

J. J. Pearce Homeowners Association Newsletter

Website: www.jjphoa.org

July 2004

News from the City

- Richardson Regional Medical Center is one of two companies to win the 2004 Texas Award for Performance Excellence by the Quality Texas Foundation. RRMC is the first hospital in Texas to have received this award, which uses a Baldrige-based methodology to recognize organizations that achieve and sustain world-class performance. <http://www.texas-quality.org/>
 - Sherrill Park Course I has been named a four-star course by Golf Digest. That places it in the top 10-15% of courses in the country!
 - Quiet zones may be coming to all Richardson railroad crossings. Federal regulations are being finalized and should be approved by the end of the year specifying the safety requirements for silent at-grade rail crossings. Once the regulations are finalized Richardson hopes to be one of the first cities to be entirely whistle free.
 - In June the North Texas Clean Air Coalition recognized the City of Richardson, and Texas instruments, as the first employers in North Texas for the EPA approved list of **North Texas' Best Workplaces for Commuterssm** list. (See "Try Parking It" on page 2.)
 - An election to permit alcohol sales in Richardson restaurants without private club memberships is scheduled for September 11. You must be registered by August 12 to be able to vote in this election. Early voting will be August 25-September 7.
 - According to the preliminary tax rolls for 2004, Richardson residential property values rose about 3% over last year, but office vacancies are keeping the total Richardson property tax base depressed. Last year the tax base dropped 6.5% from the preliminary roll to the final certified values, so downward adjustments are expected again this year. Last year the final certified tax values were down 2.39% compared to the previous year's final values and they could be down that much again this year. This affects both the City and RISD.
 - Business personal property taxes are also down because vacant office space is also vacant of taxable property. These were down 16% last year and will be down about 3% more this year. Business and personal property taxes represent about 25% of total property values. Richardson normally has a relatively high property tax base. The business vacancies not only depress the base, but what is a blessing when the economy is good is hitting us harder than other Metroplex cities that aren't as fortunate as we are.
- The City budget should be filed on July 6 and will have to take the tax base projections into account. Once the budget is "filed" copies of the proposed budget are available to the public via the city Secretary. Public hearings will be scheduled.
 - Sales tax revenues are about 2% greater than were budgeted.

Parade and Picnic

July 5, 10 AM

(Parade forms at 9:50 AM)

Independence Day gets celebrated on two days this year. Since the 4th of July is on a Sunday, the legal holiday falls on Monday, July 5 this year!

We'll celebrate with our very own parade and picnic on Monday morning, July 5, the legal holiday this year. Once again we will be joining forces with The Reservation Homeowners Association to celebrate and commemorate the birth of our country and the ideals, which are the essence of the United States of America. The parade will form near the tennis courts on Senior Way at **9:50 AM on Monday, July 5, and proceed down Mimosa to the park.** We expect to be joined by a number of City Council members who will be attending. We will have two police bicycle officers, a fire truck and a patrol car. We'll have a bounce house, and a train for small children. Boy Scouts and Cub Scouts will lead the parade.

Decorate your bicycle. Wave a flag. Drive a classic car, or just have fun. Don't forget some sunscreen. Wear something patriotic and join the parade to Mimosa Park, or join us at the park for a picnic. **The Homeowners Associations will provide water, hotdogs and fixin's.** You are welcome to bring a dessert to share.

It is warm outside in July, so desserts that don't wilt or melt will fare best. Don't be late. The picnic will end at noon, so you'll have plenty of time to enjoy the rest of the day.



See you all there!

Block Captains Needed!
Marc Perlstein, VP Membership

Our Homeowner’s Association is very respected in the City of Richardson due to our large percentage of members for a voluntary Association. If you remember, ours is strictly voluntary, as opposed to the growing number of mandatory Associations in the City. If you live in some neighborhoods, you don’t have a choice. Even with our voluntary membership, we still manage to attract 75% of our households year after year. I’m not going to go into all the benefits of membership now, (I’ll save that for another month), but one of the advantages we have are great volunteers who help with the membership drive each year.

Our Block Captains are a large reason why we enjoy the membership levels that we do. The actual time expended by block captains is small but very important. Each year as the membership drive starts to wind down, the Block Captains get started making phone calls, sending e-mails, or knocking on doors to bring in those last minute procrastinators. (You know who you are!)

Here’s where we need help. We have a few streets without Captains. (These are in bold face type.) I’m going to list everyone that I have in my files below. If I have an opening, and you can help out, please let me know. If I have you down by mistake and you want to be removed, just send in an e-mail at mperl112@aol.com or phone at 972-970-9208.

