

CITY SPECTRUM

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City Council Implements New Pet Registration Guidelines

Beginning June 1, Irving residents will need to register any cat or dog over the age of 4 months. The new guidelines will help reduce the number of pets held at the Animal Shelter by ensuring the quick return of lost pets to their owners.

Pet registration fees have been implemented in most Metroplex cities, with Irving being one of the last to administer such a program. A reduced fee is offered to owners who microchip and/or have their pets fixed.

Annual pet registration fees are as follows:

- \$5 – Microchipped pet
- \$10 – Non-microchipped; spayed or neutered
- \$15 – Non-microchipped; not spayed or neutered

Fees are not required for service animals that assist the hearing or physically impaired.

All dogs and cats must be registered through Irving Animal Services or PetData, an animal licensing

service. The following registration opportunities are available to Irving residents with proof of rabies vaccination:

- Visit www.petdata.com for information on how to register pets online. PetData will provide online customer service for registration and will mail annual renewal notifications.
- Irving Animal Shelter, 100 N. Briery Road.
- Pooch Fest from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 31 at the Irving Soccer Complex, 3585 World Cup Way. A special pet microchip clinic also will be available during the event.

Once a current rabies vaccination certificate from any Texas veterinarian is presented and the registration fee is paid, the pet will receive the annual registration tag and a receipt will be provided for the owner's records. Registration tags

are valid for one year from the date issued and may only be worn by the pet named on the vaccination and registration documents.

If a tag is lost or destroyed, a duplicate identification tag may be obtained from the city or PetData without charge.

For more information visit www.cityofirving.org or call Animal Services at (972) 721-2256.



Irving residents will need to register their pets.

New Retail Outlet Center to Provide Upscale Shopping to Residents, Visitors

Tanger Factory Outlet Centers Inc., which operates 31 shopping centers in 22 states from coast to coast, has announced plans to build a premier, upscale outlet shopping center in Irving. The 380,000-square-foot center will be strategically located at the northwest quadrant of State Highway 114 and Loop 12, and will be built on a vacant 50-acre tract. Located adjacent to Texas Stadium and State Highway 183, the area is known as the third most-traveled intersection in Dallas-Fort Worth.

The center will consist of a collection of 90 brand name and designer outlet stores where residents and visitors can shop and save direct from the manufacturer. Built on a shopper-friendly racetrack design, the center will function as an open air shopping center with both covered and uncovered walkways. The new shopping venue will include landscaped courtyards, architectural details and a park-like setting throughout.

“Providing upscale retail destinations for our residents and businesses is a top priority in Irving’s economic development plan. Tanger’s quality center will complement future development in



Artist rendering of proposed outlet shopping center.

this gateway to our city as well as enhance Irving’s property and sales tax base,” stated Chris Wallace, president and CEO of the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce.

Tanger cited many advantages that made Irving an attractive location including many Metroplex entertainment venues, D/FW International Airport and Las Colinas, which is home to several Fortune 500 companies.

TOWN HALL MEETING SET FOR APRIL 8

Join the City of Irving for a Town Hall Meeting April 8 at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd., to discuss city projects and initiatives. The meeting is scheduled for:

6 to 7 p.m.
Informational displays

7 p.m.
Presentation

The presentation will provide an update on key initiatives such as:

- Public safety
- Code enforcement
- Neighborhood improvements
- Beautification efforts
- Economic development

Attendees will have the opportunity to ask questions following the presentation. For more information, call (972) 721-7600.

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Irving Arts Center Featured Events



Richard Hight

Spring Fling – Go Wild About Art!

Enjoy this free family festival from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. April 5 at the Irving Arts Center, and get a preview of KidsArts Summer Camps. Activities include free KidsArts projects; full-face exotic face painting; an instrument petting zoo with the Lone Star Youth Orchestra; a visual arts tent for adults to enjoy and much more. Be amazed as Richard Hight creates one of his large-scale masterpieces in 30 minutes to the beat of high-energy music. John Hunter will give a special “Snake Talk” presentation where kids will get a chance to interact and learn about their slithery friends. For more information, visit www.irvingartscenter.com.



Summer Art Camps

One-Week Summer Art Camps Three types of camps for ages 6–16 are open for registration. Camps are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. beginning June 9–Aug. 15. Visit www.irvingartscenter.com/kidsarts or call (972) 252-ARTS for more information.

- Multi-Arts for ages 6–14 will focus on visual, literary and culinary arts and more.
- ArtElements for teens ages 13–16 will offer in-depth, visual arts curriculum.
- Theater Camp for grades 1–12 are taught



Children participate in art activities.

by professional children’s theater touring organizations – Missoula Children’s Theatre and Child’s Play Touring Theatre.

Hours of Operation

Administration: Monday through Friday – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Call (972) 252-7558.

Box Office: Tuesday through Saturday – noon to 5 p.m. and one hour prior to performance. Call (972) 252-ARTS.

Gallery: Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday – 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Thursday – 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Saturday – 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; Sunday – 1 to 5 p.m.

