Miss Belle's Place are offered Monday through Saturday. Call 972-644-5979 for more information.



## City Co

The following is a listing of some of Council at the April 23 and May 14 meetings (second and fourth Monday every Monday at 5:30 p.m.). For more information contact the City Secretary at 972-744-4...

### Appointments to Boards and Com City Plan Commission

Appoint Steve Mitchell as an alternate, effective 1/1/2002;

Appoint Larry Chasteen as a regular member, effective 1/31, 2002;

Appoint Nancy Wilson as Chair, effective 1/1/2002;

Appoint Art Roberts as Vice Chair effective 1/1/2002;

### Zoning Board of Adjustment

Appoint Jedd Keith as Chairman;

Appoint Dot McCalpin as Vice Chair;

Appoint Bob Macy as a regular member, effective 1/1/2002;

Reappoint McCalpin and Macy for term 1/1/2002 to 12/31/2002.

### Public Hearing:

Following a public hearing, the City is designating a 6.373 acre tract of land at 1901 W. Spring Creek Farm ("telecom technologies, inc.") and proposing an industrial tax abatement.

### Consent Agenda

The Council approved the following (with the exception of item D(12) that was removed):

The Council adopted **Ordinance No. 01-09**, amending the special code by amending the special code effective July 30, 1984 to allow a restaurant on a 1.672-acre site located at the north end of the site.

The Council approved the following resolutions:

**Resolution No. 01-10**, adopting revisions to the City Code.

**Resolution No. 01-11**, approving the Major Capital Improvement Projects for 2001.

Dallas County.

The Council presented a proclamation to the American Leadership Association in recognition of the organization's 50th anniversary.

### Public Hearing:

The Council conducted a public hearing to consider a request to amend special conditions to require a landscape buffer at the northeast corner of R. After hearing testimony from area residents, the Council voted unanimously to approve a 45-foot setback for the proposed Walgreen store from a residential area.

The Council cancelled the May 28 meeting.

## Area vets he

The Animal Services staff would like to thank the veterinarians for their help at the annual Rab. Dogs and cats were vaccinated and registered.