

# NEWSLETTER

## RICHARDSON CHAMBER

Our mission: we develop and provide leadership for our members and community through advocacy, alliances, economic development and education to advance economic prosperity.



### Support local businesses

Can't come up with comfort food from the cabinet? Local restaurants have curbside pickup and delivery. Find your food savior for sheltered lunches or Netflix dinners.

[Visit Discover Richardson](#)

### Upcoming events

Wednesdays--Business Network virtual  
Aug. 17 -- Public Policy w/ US  
Congressmen Colin Allred & Van Taylor  
Aug. 20 -- International Concierge, NAFTA  
Aug. 25 -- Women4Women Mentoring  
Aug. 27 -- RYP tailgate party  
Sept. 2 -- Women in Leadership  
Oct. 1 -- virtual Bingo!  
Oct. 9/16 --Health & Wellness Expo  
(virtual)  
Oct. 27 -- Annual Golf Classic in person

### Member news

[Local veteran opens FASTSIGNS of Richardson](#) (PR)

[Pizza Americana delivers unique flavors to Richardson](#) (Community Impact)

[Eisemann Center now open with new safety features](#)

[Virtual tour of new fire station](#) (Dallas Morning News)

[Transit-oriented development at Galatyn Park Park near DART to commissions](#)

[PAM Rehabilitation](#) (PR) see image below

### Some perspective tidbits

- The hospital is managing the increased number of COVID cases since the re-surge.
- **Sales taxes** for the city are up year over year for the month of May, but the city is budgeting a drop in the next fiscal year. However, the projected drop is less than other comparable cities in the region and state due to Richardson's B2B diversified business community.
- Large employers are having their employees continue to work remote for the rest of the year, and in some cases well into next year.
- Some businesses are doing well in the pandemic. Listen to a [podcast with Golden Chick CEO Mark Parmalee](#) about their drive thru success. Also, bike sales are UP as families look for a way to connect safely outside the home. [Richardson Bike Mart](#) is looking for sales associates and service mechanics.
- Street construction continues in downtown Richardson around **Main street and Greenville** beside the newly completed public safety complex.
- Companies continue to come to Richardson, including Debt-Blu from Addison and Tourit Media from Plano.
- From the chamber's perspective, financially we're managing our resources well and running net income positive so far this year. Debbie Post took over our accounting position. However, three other vacant staff positions are not being filled.

We've come to August, and the long summer heat is somehow a reflection of these stressful times. But we've all gone through hard times in the past—and yet we know better days are coming. The strong choose to walk with hope.

*"Sometimes you go through things that seem huge at the time, like a mysterious glowing cloud devouring your entire community. While they're happening, they feel like the only thing that matters and you can hardly imagine that there's a world out there that might have anything else going on. And then the glow cloud moves on. And you move on. And the event is behind you. And you may find, as time passes, that you remember it less and less. Or absolutely not at all, in my case."*

— Welcome to Night Vale, by Joseph Fink, Jeffrey Cranor

In the meantime, we virtually **salute** our front-line employees, teachers, parents doing double time, small business owners, medical caregivers and those decision-makers with the responsibility of how to direct those under their charge. It's a stressful time. Give grace.

Though the chamber doors aren't open to members, we as a business are, and staff members are in the office. [We're only an email, phone call](#) or even Zoom chat away. If you think of some way for us to help or help other members, please let us know.



Principal



## Articles about financial help

### **Richardson offers economic relief for Collin County small businesses**

The pre-application period is now open for Richardson's new economic assistance program for small businesses in the Collin County portion of Richardson. The City has allocated \$1 million of its Collin County funds from the Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act to create the program, which will use the same requirements as the program that is eligible to Richardson businesses in Dallas County. Individual businesses with no more than 100 employees and under \$10 million in revenue can receive up to \$50,000 in the form of a forgivable loan.

Businesses can fill out the pre-application online Aug. 1-16; a randomized borrower selection process will take place after the pre-application period closes to identify eligible businesses that will be invited to submit a full loan application. The National Development Council (a third-party administrator) will oversee the screening and selection process.

