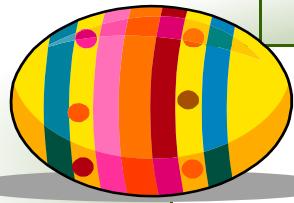


March 2006



# THE BUZZ



A Publication of the University Estates North Homeowners Association



Volume 6, Addition 1

*Bee-lieve in Your Neighborhood!*Find your electronic copy of **The Buzz** at [www.uenha.org](http://www.uenha.org) !

## Upcoming Events

- Trash Bash — April 1
- Annual Easter Egg Hunt — April 8.
- Night Out At The Ballgame — Frisco Roughriders Game - May 5
- Wildflower Festival — May 19-21.

### The President's Podium



### Spring 2006

As 2006 is well underway, so is your Board. We have already met once this year to set our sights for a wonderful and exciting year. We have a lot planned for our neighborhood, and I hope you will get as excited about it as we are.

Right around the corner is the Annual Easter Egg Hunt, set for Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup>, at the Richardson's Woman's Club. Read about it in this Buzz.

I hope everyone is ready for

spring, because it started March 20<sup>th</sup>, and we are going to a baseball game! Yes, we are going to see the Roughriders again, this time will be Friday, May 5. We are getting behind third base seating this time, and your UENHA is picking up  $\frac{1}{2}$  the cost again for up to the first 6 tickets. Read more about it in this Buzz.

We are already  $\frac{1}{4}$  the way through the year and summer is right around the corner. Get those bikes in shape for the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> Parade that will be coming up on Tuesday July 4<sup>th</sup>. More information will follow on this later.

Then there is always the Annual National Night Out, held in August every year. Last year we had the best turnout ever, everyone had plenty to eat, and we had a



lot of fun just meeting all of your neighbors. More information on this event will follow also. So remember that your homeowner's association is hard at work, wanting to keep your neighborhood the best neighborhood one could possibly live in. UENHA is asking for your continued support, so let's all participate with all of your activities!

Thanks to all of you that already help to keep UENHA as good as it already is, and welcome to those of you that wish to help and continue to see UENHA prosper. See you this year at your neighborhood events!

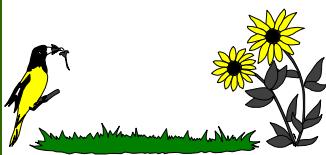
Thank you.

*David Roffino*



### Inside this Issue:

<b>Upcoming Events</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>The President's Podium</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>2005 Sleigh Ride Party</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Annual Holiday Yard Awards</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>UENHA 2006 Directory</b>	<b>2</b>
<b>Crime Watch Special</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Graffiti</b>	<b>3</b>
<b>Yards of the Months</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Neighborhood Sponsors</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Member Ads</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>On the L@@K Out!</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Web site—UENHA.ORG</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>Annual Festival of Lights</b>	<b>5</b>



# *Spring into fun...in 2006!!*

## *Health & Safety*

### **Laugh More, Live Healthier**

**L**aughter really is the best medicine. Laughing a mere 15 minutes daily – whether it be giggling, chuckling or roaring with laughter - has been proven to effectively lower your blood pressure, decrease stress and tension, boost your energy, elevate your mood and rev up your blood flow.

If you need a little stress relief or a quick energy boost, find something to give you a little chuckle or better yet, a strong bout of laughter - after all, it's good for you!

Keep YOUR neighborhood the best place in the world to live and play! See [www.uenha.org](http://www.uenha.org) for more photos.



### **Trash Bash!**

Keep your neighborhood the best place to live and play! Join us Saturday, April 1 from 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. Meet at Yale and Chestnut Hill to pick up around Campbell and Jupiter. Bring your work gloves, and be ready to help!

Visit [www.uenha.org](http://www.uenha.org)

### **2006 Slate of Officers**

President **David Roffino**

Vice President **David Frank**

Secretary **Julie Southward**

Treasurer **Brenda Conkel**

Committee chairs will be selected by the officers at the next board meeting. These committees are Civic Liaison, Socials, Newsletter, Beautification, Yard of the Month, and Crime Watch.. Please contact any officer to indicate your interest in one of these committees.

### **UENHA 2006**

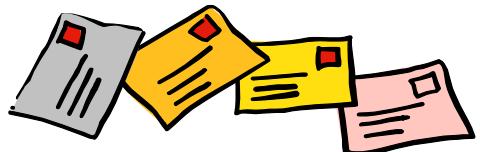
### **We want to hear from you!**

Sign up NOW and pay your \$20.00 dues. Membership form is included with this newsletter.

Send your dues to : Brenda Conkel, Treasurer 2001 North Cliffe  
Keep abreast of all events, crime watch information and all matters pertinent to our subdivision. Join by Jan. 31, 2006 to be included in the 2006 UENHA Directory!