Chesterton	1100 thru 1129	Open
Chesterton	1200 thru 1221	Open
Chesterton	1300 thru 1319	Open
Chesterton	1400 thru 1419	Lyn Levin
Edith Cr.	1089 thru 1137	Open
Eton Dr.	1100 thru 1129	Open
Eton Dr.	1200 thru 1221	Sam Kormos
Grassmere	1102 thru 1128	John Awezec
Grassmere	1101 thru 1129	Open
Grassmere	1201 thru 1221	Jane Greer
Grassmere	1200 thru 1229	Marc Perlstein
Huntington	1100 thru 1129	Open
Huntington	1200 thru 1224	Bill Little
Huntington	1300 thru 1317	John Sadowski
Huntington	1400 thru 1417	Bernie Mayoff
Lilac Ct.	1902 thru 1908	AlNix
Melrose	1100 thru 1132	Greg Immel
Mimosa		Art Middlebrook
N. Cheyenne	1500 thru 1810	Open
Pueblo Dr.	1100 thru 1129	Dee Russum
Stratford	1100 thru 1129	David Gibbs
Stratford	1200 thru 1221	Judi McGregor
Violet Pl.	1902 thru 1909	AlNix

Nominating Committee at work

The Nominating Committee members, Bill Little and Art Middlebrook, are busy with the nominating process. If you’re interested in serving on our Board, you can reach Bill at 972-690-6315; blclkc@aol.com; and Art at 972-235-1731, amid937@swbell.net. Please contact them, or any current officer. The Slate will be published in the August and September issues of the newsletter, and elections will take place at our annual meeting in September.

Try Parking It

You might win a prize for helping us all breathe easier. North Texas commuters who “try parking it” this summer could win free airline tickets or other exciting prizes. Between now and August 31, for every day that you ride public transportation, carpool, vanpool, bicycle, walk or telecommute to work instead of driving you can enter The Commuter Challenge contest.

The City of Richardson and Texas Instruments have both been recognized for their support of initiatives like The Commuter Challenge. The City and TI have been named to the **North Texas Best Workplaces for Commuters**sm list. The list showcases North Texas employers that offer superior commuting benefits to employees that help relieve traffic congestion, air pollution and stress. The award is presented by the North Texas Clean Air Coalition (NTCAC). Oh, yes. There is a third important employer on the North Texas Best Workplaces list: the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 6.

www.commuterchoice.gov/campaign/northtexas.htm

You are allowed one entry per day for each day you participate in The Commuter Challenge. To enter just go to www.tryparkingit.com/

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www.bikemart.com

Richardson
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 Toll Free 1-800-600-3993
 Fax 972-234-5724

Dallas
 9040 Garland Road, Dallas, TX 75218
 Telephone 214-321-0705
 Fax 214-320-8666

Frisco
 8820 John Hickman, Frisco, TX 75035
 Telephone 972-335-7600
 Fax 214-619-0765

Campbell Road Underpass

Sometimes there really is a silver lining even in a bleak situation. In this case the bleak situation is the employment downturn at Nortel, MCI, Cisco Systems and other Richardson employers. While their employment rates are down and office vacancy rates are high, traffic at Campbell Road and Central Expressway is not nearly as congested as it was — or as it will be when the business climate recovers. But there is a much bigger and more significant silver lining than this temporary easing of traffic congestion and air pollution. That silver lining is a longer-term solution to the traffic problem.

Federal, state and county funds have been allocated to create a Campbell Road underpass at Central Expressway. These funds have been allocated based on recommendations of the North Central Texas Council of Governments. Factors considered in prioritizing this project and allocating the funds included:

- Population and traffic projections
- Benefits to secondary and neighborhood roadways
- Reduction in air pollution now and in the future
- Availability of governmental funds for pollution abatement
- Need to meet federal and state air quality requirements. Dallas, Collin, Denton and Tarrant are currently out of compliance.

The commitment of funds and the current downturn in employment converge to provide a window of opportunity to create a high volume solution with a minimum of disruption to current commuters. Design alternatives are currently being considered and should be completed by next year. The next phase will be the relocation of utilities. The third phase, expected to take about 24 months, will be the actual construction of the underpass. The total project is estimated at about \$25M with the city's portion at \$2M for utility relocation and landscaping. Fortunately almost all of the right of way is already publicly owned.