[Visit their website>>](#)

### **Dallas County to offer round 3 of the emergency assistance to businesses**

Up to \$50K is available to small businesses in a forgivable loan. Apply Aug. 10-23. Businesses must have lost 25%+ of revenue because of covid-19. [Read a PDF about the program>>](#)

### **Loan deadline approaching for small businesses affected by October tornado**

Small businesses affected by the straight-line winds, hail and tornado that hit Dallas County last October have until Aug. 14 to apply for an SBA federal disaster loan for economic injury. Loans of up to \$2 million are available to help meet working capital needs caused by the disaster, regardless of whether the applicant suffered any property damage. Loans may be used to pay fixed debts, payroll, accounts payable and other bills that cannot be paid because of the disaster's impact. [more>>](#)

### **DATA: More than 44,000 jobs retained in Richardson due to federal PPP loans**

*Community Impact*

More than 2,700 Richardson businesses received potentially forgivable loans through the federal Paycheck Protection Program. The PPP was enacted as part of the federal Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security Act in April. Most Richardson businesses that got loans received amounts of \$50,000 or less, the data shows. [more>>](#)

## **Podcast: Golden Chick CEO Mark Parmerlee**

Mark Parmerlee, a member of the Richardson Chamber board, is the CEO of the parent company of Golden Chick, Jalapeno Tree, Fireside Pies, Texadelphia, JC's Burger House, Heff's Burgers, Lola's Handcrafted Kitchen and State 28 Grill. Golden Chick has more than 180 franchises.

In this episode, Mark talks about the restaurant business and their success with drive-thrus, strategies that he and his team have embraced and expectations for the future for his company and the restaurant business after



## **Past podcasts on Rich Talk**

**UT Dallas President Dr. Richard Benson**

[Listen](#)

Dr. Benson about the future of the school (think resiliency and optimism) and how diversity is built into its DNA.

**Qorvo CEO James Klein**

[Listen](#)

James talks about his background, Qorvo's history, how Qorvo managed to keep their plants healthy even in China and the need to support STEM and diversity efforts. Part of the discussion focuses on the importance of culture, leadership and the trust of the team.

**Mayor Paul Voelker**

[Listen](#)

covid.

Listen

Paul talks about his background in Richardson, and his approach to business relationships with the city. Paul also talks about the planning that is being done for the city as a whole to develop areas of interest that can best serve various groups of citizenry and businesses.

## Leadership Richardson graduates with drive-by, picks next class

Each year, Leadership Richardson graduates describe their experience as rewarding, challenging and informative. This year's Class XXXV is no different, but did have a twist. Like students all over the world, the 40 members transitioned to on-line classes and a drive-by graduation at Chase Bank because of the covid-19 pandemic.

[Read more>>](#)



### Volunteer

Learn, grow and become a leader in Richardson

# Get involved

Click to see a list of available committees who are meeting virtually

## Arapaho Flowers during the pandemic

Arapaho Flowers prides itself on developing long-term relationships. "We've actually weathered this time surprisingly well," said Kent Smith, owner with Chris Maloney. "A lot of our customers are from an older generation. When this started, they were scared," Kent said. "I'm used to taking flowers from here to there. During that time, I found I was taking groceries and other errands to help them out."

Arapaho Flowers is still taking care of their customers, though back more to the flower gig. The chamber was able to help them out this week with a referral to a Richardson candle maker (thank you Barb Gatti).



## Debbie Post's can-do attitude helps chamber

There's a new friendly voice answering the chamber phones these days. Debbie Post has taken over the accounting/HR position and has added other hats in answering the phones and taking staff temperatures as they come in to work. Though starting the job right before the pandemic, Debbie said "I'm adaptable to anything. I thrive on being thrown into a difficult situation. I can figure things out on my own."

Debbie was wanting to get closer to family, and thus has moved to Dallas from Yazoo, Mississippi.