*The association roster is to be considered private property and may not be used, given away, or sold for any purpose other than for association activities.*





## January 6, 2006

### What's New . . .

On February 8, I was appointed Joint Chair of the **Study Commission on Transportation Financing**. The panel is composed of nine members, with the Lt. Governor, Speaker of the House, and Governor each appointing three members. The panel was created by SB 1713, 79th Legislature, and is charged with reviewing the state motor fuels tax, the current sources for funding rail transportation projects, and all other financing options for all modes of transportation. The study commission will hold hearings and issue a report to the Legislature prior to the next regular session.

**The Senate Transportation and Homeland Security Committee and Senate Finance Committee** held a joint hearing on March 1 to discuss the committees' joint charges, which direct the committees to review the process by which the Texas Department of Transportation funds transportation projects and determine how certain transportation projects will be funded following reduced federal funding. During the hearing, the committee heard from Ric Williamson, chair of the Texas Transportation Commission, who said that Texas is facing an \$86 billion shortfall in funding transportation projects through 2030 because of population growth and the diversion of gas tax revenue at the state and federal levels.

Also on March 1, the **Senate Health and Human Services Committee** held a hearing to discuss the implementation of HB 2292, from the 78th Legislature, which restructured the state's health and human services agencies and how those services are delivered. The committee heard testimony from the heads of the state's five health and human services agencies regarding the challenges and successes of the restructuring. During his testimony, Eduardo Sanchez, Com-

missioner of the Department of State Health Services, said that the consolidation of the agencies allowed the state to have a faster, more efficient response to the victims of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita.

**The Texas Tax Reform Commission** continued to hold hearings this past month, visiting Texarkana, Abilene, Nacogdoches, and Midland. The committee just held a hearing on March 6, and will hold its final scheduled hearing on March 8 in Houston. Expect details of their recommendations to be released soon after the conclusion of the committee's hearings.

**The Senate Select Committee on Education Reform and Public School Finance** also held hearings during February, in preparation for the upcoming special session. During the two hearings, the committee focused on education reform, taking testimony from teachers, superintendents, and professionals. The testimony focused on a wide range of topics including improving the efficiency of public schools, the effect of teacher quality, improving post secondary success and college readiness. The committee's next hearing is scheduled for March 21.

Recent news articles have indicated that Governor Rick Perry will likely **limit the call of the upcoming special session** to a revision of the state's tax system in order to reduce local property taxes by increasing state funding for public education. Consideration of education reforms, however, would be postponed until the next regular session. While the Governor has not yet called the special session, it is expected to be called for early April.

**Lt. Governor David Dewhurst and Speaker of the House Tom Craddick have directed the Health and Human Services Commission** to redirect \$122 million in funds already appropriated to the agency. This money will allow the state to receive nearly \$127 million in federal funds. The funds will be used to increase Medicaid's nursing home reimbursements, restore the "personal needs allowance"

to \$60 a month for certain nursing home residents, and reopen closed wings at state mental health hospitals. The increased funding to nursing homes and personal needs allowance are retroactive to January 1, 2006.

As I reported in last month's Email Update, I was recently named chair of the **Senate Committee on Transportation and Homeland Security**. This month, I would like to give you a better understanding of the work the committee will do, both before and during the next regular session. In the coming months the committee will hold hearings to discuss and take testimony on the **committee's interim charges**. Among the issues the Lt. Governor has directed the committee to review are the safety of the state's transportation facilities; the effectiveness of Texas' recently enacted homeland security legislation; and the ability of the state to build, maintain, and relocate rail facilities. Upon the conclusion of these hearings, the committee is directed to issue a report on its findings by December 1, 2006. These reports are often the basis for bills filed during the regular session.

### Did You Know □?

The North Texas Crime Commission is sponsoring "Scam Jam 2006," a fraud prevention seminar featuring local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies. Participants will learn how they can protect themselves from identity theft, and Internet, health care, elder, and counterfeit fraud. The seminar will be held April 1, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m., at the Dallas Convention Center, 650 S. Griffin.

### Student Opportunities □

Texas Association of Developing Colleges is administering the Urban Scholarship Fund Program, which is for graduating high school seniors and returning college students attending any accredited nonprofit public or independent two- or four-year college or university or technical school. For eligibility requirements and to download an application go to [www.txadc.org](http://www.txadc.org).

