

# RICHLAND NEWS

Richland Homeowners Association Newsletter • P.O. Box 852636, Richardson, Texas 75085-2636 • www.richlandhoa.com

As Summer comes to an end, Fall appears to be following nicely with welcoming milder temperatures.



What better time to start some projects around your house — whether it's to the kitchen, bathroom, yard, or replacing your old fence. Did you know the City of Richardson offers an incentive to fix up your home? That means more money back in your pocket! You can read about it on page 4.



Fun times don't have to end with Summer. You don't want to miss *National Night Out* on October 4th at Richland Park or RHA *Movie in the Park* night that is being hosted by the RHA on October 15!

If that is not enough "facetime", you can always throw a block party like the neighbors on Wentworth did (page 8). Thanks to our RHA Board and neighbors for contributing ideas and articles to the newsletter.



*Enjoy the Fall edition!*



## 2016 CALENDAR

### SEPTEMBER

- 22 Fall Begins
- 30 State Fair of Texas

### OCTOBER

- 1-2 Cottonwood Art Festival
- 4 National Night Out
- 15 RHA Movie in the Park
- 31 Halloween

### NOVEMBER

- 8 Election Day
- 10 RHA General Meeting
- 11 Veterans Day
- 24 Thanksgiving Day



Be sure and follow us on:

**Twitter:** @RichlandHOA

**Facebook:** <https://m.facebook.com/RichlandHOA>

**Website:** [www.richlandhoa.com](http://www.richlandhoa.com) or scan the QR Code with your QR code reader to the left to take you there!

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## Please Support our Advertisers!

Most are Richland Park or Richland Oaks residents. Their support of the newsletter pays for printing and distribution. See pages 16-24.

## RHA OFFICERS/CHAIRS

### 2016 OFFICERS

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#### Vice President

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Richland Homeowners Association  
Richland Park and Richland Oaks Community

### DEAR RICHLAND HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERS,

As we transition from summer to fall, your RHA officers and board have been busy planning two events for everyone to enjoy in October. Activities chair, David Kirkland, has arranged for live music and a food truck during the 2016 *National Night Out* on Tuesday, October 4 from 5:00-8:00 p.m. Please come out and support the Richardson Police Officers; we have the finest officers in the Metroplex!



Mark your calendars and join us on Saturday, October 15 at 7:00 p.m. for the Richland Homeowners Association *Movie in the Park*. *Star Wars The Force Awakens* (PG) will be shown in the park close to Richland Elementary. I'm sure we have a lot of Star Wars fans in the neighborhood.

Carolee Clifford, Barry Propes and Khalid Hussain are working on the new membership directory and the RHA web site. These are big jobs and they have spent many hours working on these projects. We want to deliver a new directory by the end of this year.

If you have considered getting involved with the Richland Homeowners Association, this would be a great time to do so. We will hold elections during the general meeting in November. Whether you have a lot of time to devote or are interested in certain events or committees, please consider running for the board or volunteering for a committee.

*Hope to see all of you on October 4 for National Night Out!*



Respectfully,  
Becky Jones, President, RHA  
[President@richlandhoa.com](mailto:President@richlandhoa.com)

**RHA GENERAL MEETING AND BOARD ELECTIONS  
NOVEMBER 10, 2016, 6:30 P.M. AT RICHLAND PARK ELEMENTARY**



## CRIME WATCH REPORT

Richland Homeowners Association  
Richland Park and Richland Oaks Community

### HELLO NEIGHBORS!

I hope everyone had a great summer. I know we did here in Richland Park and Oaks, because crime (knock on wood) is so far down for our area, the Richland Police Department (RPD) wants to know what we are doing. We have had only one attempted burglary. Mostly what we have had is items stolen from vehicles, and those would not have happened if the doors had been locked and contents had been removed from the car.

Our biggest problem right now is mail theft, and packages taken off the front porch after UPS, Fedex, or USPS leaves them. Sometimes they ring the doorbell, or knock on the door, and other times they don't.

*Here is what I am asking from you.* There are a lot of you that work from home and others are retired. When you see or hear the UPS truck go by your house, look to see if anyone is following them. This can take a few minutes, so if you can maybe stand in your front window or on your front porch and see if anyone is stealing packages. Get a description of car and occupants and call 911 at once. You can even holler at them, let them know someone is watching and maybe they will go somewhere else.