[Read more>>](#)



### Momentum



## New and renewing members

Please welcome our new and returning members from May, June and July.

### New members

*Welcome! We're so glad to have you!*

Austin Commercial, LP  
Burn Boot Camp  
CONSULTY USA  
FastSigns of Richardson  
Guiding Wealth  
Hexa Co-Working  
Jeng Chi Foods Corporation  
Lockhart, Morris & Montgomery  
Pillar Commercial, LLC  
Raising Cane's Chicken Fingers  
Shell Shock CBD  
Simply Grace  
Stanton P. Eigenbrodt, PLLC  
Talley Riggins Construction Group  
Texas Southern Landscaping

### 40+ years

**President's Club**  
**City of Richardson**  
Vent-A-Hood Limited

### 30+ years

Kimley Horn and Associates, Inc.  
Nichols, Jackson, Dillard, Hager & Smith

### 20+ years

**President's Club**  
**Fossil Group, Inc.**

The Warren Center  
Kiwanis Club of Richardson  
Sonny Bryan's Smokehouse  
The Heights Baptist Church  
LeeMAH Electronics, Inc.  
Smith Anglin Financial, LLC

### 10+ years

**President's Club**  
**Fobare Commercial, L.P.**  
**Prosperity Bank**  
**Reliant, an NRG Company**  
**Lute Riley Honda**

Maverick Commercial Real Estate  
Braum's Ice Cream and Dairy Store  
Trinity Bible Church  
The Richardson ISD Foundation  
Plano Independent School District  
Courtyard by Marriott - Spring Valley  
Chick-fil-a  
Walker Bright PC  
Sushi Sake Japanese Restaurant  
Best Wire & Cable  
Dave Perry-Miller Real Estate  
DFW Chinatown/Terrace Shopping  
Photo Organizing Solutions  
Afrak Restaurant  
Cindi's NY Deli, Restaurant & Bakery

### 5+ years

Richardson Adult Literacy Ctr.  
Ebby Halliday Realtors - Kassen  
Pan-American Benefits Solutions  
US Freedom Capital  
Jason's Deli  
Thai's Thumbz Urban Kitchen  
Comm. District I, Dr. Teresa Daniel  
Richardson Chrysler Jeep Dodge  
Aboca's Italian Grill  
I Fratelli Pizza - RS Pizza  
Advanced ObGyn Associates  
BB&T - Garland  
Bridge Builder Academy  
Saville Dodgen & Company, PLLC  
Spring Valley Athletic Association

### 1+ year

Nothing Bundt Cakes Richardson  
Happy Tails Pet Pal, LLC  
Guitars & Growlers  
Dog Haus Biergarten  
Greentex Landscaping Inc.  
JLL  
Texas Green Plumbing  
The Standard at City Line  
Coldwell Banker Realty - JO Homes  
Simply Grace  
Arapaho Flowers  
Home Care Assistance of Richardson  
REMAX Select Homes  
Texas State Optical Custer Creek  
The Reserve at Richardson  
Ampex Brands  
The Monarch at Richardson  
Will on Wheels/Vicki S. Ratliff, PC  
Staples  
Junior Achievement of Dallas  
Mutual Assistance Association For The Ethiopian Community  
SmithGroup  
Visiting Angels  
The Reserve at North Dallas  
ER Near Me - Richardson  
McCarthy Building Companies  
Drury Plaza Hotel Dallas Richardson  
Circle Ten Council-Boy Scouts of America  
INSURICA  
Richardson Boys & Girls Club

### Submissions policy:

If you feel you have a worthy submission for the Chamber newsletter (including member news), please email Amy Alexander at [amy@richardsonchamber.com](mailto:amy@richardsonchamber.com). Our goal is to create a communication vehicle interesting for the largest number of our members, so unfortunately not all submissions will be accepted. Also contact Amy for advertising possibilities.

Richardson Chamber of Commerce  
| (972) 792-2800 |  
[www.richardsonchamber.com](http://www.richardsonchamber.com)

