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Quality of Life Enhancements Continue to Take Shape

Corridor enhancement projects continue to result in a more visually appealing city. Community improvements are being made through the addition of regional gateways into Irving along highways and major thoroughfares.

Enhancements include:

- Underground utilities
- Public art
- Landscaping (ornamental grasses, crepe



myrtles, specimen trees)

- Architectural elements
- Signage
- Street lighting
- Sidewalks
- Greenbelts

Construction has been completed on two gateway projects on MacArthur Boulevard. They are located at Weathered Street, and on Shady Grove Road in front of the new North Lake South Campus. The Shady Grove gateway is part of a larger intersection enhancement project that includes new intersection pavement, underground utilities, street lighting, traffic signals and landscaping.

The Capital Improvements Team is working on additional opportunities for providing entryway improvements, pocket parks and greenway corridors around the city. Landscaping, median pavers and new streetlights are being installed on South MacArthur Boulevard and South Belt Line Road. The Corridor Team has started to plan the



Improvements made at MacArthur Boulevard and Weathered Street.

next section of MacArthur corridor enhancements from Shady Grove Road to Northgate Drive.

Funding for the corridor enhancements comes from sources such as tariffs, franchise fees, gas lease revenues and general obligation bonds.



Entryway improvements continue on Shady Grove.

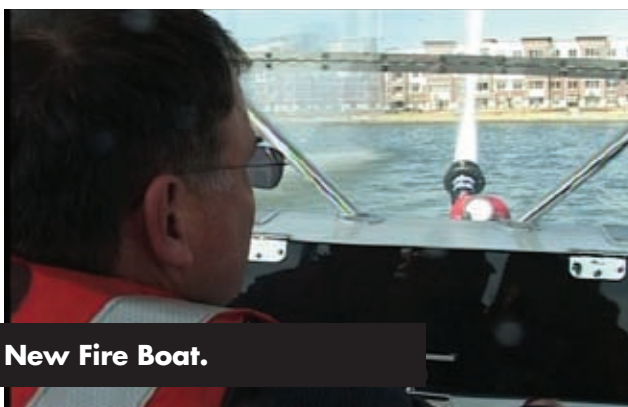
New Fire Boat Increases Resident Safety

The Irving Fire Department has added its first fire boat to provide additional safety to the growing population along the shores of Lake Carolyn.

Fire boats are specialized watercrafts with pumps and nozzles designed for fighting shoreline fires. Crews from Fire Station No. 8 have received additional training on the proper use of the fire boat's features.

“The addition of Fire Boat 8 to our firefighting arsenal allows us to better protect the residents who live around Lake Carolyn, while at the same time enhancing our rescue capabilities,” said Assistant Fire Chief Rusty Wilson. “As development of the Urban Center continues, this boat will fill an increasingly valuable role.”

Fire Boat 8 is equipped with a 1,250 GPM (gallons per minute) pump supplying a deck gun on the bow, hose outlets and fold-down sides to facilitate water rescues. It also has a 250 horsepower outboard motor to navigate around the lake and through the canals.



New Fire Boat.

TOWN HALL MEETING

Join the City of Irving for a Town Hall Meeting to discuss city projects and initiatives. The meeting is scheduled for:

April 14
Irving Arts Center
3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.

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.

New Show Informs Residents About Irving Public Libraries

Irving Community Television Network (ICTN) has partnered with the Irving Public Library to



New show features library programs, activities and initiatives.

develop a new library show called “iRead,” which premiered March 16. The quarterly show features information on the many programs, activities and initiatives of the Irving Public Library.

“We’re excited to be able to work with the library to offer our viewers this new show,” said Courtney Mason, ICTN executive producer. “It’s a great opportunity for residents to see everything the library has to offer.”

Parks and Recreation employee Jennifer Nuño hosts “iRead,” which airs on ICTN 1 (Time Warner Channel 16 and Verizon Channel 30) and is available on the video on demand section of the city Web site.



“iRead” host Jennifer Nuño.

