

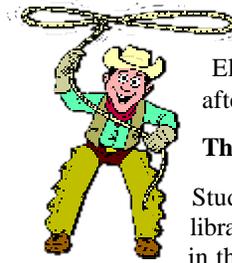
# J. J. PEARCE NEWSLETTER

Website: [jjphoa.org](http://jjphoa.org)  
March 2002

## News From the City

- On February 20 DART began running test cars over their new tracks through the Richardson stations up to Galatyn Park. Opening celebrations for the Spring Valley, Arapaho and Galatyn Park stations are planned for June 28.
- Census data, particularly growth in the Breckenridge Park area, require some adjustment to city council districts to balance population. The City Planning Commission is working on adjustments. Only small adjustments to present boundaries are anticipated.
- The Target store at Richardson Square Mall remains on target for an October 2002 opening. The mall is currently 97% leased which is a terrific turnaround and very, very good in this economy.
- In response to a request by Richardson (working with other cities) the Texas Attorney General has issued an opinion on the city's ability to use cameras at intersections to issue citations to curb red light violations and protect our lives. The desire is for cities to be able to photograph just the rear license plate of a vehicle that runs a red light and issue a civil citation, similar to a parking ticket. The Attorney General's opinion is that the state legislature had mandated that red light violations are a misdemeanor and require a misdemeanor citation and not merely a civil citation. A misdemeanor citation would require the ability to identify the actual driver, not just the vehicle owner, and would require a camera that takes a picture of the driver as well as the license plate. Consultations are being held with the other major Texas cities. In the last legislative session only one vote defeated the desired authorization. It is hoped that it will pass in the next legislative session.
- TXU is responsible for repairing streetlights. Repairs should be made within 10-14 days of a reported outage. You can report outages to 972-744-4111.
- The City budget is being revised for the second time because of low tax receipts. This revision reduces the budget by another 7% or \$650,000 from a budget that had already been reduced \$1,500,000. The original budget was flat compared to last year, so these two decreases are major reductions. No projects have been eliminated, but capital improvements will be postponed.
- The Richardson Police Explorer unit won a "Best in State" award.

## 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:

Students will have story time in the library, time in P.E., art, and music, visit in the kindergarten room with kindergarten teacher and have refreshments in the cafeteria with parents.

Parents will meet with the principal and other school personnel to tour the school, visit in the computer lab, and pre-enroll their students.

### Thursday, April 18 6:00-7:30:

Students will have story time in the kindergarten room with the kindergarten teacher. They will remain in the kindergarten room until 7:15 when they will return to the cafeteria for refreshments with parents.

Parents will meet with the principal and other school personnel to tour the school and pre-enroll their students.

### 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

If you know of anyone in the Mohawk area who has a child that will be in kindergarten next year, please invite them to come with you.

## Congratulation Pearce Swimmers

Six boys and five girls from the Pearce swim teams qualified to compete in the State competition through their achievements in Regional competition. The Boys team went on to finish fourth overall in the state. Congratulations to all the swimmers and to Coach Jeff Clayton.

## City adds new online services

To request large item trash collection you can go to [www.cor.net](http://www.cor.net) and enter your request via the Internet. You'll find the spot to click in the lower left corner of the city's home page.

You can also use the website to pay traffic citations and most other city citations. You can also determine the amount of a fine. While we're talking about fines, if you should happen to be issued a traffic ticket, be sure to pay the fine or go to court.

If you simply ignore a ticket a warrant may be issued and if you are ever stopped for anything you may be arrested and taken to jail. It pays to take care of fines and citations on a timely basis.

You can pay your water bill via the city's website, and you can also review your property tax information. Over time, the city expects to add additional services via the Internet for the convenience of residents and the efficiency of operation.

## One call does (almost) all

The City of Richardson has implemented one-stop phone shopping for most public service requests (streets, solid waste, and water/sewer). The number to call is 972-744-4111. Need Brush and Bulky Item Collection? Dial 972-744-4111 and leave a recorded request at any time. Want to report a pothole? Dial 972-744-4111 and a customer service rep will take your call, gather the information, and give you a tracking number. The city's computer system will route your request, track progress, and if things take too long notify management.

Want to report a street light out? Dial 972-744-4111. Water main break? 972-744-4111. For any non-emergency request for services you can now dial 972-744-4111, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. For many city departments a customer service rep will be able to gather all of the information necessary on the first call and have the request assigned for action. For other departments you may be transferred directly to a person in that department or a message will be taken. As time goes by the scope of the system will continue to increase and customer service reps will be able to handle most requests with no transfers at all.

No matter what time it is, operators are standing by to handle your request at 972-744-4111.

