

**J. J. Pearce Homeowners Association Newsletter**  
**Website: [www.jjphoa.org](http://www.jjphoa.org)**

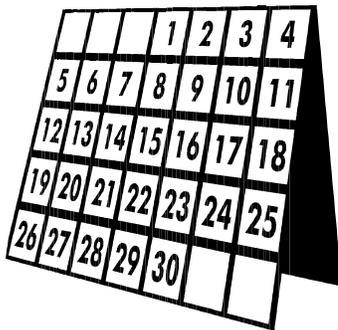
**October, 2003**

**News from the City**

- The City has approved a budget for the 2003-2004 fiscal year. The tax rate remains unchanged.
- Increases in water and sewerage rates from the North Texas Municipal Water District have been passed along to residents. The last adjustment was six years ago.
- The sanitation rate is increasing from \$13.29 to \$16. Part of the increase is due to the need to close the current landfill and begin operation of a new one.
- Contracts with TxDOT and with Garland are leading to major intersection improvements. Dual left turn lanes, and improved right turn lanes are in design for intersections at Coit and Campbell, Arapaho and Beltline; and at the same streets along Jupiter; and for improvements at Spring Valley and Coit.
- An Assistant City Manager position for Neighborhood Integrity and Community Services has been established.
- The City is considering ordinances for Rental Registration and for Garage Enclosures. The objective is to maintain and enhance the quality of our neighborhoods.

**Thirty days to go!**

**Marc Perlstein, VP Membership**



We are in the last leg of our 2004 Membership Drive. I wish I could say 100% of our neighborhood has responded, but that hasn't happened yet. I can tell you that 231 households have renewed or joined for the first time. That's 49%, so hat's off to those of you who have sent in your form and check.

In the next few days, I will be contacting our Block Captains and asking them to either call or visit each house that has not responded. If you aren't sure whether you have paid or not, and some of you paid twice (I returned those checks), don't hesitate to either call me at 972.907.9208 or email me at: [mperl112@aol.com](mailto:mperl112@aol.com).

**Please don't feed these animals!!!**



The increase in the squirrel population in our area has caused much consternation and expense to many of our residents. We have heard from some residents costs of upwards of \$500 for repairing telephone lines to as much as \$800 for roto-routing out sewer lines, after a squirrel climbed into a roof vent and died, to \$1,500 to prune tree branches over-hanging the roof and thwart these varmints. These rodents (yes, they are rodents) have taken up residence in attics, chewed on house soffits, on fences, telephone lines in homes, and have caused a lot of destruction. They can get into your home through a hole as small as a quarter! You would think that there are enough acorns, pecans and birdseed for them to steal! They really make pests of themselves, and many of us do not think they are cute anymore! They can also carry diseases.

Please do not feed these squirrels, either on purpose or inadvertently by leaving pet food out where they can easily enjoy the feast. Remember, they have adapted to the urban environment, not only do they feed in the daytime, when we see them, but at night, because they really are nocturnal creatures.

**Red Ribbon Week**

Red Ribbon Week is RISD's annual week to focus on substance abuse education and awareness. Appropriate programs will be conducted in all area schools. Richardson is fortunate to have an organization, the Community Action Network that exists solely to help with Red Ribbon Week and other programs throughout the year to prevent drugs from being a problem for our students and families. Even good homes can suffer the ravages of drug abuse, and problems can start as early as 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> grade. If you, or your children, are aware of a problem please intervene. School counselors or the police department can help. But a "Code of Silence" only allows problems to grow.

## We hear from our readers

I will not be able to attend the Annual Meeting but I would like the board to know that I think they are doing a fabulous job.

Debbie

Always enjoy the meetings and programs.

Thanks for everything you've done to promote safety and unity in JJPHOA.

Marian



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**214-415-9466**

## From your Neighborhood Realtor

**JJPEARCE REALESTATE ACTIVITY FOR**  
**August 2003**

### **HOMES CURRENTLY ON THE MARKET**

<b>1202 HUNTINGTON</b>	<b>2,132sqft</b>	<b>\$183,900</b>
<b>1414 HUNTINGTON</b>	<b>1,902sqft</b>	<b>\$195,000</b>
<b>1309 HUNTINGTON</b>	<b>2,367sqft</b>	<b>\$219,000</b>
<b>1220 STRATFORD</b>	<b>2,904sqft</b>	<b>\$269,000</b>
<b>1102 HUNTINGTON</b>	<b>3,333sqft</b>	<b>\$297,900*</b>

\*UNDER CONTRACT

### **HOMES SOLD SINCE 08/16//2003**

<b>1209 GRASSMERE</b>	<b>2,601sqft</b>
<b>1201 HUNTINGTON</b>	<b>2,560sqft</b>

Average selling price per square foot was \$84.96.

