



### **Wishing You and Your Family a Happy and Healthy Christmas and New Year!**

From the entire Parks and Recreation Team, we wish you a Merry Christmas & Happy New Year. Your commitment and dedication to the NRH community and the support you give to Parks and Recreation makes our community a better place! We appreciate each one of you, and want to wish you and your family a joyous and healthy holiday. May the peace, love and joy of the season surround you and yours!

**Gary Bechthold Retires After 22 Years with NRH Parks and Recreation**—Park Superintendent, Gary Bechthold is retiring at the end of this month after 22 years of dedicated service to the NRH Community. During Gary's tenure with the Parks and Recreation Department, he established countless professional operating standards and best practices that have recognized the NRH Park system as one of the best in the country! His care and stewardship of the community's most natural resources, as well as his leadership and development of NRH Park Operations team, have been significant hallmarks of his career with NRH. The parks team is his legacy and our community is better for it. We know he is ready to enjoy family, travel and trying to catch those fish that keep jumping off the line. Help us say thank you to Gary on a well-earned retirement.



**NRH Holiday Lighting Along Hawk Displayed Through January 2**—Don't forget that the array of holiday lighting along Hawk Avenue, Grand Avenue and City Point Drive that were turned on the day after Thanksgiving are on each evening through January 2 and is a wonderful sight to drive through. Holiday photo opportunities are also available in the outdoor plaza area of the NRH Centre, 6000 Hawk Avenue. The Holiday Lights and photo opportunities will be displayed through January 2, 2022 for the community to enjoy.



**All Outdoor Restrooms and Water Fountains Closed This Weekend**—Due to the extended period of cold weather and freezing temps in the forecast, beginning Thursday, December 22 all NRH Park Restrooms are currently closed and water fountains will be turned off. The restrooms will reopen as soon as the weather allows. During the winter months we open and close the outdoor restrooms as needed.

**NRH Parks and Recreation Adopts Family for Christmas**—Numerous departments within the City of North Richland Hills have long participated in the Christmas Providers Adopt-a Family Program each year to help give back to our own community. Each participating department is matched with an adopt-a family to help provide this family with a special holiday. The Parks and Recreation Department this year adopted a family with a mother and 5 children and delivered both gifts and food donations on December 19. This is the spirit of the season that embodies the NRH team and we are so fortunate to be able to share and care for other. We love giving back to the community we serve!



**NRH Parks and Recreation Partners with Sky Elements for NRH Toy Drive and Drone Show**—As a special gift for the community, we partnered with Sky Elements on the largest drone show in Texas with 1001 drones on Sunday, December 18. The 10-minute visual spectacle was free and people enjoyed it from their car in the parking lot of the Birdville Fine Arts Complex. People were asked to bring a new unwrapped toy for the NRH Toy Drive, benefiting the Community Enrichment Center for needy families in our own community. The tickets for the free event sold out within 48 hours of being posted. You can see a recap of the show here: <https://fb.watch/hAvYzP6OwL/>.

Thank you to Birdville ISD for the location and parking, NRH Mayor & City Council, NRH Park and Recreation Board, our NRH City Management and NRH PD and Fire for all of their support with the event. Also, thank you to NRH Parks and Recreation Staff for coordinating the event and the toy pick up and drop off! Over 1000 toys were collected.

**NRH Facility Holiday Closings**—NRH Parks and Recreation Facility Holiday Hours:

NRH Parks and Recreation facilities will have closings and varied hours for the Christmas and New Year's holidays. The list below provides a general overview. Please visit the facility websites for a complete listing.

- Richland Tennis Center Closed: December 23-26; Regular hours resume: December 27; Closed January 1.
- NRH Senior Center Closed: December 23, December 26 and January 2
- NRH Grand Hall Closed: December 23-26; December 31 and January 1
- NRH Centre Closed: December 23-25; Regular hours resume: December 26; Holiday Hours: December 31, 7 am-1 pm and January 1, 10 am-6 pm <https://www.nrhcentre.com/holiday-hours>

**NRH Centre**—The NRH Centre has developed a turn-of-the-year membership special that was sent out via direct mail prior to the start of the Thanksgiving holiday. The 2023 New Year's promotion will run from November 2022 – February 2023 highlighting:

- 10% off all paid-in-full memberships for new and renewing members.
- 6-month Individual and Family Membership Options
- Free Two-Week Trial for those NRH residents that are not currently members and would like to try the facility before they commit to a membership.

**Richland Tennis Center Annual Toys for Tennis Drive**—Richland Tennis Center had a great turnout of participants that came out and played in the 2022 Annual Toys For Tennis tournament on December 11. Through their generous donations, RTC was able to donate over 100 toys to the Community Enrichment Center in North Richland Hills. It was a great day for some tennis and toy donations!



**NRH2O Family Water Park**—NRH<sub>2</sub>O has revamped the 2023 Season Passes made with the guests in mind for a guarantee of a summer full of good, clean fun at DFW's #1 Water Park! Purchase your 2023 NRH<sub>2</sub>O Season Pass on sale today and receive double or even triple the benefits compared to other water parks! Visit us to see all the amazing perks pass holders receive at [www.nrh2o.com/passes](http://www.nrh2o.com/passes).

**NRH Christmas Tree Lighting Thursday, December 1**—NRH kicked off the Christmas season with the NRH Christmas Tree Lighting held on Thursday, December 1 from 6 p.m. – 8 p.m. in Stormy Plaza Park, 9010 Grand Avenue. The event was filled with the lights and sounds of the holiday season and included a traditional tree lighting, Christmas music and holiday crafts coordinated by the NRH Library. For a festive warm treat, the Friends of the NRH Library sold hot chocolate and CPAAA sold popcorn and water. Of course, Santa was a big hit, as well as the Holiday Drone Show high in the sky!



**Annual NRH Run Run Rudolph Family Fun 5K Run/Walk was on December 3**—The annual Run Run Rudolph 5K event that provides a great opportunity for families and friends to share their holiday spirit and enjoy fitness and fun was held on December 3. The run benefited the NRH Animal Adoption & Rescue Center. Over 200 participants dressed in festive holiday attire and had lots of fun! The run began at the NRH Centre, 6000 Hawk Avenue. <https://fb.watch/hAyua5NDDr/>.

If you have any questions, or for more information, please contact 817-427-6620.