

April 2002

## News From the City

- The Cottonwood Art Festival has received an award for being the top program of its kind in the country for a city our size.
- The Dallas Area Home Chemical Collection center will open April 12. Richardson residents may bring home chemicals to the new facility at 11234 Plano Road, south of Forest, at no cost. You no longer have to wait for the annual collection day to safely dispose of hazardous or toxic household wastes. The Center will be open:
  - Tuesdays from 9:00am – 8:30PM
  - Wednesdays from 8:30am – 5:00 PM
  - Thursday from 8:30am – 5:00PM
  - Second Saturday of the month 9:00AM – 3:00
- Richardson is participating in a Hike and Bike Trial project with six other cities. The trail will ultimately be 27 miles long, generally following Rowlett Creek and going all the way from McKinney to Lake Ray Hubbard. Richardson's portion is primarily through Breckenridge Park and will be the first segment completed.
- June 28 – 29 will be busy days in Richardson. Ribbon cutting for DART's lightrail will be June 28. June 29 will be a combined Wildflower Festival and 4<sup>th</sup> of July concert and fireworks at the new Fountain Plaza. Residents should be able to park at the Arapaho and Spring Valley DART stations and ride DART to Fountain Plaza at the Galatyn Park station at no charge that weekend.
- The 2001-2002 Budget has been reduced another 1% compared to the November budget. Sales tax revenue is down 25% for March, compared to last year. Sales tax revenues are down 20% year to date compared to last year, and down 10% compared to the reduced amounts that were included in the reduced budget of last November. Further budget cuts may be required. YOU CAN HELP. Richardson only receives sales tax revenue for purchases that you make within Richardson, and every little bit helps.
- TXU Gas has a filed a rate request for an increase of approximately 10% for north Texas.
- RISD elementary school talented and gifted program (REACH) students have presented a bicycle helmet proposal for children 12 and under to the City Council, and it is being evaluated.
- The City has approved an overall concept plan for Breckenridge Park that features nature areas as well as activity areas. The plan will be implemented over an extended period of time and as funds are available.

- Because its size and location make it a Regional Park funding can also be obtained from Texas Parks and Wildlife. The 556 acre park is more than 2/3 the size of New York's Central Park, and almost 3 times the size of Chicago's Grant Park.
- The Target store being built at Richardson Square Mall is one of the first Target's that is being built in a mall location. Because of shopping carts and other issues the store will not have an entrance directly to/from the Mall. Target and Mall entrances will be located close together.

## Cottonwood Art Festival

The Cottonwood Art Festival began in 1969 as a modest yearly show each Fall. Beginning in 1987 a Spring show was added. Today the festival is nationally ranked as one of the best fine art shows in the country and attracts approximately 25,000 people each show. Last Fall's event hosted 225 artists. Total artist sales were over \$1,000,000. The average amount sold per artist during the weekend was \$6,000. The City nets approximately \$20,000 per year from the Festival.



The art exhibits have expanded to include a selection of performing arts. Nationally recognized singers/songwriters perform along with strolling musicians, solo artists and other performers. Be sure to check out the Courtyard area to see if there is a performance underway. The addition of ArtStop, an interactive art experience for children has been well accepted. At the last Festival fourteen artists participated in ARTBEAT. ARTBEAT is a program that has been added in recent years which introduces school age art students to the lives and techniques of professional artists. The increasing popularity among artists brings participants from most states in the union, especially Texas, California, Kansas, New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Oklahoma, North Carolina, Missouri, Iowa, Michigan, Idaho, Maryland, Louisiana, Alabama, Indiana, Vermont, New York, Washington and Florida.



This Spring's Cottonwood Art Festival will be May 4 - 5 at Cottonwood Park on Beltline east of Coit. There is free parking at Richardson High School.

## Open Sesame?

Those magic words opened doors for Aladdin, but they don't work quite the same way for a Fire Department ambulance crew if they're ever called to your home. Rest assured that if there were an emergency at your home, or the home of a loved one, the rescue squad *will* gain entry. For most of us it is very unlikely that paramedics or fire fighters will ever need to enter our home in an emergency. But for some of us that possibility becomes larger and there are things that we should know.

As our health or circumstances change we may become more likely to fall, or more likely to suffer a medical emergency. If you're home alone that risk can be an additional worry. There are two things to consider that can increase your safety and your sense of security. One of those things is to wear a bracelet or a necklace that can summon help. I have the privilege to be a volunteer with one of the agencies that provides those buttons and I have been to the homes of people who are alive because they had an emergency button. Those people and their families know how wonderful those buttons are and what a sense of security they bring to the individual and their relatives. Usually a neighbor will have a key and when a button is pressed, if it is necessary the emergency responder will summon aid and try to summon the nearest person with a key.