Code Enforcement Initiatives Produce Results for Residents

Code Enforcement has been working to nurture and promote vital and vibrant neighborhoods through stricter code enforcement efforts. The clean-up campaign addresses abandoned signs, tire shop activities and dangerous buildings throughout the city.

Abandoned Sign Removal

Since abandoned and dilapidated signs and supporting structures violate newly strengthened city code, 22 owners were notified and thus far 17 signs have been eliminated. To date, signs have been removed from State Highway 183, East Sixth Street, South MacArthur Boulevard, Irving Boulevard, West Shady Grove Road and Loop 12. If not brought into compliance, citations will be issued.

Auto Shop Enforcement

Another way the city is working to improve the appearance of neighborhoods for residents is by eliminating both automobile repair outside of an enclosed building and illegal outdoor storage. Seven businesses were notified of code violations and the owners have brought six of them into compliance. These include:

- 425 N. Britain Road (Cheap Tires) – Closed business at this location; owner purchased building with work bays across the street,

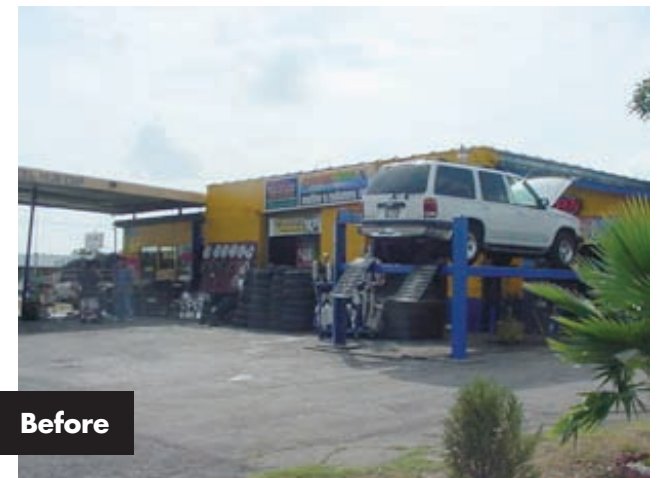
and the city has requested that the owner repaint the former location.

- 1502 Rock Island Road (Catrachos) – Outside car lift has been removed; owner has filed for a zoning change; no longer working outside.
- 107 N. Story Road (Express Auto) – No longer working outside.
- 1115 W. Pioneer Drive (4M Tires) – No longer working outside.
- 109 N. Story Road (Just Tires) – Owner installed work bays in the building and is no longer working outside.
- 635 S. Belt Line Road (Flea Market) – Owner is surveying and planning for a new building; tires and cargo boxes are to be moved soon.

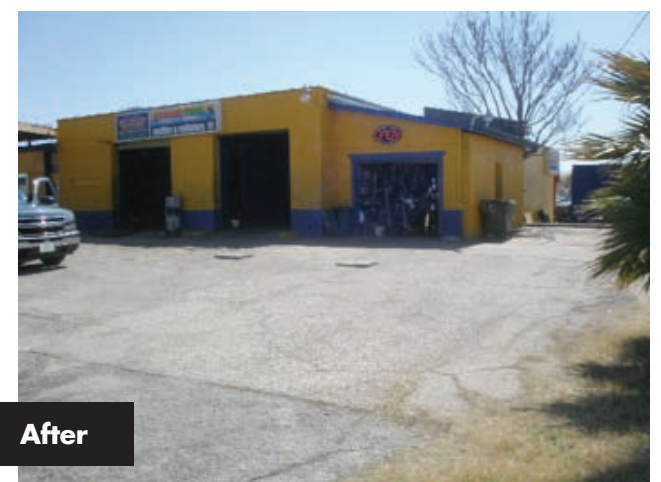
Substandard Building Demolitions

Thirteen buildings that were severely damaged or deteriorated and posed a danger to the public have been demolished. The buildings ranged in size from single-family residences to one- and two-story office buildings and shopping centers. A few of those removed were located on West Irving Boulevard, East Sixth Street, Bluebird Drive and East Cason Street.

For more information, call Code Enforcement at (972) 721-4829 or visit www.cityofirving.org.



Before



After

Increased Hotel Occupancy Tax Effective April 1



In November, Irving residents voted to approve a 2 percent local increase in the Hotel Occupancy Tax rate to finance the Irving Convention Center and Entertainment Venue Project, which will be located in the Las Colinas Urban Center.

The new 9 percent local rate became effective April 1 after City Council approved the increase in March. Combining state and local taxes, hotel accommodations in Irving will be taxed at 15 percent, the same as Dallas, Fort Worth and Arlington. The revenue source supports two of the city’s strategic goals by simultaneously cultivating strong, successful economic development and promoting excellence in Irving’s cultural, recreational and educational environments.

For more information, call the Financial Services Department at (972) 721-2401.

Early Voting Times and Locations, Horarios y Lugares de Votación Anticipada

Early voting for the City Council election, for mayor and Places 3 and 5, will begin April 28 and run through May 6.

