

J. J. Pearce Homeowners Association Newsletter
Website: www.jjphoa.org

November, 2004

News from the City

- Richardson's Corporate Challenge raised a record \$52,000 in donations to Special Olympics this year. Twenty-eight companies participated in the Corporate Challenge this year.
- The southwest corner of Campbell and Nantucket is being redeveloped with the construction of a CVS drug-store replacing a former gas station and a convenience store. The Eckerd store has been acquired by CVS and will relocate to the new facility.
- The Richardson Public Library has been rated first in the state for a city our size, and received the second highest rating of any library in the Metroplex regardless of the size of the city. The ratings are done by the Hennen's American Library Rating index. More information is at www.haplr-index.com
- Richardson Regional Medical Center has opened the first phase of their Renner Road complex at Renner and the Bush/190 Tollway. It includes a 100,000 square foot building to accommodate an anticipated 17 percent population growth in Northeast Dallas County and Southern Collin County over the next 5 years. Eventually there will be a 24-hour emergency facility and a 500-bed hospital, as well as offices for about 60 doctors. A cancer center, working in cooperation with UT Southwestern Medical Center, is also part of the plan.
- The UT Southwestern Medical Center has four Nobel Laureates, more than any other hospital in the world.
- The public areas of the Civic Center are being refurbished with new paint and carpeting. (Office areas are not being refurbished.) Funding for the refurbishment was included in a past bond program and is not being funded by the Operations Budget. The Civic Center generates approximately \$175,000 per year of rental revenues, which do contribute to the Operating Funds of the City.
- The Richardson City Council approved a zoning change for a Planned Development community on the land occupied by the vacant Tom Thumb store and most of the surrounding buildings at Custer and Lookout. The first phase will demolish the Tom Thumb store and some of the other stores and replace them with a gated community of 38 patio homes selling between \$350K-\$500K; and 10 town homes selling from \$250K up. Some of the existing retail buildings will receive a facelift. The former gas station at the corner of Custer and Lookout is being converted to a sales office for the development. The ice shop and the donut shop will remain, as will the veterinarian's office and a building facing Lookout. There will be some minor median work on Lookout to

facilitate a safer entrance and exit from the development. Demolition of the Tom Thumb building should start very soon.

- The North Texas Clean Air Coalition, www.northtexasair.org, has named the City of Richardson as one of the four "Employers of the Year" in their "Best Workplaces for Commuters" rankings.
- For the 11th year in a row the Dallas Regional Mobility Council has awarded special recognition to the City of Richardson for efforts promoting more efficient use of highways.
- On November 18 UTD will break ground for a 300,000 square foot addition to the school of engineering. This will give UTD's engineering school the largest physical facility of any university in the country.
- The frontage roads along President George Bush Highway are designated as State highway 190. TxDOT is considering changing the designation to State Loop 41 to correspond to the number of his presidency. The designation would also be applied to Loop 9 and State Highway 161, which extend beyond the limits of State Highway 190. The 41 designation had been reserved for a project that will not be implemented. There are no known business addresses in Richardson that use the 190 designation. Signage in five cities would be impacted. Garland has indicated concerns about the change. The Richardson City Council is agreeing to the requested change.



**Don't let this be your child
Obey Mohawk's safety rules that appeared
in the school newsletter.**

“Innocence Of Heroes”

We see faces of innocence
Upon our nations' youth -
But they've the hearts of heroes
When it comes to Liberty and Truth.

Young men and women of the Service
Standing straight and proud and tall -
Ready to fight for Freedom -
Ready to give their all.

Those faces of innocence
Will return, all, world-wise -
Still looking young in body -
But lifetimes' knowledge in their eyes.

There are some who will come home
To grieving families and friends -
Just a memory to those loved ones
Whose loss never really ends.

Yet those faces of innocence
And those young heroes' hearts
Will come of age once more
With dreams each new life imparts.

Another generation born
To this world of war and strife -
Searching for the elusive answer
To lasting peacetime in their life.

Why must this crazy world
Breed such pain and misery?
When will the human race
Let young innocence be?

'Guess there will always be a madman
Who is filled with hate and greed -
Who will force himself on others
And plant that killing seed.

And there will always be
Those young heroes who will fight
Who will leave their innocence behind
For what they know is right.

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TO OUR ABSENT BROTHERS”

Unselfishly, you left your fathers and your mothers,
You left behind your sisters and your brothers.
Leaving your beloved children and wives,
You put on hold, your dreams your lives.

On foreign soil, you found yourself planted
To fight for those whose freedom you granted.
Without your sacrifice, their cause would be lost
But you carried onward, no matter the cost.

Many horrors you had endured and seen.
Many faces had haunted your dreams.
You cheered as your enemies littered the ground;
You cried as your brothers fell all around.

When it was over, you all came back home,
Some were left with memories to face all alone;
Some found themselves in the company of friends
As their crosses cast shadows across the land.

Those who survived were forever scarred
Emotionally, physically, permanently marred.
Those who did not now sleep eternally
Neath the ground they had given their lives to keep free.

With a hand upon my heart, I feel
The pride and respect; my reverence is revealed
In the tears that now stream down my upturned face
As our flag waves above you, in her glory and grace.
Freedom was the gift that you unselfishly gave
Pain and death was the price that you ultimately paid.
Every day, I give my utmost admiration
To those who had fought to defend our nation.

Author Unknown

[www.mindspring.com/~veteranpoems/
vpoemtoourabsentbrothers.html](http://www.mindspring.com/~veteranpoems/vpoemtoourabsentbrothers.html)

“What Is A Vet”

Some veterans bear visible signs of their service: a missing limb, a jagged scar, a certain look in the eye.