There is something you can do to ease entry to your home though, if there is no one nearby with a key when it is needed in an emergency. Your home can be equipped with a box that only paramedics on a Richardson Fire Department ambulance or fire truck can open. That box is known as a Knox Box, and in it is a key to your home. Many commercial facilities and utility installations have Knox boxes so that the Fire Department can rapidly gain entry and avoid damage. Residential Knox Boxes provide the same protection for your home. They are available in two different styles, surface mount for \$129 or with door hanger bracket for \$149.

If you would like to learn more about a residential Knox Box contact the Richardson Fire Marshal at 972-744-5750. Each city has a unique Knox Box system and cannot open other boxes, so for another city be sure to contact the appropriate Fire Marshal. If you would like to learn more about Lifeline bracelets and necklaces contact Bernie Mayoff (972-669-9169, [Bernie@mayoff.com](mailto:Bernie@mayoff.com)) or your doctor, hospital or social services agency.

### **The Apple Corps of Dallas, A Macintosh Users Group**

Hi, if you are a fan of the Macintosh computers you are cordially invited to attend the monthly meetings of our user group, at the Richardson Civic Center. We meet on Saturday mornings, from 9am-1pm. **Please see our website <http://www.acd.org> for dates and more information.** I am proud to be your JJP contact!

Ray M Thompson [raymackt@attbi.com](mailto:raymackt@attbi.com) 972/231-0765

### **Pearce Bands Play at Meyerson**



The Pearce High School Bands will perform in their 13<sup>th</sup> annual concert at the Morton H. Meyerson Symphony Center on Monday, May 20 at 8:00 PM.

Tickets are \$8 for Orchestra seats, \$10 for Dress Circle, \$14 Orchestra Terrace, and \$25 Loge. For reservations contact the Pearce band hall at 469-593-5140. Tickets are also available at the door the evening of the performance.

## **BE THERE**



### **Now that the primaries are over . . .**

And before the elections in November, it is time for us to start thinking about elections very close to home, right here in our own Homeowners Association. In May we must appoint a Nominating Committee, in July and August we will publish their recommendation, and in September we will have our annual meeting and election.

If you have any suggestions for membership on the Nominating Committee (yes, you can suggest yourself) please contact any Board Member. Contact information is on page \_\_ of this newsletter. In May we'll announce the Nominating Committee and they'll begin looking for candidates for our Board. You may want to start polishing your resume already so you'll be ready to share it with the Nominating Committee in June.

**Did You Know?...** The Homeowners Association established an emergency alert telephone service in April 1995. The number was changed to the present 972-545-1776 in April 1998. We established our current e-mail distribution system (eGroups) in late December 2000.

## Neighbors in the News



- The Civic Center Fountain was planned in 1986. Local resident Frank Kormos was on the committee.
- Leadership Richardson was created by the Richardson Chamber of Commerce, with the cooperation of the city, in 1985. Among the graduates are Board members Lynn Sanders, Bernie Mayoff, and residents Jane Greer and Carl Hefton. Resident Pam Krause is the current coordinator of the program. Leadership Richardson is now accepting applications.

## Healthy Foods -- Edible Rainbow of Color

**Red:** Tomatoes and tomato products - juice, soups, ketchup - pink grapefruit and watermelon contain lycopene. It is shown to reduce the risk of heart disease and several types of cancer, including prostate cancer.

**Red/Purple:** Grapes, grape juice, red wine, prunes, cranberries, blueberries, blackberries, and strawberries contain anthocyanins. They are powerful antioxidants that may reduce dangerous blood clots. They're also thought to have strong cancer-fighting qualities.

**Orange:** Carrots, mangoes, pumpkin, winter squash, sweet potatoes, apricots, and cantaloupes contain beta-carotene. It helps fight the spread of cancer.

**Orange/Yellow:** Oranges, orange juice, tangerines, yellow grapefruit, peaches, lemons, limes, pineapple, and nectarines contain Vitamin C - a powerful antioxidant that helps protect cells. Smokers should add extra Vitamin C to their diet.

**Yellow/Green:** Greens (collard, mustard, turnip), green beans, peas, avocado, and honeydew melon contain lutein. It helps prevent macular degeneration, a primary cause of blindness in the U.S.

**Green:** Broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, kale, cauliflower, and watercress contain sulforaphane, isothiocyanate, and indoles. These plant chemicals help our body dispose of cancer causing products.

**White/Green:** Garlic, onions, chives, leeks, scallions, and shallots contain allium. It protects cells' DNA - your body's master plan for cell growth and repair.

**Other White/Green:** Asparagus, pears, artichokes, mushrooms, celery, and white wine contain flavonoids. They protect cells' protective layer.

