

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

October, 2004

News from the City

- The election to approve alcohol sales in restaurants was approved with the support of 87% of the voters. Our precinct had the second highest percentage turnout in the city.
- The Council approved the red light camera ordinance described on page 5 of the September newsletter (available at www.jjphoa.org). Fines are \$75 for a first and second offence. Fines are \$150 for subsequent offences within a 12 month period. Tickets issued by a police officer carry even higher fines. Of course that doesn't include any damages to property or people that may result from running a red light.
- Approximately 700 letters have been sent to RV owners to be sure they are aware of the ordinance that takes effect in February requiring RV's to be hidden from the street. The ordinance, and ideas for screening an RV, can be viewed online at: www.cor.net/NeighborhoodServices/NeighborhoodIntegrity.html.
- Blue Cross/Blue Shield now provides healthcare insurance for City employees. Blue Cross is the second largest employer in Richardson. (Nortel is the largest.)
- For the first time, UTD has surpassed 14,000 students enrolled. UTD is the fastest growing public university in Texas. Former Dallas City Manager Ted Benevides is joining the faculty of UTD.
- Richardson and Addison will work together on a series of annual spring events. The Cottonwood Art Festival will be the first weekend in May. The second weekend will be Taste of Addison. Third weekend is Wildflower Festival, and the fourth weekend will be an art event in Addison.
- The North Texas Tollway Authority has embarked on one of the largest landscaping projects currently underway in the country to enhance the appearance, and the safety, of the President George Bush Tollway. Focus areas within Richardson are at Waterview Parkway, Custer Road, Jupiter Road, Renner Road, and Main Lane Plaza #6 (near Lookout Drive). Materials are drought resistant and advanced irrigation techniques are used to conserve water once the plants are established. The landscaping should also enhance the effectiveness of the new safety barriers that will be installed. The landscaping project should be completed by February 2006. Safety barriers between Richardson and Carrollton should be installed by this November. Barriers east and west of that section should be installed in the first quarter of 2005.

Our e-mail lists

Our Association uses e-mail to share time-sensitive information. Your local Crime Watch Coordinator communicates information relevant to a group of homes close to you, and also forwards information from the Richardson Police Department. We also use a single consolidated list for emergencies, lost and found pets, and important announcements. If you have given us permission then we have shared, or updated, your e-mail address with your Crime Watch Coordinator and our group distribution list. If you aren't receiving e-mail, or aren't sure, check with Bernie Mayoff at bernie@maoff.com.

Each of our nineteen Crime Watch Coordinators maintains their own distribution list. We use a "yahogroup" for our consolidated distribution list. Only our President and VP-Safety can send e-mail through the yahogroup list and participation is restricted to current members of our Association. Yahoogroups are a very popular means of communication for homeowners associations and thousands of other groups across the country and the world. Using the Yahoogroup service allows us to maintain a single distribution list for the entire Association that is accessible by the authorized officers from anywhere and at any time. It is a free service, paid for by advertising, which is why you will see an ad included in messages sent through the group. Those e-mail addresses are not used for any purpose other than messages from our Association.

We currently have approximately 330 e-mail addresses on our distribution lists! If we get a little closer to having all of our members on our e-mail lists we will be able to consider discontinuing our automated answering service. That service currently costs us \$262.20 per year. If we get to only a few members not having access to e-mail it may be prudent to send e-mail to almost everyone and to simply call the rest. **If you are not already on our e-mail distribution lists please consider letting us add you.** Simply send a note to bernie@mayoff.com and we'll take care of it.

**JJPHOA area
YARD SALE
October 16**

see related article on page 10

The importance of your vote

“People often say that, in a democracy, decisions are made by a majority of the people. Of course, that is not true. Decisions are made by a majority of those who make themselves heard and who vote - a very different thing.”

~Walter H. Judd

November 2 is Election Day. You will have the opportunity to help elect a President of the United States, the Congressional Representative for District 32, the state Representative for District 112, the Dallas County Sheriff and Tax Assessor, the Texas Railroad Commissioner (responsible for railroads, the oil and gas industry, and surface mining throughout the state); and several judges. You can vote for any of those offices or all of them. You do not have to vote in races where you are not familiar with the candidates.

Early voting

You can vote early at the Richardson Civic Center or at any other Dallas County early voting location. For a list of early voting locations check www.dalcoelections.org.

Monday thru Friday, October 18 - 22,
8:00 AM - 5:00 PM
Saturday, October 23,
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM
Sunday, October 24,
1:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Monday thru Friday, October 25 - 29
7:00 AM - 7:00 PM

To vote in this election you had to be registered by October 4 (see our August newsletter, page 4). You can check on your registration at www.dalcoelections.org.

Democracy depends on an informed electorate. This is so fundamental to our nation that a free education is available to every citizen to help ensure that we can understand what we are voting for. Throughout our history as a country, and in countries around the world, people have cherished, and sometimes fought, for the ability to elect their government. Be an informed voter. Discuss the issues. And then make yourself heard.