Others may carry the evidence inside them: a pin holding a bone together,
a piece of shrapnel in the leg - or perhaps another sort
of inner steel: the soul's ally forged in the refinery of adversity.

Except in parades, however, the men and women who have kept America safe wear no badge or emblem.

You can't tell a vet just by looking.

What is a vet?

He is the cop on the beat who spent six months in Saudi Arabia sweating
two gallons a day making sure the armored personnel carriers didn't run out of fuel.

He is the barroom loudmouth, dumber than five wooden planks, whose
overgrown frat-boy behavior is outweighed a hundred times in the
cosmic scales by four hours of exquisite bravery near the 38th parallel.

She - or he - is the nurse who fought against futility and went to
sleep sobbing every night for two solid years in Da Nang.

He is the POW who went away one person and came back another - or didn't come back AT ALL.

He is the Quantico drill instructor who has never seen combat -
but has saved countless lives by turning slouchy, no-account rednecks and
gang members into Marines, and teaching them to watch each other's backs.

He is the parade - riding Legionnaire who pins on his ribbons and medals with a prosthetic hand.

He is the career quartermaster who watches the ribbons and medals pass him by.

He is the three anonymous heroes in The Tomb Of The Unknowns,
whose presence at the Arlington National Cemetery must forever preserve the
memory of all the anonymous heroes whose valor died unrecognized
with them on the battlefield or in the ocean's sunless deep.

He is the old guy bagging groceries at the supermarket - palsied now and aggravatingly slow -
who helped liberate a Nazi death camp and who wishes all day long
that his wife were still alive to hold him when the nightmares come.

He is an ordinary and yet an extraordinary human being - a person who offered some of his life's most vital years
in the service of his country, and who sacrificed his ambitions so others would not have to sacrifice theirs.

He is a soldier and a savior and a sword against the darkness, and he is nothing more than the finest,
greatest testimony on behalf of the finest, greatest nation ever known.

So remember, each time you see someone who has served our country, just lean over and say Thank You.
That's all most people need, and in most cases it will mean
more than any medals they could have been awarded or were awarded.

Two little words that mean a lot,

”THANKYOU”.

Author Unknown

www.mindspring.com/~veteranpoems/vpoemwhatisavet.html

Veteran's Day Assembly at Pearce

J. J. Pearce High School will again honor veterans on November 8th. The assembly begins at 9:45 in the Gym, with cake and refreshments in the corral starting at 9 AM. Parking is limited, so arrive early.

The speaker will be Col. Bob Ditch. He recently retired as both the Headquarters' Air Force Commander and Director of Training & Exercises for *Joint Force Headquarters – Homeland Security*; Colonel Ditch led the creation of *U.S. Northern Command's* academic training & exercise programs and trained the new headquarters' staff. Formerly the Director of Plans on the national WMD Terrorism Response Unit, *Joint Task Force–Civil Support*, he designed the DOD play in the national-level exercises. Currently a Homeland Security & Terrorism/WMD response instructor and advisor/contractor for the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) National Exercise Program; and many fire/first response agencies; he also serves as the Planning Chief for the FEMA sponsored *Virginia-1 Disaster Medical Assistance Team*; teaches for four university Homeland Security programs; and is a published author in emergency services/terrorism/WMD response.

He served in the military for over 32 years, deploying overseas six times during major combat/contingency operations. He rotated twice to Southeast Asia in the early 1970's; served on the forward Desert Shield headquarters staff just after the invasion of Kuwait. He was the first U.S. military medical officer assigned to a United Nations headquarters staff, serving a year in Somalia as the UN/US Medical Director; directing all combat-humanitarian medical operations.

He served as a paid/call and volunteer member in eight fire/rescue departments; he is a 27-year fire service veteran and served in many capacities. For 15 years he has been a Disaster Response-WMD/Terrorism course reviewer/adjunct instructor for DOD, DOJ, the State of Virginia, the DHS's National Fire Academy and Center of Domestic Preparedness, Texas A&M, Louisiana State University, University of Maryland, and a regional fire academy; and a first-responder/incident commander at numerous natural disasters. At his own expense, since 1997, he has voluntarily traveled nationwide teaching terrorism and WMD response courses (including one he authored jointly for FEMA and DOD) to local first responders, hospitals, civic groups, local/state officials, fire academy cadets, and state/regional fire command school students. He received the Bronze Star Medal for Heroism (Somalia); and 16 other awards for heroism-meritorious service.



Changes in RISD

The RISD Board has approved the “repurposing” proposal. The proposal was discussed in the “Robin Hood Strikes Again” article in our October newsletter and in the Richardson News. The final proposal has gained the support of the Arapaho Elementary neighborhood, and also of the Dover Elementary neighborhood, which had suggested an alternate approach. The final resolution does have one significant change from the original proposal. Arapaho Elementary will become the RISD Classical Magnet School, rather than trying to have two distinct curricula under one roof. The curriculum at CMS/Arapaho will look like the current CMS programming, but will also be expanded to utilize the strengths present at Arapaho, in particular in science and the fine arts.

The repurposing resolution is expected to save about \$3.7M per year, of \$8.3M that is required for the 2005-2006 school year. \$1.3M in additional cuts have already been identified. That leaves another \$3.3M to trim and it will be neither easy nor painless.

Did you know:

- 63 languages and 30 dialects are spoken by RISD students
- Fewer than 50% of Richardson Independent School District students live in Richardson. The bulk of the RISD students live in Dallas, and some live in Garland.
- A shopping center and lower density housing will replace three apartment complexes in the Lake Highlands area. This will reduce RISD enrollment by approximately 200 students. Since the students are distributed across grades and schools the savings to the district is minimal. But Robin Hood will take approximately \$1M more from the district because of the reduction in students.
- Grades K-6 will remain in Elementary schools, 7-8 in the Junior high schools, and 9-12 in the freshman centers and high schools.
- The district is becoming more involved with new reading programs supported by SMU and other organizations.