**Information obtained from the Multiple Listing System  
and is deemed reliable but not guaranteed**

(Information provided by Dorothy Thomas of Ebby Halliday)

## Meet the new Board members

### **Chris Bruckner, VP Development**

I moved to Dallas in 1995 from my hometown of Branson, MO. I worked at Nortel Networks for nearly 10 years before joining Northstar Communications this past spring. Sara and I were married on Oct 3, 1998 and will be celebrating our 5th wedding anniversary next month. We moved into the neighborhood in February 2000 and couldn't be happier in our first home together. Hobbies include playing guitar, surfing the Internet and gaming with friends. I'm excited to be the next VP Development in order to foster good communication and positive relations with our local businesses and I look forward to serving our community.

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### **Thom Pomella, VP Safety**

I was born and raised in Brooklyn, New York. Michele and I have been married for 30 Years this coming February. We have two boys, Sean 18 and Geoff 16. Sean is at the University of Idaho and Geoff is a junior at JJ Pearce. I escaped from NY and moved to Richardson in 1980. I have worked with the Postal Service for over 30 years, currently serving as a letter carrier for the JJ Pearce addition (except Melrose, Pueblo, and Cheyenne south of Stratford). We moved into the JJ Pearce addition in 1994. I have served as a Crime Watch Coordinator for Area 4 and have helped Wayne Eitel with Holiday Decorations. I look forward to being the next VP Safety.

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### **Phil Meeker, VP Beautification**

Born and raised in Westfield, N.J. Graduated from the Culinary Institute of America. Married 35 years to Janice. Have three sons who all graduated from Pearce. Have two granddaughters and one grandson. Moved to Richardson and the J. J. Pearce area from Ridgewood, N.J. in 1979 with American Airlines/Sky Chefs. Member of the Texas Association of Nurserymen and Canyon Creek Presbyterian Church. Enjoy cooking, gardening and being with the grandchildren. Looking forward to serving on the board.

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### **Nancy De La Garza, Secretary**

I was born in Kansas City, Kansas. My family originally moved into the J J Pearce area in 1979. I am an RN and currently work in home care and hospice. David and I have been married 15 years and have two sons who attend RISD schools. We recently moved to JJ Pearce area from the Reservation. When we lived in Plano, I was active on a homeowners' board there and I look forward to working with the JJ Pearce board.

## J. J. Pearce Homeowners Association Annual Meeting

On Tuesday night, September 16, the Association held our annual General Meeting. Over 40 residents attended and everyone was a winner. Our special thanks to Nick-N-Willy's Pizza and to Creative Cakes (Denise Mayoff) for donating pizza and pettifors. Thanks to Helen Simon and Dee Russum for organizing the drinks. And to our speaker, Bob Lovitt of UTD. [See article on page 5 for more information on UTD.]



Thanks to departing Board members Bob Hutsler, Bill Little, and Lynn Sanders for their enthusiastic participation and leadership throughout their terms. And congratulations and thanks to the new Board. Names and contact information for the new Board are listed on page 13 of this newsletter. Thanks also to Nick n Willy's and to Laurie Simon for donating door prizes.

Not only did everyone win simply by attending, but a number of people won door prizes as well. Door prize winners were:

Nick 'n Willy's gift certificate: Phil Meeker  
Cappucino's gift certificate: Zella Meeks  
La Madeline gift certificate: Joanna Shampine  
Sonny Bryan's: John Awezec  
Charlie D's: Liz Six  
Designer keys went to:  
Vicky Chase, Virginia Schlenker, John Sadowski, Dee Russum



### Board of Directors for 2003 -- 2004

left to right: VP Safety Thom Pomella, Webmaster John Sadowski, VP Development Chris Bruckner, VP Beautification Phil Meeker, Treasurer Helen Simon, President Bernie Mayoff, Newsletter Dee Russum, VP Membership Marc Perlstein. Not pictured is Secretary Nancy De La Garza.

## Sense and Nonsense about TAKS

We've all seen the reports that some of the RISD schools did not meet federal criteria on the new TAKS test. Nonsense! It is actually pretty hard for any school to have unsatisfactory *performance* on the TAKS tests, but our schools did very well. As long as at least 46.8% of students in Reading and Language Arts, and 33.4% of students in Math meet the federal performance standard then the school is classified as Meets. Those goals will rise gradually over the years. At Pearce 401 of 450 (89.1%) of students that took the new TAKS test in Reading and Language Arts last semester met the standard. In Math 423 of 451 (93.8%) of students met the TAKS standard. At North and Mohawk *performance* results were even better.

There is another, much higher, measure that a school must meet that has nothing to do with actual *performance* on the tests. To receive a label of Meets, at least 95% of the students enrolled must *participate* in the testing. Within a campus, each subgroup that has at least 50 students and is at least 10% of the student body must also have 95% *participation*. Our schools can, and did, encourage students to be sure to attend on test day. But it is up to the students and their parents to actually attend. It is attendance on test day that resulted in the label of Needs Improvement for some RISD schools.