**Did you know? ... The first meeting to lay the foundation for our Homeowners Association was conducted on April 7, 1978. On September 7, 1978 more than 100 residents of the J.J. Pearce Addition met at M-hawk Elementary to organize a homeowners association. By-laws were approved, officers elected, and dues were established at \$12 per household. Dues now are only \$15/year.**

- Brush and Bulky item Collection
- Utility information
- Water bill payment
- Traffic fines

## Too Much of a Good Thing?



Back in the good old days people moved to the suburbs to get away from the crowding of big cities while maintaining easy access to the conveniences that big cities provide. Benefits of suburbia included more greenery, more space, and even a little more exposure to wildlife. People could hear the crickets and the sounds of birds chirping.

Golly, have we been successful! Some might say we're over-achievers. In years past we've seen herds of crickets invade the area. And now we've heard birds. And seen them. Boy, have we seen birds! Since the birds feed primarily on insects and weed seeds, they are not entirely unwanted guests, and they are probably well fed. Rumor has it that a bird now has to make a reservation just to find a place to perch on the wires around Coit and Campbell.

We've talked to the City and learned that our corner is not unique within Richardson, although it is definitely among the leaders. Plano, Carrollton and Richardson have had joint conversations about the problem/blessing. The birds appear to be various members of the blackbird family, which really includes several species. Among the blackbird species, the largest ones are grackles.

The smaller blackbirds and the common grackle are migratory and spend winters in the southern United States, including Texas. But the great-tailed grackle is a year round resident of southern and coastal Texas. Since blackbirds are native migratory birds, they come under the jurisdiction of the Federal Migratory Bird Treaty Act, a formal treaty with Canada and Mexico. Even if they were not protected, there is no effective way of controlling them on a large scale. Many of us thought that NAFTA only meant trade and transportation via trucks and planes. Do you suppose the birds are competing for their fair share of the opportunities that NAFTA created?

On a more positive note, the city and TxDOT have been able to minimize the pigeon populations that used to congregate under expressway overpasses. If we're lucky, most of our winter blackbird guests will be departing for the north before long. Bon voyage.



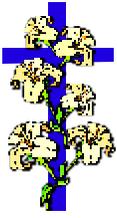
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D.D.S., M.S.

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## Easter



Christians celebrate Easter as the religious holiday commemorating the resurrection of Jesus Christ, the Son of God. But the celebrations of Easter have many customs and legends that are pagan in origin and have nothing to do with Christianity

Scholars, accepting the derivation proposed by the 8th-century English scholar St. Bede, believe the name Easter is thought to come from the Scandinavian "*Ostra*" and the Teutonic "*Ostern*" or "*Eastre*," both Goddesses of mythology signifying spring and fertility whose festival was celebrated on the day of the vernal equinox

Traditions associated with the festival survive in the Easter rabbit, a symbol of fertility, and in colored Easter eggs, originally painted with bright colors to represent the sunlight of spring, and used in Easter-egg rolling contests or given as gifts

The Christian celebration of Easter embodies a number of converging traditions with emphasis on the relation of Easter to the Jewish festival of **Passover**, or Pesach, from which is derived Pasch, another name used by Europeans for Easter. **Passover** is an important feast in the Jewish calendar, which is celebrated for 8 days and commemorates the flight and freedom of the Israelites from slavery in Egypt

The early Christians, many of whom were of Jewish origin, were brought up in the Hebrew tradition and regarded Easter as a new feature of the Passover festival, a commemoration of the advent of the Messiah as foretold by the prophets.

Easter is observed by the churches of the West on the first Sunday following the full moon that occurs on or following the spring equinox (March 21). So Easter became a "movable" feast which can occur as early as March 22 or as late as April 25.

Christian churches in the East which were closer to the birthplace of the new religion and in which old traditions were strong, observe Easter according to the date of the Passover festival

Easter is at the end of the Lenten season, which covers a forty-six-day period that begins on Ash Wednesday and ends with Easter. The Lenten season itself comprises forty days, as the six Sundays in Lent are not actually a part of Lent. Sundays are considered a commemoration of Easter Sunday and have always been excluded from the Lenten fast. The Lenten season is a period of penitence in preparation for the highest festival of the church year, Easter Holy Week, the last week of Lent, begins its with the observance of Palm Sunday. Palm Sunday takes its name from Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem where the crowds laid palms at his feet. Holy Thursday commemorates the Last Supper, which was held the evening before the Crucifixion. Friday in Holy Week is the anniversary

of the Crucifixion, the day that Christ was crucified and died on the cross.

Holy Week and the Lenten season end with Easter Sunday, the day of resurrection of Jesus Christ.

### Why is this night different than all other nights? The Passover Story

Passover, or Pesach, is the holiday that fulfills the commandment in the Book of Exodus (Exodus 13:3-8): "Remember this day, in which you came out from Egypt, out of the house of bondage. . . And you shall tell your children . . ."