A graphic for Richardson Bike Mart. On the left, the logo features the word "RICHARDSON" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font above "Bike Mart" in a large, blue, cursive script. Below the logo is the website "www.bikemart.com" in red. On the right, there is a dark blue vertical bar containing white text for three locations: Richardson (1431 W. Campbell Road, Richardson, TX 75080, Telephone 972-231-3993, Toll Free 1-800-600-3993, Fax 972-234-5724), Dallas (9640 Garland Road, Dallas, TX 75218, Telephone 214-321-6705, Fax 214-320-8666), and Frisco (8820 John Hickman, Frisco, TX 75035, Telephone 972-335-7690, Fax 214-419-6765).

A Tale of Two TAKS

Ratings of RISD and our local schools affect our community and our property values. The ratings were important factors when many of us chose to live here, and those ratings remain important to all of us whether we have children in school or not. The rating system is now based heavily on the Texas Assessment of Knowledge and Skills, the TAKS test. For 2003-2004 the Texas Education Agency has implemented a more difficult TAKS test, and more difficult grading standards. TEA has also modified the rules for who must be tested. Some of the modifications will undoubtedly improve the education of our students, but a couple of them

are actually detrimental to the welfare of students and misleading to people who look at them. The charts below shows Mohawk's TAKS results for 2003-2004 and also shows the 2002-2003 results recalculated to the new standards. TAKS tests are administered in third through sixth grade. Kindergarten, first and second graders are assessed separately with an Early Reading and Writing Assessment three times a year, and RISD Math assessments every six weeks.



The TAKS test results

	2003-2004			2002-2003		
Reading						
	Tested	Passed	Commended	Tested	Passed	Commended
All students	173	98.8%	57.2%	171	97.7%	48.0%
White	150	98.7%	60.0%	143	98.6%	50.3%
African American	<5			<5		
Hispanic	13	100%	46.2%	14	100%	14.3%
Econ Disadvantage	12	100%	25.0%	15	100%	40.0%
Asian	7	100%	42.9%	11	81.8%	45.5%
Special Ed	25	96.0%	36.0%	16	100%	43.8%
ESOL	<5			5	100%	20.0%
Gifted/talented	54	100%	81.5%	47	100%	78.7%
At-Risk	14	100%	7.1%	7	85.7%	14.3%

The Passing results in Reading were comparable to last year. To be commended, students can not miss more that two questions.

	2003-2004			2002-2003		
Math						
	Tested	Passed	Commended	Tested	Passed	Commended
All students	171	98.8%	56.1%	167	97.6%	41.9%
White	148	98.6%	57.4%	139	97.8%	40.3%
African American	<5			<5		
Hispanic	13	100%	53.8%	14	100%	42.9%
Econ Disadvantage	12	100%	50.0%	15	100%	26.7%
Asian	7	100%	57.1%	11	90.9%	54.5%
Special Ed	25	100%	24.0%	16	100%	31.3%
ESOL	<5			5	100%	0.0%
Gifted/talented	54	100%	79.6%	47	100%	70.2%
At-Risk	13	92.3%	23.1%	7	85.7%	0.0%

The Passing results in Math are also comparable to last year. To be commended, students can not miss more that two questions. The math portion of the TAKS test consists entirely of word problems. Before a student does the necessary arithmetic, they must first figure out what arithmetic needs to be done, so the test actually involves reading comprehension as well as arithmetic.

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	2003-2004			2002-2003		
Writing						
	Tested	Passed	Commended	Tested	Passed	Commended
All students	37	100%	48.6%	42	97.6%	9.5%
White	33	100%	45.5%	139	97.1%	11.8%
African American	<5			<5		
Hispanic	<5			<5		
Econ Disadvantage	<5			5	100%	0%
Asian	<5			<5		
Special Ed	<5			5	100%	0%
ESOL	<5			<5		
Gifted/talented	17	100%	64.7%	8	100%	25%
At-Risk	<5			<5		

The TAKS test in Writing is given only in 4th grade. Not only was *the passing rate in Writing 100%*, but the number of commended students rose significantly!

	2003-2004			2002-2003		
Science						
	Tested	Passed	Commended	Tested	Passed	Commended
All students	43	76.7%	30.2%	41	90.2%	12.2%
White	36	75%	27.8%	33	93.9%	12.1%
African American	<5			<5		
Hispanic	<5			5	80.0%	0.0%
Econ Disadvantage	<5			<5		
Asian	<5			<5		
Special Ed	7	85.7%	0%	<5		
ESOL	<5			<5		
Gifted/talented	14	100%	50.0%	10	100%	40.0%
At-Risk	<5			<5		

The TAKS test in Science is given only in 5th grade. Although the science TAKS is given in fifth grade, it tests knowledge accumulated from kindergarten through fifth grade. It was tested for the first time last year, but ratings were not given. This year the difficulty and the number of questions a student had to get right to pass were increased. This is an area of need for Mohawk students at all grade levels.

Interpreting the measurements

TAKS results are not displayed in any category with fewer than 5 students. These student's scores are included in the All Students category and any other appropriate category where there are 5 or more students.