There is also a graduation goal of 70.0% to achieve a Meets rating. In all categories the only two classifications are either Meets or Needs Improvement.

As you can see in the tables, our schools easily met the *performance* criteria. Pearce had low *participation* numbers for Hispanics and Economically Disadvantaged in Reading and Math.

You can view results for any school in the state at [www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/2003/campus.srch.html](http://www.tea.state.tx.us/ayp/2003/campus.srch.html).



2002-3 TAKS Pearce	All students	African American	Hispanic	White	Econ Disadv.	Special Ed
Reading / Language Arts						
% Met Std	<b>89.1%</b>	70.0%	72.6%	92.6%	60.5%	65.0%
Total Students	506	17	97	357	61	42
Participation Rate	<b>&gt;95%</b>	70.6%	<b>93.8%</b>	>95%	<b>88.5%</b>	47.6%
Student Grp %	100%	3.4%	19.2%	70.6%	12.1%	8.3%
<b>Mathematics</b>						
% Met Std	<b>93.8%</b>	80.0%	75.7%	> 95%	79.5%	81.0%
Total Students	510	20	98	357	63	42
Participation Rate	<b>&gt;95%</b>	65.0%	<b>89.8%</b>	>95%	<b>88.9%</b>	50.0%
Student Grp %	100	3.9%	19.2%	70.0%	12.4%	8.2%
<b>Graduation</b>						
Graduates	>95%	>95%	16	>95%	14	7
Number in class	418	9	20	354	16	15
Graduation Rate	<b>&gt; 95%</b>	> 95%	80.0%	> 95%	87.5%	46.7%
Student Grp %	100.0%	2.2%	4.8%	84.7%	3.8%	3.6%
2002-3 TAKS North	All students	African American	Hispanic	White	Econ Disadv.	Special Ed
Reading / Language Arts						
% Met Std	<b>93.5%</b>	90.2%	82.9%	>95%	82.1%	>95%
Total Students	622	53	158	375	165	62
Participation Rate	<b>&gt;95%</b>	84.9%	>95%	>95%	>95%	>95%
Student Grp %	100%	8.5%	25.4%	60.3%	26.5%	10.0%
<b>Mathematics</b>						
% Met Std	<b>90.6%</b>	78.0%	76.9%	> 95%	72.8%	75.9%
Total Students	621	53	157	375	164	62
Participation Rate	<b>&gt;95%</b>	86.8%	77.7%	>95%	>95%	>95%
Student Grp %	100	8.5%	25.3%	60.4%	26.4%	10.0%
2002-3 TAKS Mohawk	All students	African American	Hispanic	White	Econ Disadv.	Special Ed
Reading / Language Arts						
% Met Std	<b>&gt;95%</b>	>95%	>95%	>95%	>95%	>95%
Total Students	200	5	16	163	24	33
Participation Rate	<b>&gt;95%</b>	60.0%	87.5%	>95%	75.0%	54.5%
Student Grp %	100%	2.5%	8.0%	81.5%	12.0%	16.5%
<b>Mathematics</b>						
% Met Std	<b>&gt;95%</b>	>95%	>95%	> 95%	>95%	92.3%
Total Students	200	5	16	163	24	33
Participation Rate	<b>&gt;95%</b>	60.0%	87.5%	>95%	75.0%	48.5%
Student Grp %	100	2.5%	8.0%	81.5%	12.0%	16.5%

## Growing and growing and growing

One year ago we reported on UTD's plans for the future. That article and maps are available on our website at [www.jjphoa.org/news/news2002/10oct2002.pdf](http://www.jjphoa.org/news/news2002/10oct2002.pdf), page 5. Since that time the university has completed the magnificent new 204,000-square-foot Management School building. Interesting from the outside, the interior is bright, spacious and impressive. A 23,000-square-foot satellite location of the Callier Center for Communication Disorders has also opened on the north side of the campus.

More impressive though, are the enrollment and academic accomplishments. The number of students enrolled at UTD for the fall semester is up 3.4 percent over year-ago levels and 43.7 percent since the 1998-99 academic year. According to preliminary figures, total enrollment at UTD reached a record 13,677 for the fall semester of 2003 compared with 13,229 a year ago. The enrollment is the largest in the school's 34-year history and the first time the UTD student body has exceeded 13,600. In the 1998-99 school year, UTD had only 9,516 students.

Just as enrollment figures are at an all-time high, so are the average SAT scores of incoming freshmen – in the 1225 range. The amount of research funding is also at new highs.

Undergraduate enrollment increased 8.6 percent over last year – from 7,959 to 8,646. Overall graduate enrollment declined 4.5 percent, from 5,270 students last year to 5,031 this year, but doctoral enrollment grew more than eight percent over last year.

