The Richardson Duck Creek Quacker

Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association, Inc.

United for Fellowship, Safety and Civic Pride

June 2005

HAVE YOU SEEN THIS MAN?

The suspect is wanted in conjunction with a child enticement offense in Duck Creek on May 2nd. The suspect is described as being a white male, approximately 35-45 years of age, with a round face and round glasses. He also has short curly hair. The vehicle is a bright red, but dirty, Ford Explorer type vehicle. People are asked not to confront anyone matching this description, but to contact the Richardson Police Department immediately at (972) 744-4800.

With this happening in our neighborhood, it is past time to start a "Neighborhood Watch". Safety Chairperson Rick Wilder is beginning to form this much needed program. Contact him immediately at (972) 644-9327 to help protect our most valuable resources. OUR CHILDREN!



Stay in Touch With the Neighborhood!

Do you have an email address? Do you wish to receive information regarding neighborhood activities, safety reports, and community news? Please send an email to info@rdchoa.org with your name and email address. You will be added to the list to receive periodic neighborhood emails. The Quacker publication will be emailed to association members to streamline the publication process, which will also save money on printing and postage. Please, sign-up your email address with us to stay in touch with the Duck Creek Neighborhood. At any time, please share your questions or concerns about the neighborhood with the RDCHOA in two easy ways: Email info@rdchoa.org or call 972-943-4663.

Scott Morrison Membership Chairperson

DUCK CREEK





2nd ANNUAL INDEPENDENCE DAY PARADE

YOUR DUCK CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION REQUESTS YOUR PRESENCE AT THE 2ND ANNUAL INDEPENDANCE DAY PARADE! COME SHOW YOUR SUPPORT FOR OUR NATION'S INDEPENDENCE AND OUR ARMED FORCES AROUND THE WORLD. WE ENCOURAGE THE ENTIRE FAMILY TO BE PART OF THIS GREAT EVENT!

JOIN US AT HUFFINES PAVILION FOLLOWING THE PARADE, FOR HOT DOGS, APPLE PIE, ICE CREAM AND SOFT DRINKS.

THIS WILL BE A PARADE TO REMEMBER!!

WHEN: SATURDAY JULY 2, 2005

WHERE: STARTS AT DARTMOUTH

ELEMENTARY

TIME: 10:30 AM JUDGING AT 9:45 AM

PRIZES FOR:

"BEST DECORATED"

WAGON SCOOTER BIKE CAR TRUCK FLOAT MOTORCYCLE COSTUME PET

PARADE ROUTE
START-DARTMOUTH ELEMENTARY TO
DRAKE TO YALE TO VASSAR, TO
WESTMINESTER, TO TULANE, TO MELISSA,
TO CORNELL END AT DARTMOUTH
ELEMENTARY.

COME BE IN THE PARADE

" SHOW US YOUR SPIRIT"

GIRL SCOUTS
BOY SCOUTS
CUB SCOUTS
SOCCER
FOOTBALL
BASEBALL TEAMS
CHEERLEADERS
BAND MEMBERS
YOUTH GROUPS &
CLUBS

ATTENTION ALL PARTICIPANT LEADERS: PLEASE LET US KNOW BY JUNE 25TH HOW MANY MEMBERS WILL BE IN THE PARADE. HOW MANY TOTAL WILL BE JOINING US FOR LUNCH? THANK'S, FOOD PLANNING COMMITTEE.