When students are enrolled in school, parents fill out an enrollment card that asks for ethnicity. There are five categories: American Indian, Asian, Black, Hispanic, and White. Parents also fill out a Home Language Survey. If they indicate that English is not the "home language", then the district asks that they be screened for English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL). For ESOL students, in the past a child had three years to learn the English language before being tested on TAKS. *Under the new rules a child with English as a second language is allowed only a one year exemption from taking the TAKS.*

Special Education students are students who have been identified as students with a learning disability. In the past, Special Ed students could be given an alternate test called State Determined Alternative Assessment (SDAA) if it was determined that the TAKS was not an appropriate test. No Child Left Behind does not recognize the SDAA. *At this time, special education students must be given the same test as everyone else or they are counted as "not passing" in the school's rating.* Mohawk could have students who will automatically "not pass", regardless of how well the school is meeting their needs. The State of Texas is appealing this ruling from the Federal Government.

Students may be counted in more than one category. For example, a student who is Economically Disadvantaged may also count in the At Risk category, as well as in one of the ethnic categories and the All Students category. Therefore this student's test could count as many as four times. If

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they are also in Special Education, they will count in that category as well.

For the first time since the rating system was implemented 13 years ago, Mohawk is a Recognized school, rather than an Exemplary school. In order to be rated Exemplary Mohawk needed a passing rate of 90% in all subjects tested. While results were above 90% in reading, writing, and math, the science passing rate was 77%. The Mohawk staff has developed a plan to increase these scores. The ultimate goal is to have 100% passing in all subjects and 100% commended. To accomplish these goals, a detailed analysis by grade has shown that additional focus is needed for Special Ed students in Reading, and there is an overall need to focus on the requirements of Hispanic and Economically Disadvantaged students in all subject areas.

Plans and challenges

The Mohawk faculty and staff have developed “Campus Improvement Plans”, as they do each year, to benefit from the results of the tests and to enhance the education of Mohawk’s students. The Robin Hood Recapture system has made this more challenging than ever this year. Some District support and specialists have been reduced or eliminated due to a lack of funds. Mohawk now has a part time ESOL and a part time Campus Reading Specialist (CRS) instead of fulltime faculty members. A tutor who works during the school day is now being funded by a combination of school budget funds, PTA and a very generous parent. Last year, a parent donated the funds for a Spanish teacher and PTA plans to take over this funding when necessary. Teachers are diverting time that was focused on students to replacing the missing District support, or they are coping without the benefit of those missing resources.

In February the federal No Child Left Behind “Adequate Yearly Progress” (AYP) reports will be released. These are an entirely different set of standards from the State developed TAKS, and the results are unknown at this time. In any case, the Campus Improvement Plan and the dedication of the Mohawk faculty, staff and parents are focused on maintaining the school’s strengths and improving where indicated. If you would like to volunteer to help, contact Principal Billie Snow at billie.snow@risd.org, 469-593-6600.

Check out the arrows

Just a reminder that new ads in the newsletter are highlighted by an arrow graphic like the one to the right.



The Trans-Texas Corridor Project

The Trans-Texas Corridor Plan outlines a new Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) vision for transportation in Texas. The objective is to advance Texas on a new multi-use, statewide transportation corridor that moves people and goods safely, efficiently and more reliably, improving quality of life. The plan provides a design concept, identifies four priority corridor segments, details the financial tools that will make it happen and addresses the importance of public-private partnerships. Finally, it presents an action plan for the first steps in implementation.

Elements of the plan include:

- Roadways
 - Passenger vehicle lanes - three separate 12-foot lanes in each direction
 - Truck lanes - two separate 13-foot lanes in each direction
- Rail component (each has two tracks, one in each direction):
 - High speed passenger rail
 - Freight rail
 - Commuter rail
- Dedicated utility zone - water, electric, natural gas, petroleum, fiber optic and telecommunications
- Dimensions - the corridor will be approximately 4,000 miles in length and up to 1,200 feet wide

TxDOT is holding public hearings regarding the Trans-Texas Corridor Project throughout the state from October 19- November 19. The hearing in Dallas will take place on November 15, at 7780 Harry Hines Boulevard, in the Grauwylar Community Center from 5-8 pm. The Grauwylar Center is located north of Mockingbird. During the meeting, the public will have an opportunity to learn more about the project, ask questions of the TxDOT staff, and submit comments. A meeting will be conducted in Denton on November 16, and in McKinney on November 17. To see the locations of the other hearings check www.dot.state.tx.us/ttc/publicmtglocs.pdf. For more information on the Trans-Texas plan check www.dot.state.tx.us/ttc/ttc_home.htm.

Based on public comment from these meetings and continued environmental analysis, TxDOT will select a preferred corridor, possibly by next spring. Following this stage, TxDOT will submit an environmental impact statement to the Federal Highway Administration. Because of the significance of the Trans-Texas Corridor Project, TxDOT is attempting to obtain as much feedback from the public as possible. No final decisions on the Corridor will be made without public comment.

Business Briefs

By Chris Bruckner, VP Development

For those of you who were able to attend the JJ Pearce HOA annual meeting in September, you heard the strategic plan of the mayor and city council members to more aggressively market Richardson to businesses in order to stimulate economic growth. In the days following that discussion, I realized I had an opportunity to assist that effort as your development representative. I thought there might be marketing value in creating a demographic profile of the City's unemployed and under-employed residents as an educated and skilled workforce. I intended sharing this idea with the other homeowner associations for their participation as well.