Early Voting Hours

- April 28 – May 3 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 4 – 1 to 6 p.m.
- May 5–6 – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early Voting Locations

- City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.
- Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.
- Barbara Bush Middle School, 505 Cowboys Parkway

Election Day

- May 10 – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

May 10 Election Day polling locations are listed below. For more information, call the City Secretary's Office at (972) 721-2493.

La votación adelantada para la elección municipal del alcalde y Lugares 3 y 5 empezará el 28 de abril y durará hasta el 6 de mayo.

Horario de Votación Adelantada

- 28 de abril – 3 de mayo – 8 a.m. a 5 p.m.
- 4 de mayo – 1 a 6 p.m.
- 5-6 de mayo – 7 a.m. a 7 p.m.

Lugares para la Votación Adelantada

- *Municipalidad de Irving (City Hall), 825 W. Irving Blvd.*
- *Centro de Arte de Irving (Irving Arts Center), 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.*
- *Escuela Intermedia Barbara Bush (Barbara Bush Middle School), 505 Cowboys Parkway*

Día de las Elecciones

- 10 de mayo – 7 a.m. a 7 p.m.

Los lugares para votar el Día de las Elecciones del 10 de mayo se encuentran publicados en debajo. Para más información, llame a la Secretaría de la Ciudad al (972) 721-2493.

Irving's City Council Election Features Three Contested Races

Irving voters will elect a mayor and two City Council members in Places 3 and 5 to three-year terms. Early voting runs April 28–May 6 and Election Day is May 10. If a runoff election is necessary, it will be held June 14.

Three candidates are seeking the mayoral seat. They include (in ballot order) incumbent Herbert A. Gears, Roland Jeter and Rigo Reza. Gears has resided in Irving for 18 years and is a small business owner. Roland Jeter, an attorney, has lived in Irving for more than 48 years. Rigo Reza, a one-year resident of Irving, is a college instructor.



Irving City Hall

Candidates for Place 3 are incumbent Allan E. Meagher and Nancy Rivera. Meagher, a 45-year Irving resident, holds a management position with UPS Air Operations. Rivera, a resident for more than three years, is an administrative assistant.

Candidates for Place 5 are incumbent Rose Cannaday and Sue Richardson. Cannaday, owner of a mediation firm, has resided in Irving for 11 years. Richardson, a resident for 48 years, is retired.

For more information, call the City Secretary's Office at (972) 721-2493.

Tres Contendientes Electorales se Disputan en el Concejo de Irving

Los votantes de Irving elegirán a un alcalde y a dos regidores municipales a los Lugares 3 y 5 por un término de 3 años. La votación adelantada será del 28 de abril al 6 de mayo y el 10 de mayo es, el día de las elecciones generales. Si fuera necesaria una segunda ronda electoral, se convocaría para el 14 de junio.

Tres candidatos han postulado para el cargo de alcalde. Los candidatos son (según el orden en la boleta) Herbert A. Gears (alcalde actual), Roland Jeter y Rigo Reza. Gears, dueño de un negocio pequeño, quien ha residido en Irving por 18 años. Roland Jeter, abogado, quien ha vivido en la ciudad de Irving por más de 48 años. Rigo Reza, residente de Irving desde hace un año, es profesor universitario.

Los candidatos al Lugar 3 son el regidor municipal actual, Allan E. Meagher y Nancy Rivera. Meagher, reside en Irving desde hace 45 años y ocupa una posición de gerencia con UPS Air Operations. Rivera, residente de Irving por más de 3 años, es asistente administrativa.

Los candidatos al Lugar 5 son la regidora municipal actual, Rose Cannaday y Sue Richardson. Cannaday, es dueña de una firma de mediación y ha residido en Irving desde hace 11 años. Richardson, es residente de Irving desde hace 48 años, es jubilada.

Para más información, llame a la Secretaría Municipal al (972) 721-2493.

POLLING PLACES FOR MAY 10 CASILLAS ELECTORALES PARA EL 10 DE MAYO		
City Precinct No. Distrito Electoral No.	Location of City Precinct Lugar del Distrito Electoral	Dallas County Precinct Number Número del Distrito del Condado de Dallas
1	Thomas Haley Elementary 3601 Cheyenne St.	4621, 4622, 4623, 4630, 4634, 4638, 4641
2	A.S. Johnston Elementary 2801 Rutgers Drive	4624, 4625, 4631, 4647
3	MacArthur High School 3700 N. MacArthur Blvd.	4626, 4632, 4633, 4635, 4636, 4646, 4648, 4649
4	L.B. Barton Elementary 2931 Conflans Road	4611, 4618
5	Irving High School 900 N. O'Connor Road	4612, 4613, 4614, 4615, 4619
6	J.R. Good Elementary 1200 E. Union Bower Road	4608, 4616, 4617, 4620
7	Otis Brown Elementary 2501 W. Tenth St.	4605, 4606
8	Lee Britain Elementary 631 Edmondson Drive	4602, 4603, 4604, 4607
9	Cimarron Park Recreation Center 201 Red River Trail	4642, 4643, 4644, 4651
10	Mustang Recreation Center 2223 Kinwest Parkway	4637, 4639, 4640, 4650
11	J.O. Davis Elementary 310 Davis Drive	4609, 4610
12	Sally B. Elliott Elementary 1900 S. Story Road	4600, 4601
13	Fire Station No. 8 650 E. Las Colinas Drive	4627, 4628, 4629
14	Grand Prairie Fire Station No. 8 3017 Roy Orr Blvd. Grand Prairie	4645
15	Coppell Town Center 255 Parkway Blvd. Coppell	4708

