



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

## Upcoming events

### Wednesdays--Business Network

8/19 Women4Women: Let's re-create!

8/19 Senior Service Networking

8/19 New Member Orientation

8/26 RYP Happy Hour

9/1 Women in Leadership Quarterly

Luncheon

9/28 Golf Classic



## Meet Jayla Anderson, member engagement

Jayla makes sure that chamber members can get involved and optimize their chamber membership. She spent nine years working for numerous Boys & Girls Clubs, as a youth development leader and membership coordinator. Jayla graduated with her M.S. from Arkansas State University and spends her free time visiting family and friends, along with spending lots of time outdoors. Plus, her BFF is her in-house pup.

## Chamber update

Things are *kinda* getting back to normal at the chamber and in Richardson, though as with any successful business, flexibility is key in changing environments. Some in-person meetings are back; many with hybrid options.

The chamber has received IRS approval for a **501c3 charitable foundation**. The foundation will make it easier to support opportunities such as economic development, workforce development and Leadership Richardson scholarships. Look for more information soon.

Every year, the Richardson Chamber undergoes a **financial audit** to ensure the fiscal stability and financial responsibility of the organization. Haynie & Company conducted the audit and issued an unmodified opinion. This indicates a clean audit in which financial statements are presented in accordance with applicable financial reporting framework.

Our **international division** is hard at work helping business grow in Richardson. They've completed phase one of a **website** section update to expand resources for international sales, establishing foreign operations or managing and re-engineering supply chains.

The international group is working with the **Tokyo Chamber of Commerce and Industry** to schedule a virtual event in early October to introduce 50 pre-screened small and medium-size Japanese organizations interested in entering the U.S. market.

This year, we're celebrating our **75th anniversary**. Take a look back at our **board chairs** at this new round-up **page**. While you are there, take a look at all of our **history**. **See a video celebration here.**

### **Member survey reveals business growth, Chamber value**

The purpose of the chamber's membership survey is to gain a better understanding of what impacts your business and how we're doing in helping you succeed.

While 40% of respondents said their business lost headcount during the pandemic, almost 70% said they plan to add **additional employees** in the next year. Most respondents said their biggest challenges during recovery are providing services in different ways and **keeping their employees safe**.

90% of respondents find the Chamber membership to be valuable.

Principal



BlueCross BlueShield of Texas  
*Through it all.*



## **Leadership Richardson Class** **36 graduates; Class 37 begins**

Class 37, destined to be the best class ever, kicks off with 42 members eager to enhance their personal and organizational leadership skills, learn what makes a successful community and figure out how they can make a difference.

More than 1,200 participants have graduated from Richardson's program.

Host sites: The Drawing Board, Richland College, RISD, The Heights Church, City of Richardson, Eisemann Center, The Dialogue Institute, Methodist Richardson Medical Center, UT Dallas, IQ HQ, Network of Community Ministries, Richardson Fire and Police Training Academies and Cisco Systems.

Sponsors to date: Blue Cross and Blue Shield, Dorian Bahr, Frost Bank, Golden Tree Restaurants, Logotology, Nothing Bundt Cakes and State Farm.

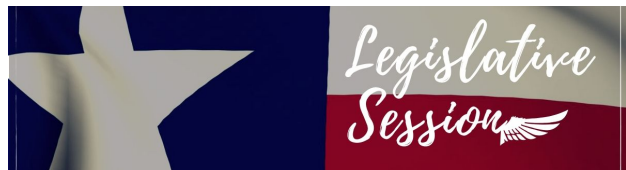
**Read more** and find out who's who in Class 37



Access your  
member information  
on your phone

Download the  
**MemberPlus**  
mobile app

[click to read more>>](#)



**Sign up for legislative updates**

**Legislative agenda**

## **Redevelopment projects in Richardson designed to help 'The IQ' grow**

*from Community Impact*

Richardson officials are looking to redevelop 14 acres of land around Dallas Area Rapid Transit's Arapaho Center Station as revitalization efforts unfold in The Innovation Quarter.

Richardson City Council and the DART board of directors each authorized an agreement in June that allows the city to begin the master plan process for the area.

"Working in conjunction with DART, the city will really take the lead on ... selecting the master developer [for the area]," Deputy City Manager Don Magner said.