**Election Day voting
Mohawk Elementary
Tuesday, November 2,
7:00 AM – 7:00 PM**

NEEDED: Holiday Decoration Coordinator



As you know, from around Thanksgiving until the New Year's weekend, our annual Holiday Decorations dress up about 130 poles in the JJPHOA addition. For some years, Wayne Eitel had done the coordinator's work. However, he wants to "move on". Therefore, we must have a replacement. Please contact Thom Pomella at thom@pomella.net or 972.690.5980

Being a coordinator is a rewarding activity; they coordinate individuals as well as families in the HOA that volunteer to decorate the poles. Most of our neighbors have always said "You bet we can help". Also, all of us help make their job seem more rewarding. Slow down or stop long enough to offer a smile, and tell them THANK YOU - or better yet, ask if you can help them!



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Vial of Life – Part 2

Approximately 50 Vial of Life kits were distributed at our Annual Meeting in September. (See the September newsletter, page 12, for information about the Vial of Life.) If you were not able to attend the meeting you can obtain a Vial of Life, at no cost, at any Richardson Fire Station.

When you turn in the optional registration card, **if your primary telephone number is a cell phone**, please annotate that on the card. That will help dispatch associate your mobile phone with your home address.

Crime / Safety Talk

By Thom Pomella, VP Safety

RECENT CRIME

- Early Saturday morning 8/28 sometime between 1:00 AM and 8:00 AM two (2) cars were broken into in the 1800 block of North Cheyenne by smashing windows. Both cars had their stereo systems removed by tearing out the dash. These cars were parked in front of the house in the street.
- Political signs of both congressional candidates seem to disappear from the front yard overnight. We don't know if it is vandalism or some over-zealous political activists.
- There has also been some vandalism of mailboxes (vandal caught) and egging of one vehicle that I am aware of.
- A report of a suspicious person/persons in the Pueblo/Grassmere alley. A white male, approx. 20 y/o, 6ft, 210# in a Blue late model Chevy PU w/extended cab stated he has looking for his female black lab, stated she ran off while playing in the park. This person used the same story 2 weeks ago, 8:30PM. Alone the first time, second person this time, person was not very visible, stayed in the shadows. If you notice this vehicle your the alley please call 9-1-1. The police are there to help us.

ANOTHER ACCIDENT AT MOHAWK ELEMENTARY

Did I get your attention with that headline this time? *It seems I didn't get everybody's attention the last time I ran this column.* I'll run this column again.

Now I need everybody to read this article *before* there is an accident at Mohawk Elementary.

During the morning drop off and afternoon pickup of children, there are some parents doing some very dangerous things.

This first one is the most dangerous of the bunch. There are some who park on Mimosa and then pop the door open on the street side to unload and load their children. There are those who just cross the street anywhere they want, ignoring the crosswalks. Some make illegal turns into and out of the school circle drive. There are people who park their car in the middle of the alley and walk their children to the school. People even use the private circle drives of the homes on Grassmere to park and to make u-turns. Those are private driveways, not public streets. There are people driving and talking on their cell phone, or looking at the child in the back seat. Stop it. Pay attention to your driving. There are children walking home and you need to watch out for them. Stop for the stop signs. Really stop and look, just don't slow down and roll through the intersection. If you drop off and pick up your child at Mohawk... please... Safety First. This behavior is an accident waiting to happen

I have included below the 'Traffic Safety Guidelines' sent home by Mohawk Elementary. It includes a traffic pattern flow map.

Traffic Safety Guidelines

Mohawk Elementary has established strict traffic safety guidelines to ensure the safety of all school children. This safety brochure is designed to outline those guidelines, and to clear up any confusion that you may have.

The Mohawk Safety Action Team has formulated traffic safety guidelines for all transportation means used by Mohawk students. These guidelines are designed to provide **MAXIMUM SAFETY FOR ALL STUDENTS**.

Arrival & Dismissal Times:

School hours for K- 6 are 8:00 AM to 3:00 PM.

Driver's Guidelines:

Basic School Zone traffic laws and traffic signs, designated by the City of Richardson and the Texas Dept. of Public Safety, apply at all times:

- Maximum speed limit: 20 mph, when flashing.

Rules of the Road

One-way traffic flow around the school grounds is to be observed during school "rush hour" (7:30-8:15 AM and 2:30 - 3:15PM):

- All vehicles should approach the school from the south and enter the circle drive with a right-hand turn.
- A left turn from southbound Mimosa into the drive is **illegal during peak traffic times**.
- Drivers coming from the north should select an alternate route to accommodate an approach from the south.
- U-turns are not allowed.
- Once you enter the circle drive, please pull your car as far forward as possible. The Safety Patrol will assist your child from the car. **Children may enter the building through any front door.**

See diagram on next page.

The Circle Drive has 3 Lanes, Each With a Unique Purpose:

- **Inside right lane** is for drop-off and pickup of students at curbside. Students should quickly exit or enter the vehicle. No vehicle should be left unattended in this lane.
- **Center lane** is for through traffic only. Do not drop off or pick up children in this lane, as they would be walking between other vehicles. **This is extremely dangerous.**

(continued on page 4)

(continued from page 3)

- **Left lane** is for parking. Drivers choosing to park should escort their students from the parked car, across the circle driveway, and vice versa. **Cross only at the crosswalk in the center** during “rush hour.” *(Please respect reserved spaces.)*

Parking is permitted along all streets bordering the school. If you have parked anywhere that requires students to cross the street or circle drive, cross at the designated crossing areas and escort your children all the way across the streets and driveways. **USE THE CROSSWALK CROSSING GUARDS.**

Teacher’s Parking Lot

There is **no** drop-off or pickup in the teacher’s parking lot at any time.