The movie, "The Ten Commandments", dramatically depicts the beginning of the Exodus. Joseph, son of Jacob, became a counselor to Pharaoh about 3,000 years ago. Joseph's family, numbering about 70 people, prospered and grew numerous. After centuries of residing in the land prejudice against a minority took over and the Israelites became perceived as an internal threat in the event of external attack and they were forced into slavery. Inspired by God, Moses pleaded with Pharaoh to let the Israelites go free and to be allowed to worship God. When the Pharaoh refused God punished Pharaoh and his people with a series of plagues until finally the Pharaoh relented. 430 years after Joseph's family initially arrived in Egypt the Israelites left for the Promised Land.

Since that time Jews around the world have retold the story to their children and celebrated freedom. Families gather together and the events of the Passover are told in order at a Seder (Seder is the Hebrew word for order) around a dinner table. Jesus' Last Supper with the Disciples was a Seder. A booklet containing the Passover story and the procedures for the Seder is known as a Haggadah. Haggadahs vary from elaborately decorated to rather simple and are often tailored to the environment. Stores such as Tom Thumb often make them available at little or no cost.



The Seder table features a plate containing symbols to help retell the story. The first symbol on the Seder plate is matzo, unleavened bread, since the Israelites fled immediately when Pharaoh gave permission and did not have time to let bread dough rise. The second symbol is a roasted shankbone to symbolize the lambs that were sacrificed and the marking of the Israelite homes with the blood of the lambs so that the last plague would *pass over* their homes. The third symbol is a roasted egg, which is a symbol of rebirth and a reminder of offerings brought to the ancient temple. The fourth symbol, moror, is horseradish or other bitter herbs as a reminder of the bitterness of slavery. The fifth symbol, charoses, is a mixture of apples, honey, nuts and cinnamon that looks like mortar that was used to make bricks for the building of Egyptian cities – but is a delightful

food. During the Seder it is mixed with moror to combine the bitterness of slavery with the sweetness of freedom. The final symbol is karpas, a green vegetable that is a reminder of the arrival of Spring and the Spring harvest. During the Seder the karpas will be dipped in saltwater and eaten as another reminder of the tears of slavery.

During the course of the Seder four cups of wine are consumed, representing stages of the Exodus and promises of God. A full cup is a symbol of joy, so each person pours wine from the first cup to diminish that happiness since others had to be sacrificed to achieve freedom. Wine is removed ten times to commemorate the ten plagues that smote the ancient Egyptians: water turning to blood, frogs, lice, gnats, cattle blight, boils, hail, locusts, darkness, and finally slaying of the first born. The table is also set with an extra wine glass for Elijah, the prophet, whose appearance will precede the coming of the messiah and the arrival of freedom and peace for everyone. During the Seder the door to the home is opened to welcome Elijah.

The holiday is eight days long, with Seders typically being held on the evening before the first and second days, and the evening before the last day. Before the holiday begins, homes are thoroughly cleaned to remove any traces of leavened bakery products, *chometz*. This is probably the origin of the Spring Cleaning custom. During Passover no foods containing yeast are consumed. Passover begins on the evening of the 14<sup>th</sup> day of the Hebrew month of Nisan. This corresponds to the first full moon following the Spring equinox. Since Easter must occur at about the same time as Passover, Easter occurs on the Sunday following this full moon.

A key portion of the Seder is the recitation of *The Four Questions* near the beginning of the service. It is the very essence of the Seder, for it is the time when the youngest child asks what this is all about, and why this night is different than all other nights of the year. The child asks why:

- On all other nights we eat chomatz or matzo, but on this night we eat only matzo
- On all other nights we eat all kinds of herbs, but on this night we eat only bitter herbs
- On all other nights we do not dip foods even once, but on this night we dip twice
- On all other nights we eat either sitting or reclining, but on this night we eat reclining.

The Seder answers the four questions explaining the rush for freedom; the bitterness of slavery; the tears of slavery and the mortar of bricks; and finally the blessings of freedom. The Seder concludes with the words: "Next year in Jerusalem." Passover is a time of great joy, tempered by the sacrifices of others and the knowledge that people still yearn for freedom and for peace.

This year Passover begins on March 27<sup>th</sup>.



**Total Membership Still Increasing!**  
**By Art Middlebrook, VP Membership**

We had two renewals this month and I had the pleasure of meeting both. We also had two new members join. As other residents have done, they moved here to take advantage of Mohawk and Pearce High School! The families already lived in Richardson, but I still provided them our new 'Welcome to J.J. Pearce HOA' packet.

As I've said before, we do need to know our neighbors. I admit this is easy for me to say; however, it is to our mutual benefit. When you meet them, please get their names and address to me at 972-235-1731 or email me at: amid937@swbell.net, with the information and I will follow up with them.