**Read more.**



## **Network of Community Ministries moving to larger space**

After serving Richardson families for more than 20 years at its current location, the Network of Community Ministries is moving to a much larger space and expects to be fully operational on Sept. 7.

Check the [website](#) for the latest information. Food and

clothing donations, and volunteers are in high demand.

Network has been leasing its current 12,500 sq. ft. facility at 741 S. Sherman St. for nearly 20 years. In November 2020, the Network acquired a new 50,000 square foot building at 1500 International Parkway. The new campus will transform the client and volunteer experience and provide essential resources for staff to effectively counsel, serve and support area families.

The new facility comes at a critical time. Since March 2020, Network has increased food distribution by 600%, and rental and housing utility assistance has increased by 400%.

[Read more.](#)



## **Keshav Vasanth – high school intern**

We wish a fond farewell to Keshav Vasanth, who interned at the chamber through the Richardson Mayor's Summer Internship Program. Keshav created the video for the **Tech Titans golf sponsors** (where he got a head start on car driving by playing chauffeur in a golf cart).

Can we say over-achiever? Keshav is a senior at the IB World School at the Plano East Senior High School. He has participated in the global non-profit Destination Imagination program since he was 5, helping build creative solutions to service-learning challenges related to hunger, homelessness, conservation, hurricane relief, pollution and more.

"I love how combining thoughtful, artistic design with innovative technology can impact societal needs. I hope to combine entrepreneurship, engineering, conservation and film in college and in my career. I believe creative collaboration is key to achieving ecological recovery for our world," he said.

Read more [here](#).



## **City of Richardson news**

[Richardson voters will be asked to approve \\$190 million worth of infrastructure improvements on Nov. 2.](#) The bond package includes five propositions covering repair and maintenance projects related to streets, public buildings, sidewalks, drainage and parks. If approved, debt from the bond would be sold over a five-year period beginning in fiscal year 2021-22.

City Council is looking at an [annual increase of about 3.5% to the city utility rates for each of the next five years. However, a \\$0.01 reduction of the municipal tax rate is in the budget as well.](#)

The council added a new member in June with the election of [Arefin Shamsul for Place 6. Janet DuPuy was re-elected mayor pro-tem.](#)

[Read more](#)

## **Global Development Initiative begins new class**

The Global Development Initiative, organized by the Mayor's Office of International Business and through at the University of Texas at Dallas, continues to grow.

Thirty UTD undergrad students this fall will help several international companies learn more about doing business in Richardson. This is double the previous enrollment.

Students learn how to conduct market analysis, communicate with pre-qualified international companies, organize events/workshops for international business initiatives for the Richardson Chamber and the City of Richardson. Students get hands-on marketing experience by assisting with market research aimed at establishing those companies' initial operations in Richardson.

[Read more](#)



## **Golf Classic sold out on golfer spots**

The Richardson Chamber Golf Classic is here!

One of the chamber's largest events, this year's tournament, will include an outdoor networking happy hour and awards ceremony along with tournament and skill contest prizes. Golfers will connect with current and potential clients, suppliers and business and community leaders Sept. 28 at Canyon Creek Country Club.

President Club member Ryan LLC is the signature sponsor. Other sponsors are: Fobare, Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas, Digital Realty, Methodist Richardson Medical Center, City of Richardson, Raymond Construction, Hill & Wilkinson General Contractors, Talley Riggins Construction Group, Frost Bank, Alliance Architects, ER Near Me, Springtree Restoration, Z Constructors, BAL, The Wing'd Nut, Viyu Network Solutions, SpeedPro, Prosperity Bank, Neighborhood Credit Union, Community Impact Newspaper, Rescue Air, Reliable Chevrolet, KDC Real Estate, Toyota of Richardson and Raising Cane's.



Read more at the event information [page](#).

## Member profile: Ryan LLC

Ryan, an award-winning global tax services and software provider, is the largest firm in the world dedicated exclusively to business taxes. Ryan is this year's signature sponsor of the Golf Classic.

With global headquarters in Dallas, the firm provides an integrated suite of federal, state, local and international tax services on a multi-jurisdictional basis, including tax recovery, consulting, advocacy, compliance and technology services.

Ryan is a five-time recipient of the International Service Excellence Award from the Customer Service Institute of America (CSIA) for its commitment to world-class client service. Empowered by the dynamic myRyan work environment, which is widely recognized as the most innovative in the tax services industry, Ryan's multi-disciplinary team of more than 2,100 professionals and associates serves more than 14,000 clients in more than 45 countries, including many of the world's most prominent Global 5000 companies.

