DART receives loan for Cotton Belt Rail Project; funds are included for Richardson amenities

DART and the City of Richardson received good news last month: the $908 million federal loan needed to fund the Cotton Belt Rail Project closed, giving the green light for work to begin. The project’s long-awaited, 26-mile commuter rail line will stretch from Plano to DFW Airport and include two new stations in Richardson and a new bridge over US 75 near CityLine. It will also include an adjacent hike-and-bike trail and noise wall structures near residential developments.

The Richardson City Council and DART forged an interlocal cooperation agreement regarding the Cotton Belt Rail Project last July, in which the City pledged to redirect 11.67 percent of the previously approved developer’s portion of TIF funding to the project and provide three rights-of-way parcels of land (approximately 5 acres). In return, DART pledged to work with the City on design concepts for components of the project that will be located in Richardson, such as the bridge, the trail and the new station at CityLine. Another station will be located at UT Dallas in the Northside development. Design work is expected to take 6-8 months, followed by utility relocation and foundation work for bridges. The DART board plans to make a decision this month whether to fully double-track the entire project.

Completion of the project is expected in December 2022. For more information, visit www.DART.org/cottonbelt.

MRMC celebrates halfway point in hospital expansion

Methodist Richardson Medical Center (MBMC) held a “topping out” ceremony last month to celebrate a milestone in the construction of the facility’s $85 million expansion—the installation of the final steel beam.

The expansion was part of future plans for the hospital when it was constructed in 2014, but its completion date was moved up by more than seven years due to rapid population growth in the area and increased demand for specialized and acute care services.

The expansion is 325,000 square feet and includes:

- an additional five and sixth floor
- 150 all-private, acute care beds (first 50 beds to open late 2019, others finished out as needed)
- ninth operating room
- seven new pre-op rooms
- Belt additional post anesthesia care space
- 671 space, seven-story parking garage (opened in November 2018)

Construction has reached the halfway point and is expected to be complete by December 2019.

Major road project completed; others will soon get underway

Eight months of pavement rehabilitation along Plano Road are expected to come to an end later this month when crews put the finishing touches (lane markings and road buttons) on the last portion of the project. The roughly five-mile stretch of repairs between the Bush Turnpike and Buckingham Road is part of the City’s ongoing commitment to drivable streets that also includes the work taking place on Alma Road and several other places.

“Weather, soil, traffic loads, age—these factors and more play a part,” said Assistant Director of Engineering Jim Lockart. “Weather, soil, traffic loads—all of them play a part.”

While funding for street maintenance and special street projects has always been part of the City budget and included in City bond programs, it got a boost in 2010 when an improved economy prompted the City Council to dedicate 1 cent from the property tax rate toward a new street rehabilitation fund. This resulted in almost $1 million for street improvements in 2011-12. The amount dedicated from the tax rate has increased each year, to 2½ cents for 2018-19, generating $3.7 million of the total $4 million budgeted for streets.

Street funds are used for contracting maintenance of streets based on a good/fair/poor street grading system. Streets considered in “good or ‘fair’ condition are scheduled for preventive maintenance such as grade restoration, sealing and localized concrete repair (to keep “good” streets good and bring “fair” streets up to good . . . continued on page 4
City Council election packets available Jan. 2

The City of Richardson City Council election is held every two years. The next election will be May 4, 2019. Election packets for prospective candidates for Mayor and Places 1 through 6 will be available in the City Secretary’s office beginning Jan. 2. The first day to file an application for a place on the ballot is Wednesday, Jan. 16 and the last day is Friday, Feb. 15 by 5 p.m. For further information, contact the City Secretary at 972-744-4290 or www.cor.net/elections.

Holiday schedule, recycle makeup days

www.cor.net/holidayschedule

Due to Martin Luther King Jr. Day holiday, there will be NO recycling pick up, solid waste pick up or special pick up Monday, Jan. 21. The table below shows the recycle makeup days.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Recycle collection day affected by holiday</th>
<th>Makeup day</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, Jan. 21</td>
<td>Tuesday, Jan. 22</td>
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<td>Tuesday, Jan. 22</td>
<td>Wednesday, Jan. 23</td>
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City facilities close for holidays

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Facility</th>
<th>Closing dates/time</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>City Hall/Civic Center, Municipal Court, Eissmuenz Center</td>
<td>Closed Jan. 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richardson Public Library</td>
<td>Closed Jan. 21</td>
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<tr>
<td>Richardson Animal Shelter</td>
<td>Closed Jan. 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Recreation Centers, Senior Center, Tennis Center and Gymnastics Center</td>
<td>Open Jan. 21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sherill Park Golf Course</td>
<td>Open Jan. 21</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

City job opportunities

Each month this section will highlight selected job openings with the City of Richardson. For a complete list of job openings, including Richardson Today, the Animal Shelter, the Eisemann Center, the Library, Parks and Police departments and Richardson’s School Crossing Guard-part time ($9.74-$15.46 hourly)

Receive City news updates 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 weather-related activities and the West Nile virus. Visit www.cor.net/Enews, and select the options you would like to subscribe to.

Mayor’s Message

As you can read in this issue of Richardson Today, enhancing infrastructure repair and maintenance is one of the City Council’s top priorities.

We have been fortunate that the strong North Texas economy over the past decade has allowed us to increase the amount of funds dedicated to infrastructure, as every dollar we spend on infrastructure is an investment in our City’s future. By comparison, in the 2010-11 budget we dedicated 1 cent of our total tax rate to street and alley repair. Today, we have used our growth to dedicate three times that amount.