www.rdchoa.org

LAWN TRACTOR

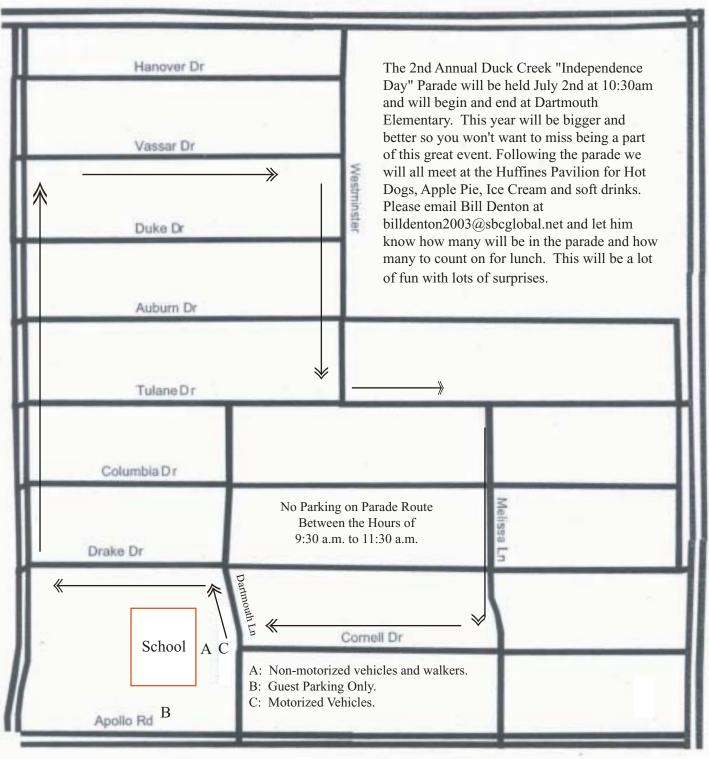
Hot Line 972/943-4663

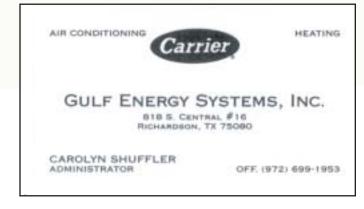


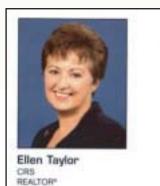
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Certifed Residential Specialist





I want to say thank you to the voters for giving me a win in your community, but it's not over yet. There are 3,133 registered voters in Duck Creek and only 399 voted. I need every voters support now more than ever before in this run-off election if we are going to have a new voice on the City Council. I pledge to you, the residents, to work on revitalizing our empty shopping centers, bring new retail and business development to the Duck Creek area, work with the neighborhood to enhance integrity and vitality, work with our city services on repairing and replacing our streets, alleys and sidewalks, and I will have an open door policy for all. I ask you to go to Dartmouth Elementary on June 11th and vote for me, Rhea Allison.

You need a breath of fresh air on our City Council and I can give it to you.

Rhea Allison

Paid for by Committee to Elect Rhea Allison, 2012 Chestnut Hill Ln. Richardson, TX 75082; Stella Daniel Treasurer

All ads paid for by the candidates. Duck Creek Homeowners Association does not endorse any candidate.

MAKE WILLIAM GORDON YOUR NEXT RISD TRUSTEE!

There is a run-off, and your vote is crucial!

Vote Early: May 25 thru June 7 or Vote on Election Day: June 11

214-292-2931 wgordon@miracomnetwork.com

A Place 6 Candidate with Compassion, Experience, Knowledge *and* Insight

"He's already done what no other candidate has done – represented our interests when they most needed representing!"

- Eddie Dees



William Gordon

Political Advertising paid for by William Gordon, Andrew Chaffin, Treasurer, 100 N Central Expressway, Suite 500, Richardson, Texas 75080

What is National Night Out?

It's America's Night Out Against Crime!

The "22nd Annual National Night Out" (NNO), a unique crime/drug prevention event sponsored by the National Association of Town Watch (NATW), has been scheduled for Tuesday, August 2, 2005. We cordially invite you and your street to be a part of our NIGHT OUT 2005 team.

Last year's National Night Out campaign involved citizens, law enforcement agencies, civic groups, businesses, neighborhood organizations and local officials from over 10,000 communities from all 50 states, U.S. territories, Canadian cities and military bases worldwide. In all, over 34 million people participated in NNO 2004.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT is designed to:

- Heighten crime and drug prevention awareness;
- Generate support for, and participation in, local anticrime programs;
- Strengthen neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships; and
- Send a message to criminals letting them know that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

Along with the traditional display of outdoor lights and front porch vigils, cities, towns and neighborhoods 'celebrate' NNO with a variety of events and activities such as:

- block parties,
- cookouts.
- visits from local police and sheriff departments
- parades, exhibits,
- flashlight walks,
- contests, and
- youth programs.

NNO has proven to be an effective, inexpensive and enjoyable program to promote neighborhood spirit and police-community partnerships in our fight for a safer nation. Plus, the benefits your community will derive from NNO will most certainly extend well beyond the one night.

Don't have a Crime Watch Area yet? Let the Safety Chairperson help you start it on your street! Send an EMAIL to: safety@rdchoa.org or call the Hotline at (972)943-4663. We will provide the materials and schedule a Crime Prevention Officer from the Richardson Police Department. It's easy to start but the benefit is profound. Together we can make a difference!

Beautification

YARD OF THE MONTH

April through August Nominate a yard.