5th & 6th Grade Students Only may be dropped off on Melrose in the morning and enter the building via the side door. Drop-off may occur between the signs for “BUS UNLOADING.” **Do not drop-off at the corner.**

WELCOME NEW CRIMEWATCH COORDINATOR

We would like to welcome James Harrigan aboard as the new Coordinator for Crime Watch Area 4. He has graciously agreed to take over those duties from me. His help is greatly appreciated.

FYI.

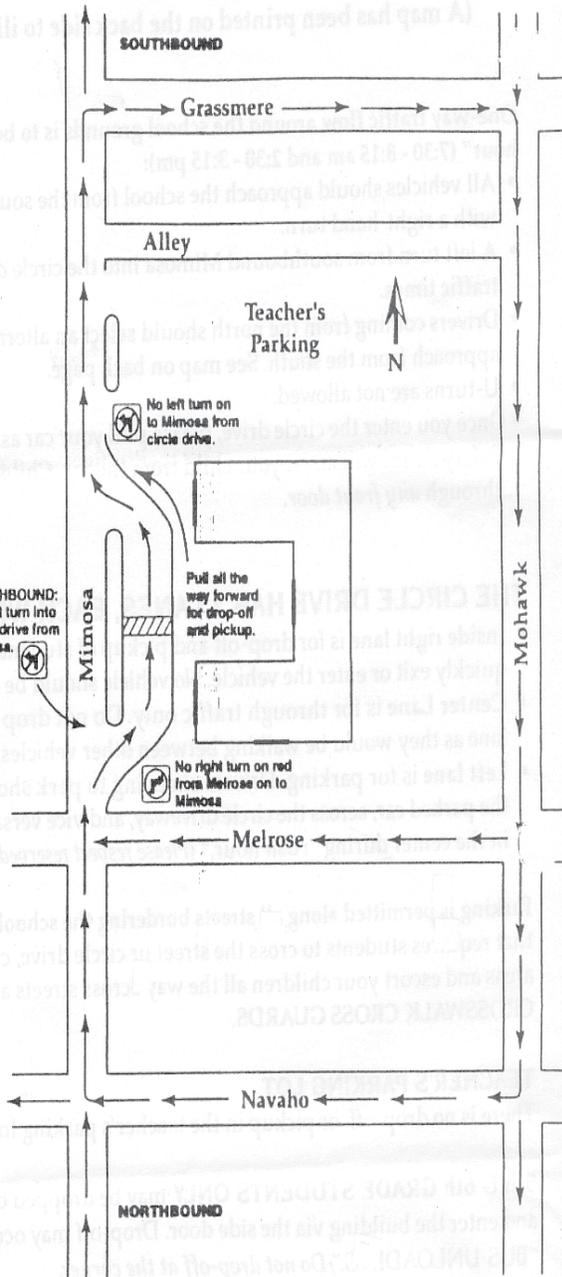
West Nile Virus: What You Need To Know

What Is West Nile Virus?

West Nile virus (WNV) is a potentially serious illness. Experts believe WNV is established as a seasonal epidemic in North America that flares up in the summer and continues into the fall. This fact sheet contains important information that can help you recognize and prevent West Nile virus.

What Can I Do to Prevent WNV?

The easiest and best way to avoid WNV is to prevent mosquito bites. When you are outdoors, use insect repellents containing DEET (N, N-diethyl-meta-toluamide). Follow the directions on the package. Many mosquitoes are most active at dusk and dawn. Be sure to use insect repellent and wear long sleeves and pants at these times or consider staying indoors during these hours. Light-colored clothing can help you see mosquitoes that land on you. Make sure you have good screens on your windows and doors to keep mosquitoes out. Get rid of mosquito breeding sites by emptying standing water from flower pots, buckets and barrels. Change the water in pet dishes and replace the water in bird baths weekly. Drill holes in tire swings so water drains out. Keep children’s wading pools empty and on their sides when they aren’t being used.



For the safety of all the school children, please review this diagram carefully.

(continued on page 5)

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What Are the Symptoms of WNV?

WNV affects the central nervous system. Symptoms vary.

Serious Symptoms in a Few People. About one in 150 people infected with WNV will develop severe illness. The severe symptoms can include high fever, headache, neck stiffness, stupor, disorientation, coma, tremors, convulsions, muscle weakness, vision loss, numbness and paralysis. These symptoms may last several weeks, and neurological effects may be permanent.

Milder Symptoms in Some People.

Up to 20 percent of the people who become infected will display symptoms which can include fever, headache, and body aches, nausea, vomiting, and sometimes swollen lymph glands or a skin rash on the chest, stomach and back. Symptoms can last for as short as a few days, though even healthy people have been sick for several weeks.

No Symptoms in Most People.

Approximately 80 percent of people (about 4 out of 5) who are infected with WNV will not show any symptoms at all.