Of course, there is more to a city’s infrastructure than just streets and alleys. When the City Council approved this year’s budget last September, we, for the first time ever, dedicated one half-cent of the tax rate toward parks and recreation maintenance. This funding will help improve park maintenance across the city.

We are also focused on what’s underneath the ground. Richardson has nearly a thousand miles of water mains and sanitary sewer lines traversing the city. The City’s Capital Projects Department is undergoing a multi-year survey of the sanitary sewer system to detect issues. The smoke testing conducted in some neighborhoods the past two summers was part of this survey, but workers are also using cameras to detect cracks and blockages in sewer pipes. Once the issues are identified they can be repaired before they cause problems.

While I know a lot of these programs are not necessarily exciting, these are the services we all depend on to keep Richardson running smoothly. Our goal is to spend our tax dollars wisely on maintenance so that we can prevent the costly needs of repairs and replacement, and we hope you have noticed the difference being made in the community.

Sincerely,

Paul Voelker
Mayor
This map provides a glimpse of some of the work included in the Street and Alley Rehabilitation programs and projects that are included in the 2015 Bond Program. Projects may be added or removed as future economic conditions and priorities change. For more information, visit www.cor.net/projects.
Bond programs help to fund sidewalk rehabilitation

The City of Richardson recognizes the importance of sidewalks for providing access to the community and with sidewalks along both sides of most of Richardson’s almost 500 miles of streets, maintaining the condition of sidewalks requires an ongoing effort.

A citywide residential sidewalk rehabilitation needs inventory was performed in 2003. This needs study resulted in the city being divided into 27 sidewalk rehabilitation regions, and each region was then ranked according to the identified sidewalk rehabilitation needs.

- The 2006 Bond Program funded rehabilitation for 11 regions, which were all completed by the fall of 2009.
- The 2010 Bond Program authorized funding for the next 11 regions that were completed by 2015.
- The remaining five regions have been funded from the 2015 Bond Program and two regions have been completed to date.
- Repairs are currently taking place in Region 2, as seen on the map, with Regions 4 and 5 scheduled next.

If you have any questions about the City’s Sidewalk Rehabilitation Program, call 972-744-4280 or go to www.cor.net/sidewalks.

Assessment of sanitary sewer system underway

The City of Richardson is undergoing a complete assessment of its sanitary sewer system as part of its plan to increase infrastructure repair and improvement throughout the city.

The goal of the multi-year assessment is to identify weaknesses in the sanitary sewer system, determine the condition of pipes and ensure the system has the necessary capacity to transport the flow. Cracks in the pipes can allow water to enter the sanitary sewer system, which can undermine the system’s overall capacity and potentially cause the sewage to overflow.

Several different methods are being used to detect cracks and other entry points into the sewer system. For the past two summers, the city has conducted smoke testing in the Floyd Branch and Duck Creek drainage basins, with plans to test the other basins over the next few years. During the testing, highly visible, nontoxic smoke is pumped through the sewer system. When the smoke exits the system at unintended locations, it identifies the areas as potential locations for rain or groundwater to seep into the closed system.

Video cameras are also being used to check the condition of the pipes from the inside. Capturing video of the approximately 400 miles of sewer pipes in the city allows engineers to not only understand the condition of the pipes and detect cracks, but also to find areas where blockages may be obstructing flow. Hydraulic modeling of the system is also taking place to better understand the capacity of the sewer system.

To date, comprehensive field assessments have been completed in the Floyd Branch and Duck Creek drainage basins, with crews currently working in the Spring Creek and Cottonwood Creek drainage basins. Based on the data collected from the field assessments, the City has completed rehabilitation of manholes and sewers and will be continuing with these efforts in the years to come as additional assessments are completed.

Spring Creek Nature Area entry portals to be installed

Above is an artist’s rendering of the planned entryway feature at the intersection of Renner Road and Routh Creek Parkway.

The granite pieces that will make up the two Spring Creek Nature Area entry portals should start being delivered in late January or early February. Delivery is expected to take about three weeks, during which time temporary lane closures will occur in the right-hand northbound lane of Routh Creek Parkway at Renner Road, as well as the eastbound Renner Road right-turn lane at Plano Road. The closures are necessary so a crane can unload the large granite pieces.

The entry portals will be located at the intersections of Renner Road and Plano Road, and Renner Road and Routh Creek Parkway. The pieces will welcome visitors to the 100-acre Spring Creek Nature Area and have a leaf-theme, with a large leaf-shaped cutout in each granite portal, granite benches and a leaf-shaped granite sculpture. The idea for the portals came from the Spring Creek Nature Area Master Plan, which was developed and approved in 2015 and outlines ideas for development of the 56 additional acres acquired for the park in January 2015.

Construction on the Spring Creek Nature Area perimeter trail, on Galatyn Parkway (funded by 2015 Bond Program) and two regions have been completed to date.

Plano Road project complete; more on the way

...continued from page 1

condition), and streets that are graded as “poor” are scheduled for replacement in Bond programs, with measures taken to assure safety until they can be replaced.

Currently, 80 percent of Richardson’s streets have not needed replacement in more than 30 years thanks to good maintenance practices (most of the City’s streets are constructed of concrete, which typically has an expected life of about 25 years). The new funding has enabled the City to replace asphalt street patches in several neighborhoods with full-depth concrete, significantly extending street life.