GARDEN CLUB

If you would like to help organize "The Duck Creek Garden Club" or be a member

HOLIDAY DECORATING

We need help in putting up the decorations. Set up is November 19th at 9:00am.

RECYCLE

Recycling helps us all! Purchase your blue bags at Huffines Rec Center.

If you are interested in nominating a "Yard Of The Month", Be a member of The Duck Creek Garden Club or help with the Holiday Decorations please call Michael Wortman at 972-235-1036.





WHAT EVERY DUCK CREEK RESIDENT NEEDS TO KNOW...

Neighborhood Integrity Program

The Neighborhood Integrity Program was created to help maintain property values and neighborhood desirability and to encourage revitalization. This takes a concerted effort from all of Duck Creek's owners and residents. By working together, we can help keep Duck Creek an attractive, healthy, and safe place to live. Over the years, minimum property maintenance standards have been established to help realize this goal.

High Grass and Weeds

Residents are responsible for maintaining the grass and weeds at their property. Grass and weeds are in violation when they reach a height of 12 inches. Owners or residents are also responsible for maintaining the alley easement adjacent to their property.

Vegetation

Trees, bushes, shrubs, vines, etc. must be kept trimmed 7 feet above sidewalks, 14 feet above streets and alleys and 1 foot back from the alley pavement. Vegetation should be maintained so that it does not obstruct the view of persons using public streets and alleys.

Fences

Property owners are responsible for maintaining the condition of the fences around their property. Fences which are leaning severely or which are missing slats or sections are in violation of the City's Code. New fences or significant replacement of existing fences require a building permit. Call the Building Inspection Department at 972-744-4180 for more information.

Address Numbers

To enable the Police and Fire Departments to respond quickly to emergency calls, address numbers must be posted so that they are plainly visible from the street and alley. Numbers must be posted on the curb or curbside mailbox. Street numbers are also required on the front of the residence on the house, garage, fence, or other structure between 3 and 10 feet from the ground. Numbers must be a minimum of 3 inches high.

Outside Strorage

Storage is prohibited in the front yard, carport, and front porch. All items stored outside must be screened from adjacent properties, streets and alleys by a 6-foot, solid wooden fence. Outside storage is limited to 1 percent or a residential lot. This ordinance does not pertain to operable vehicles with a valid state license and registration.

Trash & Debris

Residents are responsible for ensuring that their property is free of any litter or debris. In an effort to control litter, residential trash must be contained in approved plastic bags and place out only on your collection days. If you wish to dispose of (rather than recycle) small bundles of branches, they should be cut to 3-foot lengths and places out on your regular collection day. Call 972-744-4111 to collect brush and bulky items placed at the curb on your special collection day. Branches of any length can be collected from your curb and converted to mulch, which is available to all Duck Creek residents for free. Duck Creek has convenient recycling known as the Blue Bag Recycling program.

Minimum Property Standards

All buildings are required to be maintained by keeping all exterior materials (brick, wood, siding, roofs, glass, windows, doors) free of holes and breaks. All wood surfaces are to be painted, protected from the elements, and in good condition.

Vehicles

Junked or inoperative vehicles may not be stored in public view. Trucks with a rated capacity of more than 1.5 tons and construction trailers greater than 8 feet in length may not be stored in a residential district.

Yard Parking

Vehicles may not be parked on the grass between the front building line and the street, or between the side building line and the street on corner lots. In addition, vehicles may not be parked on the grass on vacant or unimproved lots

Home Occupation/Garage Sales

If you want to operate a business from your home, please contact us to ensure that your business does not violate the home occupation ordinance.

Each resident may conduct no more than three garage sales per year, lasting no longer than three consecutive days.

We Need Your Help!

With the help and cooperation of Duck Creek residents, we can maintain attractive, healthy, and safe neighborhood and ensure that Duck Creek remains a city in which we are proud to live.

Volunteer Program

Neighborhood Integrity has a volunteer programs to assist homeowners who are unable to maintain their property due to physical limitations or other difficulties. If you or someone you know needs assistance, or if you would like to volunteer your time and resources, please call us at 972-744-4166.

Ouestions

If you have any questions or comments, please call Neighborhood Integrity at 972-744-4166. Regular office hours are Monday through Friday from 7 a.m. to 5 p.m.