Of UTD's seven schools, the School of Management remains the largest, with 4,182 students enrolled for the fall semester, while 3,399 students are enrolled in the Erik Jonsson School of Engineering and Computer Science, the university's second-largest school. The School of Natural Sciences & Mathematics had the highest percentage enrollment growth (27.4 percent), jumping from 1,166 students last year to 1,485 this year. Second was the School of Social Sciences, which increased from 793 students in the 2002-03 academic year to 983 this year, a hike of 24 percent; and third was the School of Arts & Humanities, which had a 21.5 percent jump in enrollment – from 720 students last year to 875 this year. Enrollment is expected to reach 17,000 by 2008.

### Most EE and CS degrees in the country

The University of Texas at Dallas awards more electrical engineering and computer science degrees at the bachelor's and master's levels combined than any other university in the United States, according to the American Society for Engineering Education's latest edition of Profiles of Engineering and Engineering Technology Colleges.

UTD awarded 728 such degrees in the 2001-02 academic year, the latest year surveyed, the ASEE said, compared with 673 for the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and 584

for Stanford. UTD ranked fifth in electrical engineering and computer science bachelor's degrees with 372 (behind the University of California, Berkeley, 454; Penn State University, 394; the University of Michigan, 387; and MIT, 376) and third in electrical engineering and computer science master's degrees with 356 (behind the University of Southern California, 399, and Stanford, 391). When the bachelor's and master's figures were combined, however, UTD ranked first. Nine EE and CS degrees were awarded at the doctoral level in 2001-02.

In the most recent academic year, 2002-03, UTD conferred 320 electrical engineering and computer science bachelor's degrees and 445 master's degrees and 12 doctoral degrees in those areas, for a total of 777 EE and CS degrees.

Minorities make up 32 percent of UTD's student body. The largest single group of minority students is Asian-American (17 percent of total enrollment), followed by Hispanic-American (eight percent) and African-American (seven percent). International students comprise 16 percent of the student body, a figure that is virtually unchanged from last year. The gender breakdown of the student body is 53 percent males, and 47 percent females.

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## U. T. Dallas Chess Club Offers Lessons to Kids

Children interested in learning how to play the game of chess or improving their existing skills will have an opportunity to do so from some of the top collegiate players in the country – members of The University of Texas at Dallas (UTD) Chess Club. On Oct. 18 and Nov. 15 – youngsters ages six and older will be able to learn about various aspects of the game, including opening theory, tactics, end-game strategy and tournament preparation. Instruction also will be provided to novices with little or no prior chess experience who are interested in learning to play.

Among the instructors will be experienced members of UTD's chess team, perennially among the top-ranked college chess programs in the United States. There will be no more than four students per instructor. Proceeds from the lessons will go to the UTD Chess Club, to be spent on chess-related activities or equipment.

The cost for the lessons is \$50 per child per session or \$75 for two children. Each lesson will begin at 11 a.m. and conclude at 3 p.m. Pre-registration is not required and attendees can enroll a half hour prior to the beginning of each session. All classes will be held on the UTD campus in Cecil H. Green Hall, Room 2.508. For additional information about the chess training sessions, please contact UTD Chess Club President Katie Roberts-Hoffman at 214-697-1397 or [kxr013400@hotmail.com](mailto:kxr013400@hotmail.com).

Our condolences go out to our JJPHOA President, Bernie Mayoff, his wife Denise and their family on the recent death of Bernie's mother in Florida.

## CRIME TALK

By Thom Pomella, VP Safety

### Thanks Again

I would like to personally thank Lynn Sanders for the great job he did as VP Safety over the last three years. His columns were very concise and enlightening. Lynn will still be with us as he is a Volunteer Police Officer for the Richardson Police Department. You will see him in the neighborhood performing home check for those persons on vacation and other duties, freeing up Richardson Police Officers for other more important tasks. Lynn has left some very large shoes to fill. Thanks Again Lynn.

### Pervert in the Neighborhood

On 9/4, around 7:40 PM, a lady and two nine-year-old girls were waiting inside a car on the front driveway of Mohawk Elementary. All three noticed the suspect, who appeared to be a jogger, walking northbound along the sidewalk adjacent to where they were parked. Suddenly, the suspect stopped and walked back to their car. Thinking the suspect merely wanted to ask a question, the lady partially rolled down her window. The suspect pulled down his shorts and exposed himself, while making a lewd comment to the lady... in full view and hearing of the two girls. The suspect then pulled up his shorts and ran eastbound down Melrose. Responding officers were unable to locate the suspect.