LIBRARY CALENDAR

- **April 4, 11, 18, 25** – 10 a.m., Saturday Scholars Tutoring, Central Library
- **April 4, 11, 18, 25** – 2 p.m., Saturday Movie Matinee, Valley Ranch Library
- **April 5, 12, 19, 26** – 4 p.m., Certified Babysitter’s Course (registration required), Valley Ranch Library
- **April 8** – 2 p.m., Young Adult Action Council Meeting, Central Library
- **April 9** – 7 p.m., Tea & Talk, Central Library
- **April 14** – 6:30 p.m., Movie Night @ the Library, Central Library
- **April 14** – 7 p.m., Poetry Writing Workshop, Southwest Branch Library
- **April 16** – 6 p.m., Reel Reads, Valley Ranch Library
- **April 16** – 7 p.m., Anime Movie Night, Central Library
- **April 18** – 10:30 a.m., African-American Authors Book Circle, Northwest Branch Library
- **April 18** – 4 p.m., Got Games? Gaming Club, Valley Ranch Library
- **April 20** – 7 p.m., Genealogy Society Program, Central Library
- **April 21** – 4:30 p.m., TeenScene, Central Library
- **April 23** – 7 p.m., Valley Ranch Reads, Valley Ranch Library
- **April 24** – Noon, A Good Yarn, Central Library
- **April 25** – 7 p.m., Poetry Slam, Georgia Farrow Park, 530 Davis St.

Library Introduces New Online Catalog

The Irving Public Library is improving the way its customers keep track of what is in the library through a new dynamic and interactive online catalog system. Beginning April 9, the library will introduce the Symphony system.

Equipped with the ability to create reading lists, recommend Internet links and other helpful tools, the Symphony system boasts a variety of features and upgrades. It combines traditional catalog services, such as searching the catalog and reserving or renewing materials, with content-rich researching tools, additional control over personal library accounts, and 24-hour access to electronic resources.

The new system also will offer a more engaging user experience by including features such as RSS feeds, a specialized children’s catalog with visual category choices, and new searching capabilities.

“We hope that the new system will transform the way we serve our customers,” said Patty Landers, library director. “While the shift to the new online catalog system is expected to come natural for many



catalog users, library staff will be on-hand to provide assistance during the transition.”

To access the new catalog remotely, chat live with a reference librarian or get more information, visit www.cityofirving.org/library or call (972) 721-2606.

Library Briefs

Spring Scrapbooking Workshop ▪ 2:30 p.m. April 11, Northwest Branch Library, 2928 N. Belt Line Road. Document springtime memories through the art of scrapbooking. Open to residents ages 10 and up. Attendees should bring 10–12 photographs to include in the scrapbook. All other supplies will be provided. Call (972) 721-2691.

Picture This! ▪ 1 p.m. April 18, Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. *The Dallas Morning News* photographers will share tips and techniques with students in grades 6–12. Participants will need to bring a digital or disposable camera, or camera phone. Sponsored by the Young Adult Action Council. Visit www.cityofirving.org/library/teenscene for more information.

Barnett Shale Drilling Workshops ▪ Two community workshops covering Barnett Shale drilling are being offered at the Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd.

- **What Lies Beneath: Drilling for Gas in Your Neighborhood**, 7 p.m. April 21. Texas Christian University Geology Professor John A. Breyer explains Barnett Shale principles and how gas wells are drilled.
- **Look Before You Lease**, 7 p.m. April 23. Munsch Hardt Kopf and Harr, P.C. Attorney

Mark Nastri offers advice for homeowners on signing a gas lease.

Quarterly Job Fair ▪ 1 to 4 p.m. April 22, Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. Meet with recruiters from local companies to discuss openings, distribute résumés and schedule interviews.

Job Center Workshops ▪ 2 p.m. April 28–May 1, Central Library, 801 W. Irving Blvd. Free workshops will be provided to help residents with the skills needed to land a job in today’s marketplace. Call (972) 721-2608.



Design-a-Bookmark Contest ▪ The year’s theme is Picture America. The contest, open to all ages, will accept submissions through April 30. Entries must be original artwork and suitable for public display. Entry forms are available at all Irving

Public Library locations and recreation centers. Visit www.cityofirving.org/library/kidspace.

Small Business Administration Programs ▪ 2:30 p.m. May 2, Northwest Branch Library, 2928 N. Belt Line Road. A representative from the Small Business Administration will present information on programs and services to assist prospective, new and existing businesses. Call (972) 721-2691.

The Friends of the Library Annual Meeting ▪ 7 p.m. May 7, Valley Ranch Library, 401 Cimarron Trail. This year’s annual meeting will be followed by a presentation by Library Director Patty Landers titled, *The Library’s Vision Plan—Building for the Future*. Membership is not required to attend; applications will be available at the meeting. The Friends of the Irving Public Library supports the library by raising funds for materials and programs. Call (972) 721-2628.