Loeckart acknowledged that with an increase of street repair comes temporary traffic congestion as lanes or streets are blocked off, but that his department tries hard to provide information to residents and businesses in advance of projects, to minimize inconvenience.

Work currently underway includes the aforementioned Alma Road project (between Arapaho Road and Greenville Avenue) as well as portions of residential streets including Greenleaf Drive, Winchester Drive, Pecanhurst Drive and Lakeview Drive.

Upcoming work planned to begin in 2019 includes (also see map on page 3):

- three residential areas (south of West Belt Line Road between Weatherford Drive and US 75; the area between Plano Road and Jupiter Road, north of Arapaho Road and south of Collins Boulevard; and streets in the Canyon Creek elementary attendance zone)
- portions of collector streets (East Spring Valley Road between Grove Road and Jupiter Road, Castle Road south of Arapaho Road, and Oviedo Boulevard).
- 100 block of South Dorothy Drive (funded by 2019 Bond Program)

For more information, go to www.cor.net/projects.
Richardson Today, January 2019

City’s “alley facelift” continues

While the City’s street repair and reconstruction projects get noticed by thousands of people in Richardson each day as they pass by road crews on major streets, less noticeable but just as busy is the alley repair program. The program is on track to complete work on 39 alleys in the 2018-19 fiscal year, thanks to a significant budget increase over 2017-18.

“We’ve doubled the number of alleys we are working on this year versus last year,” Assistant Director of Engineering Jim Lockart said. “We’ve also been able to broaden the scope of the types of repairs that we typically do in the alley repair program.”

The city began setting aside a 1½ cent of the property tax rate for the alley repair program in fiscal year 2016-17, a number that was increased to 1 cent in the 2018-19 fiscal year. This year there will be $1.5 million available for alley repairs, an increase from the $653,000 and $709,000 available in 2016-17 and 2017-18 respectively.

Alleys are prioritized for repair or replacement based on a good/fast/poor grading system similar to the City’s street program (see story page 1) and are grouped into geographic work “zones” for efficiency and timeliness. The repair work is typically performed on a small percentage of an alley in otherwise good condition, with minimal impact to residents.

Alleys scheduled to benefit from the alley repair program in 2019 include several in Richardson’s “parishandle” and several in south central Richardson, with a few in north and far west Richardson (see map on page 3 or visit www.cor.net/richardsonprojects).

Alley work is also paid for by bond funds as they become available. Voters approved 4.8 miles of alley repairs in the 2015 Bond Program.

2015 Bond Program alleys currently under construction or beginning construction in 2019 include:

- Alley north of 1100 Greenway Drive
- Alley north of 800 Teakwood Drive
- Alley north of 800 Chadwick Place
- Alley north of 800 Northacres Drive
- Alley east of 900-1000 Crestview Drive
- Alley north of 660-700 Kindred Lane
- Alley north of 660 Williams Way
- Alley north of 500 Winchester Drive
- Alley north of 400 Fairview Drive
- Alley north of 1100 Pacific Circle
- Alley south of 1600-1700 Syracuse Drive
- Alley west of 800 Willow Crest Drive

For more information on 2015 Bond Program projects visit www.cor.net/richardsonprojects or see map on page 3.

Assistant City Manager Cliff Miller to retire

Richardson Assistant City Manager Cliff Miller will officially retire at the end of this month after joining the City in 2007 and working for two weeks shy of 42 years of service in municipal government.

Miller came to Richardson from the City of Irving, where he worked for 14 years. Prior to that he worked for the City of Grand Prairie and the City of Bryan, where he began his career after graduating from Texas A&M University with a bachelor’s degree in landscape architecture and a master’s degree in urban planning.

As Assistant City Manager, Miller supervises the Capital Projects, Development Services, Transportation and Mobility, Building Inspection and Health departments.

“These past 11 years at the City of Richardson have been the most professionally rewarding of my career,” Miller said. “It has been a privilege to serve the citizens of Richardson each day and I am proud to have played a role in working to make sure Richardson is an excellent place to live and work not only today, but also in the future. After more than four decades of work in local government, I am looking forward to taking some time to travel and staying involved in the community through volunteer work with my wife.”

Some of the projects Miller has overseen during his time in Richardson include:

• Creation and implementation of the Form-Based Code that led to the development of CityLine and other developments near the City Line/Rush DART Station.
• The Collins/Arapaho Transit-Oriented Development and Innovation District Study, which will lead to the redevelopment of about 1,200 acres in east Richardson.
• The planning for the redevelopment of the McKinney Street/Central Expressway area.
• The creation of the West Spring Valley Corridor Reinvestment Strategy.
• The planning and approval for the Cotton Belt Rail Project, which will connect Richardson to DFW Airport.
• The planning and implementation of the $115 million 2015 Bond Program, which includes funding for the new Public Safety Campus, the replacement of Fire Station 3 and infrastructure improvement.

“When Cliff was hired, we were on the cusp of some major development and redevelopment projects in Richardson,” said City Manager Dan Johnson. “Cliff’s decades of work in urban development led to him playing a crucial role in the behind-the-scenes planning that fostered such major projects as CityLine, the Cotton Belt Rail Project and the 2015 Bond Program. All of us at the City of Richardson thank Cliff for his service and wish he and his wife Marsha well in his retirement.”

www.cor.net/richardsonprojects

What is Richardson Projects?

Have you ever driven past road construction or passed a local park and been curious about what the City is doing? The Richardson Projects web page provides detailed information to residents including the type of work being done, details of the project and expected completion dates. Additionally, if you have a concern or simply want to know more, contact information is provided for each project.