Richardson Duck Creek Home Owners Association

"United for Fellowship, Safety and Civic Pride"

2005 Membership Application

Web: www.rdchoa.org

Email: membership@rdchoa.org

Dear Neighbor,

Please complete the following membership application in order to support the following activities in *your* neighborhood, as guided by the RDC-HOA:

- Coordination of City-financed neighborhood improvements
- Representation of the neighborhood at City Council meetings
- Cleanliness and beautification of the neighborhood
- Holiday decorations, Easter egg hunt, Fourth of July parade

sər		Description	Amount	Mail this form and payment to						
Step 1: Dues		Membership Dues for 2005	\$25.00	RDC-HOA PO Box 851691 Richardson, Texas 75085-1691						
Please make checks payable to: RDC-HOA										
	P	Please complete the following information which will be listed in the Neighborhood Directory:								
Step 2: Contact Info	L	ast Name(s)	Please do not list names of children							
Son	Street Address Phone Number(s)									
Step 2: (Neighborhood news and information will be sent to your email address, if provided. Your email address will remain and <u>NOT</u> published in the directory. Email(s)									
	Please mark the boxes of the following areas you would like more information to assist the activities of the RDC-HC									
Step 3: Participation	r.	Block Captain Section Leader Beautification Civic	Communications Directory Membership Revitalization	Safety Social Welcoming						
Step 3:	D If	Yes No No								
	Y	Your Signature Date								
	V	We can answer your questions in several ways: • For immediate attention, please send an email to <i>membership@rdchoa.org</i> or call 972-943-4663. • Please write on the back of this form any additional questions or suggestions for the neighborhood.								
		THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD								

Fold and Staple Here	
Fold and Staple Here	Place
	Postage
	Here

Richardson Duck Creek HOA P.O. Box 851691 Richardson, Texas 75085-1691

A Message From Your President

"United for Fellowship, Safety and Civic Pride"
That's what The Duck Creek Homeowners Association is all about.

Fellowship: We have events where the whole family especially our children can take part. Such as the

Easter Egg Hunt, Independence Day Parade, Holiday lighting. These are times where you can see your neighbors and make new friends. We also have two General Meetings per year where the entire family is served dinner. We also have the directory and Quacker Newsletter.

Safety: We have started a neighborhood watch program that will, we hope, will spread throughout

the community to keep our children, our homes and our property safe.

Civic Pride: It must first start in our community. We're a reflection of the City. I know, in one way or

another, everyone takes pride in Duck Creek, but it shouldn't stop there. There are projects the HOA board wants to make happen, but it can't without money. We are wanting more trees and shrubs for the Duck Creek Linear Park and the medians. This can happen through membership dollars and a matching funds program through the City of Richardson, and

bronze statues of children at Ponderosa and Apollo dedicated to our children.

All of this is available to you, but membership makes it happen. There are 1,450 homes in Duck Creek. Membership was 454 in 2004, but it need to be higher if we intend to get things done for our community. Membership dues are only \$25 per year. Please fill out this membership form and join today.

I believe in this community and its residents and I believe it can be the best in the City of Richardson, but only if everyone gives it his or her full effort

Bill Denton President

Neighborhood Trends

- Duck Creek is home to a population that is growing older.
- Residents are drawn to the neighborhood by its parks, recreational areas, convenient location and good home values.
- Residents are perceived as friendly, respectful of others, and proud of their neighborhood.
- The homeowners association is seen as being very important to the area, but as having room to improve.
 - Could be better at reaching out to new residents.
 - Could be better at providing interested residents with opportunities to contribute in leadership positions.
- Crime prevention remains a priority in the neighborhood, which continues to experience lower crime than the City as a whole.
- Enforcement activity in the area is slightly lower than the City as a whole and tends to be related more to routine maintenance rather than property standards:
 - Maturing trees require more maintenance.
 - Buildings are well maintained and structurally sound.
 - Small number of problem properties.
- While traffic in the area has shown slight overall increases, it has not worsened considerably over the past few years.
- Rental property in the neighborhood accounts for a lower incidence of residential properties than the City as a whole.
- Homes in the neighborhood are selling on average for less per square foot than homes in the City as a whole.
- Although certain properties remain issues of concern for the neighborhood, commercial property in general has shown signs of improvement.
 - The Block is seen as being a positive development for the area.
- Re-tenanting in developments at the corner of Belt Line and Plano Road (Target, Staples, Conn's) demonstrate the area's viability

Improved Commercial / Retail

Strategies.....

