

RICHLAND HILLS



Issue #04, Apr-Jun 2015

Review

MAYOR'S MESSAGE

On behalf of the City Council, I would like to take this opportunity to wish you all a wonderful spring! What a beautiful time of year. Isn't it amazing how fast the trees pop with new leaves and the grass turns green? Spring is such an encouraging time of year too. It reminds us that we must renew and refresh in order to avoid stagnation. If we are not moving forward and progressing, then likely we are not moving at all or perhaps even worse, moving in reverse. That is one reason I am happy to share that we are moving forward with the design of a new Community/Recreation Center and will be replacing a playground or two in our Parks system. More info on those items can be found at www.richlandhills.com.



We would like to say a special Thank You to our many wonderful volunteers! It is so inspiring to witness the work you all do at the Animal Shelter, the Police Department, at all of our events, and at the Library. We always have room for more, so if you would like to apply to be a volunteer in any capacity with the City, please contact the City Secretary's Office for more information.

Happy spring everyone!

**Warm Regards,
Mayor Bill Agan**



UPCOMING EVENTS

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

- 05/14/15; & 06/11/15** **Senior Lunch Bunch**
Lunch at Noon. The Lunch Bunch meets the 2nd Thursday each month at the Community Center.
- 05/09/15** **City Council General Election**
The City of Richland Hills will hold a General Election on May 9, 2015 for Council Places 1, 3, and 5. If you have any questions, please contact the City Secretary's Office via email at cbourg@richlandhills.com or call 817-616-3810.
- 05/18/15** **Bulk Trash Pickup**
Place on curb by 7am Monday of this week
- 07/04/15** **July 4th Parade**
Please join us on Saturday morning at 9:00 am for our annual July 4th parade, beginning right here at City Hall. Contact City Hall for questions.

Did you know?

You can now enroll for the Richland Hills Citizen Police Academy by contacting Crime Prevention Officer Ashley Stringer at 817-616-3777 or astringer@richlandhills.com for more information.



CITY NEWS

Neighborhood Services

This is just a reminder to please refrain from blocking the sidewalk when parking in your driveway. We'd like to make sure everyone - especially our disabled residents and small children - can use the sidewalks without having to take detours into the streets. Thanks for your cooperation!

2014 Water Quality Report-

See the insert provided in this newsletter.

Richland Hills Library

Hours

Mon., Wed., & Fri.: 10am-6pm
 Tue.: 12pm-8pm
 Thurs.: 10am-2pm
 Sun.: Closed

Book a Librarian

Book a Librarian is where you can make an appointment to get one on one help from a member of the Richland Hills Public Library staff. Get help with homework, computer assistance or eDevices.

Call 817-616-3760 for an appointment. Se habla espanol: Ahora tenemos miembro de habla española en nuestro personal, sus horas son Miércoles 10 a 6, Jueves 10 a 2, Viernes 2 a 6 y algunos Sábados 10 a 2.

Every Hero has a Story Summer Reading Club

Ages: All
 Wednesdays: 2:00- 3:00
 June 10- July 22
 June 10th — Miss Maria
 Every Hero has a Story
 June 17th—Snake Encounters!
 June 24th- Reading is Magic!
 July 1st- The Incredibles
 Movie & Popcorn
 July 8th- James Wand's Magic Show!
 July 15th- Dinosaur George!
 July 22nd- City Heroes Carnival

Community Theatre: Where stories come alive

Ages: 6-12
 Mondays
 2:00-3:00
 June 8-July 27
 Explore a variety of stories and make them come to life through acting, puppets, theater and more! Last class will be a performance for the parents. Registration is required for this program.

Super Second Saturday in Summer

Ages: All
 11am -12pm
 May 9th — Super Heroes
 June 13th — Community Picnic
 July 11th — A Day at the Beach
 August 8th — Dog Days of Summer

Summer Kids Club

Ages: 3-12
 Tuesdays: 2-4
 June 9-July 28
 This is a come and go program. There will be building materials, crafts, games, snacks, movies, songs, stories and more!

Book vs. Movie Book Club

Tuesday: 4:30 pm- 6:30 pm
 Teen Books Meet 2nd Tuesday of the month
 Adult Books Meet 4th Tuesday of the month
 First Discussion meeting June 9th
 Read the book then watch the

movie together to discuss what was the same, what was different and which was BETTER! Check the website for book titles or call 817-616-3760.

Songs and Stories

Thursday Mornings
 June 11-July 30
 10:15-10:45 & 11:15-11:45
 Play with toys, read stories, sing songs, learn finger plays and more.

Sabado Historias

Cuarto Sábado del Mes
 11:00 am a 11:45 am
 Leer cuentos, cantar canciones, aprender juegos con los dedos y más.

Adult Programs

Richland Readers:
 Join the discussion! This book club is led by our Library Director and a close knit, lively group. Third Wednesday of the month at 11am. Books are available at the front desk.

Quarterly Crafts:
 This adult craft class will be held four times a year. It allows adults to make a fun and interesting craft to display in the library then take it home display for the holidays. Thursday, May 14, 2015 at 5:30 pm. Registration Required. \$5.00 materials fee.