How Does West Nile Virus Spread? Infected Mosquitoes.

Most often, WNV is spread by the bite of an infected mosquito. Mosquitoes are WNV carriers that become infected when they feed on infected birds. Infected mosquitoes can then spread WNV to humans and other animals when they bite.

Transfusions, Transplants, and Mother-to-Child.

In a very small number of cases, WNV also has been spread through blood transfusions, organ transplants, breastfeeding and even during pregnancy from mother to baby.

Not through touching.

WNV is not spread through casual contact such as touching or kissing a person with the virus.

How Soon Do Infected People Get Sick?

People typically develop symptoms between 3 and 14 days after they are bitten by the infected mosquito.

How Is WNV Infection Treated?

There is no specific treatment for WNV infection. In cases with milder symptoms, people experience symptoms such as fever and aches that pass on their own. In more severe cases, people usually need to go to the hospital where they can receive supportive treatment including intravenous fluids, help with breathing and nursing care.

What Should I Do if I Think I Have WNV?

Milder WNV illness improves on its own, and people do not necessarily need to seek medical attention for this infection though they may choose to do so. If you develop symptoms of severe WNV illness, such as unusually severe headaches or confusion, seek medical attention immediately. Severe WNV illness usually requires hospitalization. Pregnant women and nursing mothers are encouraged to talk to their doctor if they develop symptoms that could be WNV.

What Is the Risk of Getting Sick from WNV?

People over 50 at higher risk to get sick. People over the age of 50 are more likely to develop serious symptoms of WNV if they do get sick and should take special care to avoid mosquito bites.

Being outside means you're at risk.

The more time you're outdoors, the more time you could be bitten by an infected mosquito. Pay attention to avoiding mosquito bites if you spend a lot of time outside, either working or playing.

Risk through medical procedures is very low.

All donated blood is checked for WNV before being used. The risk of getting WNV through blood transfusions and organ transplants is very small, and should not prevent people who need surgery from having it. If you have concerns, talk to your doctor.

Pregnancy and nursing do not increase risk of becoming infected with WNV.

The risk that WNV may present to a fetus or an infant infected through breastmilk is still being evaluated. Talk with your care provider if you have concerns.

What Is the CDC Doing About WNV?

CDC is working with state and local health departments, the Food and Drug Administration and other government agencies, as well as private industry, to prepare for and prevent new cases of WNV.

Some things CDC is doing include:

Coordinating a nation-wide electronic database where states share information about WNV. Helping states develop and carry out improved mosquito prevention and control programs. Developing better, faster tests to detect and diagnose WNV. Creating new education tools and programs for the media, the public, and health professionals and opening new testing laboratories for WNV

What Else Should I Know?

If you find a dead bird: Don't handle the body with your bare hands. Contact your local health department for instructions on reporting and disposing of the body.

Source: <http://tinyurl.com/64d85>

Robin Hood strikes again

In the May newsletter, page 2 (available on our website) we discussed the school budget and tax dilemma for this school year, and a projected funding shortfall of \$8.4M for the 2005-2006 school year. To meet this year's budget the Board had to reduce our *optional* homestead exemption from 15% to 10%. Now that the tough decisions for this school year have been made, the school Board and Administration have to start making decisions about **where to find another \$8.4M next year**. After cutting \$50M from the budget in the last several years and sending over \$250M to Texas' Robin Hood already, the cupboard is bare. Without relief from the state, meeting next year's budget is going to hurt even more.

The optional homestead exemption

The RISD Board asked the staff to develop a list of items that could potentially be implemented to make up for the \$8.4M shortfall in the 2005-2006. One obvious item would be the complete elimination of the *optional* homestead exemption. Completely eliminating the *optional* homestead exemption would provide an additional \$6.2M. So even wiping out the *optional* homestead exemption still leaves a gap of another \$2.2M to fund RISD schools next year!

The actual funding and tax constraints that Texas imposes on school districts are complicated, but the bottom line is that RISD can not raise the tax rate, but could keep that \$6.2M from the optional homestead exemptions if the citizens wanted to pay it. (As explained in May, the tax rate for operations and maintenance is at the 1.50% maximum; the tax rate for debt service is .32% out of a maximum of .50%. Thus the total school tax rate is 1.82% of the taxable value.) On a \$150,000 home the school tax would increase from \$2184.00 per year to \$2457.00 per year if the *optional* homestead exemption were completely eliminated.

Other alternatives

The staff generated a list of twenty-one other alternatives. Eighteen of these other alternatives involve reducing expenses and three of them involve increasing revenue. Among the biggest items, and the one with the longest implementation time, is to make better use of schools with low enrollment. That alternative has been labeled "repurposing" and incorporates three of the ideas. Not surprisingly, many of the parents in the affected schools are concerned or opposed.