- Work with the City, County, and Chamber of Commerce to explore potential existing incentive programs to attract development.
- Reach out to local business owners to establish partnerships and promote positive interactions with the neighborhood.
- Encourage the viability of local businesses through targeted support and promotion programs within the neighborhood.
- Establish partnerships with nearby associations to create and promote a shared vision for commercial redevelopment.

Next Steps.....

- Begin working with neighborhood leaders to prioritize and implement action items.
- But first.....
 - Take names of volunteers interested in helping implement action items.

Come Join us rebuild our community

- Annual Activities
- Monthly meetings with action plans
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt
- Annual Golf Outing
- 4th of July Parade
- Holiday neighborhood lighting program and Ceremony
- Neighborhood block night out
- Annual neighborhood directory

Neighborhood Benefits

- Voice at the city council meetings
- Voice in city council decisions on neighborhood
- Revitalization of the neighborhood
- Support of our neighborhood schools and parks
- Better vision of a community that works together
- Encourage compliance with an established standard of residential property maintenance in the neighborhood.
- Promote a pedestrian-friendly environment through the creation and enhancement of walkways in recreational parks and trails in the area.
- Minimize the affect of on-street parking
- Increase lighting throughout the neighborhood.
- Encourage continued improvement in beautification and identification infrastructure





SAVE UP TO 20% ON YOUR HEATING & COOLING BILLS



RETIRING OLD GLORY

It started with 13 stars and has grown to 50. It flies over this great country of ours in so many places to numerous to mention. But, there comes a time when it deserves the honor of being retired. We all know how to do it, but never seem to have the time.

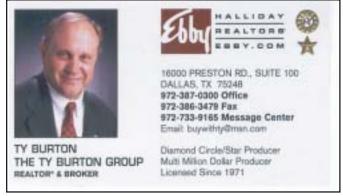
If your "Old Glory" is ready for retirement, contact Greg Duvall, Cubmaster-Pack 871 at 972-699-0024. The pack performs a retirement ceremony at their fall campouts.

Isn't it great! When one is retired, another takes its place to proudly fly over this great country of ours.

Neighborhood Play Group "Little Ducklings"

Stay-at-home moms in the Duck Creek neighborhood formed a playgroup for our preschool age children called "Little Ducklings." We've been meeting for the last 3 years in each other's homes twice per month. We would like to help you form other playgroups in the neighborhood. Twice a year we hope to join all of the groups together for a day in the park and picnic at Huffines Park. We hope that these playgroups will bring our neighborhood families even closer to each other. Please email Cheryl at rcpay2000@yahoo.com or call her at 972-235-9221. Please note the time of the day that you would like to meet as well as the ages and sexes of your children. Give any other information to help us form compatible playgroups.

Cheryl Payton



IMPORTANT NOTICE

Fellow Duck Creek Residents:

As I am sure you are aware publishing the Quacker requires a lot of time, effort and more importantly money. Unfortunately, with the high cost of printing and mailing the Quacker, if you are not a current member, this will be the last Quacker you receive via mail or E-mail. I strongly encourage all non-members to fill out and return the enclosed membership form and the very small membership dues. This will allow us to make sure you still receive your Quacker and are kept up to date on all the happenings in Duck Creek.

Bill Denton
President
Duck Creek Homeowners Association

Special Dates

June 11th - City Council/School Board Run Off Elections Dartmouth Elementary 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.

July 2nd - 2nd Annual Fourth of July Parade Dartmouth Elementary 10:30 a.m.

October 20th - General Meeting Dartmouth Elementary 6:30 p.m.

November 19th - Holiday Lighting Setup Apollo and Yale 9:00 a.m.

November 26th - Holiday LIghting Ceremony Apollo and Yale 7:00 p.m.



The Richardson Duck Creek Quacker



Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association P.O. Box 851691 Richardson, TX 75085-1691 PRSRT STD U.S.POSTAGE PAID RICHARDSON, TX PERMIT NO. 1042



TO:			

H E L P !

The board lacks one person that will be the Communications person. This person prepares the Duck Creek Quacker. If you are interested, please call Bill Denton at 972-783-7095...PLEASE!

The Quacker is published four time each year by the Richardson Duck Creek Homeowners Association.

Please call with news about new neighbors, new babies, promotions, long time neighbors leaving or deaths. We would like to hear from you on nominations for Yard of the Month, concerns about the neighborhood or any information to be included in the newsletter. Call us for new yard signs or reservations for meals at membership meetings.

President: Bill Denton - billdenton 2003@sbcglobal.net

ALLIANCE WINDOW CLEANING

972-613-8743

Call for Free Estimates