After discussing this idea with JJ Pearce HOA President Bernie Mayoff, he arranged a meeting for us with John Jacobs, Senior Vice President of the Richardson Chamber of Commerce. Following my proposal, Mr. Jacobs informed us of the Chamber's mission, their collaboration with the City, and the demographics they did have of Richardson's workforce. Surprisingly, less than 20% of the City's residents are employed within Richardson. That is to say, over 80% of Richardson's workforce is imported from neighboring towns. In fact, that statistic is fairly accurate across the metroplex and so we have a very diverse workforce that has to commute across townships. In hindsight, this may appear obvious to anyone who has to travel along LBJ daily, but it leads to the conclusion that there would be little value in capturing the Richardson demographic as marketing data since very few of those residents actually work in their hometown. As an alternative, Mr. Jacobs suggested we ensure residents are knowledgeable of the Texas Workforce Commission (<http://www.twc.state.tx.us/>, 1222 East Arapaho Road, Suite 336). While some of you may know the Texas Workforce Commission as the agency that processes unemployment insurance benefits, it also acts as a job placement service for careers of all skill levels, working closely with local businesses to assist their hiring needs.

In the end, Mr. Jacobs thanked us for our interest and enthusiasm although this proposal didn't quite align to the goals of the Chamber at this time. I'd like to think that our meeting reminded him that many Richardson residents, despite data that depicts a reversal of this trend, are still dearly feeling the affects of the economic downturn. In the very least, our homeowners association has an improving communication with the Chamber, which should ultimately benefit both parties.

Drop in for a meal at our newest restaurant, Sushi Loco, which is now open in the space formally occupied by Flames, near The Abbey.

Bank One will be opening their new full service facility in the Pavillion Court Shopping Center (in front of PETSMART) on December 16. There will be Grand Opening Event for the community shortly thereafter, which will include food, and activities for kids.

Don't let the grinch strike us!

Holiday Decorations Coordinator

Our holiday decorations are due to go up after Thanksgiving and stay up until after New Years Day. I'm afraid that will not happen this year. No one seems to want to step up to the plate and take over as Holiday Decorations Coordinator.

This is not a hard job. It involves shopping for some replacement supplies and putting together a crew of volunteers to put up the decorations. Then you have the satisfaction of seeing your work beautify the neighborhood. If you feel you can help, please contact Thom Pomella via phone at 972.690.5980 or e-mail at thom@pomella.net.

Please help.... If there is no coordinator... there will be no decorations this year.

It's not over, til it's over

Officially, the membership drive is over. If you are reading this newsletter that means that you care enough about your neighborhood and responded within the 90-day window that we set up for the drive. So far, 300 out of our 464 homes have done just that. And while that is very impressive for most homeowner's associations, we always do much better.

I am asking for help from our Block Captains and everyone else to give us that final push to put us over the 75% level that we have been hitting for the past several years. If you are not a Block Captain, but can help with either knocking on a few doors, or making a few phone calls, we would appreciate it. Please contact Membership VP Marc Perlstein at mperl112@aol.com or give me a call at 972.907.9208. We need help on every block on every street.

Opportunity: Landscaping at Pearce

In the September newsletter, and at the Annual Meeting, we discussed a project to plant trees along Mimosa, for the length of the Pearce “B” Field. There is also the possibility to plant trees along the northern and eastern edges of the grassy overflow parking area on the northwest corner of Senior Way and Mimosa. These enhancements would be a dramatic and enduring enhancement.

The RISD landscape designer who did such a nice job during the Pearce remodeling has recommended a design for this project. Mimosa would be lined with Lace Bark Elm trees. At the north end, near the shot put area, would be a stand of Chinese Pistache trees. A similar stand would be placed at the south corner. At the 50-yard line Shantung Maple trees would add interest and additional color. The north and east borders of the grassy area at Senior Way and Mimosa would be lined with Lace Bark Elm. You can find descriptions of these trees at:

Lace Bark Elm: <http://makeashorterlink.com/?U64A32E79>
Shantung Maple: <http://texassuperstar.com/plants.html>
Chinese Pistache: <http://makeashorterlink.com/?M27A11E79>

We’ve invited some of the other neighborhood organizations and Pearce support groups to participate in funding the project. The cost of the entire project is approximately \$6,000, with RISD absorbing all the labor. We are very glad that some of our members have indicated an interest in contributing to this beautification project. **To donate to make this project a reality** please contact Bernie Mayoff, bernie@mayoff.com, 972-669-9169, before November 29. The Board will make a decision and advise RISD in early December.

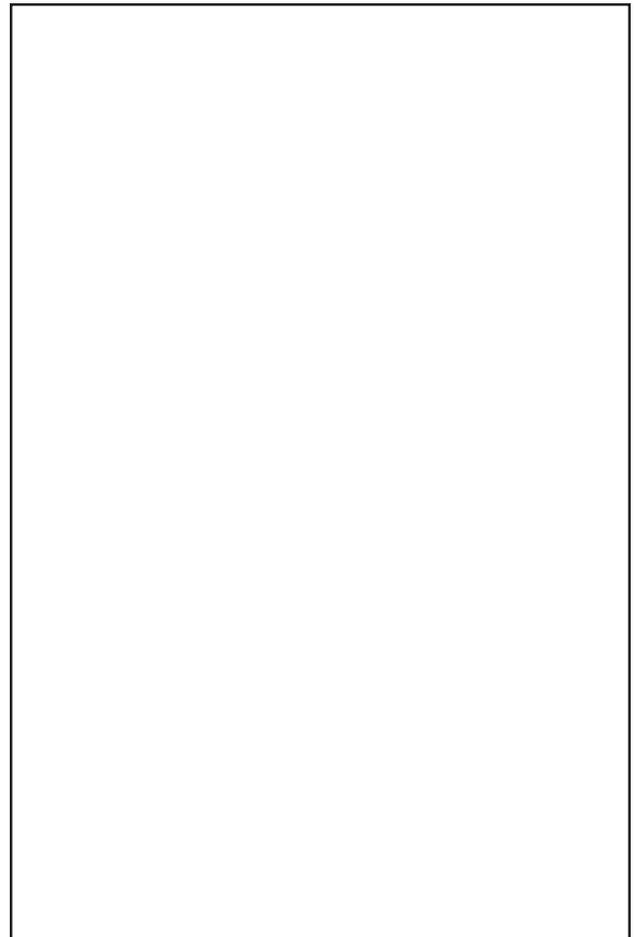


A look at what the area could become in the future.