Collins/Arapaho District: envisioning the premier tech hub in Texas

Transformation is underway for the Collins/Arapaho area, which is ripe for revitalization due to its underperforming flex space and market characteristics.

In 2016, the Chamber and City partnered to form a task force to study ways the area could be redeveloped into an “Innovation District,” like those emerging in other parts of the world.

We feel the opportunity is there because the 1,200-acre area has historical significance and distinctive real estate that offers access to high-tech workers, workspace flexibility and affordability, making it a prime location for an “Innovation District” — defined as “geographic areas where leading-edge anchor institutions and companies cluster and connect.”

Last month, we completed the study and have started on the next phase of creating a work plan to achieve redevelopment over time, through zoning changes that will attract people to fulfill our vision.

This area is the heart of the Telecom Corridor® and continues to be home to local and international businesses. The Telecom Center DART Station also offers opportunities for new transit-oriented development that would help attract startups and enable companies that begin in Richardson to stay and grow here. This vision is just one more way Richardson will meet the needs of tomorrow’s businesses and embrace the future.

Visit www.cor.net/collinsarapaho to learn more about the District Study and to track the project’s progress.

Bryan Marsh is vice president for global asset management with Digital Realty, and serves as chairman of the Collins/Arapaho Task Force.

Cliff Miller

Property taxes are due Jan. 31

Property taxes owed to the City of Richardson are due Jan. 31, 2019 and should be paid to either the Collin County or Dallas County Tax Office, depending on where the property is located. The City of Richardson contracts with Collin and Dallas counties for the collection of property taxes. Collin County residents can make city, school and Collin County tax payments at the Collin County Tax Office branch located at 920 E. Park Blvd., Plano, TX 75074, 972-881-3014. For Dallas County residents, city and county property taxes are paid to the Dallas County Tax Office at 516 Twilight Trail, Richardson, TX 75080, 214-653-7811.

If you live in:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dallas County</th>
<th>Collin County</th>
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<tr>
<td>Pay to</td>
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<td>City</td>
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<td>BISD</td>
<td>Collin County</td>
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</table>

The Richardson Independent School District Tax Office has moved. Taxes are billed by and paid to the BISD tax office at 420 S. Greenville Ave., Richardson, TX 75081, 469-593-0900.

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www.cor.net/richardsonprojects

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This area is the heart of the Telecom Corridor® and continues to be home to local and internationa
**EVENTS & ACTIVITIES**

**To register or receive more information, contact Sara Bramlett at 972-744-7800.**

**TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES**

**Upcoming Trips**

- **2019 Travel Show**—Jan. 15, 1 p.m.
  You are invited to our 2019 Travel Show at the Senior Center. We will discuss the fun new destination ideas we have planned for you. We would also like to hear what travel locations you would like to explore in 2019. Bring your travel wish list and join us.

- **Celebration Travel**—Feb. 13, 1 p.m.
  Celebration Travel will present its list upcoming travel destinations for 2019.

For more information, call Beth Owens 972-744-7810.

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**ADULT/GENERAL INTEREST**

- **Jan. 10**
  **TWO WAYS TO HELP**
  10:30-12:30 p.m. Second Floor Conference Room. “The Book Thieves” by Andres Enarr.
  Call Kayla at 972-744-4393 for information.

- **Jan. 14**
  **WINTER BREAK: YOUTH WRITING WORKSHOP**
  10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. Second Floor Conference Room. “The Women in the Castle: A Novel” by Jessica Shattuck.
  Call Stacey at 972-744-4350 for information.

- **Jan. 18**
  **REAL READS BOOK CLUB**
  7:30-8:30 p.m. Basement Program Room. “The Book Thief” by Andreas Enarr.
  Call 972-744-4350 for information.

- **Jan. 22**
  **DIGITAL DROP-IN: GET HELP USING YOUR eREADER**
  10 a.m.-noon. Second Floor Lobby.

- **Jan. 22**
  **TRAVEL OPPORTUNITIES**
  10 a.m.-noon. Second Floor Lobby.

- **Jan. 26**
  **A NOVEL IDEA TEEN BOOK CLUB**
  2-3 p.m. Second Floor Conference Room. “Dare Mighty Things” by Heather Kazaickzy.

- **Jan. 27**
  **TEEN ADVISORY BOARD MEETING AND ADULTING 101**
  10 a.m.-noon. Basement Training Room. Richardson Public Library card needed to register.
  Call 972-744-4359 for information.

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**CHILDREN/YOUTH/TEENS**

- **Jan. 14**
  **TEXAS WINDS**
  11 a.m. Texas Winds keyboard and saxophone musicians will perform “Sentimental Journey.” Come and enjoy the sounds of an era that is “gonna take a sentimental journey and gonna set your heart at ease.” All aboard! No fee.

- **Feb. 14**
  **HAPPY VALENTINE’S DAY**
  1-2 p.m. Roses are red. Violets are blue. I love cookies! How about you? Join us for a Valentine’s Day Cookie Decorating Party. Guess the number of chocolate kisses in a jar and win a prize. No fee.

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**ESL registration opens this month**

The Richardson Adult Literacy Center offers English classes for adults, from beginner to advanced. Registration for spring classes is coming up soon. Daytime and evening classes are offered. Classes are $25 and begin the week of Jan. 28.

- **Jan. 23, 12:30-2:30 p.m.**
  Audelia Road Library—10045 Audelia Rd., Dallas.

