

# NEWSLETTER

## RICHARDSON CHAMBER

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



### Letter from the chairman: New happenings at the chamber

It has been a while since you heard from us, but a lot has been happening at the Chamber as we refocus our mission of adding value through programs and services for the Richardson Business Community.

I hope you've heard about our new interim appointees. Kim Quirk is leading the chamber as our president while Paul Bendel has stepped in to assist as executive director of Tech Titans and Doug McDonald, in partnership with the city of Richardson, will be serving as our executive director on the economic development front.

A number of meetings are back in person and more will follow next month. We are working on refreshing and updating the chamber across the board; revamping programs, providing timely member focused services and being intentional and thoughtful about our offerings. My particular focus is on small businesses – understanding how we can be of even more service, and we will also carry on the work started last year around inclusivity.

It's going to be an exciting year, and I look forward to our bright future.

**Manasseh Durkin, chairman of the board**



## Welcome back!

### Andrea Young

Programs & Web Content Manager

Welcome back Andrea! Andrea Young directs the Women in Leadership program and produces events for chamber members and the community to connect, including the golf tournament.

She also manages the Chamber's web presence. She spent 16 years of her career as a software developer at Lennox International and later Thomson Reuters, before joining the Richardson Chamber in 2016.

She is a proud graduate of Texas A&M University.

She can be reached at 972-792-2819  
[andrea@richardsonchamber.com](mailto:andrea@richardsonchamber.com)



### Molly Ulmer

Board Relations Manager

We're thrilled to welcome back Molly Ulmer who retired from the chamber back in May 2020 after more than 19 years.

Molly will be back in her role of chief governance officer on a part-time basis starting on March 21.

In the two years since she's been gone she has enjoyed spending time with her five grandchildren at their sporting events and babysitting. "I've missed my friends in Richardson and I'm looking forward to getting re-engaged," she said.

She can be reached at 972-792-2816  
[molly@richardsonchamber.com](mailto:molly@richardsonchamber.com)



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**Dean Kamen, inventor of Segway and  
wearable infusion pump**

# Renowned inventor and advocate for science to keynote Richardson Chamber annual meeting

The inventor who expanded the frontiers of health by creating the first wearable infusion pump for the treatment of various diseases will deliver the keynote address at the 2022 Richardson Chamber of Commerce Annual Meeting. Dean Kamen, who has more than 1,000 patents, will talk about his entrepreneurial spirit and drive to change peoples' lives, his many inventions and his passion for helping young people discover the exciting world of science and technology.

The annual luncheon meeting is set for April 19 at the Richardson Renaissance Hotel. Check-in begins at 11 a.m. In addition to the address, several awards will be announced including the 2021 Citizen of the Year and volunteer recipients. The 2021 Board Chair Eric Peltier will hand the leadership of the chamber to 2022 Board Chair Manasseh Durkin.

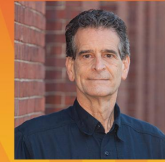
"Dean Kamen's work as an inventor and health care advocate has dramatically changed the world in which we live," said Peltier. "We are excited to return to our first in-person annual meeting in two years and see some of his amazing devices first-hand. As we recognize our 75th Anniversary this past year and our deep roots within the Tech Corridor, I don't think we could have found a better speaker!"

Kamen invented his wearable pump while an undergraduate in college, which led to the founding of his first medical device company, AutoSyringe, Inc in 1976. Shortly afterwards, he created the first portable insulin pump and then at the age of 30, sold AutoSyringe to Baxter Healthcare Corporation.

He formed his current company, DEKA Research and Development Corporation and continued to invent life-changing devices. Additional inventions include the peritoneal dialysis system, an advanced prosthetic arm, the Hydroflex™ surgical irrigation pump, the Segway, and the iBot wheelchair, which allows user to rise to 6 feet.

It was his work as an engineer and inventor that led to his founding of "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology, or *FIRST*®, which is dedicated to motivating the next generation to understand, use and enjoy science and technology. Started in 1989, *FIRST*® will serve more than one million young people across the globe who have applied for more than \$80 million in college scholarships this year.