More information about Ryan can be found at [ryan.com](http://ryan.com)

**MOMENTUM**



## Member news

### [Como Motel: our oldest member at 66 years](#)

Anyone in the lodging industry knows there are a million stories to tell, says Judy Cash, long-time owner of the Como Hotel, the chamber's oldest continuous member.

To Judy, the stories focus on fond memories of some of the original owners and watching them help residents and travelers alike.

"The motel has been in the family since Bob and Margaret Cheatham bought it in 1956. It was originally owned by a man named Cole who built the Como. Bob took the 12-room motel and expanded it to 35 rooms," she said.

[read more >>](#)



[Richardson's three-decade veteran of Asian cuisine Jeng Chi turns dough into dollars](#)(Community Impact)

[Richardson's Ampex Brands acquires Au Bon Pain and plans to expand the chair](#)(Dallas News)

## Ambassador of the month: Ashley Hust

Born and raised in DFW, Ashley Hust has the knowledge needed to make any real estate transaction as easy as pie!

Whether you are a first time home buyer, or looking for that perfect "forever home," her ultimate goal is to connect each and every client to the perfect home and community for them. Education is key to any real estate transaction, and she truly takes the time to guide her clients through the process to build confidence in their decisions during one of the biggest transactions in life.



When not transitioning clients into lifelong friends, she enjoys reading, trying new local restaurants, and spending as much time as possible with her dog, Bruno. She is an Army wife, reality tv addict, and former apparel designer who now thrives on creating genuine connections with clients to help serve Richardson and the surrounding cities.

## New and renewing members

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

### New members

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

Amna Hasnain Coaching  
Brandon Schweers, realtor  
Raymond James  
D/FW Gujarati Samaj, Inc.  
Monkey King Noodle Company  
Pure Plumbing  
Raise Your Hand Texas  
Rich-Tone Chorus  
Russel Hankins  
Stinson LLP  
Talley Riggins Construction Group  
TrueCloud PBX  
US Army Rich. Recruit Station  
[\(Read a little bit about our marketplace new arrivals\)](#)

### 60+ years

Como Motel, Inc.

### 20+ years

DART (Dallas Area Rapid Transit)  
Heights Baptist Church  
Kiwanis Club of Richardson  
Renaissance Dallas Richardson Hotel  
Smith Anglin Financial, LLC  
Sonny Bryan's Smokehouse  
Super 8  
Warren Center

### 10+ year

#### President's Club

Fobare Commercial, L.P.  
Prosperity Bank  
Adolfson & Peterson Construction  
Reliant, an NRG Company

Angela McCants-Dave Perry Miller  
Avison Young  
Best Wire & Cable  
Einstein's Eyes Web Design  
Executive Press, Inc  
North Central Ford  
Pharmco International, Inc.  
Richardson Adult Literacy Ctr.  
Sushi Sake Japanese Restaurant  
Texas Roof Management Inc  
Trinity Bible Church  
Twin Rivers Senior Living

### 5+ year

#### President's Club

#### Ameg Bank

Advanced ObGyn Associates  
Bridge Builder Academy  
CityLine Dental Center  
Commissioner District I, Dr. Teresa Daniel

### Inogen

Lemons & Hallbauer, LLC  
Metroplex Self Storage  
Minerva Consulting  
Nothing Bundt Cakes Richardson  
Richardson Woman's Club  
Charitable Foundation Inc.  
Spring Valley Athletic Association

### 1+ year

#### President's Club

#### Talley Riggins Construction

Ampex Brands  
Arapaho Flowers  
ATM Depot Inc  
Boys & Girls Club Richardson  
Drury Plaza Hotel Dallas Richardson  
El Dorado Senior Living Community  
Erin Ballard, Realtor, Compass  
Jeng Chi Foods Corporation  
McCarthy Building Companies  
Meredith G. Davis, DDS  
PAM Rehabilitation Hospital  
Pineda's Mexican Cuisine  
Progressive IT Solutions  
Re/Max Four Corners  
Texas Green Plumbing  
The Monarch at Richardson  
The Reserve at North Dallas, (COIT Senior Care, LLC)  
The Reserve at Richardson

**Submissions policy:** ncluding 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.