Three alternatives are being considered. One is a tunnel, similar in appearance to the Spring Valley tunnel. A second alternative is a shorter tunnel with more open-ramp areas. The third alternative is an underpass that remains open to the air for its entire length. The open-air alternative is the one generally favored by area businesses and is also the least expensive and easiest to construct. In all three alternatives access to the area businesses will be preserved through crossovers and u-turn lanes.

It is obvious that there are benefits to Campbell Road traffic going straight through the intersection. What may not be as obvious are the benefits to traffic turning onto or off of Central Expressway. Because of the reduced east-west through traffic trying to get through the traffic signals, the

traffic signals will be adjusted to better serve the turning traffic in all directions.

There will, of course be some disruption during construction, but it will not be comparable to the Spring Valley construction project. The utility work on Campbell Road is much easier to accomplish and the Campbell Road right of way is wider than the Spring Valley right of way, so there should be at least two lanes open in both directions at all times. And of course now that the Spring Valley tunnel construction is complete, if you've used that underpass or that intersection you've seen the vast improvement. What you may not know is that the Spring Valley intersection is carrying 31% more traffic now and it is all moving faster.

If you have any questions about this article contact Bernie at bernie@mayoff.com, or 972-669-9169.



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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Orthodontics for adults and children

Iraq Care Packages

Recently, one of our association members brought us 12 bags full of items that we have delivered to the Police Department to be sent to our soldiers in Iraq! Imagine our delight at so many things. This member has a son who was deployed to Afghanistan very early in the war on terror, and has served several tours in Iraq. He suggested many different items that he knew our soldiers would be pleased to get. Such things as paper and envelopes for letters home, small sample sized bottles of shampoo, lotion, and mouthwash along with small bars of soap and toothpaste and toothbrushes. Small fabric bags with zippers for their toiletries, brushes and combs.

Another member brought 3 more bags to add to the many he'd already brought. He wished this had been done for Viet Nam soldiers.

We will continue to accept items from our members. Our most heartfelt thanks to ALL members who have contributed to this cause.

We have a fantastic membership!

CRIME / SAFETY TALK

By Thom Pomella, VP Safety

CRIMEWATCH COORDINATOR VOLUNTEER POSITIONS FILLED

Both vacant CrimeWatch Coordinator positions have been filled. Paul Harwell will be the new coordinator for Area 10. Rick Regan will take over Area 14. Welcome aboard Paul and Rick. I am looking forward to working with both of you.

RECENT CRIME

There was some crime that should have been reported last month, but was received after the newsletter was published. There are some new reports also.

- Sometime between 5/5 and 5/28, a pool sweep was stolen from the backyard swimming pool at a residence in the 1100 blk of Eton Drive. The resident was out of town during the time frame. (-43546)
- Between 5/27, 7 PM, and 5/28, 1 PM, someone stole a set of golf clubs from the trunk of a vehicle parked on the rear driveway of a residence in the 1100 blk of Eton Drive. The car's doors were left unlocked, which allowed unhindered access to the trunk release. (-43228)
- On 6/15, between 11 AM and 3 PM, someone broke a window on a vehicle parked on the rear driveway of a residence in the 1200 blk of Chesterton Dr and stole the removable stereo faceplate. (-48731)
- On 6/15, between 6:30 PM and midnight, someone entered an unlocked vehicle parked on the rear driveway of a residence in the 1100 blk of Chesterton Dr and stole the CD stereo and a speaker box. (-48772)
- On 6/17, around 3 PM, six to seven juvenile boys engaged in a "paintball war" at Mohawk Elementary, according to a nearby roofing crew. Several doors, windows, exterior brick walls, and the playground equipment of the school were splattered with pink and yellow paint. The RISD will have to dispatch a clean-up crew to address the damage. (-49269)
- Sometime between 6/26 and 6/28 someone drove their vehicle down the sidewalk and the grass on the north side of N Cheyenne between Chesterton and Eton, leaving tire trenches on the lawn and parkway strip.

There were Scam Attempts made in our neighborhood in the last two weeks. Reprinted below is the e-mail alert that went out to all in the HOA with e-mail addresses listed with the HOA:

Wednesday evening, June 17, someone attempted to perpetrate a scam on at least two of our homeowners. A young man knocked on the front door of a home on

Huntington and said he was a new neighbor from a few doors away and was out of gas for his car. He asked for cash to buy gas. The homeowner said they didn't have any cash. The perpetrator then asked if they had any gasoline they could give him. Again the answer was no. At that the perpetrator left and returned to a nearby car and drove off. At approximately the same time a similar event occurred a block away on Chesterton. The descriptions of the perpetrators are different, and the stories are slightly different, but the scam is the same. Sounds like a team.