Candidates to Answer Questions Live on 'Open Line' Show

Irving Community Television Network (ICTN) will feature candidates in the upcoming City Council elections on "Open Line," a live, one-hour talk show, which airs at 7 p.m. During the program, residents are encouraged to call in to ask questions, thus giving candidates an opportunity to discuss issues that matter most to voters.

Candidates are running in three contested city races. Allan Meagher and Nancy Rivera, candidates for Place 3, were interviewed March 26.

The two remaining broadcast dates are as follows (listed in ballot order):

- **April 9** – Place 5 candidates Rose Cannaday and Sue Richardson
- **April 23** – Mayoral candidates Herbert Gears, Roland Jeter and Rigo Reza

"Open Line" will broadcast live on ICTN 1 (Time Warner Channel 16 and Verizon Channel 30) and via the Internet at www.ictn.tv.

Residents who tune in to ICTN can call (972) 721-2300 during the live show with



questions for the candidates. The shows will be repeated several times during the next week. They also will be available to view on demand on the city Web site, www.cityofirving.org.

For more information, call (972) 721-2468 or visit www.ictn.tv.

BASS ANGLERS COMPETE TO BENEFIT IRVING CARES

The Parks and Recreation Department will sponsor a fishing competition April 5, in which professional bass anglers will donate their time, equipment and fishing expertise to raise funds for Irving Cares, an organization that helps Irving residents in need.

During the event, experienced anglers will team up with co-anglers for fishing on Lake Carolyn, a private, stocked lake located in the Las Colinas Urban Center at the northwest corner of North O'Connor and Las Colinas boulevards.

Those who bid in the online auction prior to the event will fish with a professional fisherman. Boats will depart the dock at 6 a.m. and participants will fish until noon. Prizes will be awarded for the top three teams.

Beginning at 9 a.m. and for a \$10 donation, non-boating anglers can fish from the banks and children under age 12 can fish for free. While the teams fish, spectators can visit booths and participate in a silent auction along the lake. Food concessions will be available, along with lure demonstrations, registration for Bass Club memberships, and other outdoor-related equipment and merchandise.

Sponsorships are available beginning at \$100 and booths are \$20. For more information, contact Sheila Hupp at (214) 837-4295 or e-mail shupp@cityofirving.org.



Irving's Housing and Human Services Department hosts hearings, interviews

The City of Irving will celebrate Fair Housing Month in April, and the Housing and Human Services Department will host a public hearing April 17 to gather public input about issues of human services and housing in Irving.

Information collected during the hearings is used by the city to develop its annual action plan for meeting the needs of low- and moderate-income residents for the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development grant funds.

The following events are being hosted by the Housing and Human Services Department:

- Public Hearing – 6 to 7 p.m. April 17 at Northwest Recreation Center, 2800 Cheyenne St.
- Applicant Interview Date – 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 16 in the Housing and Human Services Board Room, 2520 W. Irving Blvd., Suite 300; Interviews with the Housing and Human Services Board for organizations who have applied for Community Development Block Grants and Emergency Shelter Grants.
- Public Hearing – Beginning at 7 p.m. July 24 at the regularly scheduled City Council meeting in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.

Fair housing provides equal housing opportunities for persons living in America and prohibits



discrimination in housing on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age, disability and familial status.

The City of Irving provides fair housing education to the general public and to real estate industry representatives, along with marketing all grant-funded housing programs to ensure access by low- and moderate-income minority households. The city also provides home restoration assistance along with household down payment assistance for first-time homebuyers.

For more information, contact Housing and Human Services at (972) 721-4800.

Neighborhood Associations Receive Grant Funds for Programs

The City of Irving has awarded 20 neighborhood and homeowner associations with annual grants between \$250 and \$1,500 for organizational projects through the Community Partnership Fund.

Administered by the Corporate Communications Department, the grant funds are used to provide money to assist organized neighborhoods with various projects.

The matching grants allow associations to leverage the organization's existing capital and/or the time and talents of their members with grant funds received from the city in an effort to improve



Sherwood Forest neighborhood association hosts a block party.

their communities. The money can be used for beautification efforts, communication initiatives and neighborhood events.

Associations receiving funding through this year's Community Partnership Fund are: Arts District, Barrington Court, Barton Estates, Cardinal Village, The Collections, Grauwylar Heights, Hackberry Creek, Historic Hospital District, Hospital District South, Irving Hospital District, Irving Lake, Lakeside Landing Phase I, Lakeside Landing Phase II, Mandalay Place at Las Colinas, Nichols Way, Northwest Place, Owen Point, Sherwood Forest, The Villages and University Hills.