Neighborhood Vitality and Campbell Road amenities

Richardson’s Neighborhood Vitality Program provides upgrades and enhancements to subdivision entryways, peripheries and other amenities. The upgrades made to walls along Arapaho Road a few years ago were part of this program. Our Homeowners Association has asked for an entry marker and other landscape features through this program. Projects are initiated as funds are available, and we are on the waiting list. In addition to an entry feature, enhancements to the Campbell Road screening wall in the Edith Circle area will also be discussed when we eventually bubble to the top of the list at some undetermined time in the future.

More information about the Neighborhood Vitality Program is on page five of the January 2001 newsletter, available on our website, www.jjphoa.org.



CRIME/SAFETY TALK

By Thom Pomella, VP Safety

RECENT CRIME

Following is the e-mail warning provided by John Corbitt – our CrimeWatch officer.

There was a home burglary in the 1200 Block of Grassmere. Suspects broke an overhead garage door window pane, reached in and pulled the EMERGENCY RELEASE CORD (aka, “rip cord”) to gain entry into the garage...then pried open the locked (doorknob) pass-thru door into the house. Lawn equipment, a shotgun, jewelry and other items were stolen. Unfortunately, the eight and ten foot privacy fences around these back yards provided plenty of cover for the burglars as they entered, loaded (a vehicle), and exited via the rear drive / garage area. Neither neighbors nor passing traffic could see the rear driveway. (-84534)

From the 3/19/04 crime update, following a “rip cord” burglary on Chesterton Crimefighters— Although uncommon, the emergency release cord is an opportunity used by some burglars to gain entry into homes. If your garage door release cord is within arm’s reach of a window when the door is in the down position, we recommend that homeowners “blank out” (replace with solid material, or mesh) the center windows near the cord. Another option is to tie up the cord so it no longer dangles at the window. Some cut the cord off completely (but that becomes a safety issue, especially with children). Some folks recommend going to a solid overhead door, with no windows. However, I am partial to a compromise that would still allow visibility to the driveway before you open the door, say a small window near both sides (away from center and the operating equipment), but tinted so that suspects cannot see into the garage. Some people paint over their windows to cut visibility from the outside. As far as the door into the home— this is why we recommend “hardening” that target just as you would any outside door. A solid door, with a deadbolt lock and a reinforced strike plate presents a formidable barrier. Unfortunately, home builders sometimes cut corners here by installing a hollowcore door with a knob lock only. If that is the case in your home, your weekend project is to

upgrade that door and locking system...and start locking that door, too.

Vandalism is still a problem in the neighborhood. The vandals have switched from knocking down mailboxes to egging cars. They got all the cars parked on the street on Eton the other night. Maybe it is time for us to consider a neighborhood patrol. Please let me know what you think about a neighborhood patrol and if you are willing to help. E-mail me at thom@pomella.net.

FYI.

CROSSING MEDIANS OR PRIVATE PROPERTY

§545.063

(a) On a highway having two or more roadways separated by a space, physical barrier, or clearly indicated dividing section constructed to impede vehicular traffic, an operator shall drive on the right roadway unless directed or permitted to use another roadway by an official traffic-control device or police officer.

(b) An operator may not drive over, across, or in a dividing space, physical barrier, or section constructed to impede vehicular traffic except:

- (1) through an opening in the physical barrier or dividing section or space; or
- (2) at a crossover or intersection established by a public authority.

§545.064

An operator may not drive on or from a limited-access or controlled-access roadway except at an entrance or exit that is established by a public authority.

§545.423

(a) An operator may not cross a sidewalk or drive through a driveway, parking lot, or business or residential entrance without stopping the vehicle.

(b) An operator may not cross or drive in or on a sidewalk, driveway, parking lot, or business or residential entrance at an intersection to turn right or left from one highway to another highway.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/4ubzb>

Greetings from V.P. of Beautification

By Phil Meeker

In early November stand in your garden amid graceful leaves floating down. As trees thin gradually, one can see the basic design of the garden. Trees seem clean and fresh in their bare branched state. While trees are the theme for November, the light of the sky appears regularly and winter skies are crisp and clean.

What's going on in the landscape now?

- **Prepare**

- 1) Tomatoes – pick the night before the first frost. Turn over empty urns, pots and other empty containers so that water will not freeze and cause breakage.
- 2) Place a small piece of fire wood in your birdbath water to expand, therefore, preventing the cracking of the top as the water freezes. Birds also need water in winter.
- 3) Leaves – rake up and dispose

- **Plant**

- 1) Bulbs – anemones, daffodils and crocus
- 2) Tulips – plant Thanksgiving thru New Years Day
- 3) Perennials – candy tuft lilies, lythrum, thrift and other spring bloomers
- 4) Bedding Plants – pansies, pink snapdragons, Iceland poppies and violas.
- 5) Plant trees and shrubs

- **Prune**

- 1) Major tree pruning – for easy spotting, remove dead limbs before leaves fall. Also, be on the lookout for mistletoe growing from branches. Mistletoe is a parasitic and poisonous plant that will kill trees when they are infested with this plant.
- 2) Perennials – cut back after frost or at the end of their season.

- **Transplant**

Over crowded ground covers, i.e. mondograss, liriopes, “Big Blue”, variegated and silver dragon. After transplanting do not cut back until late winter – early spring.

- **Celebrate**

Decorate your home and dinner table with colored leaves, bare branches and holly branches laden with red or orange berries.