Both residents wisely called the police and notified a couple of neighbors. The residents knew that there were no new neighbors in the area. This was a scam attempt. If the residents had gone to get cash or gasoline there is a good chance that something would have turned up missing from the home while the resident was away from the front door. There is no cause for alarm, but we wanted you to be aware of this event. That is what Neighborhood Crime Watch is all about. In the unlikely event that you should be approached in a similar scam please be sure to notify the police. If you can do it safely try to obtain a description of the perpetrator and of their car. Richardson police will be increasing patrols in the area.

CRIME PREVENTION... REMOVING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE CRIME TO OCCUR

SOME REMINDERS

When walking your dog, you are required to clean up after it. This is not an option, but a requirement of pet ownership within the city. I have had some complaints called in on this problem.

Sec. 5-10. Duty of owners and persons in control and protection of animals

It shall be unlawful for any owner or person to:

- Allow an animal under such person's control or ownership to defecate on any private or public property not owned by the person having control of the animal without the immediate removal of any and all feces. Any person aggrieved by such conduct shall file a complaint on a form provided by the city with the director of health or the director's designee. The complaint shall contain the name and address of the person who is alleged to have violated this provision. The person filing the complaint shall appear as a witness in the municipal court.

(Code 1966, § 3-3; Ord. No. 3056-A, § 1, 11-13-95)

Some of the trees in the neighborhood are growing out of control.

Sec. 20-62. Overhang of trees restricted.

- Trees shall be trimmed so as to avoid causing a hazard to public places. The minimum overhang shall be 7 feet above sidewalks, 9 feet at top of

(Continued on page 5.)

(Continued from page 4.)

street curb, 11 feet above the gutter line, and 14 feet above the street surface at the outside edge of the parking lane.

F.Y.I.

To help scooter owners, pedestrians and drivers remain safe while having fun, the city has enacted a safety ordinance and the police department is working to educate riders. The **motor-assisted scooter ordinance** went into effect May 24, 2004.



- A person 12 years of age or older who does not hold a valid drivers license must have a Richardson Police Department issued "scooter permit".
- The permit must be carried on person while operating the scooter.
- To receive a scooter permit you must view a safety education video and pass a written test.
- A person 12 years of age or older may ride on a public roadway not wider than 27 feet with a maximum speed limit of 30 MPH.
- A person 12 years of age or older may cross an intersection where the cross street has a speed limit greater than 30 MPH. (ex... Yale Blvd at Arapaho Rd.)
- A gas-powered scooter may not exceed 40cc engine displacement.
- A person under 12 years of age may only ride on public sidewalks.
- A person under 12 years of age is not required to hold a city issued scooter permit.
- A State or Federal approved helmet must be worn while operating a motor-assisted scooter. Bicycle helmet preferred.
- At this time there are no trails in Richardson where a motor-assisted scooter may be ridden. A scooter may not be ridden in city parks.
- Any violation of this ordinance or related city ordinances could result in a suspension of your scooter permit and or a maximum \$200.00 fine.
- The video and test will be available August 2004.

More information, and several tips for safe riding, are available in the police department section of the Richardson website at www.cor.net/pd/Notices/Scooter.html. And if you see a tall man who looks a lot like our police chief riding about town on a scooter, it really is our police chief.

I.M.H.O. (IN MY HUMBLE OPINION)

This really has nothing to do with crime, but I need to vent. I drive through our entire neighborhood on a daily basis. On my daily drive I notice all kinds of things, both good and bad. Some of the neighborhood yards have been professionally landscaped. They really look beautiful, until you notice the eyesore that the landscaper has left behind. They left behind their advertising sign. I could see the sign left there for about a week after they finish their work. They are proud of the fine work they do. After a week, the sign needs to go away. If you have one in your yard, please remove it and give it back to the landscaper. It makes the neighborhood look bad. Of course this is just my opinion and I could be wrong.

(Editor's note:

I agree with the above statement; however, I would also like to add other signs such as Garage Sale signs that are left up way past the date of the sale, lost animals signs and any other signs that have faded and are unreadable. There are many and they clutter our streets.)

Our annual Parade and Picnic July 5th 10 AM (Parade forms at 9:50 AM)



See you there!