### Scams, Scams, and More Scams

There seems to be a never-ending crime wave in scam letters / e-mails. There has been a report from a citizen after receiving an "Award Notification/Final Notice" from the Spanish Sweepstakes Lottery/International Program. There are several variations of this letter. El Gordo Sweepstakes (currently making the rounds in our area) and the Oy Keikkaus Netherlands Sweepstakes Lottery are just a couple of examples. This letter is a mutation of the all-to-common "Advanced Fee" scam letters. The letter announces the recipient is a winner "in the 3rd category." The recipient is also asked to "keep this award from public notice (this means 'keep quiet') until your claim has been processed due to a mix-up of names and numbers." There will also be a claim deadline, warning you "after this date, all funds will be returned as unclaimed". *THIS IS A SCAM*. Recipients who are tricked into believing they are winners will be required to send money ("advanced fees") for taxes, processing fees, paperwork, transfer fees... whatever the scammers can dream up. The recipient will not receive anything because the recipient did not win a lottery or sweepstakes. The notification might also contain a form to submit that requests personal information, including bank account numbers and routing numbers. These scammers appear to be targeting our older adults via U.S. Mail. If you receive one of these letters in the mail, contact the Postal Inspectors at 956-971-1722.

## FYI—Richardson Code of Ordinances Sec. 20-62

- a). Overhang of trees restricted; plantings in alleys. Trees shall be trimmed so as to avoid causing a hazard to public places. The minimum overhang shall be 7 feet above sidewalks, 9 feet at top of street curb, 11 feet above the gutter line, and 14 feet above the street surface at the outside edge of the parking lane. The minimum overhang at street curbs may be seven feet when 150 feet from an intersection and not obstructing traffic control signs.
- b). No planting of trees or tall shrubs will be permitted within alley rights-of-way. Growth encroachment in the alley shall not exceed one foot. In areas where the dedicated right-of-way is enhanced by alley easements on either or both sides, the 1-foot maximum growth encroachment shall also be effective.

### Crime Update via E-MAIL

If you do not receive the Crime Update via e-mail and would like to receive them, send your e-mail address to me at [thom@pomella.net](mailto:thom@pomella.net), and I'll get it to your Crime Watch Coordinator, or add you to my list. Either way you'll start to receive the alerts.

Remove the opportunity for crime to occur:

- o Don't leave property inside your vehicle

Make sure you remove all items from your vehicle when parking for the evening or just for a short time. Lock the doors. It does not take long to just grab an item from a vehicle. Just covering an item is not good enough. The bad guys know something of value is hidden underneath.

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**Jo Wells**

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**Renetta Montgomery**

1116 Stratford  
972-733-8469

**Ebby Halliday Realtors  
Campbell and Coit Office**

## Greetings from Phil Meeker, VP Beautification

First, I would like to give a “big thanks” to Bill Little for his four years of dedicated service to the Board and the Association members. The overall appearance of the neighborhood is a testament to his efforts. His tips on beautification, what to be on the look out for and what to do about it are right on target. In the July newsletter his article on organic techniques, (contributed by Scott Bell), he began to make many members rethink how their landscapes are managed. This was a good wake up call. The sale of Diazinon is banned in many areas: Most noticeably in Fort Worth, and Dursban is getting hard to find. This is good. In future articles I will continue to support the organic way. Again Bill, a “big thanks” for your contributions.

### What is going on in our landscapes now?

- **Grubs.**

While you can't see them now, or any damage they are currently doing, they are eating the root systems of your grass. As night temperatures cool they will stop feeding and burrow down about six inches and hibernate for the winter. They will not eat again or do damage in their life cycle. At this same time our grass will go dormant. The grub damage will not be seen until spring arrives and St. Augustine and Bermuda grass begins to grow. You may then notice brown areas in the lawn. If you pull on these brown areas and the grass and some roots with soil attached peel back as small mats you have diagnosed grub damage. That damage can only be repaired by sodding, seeding or plugging these areas in mid-spring 2004. Grubs do not eat in the spring. They slowly surface in mid-May and evolve into June bugs. They mate in June, especially in areas brightly lit at night. They then drop their egg cases which hatch and eat more and more as they grow and repeat the cycle.

Since there is nothing that can be done now, I will have control ideas in the spring.

- **Home invasion critters and control.**

Ants, (all kinds) roaches, crickets, lizards are now beginning to look for a warm winter home – our homes. They get in via wall cracks, brick weep holes. Small lizards like to be near a patio at night when the lights are on. When you open the door they will scoot right in. There are residual chemicals available that have to be applied weekly. Follow label directions. Organically, the same applies, using Neem Oil, Orange Oil or D-limonene. Again, follow label instructions.

I am eager to take on the challenges ahead and also to visit with many of our neighbors who we have grown accustomed to, and to meet our new neighbors. I also plan to make it fun!



Empty your attic, garage, closets and anywhere else you've stashed items to get rid of "someday." For security reasons, just set it up in your front yard. Mattresses, box springs and mattress pads can not be sold. **Keep all doors -- (house, and garage as well as fence gates) locked.** Watch the masses of shoppers you will attract! We will have signs placed at the entrances of our area to advertise your goodies. Call Phil Meeker at 972-690-4677 if you plan to participate.

### Inquiring minds want to know...

What is under construction in front of Home Depot? Thom Pomella informs us that it is a bank.