Summer Reading Program Kickoff 2009 ▪ The annual Summer Reading Program for all Irving Public Library branches will kick off June 1. Each branch will host summer reading clubs and provide activities and prizes (while supplies last) for participants of all ages. For more information, visit www.cityofirving.org/library/src.

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

Early voting for City Council Places 4, 6 and 8, will begin April 27 and run through May 5.

Early Voting Hours

- April 27–May 1 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 2 – 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.
- May 3 – 1 to 6 p.m.
- May 4–5 – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Early Voting Locations

- City Hall, 825 W. Irving Blvd.
- Irving Arts Center, 3333 N. MacArthur Blvd.
- Valley Ranch Library, 401 Cimarron Trail

Election Day

- May 9 – 7 a.m. to 7 p.m.

Election Day polling locations on May 9 are listed below. For more information, call the City Secretary's Office at (972) 721-2493.

La votación adelantada para la elección municipal de Lugares 4, 6 y 8 empezará el 27 de abril y durará hasta el 5 de mayo.

Horario de Votación Adelantada

- 27 de abril–1 de mayo – 8 a.m. a 5 p.m.
- 2 de mayo – 8 a.m. a 5 p.m.
- 3 de mayo – 1 a 6 p.m.
- 4–5 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.*
- *Biblioteca Valley Ranch (Valley Ranch Library), 401 Cimarron Trail*

Día de las Elecciones

- 9 de mayo – 7 a.m. a 7 p.m.

Los lugares para votar el Día de las Elecciones del 9 de mayo se encuentran abajo. Para más información, llame a la Secretaría de la Ciudad al (972) 721-2493.

Voters to Elect Three Council Members

Irving voters will seat three City Council members in this year's election. Early voting will run from April 27 to May 5. Election Day is May 9.

Incumbent Lewis Patrick is running uncontested for the Place 4 seat on the City Council. Patrick, a retired civil engineer, has lived in Irving for 52 years.

Candidates for Place 6 (in ballot order) are Bola Ayanbule and incumbent Rick Stopfer. Ayanbule is a businessman who has been an Irving resident for nearly 5 years. Stopfer, a resident for 20 years, is a retired auto consultant.

Candidates for Place 8 are incumbent Joe Philipp and Don Van Slyke. Philipp is a business consultant who has lived in the city for more than 20 years. Van Slyke has lived in Irving for 25 years and works in sales.

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



Votantes a Elegir Tres Regidores del Ayuntamiento

Los votantes de Irving escogerán a tres miembros del concejo en las elecciones de este año. La votación adelantada comenzará a partir del 27 de abril hasta el 5 de mayo. El Día de las Elecciones es el 9 de mayo.

El regidor Lewis Patrick está presentándose sin contendiente para el Lugar No. 4 del Concejo de Irving. Patrick, cesante, ingeniero civil ha vivido en Irving por 52 años.

Los candidatos para el Lugar No. 6 (orden de acuerdo a la boleta electoral) son Bola Ayanbule y el actual regidor Rick Stopfer. Ayanbule es un hombre de negocios quien ha sido residente de Irving cerca de 5 años. Stopfer, es un residente con 20 años de residencia en Irving y es cesante, consultor de autos.

Los candidatos para el Lugar No. 8 son el regidor Joe Philipp y Donald Van Slyke. Philipp es un consultor de negocios quien ha vivido en Irving por 20 años. Van Slyke ha vivido en Irving por 25 años y trabaja en ventas.

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

MAY 9 POLLING PLACES CASILLAS ELECTORALES PARA EL 9 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 South Story Road | 4600, 4601 |
| 13 | Fire Station No. 8 650 E. Las Colinas Blvd. | 4627, 4628, 4629 |
| 14 | Grand Prairie Fire Station No. 8 3017 Roy Orr Blvd. Grand Prairie, Texas | 4645 |
| 15 | Coppell Town Center 255 Parkway Blvd. Coppell, Texas | 4708 |

See Page 8 for candidate coverage on Irving Community Television Network.

School Crossing Guard Training Available for Residents

Crossing guards play an integral role in the precautions taken by the city to protect children en route to and from school. With training provided by the Irving Police Department, crossing guards manage traffic for the safe passage of unassisted school children in designated school zones.

Trained and authorized to use traffic direction techniques, crossing guards sometimes help alleviate traffic congestion that may be potentially hazardous to pedestrians. Ensuring the safe crossings

of pedestrians is just part of the job description for crossing guards—they also teach children how to cross properly and how to report activity that may pose a danger in school zones.