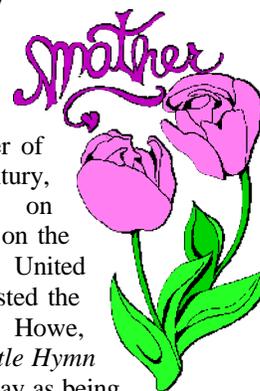
### What Are Antioxidants?

Antioxidants protect the body's cells from damage caused by oxygen by-products. They seem to work by gathering up free radicals formed when body cells burn oxygen for energy. Antioxidants may also keep your immune system strong and reduce your risk for cancer and other diseases. Each antioxidant appears to protect different parts of the body. It is important to depend on food, not dietary supplements, for the health qualities they provide.

*From AOL website.*

## A History of Mother's Day

The first celebrations in honor of mothers were held in the spring in ancient Greece. They paid tribute to Rhea, the Mother of the Gods. During the 17th century, England honored mothers on "Mothering Sunday," celebrated on the fourth Sunday of Lent. In the United States, Julia Ward Howe suggested the idea of Mother's Day in 1872. Howe, who wrote the words to the *Battle Hymn of the Republic*, saw Mother's Day as being dedicated to peace.



Anna Jarvis of Philadelphia is credited with bringing about the official observance of Mother's Day. Her campaign to establish such a holiday began as a remembrance of her mother, who died in 1905 and who had, in the late 19th century, tried to establish "Mother's Friendship Days" as a way to heal the scars of the Civil War.

Two years after her mother died, Jarvis held a ceremony in Grafton, W. Va., to honor her. She was so moved by the proceedings that she began a massive campaign to adopt a formal holiday honoring mothers. In 1910, West Virginia became the first state to recognize Mother's Day. A year later, nearly every state officially marked the day. In 1914, President Woodrow Wilson officially proclaimed Mother's Day as a national holiday to be held on the second Sunday of May.

But Jarvis' accomplishment soon turned bitter for her. Enraged by the commercialization of the holiday, she filed a lawsuit to stop a 1923 Mother's Day festival and was even arrested for disturbing the peace at a war mothers' convention where women sold white carnations -- Jarvis' symbol for mothers -- to raise money. "This is not what I intended," Jarvis said. "I wanted it to be a day of sentiment, not profit!"

When she died in 1948, at age 84, Jarvis had become a woman of great ironies. Never a mother herself, her maternal fortune dissipated by her efforts to stop the commercialization of the holiday she had founded, Jarvis told a reporter shortly before her death that she was sorry she had ever started Mother's Day. She spoke these words in a nursing home where every Mother's Day her room had been filled with cards from all over the world.

Today, because and despite Jarvis' efforts, many celebrations of Mother's Days are held throughout the world. Although they do not all fall at the same time, such countries as Denmark, Finland, Italy, Turkey, Australia and Belgium also celebrate Mother's Day on the same day as the United States.

*By Holly Hilderbrand, Houston Chronicle Interactive*

## Calling all Cooks!

The Board of Directors would like to publish a “Best of JJPHOA” Cookbook. This project is in the formative stage and will proceed -- IF there is enough interest among the members. So — how ‘bout it? If you are interested in contributing to this cookbook or helping to edit it, please contact Dee Russum, 972-235-1961, or e mail: jrussum@aol.com.

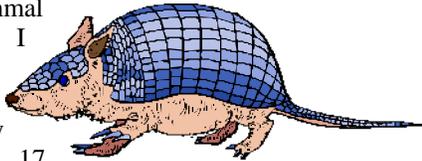


## The Nine-banded Armadillo

(Dasypus novemcinctus)

Okay, folks. How many armadillos have you seen dead on the roadside? Have you given them much thought? Well, don't feel bad – not many of us do!

But – that strange cat-sized, armored, insect eating creature is the state mammal of Texas! So, I thought we might learn a little about him! The body length is 15 to 17 inches, with a long scaly tail about as long. Its weight is anywhere from 8 to 17 pounds.



The armadillo is similar in form to an anteater. It has a bony, scaled shell that protects it from attacks by predators. It's a slow moving animal and therefore often falls victim to automobiles. The armadillo is a prolific digger (if the soil is not too hard) for its food as well as for burrows for its home.. Its appetite for grubs may cause it to dig up lawns, and is considered a nuisance to homeowners. The main diet of the armadillo is insects, but occasionally eats berries and bird eggs. Breeding occurs in July, the embryo remains dormant until November and the young are born in its burrow in March, always of the same sex. They develop from the same egg and are identical quadruplets. Armadillos are the only mammal in which multiple young form from a single egg with any regularity.

The armadillo is originally native to South America, but now ranges as far north as Texas, except for the western Trans-Pecos portion, Oklahoma, Kansas and Louisiana.

Its found in various habitats, such as brush, woods, scrub and grasslands.

Now—have you learned much more then you wanted to know about our state mammal?! I thought so!

## Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge

Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge is on the Big Mineral Arm of Lake Texoma eight miles northwest of Sherman in north central Grayson County. The 11,320-acre refuge was established by agreement with the United States Army Corps of Engineers in 1946 and includes 3,000 acres of marsh and water and 8,000 acres of upland and farmland. Its



purpose is to protect and improve living conditions for all wildlife. Though the refuge provides food and shelter for many area birds and animals, including songbirds, bobwhite quail, mourning doves, white-tailed deer, and bobcats, it serves primarily as a winter home for migrating geese and ducks. Canada geese, white-fronted geese, snow geese, Ross's geese, mallards, pintails, and green-winged teals are among the common waterfowl that make use of the site. During fall, winter, and spring, the refuge's marshes and waters are used continuously by migrating and wintering birds; wading birds abound during the summer months. In all, more than 300 species of birds have been seen on the refuge. Some 600 acres of refuge land are cultivated for waterfowl feed. Milo and corn are raised for migrating waterfowl, and green wheat feeds wintering geese. In addition to feeding those birds that make use of the refuge, this crop production reduces wildlife damage to area farms. A series of shelter marshes, formed by the construction of earthen dikes, is drained during the summers to encourage the growth of natural foods and flooded in the fall to provide a habitat for waterfowl and other wetland birds. The grasslands are intensely managed through periodic burning, controlled grazing, and the planting of native grasses and forbs (herbs other than grasses.) Hagerman National Wildlife Refuge provides year-round access to bird-watchers and sightseers. In addition, several field routes and trails are available for hikers, and a four-mile-long route provides automobile access to the refuge. Fishing is permitted year-round, and boating is allowed within the refuge during the spring and summer. A historic exhibit of the town of Hagerman, which was removed before the inundation of the area for Lake Texoma, is located on the refuge. **Directions:** From Richardson, go north on Highway 75 to Sherman FM 1417 exit, then north 13 miles on FM 1417 to refuge sign and left 6 miles to entrance. Follow signs to office and Visitor Center. **Editor's note:** Take lunch and drinks because there's nothing there!

<http://www.Tsha.utexas.edu/handbook/online/articles/viw/HH/gkhl.html>

## Easter Egg Hunt -- 2002



*Bernie Mayoff, photographer.*

About 20 to 30 children attended the Easter Egg Hunt that was held under the covered area on the west side of the Pearce auditorium due to the rain. Thank you Jane and Jon Scherper for coordinating another successful JJPHOA sponsored event.

## Woody Mann -- the Vacuum Cleaner Man

By Greg Immel, VP Development



I know you've either traded with him or have been by his business in the last 15 years. He was the second tenant in what is now the Albertson's strip mall. For many of us that have lived here quite a few years we remember that he used to park his classic "Woody" outside his establishment for years. If you haven't guessed it by now I am referring to the Woody Mann vacuum cleaner shop on the Mimosa side of Albertson's. It has been there since 1987. His first shop in Richardson was at the corner of Arapaho and West Shore. If you are anything like our family we have been there many times to keep alive our precious vacuum cleaner.

I found the history of the shop quite interesting, especially since I have been going there all these years but never really knew the origins of how it began. The owner is not really "Woody Mann" but Steve Katz. His son Randy is the Manager and has been with his dad for the last 21 years. Steve, who has been in the vacuum business since 1960, is originally from Connecticut and moved to Irving, Texas in 1973. He opened a shop there and he bought the name "Woody Mann" from the original Woody in 1981.

All these years of knowledge Steve has of the industry, is why it's worth the trip to visit his shop. He will tell you honestly what type of machine you have, whether it's worth fixing or if not, what would be best for you and your budget. If you find a machine elsewhere you like and he does not have it, he will get it for you and as he said "I will match the price, up or down - depending". He carries all the major brands and has lots of antique machines if you are so interested. Once you're a customer of his, he will then be your contact for the service that is sorely lacking from the big chains. Neighbors, this is what the backbone of small business is all about!

Steve actually was a neighbor of ours for many years. He lived on the west side of Coit near Clear Haven and Meadowcreek. He has two sons who graduated from Pearce. He really had to think how long ago that was, but I'm sure that Campbell was still the "old road." He is now living in Allen but still has dreams of living closer to work again. I am sure any one of our real estate members can help him there!

When not working, you will more than likely find Steve golfing. This is his passion. I always guessed that is why his shop is closed on Wednesday at 2. I'm sure he's after the twilight rate at one of his favorite courses. His store hours are 9:30 -- 5:30 M, T, Th, F. Saturday he closes at 3. The phone is 972-235-2005.

Next time you have a chance, just stop by, say hi and thanks to our neighbor businessmen, Steve and Randy. They've been a part of our lives for the last 15 years. Wish them the best and hope we have them another 15. As Steve said, the future looks bright, and things are always 'picking up' for him.