Code Enforcement

Now that spring is here, grass and weeds are growing. The city code requires that grass and weeds must be maintained at a height no taller than 8 inches on developed property and 12 inches on undeveloped property. City code also requires a person who owns, occupies or controls any real developed or undeveloped property to keep the right-of-way adjacent to their property free of weeds and grass to the same height standard.



CITY OF RICHLAND HILLS

KEEPING YOU INFORMED



The Baker Boulevard project begins in May. Improvements include drought tolerant trees and perennials with a drip irrigation system for efficient watering.



An updated site plan has been developed for a new community/recreation center complex. Stop by City Hall to see the updated plans on a larger scale.



Enroll your kids in radKIDS by June 1, 2015 to participate. Space is limited. The program is located at WG Thomas Coliseum, 6108 Broadway Avenue, Haltom City, 76117

Floodplain Management

The City of Richland Hills is a participating city in the **Federal Emergency Management Agency's National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP)**. Ordinances are in place that govern and restrict development within the NFIP effective floodplain. In response to rising costs of taxpayer funded disaster relief, the NFIP was developed to provide homeowners affordable insurance to protect against flood losses based on their potential risk of flooding. The city Floodplain Manager is responsible for ensuring the proper operation of the **Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) Floodplain Management Program** and is available to assist residents with any questions or problems they encounter concerning flooding or drainage on their property.

FEMA has important information and FAQs for homeowners, developers, etc. Additional information can be found at www.floodsmart.gov. Contact Michael Barnes, P.E., RH Floodplain Manager, mbarnes@richlandhills.com or 817-616-3835.

If you have flood insurance on your home and did not receive a 10% reduction last year on your rate, please contact Michael Barnes for assistance. Rate reductions are warranted because the City was awarded the Community Rating System of 8 from FEMA.

Multipurpose Facility

The City has hired Barker Rinker Seacat to provide architectural services for the actual design of a new community/recreation center. Over the next several months the architect will work with city staff, Council, and the community to develop the final design for the building. Renderings of the building and floor plan are available at City Hall. Please contact City Hall for specific questions about this project.

Rad Kids

June 15-19, 2015 (Enroll by June 1, 2015)

The Richland Hills Police Department is now enrolling for the summer radKIDS program. This program is designed to empower kids to not be victims of crime. Topics include safety at home, safety out-&-about, conflict resolution, bullying, and much more. The difference between this training and traditional training is it teaches kids realistic physical defense strategies to use in the event an abductor tries to kidnap them.

For questions or more information contact Sergeant Parsons at **817-616-3784** or visit www.radkids.org. Enrollment packets can be picked up from the lobby of Richland Hills PD (6700 Baker Blvd.), on the city website www.richlandhills.com or by emailing sheenaparsons@richlandhills.com. Space is limited; must enroll by June 1, 2015 to be guaranteed enrollment.

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

City Hall Office Hours:
 Mon-Thur 7:30am to 5:30pm, Fri 7:30am to 11:30am

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



Christi's Corner

Welcome to Christi's Corner, my new *Victim Information Column*. This column will be published to provide advice and helpful hints to victims and their family members.

Let me introduce myself, I am Christi Garcia/Crime Victim Coordinator for Richland Hills, N. Richland Hills, Watauga and Haltom City Police Departments. I have been working with victims for the past twenty years. Hopefully by reading this column you take away a bit of information that you can use or share it with someone else. For questions or more information about victim's rights, contact me at cgarcia@richlandhills.com or 817-253-9056 or Crime Victim Liaison Teresa Koontz at tkoontz@richlandhills.com or 817-682-3113.

RECOVERING FROM CRIME:

Step 1: Deciding what to do After a Crime

If you are a victim of crime, you may have to cope with challenges you never expected to face. You may be overwhelmed by fear or anger. And you may not know what to do next or where to turn for help. Victim Advocates can help you figure out what steps to take and what choices you may need to make. Advocates can offer advice on how to stay safe and give you information on medical, mental health, and victim services in your community. Below are some of the options you may want to explore, either on your own or with the help of a Victim Advocate.

Step 2: Understand your Rights

- ❖ You have the right to protection from intimidation, harassment and harm. If you feel threatened, call 911.
- ❖ You have the right to be informed about your procedures in the criminal investigation of your case by law enforcement officials.
- ❖ You have the right to receive information about Texas Crime Victims' Compensation Fund that provides financial assistance to victims of violent crime.

Step 3: Recognize Your Feelings

After a crime, you may experience the following:

- ❖ Fear, anxiety, nervousness, jumpiness, trembling.
- ❖ Sweating, racing heart, shortness of breath.
- ❖ Avoidance and withdrawing from others

Remember these are normal feelings to have after a traumatic event

Step 4: Coping with Immediate Crisis

Some suggestions include the following:

- ❖ Try to get plenty of rest, eat nutritious meals along with moderate exercise. Walking may help relieve some of the stress.
- ❖ Re-establish a normal routine as soon as possible, but don't over-do. Undertake daily tasks with care.
- ❖ Keep a journal; talk with a friend or family. Or find support through a counselor.