

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.

Annual Meeting March 11

When it comes to innovation and high-energy tenacity, Mark Cuban has a mind for business. Mark will be giving attendees a piece of his mind during the Annual Meeting, Networking will be emphasized during the reception on a specialized platform from 11:30 am until noon.

[Read more>>](#)



Upcoming events

Wednesdays--Business Network virtual

[2/9 Joint HR/AI Committee](#)

[2/12 & 2/19 Health & Wellness Expo](#)

[2/17 Growth & Mobility](#)

[2/18 Senior Service Networking](#)

[3/2 RYP Speaker Series](#)

[3/3 Women in Leadership](#)



[Virtual trade show Feb. 12 & 19](#)

2020 accomplishments

Though often quarantined, volunteers and staff 'pivoted' to continue to provide opportunities to Lead, Learn and Grow businesses.

The chamber hosted Town Halls with Chair Stan Bradshaw and President Bill Sproull to **connect members**. Ambassadors and staff worked through the member directory, contacting companies about their status and **looking for ways to help**.

Thankfully, the **Annual Meeting** occurred prior to the shutdown. It was the largest and most profitable ever, featuring President George W. Bush.

Richardson Economic Development Partnership (REDP) results included 18 projects that represent 2,765 new or retained jobs for Richardson. Of note, CBRE will expand its footprint in Richardson, leasing an additional 100,000 square feet.

Richardson IQ continues to gain recognition, with the Richardson Economic Development Partnership (REDP) staff contacting more than 50 companies about its opportunities. Watch the city's [video about the center](#).

[Read more](#)

Updated board and goals for the year

It's time for putting into play organization goals. Our processes are similar to those of our member businesses. Our focus is making decisions that best engage and benefit our members.

The goals are broken down into promote business success, foster member value and engagement, build marketing and brand awareness, drive workforce development, advocate public policy, lead technology growth and ensure financial stewardship.

[Click to see all the goals](#)

The board continues to be the core leader of chamber activities. See who will be serving as the Board of Directors in 2021.

[See the Board of Directors](#)

Economic development

Opportunities for growth, Dallas Business Journal

During a recent interview, President Bill Sproull discussed what companies already call Richardson home, the history of the city's telecom corridor and how he would sell the area to a prospective company.

"We are in the epicenter of where **tech workers** live and work. We've just got excellent **transportation** access that can bring employees and customers and

Right now we're developing an innovation district that we're calling the Richardson IQ. It's 1,200 acres in the old heart of the Telecom Corridor. It's got lots of technology assets. -- Bill Sproull, CEO of the Richardson Economic Development Partnership in the ***Dallas Business Journal***

Principal



BlueCross BlueShield of Texas
Through it all.



Updates

[UT Dallas students help attract international companies](#)

For the fourth semester (Spring 2021), UT Dallas undergrad students will assist international companies in their efforts to expand their business activities into the United States. The Global Development Initiative (GDI) is a collaboration between the Center for Global Business (CGB) at UTD and the Richardson Economic Development Partnership (REDP). The CGB develops globally competent leaders and engages stakeholders to meet future business challenges through high-quality learning, world-class research and collaborative partnerships. REDP is dedicated to building a vibrant and thriving local economy by attracting new investment and jobs to the City of Richardson.

[Support for international business expands](#)

The International Concierge Committee is rebranding as the International Business Resource Center and expanding its resources with events, education and on-line services. The center will support companies from other countries expanding operations in Richardson and local companies actively pursuing business in other countries. For more information, contact [Lawrence Howorth](#).

[PPP loan questions, answered through the US Chamber of Commerce](#)

The federal Paycheck Protection Program offers forgivable loans to small businesses, but it has been changed several times. PPP loans are issued by private lenders and credit unions, and then they are backed by the Small Business Administration (SBA). The basic purpose of the PPP is to incentivize small businesses to keep workers on payroll and/or to rehire laid-off workers that lost wages due to COVID-19 disruptions. As long as businesses spend their loan money correctly, the full amount can be forgiven.

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[Former Chair Jeanne Hooker passes](#)

Beloved Jeanne Hooker, chair during 2010, has succumbed to cancer. Her influence was felt on committees throughout Richardson. She led the first accreditation endeavor where the chamber received 5 stars the first time out.



The City Council and mayor gave their annual report featuring highly engaging videos. If you want to feel proud of Richardson, invest 45 minutes. [Click to access.](#)

RYP profile: Tyler Farrer of Texas Bank and Trust

Setting up happy hours is quite a challenge during a pandemic.

Tyler Farrer, second year tri-chair for Richardson Young Professionals, made it work through Zoom meetings and drive-by chocolate drops. He doesn't stop there. He's also tri-chair for the Growth and Mobility committee and is a graduate of last year's Leadership Richardson (class 35).

He is an assistant vice president and commercial lender for Texas Bank and Trust. Tyler was involved in his local chamber of commerce in his hometown of Longview. When he moved to Richardson 2017, it was a natural step.



