

# NRH NEWS & NOTES

## NRH Enforcing New School Zone and Seatbelt Laws

### No Cell Phones in School Zones

To help provide additional safety to school children, the City of North Richland Hills has joined other communities in enforcing a new state law that bans the use of hand-held cell phones in active school zones. Drivers who are using a hand-held cell phone in active school zones will face a maximum fine of \$200 for each offense. This includes engaging in calls by talking, dialing or listening on a hand-held mobile telephone, or by entering and reading text messages. Motorists are able to talk legally on their cell phones in school zones if they use hands-free devices or their vehicle is stopped. Drivers also may use their cell phones in certain emergency situations (as defined by state law).

### Seatbelts Required for All Passengers

Effective September 1, 2009, a new law passed by the Texas state legislature went into effect extending the seatbelt requirement to all backseat passengers, regardless of age. ALL persons riding in a vehicle equipped with seat belts are required to wear them according to manufacturer instructions, EVEN in the back seat. Additionally, all children under the age of 8 must be in an approved child safety seat unless the child is at least 4 feet, 9 inches tall.

Last year, the Texas Transportation Institute reported 91.24% safety belt usage in the state. For every percent increase in safety belt use, 25 fewer Texans will be killed in traffic crashes and another 586 will escape serious injury.

### Click It or Ticket Campaign

The Texas Department of Public Safety Click It or Ticket enforcement campaign is a high visibility enforcement effort designed to detect violators of safety belt and child safety seat laws in Texas. Young drivers are more likely to be hurt or killed in a traffic crash than any other age group, and most teens that die in crashes are not buckled up. That's why Texas is joining three other states in a stepped-up safety belt enforcement campaign targeted at 16- to 20-year-olds. Tarrant County is one of the top five counties in Texas in unbuckled teen fatalities, ages 16-20. The North Richland Hills Police Department has been selected to participate in this initiative. We will have extra officers focusing on gaining compliance on seat belt usage by teens during the months of October 2009, February 2010 and May 2010.

If you have questions regarding these enforcement efforts, contact the NRH Police Department at 817-427-7000.

### Welcome New Businesses

**Benjamin Franklin** (Plumbing Service)  
3819 Rufe Snow Drive #101, 817-284-2569

**Brightstar of NRH, TX** (Home Care)  
7505 Glenview Drive #152, 817-590-8900

**Cumberland Communications** (Wholesale Equipment) 5755 Carlisle Court #400,  
817-514-2699

**Fresh from the Oven** (Deli Shop)  
9001 Airport Freeway #150, 817-605-9989

**Janitorial Consultants** (Janitorial Service)  
5127 Davis Boulevard Ste. N, 682-552-9290

**Precision Construction/Roofing**  
6404 Davis Boulevard, 817-917-2276

**The Spalding Connection** (Promotional Products) 6513 Smithfield Road Ste. D,  
817-656-1050

**Sole Monster** (Retail/Shoes & Clothes)  
6517 Smithfield Ste. A & B, 817-605-7653

**Support local businesses  
and shop NRH first!**

### Police Department To Host Community Meeting

The NRH Police Department will host a community meeting on **Thursday, November 5** at 7 p.m. in the Birdville High School Cafeteria, 9100 Mid-Cities Blvd. This meeting is for residents living in Districts 5, 6 and 7, which includes neighborhoods north of Emerald Hills Way and north of Mid Cities Boulevard. Residents who attend will learn about Police Department services and law enforcement issues in their area. For more information, please visit [www.nrhtx.com/police](http://www.nrhtx.com/police) or call 817-427-7021.

### Family Friendly Halloween Events

**Hoot n' Howl at Green Valley Park** - Bring your little ghosts and goblins out for an evening of fun at the 6th Annual Hoot n' Howl. This event will be held from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. on October 31 at Green Valley Park, 7701 Smithfield Road. Hoot n' Howl activities include free carnival games, bounce houses, hayrides, storytelling, a costume contest and more. This annual event is a safe alternative to trick or treating. For more details, call 817-427-6600 or visit [www.nrhtx.com](http://www.nrhtx.com).

**Halloween Fun at the Library** - Bring your costumed kids to the NRH Public Library from 1 p.m. to 2 p.m. on October 31 and trick-or-treat at each library department. Then, stay for the free showing of *Coraline* (PG) in the Community Room at 2 p.m. There will be nachos and hot-dogs for sale, and free popcorn! The Library is located at 9015 Grand Ave. Call 817-427-6814 for more details.