As the number of schools and children in Irving grow, the School Crossing Guard Program continues to progress by providing the training and experience needed to ensure that duties are performed safely and to the highest expectations possible.

Those interested in becoming a school crossing guard should visit www.irvingpd.com and select



Crossing guards help kids get safely to and from school.

the “Adult Crossing Guards” link. For more information, call (972) 721-3553.

5-STAR CHAMBER ACCREDITATION

In partnership with the City of Irving, the Greater Irving-Las Colinas Chamber of Commerce has earned a 5-Star Accreditation—the highest possible—from the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

Irving is the only 5-Star chamber in Texas, and only 48 other chambers in the nation have achieved this rating. The award recognizes effective organizational procedures, and measures the positive impact of a chamber on the local business community and region.

To earn accreditation at a 5-star level, a chamber is required to meet the highest standards in operations and programs, including areas of governance, government affairs and technology. The chamber was one of the first accredited since the inception of the program and earned a 3-star rating for many years.

The U.S. Chamber of Commerce is the world’s largest business federation, representing more than three million businesses and organizations of every size, sector and region.

Neighborhood Associations Receive Grant Funds for New Programs

The City of Irving has awarded 17 neighborhood and homeowner associations with annual grants between \$250 and \$1,500 for organizational projects through the Community Partnership Fund.

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 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, Barton Estates, Cardinal Village, Grauwylers Heights, Hackberry Creek, Hidden Oaks, High Point Estates, Historic Hospital District, Irving Heritage District, Irving Hospital District, Nichols Park, North Austin Heights, Northwest Place, Owen Point, Sherwood Forest, University Hills and University Park.

To form a neighborhood association, call the Corporate Communications Department at (972) 721-2533.



Improvements made through neighborhood grants.

Irving Arts Center Exhibitions, Events

Exhibitions

- **Through April 19: Annual Exhibition of Irving ISD Student Artwork** ▪ Main Gallery. Original artwork by Irving ISD elementary, middle and high school students on display.
- **Through June 7: Connie Jordan: Paintings** ▪ Dupree Lobby. Abstract paintings by Irving artist Connie Jordan.

- **April 11–June 14: Rodgers and Hammerstein and the Golden Age of Broadway** ▪ Carpenter Lobby. Approximately 25 posters and window cards promoting the musicals of Richard Rodgers and Oscar Hammerstein, Lorenz Hart and Jerome Kern. On loan from the Thomas G. Neumiller Performing Arts Poster and Research Collection at the Lakeview Museum of Arts and Sciences in Peoria, Ill.



- **April 25–May 23: Annual Texas and Neighbors Five State Competition** ▪ Main Gallery. This juried competition will feature artwork in a variety of mediums from artists in Texas, Oklahoma, New Mexico, Arkansas and Louisiana. A reception and awards ceremony will be held from 2 to 5 p.m. April 26.

Events

- **April 4–May 16: Saturday School: The Art of Scrapbooking** ▪ 2 to 4 p.m., Art Lab. Saturday School offers professional and fun art instruction to children ages 6–14. During session 4, students will learn fun and creative ways of preserving and presenting mementos and photographs with the help of Karen Cheney and Meg Mueller, owners of Googly Eyes & Craft Supplies in Irving. Registration ends April 11. Cost is \$75.
- **April 26: Reception for Texas and Neighbors Annual Exhibition** ▪ 2 to 5 p.m., Main Gallery. Reception and awards ceremony for the Texas & Neighbors Annual Exhibition, featuring themed flowers provided by the Chocolate Rose. Free.



Saturday School

- **May 7: JumpstART: Stories and ART** ▪ 10 a.m., Suite 200. Free story time with a hands-on art activity to follow. May’s theme is Mama Mia! A Tribute to Mothers. Open to children of all ages. Groups welcome; registration required for groups of 15 or more.

Call (972) 252-ARTS for tickets or to register. For details, visit www.irvingartscenter.org.

Celebrate Earth Day – Go Green!

Irving's Earth Day Event, Live Green Expo 2009

Attend Irving's Earth Day Event—Celebrating Community and Planet—from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. April 25 at Sam Houston Trail Park, 101 E. Interstate Highway 635. Attendees will enjoy music, healthy food, children and adult activities, and nature hikes. Visit with eco-vendors and crafters, buy local produce at the Eat Green DFW Farmers Market, fly kites and tour the newest addition to the Campi3n Trails system. On April 18, free shuttle bus service will be provided to residents who would like to attend the Live Green Expo 2009 in Plano from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. This free event will inform North Texans on how to make environmentally responsible decisions through a variety of activities and informational booths. For more information and to receive a free ticket, call Corporate Communications at (972) 721-2533 or visit www.cityofirving.org/begreen.