## Board Minutes, March 10, 2002

The meeting was called to order by Bernie at 7:10 p.m. The minutes of the last board meeting were approved as read. Helen gave the Treasurer's report. Bernie asked that a monthly activity column be added to the report.

### Old Business:

Financial Review The review is scheduled to be completed before the end of the fiscal year (August 31, 2002).

Easter Egg Hunt The hunt is scheduled Saturday, March 30, rain or shine and an article was in the March newsletter with all the information.

Volunteer Party Bernie will prepare letters in April.

Birds Bernie contacted the city and learned that there is not much that can be done because these are mostly migratory birds that are protected. There was an article in the March newsletter about the matter.

Garage Sale If we have a garage sale it will be scheduled in the fall to avoid conflict with Mohawk's sale.

### New Business:

Battle of the Bands Bernie noted that a Battle of the Bands will be April 6 (6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) at the Pearce field. It will be a charitable event for Scottish Rite Hospital. The students, because of the noise potential, notified us. An article was in the March newsletter.

### Committee Reports:

Membership Art reported that the membership is 356. Art will send the updated database to Bernie as a backup.

Development No report

Beautification Bill will start judging yards in April. There will be a newsletter article with some suggestions.

Newsletter Dee reported that we got a short ad for piano tuning from a non-member resident. Art is recruiting this family for membership and will deliver a newsletter to them. Dee suggested a neighborhood cookbook. Helen suggested an article in the newsletter to build interest.

Safety No report

Internet The newsletters for this year and last year have been archived.

The next Homeowner's Association Presidents meeting will be March 19, 2002 at 7:00 a.m.

The next board meetings will be:

April 14 Bill Little 7:00 p.m.

May 11 Helen Simon (After Volunteer Party)

June 9 Lynn Sanders 7:00 p.m.

Newsletter deadlines will be:

April 12

May 9

June 7

Bernie will write an article for the April newsletter noting that a nominating committee will be named in May and asking for volunteers for various opportunities.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Clark Secretary



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www.mccollumassociates.com

## How Does Your Garden Grow?

By Bill Little VP, Beautification

It's now time to start preparing your yards for the growing season and the monthly judging for Yard of the Month. Tips for April.

- Scalping is recommended to remove the dead end stubble of both St. Augustine and Bermuda grasses.
- Wait until after April 1<sup>st</sup> before you apply a fertilizer. The recommended fertilizer for this area has a ratio of 3-1-2 or 4-1-2 (of the chemicals Nitrogen, Phosphate, and soluble Potash.)
- Applications of fertilizers and weed killers should not be made at the same time.
- Check your sprinkler systems to make sure that each head is in proper working condition. Check for any leaks, cracks, or stopped up heads. Because of all the rain we've had lately, it is not necessary to have your sprinkler system running on a regular basis. Only use your system when it is necessary between rains if your lawn or flowerbed becomes dry. A drip irrigation system is an effective way of watering the flowerbeds.
- I will begin judging your yards at the end of April and will judge each month through the end of August or September, depending on the condition of the lawns at that time. The total look of the yard is evaluated including the way that the grass is mowed and edged, the appearance of your shrub beds, and any extra color items used to accent the whole effect.
- I listen to Neil Sperry whose program airs Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00AM to 11:00AM on AM radio KRLD 1080. He has a weekly e-mail newsletter available at no cost. You can sign up for it on his web site [www.neilsperry.com](http://www.neilsperry.com).
- I'm looking forward to your continued efforts to create yards that will qualify for the Yard of the Month. An attractive well-maintained landscape enhances the value of your home as well as those in the J.J. Pearce neighborhood.



## Thinking of Selling Your Home?

Call your  
Neighborhood  
Experts!

### Ebby Halliday Realtors

7601 Campbell Rd., Suite 700  
Dallas, Tx. 75248

*Kelle Henson*  
972-733-8546  
1112 Grassmere

*Jo Wells*  
972-733-8546  
1119 Chesterton

*Renetta Montgomery*  
972-733-8469

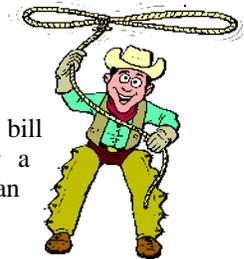
### Mohawk Kindergarten Round-Up

Kindergarten Round Up will be Thursday, April 18 at Mohawk Elementary. Parents may choose an afternoon or evening registration time.

Thursday, April 18 1:30-3:00 and 6:00-7:30.