Watch Citicable NRH online at [www.nrhtx.com](http://www.nrhtx.com).

## Volunteers Needed for Night of Holiday Magic

Are you interested in giving back to your community? Try volunteering! The Night of Holiday Magic volunteer coordinator is now accepting applications for our 2009 holiday event which will be held from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m. on Saturday, December 5. More than 200 volunteers are needed to ensure this event runs smoothly. A variety of volunteer opportunities exist.

The 2009 Night of Holiday Magic will be held on the grounds of NRH<sub>2</sub>O Family Water Park. Activities will include photos with Santa and Mrs. Claus, the tree lighting and fireworks display, a marshmallow roast, holiday market, puppet show, children's train rides, children's arts and crafts, musical entertainment and much more. In addition to the festivities on December 5, photos with Santa and the Holiday Scenes will be open from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. December 9-13.

If your group is interested in volunteering for Night of Holiday Magic, please contact Elizabeth Reining at 817-427-6015 or email [ereining@nrhtx.com](mailto:ereining@nrhtx.com).

## NRH Residents Eligible for Discounts on Flood Insurance

*Did you know?* In order for property owners within a City to be able to purchase flood insurance, the City has to be a member of the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP).

North Richland Hills has been a member of the NFIP since the mid-1980's. In addition, North Richland Hills has met specific floodplain management requirements to be included in the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Community Rating System (CRS) program. The City's membership in this program means NRH property owners can obtain flood insurance at a discounted rate.

Communities in the CRS program are rated on a scale of 1 to 10, with Class 1 being the most desirable and Class 10 being entry level. The City of North Richland Hills' status within the CRS program was recently upgraded from a Class 7 to a Class 6. With the recent upgrade, only 4 communities within the State of Texas have a higher CRS rating than North Richland Hills.

The upgrade increases the discount on flood insurance policies for all residents within NRH. The discount for flood insurance policies for properties located within the floodplain increased from 15% to 20%, and the discount for preferred risk policies for properties located outside of the floodplain increased from 5% to 10%. NRH residents will be eligible for the increased discount with the renewal of their flood insurance policy.

If you have questions or would like more information, contact the Public Works Department at 817-427-6400.

## Upcoming Events

### Project Warmth

Keep NRH Beautiful is partnering with the BISD Clothes Connection and Cornerstone Assistance Network to provide those in need in our community with warm coats and blankets this winter. Please clean out your closets and drop off your extra, gently used, winter coats and blankets at the NRH Neighborhood Services Department, 7200-C Dick Fisher Drive S. Donations may be dropped off **November 1 - 15** between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. Coat and blanket donations should be in good condition, with working fasteners and no rips or stains.

### Veterans Day Celebration

The City of North Richland Hills invites you to attend the annual Veterans Day Celebration on **Wednesday, November 11** at Liberty Park, which is the site of our Veterans Monument. The Veterans Day Celebration will honor all those that have served our country. The ceremony will begin at 11 a.m. Liberty Park is located at 5825 Holiday Lane. For more information, please call the Parks & Recreation Department at 817-427-6620.

### Northeast Recycles Day Flea Market

In an ongoing effort to promote recycling and reuse, the Northeast Recycles Day Flea Market will be held on **Saturday, November 14** from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the ATI Career Training Center, 6351 Boulevard 26. Vendors will be selling used items at bargain prices! Shoppers may also drop off unwanted electronic equipment such as computers, printers, monitors, cameras, etc. for recycling. There will also be on-site paper shredding from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. only for unwanted documents. To register as a vendor in the flea market or for more information call 817-427-6651 or e-mail [dyork@nrhtx.com](mailto:dyork@nrhtx.com).

### Holiday Closings, Trash Schedule

North Richland Hills City Hall and other non-emergency offices will be closed on Thursday and Friday, **November 26 and 27** for the Thanksgiving Holiday. Duncan Disposal will not provide garbage and recycling collections on Thanksgiving Day. **Thursday's collections will be made on Friday and Friday's collections will be made on Saturday.**

### Water Conservation Reminder

North Richland Hills city ordinance prohibits outdoor watering from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., except when watering by hand or soaker hose. Irrigation systems should be set to operate in the early morning or late evening, when the sun and temperatures are less likely to cause evaporation.