Think Green ... Go Green Eco Tips

- **Recycle** – Visit the city's Web site at www.cityofirving.org for information about Irving's recycling programs. Recycle at home, school and the office.
- **Reduce and reuse** – Be a green shopper by reducing consumption first, then look for packaging that can be reused and recycled. At checkout, use a reusable grocery bag rather than a petroleum-based sack.
- **Plant a tree** – Trees help reduce the buildup of greenhouse gases by converting atmospheric carbon dioxide to oxygen. In "The Complete Idiot's Guide to Green

Living," the award-winning journalist Trish Riley said, "They also add wonderful ambience to your neighborhood and help to carry breezes, which can cool interiors when allowed to flow through the house."

- **Use native plants** – These reduce water consumption.
- **Go organic on the lawn** – Stimulate a healthier lawn and reduce the need for pesticides and herbicides.
- **Alternative transportation** – Carpool, take mass transit and walk more. Drive less to reduce carbon emissions and be healthier.



Residents Encouraged to Participate in Earth Day through City Pledge

Solid Waste Services has been "green" for many years through the development and support of programs such as recycling, composting, waste diversion, organics and more. During the month of April, the City of Irving encourages residents and businesses to be environmentally active and make a commitment to be "green."

Earth Day Pledge

This Earth Day and throughout the month of April, the city will offer residents a "thank you" gift for taking the Think Green ... Be Green Pledge. To participate, visit www.cityofirving.org and click on the Think Green ... Be Green Pledge form.

"We're really trying to encourage residents to be part of a growing movement to create a sustainable environment," said Fran Witte, solid waste programs and marketing supervisor. "To do this, the city will give a small gift to those who make a pledge to the environment."

Below are a few of the important benefits of composting:

- Provides the full spectrum of essential plant nutrients.
- Helps bind clusters of soil particles and improves the soil structure.
- Introduces and feeds diverse beneficial soil life

including bacteria, insects, worms and more.

- Promotes healthy root growth, which improves water quality by decreasing runoff.

For more information about backyard composting or to become an Irving Master Composter, call Solid Waste Services at (972) 721-8059.

Live Green Expo 2008

Residents will have an opportunity to take a free shuttle to the Live Green Expo 2008 in Plano from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 12.

A bus will run every two hours between Irving and Plano Centre. Those who want to save money and reduce carbon emissions on the 50-mile round trip will need to obtain a ticket. To receive a complimentary ticket to this free expo, call Solid Waste Services at (972) 721-8059. Seating is limited and tickets will be given on a first-come, first-served basis.

Live Green Expo 2008 will feature more than 120 eco-friendly exhibitors who will address energy conservation, water conservation, recycling, gardening, alternative fuel vehicles, green building and home remodeling products. Also, see the latest eco-technology and learn more about organic foods.

Free Mustang Mulch Now Available to Residents at Hunter Ferrell Landfill

Free mulch is now available to Irving residents at the Hunter Ferrell Landfill, 220 W. Hunter Ferrell Road.

The mulch was ground from the Christmas trees received as a part of the 2007 Christmas Tree Roundup program. Each bag is 2 cubic feet in capacity.

The landfill is open every day from 7 a.m. to 5:30 p.m., weather permitting. Call in advance to check for availability.

For more information, call Solid Waste Services at (972) 721-8059.



IRVING TO CELEBRATE INTERNATIONAL COMPOST AWARENESS WEEK

International Compost Awareness Week is May 4-10. In celebration, Solid Waste Services has scheduled two backyard compost classes for the general public.

Those who would like to learn more about backyard composting, but have been unable to attend the Master Composter course, may participate from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. May 3 or from 6 to 8 p.m. May 8. Both classes will be given at the Environmental Center, located at the southeast corner of Conflans and Gilbert roads.

For more information about backyard composting or to become an Irving Master Composter, call Solid Waste Services at (972) 721-8059.

Library Briefs

Irving Chautauqua ■ Beginning April 12, the Irving Public Library will hold the Irving Chautauqua on the second Saturday of each month at 2 p.m. Circuit or tent Chautauques were popular from 1890 to 1920 in rural America. Designed to provide education and entertainment, the Irving Chautauqua will bring the community together to enjoy wonderful performances. The series will begin with a ballet performance by the Momentum Dance Company of Irving in the Central Library Auditorium. For more information, call (972) 721-2606.

Monday Morning Movie ■ Adults can start out their week with a laugh or a tear at 9:30 a.m. the second Monday of every month with a classic movie complete with popcorn and soft drinks. Join in the fun at the Central Library Auditorium for April's feature, "Bell, Book & Candle" and "Princess Bride" in May. For more information, call (972) 721-2606.

Job Fair ■ The Irving Public Library's Job Center will host a job fair from 1 to 4 p.m. April 17 in the Central Library Auditorium. Recruiters from local companies will meet with job seekers to discuss employment openings, collect résumés and schedule interviews.