Greetings from VP Beautification

By Phil Meeker

July is vacation month. Why not become your own tour guide? Explore, see spectacular horticultural displays at the Dallas Arboretum, walk through acres of blooming, native water plants in the lagoon at Fair Park across from the Dallas Museum of Natural History and don't forget the award winning water gardens in downtown Dallas at Fountain Place. If you would like to see roses flourish and inhale their fragrance; take a day trip to:

Antique Rose Emporium
Route 5
Brenham, TX 77833
(409) 836-9051

What's going on now.

- **Grubs.** The mating of June beetles is pretty well over and their offspring (Grub Larva) is burrowing into the soil. They will be dining on the roots of your grass soon. You will not see visible lawn damage till it's too late. Either late fall or early spring. When you can pull on a patch of brown grass and it pulls up in mats without visible roots, you have grubs. Dig a few inches into the soil and you will find the hibernating critters. To tell if you have grubs now: Select a 1 square foot area of the lawn where thin grass is and turn over all of that area about 2 inches deep – you won't miss the grubs. One in a St. Augustine lawn is a problem. Four or five in Bermuda is a problem. No grubs...no problem. You might want to check other areas. There are many chemical products on the market to apply now (while the grubs are immature). Be sure to read and follow all instructions and don't allow any chemical drift to get into fish pools or the creek. All of these products are toxic to aquatic mammals.
- **Aphids.** Do cars parked under your trees get sticky? Or, do you notice sticky shiny leaves on tender leaves of plants? If so, you have Aphids. Control by releasing ladybugs. Follow releasing instructions and when you purchase make sure they are alive and they don't stink. This is a fun activity to do with the kids and grand kids.
- **Water.** Water those hanging baskets everyday. House plants summering outside...check for water everyday. As of June 24 the Dallas Morning News recorded 6.48 inches of rain month to date and rain is in the forecast through the end of the month. The best way to monitor watering is to visually inspect your planting beds and lawn areas to maintain a constant level of moist soil.

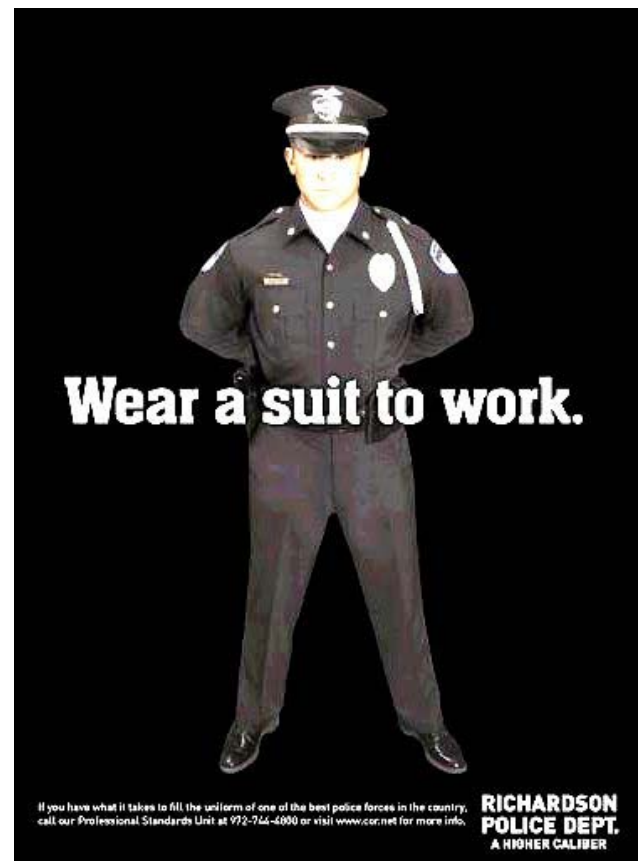
It's getting more challenging to pick yard of the month, great job folks! You can view the winners on page 7, and in color on the web site at www.jjphoa.org.

HOT TIP: All of the nurseries are having huge inventory reduction sales at up to 75% off; make a visit to Calloways, North Haven Gardens, Shades of Green and Redenta's plus many others. And there are no crowds.

Coming next month:

The self-seeding garden and how to build gardening beds to last at least 10 years!

GET OUT THERE AND PLANT!



Wear a suit to work.

If you have what it takes to fill the uniform of one of the best police forces in the country, call our Professional Standards Unit at 972-744-4890 or visit www.cor.net for more info.

**RICHARDSON
POLICE DEPT.**
A HIGHER CALIBER

If you are a highly motivated, career minded individual seeking employment in a progressive, professional policing organization, the Richardson, Texas Police Department invites you to begin the application process today. To contact a recruiter call 972-744-4894. The next scheduled Civil Service Exam for Apprentice Police Officer will be July 12, 2004.