Recent additions bring us up to 356 dues paid members:

**YEAR - 2002 Membership: 356/464 Total (76.7%)**

**DIRECTORY UPDATES**  
**Art Middlebrook, VP Membership**

**Additions to Alphabetical and Street Listings**

- 1401 Chesterton Drive**  
Jarrell, Mark and Jane (972) 235-2322
- 1206 Eton Drive**  
Fawley, Ty and Stacey (972) 699-8162
- 1105 Grassmere Drive**  
Kruel, William and Cynthia (972) 234-1843
- 1204 Stratford Drive**  
Phillips, Chris and Karen (972) 907-1876

**Phone Numbers Added -Present Members**

- 1133 Edith Drive**  
Carlin, Glenn and Phyllis (972) 480-9101

**Pavillion Bank offers  
 NO CHARGE NOTARY  
 services to the community**

## Neighbors in the News

Do you have something you want to share with your neighbors? We have decided to add a section from time to time, for members who want to share news of their family with the other members of our Association. Any news that you care to share? Your children's accomplishments such as sports, academics, choice of college, etc. Or you may want to let others know that you've added a new baby (or babies) to your family. And, it doesn't have to be news of just your children. Mom's or Dad's news, too! A new job, a new car, a new hobby.

There are times that there may be not-so-happy news too and if you want to share that, please feel free to let us know. You can call Bernie Mayoff at 972-669-9164, e-mail: [bernie@mayoff.com](mailto:bernie@mayoff.com) or Dee Russum at 972-235-1961 or e-mail: [jrussum@aol.com](mailto:jrussum@aol.com)

We want this to be YOUR newsletter!

## Spring is "springing!"

By Bill Little, VP of 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 March and April.

1. Scalping is recommended.
2. Apply a pre-emergent weed killer.
3. Wait until 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.)
4. Applications of fertilizers and weed killers should not be made at the same time.
5. 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 flowerbeds 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'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.

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)

The following is an excerpt from Neil Sperry's web letter. He gives great advice.

## Special Garden Web letter, Friday, Feb. 22, 2002

What are 4 things you need to do this weekend?

1. Finish all dormant-season pruning, including bush roses, shade trees (don't "top" them!), fruit trees, evergreens and summer-flowering shrubs and vines (don't "top" your crape myrtles, either).
2. Finish transplanting dormant trees and shrubs.
3. Plant cool-season flowers and vegetables--those that don't handle the heat of late spring and summer well.
4. Apply broad leaf weed killer spray (containing 2,4-D) to eliminate non-grassy weeds such as dandelions, clover, chickweed and henbit.



Your neighborhood remodeling  
and custom home specialists

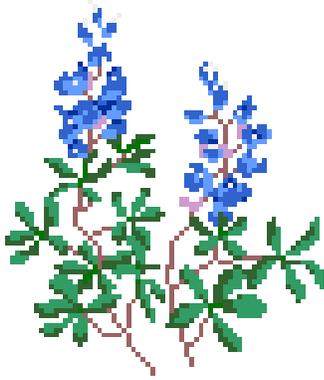
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## A Show Fit for a King

If you saw the Pearce High School performance of "The King and I", you know what we mean. The voices were excellent, from the leads through the King's children. The set was great and the remarkable costumes could have been on Broadway. In fact some of them were! The costumes were primarily the handiwork of Richardson resident Virginia Reed assisted by mothers of some of the cast members, while a few costumes were the actual costumes from the National Touring Company of The King and I. Theatre Director Lynn Zednick has done another great job for our students and our community.

The Theatre Department's next show is set in a very different place and time and features an entirely different kind of music and dance. The production of "Footloose" will take place in Iowa in 2002 and is the story of a city boy who comes to a small town where rock music and dancing have been banned. Some of the songs from the show are "Let's Hear It for the Boy", "Almost Paradise", and "Holding out for a Hero". Footloose will be presented on May 9, 10 and 11 at 7:30pm, and on May 12 at 2:00pm. There will be a weekday matinee on Wednesday, May 8 for senior citizens and anyone that is home during the day. The Wednesday matinee will be at 1:30 or 2:00 but had not been determined at press time. The local Junior High Schools will also be invited to the Wednesday matinee. For information or reservations for any performance call the Pearce Theatre Department at 469-593-5136. Tickets are \$5 for the Wednesday matinee, and \$10 for all other performances.

## The State Flower of Texas



The state flower of Texas is the bluebonnet, also called buffalo clover, or wolf flower or el conejo (the rabbit). The bluebonnet was adopted as the state flower, on request of the Society of Colonial Dames in Texas, by the 27th Legislature, 1901.

The original resolution designated *Lupinus subcarnosus* as the state flower, but a resolution signed March 8, 1971, by Gov. Preston Smith provided legal status as the state flower of Texas for "*Lupinus Texensis* and any other variety of bluebonnet."

The bluebonnet is named for its color and, it is said, the resemblance of its petal to a woman's sunbonnet. It blooms in the early spring and can be readily found in fields and along the roadsides throughout central and south Texas.