- **About Freezes**

	<u>First</u>	<u>Last</u>
Earliest ever recorded	10/22 (1898)	2/8 (1907)
Average	11/17	3/14
Latest recorded	1/4 (1972)	4/13 (1957)

Many marginal (freeze prone) plants have been introduced to our area. A sudden quick freeze can damage these. Knowing ahead of the freeze, cover plants with blankets, beach towels, etc. NEVER PLASTIC

- Christmas trees

Will be for sale before Thanksgiving. Make your selection early. Recut the end 2- 3 inches above farm cut at home and put in a bucket of water in the shade. Spray with an antitranspirant to help retain moisture. Keep watered.

Horticultural information can be obtained from:

Texas A& M Research and Extension Service
17360 Coit Road
Dallas, TX 75252
972-231-5362

Texas Agriculture Extension
Attn: Dallas City Hort Agent
10056 Marsh Lane
Dallas, TX 75229
214-904-3053



Pearce Art Gallery online

The Pearce High School AP Art class is displaying some very impressive works online. You can view them at www.jjpearcepta.org/weeklynews/graphics/ArtGallery.htm and at www.jjpearcepta.org/weeklynews/graphics/ArtPhotoGallery.htm



We hear from our readers



An email was sent to our yahoo group distribution list about a lost puppy at 3:23pm, October 6 and 6 minutes later the following note was received:

Thank you so much! We have been looking for her. She is my son's puppy who was visiting and she got out of the side yard through a little hole!

I have called Annette and they are going to go get her!
What a wonderful web site!!
Thank you,
Carole Strong, 1118 Eton

Tips to try to ward off the flu bug

If you are not able to get the flu shot for a while, here are a few tips to give you a chance to avoid the flu until you can be immunized.

- Stay home when you are sick and keep your children home when they are sick (until 24 hours after fever resolves). Avoid close contact with people who are sick.
- Cover your mouth and nose when coughing and sneezing.
- Use tissue when sneezing if possible and dispose of them appropriately. Wash your hands afterwards.
- Practice good hand washing, especially after contact with those who are coughing and sneezing. Also after getting home from the grocery store.
- Avoid touching your nose and mouth.

Is It a Stroke?

Sometimes symptoms of a stroke are difficult to identify. Unfortunately, the lack of awareness spells disaster. The stroke victim may suffer brain damage when people nearby fail to recognize the symptoms of a stroke. Now doctors say a bystander can recognize a stroke by asking three simple questions:

- *Ask the individual to smile.
- *Ask him or her to raise both arms.
- *Ask the person to speak a simple sentence.

If he or she has trouble with any of these tasks, call 911 immediately and describe the symptoms to the dispatcher. After discovering that a group of non-medical volunteers could identify facial weakness, arm weakness and speech problems, researchers urged the general public to learn the three questions. They presented their conclusions at the American Stroke Association's annual meeting last February. Widespread use of this test could result in prompt diagnosis and treatment of the stroke and prevent brain damage.

Minutes of Board Meeting, October 3, 2004

Bernie Mayoff called the meeting to order at 7:25 p.m. at the home of Phil Meeker.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last board meeting were approved with two corrections.

Treasurer's Report

Helen Simon presented the treasurer's report. It was approved as presented.

Old Business

The annual meeting went well. There were approximately 50 people in attendance.

Pearce landscaping. Still waiting to hear from the RISD. Bernie has contacted the city regarding possible landscaping on Campbell. City may place a monument on Mimosa and look into the wall along Campbell.

New Business

- Annual neighborhood garage sale is set for October 16. Phil to place signs.
- Holiday Decorations. Thom to ask for needed coordinators in the newsletter.
- Budget Proposal. The budget proposal for 2004-2005 was approved. The Pearce landscaping proposal is not included.
- Tree Analysis. The board discussed the possibility of having an arborist look at the neighborhood trees regarding some diseases that spread from tree to tree. Phil will discuss with an arborist.

Committee Reports

- Membership: 250 paid current members. This represents approximately 52% of the homeowners. Red dots will be printed on the next newsletter to those who have not paid.
- Newsletter: No new ads. Dee will be gone 10/10 to 10/17.
- Safety: Thom reported there has been vandalism to mail boxes, and there is still a concern regarding traffic safety at Mohawk
- Internet: John noted that the web site can be accessed to see zoning for the neighborhood.

The next Homeowner's Association President's meeting will be October 19 at 7:00pm. The school board or superintendent will be invited to attend.

Next Board meetings are as follows.

- October 31, 7:30 pm at Helen's. Deadline will be 10/27.
- November 29, 7:00 pm at Bernie's.
- January 2, 7:00 pm at Nancy's.

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy De La Garza, Secretary

RETIREMENT RISK PLANNING

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 E-mail: tolandms@aol.com

Air quality

On June 15, 2004 Collin, Dallas, Denton, Ellis, Johnson, Kaufman, Parker, Rockwall and Tarrant counties were designated as an ozone “nonattainment area” by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency. New standards that give a better measure of long-term toxic effects classify the area as a “moderate” nonattainment area. The state must develop a plan to reach the air quality standard by June 15, 2010.

More than half of the air pollution in the area is the result of motor vehicles. The Regional Transportation Council is trying to aggressively address this problem. Among the programs are mass transit, roadway improvements, HOV lanes, bicycle and pedestrian routes, and more rapid removal of incidents from freeways to minimize congestion.