Street Smarts – Motorcycles at the Library ■ The Irving Central Library will host a presentation on motorcycle safety by experienced trainers, Andy Hudson and Chris Litfin, from the Motorcycle Training Center from 2:30 to 5:30 p.m. April 26. At 4 p.m. the Academy Award nominated film "On Any Sunday," provided courtesy of Monterey Media Inc. and Bruce Brown Films, will be shown. Throughout the afternoon, bikes from Stadium Yamaha will be on display in the lobby of the library.



Literacy Tutor Training Workshop ■ The Irving Public Library's Literacy Program will conduct its Tutor Training Workshops from 9 a.m. to 4 p.m. April 26 and May 3 at the East Branch Library, 440 S. Nursery

Road. To participate in the library's literacy program, both workshops must be successfully completed. For more information, call (972) 721-3776.



Job Center Workshops ■ Residents can brush up on the skills needed to find a job in today's marketplace at the Irving Central Library's Job Center. A series of free workshops will be offered daily at 2 p.m. April 29–May 2 on topics including résumé writing, interviewing, online job searching and researching prospective companies. Registration is not required. For more information, call (972) 721-2606.



Irving Archives Exhibit ■ The Irving Archives, a part of the Irving Public Library System, is presenting an exhibit on the history of Irving at the Old Red Museum of Dallas County History and Culture through May 18. Irving is the first Dallas County city selected to exhibit in the restored courthouse. The museum, located at 100 S. Houston St. in downtown Dallas, is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Saturday and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. For more information call (214) 745-1100 or visit www.oldred.org.

Valley Ranch Library Extends Hours ■ Beginning April 4, the Valley Ranch Library, located at 401 Cimarron Trail, will be open on Fridays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. These new hours will now

provide residents with extended library service seven days a week.

Events at Irving Public Library ■ For more information visit www.cityofirving.org/library or call (972) 721-2606.

- **April 5, 12, 19, 26** – 10 a.m. to noon, Saturday Scholars, Central Library
- **April 5** – 2 p.m., Sign Me Up, Central Library
- **April 6** – 2 p.m., Anime Club, Central Library
- **April 7–28** – 10 a.m., PreWalkers; 11 a.m., Walkers and Mother Goose Storytime, Valley Ranch Library
- **April 8** – 6 p.m., Movies at the Library, Central Library
- **April 10** – 7:30 p.m., Tea and Talk, Central Library
- **April 15** – 4:30 p.m., TeenScene Movie, Central Library
- **April 20** – 2 p.m., Washington Irving's 225th Big Birthday Bash, Valley Ranch Library
- **April 25** – 10 a.m. to noon, A Good Yarn, Central Library
- **April 26** – 1 p.m., Storytelling Around the World: African-American Storytelling with Baba Kwasié, East Branch Library
- **April 26** – 2 p.m., April Showers Bring May Flowers Puppet Show, Northwest Branch Library

A schedule of children's storytimes is available at the Irving Public Library. Visit www.cityofirving.org/library and click on KidSpace or call (972) 721-2606.

For a schedule of computer classes, visit www.cityofirving.org/library and click on Computer Classes or call (972) 721-2606.



Valley Ranch Library

Friends to Host Noted Local Author, Celebrity on May 13

The Friends of the Irving Public Library, a nonprofit group dedicated to promoting and supporting the library, will feature a talk with former NBC Sports Anchor Scott Murray during its annual membership meeting at 7 p.m. May 13.

The talk will be held at the Irving Arts Center's Dupree Theater, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Murray is the author of "Whatever It Takes: Life Lessons Learned Through Sports Legends," and is a much sought after keynote and motivational speaker. Membership is not required to attend.

Murray's speech will follow the annual meeting. The meeting will outline regular business, discuss upcoming activities and welcome new members. More information about the Friends of the Irving Public Library is available online at www.friendsofipl.org.



Scott Murray

Park Briefs

Heritage Senior Center

Beginning Tai Chi ▪ Let instructor Joe Dennison introduce the Asian form of exercise that can improve health and bring a relaxing end to a stressful week. Classes take place from 11 a.m. to noon on Saturdays in April. Cost is \$25 monthly.

Library Card Sign-Up ▪ The Heritage Senior Center will partner with the Irving Central Library to give residents a chance to sign up for a library card from 9 a.m. to noon on the first Tuesday of every month. Look for the sign-up table in the front lobby area.

Monday Movie Classics ▪ Residents can enjoy a classic movie complete with popcorn and soft drinks from 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the second Monday of every month in the Central Library Auditorium. The feature in April will be “Bell, Book & Candle” and “Princess Bride” in May. Meet at the customer counter at 9:15 a.m. for transportation to the library. Participants will return to the center in time for lunch.



Women's Expo ▪ Residents are invited to attend the Women's Expo from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 18 at the Heritage Senior Center, 200 S. Jefferson St. The theme of this year's free event, Women Impacting our World, will focus on the diversity of women in business, entrepreneurship, and health and wellness, with valuable information provided by guest speakers, exhibitors and free health screenings for blood pressure, cholesterol, hearing and vision. Call (972) 721-2496 for details.