Every state has an official flower. But Texas' bluebonnet is more than a state flower; it's an institution. Historian Jack Maguire wrote, "It's not only the state flower but also a kind of floral trademark almost as well known to outsiders as cowboy boots and the Stetson hat." Maguire says the "bluebonnet is to Texas what the shamrock is to Ireland, the cherry blossom to Japan, the lily to France, the rose to England and the tulip to Holland." Another writer stated it more succinctly: Bluebonnets are a "Texas thang."

Not content to enshrine this member of the legume family as a state symbol, Texans adopted an official bluebonnet city, Ennis, and trail. The Chappell Hill Bluebonnet Festival is Texas' official bluebonnet festival. Texas has an official flower song — "Bluebonnets."

The Texas Senate passed a state flower resolution with little debate in 1900. In March 1901, the House took up the flower question. Phil Clement of Mills championed the open cotton boll, which he called "the white rose of commerce." John Nance Garner was stuck on the flower of the prickly pear cactus. Nearly a century later, both cotton and the prickly pear would become official Texas state symbols. But another plant would capture the coveted state flower title. John M. Green of Cuero submitted the bluebonnet.

"What's a bluebonnet?" people asked. What it is, is the blue flower that resembled the sunbonnets pioneer women wore? The Mexicans called it *el conejo*, "the rabbit." The white tips waving to and fro in the wind reminded them of

bobbing rabbit tails. Or was Green referring to the flower Old World botanists called a "wolf flower"?

A group of women then rose. They represented an organization called the National Society of the Colonial Dames of America in the State of Texas. The Colonial Dames had first suggested adopting the bluebonnet. The women sent for a bluebonnet painting by Miss Mode Walker of Austin. When legislators saw the painting, they reportedly "shook the old walls" with their applause.

Governor Joseph D. Sayers approved Texas' new state flower on March 7, 1901. The resolution refers to it as "the *Lupinus subcarnosus* (generally known as the buffalo clover or blue bonnet)." Texas' state flower later received some criticism. The legislators that voted for it didn't realize that six species of bluebonnets grow in Texas. Further, the one they adopted is not the most common. Some Texans also considered its faint blue blossoms the least attractive.

In west Texas, the tall Big Bend bluebonnet grows up to three feet high. But the bluebonnet known as *Lupinus texensis* emerged as a favorite. It's bigger, bolder, and blankets most of Central Texas with its deep blue blossoms.

The Highway Beautification Act of 1965 was the result of Lady Bird Johnson's national campaign for beautification. In 1969 Mrs. Johnson founded the Texas Highway Beautification Awards, and for the next twenty years, she hosted the annual awards ceremonies and presented her personal checks to the winners. She is a trustee of the American Conservation Association. Lady Bird Johnson was most instrumental in the beautification of the highways across Texas that we are all able to enjoy today.

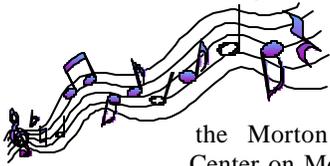
On March 8, 1971, a new state flower resolution was enacted. It recognizes not only *Lupinus texensis*, but "any other variety of Bluebonnet not heretofore recorded." Until more bluebonnet species are discovered or introduced from elsewhere, Texas thus has six state flowers. (Coincidentally, Texas has also had six flags.)

Each year for the past forty-seven years, the North Texas town of Ennis has hosted a Bluebonnet Trails Festival. An estimated 100,000 people now converge on Ennis' forty miles of mapped trails in April. Visit Texas in March through May to see the sky mirrored by blossoming bluebonnets.

**The 51st Annual Bluebonnet Ennis Trails Festival is April 19, 20, 21, 2002.** You can get more information on: <http://www.visitennis.org>

The picture of the bluebonnet shown above can be found on: <http://www.santalady.com> along with other beautiful pictures of state flowers.)

## 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.

If you haven't had a chance to experience the Meyerson, this is an opportunity to enjoy one of the great symphony halls in the world. If you've only seen the Band at football games you're in for a treat when you hear what these skilled musicians sound like in a concert hall. If you've been to a past performance you know what we mean.

The music of American march master John Philip Sousa will be represented by his works *El Capitan* and *Washington Post*. Aaron Copeland's music will be spotlighted by a movement from his *Three Latin American Sketches*. Percy Grainger's *The Merry King* will provide a delightful change of pace, and the concert will come to a rousing conclusion with Paul Hindemith's stirring "March" from *Symphonic Metamorphosis*.

As an additional treat, St. Louis Symphony trombonist Steve Lange, a 1992 graduate of Pearce High School, will solo with the band under the baton of his former band director, Matthew McInturf, now the Director of Bands at Sam Houston State University.

The annual Meyerson concerts were originally funded through an anonymous endowment and now operate on a self-sustaining basis. 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.

# Easter Egg Hunt



## Saturday, March 30th 9 am

Join us for an Easter Egg Hunt at Mohawk Elementary, rain or shine. All children 10 and under are welcome. Cookies and Refreshments will be served! Bring your own basket.

