

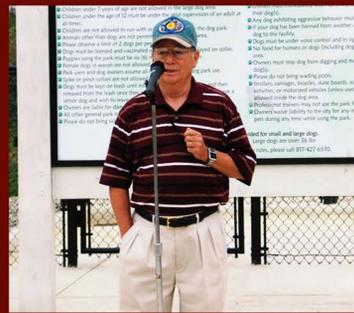
TIPPS CANINE HOLLOW



Fred & Ethel Entry Sign



Mayor Tommy Brown & Don Tipps at Richfield Park



Don Tipps Speaking at the Ribbon-Cutting



Ribbon-Cutting for Tipps Canine Hollow Dog Park

The Tipps Family

When Don and Doris Tipps moved their family to North Richland Hills in 1968, the city's landscape was quite different than it is today. At that time, Loop 820 had just been completed, the land north of the loop was mostly pastures and open fields, and Rufe Snow Drive was just a two-lane road. Don and Doris moved to this once-rural area to begin their careers as educators in the Birdville Independent School District. Additionally, their two children, Donie and Tracye, both attended Richland High School.

Don Tipps began his 35 year career in education with B.I.S.D. as an art teacher, with the last 23 years as a counselor at Richland High School, until he retired in 1994. While employed at Richland High, Don volunteered to draw a mural for the city and allowed the art students throughout the district to paint it. The mural was then placed at City Hall where it was showcased for many years.

Continuing his community involvement, Mr. Tipps joined the NRH Park & Recreation Board in 1980 when Richfield, Northfield, Norich, and Fossil Creek were the only four parks in the entire city. After eight years as a board member, Don was elected chairman, maintaining this position for the next ten years. As a member of the Park & Recreation Board, Don Tipps supported the development of the half-cent sales tax to fund the park system. This helped establish many well-known parks and facilities including: NRH₂O Family Waterpark, Richland Tennis Center, Green Valley Community Park, and Walker's Creek Park. While Mr. Tipps served as chairman, NRH park space tripled in size. In 1998, he decided to retire from the Park & Recreation Board and take a few years off before offering his expertise and services as a member of the NRH Library Board.

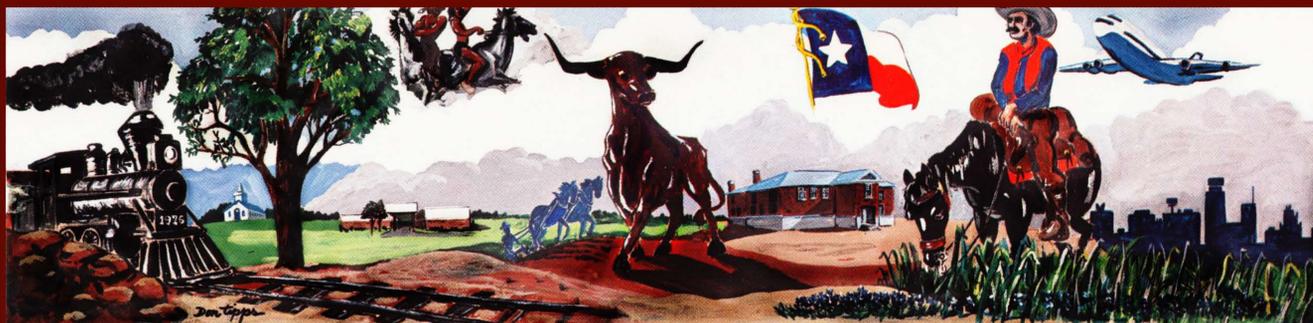
Additionally, Doris and Tracye Tipps were also very involved and active in the community. Doris taught business education at Richland Junior High for many years and retired as a principal at Smithfield Middle School. She was a long-time member of Keep NRH Beautiful and was an advocate and member of many community projects, such as the construction of the Adventure World Playground; the largest community-built playground in the area. After graduating from Richland High School, Tracye attended and graduated from Texas A&M University and then taught in the Birdville School District. She then became a flight attendant with Southwest Airlines, where she was employed for over twenty years. In 2003, after doing extensive research and visiting other dog parks, Tracye spoke before the Park & Recreation Board and the City Council to advocate for a dog park in North Richland Hills. Three years later, in June 2006, Tipps Canine Hollow Dog Park officially opened.



Newspaper clippings and Tracye's proposal to NRH

In honor of his family's community involvement and Don's many years of service and contributions to the City of North Richland Hills, this dog park was named Tipps Canine Hollow in 2006.

NRH
PARKS & RECREATION



North Richland Hills Heritage Mural by Don Tipps



Doris, Don & Tracye Tipps