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**Save the Date: Murder Mystery dinner is April 27 at the Library**

Make plans today to attend Murder Mystery—a fun, interactive evening raising funds for the Richardson Adult Literacy Center. Community leaders and professional actors will perform a mystery comedy play while attendees work in teams to solve the “crime.” Attendees will also be treated to food and drinks and have the opportunity to bid on auction items.

Murder Mystery is set for 7 p.m. April 27 at the Richardson Public Library, 900 Civic Center Dr. This year’s community celebrity actors will be announced soon. For more information, visit www.ralc.org/murder-mystery.
**Eisemann Center Presents continues 2018-19 season**

The 2018-19 Eisemann Center Presents season continues with classic rock, traditional American music and two all-ages shows. Visit [www.eisemanncenter.com](http://www.eisemanncenter.com) for ticket information, or call 972-744-4650. Groups of 10 or more qualify for ticket discounts by calling Group Sales at 972-744-4657.

**Herman’s Hermits starring Peter Noone**

- 7:30 p.m. Jan. 31
- Tickets $39-$51

At the age of 15, Peter Noone achieved international fame as lead singer of the legendary 1960s pop band Herman’s Hermits. His classic hits included “I’m Into Something Good,” “Mrs. Brown, you’ve Got A Lovely Daughter,” “I’m Henry VIII, I Am,” “Silhouettes” and many more. Ultimately, Herman’s Hermits sold over 60 million recordings. Accompanied by his Hall of Fame band, Herman’s Hermits, Noone consistently plays to sold-out venues the world over. He has a legion of faithful fans (known as “Nonnatics”) whose loyalty is unparalleled.

**LIVERPOOL LEGENDS: THE COMPLETE BEATLES EXPERIENCE**

- 8 p.m. Jan. 18, 19, 20. $24-$44. Visit [www.liverpoollegends.com](http://www.liverpoollegends.com).

**RICHARDSON SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA “A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES”**


**THE BOY WHO WOULD BE Captain Hook**

- 3 p.m. Jan. 26
- Tickets $25

In a moving, yet humorous look at growing up, David Harrell brings to life a story of his childhood in “The Boy Who Would Be Captain Hook.” Born without his right hand and fitted with a prosthetic hook before he starts school, he is kept on the sidelines of recess until the game becomes Peter Pan. He fits perfectly into the game as Captain Hook, but soon grows tired of playing the part and decides he wants to be a hero. What happens when you decide not to be defined by your circumstances and change the game? With appearances from hilarious and colorful characters from his childhood, Harrell serves as storyteller and performer, teaching the importance of accepting and including others that may not look exactly the way that we do.

**Cultural Partnership Initiative**

**Richardson Public Library**

**Mozart’s Starling**

Join us from 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Jan. 31 at the Richardson Public Library for a Richardson Symphony Orchestra string quartet performance of the music of Mozart, followed by a panel discussion on the book “Mozart’s Starling” by Lydia Lynch. The panel will include RSO Assistant Concertmaster Linda Proch, RSO Violist Peggy Tucker, RSO Principal Percussionist and Production Manager David Eka, and RSO Executive Director and President Laurie Garvie.

**Comer Collection Art Exhibition**

The new SP/N Gallery is hosting the Comer Collection: Representation and Presentation in Photography Jan. 18-Feb. 16. The Jerry and Marilyn Comer Photography Collection at UT Dallas captures scenes of American life from the middle to late 20th century. Marked by both its diversity and high quality, the collection contains more than 350 photographs dating from 1940 to the present, as well as more than 300 books and periodicals relating to modern and contemporary art and photography. SP/N Gallery is located in Synergy Park North 2 and is open 11 a.m.-4 p.m. Tuesday, Wednesday and Saturday, and 1-6 p.m. Thursday and Friday. The gallery is closed on Sunday. Visit [www.utd.edu/ah](http://www.utd.edu/ah) for more information.

**Augustin Wiedemann in Concert**

Augustin Wiedemann is a Munich-based guitar player who won first prize and four special prizes at the sixth International Guitar Competition in Havana, Cuba in 1992. Wiedemann is a guitar professor at the Vorarlberger Landeskonservatorium in Feldkirch, Austria and serves on the Foundation Board at the Hermann Hauser Guitar Foundation in addition to performing internationally. He will perform in Jonsson Performance Hall at 8 p.m. Jan. 25. Tickets are $15 and can be purchased at [www.utd.edu/ah](http://www.utd.edu/ah).

**Save the Date!**

**Saturday, April 13, 2019**

Noah’s Event Venue

**Cultural Partnership Initiative**

**Richardson Public Library**

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**“Tree Cycle” Your Christmas Tree**

Many Christmas trees are thrown away at the end of every holiday season. This practice wastes potential uses of the trees and uses vital landfill space. Instead, the City of Richardson encourages residents to “tree cycle” their unflocked Christmas trees.

Richardson residents may “tree cycle” in two ways through Feb. 1:

1. 1. Drop trees off at the Municipal Service Center, 1260 Columbia Dr. The site is open 24 hours, seven days a week.
2. Call 972-744-4111 and request a Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC), then set the tree out at the front curb for collection. Make sure to request that the tree be collected for composting.

**Tree cycling guidelines**

- Trees must be natural (not artificial) and unflocked.
- All ornaments, tinsel, tree stands, nails, lights, etc., must be removed.
- Calls for Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC) must be received before the designated collection day. (Your BABIC day is the same as your recycling day).
- Call 972-744-4111 if you are unsure which day is your BABIC day.