The repurposing alternative calls for eliminating the smallest junior high school, Richardson Junior High, and splitting its 628 students among Apollo and Liberty Junior High with a savings of \$2.4M per year. The building could then be used for the Math, Science Technology Magnet school and free up a building at 701 East Arapaho. The Classical Magnet elementary school's 493 students could be moved into Arapaho Elementary, where there are about 262 students. Arapaho is the largest underutilized building with available space. Not all of the current Classical Magnet students would be returning to the Classical Magnet, and enrollments

at the Magnet schools are always selected from the pool of applicants on a space available basis. The combined savings from the changes at the two magnet schools and freeing up one building is about \$1.3M per year and would require some expansion to Arapaho Elementary. The 701 East Arapaho building would be sold and the proceeds used to pay for the expansion at Arapaho Elementary. The total of these steps would save \$3.7M annually.

The complete list of "reductions to consider" that the staff developed lists 22 items, totaling almost \$24M. The three suggestions that make up the "repurposing" recommendation are the ones the professional educators feel do the least harm to our students' education and to the reputation for excellence of the Richardson Independent School District.

What is happening now?

The school Board has asked parents and residents for comments and suggestions. Comments at town hall meetings have included:

"I don't like any of the choices."

"Don't pay the state and let them come after us."

"Can the Classical Magnet curriculum really survive if it isn't in its own facility?"

"Can the regular curriculum survive if it must share a building and resources with the Classical Magnet?"

"Let's have a sit-in in Austin."

"Let the parents help develop the implementation plan."

Some parent groups are meeting with the Administration to try to fully understand the ideas or to develop other ideas.

Along with many other school districts, Richardson sued the state to have the current system of school finance, the Robin Hood Recapture plan, declared unconstitutional. The court found that the way the state is funding education is illegal and must be remedied, but the remedy doesn't have to be in place until October 2005. The State of Texas is appealing the decision. If the court decision is upheld and if the legislature does not provide a legal solution, the court will suspend state funding in October 2005. Of course the next school year will open in August 2005 and the budget must be in place well before that no matter what happens in the court and in the legislature.

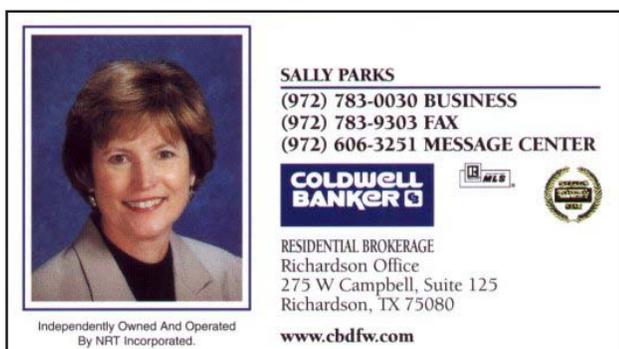
What can you do?

If the repurposing proposal is approved then the expansion at Arapaho Elementary, and some modifications at Richardson Junior High, must be ready for the start of the 2005-2006 school year so a decision needs to be made quickly. The school Board will probably have to make a decision at a Board meeting this October. No one likes to have to make these trade-offs. If you have realistic ideas to help address the financial challenge let them know. And the advice from the May newsletter is still valid:

(Continued on page 6.)

(Continued from page 5.)

- You can let your state legislators know your feelings: www.capitol.state.tx.us/fyi/fyi.htm
- You can let the governor know your feelings: www.governor.state.tx.us/contact
- You can let the Texas School Finance Project committee members know your feelings: www.capitol.state.tx.us/psf/members.htm
- You can let RISD school board members know your feelings: www.richardson.k12.tx.us/
- Personal letters, visits, and phone calls are most effective. Follow the issue in the news and write often!



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What's the "RED DOT"

By Marc Perlstein, VP Membership

Believe it or not, we are in the last 30 days of our membership drive. I want to thank everyone who has sent in their membership forms and checks so far. It makes it so much easier for us to print the updated directory when we have everyone's information turned in on time. The directory is just one of the things the Association does for its members. I don't know about you, but I like to know the names of the people who live around me. We have had a great number of new people moving into the neighborhood.

If you have a "RED DOT" stamped on the label of this newsletter, that means that we have NOT received your membership form and check. Please take this time to complete the form and send your \$15.00 check made out to "JJPHOA", to me at 1214 Grassmere. Otherwise, at the end of the month, you may receive a phone call or a knock on your door by your Block Captain. They are our wonderful volunteers that help collect the final forms from everyone that waits until the last minute. If we do not have your form and check by the end of the month, the directory will go to print without your information.

This is also the **last newsletter** that is delivered to all of the 464 homes in our neighborhood. Next month, only members will receive the newsletter. So far over 250 of our homes have joined or renewed. Our Association always has one of the highest membership rates in all of Richardson. You don't have to own your home, just live in the area.

Red Ribbon Week October 25-29, 2004

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 (CAN) that exists solely to help with Red Ribbon Week and other programs throughout the year to prevent alcohol and drugs from being a problem for our students and families. Even good homes can suffer the ravages of abuse, and problems can start as early as 3rd or 4th 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.

This year CAN is helping RISD junior high schools benefit from a powerful and entertaining program from a group called Straightway (<http://straightway.org>) the prior week. The North Junior High performance will be at 10:30AM on Tuesday, October 19. Mohawk will have a puppeteer the same day.

Pearce Pet Pictures



Sonoma is the treasured pet of Chris and Sara Bruckner.

Send your pet's picture to ddrussum@comcast.net. They will be run as space permits.