Fun Earth Day Activities

- Plant a tree.
- Take a walk or a hike in the park.
- Share a new conservation tip with someone else.
- Share a ride to work, or take mass



www.cityofirving.org/begreen

transit or a bike.

- Start recycling.
- Create a compost pile.
- Organize a neighborhood cleanup.
- Plant native plants and conserve water.

Gardening Classes

Learn about low-maintenance, water-conserving landscaping with two free gardening classes on April 18 at the Valley View Municipal Complex, 333 Valley View Lane.

- *Do-It-Yourself Home Landscaping Using Native and Adaptive Plants* – 9 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. Learn how to create a garden that requires little or no supplemental watering and less maintenance.
- *Fantastic Plants for North Texas* – 1:30 to 5 p.m. Discover quality native and adaptive plants recommended for the area.

Seating is limited and registration is required. To sign up or for more information, call (972) 721-2533.

Keep Irving Beautiful Through the Adopt-A-Spot Program

Residents, businesses, groups and organizations can help keep the streets of Irving free of litter through Keep Irving Beautiful's Adopt-a-Spot program.

Those who participate in this one-year commitment focus on a specific location within the city.

"The Adopt-a-Spot program is an exciting form of community service and leadership," said Rick Hose, KIB coordinator. "The domino effects of the Adopt-a-Spot program are far reaching. Research shows that people who pick up litter are less likely to litter. In addition, volunteers help set the example for other residents who will want to join in the fight against litter."

Selecting a spot is the first step to becoming a KIB Adopt-a-Spot volunteer. Adoptable locations include public areas or specific streets within Irving neighborhoods. In addition to choosing the service location, volunteers may choose cleanup days and times. Program participants who commit to one year of service or more are given a safety vest, litter picker and a starter supply of litter and recycle bags. In recognition of the volunteer commitment, signage featuring the name of the spot sponsor will be posted to the adopted site.



Volunteers help keep streets clean through the Adopt-a-Spot program.

Program applications as well as suggested sites can be found online at www.cityofirving.org/keep-irving-beautiful/kib.html. For more information, call Keep Irving Beautiful at (972) 721-2175.

LITTER HOT LINE

Play a part in keeping Irving beautiful by reporting abandoned shopping carts, bulky trash items and other litter issues to the city's 24-hour Litter Hot Line. To report major litter problems within the city, call (972) 721-LITR (5487).

Reports received on the hot line are routed to Irving Parks and Recreation's Corridor Litter Abatement Team. Since April 2008, the Corridor Team has removed more than 747 shopping carts and more than 200,000 pounds of litter.

The team works seven days a week to reduce litter and beautify the city. Each week, litter is removed from more than 80 miles of street medians and public corridors.



Litter Control Crew

Animal Services Increases Public Safety

Irving Animal Services works to increase public safety by protecting both residents and animals. Staff members educate the public on animal welfare issues, impound animals, and issue citations by taking code enforcement action when applicable. The following services are provided to residents.

- Pet adoptions
- Local rabies control authority (certified quarantine facility)
- Animal bite investigations
- Animal cruelty investigations
- Dangerous animal complaints
- Microchip implantation (available for \$10 during business hours)
- Dead animal pick up
- Stray animal pick up



A variety of services are provided to residents.

- Injured or sick animal pick up
- Impounded animal housing
- Live animal traps
- Urban wildlife complaints
- Barking complaints

Live humane traps are available for free to Irving residents during normal business hours to capture nuisance animals such as urban wildlife. Trained animal services officers will remove any captured animals. Residents are not advised to capture or contain potentially dangerous, wild or vicious, at-large animals.

Stray companion animals can run into traffic, scatter garbage, can be attacked by other animals, become targets of abuse, be exposed to diseases, and be declared dangerous with potentially severe penalties for both animals and the owners.

For more information, call Animal Services at (972) 721-2256. Requests for service after normal business hours left on the phone menu are checked and serviced the following business day, seven days a week, during normal operating hours. In the case of an emergency, call 911.

ANTI-TETHERING STANDARDS

The city would like to remind residents of the anti-tethering standards in Irving. Since Nov. 1, 2007, this ordinance has prohibited pet owners from keeping unattended dogs chained or tied to stakes or other stationary objects. This does not include dogs being walked on a leash.