**“Cease the Grease” Event Strikes Oil**

More than 125 gallons of used cooking oil was collected during the City’s annual “Cease the Grease” collection event held Nov. 21-23. Richardson’s Health Department collaborated with American BioSource to provide free collection in an effort to help divert holiday cooking oil from being poured down kitchen drains. Grease and oil discarded down the drain can create a buildup in sewer pipes, which can cause unwanted wastewater backup.

Go to www.CeaseTheGreaseNTX.com to learn more.

Fire Station 6 Offers Blue Bags Jan. 5

Fire Station 6 will offer blue recycling bags for purchase Saturday, Jan. 5 from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. The 30-gallon bags are sold in rolls for $3.50 for residents, or $4 for nonresidents. Credit and debit cards are accepted.

Fire Station 6 offers the bags on the first Saturday of every month. The station is located at 3591 Park Vista Rd. For more information, call 972-744-4111.

The Richardson Fire Department held its annual toy and food drive in December, and delivered collections to Network of Community Ministries shortly before Christmas. Items were donated by local businesses, civic organizations, residents and City staff and were used by Network of Community Ministries located at 741 S. Sherman St. in Richardson, or online at www.thenetwork.org.

**City is proactive with winter weather**

While the North Texas area has seen some cold temperatures over the last month, we have yet to see any severe winter weather events. If the snow and ice arrives, the City of Richardson is prepared as crews have been preparing for months in case their services are needed to keep streets and bridges clear of ice.

The City’s sanding trucks are managed by street maintenance workers from the Public Services Department who have been stockpiling sand in case it is needed this winter. When ice builds up and causes dangerous driving conditions, crews spread sand on several high priority areas—bridges, major roads, intersections and hospital driveways. School zones are sanded upon special request. The sand increases vehicle traction, but drivers are still urged to drive cautiously.

Members of the parks maintenance staff have also been preparing for cold weather. Throughout the year crews prune questionable tree limbs (those with fracture lines, indicating a weak spot that could easily break during a storm) in the parks and along hike and bike trails. While the trees may appear bare after pruning, most will fill back in after a few growing seasons.

The work is not done after an ice storm passes. Parks crews have sweeper trucks to clean up sand from roadways, but even with multiple trucks working six days per week, it can take time to remove it all. Workers from the Solid Waste division’s Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC) service also are busy following ice storms, picking up fallen limbs and other storm debris in neighborhoods and commercial areas. During the major ice storm in December 2013, crews spread 417 cubic yards of sand on roads and responded to more than 13,000 BABIC requests, accounting for 47 percent of the City’s households. More than 2,400 tons of debris was cleared following the storm.

To request BABIC pickup, use the MYRichardson App, call 972-744-4111 or fill out an online form at www.cor.net/recycling. Curbside pickup is available on your designated recycling day (as long as the request is made by 11:59 p.m. the night before).

Richardson Fire Department delivers toys, food and holiday cheer to Network

The Richardson Fire Department held its annual toy and food drive in December, and delivered collections to Network of Community Ministries shortly before Christmas.

Richardson’s Health Department will offer a free training seminar for childcare providers Saturday, Feb. 2 from 8:15 a.m.-noon (registration begins at 7:45 a.m.) in the Grand Hall of the Richardson Civic Center/City Hall.

**TOPICS AND SPEAKERS**

**8:15 a.m.**

- Challenging Infant Toddler Behavior
  - Elizabeth Tayem
  - Master Degree in Developmental Psychology

- Human Trafficking 101
  - Rebecca Torres
  - Executive Director Puema Foundation

- Emergency Preparedness
  - Alisha Gimbel, MCP, CEMP®, TEM®

Please register in advance by calling 972-744-4085, e-mailing danea.newman@cor.gov or online at www.cor.net/childcaretraining.

This seminar may be used for three hours of continuing education units (CEUs) for childcare providers as specified in the "Minimum Standards." A certificate will be provided electronically after the seminar.
Thank you to Santa’s Village volunteers

The following groups and organizations generously donated their time and talent for Continued success of Santa’s Village. Many thanks to all. We couldn’t do it without you!

Sponsors and Volunteers
- AT&T Pioneers
- COR Animal Shelter
- COR Animal Shelter
- COR Fire Department
- COR Library
- COR Police Department
- COR Recycling
- COR Swim Team
- Richardson Club/Org: Richardson East Rotary
- Richardson Rotary
- Richardson Women’s Club
- Symphony League

Entertainment
- Amy’s Studio of Performing Arts
- Angel’s Angels of Aranques
- Studio of the Dance

Berkner HS Jazz Band
- Berkner HS Latin Dance Team
- Berkner HS Rambler
- Big D Chorus
- Carynn Creek ES
- Choir & Musik-Spiel
- Creare for Dance-Teams
- Class Art Tap Company
- Dallas Tap Dazzlers
- Dartmouth ES Honor Choir
- Druze Grand Cloggers
- Academy of Dance of Arts
- Edge Dance & Performing Arts

Richardson East Rotary
Richardson Rotary
Richardson Women’s Club
Symphony League

Exchange Club of Richardson
Leadership Richardson
Logotology
Methodist Richardson
Medical Center
Neighborhood Credit Union
Richardson Family YMCA

Huffines ballerina dances with Moscow Ballet

Eight-year-old Richardson resident Keitra Triong recently had the experience of a lifetime when she danced with the Moscow Ballet during their Dallas performances of the “Great Russian Nutcracker.” Keitra was one of 66 young ballerinas who won parts after auditioning in the fall. Keitra is in the Ballet III class at Huffhines Recreation Center, danced as a snowflake.