If you know of a new business that is moving into our area, please e mail any member on the board, and we will look into it.

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## JJPHOA Board Members honor Station 2 firefighters again this year



Association member, Dee Russum, tosses the salad as one of the firefighters prepares to set the table.



Four of the firefighters prepare to eat while the ambulance crew is on the way back to the station to join them for dinner on Wednesday.



Some JJPHOA members with the firefighters on Thursday, before dinner.

We expressed our appreciation for the Police as well and received the following letter from the RCPAAA:

*Thank you for your check in the amount of \$100.00 to be used for the Richardson Officer Appreciation Day on October 1, 2003.*

*Please accept our thanks to the HOA for their kindness and generosity on behalf of the RCPAAA.*

*Sincerely,  
Richardson Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association, Officer Appreciation Day Committee,*

*John Cleary    John Grand    Chris Gescheidle  
Joe Johnson    Janet Kurka    Alicia Marshall  
Sue Morrison    Becky Nodorft*



The Friday shift poses in the kitchen before eating their dinner.

Bernie Mayoff, photographer

## L'shana Tova

Rosh Hashanah is the Jewish New Year. This year the eve of Rosh Hashanah fell on September 26, corresponding to the first day of the month of Nissan on the Hebrew calendar. The High Holy Days conclude ten days later with Yom Kippur, the Day of Atonement, beginning the evening of October 5. On Rosh Hashanah the Books of Life and Death are open on the heavenly desk and on Yom Kippur they are sealed.

As you might imagine, preparation for such an awesome and important period begins in the prior month, the Hebrew month of Elul. Historically, Elul has great significance, because it was on the first day of Elul that Moses — following the sin of the Golden Calf — ascended Mount Sinai to receive a new, second set of stone tablets. Forty days later — on the seminal Yom Kippur — Moses returned to the people with tablets in hand, signaling a repair of the breach between the Jewish people and God. Interestingly, the letters in the word Elul are an acronym for the comforting words Ani l'dodi v'dodi lee — “I am my Beloved’s and my Beloved is mine” (Song of Songs 6:3). These words, which sum up the relationship between God and the people, are also commonly found on Jewish marriage certificates.

The essential mitzvahs (commandments/blessings) of Rosh Hashanah are to refrain from work and to hear the sounding of the shofar (Lev. 23:24; Num 29:1). The shofar is mindful of the biblical story of Abraham binding his son Isaac, when a ram was caught in the thicket and sacrificed in Isaac’s stead, and that story is read as part of the Rosh Hashanah service. The actual sounds of a shofar can be heard at <http://www.jewish-issues.com/shofar.html>.

A central part of Rosh Hashanah is the festive meal. During the High Holidays, a round challah is used — symbolizing fullness and completion. The bread is dipped into honey, and also an apple into honey, symbolizing a prayer for a sweet new year.

It is customary to greet others with the words: “L’shana Tova — Ketivah vi-chatima Tova.” or simply L’shana tova. This means: “For a good year — You should be written and sealed in the good (Book of Life).”

## Yom Kippur

Yom Kippur is the holiest day of the Jewish year. On Yom Kippur Jews ask for forgiveness and atone for sins, both those that are known and those that are unknown. Though Yom Kippur atones for transgressions against God, this does not include wrongs committed against fellow human beings. It is therefore the universal Jewish custom — sometime before Yom Kippur — to apologize and seek forgiveness from any friends, relative, or acquaintances who may have been harmed or insulted over the past year.

The Liberty Bell in Philadelphia is engraved with the biblical verse: “Proclaim LIBERTY throughout all the Land unto all the inhabitants thereof.” That verse, in the bible, also says that the proclamation is to be made on Yom Kippur!

## Which is the “real” new year?

The Bible doesn’t actually use the term Rosh Hashanah. It refers to the event as “a day of remembrance” and “a day for the sounding of the shofar” and specifies that it is observed on the first day of the seventh month. But the Jewish calendar considers the month of Nissan, occurring in March and April, to be the first month of the calendar. Why, then, does the Jewish “new year” occur in Tishri, the seventh month?

Judaism has several different “new years,” a concept which may seem strange at first, but think of it this way: the American “new year” starts in January, but the new “school year” starts in September, and many businesses have “fiscal years” that start at various times of the year. In Judaism, the numbering of months on the calendar begins at the time of the Exodus, so the calendar begins on the first of Nissan and occurs in the spring. Elul 1 (in August) is the new year for the tithing of animals, Shevat 15 (in February) is the new year for trees (determining when first fruits can be eaten, etc.), and Tishri 1 (Rosh Hashanah) is the new year for years and is the birthday of the world.



We wish all of our Jewish friends, and everyone, a good and sweet year. L’shana tova!