Responsible pet owners who maintain direct physical control will be allowed to tether their canine companions. Dog owners must be outside with the dog and near enough to exercise control over the dog at all times.

Failure to adhere to the anti-tethering ordinance is a Class C misdemeanor. Violators may receive fines ranging from \$100 to \$500 per animal, per occurrence. The maximum fine can cost up to \$2,000.

Residents can call Animal Services at (972) 721-2256 with questions.



Annual Pet Adopt-a-Thon to be Held May 1-2 by Animal Services

An Adopt-A-Thon, hosted by Irving Animal Services, will be held from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. May 1-2.

A variety of puppies, kittens, purebred dogs and older pets in need of a second chance for a new home will be available for adoption.

The Adopt-a-Thon will be held in recognition of the American Humane Association's nationally observed Be Kind to Animals Week. Through the Adopt-a-Thon, Irving Animal Services joins animal shelters throughout the nation in emphasizing kindness to animals.

Animal Services will continue its special Adopt-a-Thon event by joining the Texas Animal Shelter Coalition from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. May 9 at the Ballpark in Arlington Parking Lot E.

Regular pet adoption hours at the Animal Shelter are:

- Monday through Friday – 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.
- Saturday – noon to 5 p.m.

A list of adoptable animals at the shelter is available at www.cityofirving.org under "Online Services." The Irving Animal Shelter is located at 100 N. Briery Road. For more information, call (972) 721-2256.



Animal Services Briefs

Pet Registration

Pet registration is mandatory for all pet owners who reside in Irving. Registration helps reduce the number of pets held at the shelter by ensuring the quick return of lost pets to their owners. Dogs and cats ages 4 months and older also are required to have a current rabies vaccination certificate. Pet registration fees are as follows:

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



A three-year registration cycle is available if a pet has a three-year rabies vaccination. Registration fees are waived for disabled residents and persons age 65 and older.

Useful Pet Tips

- Exercise pets often.
- Have pets microchipped.
- Never leave pets alone in a parked car.
- Keep pet I.D. tags up to date with current address and telephone number.
- Pet-proof the home by removing or securing all poisonous products, including toxic cleaners and batteries.
- Buy pet supplies in bulk or the largest available size to reduce discarded packaging and trips to the store.

Parks Briefs

Heritage Senior Center

Spring Fling Sale ▪ Handmade gifts, collectibles and decorations on sale for bargain prices. Shopping hours are from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 6–9.

Easter Observance ▪ Celebrate Easter with beautiful music, inspirational words and friends from 10 to 11:30 a.m. April 9. Free.

Book Club ▪ The Heritage Senior Center and the Irving Public Library will discuss some of the best books of the day from 7 to 8 p.m. April 16. Free.

Murder at Heritage ▪ A Murder Mystery Dinner will be held from 6 to 8:30 p.m. April 17. Tickets are \$20 per person and include a full course meal and the thrill of solving a mysterious crime.

Five Days to Wholeness ▪ Take a free, five-day journey to health and happiness. Each day, different wellness advocates will share life-enhancing tips and information from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. April 20–24.

H2O Power ▪ Burn calories and get in shape with aquatic exercise sessions on Mondays from 6:30 to 7:30 p.m. \$10 per month or \$3 per class.

Acrylic Painting ▪ Introductory and intermediate acrylic painting classes are offered for residents on Tuesdays from 1 to 2:30 p.m. Participants may

bring their own painting supplies or purchase a kit for \$15 (includes paints, brushes, palette, knife and carrying case). \$15 per month.

Campión Trails Photography Contest ▪ Submissions are being accepted for the Campión Trails Photography Contest from April 6–June 4 at all parks and recreation facilities. Cash prizes will be given to winners in the categories of wildlife, foliage, scenery, unusual angle, silhouette, and black and white. Eligible entries must be original photography taken at the trails by contestants ages 18 and up. Details are available at all parks and recreation facilities. A special awards reception for contest winners will take place at the Heritage Senior Center from 7 to 8:30 p.m. June 12. Registration is \$10 and the entry fee is \$5 per photo entry.

Doggie and Pal Fun Walk ▪ Canines and their pals are convening at Campión Trails from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 2 for a few hours of fun, exercise and free giveaways. Participants will need to check in before the walk at the Bird's Fort Trail Park Pavilion, 5756 Riverside Drive.