Spring dance classes begin in January

If there is a young dancer or aspiring dancer in your family, Huffines and Heights recreation centers have just the classes for them. A wide variety of dance classes including ballet, jazz, tap, contemporary and hip hop are offered for dancers ages 2-18. Most spring dance classes begin in mid-January.

Registration is now open for spring dance classes. For class descriptions and online registrations, visit www.cor.net/parksbundle. For more information, call Heights at 972-744-7880 or at Huffhines at 972-744-7881.

Huffines Tennis Center

The Huffines Tennis Center has 10 lighted courts, a fully stocked pro shop and private and semi-private lessons. Lessons for juniors and adults are available in group or one-on-one settings. Group lessons are available in three-week blocks at a cost of $40-$50. Private lessons are available in 30-minute or one-hour blocks.

Huffines Tennis Center is located in the southeast corner of Huffines Park. Court fees are $3 per person for 1 1/2 hours. Reservations are made by calling 972-744-7870. For information, visit www.cor.net/tennis.

Aquatics job fair

The City of Richardson Parks and Recreation Department will hold an Aquatics job fair from 4-7 p.m. Jan. 8 at the Huffhines Recreation Center. Positions are available for the summer 2019 swim season. Hourly pay rates are highly competitive. Applications can be filed online at www.cor.net/jobs.

Sherrill Park Golf Course

Winter and colder temperatures are officially here, but Sherrill Park is in great shape and now is a good time to get out and play. To schedule tee times, or private lessons at Sherrill Park, contact the Pro Shop at 972-234-1416 or visit www.sherrill-parkgolf.com.
AARP “Smart Driver” Program
Anyone 50 years and older may attend. The completion certificate is used for automobile insurance premium reductions. Please check with your insurance company for percentage of reduction. The certificate does not qualify for a traffic citation dismissal. Cost is $15 for AARP members and $20 for nonmembers. Reservations may be made by calling 972-744-7800. Please pay the instructor at the time of the class. Classes are held at the Richardson Senior Center.

Class Day Time Fee Instructor
Jan. 3 8 a.m.-10:30 a.m. $15 Keonda Jinks
Jan. 10 4-6 p.m. 

“Color My World”
Come join in the newest craze of coloring for adults. Coloring is a relaxing art form, as well as a component of health and wellness. Color pens, crayons and pictures will be provided or bring your own. A table will be set up with coloring supplies every Thursday from 9 a.m.-12:30 p.m. for visiting and coloring. A multi-sectional table is available for you to enjoy the fun of coloring with your grandchildren.

Watercolor
Renuza Sharmar will offer watercolor classes for all painting levels. Students will learn the basics of materials, tools and techniques of watercolor. Intermediate and advanced self-paced students are welcome. Classes are held Tuesday for four consecutive weeks from 10 a.m.-1 p.m. New sessions start Jan. 8. Cost is $80 with membership or $22 per class. Please call 972-744-7800 for the class supply list.

Oil and Acrylic Painting
A new four-week session of painting classes meets the first Thursday of each month from 1-4 p.m. Beginner and intermediate levels of painters are encouraged to attend. Joanna Clifton is the instructor. Cost is $80 for four months with membership.

Technology Help Desk
Instructor Ed Sanders is offering help for any Windows or Android portable device (cell phone, smartphone, laptop or tablet) or any applications related to the device and the internet, e-mail, Facebook, website maintenance, photography, applications usage and installs. This is a great opportunity to resolve your technology challenge and increase your knowledge. Assistance is available the fourth Saturday of every other month. Help is available from 2-4 p.m. Next session is Feb. 3. No fee.

Fun with Oils
A new session of oil painting classes begins the first Thursday of each month from noon-4 p.m. beginners. Beginner and intermediate levels of painters are encouraged to attend. Darlene Martin is the instructor. The Richardson Senior Center membership is required. Please call 972-744-7800 for next session date.

Square Dance Lessons
Square dancing is a great way to participate in a low-impact activity, meet new friends and be a part of a fun, friendly community of dances. Fee is $85 per person. A Richardson Senior Center membership is required. Please call 972-744-7800 for next session date.

Private Ballroom Appointment
Private Ballroom Appointment

Dance Classes at the Senior Center

### Dance Classes at the Senior Center

**Class** | **Day** | **Time** | **Fee** | **Instructor**
--- | --- | --- | --- | ---
Adv. Line Dance | Mon. | 2:30-4:30 p.m. | $3 | Aubrey
Beginner Line Dance | Tues. | 9:30-10:30 a.m. | $3 | Mary Ann
Intermediate Line Dance | Tues. | 10:45-11:45 a.m. | $2 | Mary Ann
Intermediate and Advanced Line Dance | Wed. | 1:30-3 p.m. | $15 | Mary Ann

**Group Ballroom**

**Private Ballroom Appointment**
**Emeritus 500 Programs at Richland College**

Eligible participants, aged 50 and over, 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 972-245-9672 or visit www.richlandcollege.edu/emeritus Texas Reelers Square Dance The Texas Reelers Square Dance sponsors round and square dancing the first and third Friday of every month from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Like us on Facebook at www.facebook.com/TheTexasReelersSquareDance. Admission is $7. Fabulous Volunteers! Square Dance The Rebel Rouleurs Square Dance Club sponsors round and square dancing the third Saturday of each month from 7:30-10:30 p.m. Fee is $7 per person. Richardson Public Library The Richardson Public Library offers the following locations: The second Tuesday of each month, 6:30-8:30 p.m. provides the Richardson Senior Center with books on CD and large-print books.