School buses are the largest mass transit program in the United States, and they are the safest way for children to get to school, but aging school buses are a large source of pollution. Currently in Collin, Dallas, Denton and Tarrant counties there are over 1,500 school buses that are more than ten years old. School buses built before 1993 emit three times more nitrogen oxides and six times more particulate matter than newer models. The goal for the Dallas-Fort Worth region is at least 500 school bus replacements or retrofits in three years. The North Central Texas Council of Governments is participating in an Adopt-a-School Bus program to bring state, federal and private funds to school districts to help with these upgrades. More information is available at www.adopt-a-schoolbus.org

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 To All the Fun!!**

FALL CARNIVAL
MOHAWK ELEMENTARY
 November 13TH 3:00 - 6:00 P.M.

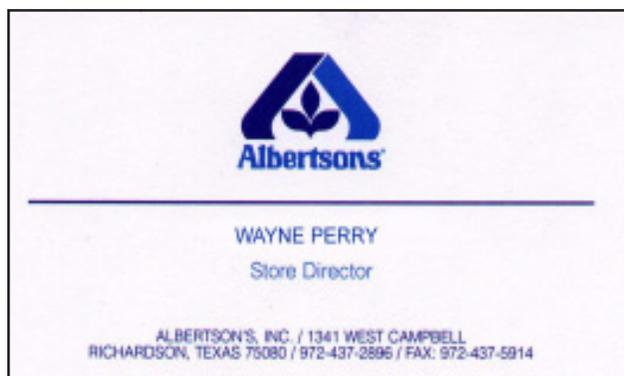
Its a grand time for a Carnival. Catch the festive mood -join us for some real family fun! Lots of games and attractions, obstacle course, bounce house, giant slide. Plenty of food: barbecue and hot dogs and all the fixings, cotton candy, snow cones and more. We’ve got a dunking booth and “Pie the PTA Prez” for your added enjoyment. Everyone is welcome. Advanced tickets available or may be purchased at the gate. For tickets or questions, call Laura Pippard (972-699-3533) or Kay Grace (972-234-6553). See you there!

J J PEARCE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenses
For the Period September 1, 2004 to October 31, 2004

	Month Ended October 31, 2004	Year to Date Actual October 31, 2004	Year To Date Budget
Cash Receipts			
Membership Dues	\$765.00	\$4,335.00	\$4,365.00
Dividends	13.50	35.20	20.00
Advertising-Newsletter	35.00	350.00	200.00
Total Receipts	\$813.50	\$4,720.20	\$4,585.00
Expenses			
Crime Watch			
Metrocall	\$21.85	\$43.70	\$43.70
Membership			
Annual Meeting		79.69	80.00
Internet Domain Fee	34.64	34.64	34.64
Newsletter			
Printing, etc.	274.73	449.11	500.00
Delivery	75.00	150.00	150.00
Other Expenses			
Fire Department Dinners		151.53	175.00
Total Expenses	\$406.22	\$908.67	\$983.34
Net Income (Loss)	\$407.28	\$3,811.53	\$3,601.66

	Fund Balances:		
	Checking	Vanguard	Totals
Beginning Balances - 10/1/04	\$3,811.57	\$15,846.78	\$19,658.35
Add receipts	800.00	13.50	813.50
Less Disbursements	406.22		406.22
Ending Balances - 10/31/04	\$4,205.35	\$15,860.28	\$20,065.63

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



Board of Directors 2005 —2006

President	Bernie Mayoff	972-669-9169	bernie@mayoff.com
VP Development	Chris Bruckner	972-994-9374	csmail@airmail.net
VP Safety	Thom Pomella	972-690-5980	thom@pomella.net
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 (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 ½ X 11" page.

Business card (2 x 3 ½ ")	\$10.00
¼ page	\$20.00
½ page	\$40.00
Full page	\$75.00

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

Local Events in November include:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time/Location</u>
November		
5-6	Kartisi (Sci-Fi play)	8:00pm, University Theatre, UTD
6	Guitar: Homage to Lorca	8:00pm, UTD Jonsson Performance Hall
6-7	Pearce Pacesetter bazaar	Pearce
7	Kartisi (Sci-Fi play)	2:30pm, University Theatre, UTD
8	Veterans Day Assembly	9:45am, Pearce gymnasium
10	Jazz Band Concert	7:30pm, Pearce Auditorium
12-13	Kartisi (Sci-Fi play)	8:00pm, University Theatre, UTD
13	Fall Carnival	3:00pm – 6:00pm, Mohawk
	Richardson Symphony: Swing	8:00pm, Eisemann Center
14	Kartisi (Sci-Fi play)	2:30pm, University Theatre, UTD
	Schubert & Café music	7:30pm, UTD Conference Center
15	Trans-Texas Corridor Hearing	5:00-8:00pm; see page 7
20	Pearce Band Silent Auction	6:00pm, Pearce Corral
22	Symphony of Toys	7:30pm, University Theatre, UTD
		Admission is one new, unwrapped toy
23	Mohawk Grandparents Day	Mohawk
24-26	Thanksgiving holiday (no school)	
December		
3	Concord Winter Show	7:30pm, Pearce
	Musica Nova (free)	8:00pm, Jonsson Perf. Hall, UTD
4	Richardson Holiday Parade	Coit Road
	Richardson Symphony: Holiday Concert	8:00pm, Eisemann Center
4-5	Santa's Village (free)	Civic Center
5	28 th Annual Holiday Sing	7:30pm, University Theatre, UTD

For information on performances at UTD call 972-883-2982, or <http://ah.utdallas.edu>



For those who have served...
... and those now serving
We Salute You



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

Important

Please see important articles on
pages 8 and 9
about holiday decorations, membership,
and landscaping at Pearce.

Board Meetings: November 29, 1411 Huntington, 7:00pm
January 2, 1127 Edith Circle, 7:00pm
January 30, 1214 Grassmere, 7:00pm

Board meetings are open to all members