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NEWSLETTER

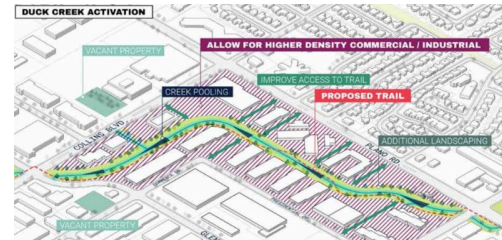
Richardson Chamber

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

Richardson lays tracks for transit-oriented innovation district

From Dallas Innovates

Not every office park can be a monument to 21st Century amenities and transit, but the City of Richardson knows that a few small changes have the power to reinvigorate an underserved area, bringing everything from happier workers to tech startups to the city.



That's why a team from the Richardson Chamber, the City of Richardson, nonprofit Better Block Foundation, and others have been working for more than a year to launch an innovation district in the Collins-Arapaho area, known officially as the Collins/Arapaho Transit-Oriented Development (TOD) and Innovation District.

[Read more](#)

President's Club Platinum



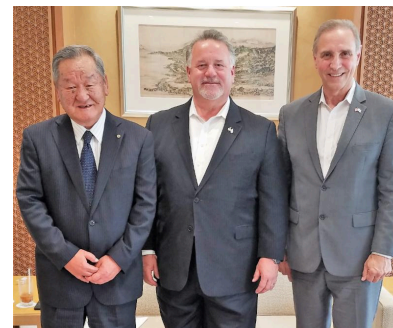
BlueCross BlueShield of Texas
Through it all.



International news

June hot with business visits in Japan

June has been hot as chamber leaders continue to nurture the business relationship with Japan. CEO Bill Sproull and Mike Skelton, director of Mayor's Office of International Business, returned to Japan for numerous face-to-face meetings with Japanese business officials in June. The return trip included a stop in Washington, D.C., to attend the SelectUSA Investment Summit.



Bill & Mike with Tokyo Chamber

[Read more](#)

Member news

- More beds to address regional growth around Methodist Richardson Medical Center
- Richardson nonprofit 'Parkinson Voice Project' making global impact against disease
- Coworking facilities in Richardson offer flexibility, amenities to members
- Jasper's in Richardson serves food reminiscent of home
- Collin College approved to offer four-year degrees in 2020

[Read more](#)

High school interns on the job in area businesses

The Richardson Mayor's Summer Internship Program is under way and experiencing tremendous success.

In just its second year, the program has grown rapidly from 25 internships last year to 43 this year thanks to the 40 participating businesses.

The program provides eight-week, paid internships to high school students who attend Richardson ISD or live in the City of Richardson.

Rivaling a college-level internship, this invaluable experience gives students a life-changing opportunity by immersing them in the professional workplace, clocking 20-to-40 hours per week and earning a minimum of \$10 per hour.

[Read more](#)



Meet the chamber's summer intern: Fabiana Rey.

[Richardson in the news](#)

- Independence Day celebrations
- Mapping, crowd-sourced data key elements in Richardson's Smart City Game Plan
- Developers pitch plans for new restaurants, shopping at former site of Richardson Square Mall
- Richardson fire, police departments adjust to population, corporate density
- Richardson named third best city to live in Texas
- Funding for last unfunded segment of Cotton Belt-adjacent hike and bike trail
- DART selects trains to traverse Cotton Belt Corridor
- Cotton Belt commuter rail to be called Silver Line
- Hedera Hashgraph to move global headquarters to Richardson

[Other news on Discover Richardson](#)

- Public art piece installed at future home of Richardson Fire Department
- Janet DePuy joins Richardson City Council
- Dr. Stone named superintendent of the year by Texas PTA
- Richardson earns regional development excellence award for Collins/Arapaho Transit-Oriented Development and Innovation District Study

[Read more](#)

[President's Club profile: GEICO](#)

The little green lizard with an English accent represents thousands of Richardson employees who love to give back to their community. Almost four years ago, GEICO claimed Richardson as home to the regional office handling sales, service and claims for Texas and nine other states.



"We chose Richardson because it had a facility we were looking for," said Dan Beacom, regional vice president. "A pleasant surprise is the city of Richardson has been terrific. The support has been very strong. It's been a very good partnership for us."

That support is not one-way. "Our philanthropic group, GEICO Cares, does a lot in the community," said Lesley Sanders, public affairs coordinator. GEICO is a high-level supporter of the chamber.

[Read more](#)

[Leadership Richardson XXXIV graduates](#)

Leadership Richardson has graduated its [Class XXXIV](#) of future community leaders. The program, which consists of monthly all-day classes about all facets of community leadership,



has graduated more than a thousand local participants since its founding.

Congratulations!

