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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.

Video

[Texas Governor Greg Abbott speaks about education and property taxes](#)

In one of the most successful and high profile annual meetings in recent memory, Gov. Greg Abbott addressed upcoming legislative and economic issues before more than 400 attendees at the Feb. 11 event.

"An honor to be here in mighty Richardson, Texas, which is truly the epicenter of the most dynamic economic region in the entire United States of America," Abbott told the crowd. "Richardson is driving the diversifying economy in Texas."



Abbott focused his remarks on the current Texas legislative session.

[Read more](#)

[2019 goals explained by chairman of the board](#)

As the chamber leadership began working on priorities for 2019, they looked at the progress the chamber made during 2018 and how we continue to improve the business ecosystem in Richardson.

"I am confident that we will continue working towards completion of those goals started in previous years - like the East Arapaho Development Innovation District - while achieving exciting new goals that will help our community and our chamber grow in the years to come," said 2019 **Chairman Kory Aoyama from Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas**. Hear Kory's viewpoint on this year's goals.



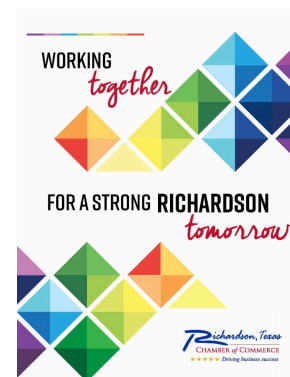
[Read more](#)

[Strong results in 2018, annual report available](#)

Through the hard-working efforts of the board, committees and countless volunteers, the chamber made a significant impact on our community this past year.

For instance, the chamber set a goal this year to accelerate the leasing of at least one million square feet of office space in Richardson. That goal was exceeded by leasing 1.3 million square feet of office space and the chamber contributed to creating or retaining more than 6,300 jobs in our community.

[Read more](#)



President's Club Platinum



BlueCross BlueShield of Texas
Through it all.

GEICO

State Farm

[Hire a high school summer intern and build tomorrow's workforce](#)

Calling it an educational initiative "to help build our future workforce," Richardson Mayor Paul Voelker kicked off the Richardson Mayor's Summer Internship Program, which provides eight-week, paid internships to high school students who attend Richardson ISD or live in the City of Richardson. Mayor Voelker is now recruiting area businesses through April 1 to sponsor interns at their workplace or an area nonprofit. Sign up now at rmsip.org.

[Read more](#)



[New Richardson office building brings several new tenants](#)

The Dallas Morning News

Richardson's newest office project has landed several high-profile tenants, including a major move of 500 jobs from Plano. DXC Technology, an affiliate of Hewlett Packard, is moving employees from the former Electronic Data Systems campus in Plano's Legacy business park to the new 3400 at CityLine building on U.S. Highway 75 (near Renner).

[Advertising and analytics firm Xandr to open in new office building \(Community Impact\)](#)

[Read more](#)

Community profile

[Bob Macy recognized as Citizen of the Year](#)

Bob "is the epitome of a public servant." City Council, layman chaplain, LR, fire/police citizen academies and much more. Since 1965, a nominating committee chaired by the previous year's honoree has selected Richardson's Citizen of the Year. The name is a closely-guarded secret-particularly from the recipient - until announced at the Chamber's Annual Meeting. Watch the presentation about Bob Macy's contributions. *Bob is pictured with 2017 winner Nancy Wilson.*



[Read more](#)

[Volunteers of the Year recognized at Annual Meeting](#)

When business professionals lend their time and expertise to lead the Chamber, it enables us to offer enhanced programs and more opportunities for you to grow professionally.

Thank you to these members who have made significant contributions to the chamber in 2018.

Rookie of the Year, David Ebenezer, The Drawing Board
 Ambassador of the Year, Bob Krombach, Preferred Office Products
 Small Business of the Year, Arapaho Flowers
 Volunteer of the Year, Raul Hinojosa, UT Dallas (*pictured*)
 Committee of the Year, Golf, Kyle James, Eric Peltier, Ron Taylor

[Read more](#)



[Legislative update](#)

Bills target in-state tuition for undocumented students, lawmakers debate property tax bills, deadline this Friday

House bills would repeal in-state tuition for undocumented students who graduate from Texas high schools. A study released last week found that Texas could lose \$400 million in Texas economic activity, or additional consumer spending from increased income, in the first year if lawmakers pass the bills. Friday is the deadline for legislators to file bills.

Sign up for a weekly Friday update on the Public Policy website.

[Read more](#)



[Member profile](#)

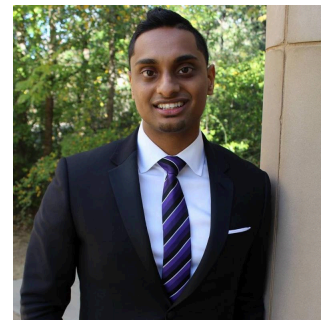
[David Ebenezer, The Drawing Board](#)

David Ebenezer is the property manager for the coworking and event space and is the chamber's 2018 Rookie of the Year.