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## State Fair of Texas

Dates: Sept. 26 - Oct. 19

The theme this year is "Taste and See"

The 2003 State Fair of Texas lives up to that worn-out cliché that sticks to the state like mud on a Justin boot heel: it's big. This year's theme of Taste & See highlights the seven-acre Texas Discovery Gardens, featuring events and exhibits in the theme pavilion's main hall. Directed by KRLD's Jim White of Celebrity Kitchen, Dallas-Fort Worth chefs team up with other experts for wine tastings, cooking demonstrations, as well as gardening, landscaping, flower arranging and decorating seminars. Visitors can roam through the beauty of the outside gardens, watch a master pumpkin carver or catch the Amazing Chinese Acrobats as they show off on the Garden Stage. Other activities associated with this year's theme include vendor booths offering the latest home and garden products, food competitions, face painters, a butterfly exhibit and wandering entertainers.

When the fair debuted in 1886, 14,000 folks showed up the first day, but this year, on any given day, expect to wait in line for your big corn dog while more than 10 times that number explore the cavernous livestock barns, food booths, arts and crafts exhibits, museum exhibitions and displays of the latest and greatest concepts, gizmos, gadgets, widgets and whirligigs within the 277-acre landscape of Fair Park. The population noticeably swells to super-sized proportions on the day of the epic Red River Shootout between rival Oklahoma Sooners and Texas Longhorns, and more than 3.5 million visitors are anticipated during the course of the fair.

The massive three-week tradition features interactive games, antique cars, a make-believe circus, educational displays, rides, nightly laser shows and illuminated parades. Pavilions, booths and 750,000 square feet of Fair Park buildings will offer live music, dance, those legendary corn dogs, a petting zoo, Clydesdale horses, puppet shows, a midway and a host of other activities and special shows. The Chevrolet Main Stage will present musical acts such as Sandi Patty, Creedence Clearwater Revival, Blues Traveler and Lisa Marie Presley.

Whether your senses are more attuned to the boisterous bellowing of a show bull or the sweet taste of fine wine, the 2003 State Fair of Texas combines the common and the culturally refined in a big, Texas way.

General Admission: \$12  
Advanced General Admission: \$10.50  
Kids under 48" tall and seniors over 60: \$8  
Children 2 and under: Free  
Seniors 60 and over: Free every Thursday

Check the website [www.bigtex.com](http://www.bigtex.com) for list of events.

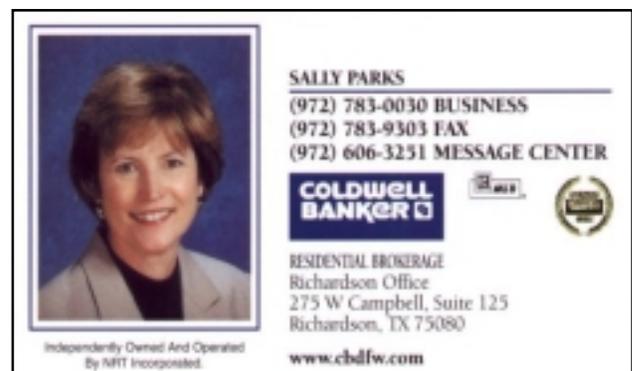
## Fire Safety House becoming a reality

In the March newsletter (<http://www.jjphoa.org/news/news2003/03mar2003.pdf>, page 1) we told you about the Fire Safety House that the alumni of the Citizen Fire Academy were trying to purchase for the benefit of the city and our residents and students. We're very pleased to report that the goal has been met! Our Association made a donation toward the purchase, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency followed our good example. FEMA awarded the Richardson Fire Department a fire prevention grant of \$20,160. The exact specifications for the unit are being defined and once the order is placed it will take about six months for the unit to be delivered, complete with a tornado simulator. Congratulations to the CFAAA, and to Fire Marshal Steve Dossett who wrote the grant application.

## A Unique Approach to Pizza

The first Nick-n-Willy's in Texas has opened its doors right here in our backyard. The new restaurant opened September 5 in the Albertson's shopping center. This friendly restaurant is behind Charlie D's, in the location where Wild About Harry's used to be. Owner/Manager Lori Moore has lots of experience in the pizza business, but Nick-n-Willy's is a unique experience for her and for her customers. Guests in the restaurant are welcome to enjoy any of their traditional or gourmet pizzas in a filling, 8-inch personal size ranging in price from \$3.99 for a one-topping pizza to \$5.49 for a "signature gourmet" pizza. Larger pizzas are only available to "take-n-bake". For the larger sizes you take your custom, fresh-made pizza home and complete the baking in your own oven, ensuring a warm, perfect pizza on your schedule.

If you attended our Annual Meeting you got to taste samples. Owner/manager Lori Moore says that all ingredients are fresh and she makes the dough in the store every day. Don't be surprised if you find her covered in flour. Fresh salads, garlic bread and cookies are also available. Hours are 11-8 Sunday-Thursday, and 11-9 Friday and Saturday. Phone number is 972-690-5111, fax 972-783-8716. A menu is online at [www.nicknwillyspizza.com](http://www.nicknwillyspizza.com).