ANNUAL MEETING - TUESDAY, APRIL 19



## Tomorrow's Bright Future

with Dean Kamen, Inventor & Entrepreneur



## Summer internship program needs employers and sponsors

Connecting teens -- and perhaps your future employees -- to a successful future, the Richardson Mayor's Summer Internship Program is now accepting business applications.

In its fifth year, the program immerses current high school juniors who attend Richardson ISD or live in Richardson into the professional workplace with internships at coveted businesses, nonprofits and government agencies. The program, which runs June 6-Aug. 5, is presented by Mayor Paul Voelker and the City of Richardson, Richardson ISD and the Richardson Chamber of Commerce.

Chamber members are encouraged to hire or sponsor an intern, as well as volunteer to help coach and critique students in the areas of professional etiquette and dress, resume development, interview preparation/mock interviews, and business communication.

New this year, the program will offer paid and unpaid internships, providing more opportunities for students to experience first-hand a career they want to explore. The internships -- available in technology, manufacturing, communications, professional services, architecture, construction, philanthropy and more -- will range from 10- to-40 hours per week.

Businesses also can sponsor an intern at a participating nonprofit, where students can learn about the important role nonprofits play in keeping a community vibrant and healthy.

For more information, go to [RichardsonMayorsInternships.org](http://RichardsonMayorsInternships.org). Businesses can sign up now through April 1 by contacting Angela Shellene at [ashellene@thereedsprc.com](mailto:ashellene@thereedsprc.com) or 214-871-0783.



Sponsorships and tickets for the annual meeting are available for purchase on the chamber website, [www.richardsonchamber.com](http://www.richardsonchamber.com) or by calling 972-792-2800. Sponsor packages range from a Director's Level at \$1,500 to the Presenting Sponsorship for \$25,000.

## Events calendar: save the date

7:15 am **Business Network Breakfast – Every Wednesday**  
4/7 5:30 pm **Women4Women - April 7**  
4/14 8:30 am **IQ Brew**  
4/19 11 am **Annual Meeting April 19**  
4/21 8:30 am **Senior Service Networking - April 21**  
4/28 5:30 pm **RYP Happy Hour - April 28**  
5/12 11:30 am **Joint HR and Growth and Mobility Lunch - May 12**  
5/15 - 5/18 **Federal Policy Conference & Tour in Wash DC - May 15- May 18**  
6/7 11:30 am **Women in Leadership - June 7**  
6/24 2:30 pm **Annual Bowling Tournament - 90's Nostalgia**



Principal

**GEICO**



**State Farm**



### Women in Leadership

The panelists for the Women in Leadership March luncheon held at Network of Community Ministries discussed how to invest and plan for the future at different stages in life.

Women4Women will meet at 5:30 p.m. April 7 at Youfit Gyms Richardson, 1301 E. Beltline. Linda Pyeatt, senior regional group exercise director for YouFit will lead fun, low-impact exercises. Sponsors are Texas Bank and Trust and Methodist Richardson Medical Center.

Register [here](#)



### International Business Resources Committee

The International Business Resources Committee is expanding. The group recently had a meet and greet session for current and potential committee members. It was the first time many current committee members have seen each other in person since before the pandemic.

If you're interested in helping build the International ecosystem in Richardson, learn more [here](#).



### Small Business Task Force

The Richardson Chamber's small business task force is working on how to support, connect, and help local businesses in the community. Great things are happening here!

## Chamber is going viral on social nets

Have you checked out our social media lately?

We're posting daily about the great things going on at the chamber!

Follow us on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter or LinkedIn to be in the know.

Click on the icons below



## Member news

### Member profile: [Hometown Roofing](#)

Hometown Roofing, LLC is an innovative roofing company that offers unparalleled customer service, superior work performance and outstanding product installation.

Formed in 2002, the company was built on family values and exceptional quality workmanship. Those foundations remain solidly in place today. The family-owned-and-operated business continues to serve greater Dallas and Fort Worth metropolitan area and surrounding communities, and we've roofed thousands of residential homes and commercial properties.

Jim Otis, the founder, started his career in general construction in 1985, where he built condominiums and single-family homes. When he moved to Dallas in 2002, he saw the need for quality control and service in the roofing industry to homeowners. He then formed Hometown Roofing, Inc. to fill the overwhelming demand of customers in the Dallas and Fort Worth area.