Pooch Fest ▪ Irving residents and their beloved pooches can participate in Pooch Fest from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. May 31 at the Irving Soccer Complex, 3585 World Cup Way. Pet contests, pet and food vendors, rescue groups, and pet demonstrations and educational information will be offered. Residents of all ages and all breeds of dogs are welcome. Dogs must remain on a leash and must be current on their vaccinations. No more than two dogs per owner. Participant cost is a \$10, all-inclusive entry fee. Spectators are free.

The Heritage Senior Center is located at 200 S. Jefferson St. Call (972) 721-2496.

Lee Park Recreation Center

Basketball Camp ▪ Homeschooled kids ages 7–15 can participate in a free Homeschool Basketball Camp from noon to 2 p.m. April 17.

Lee Park Recreation Center is located at 3000 Pamela Drive. Call (972) 721-2508.

Jaycee Center for the Arts

Monthly Meeting, Art Demonstration ▪ At 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of every month, the Irving Art Association holds a membership meeting and demonstration. On April 22, Roberta Ferguson will demonstrate silk painting. Membership is not required for attendance.

Painting Group ▪ Bring a sack lunch and art supplies and enjoy some creative fun. Membership is not required for attendance.

- Tuesday Painters (all mediums) – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Thursday Painters (oriental brush painting/

watercolor and sumi-e ink) – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

- Artists with Allergies (no chemicals/dry or water-based medium only) – 10 a.m. to 3 p.m.

Oriental Artists Meeting, Demonstration ▪ Attend a meeting and calligraphy demonstration from 9 a.m. to noon April 12. New members welcome. For more information, call (214) 534-9501.

Juried Members Show ▪ Check out local artists' work April 26–May 30 at the Irving Art Association Juried Members Show. The hours are from 12:30 to 4:30 p.m. Monday through Thursday and from 1 to 4 p.m. Sundays.

Jaycee Center for the Arts is located at 2000 W. Airport Freeway. Call (972) 721-2488.

North Lake Aquatic Center

Spring and Summer Aquatics Classes ▪ A variety of aquatics classes for residents of all ages are available. Call for class details.

- American Red Cross Summer and Evening Swim Lesson – (972) 264-2774
- Shallow Water Aerobics – (972) 262-0621
- Deep Water Dynamics – (972) 262-0621
- Irving Swimmers/Irving Masters – (214) 493-5174
- Synchronized Swimming – (214) 448-7937

North Lake Aquatic Center is located at 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. Call (972) 273-3531.

Senter Park Recreation Center

Teen Jam ▪ Middle and high school students can enjoy a disc jockey, free pizza and sodas, and a night of fun at the recreation center from 7 to 11 p.m. April 12. Bring an Irving Parks and Recreation ID Card or a school ID card.

Life Skills for Teens ▪ Learn valuable life skills from 6 to 7:30 p.m. April 14 and begin living a better life every day.

Senter Park Recreation Center is located at 901 S. Senter Road. Call (972) 721-2641.

City Celebrates Name with Washington Irving Events

Although Washington Irving never resided in Irving, his name figures prominently in the city's history. Local historians believe the town was named after the author in 1903.

In honor of the 225th anniversary of the birth of Washington Irving (1783–1859), the Irving Public Library, Irving Heritage Society, and Friends of Irving Library are hosting a celebration from 2 to 4 p.m. April 20 at the Valley Ranch Library, 401 Cimarron Trail.

One of Irving's founders, J.O. Schulze, and Netta Barcus Brown, the wife of the other cofounder Otis Brown, were fans of the author of “Rip Van Winkle.” That admiration, it is believed, led to the town being named in Irving's honor. The City Council adopted the author as the city's namesake in 1998.

Free activities, events and Washington Irving exhibits will be showcased at the Valley Ranch Library and at City Hall during the month of April.



Washington Irving

Heritage House Tour

From 3 to 5 p.m. April 6, the Heritage House, 303 S. O'Connor Road, will be open for free docent-led tours. Built in 1912 by C.P. Schulze, brother of one of Irving's cofounders, the Heritage House is one of the oldest homes in Irving. Visitors will have an opportunity to view a variety of antique furnishings of the period.

Irving Trivia – the City and the Man

Contest finals will take place on April 20, following preliminary rounds at 10 a.m. April 5 at the Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd. Organizations or groups will test their knowledge of the city and Washington Irving.

Washington Irving Celebration

This event on April 20 will include a variety of activities and games for children, a beard contest, and recognition of residents whose first, middle or last name is Irving.

For more information, call (972) 252-3838 or visit www.irvingheritage.com.

Office Closings

City offices will be closed May 26 for Memorial Day. All offices will reopen at their normal times May 27. There will be no residential trash, brush or curbside recycling pickup on that day. The landfill at 220 W. Hunter Ferrell Road will be closed May 26, but will be open all other days, weather permitting. Call the landfill at (972) 264-3772 to confirm hours of operation. Drop-off recycling centers will be closed May 26 and will reopen May 29.

All libraries will be closed May 25-26, and will reopen May 27. All city recreation centers will be closed May 26. Heritage and North Lake aquatic centers will be closed May 26 for Memorial Day.