Sincerely,

John Carona  
State Senator - District 16  
[www.carona.senate.state.tx.us](http://www.carona.senate.state.tx.us)

## On the L@@K Out!

In the past few weeks, per city crime watch reports, we have seen increased incidences of crime in our neighborhood, from house and garage burglaries, to suspicious vehicles driving down alleyways. I contacted Richardson Crime Prevention Officer, David Spigelmyer, to request his recommendations on what we can do to nip this in the bud. His response was as follows:

"You can purchase additional crime watch signs to make sure all access ways into your neighborhood are posted. The patrol officers are aware of areas that have been getting hit recently, and they do try to cover all these areas, but we really need an increase in citizen involvement and observations. If folks who are home could get out more and walk or drive around the

neighborhood and report any suspicious activity that would be a great help. Keeping windows open and looking outside more would also help. Removing valuables from the cars to include garage door openers is a big help, and if homeowners have expensive jewelry they may want to consider a safe deposit box at the bank or keep jewelry someplace other than the master bedroom/bath areas where most bad guys run to first. We have one reserve officer, and our VIP's do hit certain areas, but an increase in citizen involvement is the key to curbing this problem."

Please take the time to incorporate some of these recommendations into your day; you will be doing a great service to our neighborhood. Let's all do our part to "Take a Bite out of Crime!"

Martha Feeley, Crime Watch Coordinator

## Yards of the Month

*Doc Daughety*

A home in each of the four sections will be selected each month through July. In September, yards will be selected for fall color. Then in October, Halloween decorations will be judged. November's selections will be based on Thanksgiving decorations. And finally, December will be judged based on Holiday Lights and Decorations.

If anyone would like to assume responsibility for choosing Yards of The Month, please call Doc Daughety at 972-234-5481.

**Section I:** Portsmouth Dr, Campbell Pkwy and Fairfax Cir  
**2103 Portsmouth (Oct)**

**Section 2:** Brandeis from Campbell Trail, Drew Lane, Bellevue, Ridge Creek Drive, Star Crest, and North Cliffe  
**2105 Drew (Oct)**

**Section 3:** Brandeis Drive to Campbell Trail, Campbell Trail, Normandy Drive, Chestnut Hill to Main Entrance  
**1701 Chestnut Hill (Oct)**

**Section 4:** Briarwick Court, Sky Ridge Creek, Oakwood Drive, Ridge Creek Drive from North Cliff, Chestnut Hill Lane from Entrance right to North Cliff  
**2105 Briarwick Court (Oct)**

Please keep an eye out for any fire ant mounds on your property. If everyone treats with an approved fire ant killer, the outdoors will be much safer for all of us to enjoy. Also, if you need any help with landscape projects, but don't know who to contact, give the Dallas County Agricultural Extension Office at call at 214-904-3053. They will be happy to give you names of reputable business people.

Find us on the web!  
[www.uenha.org](http://www.uenha.org)

## Neighborhood Sponsors

### Your AD Here!

\$20 - Business card size ad  
\$30 - 1/4 page ad  
\$40 - 1/2 page ad  
\$50 - whole page ad



**Renee Brown**  
(214) 924-1033 cell

*Your University  
Estates Specialist!*

Keller Williams®  
REALTY



WEB site—UENHA.ORG

*Eliot Johnston*

If you would like to advertise here, please submit your request to:  
[normandy@dhc.net](mailto:normandy@dhc.net) by September 15 for October issue.

If you have something newsworthy for **The Buzz** email [normandy@dhc.net](mailto:normandy@dhc.net)

To change your email address on record with the UENHA (add, update or delete) please call Donna Shepherd at 972-231-8351 or email Donna at: [normandy@dhc.net](mailto:normandy@dhc.net)



**Hippity...Hoppity Hippity...Hoppity**

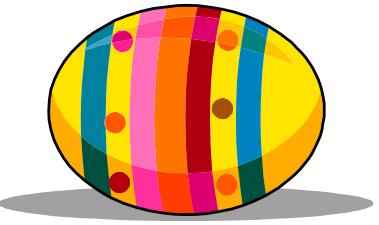


**Hey, boys and girls...** its almost time once again for The Annual Easter Egg Hunt! Come on down to the prettiest park in Richardson to enjoy a nice morning of gathering as many eggs filled with goodies as you can.. *April 8 is the date*, and dont be late. We will start *gathering at 10:15 a.m. and the hunt will*

**start promptly at 10:30 a.m.** It will conclude about 10:34. Nahjust kidding. For those who do come early, we have a few activities for you: A Rubber Ducky race, decorating a picture frame to hold your picture at this event, or a craft activity to take home with you. Be sure to bring you basket, and tell mom or dad to bring a camera. As always, you will be hunting with kiddos your own age, and the stuffed animal petting farm will be there again for the under all those under 2 cutie-pa-two-ties. Wish for good weather, fast feet, a keen eye, and quick hands.

See you there,

**E. Bunny**



For more information call 972-234-1332 or e-mail [janneher@comcast.net](mailto:janneher@comcast.net)