RICHARDSON
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www.bikemart.com

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

Project ChildSafe --Free gun locks

If you or your relatives or friends have a gun at home it is wise to have each weapon secured with a gunlock. Free locks are available from the Richardson police Department. The cable locks will work with handguns, rifles and shotguns and are easy to use and to remove with a key. These cable locks are designed to insure that the weapon is not ready to be fired and to prevent unauthorized use.

Project ChildSafe is designed to reduce the risk of firearms accidents in the home and, in particular, to help safeguard children from suffering a tragic injury because of an improperly stored firearm. To obtain a free cable-style gun lock please contact the Richardson Police Crime Prevention Unit. The number is 972-744-4955.

A thank you from Mohawk

On behalf of Mohawk parents, staff and students, I would like to thank the Pearce Area Homeowners Association for their donation to Mohawk Elementary PTA. The money will be used to continue an effort to add landscaping to the front of the school. We are so fortunate to have a community that cares about its school.

If you find you have some time on your hands and would like to volunteer at Mohawk, we would love to have you. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities but the most rewarding of these is mentoring/tutoring a child. If you love children, and want to help, please call me at 469-593-6607.

We would love to have you visit your neighborhood school. Come by for a guided tour, to have lunch, or just to visit.

Billie Snow
Principal



Phil Meeker, VP Beautification, presents the JJPHOA check to Kay Grace, PTA Treasurer as Terea Warren, looks on.

Minutes of Board Meeting, August 29, 2004

Bernie Mayoff called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. at the home of Dee Russum.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

The minutes of the last Board meeting were approved.

Treasurer's Report

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

Old Business

- Annual Meeting. All members of the city council have agreed to attend the annual meeting. An email will be sent as a reminder. The audience will be encouraged to ask questions of the council. Cards will be passed out for this. Dee to provide refreshments.
- Mohawk Landscaping. Bernie reported that Shelly Lane, Mohawk PTA rep, indicated that landscaping is waiting for drainage work by RISD.
- Pearce Mimosa Landscaping. The RISD landscaper will prepare a design and provide us with a cost estimate the cost for planting trees along the fence on Mimosa drive.
- Fire Department Recognition September 10-12. The HOA board will provide dinners for the 3 shifts. Food needs to be at the fire station at 6 p.m. Helen to provide the entrée, Dee to provide the salad, Nancy and Phil to provide the dessert.

New Business

- Community Revitalization Awards nominations. The nominations are due by September 24. The HOA has nominated Pearce High School.
- Holiday Decorations. Bernie will check with Thom to see if new volunteers are needed.

Committee Reports

- Membership: Marc Perlstein reported there are 154 members so far. Will place red dots on the newsletters for those who have not paid.
- Newsletter: Labels to be done at Mark's at 7:30pm on September 2.
- Beautification: Phil Meeker reported that the Yard of the Month contest will begin in April next year instead of May.
- Safety: Bernie reported that the crime watch coordinators were notified of recent break-ins.

The next Homeowner's Association President's meeting will be October 19 at 7:00 pm.

Next Board meetings are as follows.

- September 22, Annual Meeting at Mohawk 7:30 p.m.
- October 3, 7:00 pm at Phil Meeker's. Deadline for newsletter will be 9/29.
- October 31, 7:00 pm at Helen Simon's. Deadline for newsletter will be 10/27.

The meeting adjourned at 8:05.

Respectfully Submitted,
Nancy De La Garza, Secretary

Scooter Riding Classes



Classes will be held every:

Saturday at 9:00AM and 10:00AM and Wednesdays at 4:00PM (excluding holidays and holiday week-ends). Students must pass a written examination. Class will last approximately 45 - 60 minutes. The classes will be held at the Richardson Police Department 140 N. Greenville Avenue. Class seating is limited and is on a first come, first serve basis.

The class is free.

- Motor-assisted scooter ordinance went into effect May 24, 2004.
- A person 12 years of age or older who does not hold a valid drivers license must have a Richardson Police Department issued "scooter permit".
- The permit must be carried on person while operating the scooter.
- To receive a scooter permit you must view a safety education video and pass a written test.
- A person 12 years of age or older may ride on a public roadway not wider than 27 feet with a maximum speed limit of 30 MPH.
- A person 12 years of age or older may cross an intersection where the cross street has a speed limit greater than 30 MPH. (ex... Yale Blvd at Arapaho Rd.)
- A gas-powered scooter may not exceed 40cc engine displacement
- A person under 12 years of age may only ride on public sidewalks
- A person under 12 years of age is not required to hold a city issued scooter permit
- A State or Federal approved helmet must be worn while operating a motor-assisted scooter. Bicycle helmet preferred.
- At this time there are no trails in Richardson where a motor-assisted scooter may be ridden. A scooter may not be ridden in city parks.
- Any violation of this ordinance or related city ordinances could result in a suspension of your scooter permit and/or a maximum \$200.00 fine.
- The video and test will be available at the Richardson Police Department. Questions can be directed to the department spokesperson at 972-744-4845.

Safety Tips

Scooter safety is a top priority. Operators must comply with all local laws and regulations. Check with the Richardson Police Department for City requirements.