Please bring the following when you come for pre-enrollment:

- Birth Certificate,
- Social Security Card
- Immunization Record
- Proof of residence: a utility bill (electric, gas or water) or a rental lease if you reside in an apartment



Don't forget the Mohawk Round-Up!  
Thursday April 18<sup>th</sup>



Douglas R. Crosby  
D.D.S., M.S.  
Diplomate, American Board of Orthodontics

1920 N. Coit Road Suite 220 Richardson, TX 75080 972-680-9882  
5509 Pleasant Valley Suite 40 Plano, TX 75023 972-867-0700

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## Crime Talk by Lynn Sanders, VP Safety

I'm sure it's no secret that I get most of the material for this column from the Crime Updates emailed by RPD Crime Prevention Officer John Corbitt to me and our JJ Pearce Crime Watch Coordinators (CWCs). I also occasionally include other information from the RPD that isn't emailed to the CWCs when I come across something I feel is particularly applicable to our residents.

Would you like to get these Crime Updates? Some of our CWCs are forwarding the emails on to the homes in their Crime Watch Area (CWA) for which they have an email address. If you have email capability, and are not already receiving them, contact your CWC and ask him/her to please forward them to you. You can find your CWC and his/her contact information in the JJPHOA Directory. Contact me if you have any difficulty. But, note that our CWCs for Areas 3 and 7 do not have email capability. Therefore, if you are in either of these two CWAs, and have email capability, and want to receive the Crime Updates, let me know your name, street address, and email address and I will forward them to you on behalf of these two CWCs.

Now, on to what's been going on in our neighborhood since our last newsletter. Unfortunately, it has been a fairly active period.

- In the early morning hours of March 16, three different vehicles parked along the curb in the 1100 block of Stratford were vandalized with small landscaping blocks. Two had windshields smashed, and the third had a tail light assembly smashed. The same type of block was used on another vehicle in the Reservation HOA, and thrown through a home window in the 900 block of Melrose on the same early morning.
- Sometime during the night of March 18-19, a vehicle parked in the rear driveway of a home in the 1200 block of Huntington was burglarized. The top of the Jeep Wrangler was cut open, and the removable CD player was taken.
- On March 30, a homeowner in the 1100 block of Grassmere noticed that golf clubs were missing from his garage. The last time the resident saw the clubs was on March 26. The resident believes that the property was taken during one of the times in that period that he had left his garage open and unattended.
- Sometime between 8:45 AM and 5:15 PM on April 2, a home in the 1100 block of Grassmere was burglarized. A large collection of loose change and possibly some video games were apparently all that were taken. It is believed that the perpetrator climbed over the rear fence which had both gates padlocked, attempted forced entry on two rear deadbolted doors before succeeding with entry via a third door which was not deadbolted.

- Many people were curious as to what was going on around 9 PM on April 9 when a helicopter and squad cars, with searchlights, were buzzing around our area. Information is limited, but it was a Dallas PD operation looking for a suspect who had just pulled a theft in the vicinity of Coit and Campbell.

- The local Police Department activity picked up again in our neighborhood just after midnight that same April 9 evening. What was going on this time? A young man was speeding down Campbell in his Camaro, and seeing a Richardson squad car waiting ahead for him, drove through several parking lots and into the JJP area to evade the police. He abandoned the car in the rear driveway of a home on Chesterton. Richardson PD Officers searched the area, but could not locate him. Neither he nor the Camaro reside in the JJP area.

Without elaborating, here are some quick crime prevention tips related to the above recent crimes in our JJP area.

1. Park your vehicles in your rear driveway at night if at all possible. Removable vehicle electronics such as CD players should be removed at night if at all practical.
2. Keep your garage door down when the garage is unattended, even if only for a few minutes.
3. And finally, have engaged deadbolt locks on all outside doors when the home is unoccupied.

It's unfortunate that we have to do it these days, but we all need to have removing the opportunity for crime become a natural part of our thinking.

### Remember –

**Your best defense against crime is a smart offense! Keep doors locked, garage doors closed, and keep alert to what is going on around you.**

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Fax: (972) 234-5702

Email: b.christian@officemax.com

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## ***Information You Can Use!***

### **Tips for Staying on Top of Your Roof Maintenance**

The National Roofing Contractors Association recommends you examine your roof system every spring. Spring is a particularly good time because you can monitor whether the winter weather caused any damage.

Once you're on the ladder (be careful!), you'll want to keep an eye out for the following:

- Any buckling, curling or blistering of the shingles.
- Loose material or wear around chimneys and pipes.
- Excessive amounts of shingle granules in the gutter. The granules provide the shingles with extra weight and protect them from ultraviolet rays.

In addition, check things out inside your house. Look for cracked paint, discolored plasterboard and peeling wallpaper as signs of damaged roof areas.

If you've done your check and find signs of damage, it's best to call in a professional roofing contractor and possibly your insurance agent to determine if either repair work or a new roof is in order.