[Read more](#)

2000 students learn about careers during iDream

The iDream program exploded in growth this year, thanks to problem-solving in the face of the pandemic resulting in virtual, online presentations.

About 2,000 students from 25 elementary schools met with dozens of industry leaders from across the country recently as part of iDream 2021, a partnership between Richardson Independent School District and the Richardson Chamber.

iDream is a one-day career day for sixth-grade students to learn more about opportunities available after high school. Students connect with business professionals to hear about career opportunities in cluster areas such as business, marketing, finance, health science, STEM, hospitality, public service, architecture, construction and education.



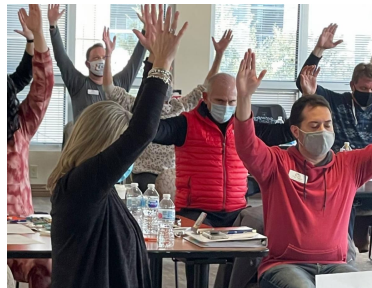
[Watch the video](#) produced by RISD.



RICHARDSON
CHAMBER of COMMERCE
Learn • Grow • Lead

We're diving into our 'ancestry' books and populating some memories. We'll be updating our [history webpage](#) this year.

Leadership Richardson got in a session of chair yoga during Health and Wellness Day (sponsor Richardson East Rotary Club). Namaste!



#TechTuesdays with TechTitans

Count on learning something new from Tech Titans every Tuesday. Forum events will only be held on Tuesdays and the weekly newsletter comes out on Tuesdays. If tech is your jam, #Tech Tuesdays is the place to be!

[Read more](#)



RYP brings chocolate to comfort Cancer Center

"RYP rocks. This is like the Willie Wonka Chocolate Factory load of chocolate." - Jan Arrant, Methodist Richardson Medical Center

Richardson Young Professionals delivered two full wheelbarrows of chocolate for cancer patients at Methodist Richardson Medical Center, collected the beginning of December. Yum-o!

Pictured l-r: Michelle Firpi, ProNail Roofing; Michael Parmerlee, GoldenChick; John O'Haugherty, Coldwell Banker Realty - JO Homes; Tyler Farrer, Texas Bank and Trust.

Member profile: Lisa Miller, El Dorado

Service. Connection. Education. These three words describe Lisa Miller's contribution to the chamber, and the world.

Lisa's official title is sales leader for the El Dorado senior living community in Richardson.

Her true calling, however, is bringing people together to learn, and support and serve others.

Lisa has worked at the El Dorado for just over three years. Prior to that, she was in the ministry. She helped create the Network of Community Ministries and Career Connections. These services have helped thousands of families since 1992 with financial support, career coaching and other support services.



[Read more>>](#)



New and renewing members

Please welcome our new and returning members from November and December.

New members

Welcome! We're so glad to have you!

Action Lock Doc
Anaya's Seafood
CMIT Solutions of Richardson
Desroches Partners LLP
Ibex Digital Consulting
Maverit LLC
Online Rewards
Real Deal Sober Living
Shady's Burgers & Brewhaha
The Event Lounge
V/O Med Spa Richardson
[\(Read a little bit about our marketplace new arrivals\)](#)

30+ years

President's Club Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas

Arnold M. Stokol, O.D. and Associates
Carr Riggs & Ingram, LLC
Hammack Service Co.
Network Community Ministries
Richardson East Rotary Club
Richardson Ready Electric, Inc.

20+ years

Ebby Halliday Realtors - Frederick
J. R. Black Properties, Ltd.
Pioneer Bank
The Wellington at Arapaho

15+ year

President's Club

Reliable Chevrolet
Atmos Energy

Hudson Peters Commercial
National Retirement Plan Services
Patterson & Associates Insurance
The Plaza of Richardson

10+ year

President's Club

KDC Real Estate Development
Oncor
UnitedHealthcare

Eisemann Investments
Hilton Garden Inn Dallas/Richardson
Pampillonia Jewelers
Texas Bank and Trust

5+ year

President's Club

Amegy Bank
State Farm

BTH Bank
Christ Community

CityLine Dental Center
Ebby Halliday - Marilyn Jones
Edward Jones - Mark Hendrick
Evolution Academy Charter School
Harrington Insurance Solutions
Kirin Court
Leake CPA, PC
Lockwood Real Estate Partners LLC
Logotology
Minerva Consulting
Painting with a Twist-Richardson
PS Business Parks
Twin Rivers Assisted Living & Memory Care

1+ year

Accucode/The 3D Printing Store
ATM Depot Inc
Burn Boot Camp
Care N' Care
Fresenius Kidney Care of Renner
Law Offices of Richard McConathy
Main Event Entertainment
Skiles Group Inc.
The Fifth
Vila Brazil Restaurant
WaterWalk Dallas Richardson

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. 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.