**Piano Arts** 

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Not intended to solicit currently listed properties.

***Selling Your Home? Focus on the Kitchen!***

For today's home buyer, the kitchen is typically the most important room in the house — an area where form and function are equally important. Buyers view kitchens as an area that has many functions — preparing dinner, sharing meals, sorting mail, paying bills, and generally hanging out.

In fact, a recent survey by SieMatic Corp. revealed that 85 percent of respondents said the condition of a home's kitchen is a major consideration when making a purchasing decision.

**Call Me for other Marketing Tips and Answers on money saving ideas.**

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Over 30% of the Home sales in The JJ Pearce subdivision area had Jeff Stegich as the agent for the Buyer or the Seller.

**If you want Knowledge...Service...and Time...  
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## Neighborhood Integrity Program works to maintain our City neighborhoods

The Neighborhood Integrity Program is a division of the City's Building Inspection Department designed to help maintain property values and neighborhood desirability. This takes a concerted effort from all Richardson residents and homeowners. By working together, we can prevent neighborhood deterioration and protect the integrity of our neighborhoods. In an effort to accomplish this goal, the City has adopted ordinances relative to the following:

**High grass and weeds** - Property owners or residents are responsible for maintaining the grass and weeds on their property. Grass and weeds are in violation when they reach a height of 12 inches. Owners or residents are also responsible for maintaining the alley easement adjacent to their property.

**Vegetation** - Trees, bushes, shrubs, vines, etc. must be kept trimmed 7 feet above sidewalks, 14 feet above streets and alleys, and back from the alley pavement. Vegetation should be maintained so that it does not obstruct visibility.

**Fences** - Property owners or residents are responsible for maintaining the condition of the fence around their property. Fences which are leaning severely or which are missing slats or sections are in violation of the City's code. Any new fence construction requires a building permit. Call the Building Inspection Department at 972-744-4180 for more information.

**Address numbers** - To enable the Police and Fire Departments to respond quickly to emergency calls, address numbers must be posted so that they are plainly visible from the street and alley. Numbers must be posted on the curb or curbside mailbox. Street numbers are also required on the front of the residence and at the rear of the residence on the house, garage, fence, or other structure between 3 and 10 feet from the ground. Numbers must be a minimum of 3 inches high.

**Outside storage** - Storage is prohibited in the front yard, carport and front porch. All items stored outside must be screened from adjacent properties, streets and alleys by a 6-foot, solid wooden screening fence. Outside storage is limited to one percent of a residential lot. This ordinance does not pertain to operable vehicles with valid state registration.

**Trash and debris** - Property owners or residents are responsible for ensuring that their property is free of any litter or debris. In an effort to control litter, residential trash must be contained in approved plastic bags and placed out only on your collection days. If you wish to dispose of (rather than recycle) small bundles of branches, they should be cut to 3-foot lengths and placed out on your regular collection day. Call the Solid Waste Department request line at 972-744-4400 to have brush and bulky items collected at the curb on your special collection day. Branches of any length can be collected from your curb and will be converted to mulch, which is available to all Richardson residents for free!

**Yard parking** - Vehicles may not be parked on the grass between the front building line and the street at any time.

In addition, vehicles on corner lots may not be parked on the grass between the side building line and the street.

**Vehicles** - Junked or inoperative vehicles may not be stored in public view. Trucks with a rated capacity of more than 1.5 tons and trailers more than 8 feet in length may not be stored in a residential district.

**Home occupations/garage sales** - If you want to operate a business from your home, please call to ensure that your business does not violate any residential regulations. Each residence may conduct no more than three garage sales per year, lasting no longer than three consecutive days.

**Volunteer program** - Neighborhood Integrity has developed a volunteer program to assist homeowners who are unable to maintain their property due to physical limitations or other difficulties. If you or someone you know needs assistance, or if you would like to volunteer your time and energy, please call 972-744-4166! With the help and cooperation of Richardson residents and homeowners, we can maintain clean, attractive neighborhoods and ensure that Richardson remains a city in which we are proud to live and raise our families.

If you have any questions or comments, please call Neighborhood Integrity at 972-744-4166. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Their 24-hour Information Line number is 972-744-4191. [Note: At present the 972-744-4111 number can only forward calls or messages to Neighborhood Integrity.]

## A Boom Box in Our Backyard



Excel and Light are two student organizations at Pearce High School dedicated to community service. On Saturday evening, April 6, they will be hosting the "Battle of the Bands" to raise money for Scottish Rite Hospital for Children. The performers will be local rock or other student bands. The event will take place on the Pearce B Field and should be an evening of fun, excitement, and yes – **a lot of sound**. The "Battle of the Bands" will kick off at 6:00 PM and should wind down around 9:00 PM. In the event of rain the event will move into the Pearce Corral. Although many of us will be able to hear the music without leaving home, if you'd like to join the fun and help these student volunteers, admission is only \$5.