The winners this month are ...



1102 Melrose, Mike Walker



1127 Stratford, Will & Cindy Neinast



1220 Eton, Jim & Shirley Ricker



1906 Violet, Ron & Sharon Easky



1909 Violet, Jim & Wilena Grigsby

Photos taken by Bernie Mayoff and may be seen in color on the web site: www.jjphoa.org

Minutes of Board Meeting, June 2, 2004

Bernie Mayoff called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m. at his home.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last Board meeting were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report

Helen Simon presented the Treasurer's report. It was approved as presented. Helen reminded everyone to let her know of any expenses that need to be paid.

Old Business

- The annual Association meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 22 at 7:30 pm at Mohawk Elementary School.
- The Boy Scouts will carry the flag to lead the Independence Day Parade.
- Renetta Montgomery has agreed to place the flags in the neighborhood for the 4th of July.

New Business

- Pearce Mimosa landscaping. A homeowner has asked about possible landscaping along the fence on Mimosa Drive. The board will contact the school district about this.

Committee Reports

- Development: Bernie reported the batting cages at Pearce were approved.
- Newsletter: Dee reported there are 2 new ½ page ads.
- Safety: Thom reported there were 3 incidents recently. There are plans for a Crime Watch coordinators meeting to be held prior to National Night Out.
- Beautification: Per Phil, yard of the month pictures are on the web site.

The next Homeowner's Association President's meeting will be June 15 at 7 a.m.

Next Board meetings are as follows.

- July 1 at Chris Bruckner's house
- August 1 at John Sadowski's house.

The meeting adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Nancy De La Garza, Secretary

We hear from our readers



Dilemma:

Our last newsletter suggests that we use the alley exit closest to our house. There are two houses between our house and Coit Road. Every time we go somewhere we have to play Russian roulette to get out of the alley* onto Coit. We have timed the vehicles on Coit whizzing past our alley entrance several times during the day and most of the cars are at speeds of 45 to 55 mph

You have to stop your car with the front bumper on the edge of Coit, and wait for an interruption in traffic to get onto Coit. With your car stopped as indicated above, as you look south at the oncoming traffic, you can see a maximum of 227 feet to the south. If the oncoming car is traveling 50 mph then the driver of the "alley" car has just 3.1 seconds to turn right onto Coit. Large cars like most of the cars on Chesterton and Huntington can't make that turn and stay in the right hand lane in less than the 3.1 seconds. A Cadillac, a Lincoln, and a large SUV can't make that turn and get up to speed in less than 7 seconds.

The only safe way is to wait until rush hour and the traffic is stopped for the light at Campbell, then look pleadingly at the oncoming traffic and someone will let you in. With the advent of cell phones many of the oncoming drivers are talking on their cell phones and are not concentrating 100% on their safety.

The Richardson police department has designated a person to study the situation and visit with me on solutions, and there are some. However, the policeman has suggested that we drive east on the alley and exit on Mimosa. **Hence the dilemma.**

Solutions.

If the city would widen the curve on the exit, then the car entering Coit can be positioned at a 45 degree angle and can negotiate that turn easily without infringing on the second lane over plus they can see farther to the south and can time a more judicious entry.

The small speed limit sign 500 yards to the south just doesn't help a bit.

I would like other users of this alley to offer a solution.

Phil and Mary Alice Hurd (972-690-0442)

*Alley between Chesterton and Huntington



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Our Independence Day begins on July 5th, at 10 AM with the parade and culminates at Mimosa Park for our annual picnic. Join the fun!



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The Story of Independence Day

Independence Day is the national holiday of the United States of America commemorating the signing of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

At the time of the signing the US consisted of 13 colonies under the rule of England's King George III. There was growing unrest in the colonies concerning the taxes that had to be paid to England. This was commonly referred to as "Taxation without Representation" as the colonists did not have any representation in the English Parliament and had no say in what went on. As the unrest grew in the colonies, King George sent extra troops to help control any rebellion. In 1774 the 13 colonies sent delegates to Philadelphia Pennsylvania to form the First Continental Congress. The delegates were unhappy with England, but were not yet ready to declare war.

The following May the colonies again sent delegates to the Second Continental Congress. For almost a year the congress tried to work out its differences with England, again without formally declaring war.

By June 1776 their efforts had become hopeless and a committee was formed to compose a formal declaration of independence. Headed by Thomas Jefferson, the committee included John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Philip Livingston and Roger Sherman. Thomas Jefferson was chosen to write the first draft which was presented to the congress on June 28. After various changes a vote was taken late in the afternoon of July 4th. Of the 13 colonies, 9 voted in favor of the Declaration, 2 - Pennsylvania and South Carolina voted No, Delaware undecided and New York abstained.