**Call me for information on how to choose a professional roofer!**

### **Planets to Clump Together in Sky -- Sight Might Not Be Seen Again for Century**

WASHINGTON (April 2) - The five so-called naked eye planets -- Mercury, Venus, Mars, Jupiter and Saturn -- will appear to clump together later this month in a sight that might not be seen again for a century.

But don't call this a planetary alignment. And even though this is fairly rare, there is nothing for earthlings to worry about, astronomer Geoff Chester of the U.S. Naval Observatory said on Tuesday.

The grouping of the five will begin to be visible with unaided eyes around April 20, with the planets clustered closest by around May 4, Chester said by telephone.

"It is an opportunity to see all five of the naked eye planets in the same part of the sky at the same time and that does not happen very often," Chester said. It could be 50 or 100 years before this happens again, he said.

The display should be easy to see in most parts of the inhabited world, weather permitting, though those at extreme northern and southern latitudes may need binoculars or a small telescope, and Mercury could still be hard to spot, he said.

A similar grouping of the same five planets, plus the moon, occurred on May 5, 2000, accompanied by dire predictions of extraordinary tides and other cataclysms. Earth survived.

However, that cluster occurred on the opposite side of the Sun from Earth, and the Sun's light was so bright the planets could not be seen from Earth. This time, most humans should have a good view, Chester said.

What we should be able to see will be Mercury, Venus, Mars and Saturn all grouped within the span of 10 degrees of the sky, or about the width of a fist held at arm's length.

Jupiter will be a bit higher in the sky, about three fist-widths away, but still quite close.

The cluster will start to dissipate around May 12, Chester said, when Mercury will dip closer to the horizon and become less visible.

This grouping is only the planets people can see without help, and does not count as an alignment, according to Chester, though others have used that term.

Chester considers a true alignment to be when all the planets are on the same side of the sun, and grouped within about 90 degrees -- nine fist-widths -- of each other, or closer. This occurs once in several hundred years.

The closest known planetary alignment in the last two millennia occurred on April 11, 1128, before most planets were identified as such, including Earth, according to Chester.

**By Deborah Zabarenko, Reuters**

## CELEBRATE PATRIOTS DAY

### April 19th

We don't celebrate the 19th of April anymore. It was never celebrated in a big monumental way, but we once celebrated that day.

"Hardly a man is now alive  
Who remembers that famous day and year."  
*-so wrote Longfellow in his poem that begins:*

"Listen my children and you shall hear  
Of the midnight ride of Paul Revere,"

Revere and others went forth on the night of April 18, 1775 with the alarm, "The redcoats are coming!" They rode all through the night.

"It was one by the village clock,  
When he galloped into Lexington."  
"It was two by the village clock  
When he came to the bridge in Concord town."

Why was it so immediately important, on the night of April 18, 1775, for all of the people to know that the "redcoats are coming"?

It was the practice in our colonial period for each village to have a "common" or "village green" that was used for public gatherings. The most significant use of the "common" was as a mustering point and drill field for the village militia, "every able bodied man between the ages of 16 and 60 years." The militia was trained (as they termed it, "disciplined" and "well regulated") in the use of arms, here at the village green. The militia provided protection for individuals and property of the village against all threats. A man would spend some time in the "gaol" if he missed a militia call. The militia, each man, was required to keep and bear his own arms. It was common for the militia to maintain a community armory for the storage of shot, powder, flint, additional small arms and any heavy arms that it might afford. Individuals could draw from these supplies as needed, as well as acquiring their own private supplies.

On the night of April 18, 1775, Governor Gage (British Governor of fortress Boston) ordered British "redcoats" to march to the many surrounding villages, to seize and destroy all stores of munitions and to arrest the country leaders, the "arch-conspirators."

British Major Pitcairn led the march into the countryside. The prime objective was to still the voice of the people, disarm them and make them more servile. Rebellion must stop, they said.

So, Revere took to horse to give the alarm: "To arms, to arms, the redcoats are coming!"

Early on the morning of the 19th of April, 1775, Major Pitcairn's "redcoats" arrived at Lexington and met Captain John Parker's company of colonial militia drawn-up on

the meetinghouse green.

"By the rude bridge that arched the flood,  
Their flag to April's breeze unfurled,  
Hence once the embattled farmers stood  
And fired the shot heard round the world."  
*-so wrote Emerson in 1837.*

Some colonials were wounded and some were killed. Resistance to the larger British force proved futile. Pitcairn's return march to Boston became a humiliating rout as our colonial militiamen, Minutemen and individual countrymen harassed the British column from behind stone walls, rocks and trees, every step of the way.

