

RICHLAND HILLS



Review

Issue #01, Jul-Sept 2014

MAYOR'S MESSAGE



On behalf of the City Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful summer! So far, 2014 has proven to be an exciting year for our community. Not only

is our first grocery store in over twenty years being constructed, but we are also working to develop plans for redeveloping all four of our parks. An analysis is also underway to study the services and activities offered through the Community Center, so be on alert for future input meetings and survey questionnaires.

I'd also like to take time to remind you all of the wonderful events planned for our Library over the summer. These programs offer the children of our community a place to learn and grow together. It is vital that we continue to invest in our children and I hope you will take the time to bring your kids, grandkids, nieces or nephews over to the Library to participate.

Speaking of our children, please refrain from texting and driving. As our kids are out of school for the summer, they are likely walking or riding their bikes throughout the neighborhoods. Please be aware of them and use your phones only when you are parked. Have a blessed summer!

Best Regards,
Mayor Bill Agan



UPCOMING EVENTS

A Quick Look at Happenings in the Area -
Find out more online at richlandhills.com

7/04/14
9:00 a.m.

July 4th Parade & Celebration -
Parade begins at 9am - City Hall Complex
More information online.

7/11/14;
8/08/14;
9/12/14

Senior Lunch Bunch -
Lunch at Noon with BINGO to follow. The Lunch Bunch meets the 2nd Friday each month at the Community Center.

Week of
8/11/14

Bulk Waste Pickup -
Monday through Friday. More information online.

9/20/14
9a.m. to 12.p.m.

City-Wide Recycle Day -
Electronic recycling; Paper Shredding; & Hazardous Household Waste Collection - In front of the Fire Department on Diana Drive

Did you know?

A Neighborhood Walmart is coming to town at the southwest corner of Boulevard 26 and Rufe Snow Dr. The store is scheduled to open early 2015.



CITY NEWS



Richland Hills 2013 Water Quality Report -

In 2013, your tap water met all U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and state drinking water health standards. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) has established public water system ratings, and Richland Hills' water supply system received the highest achievable rating-Superior.

Richland Hills Library -

Join the Richland Hills Library for "Miss Susanna's Neighborhood". This program is for active preschoolers, elementary-age children and their parents or caregiver. These programs incorporate rhymes, finger plays, stories, crafts and puppetry. "Miss Susanna's Neighborhood" is intended to encourage the love and learning of reading. See the back of this newsletter for program schedules.

September is "Hispanic Heritage Month". We will be celebrating Hispanic culture throughout the month.

Richland Readers book group meeting the third Wednesday of every month. For information call 817 616-3760.

Community Center -

Please join us for the Senior Lunch Bunch gathering the second Friday of every month. Lunch begins at noon with games to follow. Tune up your vocal pipes because their might even be a "sing-off" karaoke style! Hope to see you there.

For inquiries on renting the Community Center or park pavilions for your next event, please contact Anne Bruton at 817-616-3820 for details.

Economic Development -

Calling all shoppers! Walmart Neighborhood Market is opening early 2015 at the southwest corner of Rufe Snow and Boulevard 26. The new Neighborhood Market, approximately one-fifth the size of a Walmart Supercenter, will create up to 95 new jobs and will provide local customers with a new, convenient option for their grocery shopping needs, including fresh produce and pharmacy services. Staff is also working with a consultant to attract high quality restaurants to two key areas of the City.

RH Fire Department -

The Richland Hills Fire Rescue will be hosting its 2nd Citizen's Fire Academy this fall. Starting in September the academy will meet once a week on Thursday evenings for 9 weeks beginning on September 18th, 2014.

The intent of the academy is to inform citizens of the roles, responsibilities and operations of the Richland Hills Fire Rescue in the community and in the region as part of the Northeast Fire Department Association. Participants will be introduced to

duties and activities performed by the fire department in a classroom setting with opportunities for hands on demonstrations.

If you would like to sign up for the academy or would like more information please call the Fire Department at 817-616-3750 or visit the Fire Department page on the City's website, www.richlandhills.com.

Participation is limited to adults 18 years of age (16 with parental approval).



Neighborhood Services -

In an effort to improve the quality of life for all Richland Hills residents, the code enforcement division is working to ensure all businesses and residents are complying with the adopted code of ordinances. Violations will be issued for tall grass and weeds, non-compliant trash and debris, and fence/screening wall deteriorations, just to name a few. If you have received a notice of violation and have questions, please contact Neighborhood Services at 817-616-3770.