The following day, copies of the Declaration were distributed. The first newspaper to print the Declaration was the Pennsylvania Evening Post on July 6, 1776. On July 8th the Declaration had its first public reading in Philadelphia's Independence Square. Twice that day the Declaration was read to cheering crowds and pealing church bells. Even the bell in Independence Hall was rung. The "Province Bell" would later be renamed "Liberty Bell" after its inscription – *Proclaim Liberty Throughout All the Land Unto All the Inhabitants Thereof*

www.holidays.net/independence/story.htm



The Liberty Bell

Myths abound surrounding the Liberty Bell. Stories are told as to when it first rang, what caused the crack, and the last time its tone was heard. Regardless of the myths, however, the significance of the Liberty Bell to the American Revolution and the early republic will forever mark it as one of the **key symbols** of independence.

History of the Liberty Bell

In 1751, the Assembly of the Province of Pennsylvania ordered a bell from Whitechapel* Foundry in England, to weigh roughly 2000 pounds. Ironically, the inscription chosen for the bell a full quarter century before the revolution read: "*Proclaim Liberty throughout all the land unto all the inhabitants thereof. . .*"

Fate, it seemed, had cast the bell's destiny as a symbol of the Revolution as surely as the foundry had cast its form.

The legend of the bell cracking the first time it was rung is historically accurate, although it occurred in March of 1753, not on the Fourth of July. Colonists attempted to return the bell to England, but when the ship's master was unable to load it on board, they had to settle for adding copper to the bell's metal alloy. Unfortunately, this deadened its tone.

A second recasting corrected that problem and the bell, then known as the State House Bell, was hung in Philadelphia's State House until 1777. It was temporarily removed to Allentown, PA during the threat of British invasion of Philadelphia, and subsequently returned in the summer of 1778.

When and how did the bell ring its last? While romance and legend have attached it to the tolling to mark the passing of Chief Justice John Marshall in 1835, the celebration of Washington's Birthday, the signing of the Constitution and other historical events, the actual date may never be known. What is certain is the crack line follows the line of the clapper and may have been the result of improper operation.

Nonetheless, the Liberty Bell has, in a very real sense, tolled the beginning of American Independence and even to this day stands as a universal symbol proclaiming freedom from tyranny.

*Whitechapel Foundry also Produced the Great Bell of Westminster, more commonly known as "Big Ben" and as much a symbol to England as the Liberty Bell is to America.

www.fourth-of-july-celebrations.com/html/liberty_bell.html

Taking things to heart in the 1200 Block of Stratford

Two neighbors had a discussion after Thom's July newsletter advice on how important neighbors are to each other, and what is necessary to keep the lines of communication open, so "*Safety in Neighbors*" was the theme for our Block Party on June 13, from 4 PM until ??? We all brought covered dishes, chairs, tables, and smokers to the street!!! We played for three hours, met 4 new neighbors, and many that lived on different ends of the street that we have never met. It was a great success for our 1st Annual 1200 Stratford Block Party. We plan to have our 2nd Block Party sometime in October, as it was a little warm...and have an October Fest!

The city has a permit process that takes up to two weeks for approval, and they delivered the barricades for us to use on both street entrances, and picked them up on Monday.

How easy it was, and how important it is for our neighborhood safety. We are building a necessary bridge of respect for our neighbors safety, and what a wonderful neighborhood it is to be proud of!! (Sent by Judi McGregor)



Pictures taken by Judi McGregor and may be seen in color on the web site: www.jjphoa.org


**Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenses
For the Period September 1, 2003 to June 30, 2004**

	Month Ended June 30, 2004	Year to Date Actual June 30, 2004	Year To Date Budget
Cash Receipts			
Membership Dues	\$0.00	\$5,115.00	\$4,950.00
Dividends	12.74	109.48	100.00
Advertising-Newsletter	200.00	1,250.00	900.00
Contributions		5.00	
Total Receipts	\$212.74	\$6,479.48	\$5,950.00
Expenses			
Crime Watch			
Metrocall	21.85	218.50	218.50
Membership			
Annual Meeting		159.00	159.00
Binders			100.00
Board Planning Meeting		289.08	200.00
Directory Printing		526.97	320.00
Directory Delivery		30.00	30.00
Social Events			
December Decorations		64.44	125.00
Easter		112.63	100.00
Volunteer Party		245.50	275.00
Newsletter			
Printing, etc.	240.90	2,150.10	2,198.60
Delivery	60.00	615.00	630.00
Other Expenses			
Contributions		687.34	235.00
Federal Income Tax		13.00	25.00
Miscellaneous		4.20	82.50
Total Expenses	\$322.75	\$5,115.76	\$4,698.60
Net Income (Loss)	-\$110.01	\$1,363.72	\$1,251.40

