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# NEWSLETTER Richardson Chamber

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



First class of Leadership Richardson

## [Leadership Richardson XXXV kicks off milestone year for program](#)

Back when parachute pants, big hair and shoulder pads were a thing, and we all sang along to "We Are the World," 35 future leaders were in the inaugural class of Leadership Richardson.

Today, Class XXXV, destined to be the best class ever, kicks off with 42 members eager to enhance their personal and organizational leadership skills, learn what makes a successful community and figure out how they can make a difference.

[Read more](#)

[LR Class XXXV list](#)  
[Learn more about Leadership Richardson](#)

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### Member profile: Alicia Makaye, Ph.D., GXA

Alicia is the co-founder of GXA (along with her husband and business partner, George). Currently, she is the vice president and a key decision maker who serves as a strategic business planner and advocate for the organization. With a background in human resources, she serves as the tri-chair on the HR committee as well as on the advisory board.

One of her most recent accomplishments -- Dallas Business Journal's Minority Business Leader honoree - acknowledges her work helping young African American women succeed in IT.

"Personally, as an African-American woman, I am stepping from behind the curtain into the light to demonstrate to other women that owning an IT company is attainable," she said. Being a member of the chamber is essential to that goal. "I am a member of the Richardson Chamber for three reasons," Alicia said. "Business growth, professional development opportunities and business legislative awareness."



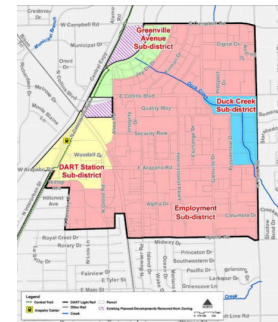
[Read more](#)

### Consultants: Rezoning Richardson's innovation district will unlock retail, housing and restaurant

*From Community Impact Newspapers*

An effort to rezone the 1,200-acre innovation district east of US 75 is in full swing. The primary goal of the initiative is to remove barriers imposed by current zoning regulations so that area can transform into a thriving center of business and innovation. Consultants are also proposing some residential development.

As of now, 90% of the district is zoned for industrial purposes, according to Planning Project Manager Doug McDonald. Outdoor dining, coworking space, events and festivals, hike and bike trails, art and sculptures, dog parks, natural amenities, restaurants facing Duck Creek and internet hubs were some of the wishlist items expressed by the public.



[Read more](#)

## [Rich Talk](#)

### [What is Rich Talk?](#)

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



[Listen](#)

### [Mayor Paul Voelker](#)

Mayor Voelker sits down and talks about his background in Richardson, and his approach to business relationships with the city. Part of the conversation is how Richardson develops interest from international companies, and why bringing in international companies is important. Mayor Voelker also talks about the planning that is being done for the city as a whole to develop areas of interest that can best serve various groups of citizenry and businesses. It's an exciting and cohesive look at the future of Richardson!



[Listen](#)



### **Blog**

#### [Leadership in the workplace: David Aaker says we can be better people in business](#)

*by Kory Aoyama, 2019 chairman of the board and account exec with BlueCross BlueShield*

David Aaker is well-known for his expertise in marketing and his ability to help businesses thrive and exceed their goals. His branding concepts, including identifying customers' interests and creating a community or story around those interests, has made him an icon in the business world. In a constantly evolving marketplace, David

Aaker's work can teach us to develop strong leadership in the workplace.

[Read more](#)

## [Member news](#)

- How to get on DBJ's list of best places to work
- Texas Instruments to delay \$3.2 billion expansion of its Richardson plant
- What will be the impact of new school finance legislation?
- Richland College student accepted into NASA community college aerospace program

[Read more](#)

### [Richardson in the news](#)

- Council elects mayor pro tem
- Main Street renewal project kicks off in downtown Richardson
- Revamp of Sears building, surrounding area approved
- Summer interns spend day of service at network
- GoFundMe set up to pay for highway signs honoring Richardson's slain police Officer David Sherrard
- Discovering 10 things to do in Richardson

[Read more](#)

### [Tech Titans announces finalists of 2019 awards](#)

Tech Titans, the largest technology trade association in Texas and the chamber's partner organization, has announced its 2019 finalists for the Tech Titans Awards.

The Tech Titans Awards recognize the elite in North Texas technology - individuals currently transforming the high-tech industry and giving companies competitive edges as well as companies leading the way in innovation and technical applications. The awards showcase the innovators, adopters and executors impacting the technology industry for the greater good.



This year's Gala will be Friday, Aug. 23 at Renaissance Dallas at Plano Legacy West.

[Read more](#)

### [Compassionate Richardson plans to assemble 100K meals for hungry children](#)

The Richardson Interfaith Alliance is hoping to prepare 100,000 meals to distribute in the community. We need your help to make it happen.

On Sunday, Sept. 8, a Feeding Children Everywhere meal bagging event will be from 12 to 5 p.m. at the Richardson Civic Center.



Individuals from local houses of worship, corporate entities, non-profit organizations and neighborhoods are needed to make a local impact on hunger.

[To donate and register](#)

### [Chuck Eisemann turns to sculpture](#)

[Former chamber exec turns long-running interest into hobby after retirement](#)

*from D Magazine*



You may know Chuck Eisemann's name from the eponymous performing arts center in Richardson. Or, from the management consulting firm he used to run. But you may not know that Eisemann is a talented sculptor who works exclusively in marble and alabaster.

"I just finished the Medici series on Netflix," Eisemann says with a beaming grin. "I've always loved Renaissance art. I really got fired up about the classic Greek and Roman artists while I was in the Army some number of years ago. I was in Greece, sitting and staring up at The Parthenon while reading The Agony and the Ecstasy. And it was magic."

[Read more](#)

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

Stake your claim and promote your business.

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

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

[Read more](#)





### New and renewing members

Please welcome our new and returning members from June.

#### New members

*Welcome! We're so glad to have you!*

LAN (Lockwood Andrews & Newnam)  
 The Reserve at North Dallas (COIT Senior Care, LLC)  
 Vila Brazil Restaurant  
 Perimeter Behavioral Hospital of Dallas  
 Brad Fuller - Texas Farm Bureau Insurance Co.

#### 40+ years

Monty Jackson

#### 20+ years

Super 8  
Heights Baptist Church

#### 10+ years

**President's Club**  
Fobare Commercial, L.P.

iStar Financial Inc.  
Assurnet Insurance Agency

#### 5+ years

**President's Club**  
Lute Riley Honda

Carbon Thompson, LLC  
Texas Roof Management Inc  
Photo Organizing Solutions  
Aboca's Italian Grill  
I Fratelli Pizza-Richardson

#### 1-4 years

Advanced ObGyn Associates  
Greentex Landscaping Inc.  
Meredith G. Davis, DDS  
Dallas Nursing Institute  
The Towers at Spring Creek  
Garland Behavioral Hospital

#### Submissions policy:

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

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