Poochfest 2009 ▪ See dogs of all ages demonstrate their agility and intelligence in various contests and races at Poochfest. The event will be held from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. May 30 at the Irving Soccer



Poochfest

Complex, 3585 World Cup Way. The \$10 contest entry fee includes a gift bag. Free entertainment, a special kid's area, as well as pet education speakers, vendors and rescue groups will be available to provide attendees with valuable information. Awards will be presented and Animal Services will give away a free microchip every hour.

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

Code Violations Outlined for Residents

Well-maintained neighborhoods increase property values and make desirable places to live. To help residents preserve the appearance of their neighborhoods, the city enforces standards of housing, safety and sanitation. The following is a list of the most common code violations.

High Grass and Weeds

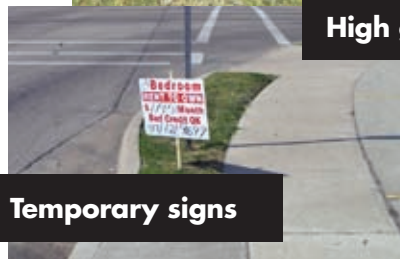
Weeds and grass more than 10 inches are a violation. Property owners and tenants are responsible for keeping lawns mowed to the edge of the roadway.



High grass and weeds

Outside Storage

The homeowner/tenant is responsible for maintaining their property free from litter, brush and outside storage items such as household furniture/items, trash, building materials, car parts, etc. Small items should be stored within an enclosed building.



Temporary signs

Dangerous/Substandard Structures

The owner will paint, waterproof and repair the structure to prevent deterioration.

Garage Sales

Only two garage sales may be conducted at the same address from January–December and are not to exceed 72 hours in duration. A permit is required.

Temporary Signs

A sign no larger than 4 square feet may be placed in the parkway between sidewalk and street from noon Friday through noon Monday. Signs not removed by noon on Monday are subject to retrieval and storage fees. Placement prohibited in these areas:

- In center medians or on telephone poles
- On street signs or on trees
- On state highways/either side of access roads.
 - Airport Freeway (State Highway 183)
 - Walton Walker (Loop 12)
 - Lyndon B. Johnson (State Highway 635)
 - George W. Bush Turnpike (State Highway 161)
 - Carpenter Freeway (State Highway 114)
 - Irving Boulevard (State Highway 356)

To report a violation, call (972) 721-4929.

AQUATICS CLASSES

Year-round aquatics classes are offered at the North Lake Aquatic Center, 5001 N. MacArthur Blvd. Participate in single classes for \$29 a month, or pay \$39 a month for unlimited classes.

Choose from classes led by Bev Gammon and staff. Gammon shares her success in losing more than 100 pounds and eliminating knee, back and ankle problems through water aerobics. Aquatic strength training and abdominal work are included in all classes. Call (972) 262-0621.

Water Aerobics/Wellness and Weight Management

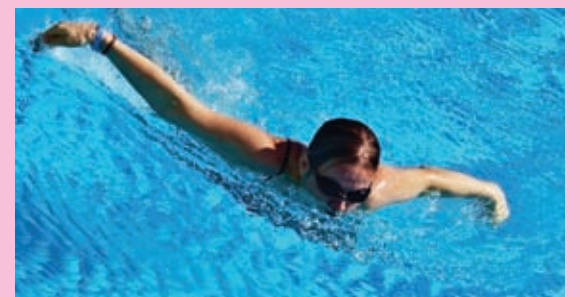
- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 8:30 to 9:15 a.m.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7 to 7:55 p.m.

Increase flexibility, range of motion, lean body mass and metabolic rate in this shallow-water class. Learn how to energize and maximize health benefits while exercising. This class has continuous enrollment, so students may register prior to class at the pool at any time during the course.

Deep Water Dynamics

- Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 9:20 to 10:15 a.m.
- Tuesdays and Thursdays from 8 to 8:55 p.m.

Experience the latest fitness trend while improving flexibility, overall aerobic fitness and coordination. Develop muscle strength and cardiovascular endurance. Minimal swimming skills and water comfort level are recommended.



ICTN to Feature Candidates on Special Election Show

Irving Community Television Network (ICTN) will feature candidates in the upcoming City Council elections during a special 1 ½-hour show. It will begin airing at 4 p.m. April 13.

Candidates will be asked the same series of questions from residents that were submitted via e-mail.