**For Sale: Eight (8) foot Olhausen slate bed pool table and accessories. In excellent condition. \$750. Delivery not included. Call 972-231-2825**

## Board Minutes, February 10, 2002

Bernie called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. The minutes of the last meeting were approved as read. Helen gave the Treasurer's report, and \$2,000.00 was moved to the Vanguard account. The financial review is yet to be scheduled.

### New Business

Jon and Jane Scherper have volunteered to do the Easter Egg Hunt at 9:00 a.m. on March 30 at Mohawk Elem. Sixty-five (65) families have been volunteers for the association since July 4, 2001. A party is planned for May 11 at Helen's from 3PM to 5PM to honor these volunteers. Bernie will write a letter and distribute them as invitations in April.

### Committee Reports

- Membership. There are three hundred fifty three (353) members now. Art has new member folders for new neighbors.
- Newsletter We have a new 1/2 page ad for Jeff Stegich, a Realtor with Coldwell Banker. An article will be in the newsletter to solicit information on special events for families (e.g. births, deaths, etc.).

Homeowner's Assoc. President's Meeting. The next meeting will be 2/19 at 7:00 AM. in City Hall.

The next board meetings will be as follows:

March 10	Art Middlebrook	7:00 PM.
April 14	Bill Little	7:00 PM.
May 16	John Sadowski	7:00 PM.

Newsletter deadlines are: March 8, April 12 and May 13

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 PM.

Respectfully submitted, Suzanne Clark, Secretary

## Crime Talk

### By Lynn Sanders, VP Safety

Things were fairly quiet over the past month in our neighborhood. There were only two incidents that I am aware of, but one of them is potentially very serious, and the other very distressful to the victims. I will talk about those, and then add a few items of general interest.

On February 14, around 11:30 PM, a JJ Pearce resident was walking in the 1100 block of Pueblo, and noticed a male crouching in the bushes near a home's bedroom window (peeping?). The walker quickly returned home and notified the RPD who investigated and found fresh disturbances in the flowerbed. Two days later, on February 16, around 10:30 PM, someone entered that same window, which was unlocked, and rummaged around through only that bedroom -- the teenaged daughter's bedroom. Everyone should keep their bedroom windows locked and take measures to reduce opportunity for peeping, especially at night, and most especially if it is a child's bedroom.

Sometime late in the evening of February 23, golf balls were propelled through windshields and windows of four vehicles in front of residences in the 1100 block of Chertonton and the 1300 and 1400 blocks of Huntington. Body

damage also resulted in some cases. Malicious vandalism is a serious problem across the City. We all need to instruct our teenage children of the seriousness of such behavior, and be alert for the perpetrators of such crime.

As many of you know, HEAT stands for Help End Auto Theft. In the past, citizens have been able to enroll in the HEAT program by driving to the police station where Officers record vehicle and owner information and then place two identifiable decals on the vehicle. These decals give any Texas Peace Officer the right to stop the vehicle and verify ownership if it is on the roadway between 1 AM and 5 AM. The vehicle may also be stopped 24 hours per day at the Texas/Mexico border. The program is free to the citizen, and the original registration is good for four years. The Texas Department of Public Safety has recently announced a way for a citizen to register over the Internet or by U.S.Mail. The web address is <http://records.txdps.state.tx.us/heat>. The citizen can print off the forms, mail it into DPS, and then upon receipt of the decals, the citizen then calls DPS to activate the decals and the process is complete.

Did you know that the RPD offers a program to check on older adults? The Rest Assured Program (RAP) pairs an RPD volunteer to a client, usually an older adult living alone with no family to check on them. The volunteer telephones their client at a predetermined time just to make sure the client is OK. If the volunteer doesn't receive an answer, then a process is begun which will result in the RPD making an on the spot welfare check. One of the biggest fears of most older adults living alone is that something might happen to them inside their home, and that days might go by before anyone was aware of a problem. If you know of a lonely homebound or mature Richardson resident in your area whose peace of mind might benefit from a daily welfare call, this might be the program for them. Call Officer John Corbitt at 972-744-4952 to inquire.

During this period of tax return preparation, be aware that the IRS does not audit via email nor do they notify a person of an audit by email. Scammers have been known to obtain social security numbers, bank account numbers, and other confidential information this way, which is then used for identity theft.

Everyone needs to be aware that there are magazine subscriptions being sold door to door in the area. City permits have been issued, which they must display if asked. Purchase if you like, but always keep in mind that these organizations utilize highly trained sales people who are expert in applying pressure to the potential buyer. Also, some of the sales people are not the kind of people you should let into your home. It is advisable to do whatever business you might do with them out on the porch.

Finally, I just want to mention that distraction theft and car burglary is continuing problems. I have written about them several times, but just want to remind you once again to be on your toes to avoid becoming a victim. In most cases, it just amounts to using your head and being alert to what is going on.