Preparing to Ride

Before operation read your owners manual for proper instruction. An approved Helmet is required at all times. Protective eye wear, sturdy shoes, knee and elbow pads are suggested. Check scooter before riding for hazards such as loose, broken, or cracked parts. . Ride within your own ability level 12 years of age or older must have and carry a Richardson scooter permit. Younger than 12 years of age may only ride on public sidewalks.

General Safety Tips

- Drive on the right side of the road or sidewalk.
- You must obey all traffic laws. Crossing at crosswalks is preferred
- Watch out for potholes, loose gravel, and other obstructions that may be in your path.
- Use of hand signals is always preferred, do not attempt to carry item while riding.
- Use both hands while riding.
- Riding at night is not recommended.
- If you ride at dusk/dark wear reflective clothing and have proper lighting on your scooter.

A lose, lose situation

Sadly, over the past month there have been thefts of both Frost and Sessions campaign signs in our neighborhood. Regardless of which candidate you favor, stealing is wrong. And it reflects badly on the candidate and supporters whose signs are untouched. Both candidates have been notified of the problem, as well as the police department and the newspaper. It is a frustrating, and expensive, problem for both candidates.

We've also had reports of signs being placed in yards or on fences without permission from the homeowner. It isn't clear if signs actually help a candidate. It is clear that stealing signs or placing them where they're not wanted strengthens the resolve of those whose property was violated, and probably increases donations to the candidate whose signs were stolen. No one wins because of sign abuse, but both sides lose.

Greetings from VP Beautification

By Phil Meeker

The gifts of good gardening through the year comes to fruition this month. Majestic maturity crowns the cycle of gardening life. Pleasant temperatures and even moisture may cause a flush of later perennial bloom and early fall color to honor October's golden time.

What to do now in your landscape.

- **Prepare**

Caladiums now growing in your landscape can be dug, stored and replanted next May. How? In mid-October dig up the plants, remove all foliage stems and roots. Store bulbs in dry compost in open boxes in a single layer. The bulbs should not touch one another. Store in a cool, not freezing, garage.

- **Plant**

Bedding plants – Alyssum, asters, mums, pansies, snapdragons and viola.

Herb Plants – Garlic, coriander (foliage is cilantro), Italian parsley and dill.

Shrubs and trees – fall is the best time to plant to allow the roots to establish.

Winter Rye Grass seed – If not sown last month remember to keep moist till germination in about fourteen days.

- **Fertilize**

Lawns: if not done in September and water in well. Fall and winter blooming plants.

Water—if there is minimal rain do your watering.

- **Celebrate**

Enjoy this cooler season by visiting the State Fair of Texas. Don't miss the model train displays in the Civic Garden Center garden areas east of the Ferris wheel. The color of the Dallas Arboretum at this time also deserves a visit. It's a great place to get design and color ideas for next years fall garden.

- **Shopping** – it's time to start shopping for that avid gardener in your life!

- **Bulk Item Pick Up**

Bulky items such as old fence panels, large amounts of tree trimming, large appliances are picked up every Tuesday starting at 7AM. The city requests items to be put out as close to Tuesday as possible. **Pick ups are not automatic and must be called in the day they are put out.** Request a pick up at 972-744-4111 or on line at www.cor.net/neighborhood. Residents seeing the rules not being followed can call neighborhood integrity and report the situation/conditions. Neighborhood Integrity will respond by sending out inspectors and communicating with the violator.

The Neighborhood Integrity number is **972-744-4166**.



Saturday October 16, 9am till 2 pm. Rain or Shine!

Empty your attic, closets, garage, of your “treasurers” and set them up in your front yard. Remember, mattresses, mattress pads and box springs can not be sold. For security reasons all doors...(house, garage and fence gates locked). Persons requesting the use of your bathroom or phone should be directed to Albertson's. We will have signs posted at the entrance of our area to advertise your goodies. Watch the masses of shoppers you will attract!

Call Phil Meeker at 972-690-4677 if you plan to participate.

General Meeting of JJPHOA a success

By Nancy De La Garza

The Mayor of Richardson and all the City Council members, as well as Bill Keffler, the City Manager and David Morgan, Assistant City Manager, were present at the General meeting of the Homeowners Association on September 22 at Mohawk Elementary. The Mayor gave a brief overview of the city budget. The members of our Homeowners Association were welcome to ask questions regarding the city and voice opinions.

A variety of topics were discussed including

- The status of alley pavement and street/sidewalk repairs throughout the City.
- How the Eisemann Center was funded.
- If there will be a tax break for seniors any time soon.
- Parking on streets of cars.
- The status of the TI Chip plant at Renner and Alma.
- Jobs being outsourced to other countries.
- Curbside trash pickup requests must now be requested the day the items are put at the curb.

Approximately 50 people were in attendance at the meeting.

Fire Safety House is here!

In the March 2003 newsletter (<http://www.jjphoa.org/news/>) 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. Our Association made a donation toward the purchase. In October 2003, FEMA awarded a grant that provided the remainder of the funds. The customized unit was built to Richardson's specifications and arrived in late September. Elementary school students will start benefiting from the Fire Safety house as soon as fire fighters and volunteers from the Citizen Fire Academy Alumni Association are trained. You'll also have a chance to see the Fire Safety House at various city events.