Remaining holiday schedule for 2008:

- Independence Day – July 4
- Labor Day – Sept. 1
- Thanksgiving – Nov. 27-28
- Christmas – Dec. 25-26



RESIDENTS INVITED TO PARTICIPATE IN BOULEVARD ENHANCEMENT STUDY

The City of Irving has launched a study of Irving Boulevard, from State Highway 183 to Loop 12, to identify opportunities to visually enhance the area and foster new retail and commercial development.

Residents and business owners are invited to learn about the Designs on the Boulevard study and to provide their input on April 17 at City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.

- Reception – 5:30 to 6 p.m.
- Presentation – 6 to 7:30 p.m.

Attendees will have the opportunity to share their thoughts, concerns and ideas regarding the project.

The study will include an assessment of visual characteristics (signage, landscaping, lighting, gateway entries, etc.), along with traffic patterns, drainage systems, and retail, commercial and residential developments. A vision for Irving Boulevard will address recommendations on future land use.

“This is a great opportunity to reflect on the boulevard’s history and purpose, while creating a new vision for the future that will bring to life this important gateway,” said Paul Gooch, managing director of community services. “Through this study, and with the community’s input, a road map will be developed to help transform this area into a more vibrant and inviting destination.”

For more information on the Irving Boulevard study, visit www.cityofirving.org or call Kevin Kass, planning and research manager, at (972) 721-8081.

City Council Prohibits Hand-Held Phone Use in School Zones Beginning Aug. 1

In an effort to provide additional safety to Irving children, the City Council unanimously approved guidelines that will prohibit the use of cell phones while driving in school zones. The new rule will take effect beginning Aug. 1 and will be enforced on school days during active school zone hours.

The regulation will prevent motorists from engaging in calls by talking, dialing or listening on a hand-held mobile telephone, and entering or reading text messages. This includes:

- Hand-held cell phones
- Personal digital assistants (PDA)
- Pagers
- Other electronic communications devices

Those who violate the ordinance could receive a Class C misdemeanor, which carries a maximum fine of up to \$500. Council approved the installation of 385 notification signs and flashers to alert drivers to the new ordinance.

“We are looking for ways to minimize the danger posed to school children and others in school zones,” said Police Chief Larry Boyd. “This fall, officers watching for speeders also will be looking for anyone violating the cell phone ordinance.”

Motorists will be able to talk legally on their cell phones if they use hands-free devices. Drivers also may use their cell phones in certain emergency situations including conversing with emergency response personnel, fire and police, and health care entities.

Other North Texas municipalities, including Duncanville, Highland Park and University Park, also have enacted similar bans in active school zones.

For more information, call the Police Department at (972) 721-2518.



Irving Teen Court Uses Peers to Dispense Justice

Teen Court is seeking teen volunteers, who are interested in participating as prosecutors, defense attorneys, jurors, clerks or bailiffs.

Those interested are asked to complete an application and attend the next training session from 9:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. May 17 at the Criminal Justice Center, 305 N. O’Connor Road.

Volunteers must be between the ages of 14-17 or older if still enrolled in high school

Irving Teen Court is a community-based alternative to the traditional juvenile justice system. When a teenager is issued a Class C misdemeanor citation, this program is available to them and offers young offenders a second chance to take responsibility for their actions. Through it, they learn from a jury of their peers that there are consequences for breaking the law.

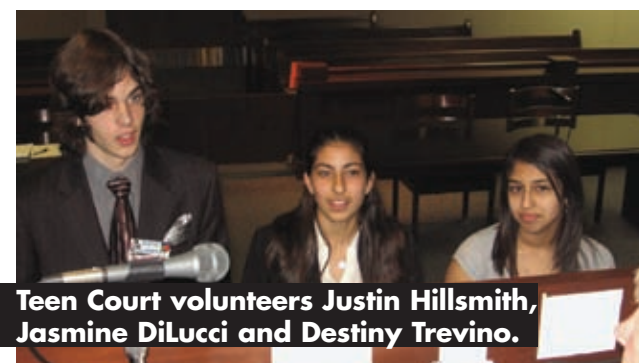
“Young offenders often respond more positively when jury members are of a similar age,” said Diana Soto, teen court coordinator.

Teen Court operates under the premise that if peer pressure can be used to exert a negative influence, it likewise can exert as a positive force, resulting in a more immediate and meaningful effect than the more traditional juvenile justice approach. Those seeking to fit in and be accepted by a group are likely to remember the message handed down by their own.

The court also welcomes adult volunteers, including attorneys, who are interested in working with youth.

Volunteers oversee jury check-in, supervise the juries, and participate in the check-out process once a defendant’s case is heard. Attorneys may serve as judges for the Teen Court after an initial courtroom observation period.

For details, call (972) 721-3601 or e-mail mtucker@cityofirving.org. Volunteer applications are available online at www.cityofirving.org/municipal-courts/teen-court.



Teen Court volunteers Justin Hillsmith, Jasmine DiLucci and Destiny Trevino.



City Spectrum is published monthly by the City of Irving Corporate Communications Department to keep residents informed of activities and news that may be of interest to them.

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