Leslie Benson, Rachel Boelter, Taiwan Brown, Nicole Buvari, Ashley Claborn, Tim Cox, Diane Dees, Curtis Dorian, Lisa Dunn, Nick Echtenkamp, Yvonne Falgout, Matthew Giordano, Maceo Hall, Sheri Harden, Angela Hawkins, Steve Hendry, Kathleen Howe, Jay Jolly, Simon Katz, Kate Keen, Yves-Laurent Khoury, Lisa Kupfer, Sibyl LaCour, Brenn Miller, Shavonne Morain, Patricia Mulvihill, Gavin

Nichols, Craig Overstreet, Veena Puppala, Ben Purvis, David Robinson, Scott Rooker, Tony Schraufnagel, Gene Senter, Beth Smith, Dan Steege, Dan Tracy, Angela Walker, Jamie Whitesell, Zac Whitley, Suzanne Winkelmann, Jennifer Young

[Find out more about LR](#)

Rich Talk

What is Rich Talk?

Hear success tips from Richardson's business community, including business leaders, government officials and successful community contributors who can help you and your business. Sometimes we'll load the audio from an event that we found particularly educational. The podcast is also available on Apple Podcast, Google, Spotify or Stitcher. Click on the logo to connect.



[Listen](#)

Member spotlight: Manasseh Durkin

Manasseh is on the chamber's executive committee, but he also started Durkin Properties. He talks about their work in revitalizing downtown Richardson, how he got his start, and what other small business owners should know to be successful.

[Read more in the Dallas Morning News](#) about Manasseh's work in the Core.

[Listen](#)



End of legislature session, public policy recap

At the last public policy meeting, CEO Bill Sproull discussed which bills made it and which did not, and how it will affect your business, as well as public school finance and property tax reform.

[Listen](#)

Blog post
[Teams play follow the leader](#)

by Stan Bradshaw, 1st vice chairman of the Chamber's economic division and president and CEO of US Freedom Capital LLC

Teamwork is critical for businesses in just about every industry, so it is likely that you will work as part of a team at some point in your career. Depending on your position within your organization, you may be called upon as a team leader as well. Here's what you need to know to keep your team members focused and ensure they follow your lead for exceptional results.

[Read more](#)

Put your business on the map!
[Claim your business profile now](#)

Stake your claim and promote your business.

The Richardson Chamber is a leading partner in a new website focused on local news, events and businesses. It's meant to benefit the entire community with information while providing an opportunity for businesses to showcase their offerings.

The website offers robust business profiles, intuitive directory search and local news, events and deals. While every Richardson business will have a profile, chamber members at our new marketplace membership level will have access to additional tools.

[Read more](#)



[Richland College and grant funding provide free training for employees](#)

Recruiting, training and maintaining a highly-skilled workforce continues to be a top priority among Richardson area companies.

Richland College provides high quality, customized training without cost to you, the employer. In fact, Richland can offer companies state grant-funded training for new and existing employees through the Skills Development Fund (SDF), a program of the Texas Workforce Commission. SDF enhances your employee training program and stretches your departmental budget. Several Richardson companies have partnered with Richland in skills enhancement in the last few years.

[Read more](#)

[4th annual bowling tournament strikes up fun](#)

Once again, a team from UT Dallas has won the trophy for the Richardson Chamber bowling tournament. Some concerns have been expressed about this occurrence, but considering the amount of trash talk, we're filing it under good fun.

On behalf of the 33 teams and 132 players, we'd like to thank our turkey sponsors: **Methodist Richardson, Mohr Partners, NOAH's and the City of Richardson.**



[See photos from the event](#)



New and renewing members

Please welcome our new and returning members from May.

New members

Welcome! We're so glad to have you!

- My Eyelab - Richardson
- Hotworx
- PAM Rehabilitation Hospital
- Mutual Assistance Association For
- The Ethiopian Community
- VerbaCom
- SmithGroup
- Marsh & McLennan Agency
- Quattro Graphics, LLC
- The P.A.C.E. Group, LLC
- The Fifth
- McCarthy Building Companies

40+ years

President's Club

- City of Richardson

- Vent-A-Hood Limited

30+ years

- Solutions For Local Control
- Make Your Mark Printing

10+ years

- Petitt Barraza, LLC
- Executive Press, Inc
- Walker Bright PC

5+ years

1-4 years

President's Club

- Jasper's

- Breckinridge Park Animal Hospital
- North Dallas Adventist Academy
- Courtyard Dallas Plano/Richardson
- Dog Haus Biergarten
- JLL
- Mike Hart State Farm
- Home Care Assistance of Richardson
- Arapaho Flowers
- Community Impact Newspaper
- Warren & Migliaccio, LLP

Industrial Flooring Services, Inc.
Atlas Wealth Advisors
Don Dillard
Petri Electric

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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