This shows the front door of the City's new Fire House.



Fire Marshall Steve Dossett demonstrates kitchen safety.

Once again we honor our local fire fighters



Shift C, September 10

Members of our Board provided dinner for the firefighters at Station 2 on three evenings to the three different shifts. This is our way of showing them we appreciate all they have done and continue to do for our community, and by proxy, to all the firefighters who put their lives on the line day after day all across our country.

We have again contributed to the CPAAA, who will honor all the Police with a catered meal on October 1st.



Shift A, September 11



Shift B, September 12

**Richardson Citizen Police and Fire Academies
Pansy Sale
October 30
Custer and Lookout**

J J PEARCE HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION
Statement of Cash Receipts and Expenses
For the Period September 1, 2004 to September 30, 2004

Cash Receipts

Membership Dues	\$3,570.00
Dividends	21.70
Advertising-Newsletter	315.00
<hr/>	
Total Receipts	3,906.70

Expenses

Crime Watch	
Metrocall	21.85
Membership	
Annual Meeting	79.69
Newsletter	
Printing, etc.	174.38
Delivery	75.00
Other Expenses	
Fire Department Dinners	151.53
<hr/>	
Total Expenses	502.45
<hr/>	
Net Income (Loss)	\$3,404.25

Fund Balances

	Checking	Vanguard	Totals
Beginning Balances - 9/1/04	\$429.02	\$15,825.08	\$16,254.10
Add receipts	3,885.00	21.70	3,906.70
Less Disbursements	502.45		502.45
<hr/>			
Ending Balances - 9/30/04	\$3,811.57	\$15,846.78	\$19,658.35

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



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Local Events October – November include:

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>	<u>Time/Location</u>
October		
1-Nov. 11	X-cessive art exhibit	UTD, Visual Arts Building
11	State Fair holiday (no school)	
12	Choir Fall Concert	7:30pm, Pearce Auditorium
14	Pearce JV football vs Berkner	6:00pm, Pearce
15	UTD Chamber Singers	8:00pm, UTD Jonsson Performance Hall
16	Neighborhood Garage Sale	9:00am – 2:00pm
18	Early voting begins	City Hall
21	North 9 th football vs Newman Smith	7:00pm, Pearce
	Forte Fall Show	7:30pm, Pearce Auditorium
22	Football: Pearce vs Newman Smith	7:30pm Richardson
	Guitar: Charles Pons	8:00pm, UTD Jonsson Performance Hall
23	Forte Fall Show	7:30pm, Pearce Auditorium
25-29	Red Ribbon Week	All RISD schools
28	North 9 th football vs Creekview	5:30pm, Pearce
	Pearce Orchestra Fall Concert	7:30pm, Pearce
29	Last day of early voting	City Hall
29	Football: Pearce vs Creekview	7:30pm Richardson
31	Halloween	
November		
2	Election Day	7:00am – 7:00pm, Mohawk
4	Pearce JV football vs R.L. Turner	6:00pm, Pearce
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
10	Jazz Band Concert	7:30pm, Pearce Auditorium

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



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		972-234-8009	(business phone)
Newsletter	Dee Russum	972-235-1961	ddrussum@comcast.net
Webmaster	John Sadowski	972-238-9826	jcsadowski@aol.com

Newsletter Advertising

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

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

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

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



Happy Halloween



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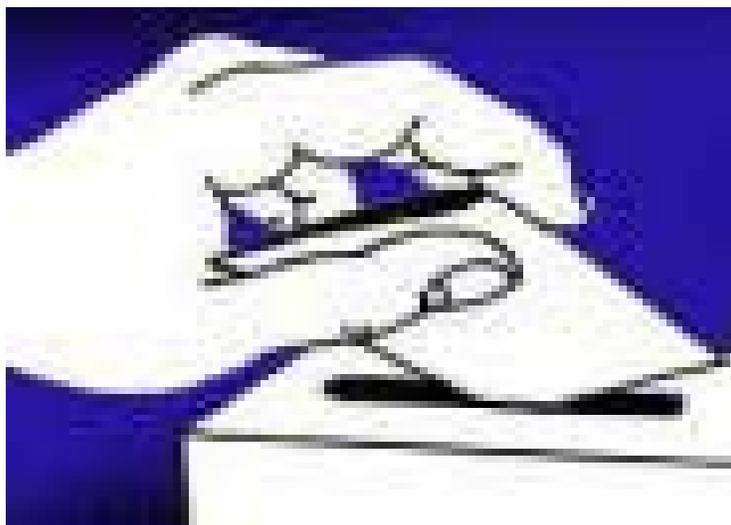
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Election Day, November 2

(early voting information on page 2)



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**JJPHOA area
YARD SALE
October 16, 9am-2pm
(see page 10)**

A red dot on your label above indicates this is the last issue you will receive unless you return the membership form at the front of this newsletter. (see page 7)

Board Meetings: October 31, 1314 Huntington, 7:30pm
November 29, 1411 Huntington, 7:00pm
January 2, 1127 Edith Circle, 7:00pm

Board meetings are open to all members