"The Drawing Board started with the idea that we want to bring people 'back to the drawing board,' where startups and small businesses can come together and get the help they need to be successful," Ebenezer said.

Networking groups and members who support each other with various business services and even in-house promotional items make the Drawing Board a one-stop shop for small business.

[Read more](#)



[SCORE counsels business managers, start-ups](#)

For those wishing to start a business, improve business operations or who need assistance in managing the business, a certified SCORE counselor will be at the chamber office for counseling **every Tuesday from 10 am to 1 pm**.

All SCORE services are free of charge, although the Dallas chapter charges minimal fees for its workshops and webinars. SCORE has been mentoring new and existing businesses across the nation for more than 40 years and has a network of more than 13,000 volunteers who donate their time to help entrepreneurs.



[Read more](#)

[Four Richardson projects finalists for best real estate deals](#)

Four Richardson projects, promoted by the Richardson Economic Development Partnership, are finalists in the annual competition held by the Dallas Business Journal .

Industrial Developer, Parc Northeast
Lease Renewal, Fossil Group HQ
Community or Neighborhood Impact, City of Richardson
Public Safety Complex
Medical, Methodist Richardson expansion

[Read more](#)



[Member/community news](#) [PLAN Clubhouse @ 1121](#)

A place for purpose: Acceptance is hard to find with mental illness - but not here. PLAN Clubhouse focuses on wellness rather than illness by creating structure, reinforcing routine

and teaching people how to advocate for themselves.

[Repertory Company Theatre uses art to build bridge cultures and people](#)

Bridges Multicultural Festival, presented by the Repertory Company Theatre, includes cultural fashion, dancers, artists, musicians and food. The March 23 festival will feature the Texas Muslim Women's Foundation, Islamic Art Revival, Dallas Chinese Community Center, Milanna Dance and The Senior Follies.

[Wildflower! festival lineup announced](#)

The lineup of acts for Richardson's 27th annual Wildflower! Arts & Music Festival, to be held May 17-19 at the Galatyn Park Urban Center, includes Good Charlotte, RATT, Quiet Riot, Blue Oyster Cult, The Guess Who, Fitz, the Jacksons and the Tantrums and Grand Funk Railroad.

[Crow family gifts art museum to UT Dallas, donates \\$23M for second museum](#)

The Trammell and Margaret Crow Museum of Asian Art will be the Trammell and Margaret Crow Museum of Asian Art of The University of Texas at Dallas.

[2019 State of the City: Richardson's Value Proposition](#)

At his annual State of the City Address, Mayor Paul Voelker focused on the City's most significant achievements in 2018. Videos featuring the Mayor and City Council members enhanced the address, and special guests/community leaders who have helped in the City's success were recognized.

[Cotton Belt: DART board approves dual-track design, city funds adjacent trail](#)

Pre-design work has begun on the Cotton Belt rail line through Richardson. That design now includes two tracks. The dual track design was approved by Dallas Area Rapid Transit and will allow two-way traffic and enable trains to run more efficiently while reducing wait times for passengers.

New and renewing members

Please welcome our new and returning members from January.

New members

Welcome! We're so glad to have you!

President's Club

The Arkenstone

Priscilla Wood
Collin College - Plano Campus
Isabelly's
Advancial
Herbert Law Group PLLC
WaterWalk Dallas Richardson
Goetz and Sons Inc
Pizza Americana / Vestals Catering
Ebby Halliday Realtors - Susan Long
Premier Interventional Pain
Boisset Collection
Sayan Renovations & Construction
Cambria Richardson

40+ years

Credit Union Of Texas
Education Service Center Region 10

20+ years

Richardson East Rotary Club

10+ years

President's Club
Highland Springs
Atmos Energy

Sam's Club - Coit Road - 8299
Farmers Insurance - Cindy
Montgomery Agency LLC
Sherwin-Williams

5+ years

Harrington Insurance Solutions, LLC
and The Enrollment Store
Momentum Commercial Realty Inc.
Saint Paul the Apostle Catholic
Church and School
U Haul of North Texas
Richardson Chrysler Jeep Dodge
Motors, Inc.
Metroplex Self Storage
Richardson Dentistry
Curves of Richardson - East
Preferred Business Solutions

1-4 years

President's Club
Jacobs Engineering Group, Inc.

Parker Pickens

Small World Initiative, Inc.
Idea Fountain

50+ years
Como Motel, Inc.

President's Club
Covenant Realty Corp.

Snappy Salads
Kirin Court
BKM Sowan Horan
Blair Group Real Estate

United Way of Metropolitan Dallas
IN-COM Data Systems
The Law Offices of Lisa
Schwamkrug
Wallis Bank
GD Environmental Supplies, Inc
Steve Mullen

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.

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