Fund Balances

	Checking	Vanguard	Totals
Beginning Balances - 6/1/04	\$337.85	\$17,784.64	18,122.49
Add receipts	200.00	12.74	212.74
Transfers	1,000.00	-1,000.00	
Less Disbursements	322.75		322.75
Ending Balances - 6/30/04	\$1,215.10	\$16,797.38	\$18,012.48

Respectfully Submitted, Helen Simon, Treasurer, July 1, 2004



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VP Beautification	Phil Meeker	972-690-4677	jmeeker@americorp.com
VP Membership	Marc Perlstein	972-907-9208	mperl112@aol.com
Secretary	Nancy De La Garza	972-783-6462	delern@aol.com
Treasurer	Helen Simon	972-234-2443	helen@simon-says.net
		972-234-8009	(business phone)
Newsletter	Dee Russum	972-235-1961	ddrussum@comcast.net
Webmaster	John Sadowski	972-238-9826	jcsadowski@aol.com

Newsletter Advertising

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: ddrussum@comcast.net


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

Business card (2 x 3 1/2 ")	\$10.00
1/4 page	\$20.00
1/2 page	\$40.00
Full page	\$75.00

Any business ad purchased for a full year receives a free ad in the directory.

Local Events July - August include:

Date	Event	Time/Location
July		
4	Signal2Noise concert	7:00pm, Breckenridge Park
	Community Band Concert	8:35pm, Breckenridge Park
	Fireworks, www.cor.net/July4.html	9:35pm, Breckenridge Park
5	Parade and Picnic	9:50AM-noon, Pearce/Mimosa park
18	Community Band Concert – Sousa	7:00pm, Civic Center lawn
August		
1	Community Band Concert	7:00pm, Civic Center lawn
15	Community Band Concert	7:00pm, Civic Center lawn
19	School begins	
21	Pearce V, JV, 9 th football vs Kimball	10:00am, Pearce
26	North 9 th football vs Flower Mound	6:00pm, Pearce



WAYNE PERRY
Store Director

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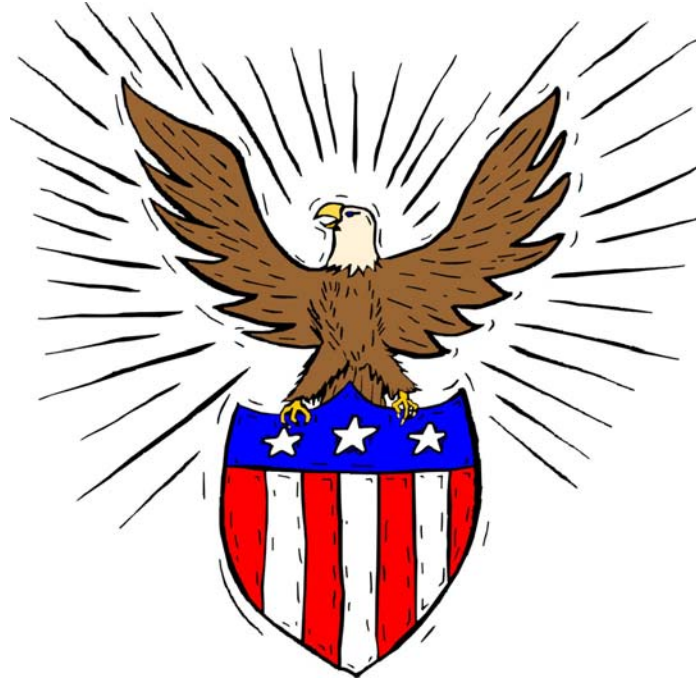
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BRETT CHRISTIAN
Commercial Account Manager



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See you at the parade and picnic -- July 5, 10 AM
Parade forms at 9:50AM, kicks off promptly at 10AM



Land of the Free, Home of the Brave



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

Board Meetings: August 1, 1221 Huntington, 7:00pm
August 29, 1102 Pueblo, 7:00pm

Annual Meeting: September 22, Mohawk Elementary, 7:30pm

Board meetings are open to all members