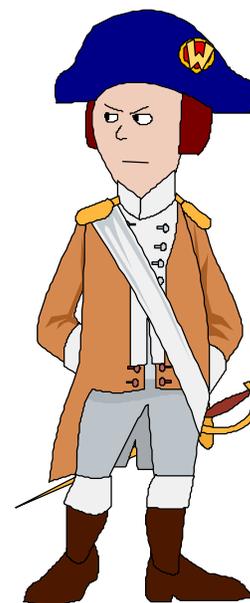
The shot heard round the world, the first shot in our fight for independence from King George's slavery, was fired to protect and defend the natural right of men to protect themselves, to keep and bear arms for the purpose of preserving liberty. This right to keep and bear arms was codified on the 15th of December 1791 when it became the Second Amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America.

We don't celebrate the 19th of April anymore. Perhaps we should.

"That memory may their deed redeem,  
When, like our sires, our sons are gone.  
Spirit, that made those heroes dare  
To die, and leave their children free."  
*-Emerson, 1837*

By E. James Adkins

[www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Lobby/1797/patriot.htm](http://www.geocities.com/CapitolHill/Lobby/1797/patriot.htm)



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**Business ads** must be paid for in advance. Checks should be made payable to J. J. Pearce Homeowners Association. Contact Dee Russum, 1102 Pueblo, phone 972-235-1961 or e-mail: jrussum@aol.com

Rates per newsletter, based on 8 1/2 X 11" page.

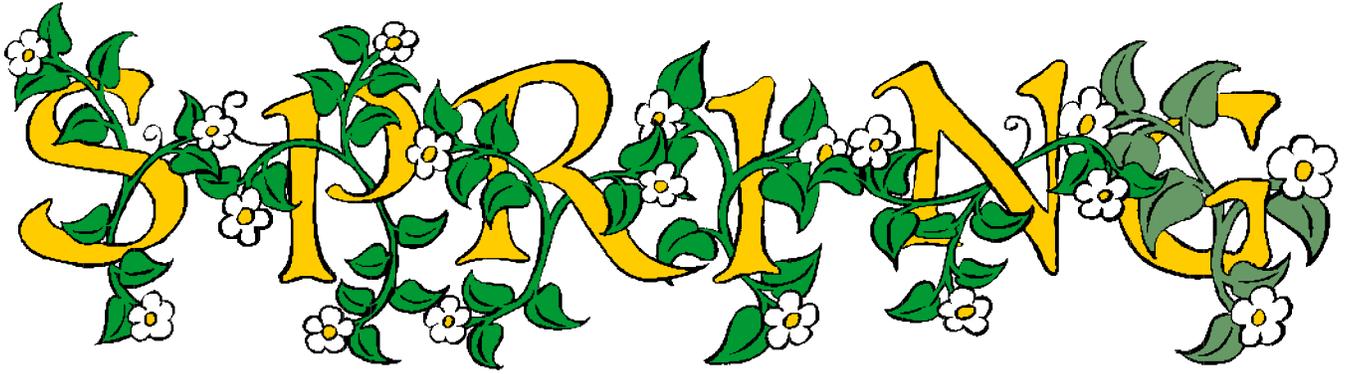
<b>Business card</b> (2 x 3 1/2")	<b>\$10.00</b>
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**Youth ads** from Association members' children for services such as baby-sitting, lawn care; etc. will be printed free of charge. All ads will ultimately be placed at the discretion of the Board, and as space permits.

**PLEASE PATRONIZE OUR ADVERTISER**

### Local Events include:

<b>Date</b>	<b>Event/Location</b>
<b>April</b>	
16	Softball vs Lancaster 5:00pm at Pearce
	Baseball vs West Mesquite 7:00pm at Pearce
18	Kindergarten Enrollment Roundup 1:30pm–3:00pm, 6:00pm-7:30pm at Mohawk
19	Softball vs Highland Park 5:00pm at Pearce
23	Choir Spring Concert 7:30pm at Pearce
	Baseball vs Lancaster 7:00pm at Pearce
<b>May</b>	
3	<b>School holiday</b> (or snow makeup day)
8	Footloose 2:00pm at Pearce
9	Footloose 7:30pm at Pearce
10	North Choir Pop show
	Footloose 7:30pm at Pearce
11	North Choir Pop show
	Footloose 7:30pm at Pearce
12	Footloose 2:00pm at Pearce
14	North Orchestra Concert 7:30pm at PHS
17	North "Farewell Dance" 7:00-10:00pm (9 <sup>th</sup> only 9:00-10:00) at North
20	Band Meyerson Concert 8:00pm at the Meyerson Symphony Center
24	North Faculty vs Freshman Basketball Game 2:45pm at North



**The website ([www.jjphoa.org](http://www.jjphoa.org)) is temporarily unavailable at this time.**



**J.J. Pearce Homeowners Association  
1411 Huntington  
Richardson, Texas 75080**

**Board Meetings: May 11 at 5:00 PM, 1314 Huntington  
June 9 at 7:00 PM, 1128 Grassmere  
July 7 at 7:00 PM, 1300 Huntington**

**BOARD MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO MEMBERS**