**JJ J PEARCE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION**  
**Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenses**  
**For the Period September 1, 2001 to February 28, 2002**

		6 Months Ended	
		2/28/02	Budget
<b>Cash Receipts</b>			
Membership Dues	\$ 5,040.00		\$5,000.00
Dividends	176.54		192.23
Interest	1.48		0.77
Newsletter	665.00		570.00
<b>Total Receipts</b>	<b>5,883.02</b>		<b>5,763.00</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
<b>Crime Watch</b>			
Metrocall	126.54		126.54
Decals	158.99		158.99
<b>Membership</b>			
Binders			100.00
Printing	199.45		400.00
Delivery	30.00		75.00
<b>Social Events</b>			
December Decorations	114.66		157.33
<b>Newsletter</b>			
Printing, etc.	1,625.36		1,671.72
Mailing Labels	9.99		
Delivery	405.00		405.00
<b>Other Expenses</b>			
Federal Income Tax	150.00		150.00
Miscellaneous			49.50
<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>2,819.99</b>		<b>3,294.08</b>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$ 3,063.03</b>		<b>\$2,468.92</b>

	Checking	Savings	Vanguard	Totals
<b>Beginning Balances - 9/1/01</b>	\$447.99	\$124.41	\$14,200.02	\$14,772.42
<b>Add receipts</b>	5,705.00	1.48	176.54	5,883.02
<b>Account Transfers</b>	(1874.11)	(125.89)	2,000.00	0.00
<b>Disbursements</b>	<u>(2,819.99)</u>			<u>(2,819.99)</u>
<b>Ending Balances - 2/28/02</b>	<b>\$1,458.89</b>	<b>0.00</b>	<b>\$16,376.56</b>	<b>\$17,835.45</b>

Helen Simon, Treasurer, March 8, 2002

Phone: (214) 232-9898      BRETT CHRISTIAN  
 Fax: (972) 234-5702      Commercial Account Manager  
 Email: b.christian@officemax.com



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### Board of Directors for 2001 – 2002

<b>President</b>	Bernie Mayoff	972-669-9169	bernie@mayoff.com
<b>VP Development</b>	Greg Immel	972-234-2981	greg.immel@hansonamerica.com
<b>VP Safety</b>	Lynn Sanders	972-231-6890	sanderstx@aol.com
<b>VP Beautification</b>	Bill Little	972-690-6315	blclkc@aol.com bill-l@telesisexpress.com(business)
<b>VP Membership</b>	Art Middlebrook	972-235-1731	amid937@swbell.net
<b>Secretary</b>	Suzanne Clark	972-690-4673	shc70@aol.com
<b>Treasurer</b>	Helen Simon	972-234-2443 972-234-8009	helen@simon-says.net (business phone)
<b>Newsletter</b>	Dee Russum	972-235-1961	jrussum@aol.com
<b>Webmaster</b>	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: 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>
<b>1/4 page</b>	<b>\$20.00</b>
<b>1/2 page</b>	<b>\$40.00</b>
<b>Full page</b>	<b>\$75.00</b>

**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 ADVERTISERS**

### Local Events September-October include:

Date	Event/Location
<b>March</b>	
<b>11-15</b>	<b>Spring Break</b>
25	Pearce and Junior High Choirs Pre-UIL Concert 7:30pm at Pearce
26	Baseball vs Wylie 4:00pm at Pearce
	Softball vs Wylie 5:00pm at Pearce
28	Baseball vs Highland Park 7:00pm at Pearce
<b>29</b>	<b>School holiday</b>
<b>30</b>	<b>Easter Egg Hunt 9:00am at Mohawk</b>
<b>April</b>	
<b>1</b>	<b>School holiday</b> (or snow makeup day)
5	Softball vs Mesquite Poteet 5:00pm at Pearce
	Mohawk Garage Sale 8am to 3pm
	Softball vs West Mesquite 5:00pm at Pearce
	Baseball vs Poteet 7:00pm at Pearce
<b>6</b>	<b>Battle of the Bands 6:00pm at Pearce</b>
16	Softball vs Lancaster 5:00pm at Pearce
	Baseball vs West Mesquite 7:00pm at Pearce
<b>18</b>	<b>Kindergarten Enrollment Roundup 1:30 – 3:00 &amp; 6:00 – 7:30 Mohawk</b>
19	Softball vs Highland Park 5:00pm at Pearce
23	Choir Spring Concert 7:30pm at Pearce
	Baseball vs Lancaster 7:00pm at Pearce



**Easter Egg Hunt, Mohawk Elementary Saturday March 30, 9AM – see page 7**

**Battle of the Bands at Pearce, April 6, 6PM – see page 8**



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

**Board Meetings: April 14 at 7PM, 1212 Huntington  
May 11 at 5PM, 1314 Huntington  
June 9 at 7PM, 1128 Grassmere**

**BOARD MEETINGS ARE ALWAYS OPEN TO MEMBERS**