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**Local Events October - November include:**

<b><u>Date</u></b>	<b><u>Event</u></b>	<b><u>Time/Location</u></b>
<b>October</b>		
6	State Fair holiday (no school) <b>Yom Kippur</b>	
7	UTD Women's Soccer vs UT Tyler North 7 <sup>th</sup> /8 <sup>th</sup> Football vs Lake Highlands Girls' Volleyball vs Mesquite Poteet UTD Men's Soccer vs UT Tyler	5:00pm, UTD 5:15, 7:00pm, Pearce 6:00, 7:00pm, Pearce 7:00pm, UTD
9	JV Football: Pearce vs Richardson	7:00pm, Richardson
10	UTD Women's Soccer vs LeTourneau University UTD Men's Soccer vs LeTourneau University <b>Homecoming</b> Football: Pearce vs Richardson Voice & Spanish guitar concert	5:00pm, UTD 7:00pm, UTD 7:30pm Richardson 8:00pm, Jonsson Perf Hall, UTD
11	UTD Women's Soccer vs East Texas Baptist Univ UTD Men's Soccer vs East Texas Baptist Univ Richardson Symphony Orchestra	5:00pm, UTD 7:00pm, UTD Eisemann Center
12	Richardson Community Band concert	2:00pm, Eisemann Center
14	Girls' Volleyball vs Wylie	6:00, 7:00pm, Pearce
15	Band UIL Marching Contest	Mesquite Memorial
16	JV Football: Pearce vs Wylie	7:00pm, Pearce
16 & 18	Forté Fall Show	7:30pm, Pearce
17-18	New plays	8:00pm, University Theatre, UTD
<b>18</b>	<b>Neighborhood Yard Sale</b>	<b>9:00 - 2:00pm</b>
19	New plays	2:30pm, University Theatre, UTD
20	<b>Red Ribbon Week</b> North Choir Fall Concert	<b>All RISD schools</b> 7:30pm, Pearce
21	Fall Choir Concert	7:30pm, Pearce
22	North Band Fall Pops Concert	7:30pm, Pearce
23	North 9 <sup>th</sup> Football vs Richardson	7:00pm, Pearce
24	Girls' Volleyball vs Mesquite Horn Football: Pearce vs West Mesquite	5:30, 6:30pm, Pearce 7:30pm Richardson
24-25	New plays	8:00pm, University Theatre, UTD
26	New plays	2:30pm, University Theatre, UTD
30	Pearce Orchestra Fall Concert	7:00pm, Pearce
31	Halloween concert (UTD Chamber Singers) free	7:30pm, Jonsson Performance Hall, UTD
<b>November</b>		
6	JV Football: Pearce vs Horn	7:00pm, Pearce
7	Tribute to Andrés Segovia 5th Annual Dance Invitational	8:00pm, Jonsson Perf. Hall, UTD 8:00pm, University Theatre, UTD
8	5th Annual Dance Invitational Puttin' on the Hits Richardson Symphony Orchestra	2:00 & 8:00pm, Univ. Theatre, UTD 7:30, Pearce Eisemann Center
9	Beethoven, Liebermann, Mendelsohn concert	7:30pm, UTD Conf Ctr

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



**BOB CAIN**  
Store Director

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J J PEARCE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION  
Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenses  
For the Month Ended September 30, 2003

	Month Ended September 30, 2003
<b>Cash Receipts</b>	
Membership Dues	\$3,300.00
Dividends	10.45
Advertising-Newsletter	90.00
Total Receipts	3,400.45
<b>Expenses</b>	
Crime Watch	
Metrocall	21.85
Membership	
Annual Meeting	159.00
Newsletter	
Printing, etc.	368.60
Delivery	60.00
<b>Other Expenses</b>	
Contributions - Firemens' Dinners	134.75
Contributions - Policemens' Buffet	100.00
Total Expenses	844.20
Net Income (Loss)	\$2,556.25

**Fund Balances:**

	Checking	Vanguard	Totals
Beginning Balances - 9/1/03	\$960.86	\$15,687.90	\$16,648.76
Add receipts 3,390.00	10.45	3,400.45	
Account Transfers			
Less Disbursements	844.20	844.20	
Ending Balances - 9/30/03	\$3,506.66	\$15,698.35	\$19,205.01

Respectfully Submitted, Helen Simon, Treasurer, September 30, 2003

Phone: (214) 232-9898  
Fax: (972) 234-5702  
Email: b.christian@officemax.com

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

### Newsletter Advertising

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

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

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

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**JJPHOA Yard Sale**  
**Saturday**  
**October 18**  
**9AM to 2 PM**

(See page 7 for details.)

Board Meetings: November 2, 1102 Pueblo, 7:00pm  
November 30, 1214 Grassmere, 7:00pm  
January 4, 1201 Grassmere, 7:00pm

**Board meetings are open to all members**