**Bingo**

Next bingo is Jan. 17 at 2 p.m.

**Pool Tournaments**

Pool tournaments are every Friday at 1 p.m. with regulars beginning at 12:30 p.m. Due to Friday pool tournaments, open play is from 2-4 p.m.

**Photography Club**

If photography is your hobby or you just love to take pictures, how about an afternoon photography club? Share ideas and know-how? You do not need professional equipment to volunteer but are encouraged to bring a camera. Meetings are held on the first Thursday of every month. 7-9 p.m. Fee: Free.

**The Richardson Red Hatters**

The Richardson Red Hatters welcome all women to put on their red hats and have some fun. Next meeting is Feb. 4 at noon. Please bring a dessert or lunch or you may purchase a lunch from the Senior Center’s concession.

**Mental Aerobics**

Biddles, word games, puzzles, trivia and a general mental playground will keep help your brain activity sharp. We have a large room and welcome drop-ins who enjoy thinking activities that require no study, memorization, practice or aptitude.

**Chess Club**

The chess players meet Thursday nights from 6-9 p.m. Youth and adults of all playing strengths are welcome. Call the Senior Center at 972-744-7800 for more information.

**Hearing Screening**

Audiological PTA will be at the Senior Center to assist with questions about eligibility and to schedule hearing screenings. More information, call 972-744-7800.

**New! Parkinson’s Rhythm Reconditioning**

This class offers a variety of rhythmic-constructive exercises for those suffering from Parkinson’s. It helps you to alleviate the frustrating disruptions of thoughts and movements. Classes are held Monday 7:30-8 p.m., Wednesday 3:30-5 p.m. and Saturday 2:30-3:30 p.m. Cost is $5 plus $5 you go.

**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 meet every third Saturday of each month at Dallas County and Collin County helping with mail outs, community events, light tasks. The Rowdies meet at the Richardson Senior Center. Transportation is provided by RSVP for those who live within 10 miles of the Senior Center. For more information on how to become involved, call 214-525-6167.

**The Memory Café**

Learn how to start your fitness journey.

**The Seniors’ Net**

The Network of Community Ministries Seniors’ Net program provides a variety of services to help seniors in the community remain independent many years in their own homes for as long as possible. Programs include handyman services, senior transportation, seminars, “Leaves of Love,” home delivered meals, medical equipment, and holiday baskets. The “Leaves of Love” program has expanded. Seniors residing within Richardson ISD may shop for free meals first of each month from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. homes for as long as possible. The program is open every Thursday from 9:30-11 a.m. Call 972-234-8880.

**First Richardson Helpers**

Richardson residents ages 55 and over are invited to volunteer at the Richardson Senior Center. Volunteers are needed to help increase cardiovascular endurance.

**Private Trainer**

How is your Balance?

This fitness program is designed for those suffering from Parkinson’s disease. It includes endurance, strength, flexibility and balance. All sessions are held in a private room. Fee is $60 a session for Richardson residents. For those who are not residents, the cost is $90 a session for couples. Call 972-744-7800 to make your appointment.

**B.A.S.I.C.S.**

Focus: Living Body Awareness Support to Improve Cognitive Skills. As we age, the connection between our minds and bodies can become less direct than when we were younger; the time between movement and action decreases. The body begins to control our brain activities. This class is designed to improve body awareness and control of our brain activities that can also improve cognitive skills. Class is held first Tuesdays of the month from 9:45 a.m. to 11:45 a.m. Fee is $2 a class. Please pre-register at the Senior Center.

**The Memory Café**

The Senior Center has a new free program called “The Memory Café” that is designed for both those who suffer from Alzheimer’s disease 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. Held the first Thursday of the month from 10 a.m. The next meeting is Jan. 3.
Mozart Music and Book Discussion
Join us for a Richardson Symphony Orchestra string quartet performance of the music of Mozart, followed by a panel discussion on the book “Mozart’s Starling” by Lyanda Lynn Haupt. The panel will include RSO Assistant Concertmaster Linda Proch, RSO Violist Peggy Tucker, RSO Principal Percussionist and Production Manager David Elias, and RSO Executive Director and President Laurie Garvie.

Thursday, Jan. 31, 7-9 p.m.
Basement Program Room • Adults and Teens
Registration not required. Call 972-744-4376 for more information.

Google Drive Basics:
Save, Store and Sync
Tuesday, Jan. 22
6:30-7:30 p.m.
Adults and Teens
Basement Training Room
Learn to edit videos and add effects, transitions and titles. Register at 972-744-4359.

Sensory Storytime
Engage in sensory activities while sharing stories, songs and more!
Wednesdays from Jan. 16-Feb. 20
10-10:30 a.m.
First Floor Program Room
A storyline for Richardson residents that supports children with sensory processing needs and developmental differences.
Registration required at 972-744-4358. Children must attend with at least one parent.

Saturday Morning Kids
A drop-in family storyline geared toward 3-7 year olds featuring stories, rhymes, songs, fingerplays and movement activities.
Saturdays from Jan. 5 through May 25
10:30-11 a.m.
First Floor Program Room
Everyone is welcome — no registration required!

Regular Library hours are: Monday-Thursday, 10 a.m.-9 p.m. • Friday-Saturday, 10 a.m.-6 p.m. • Sunday, 2-6 p.m.