CITY OF RICHLAND HILLS PROJECT UPDATES



Baker Boulevard Improvements. Drought tolerant trees and perennials with a drip irrigation system for efficient watering.



Creek Trail Park and Rosebud Park concept plans. The consultant developed three concepts for each park based on Citizen feedback.



An analysis of the Community Center is underway. The City's consultant is working to develop the scope of the study using community interest surveys.

Baker Boulevard Landscape Improvements -

If you have driven along Baker Blvd lately, you might have noticed a little more appeal. That is because the City of Richland Hills was awarded a Green Ribbon Landscape Award through the Texas Department of Transportation. Landscape improvements were incorporated into several medians along with drip irrigation. The plants selected by the Landscape Architect are drought tolerant and will need little water once established. The drip irrigation system is required along all TxDOT corridors as it provides the most efficient delivery of water to the plants resulting in minimal waste or runoff. TxDOT will maintain the project at their expense for one year following completion.

Matthews Drainage Interceptor -

This project is the 2nd of three phases to reduce flooding in this area of the City south of Baker Blvd. The project includes the installation of over 1,000 feet of box culverts that will relocate storm water underground and thus reduce the potential for flooding. Because this project reduces the 100 yr. floodplain and floodway of this area, it will assist in reducing National Flood Insurance Premiums to residents.

Park Master Planning -

Shrickel Rollins, and Associates (SRA) has been hired by the City Council to conduct a study on our current parks systems and to formalize a plan to make upgrades to the parks. As part of this process, they have held two public meetings to receive feedback from the public. SRA has been working closely with staff to finalize a Master Plan for each park. The Master Plan will include a phased approach so that each of the four parks can be redeveloped using a more economical and logical approach. Stay tuned for the next Richland Hills Review for more information or contact city staff for the current status.

Community Center Analysis -

The Community Center is a key facility in Richland Hills as many memories are made each week for many members of our community. Whether it is the Senior Lunch Bunch, an exercise class or a wedding reception, the Community Center functions to bring relationships and people together; creating a stronger and more resilient community. Both the citizens and Council have engaged and charged city staff to perform a comprehensive analysis on the current services offered at the Community Center and ensuring that the future needs of the residents are met. You may receive a survey in the mail regarding this project and we kindly ask that you participate so that we can ensure your voice is heard. There will be opportunities for public input and city staff will make sure to get the word out when those events are scheduled. Please check-in periodically on the city webpage for additional details.

City Manager's Office	817.616.3806
Economic Development Department	817-616-3745
Public Works Department	817-616-3830

Visit us on the web: richlandhills.com

Important Numbers to Know:

EMERGENCIES DIAL	911
Fire Station Non-Emergency	817-616-3754
Police Department Non-Emergency	817-616-3780
Library	817-616-3760
Recreation & Special Events	817-616-3820



The Richland Hills Fire Department reminds you to...

Prevent Home Garage Fires

Did you know that every year in the U.S. there are an estimated 6,600 fires in garages that are attached to single family residences? There have been several fires in garages here in Richland Hills over the past few years that resulted in significant damage to homes. Without smoke or heat detectors fires that begin in a garage can burn undetected giving the fire time to grow larger in size. Garages that do not have gypsum board walls and ceilings or have holes in the ceiling allow the heat, smoke and fire to spread into the attic area of the home before the fire is detected.

There are steps we can take to prevent fires from starting in garages or if there is a fire to detect it early to prevent a fire from growing.

- Ceilings and walls in the garage should have either 1/2" or 5/8" gypsum board.
- Store oil, gasoline, paints, propane and varnishes in a shed away from your home or keep them in an enclosed metal cabinet.
- Keep items that can burn on shelves away from appliances.
- Plug only one charging appliance into an outlet.
- Don't use an extension cord when charging an appliance.
- Don't use extension cords as permanent wiring.
- If you are using your garage only for storage a smoke detector installed on the ceiling can detect a fire in its early stage.
- If you park vehicles in your garage then use a heat detector and not a smoke detector. The heat detector will activate if the temperature rises to high in the garage space.

If you have questions regarding fire safety you can call the Fire Department at 817-616-3750. **The Fire Department can come to your house and discuss fire safety with you.** You can also visit the Fire Department page on the City's website or obtain fire safety information on the web at www.usfa.fema.gov.