The candidates are (in ballot order):

- **Place 4** – Lewis Patrick
- **Place 6** – Bola Ayanbule and Rick Stopfer
- **Place 8** – Joe Philipp and Donald Van Slyke

Repeats will air:

- April 13 – 7 p.m.
- April 14 – 8 p.m.
- April 16 – 8:30 p.m.
- April 21 – 9 p.m.
- April 22 – 7 p.m.



ICTN also will cover the League of Women Voters Candidate Forum at 7 p.m. April 21. It will feature candidates from all races that affect Irving and will air:

- April 23 – 6:30 p.m.
- April 26 – 4:30 p.m.
- April 28 – 9 p.m.

The shows will broadcast on ICTN 1 (Time Warner Channel 16, Verizon Channel 30) and online at www.ictn.tv. For more information, call (972) 721-2468.

City Donates Computers to Qualifying Residents Through Reuse Program

The City of Irving donated more than 100 computers to low- and moderate-income families through its Computer Reuse Program (CORP). This year, city staff partnered with Brighter Tomorrows, DCET/ Believe in Yourself Inc., Irving Cares and the Friends of the Irving Public Library to present computers to qualifying Irving families.

When CORP launched in 2008, Irving became the first municipality in Texas and the second in the U.S. to implement a computer reuse program in which previously owned computer equipment is refurbished by city employees and donated to qualifying residents through area nonprofits.

Families receiving computers are screened through a needs assessment conducted by distributing agencies. Through CORP, hundreds of computers have sidestepped local landfills and are being put to good use by needy Irving families.

“I think it’s fantastic what the City of Irving has done for us,” said Brenda Fowlkes, a computer recipient. “I’ll use it for research and paying bills, and my daughter will be able to use it for school projects.”

Computer equipment is less than three years old and Microsoft Corporation has donated Windows XP operating software, available in English or Spanish based on the recipient’s preference. At the end of the computer’s life, CORP beneficiaries commit to proper disposal of equipment at one of the city’s drop-off recycling centers. Recipients also are encouraged to participate in free community computer training classes offered year-round by the Irving Public Library system.

CORP is made possible by a grant received from the North Central Texas Council of Governments via the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality, as well as a grant from Irving’s Housing and Human Services Department.



Qualifying residents receive computers.

TRAFFIC SAFETY AWARD

The City of Irving has been honored with the Traffic Safety Award for the second consecutive year.

The award, sponsored by the Texas Municipal Courts Education Center, recognizes those that have made outstanding contributions to make their communities safer.

Applicants were judged on public outreach initiatives that increase traffic safety while decreasing traffic crashes, traffic fatalities, juvenile DUI (driving under the influence), child safety seat offenses and red light running.

Initiatives include:

- Cell phone ban in active Irving school zones.
- No right of refusal weekends for those suspected of driving while intoxicated.
- The Teen Court in partnership with Allstate for an “action against distraction driver challenge.”

All municipal courts in Texas were eligible to apply. In addition, the cities of Irving and Lakeway have been selected to receive an Exemplary Award for outstanding efforts.

Community Briefs

High Spirited Citizen ▪ Lifelong Irving resident Juanita Britain was honored by the city with the High Spirited Citizen award. Britain received the award for volunteering countless hours of service

to a variety of local organizations and events. As an advisory board member at the Heritage Senior Center, Irving’s senior community



continues to benefit from Britain’s commitment. Having volunteered on numerous boards and committees, Britain has volunteered some 23,000 hours of service to the senior center since joining in 1990. She also has served the Irving Centennial Celebration Task Force on the Historical Markers and Designation Committee.

Fair Housing Month ▪ Housing and Human Services ensures that residents have equal access to the housing of their choice all year long. This April, the department joins many of its partners and organizations in the observance of National Fair Housing Month. The Fair Housing Act prohibits

discrimination in the financing, rent or sale of any dwelling based on race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The city’s fair housing officer is Vivian Ballou, housing and human services executive director. Complaints can be filed through Housing and Human Services. For details, call (972) 721-4800.

Texas Stadium Transition ▪ City Council has approved a contract for Jacobs Engineering Group to plan the demolition of Texas Stadium. A plan outlining the demolition will be completed within the next three months. The Texas Department of Transportation (TxDOT) is leasing the Texas Stadium site for \$15.4 million and will occupy it as a construction/staging location for up to 10 years. TxDOT will be working on the Diamond Interchange reconstruction project of State Highway 114 and Loop 12. During the term of the lease, the city has the right to relocate the construction staging area to accommodate a redevelopment opportunity.



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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