Hometown Roofing installs all types of roofing materials, including composition asphalt shingles, designer shingles, tile, TPO, modified, built-up and mop-down systems. It also installs mechanically fastened stranding seam steel roofing and Gerard stone-coated steel, an impact resistant product created with the look and texture of wood shake or Spanish tile. It is a GA-certified contractor and Gerard certified. If the customer is interested in impact hail resistant shingles, it can install all types of Class 4 impact-resistant products. Hometown Roofing is expert at dealing with insurance companies and offers a free roof inspection.



### Member profile: [DebtBlue](#)

The color blue symbolizes loyalty, strength, wisdom and trust. Blue is also known to bring a calming effect on the psyche when times are tough.

DebtBlue embodies those qualities as it helps clients overcome financial difficulties.

Backed by more than 20 years of experience, DebtBlue is committed to helping individuals and families get back on their feet financially. Team members know and sympathize with each client, and seeks to become the stabilizing force that provides them confidence and calmness.

The DebtBlue team is comprised of certified debt specialists who "speak the language" of debt settlement. Members have deep connections throughout the creditor landscape and fight hard to maximize debt savings with every interaction.

"Our team is here to perform for you, negotiating the deepest reductions and terms for your best-case debt settlement. We serve with integrity, and our clients are the center of our debt settlement universe. This is your livelihood, your peace of mind, your good night's sleep that's at stake. And we get that," states the company's website.



## Member profile: Infosys Technologies

Infosys is a global leader in next-generation digital services and consulting. The company enables clients in more than 50 countries navigate digital transformation.

The company does it by enabling the enterprise with an AI-powered core that helps prioritize the execution of change. It also empowers the business with agile digital at scale to deliver unprecedented levels of performance and customer delight. An always-on learning agenda drives continuous improvement through building and transferring digital skills, expertise, and ideas from the innovation ecosystem.

Established in 1981, Infosys is a NYSE listed global consulting and IT services company with more than 292k employees. From a capital of US\$250, it has grown to become a US\$ 15.64 billion (LTM Q3 FY22 revenues) company with a market capitalization of approximately US\$ 106.44 billion.

In more than 40 years, Infosys has catalyzed some of the major changes that have led to India's emergence as the global destination for software services talent. We pioneered the Global Delivery Model and became the first IT Company from India to be listed on NASDAQ.



## Leadership Richardson learns about economics

The 42 members of Class 37, destined to be the best class ever, participated in a new activity this year. LR Business and Economic Development Team kicking off the day! Thanks to @logotology for the fab shirts!!

Learn more about [Leadership Richardson](#).

Applications for the next Leadership Richardson class, 2022-2023, will open soon.



## New and renewing members

Please welcome our new and returning members from February.

### New members

Welcome! We're so glad to have you!

**President's Club**  
Infosys Technologies

Landry Commercial Medical  
AR Workshop Garland  
Common Desk  
Radman Aging Life Strategies  
Star City Hospice  
Texas Best Solar  
Cinnaholic

40+ years

**President's Club**  
Blue Cross Blue Shield of Texas

Credit Union of Texas

20+ year

**President's Club**  
Fossil Group, Inc.

Appletree Court

1+ year

**President's Club**  
Ryan, LLC

Goetz and Sons Inc  
Priscilla Wood  
Springtree Restoration LLC  
Chris Landry  
Kerry Tassopoulos

Sueño Modern Mex-Tex  
Humana  
Sonesta ES Suites  
[\(Read a little bit about our marketplace new arrivals\)](#)

The Wellington at Arapaho

10+ year

**President's Club**  
**Dallas College Richland Campus**

Five Star Advisor Partners, LLC  
Structure Tone Southwest  
Canyon Creek Country Club  
Maverick Maintenance & Supply LLC  
Aspen Water, Inc.

**Submissions policy:** If you feel you have a worthy submission for the Chamber newsletter (including member news), please email Andrea Young at [andrea@richardsonchamber.com](mailto:andrea@richardsonchamber.com). Our goal is to create a communication vehicle interesting for the largest number of our members, so unfortunately not all submissions will be accepted. Also contact Andrea for advertising possibilities.

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