This is our neighborhood and we have to look out for it. RPD, as good as they are, are still 5 minutes away. We have to **STOP** these guys. It is really getting out of hand. This is part of a new plan for Crime Watch that we hope to kick off at *National Night Out*, so plan to attend on Tuesday October 4th in the park from 5:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. There will be a food truck, Rick's Smoke House BBQ, and the HOA will supply water. Bring unexpired canned goods and receive a t-shirt while supplies last.

Bob McClure, Crime Watch Coordinator  
214.763.0589 • [crimewatchone@yahoo.com](mailto:crimewatchone@yahoo.com)



### Richland Park and Richland Meadow's Personal Officer

**Ed Coleman** [214.282.0843]

*Provided by the COR for our protection.*

This dedicated police presence helps residents by deterring crime and providing another way to watch over the neighborhood. Call Officer Coleman for general assistance, to report minor or unusual activities, or cars on the street.

**For Emergencies, continue to call 911.**

## CRIME WATCH VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

The Richland Park/Oaks Crime Watch needs more volunteers to help patrol our neighborhood. We have fairly good coverage during the daytime, but are in need of help for nighttime. Unfortunately, late night is when we experience most of our problems. Therefore, we need more volunteers at night, every day of the week. This is a great way to get out, meet new people, learn new things and experience something different in life.

In order to join the Crime Watch Patrol, you will need to fill out an *application form* which we submit to the Richardson Police Department. The police will run a criminal background check on each applicant. Once all the paperwork has been cleared, the applicant will receive about six hours of training. All new applicants will also be assigned a patrol partner.

Crime Watch Patrols are extremely effective because criminals do not want to get caught by anyone, police or otherwise. So when you put those reflective signs on your cars and patrol the neighborhood, the bad guys tend to go some place else. The problem is we need to maintain these patrols at all hours in order to keep crime away.

Each shift usually consists of one and half hours of patrol time every other week (total of 3 hours per month.) The two shifts where we need the most help are evenings (7 p.m. to midnight) and deep nights (midnight to 6:00 a.m.).

# HOME IMPROVEMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The City of Richardson is proud to offer the Home Improvement Incentive Program. This unique and innovative program is designed to provide an economic incentive to homeowners who substantially reinvest in their home. The purpose of the program is to:

- Encourage reinvestment in residential neighborhoods
- Help distinguish Richardson from surrounding communities by providing an economic incentive to prospective buyers
- Positively affect the value of the City's housing stock
- Lower the financial hurdle for homeowners to make significant improvements to their homes
- Demonstrate a strong commitment by the City to reinvest in residential neighborhoods

## ELIGIBILITY

All homeowners in single-family zoned areas are eligible to participate, except those who are delinquent in taxes or other fees.

To qualify, an improvement project involving the reconstruction or remodeling of a single family home must cost at least \$20,000 and be completed within 24 months of project approval.

To participate, a homeowner will be required to submit an application to the Community Services Department prior to construction beginning, provide a cost estimate for the improvement project, consent to periodic inspections during construction and verify final construction costs.

If an application is approved, the homeowner will be required to execute an

economic development agreement with the city prepared and approved by the city attorney.

## INCENTIVE PAYMENT

A one-time incentive equal to 10 times the amount of the increase in city taxes will be paid to the homeowner based on the property's pre-construction and post-construction appraised value. The appraisal district will determine the property's certified value.

The incentive will be paid to the homeowner pursuant to the economic development agreement on April 1 of the first full calendar year subsequent to completion of the approved project.



## EXAMPLE

Assume that a home improvement project commences in January 2016 and is completed in June 2016. Further assume that the 2017 property taxes increase \$300 above the 2016 property taxes as a result of the increase in the taxable value of the improvements. The total incentive would be \$3,000 and would be paid on April 1, 2018.

**Note:** Your incentive payment may result in federal income tax consequences.

...continued on page 5.

Home Improvement Incentive Program continued from page 4.



You should consult your own tax advisor. All or a portion of your incentive payment may constitute taxable income regardless of whether you receive a Form 1099-MISC from the City. If the amount of your incentive payment is \$600 or more, you may receive Internal Revenue Service Form 1099-MISC from the City. To apply for the Home Improvement Incentive Program go to [www.cor.gov](http://www.cor.gov) and download the HIIP Application.



If you have any questions regarding these requirements, please contact Community Services at 972-744-4180 or email your questions or concerns to [Lindsay.turman@cor.gov](mailto:Lindsay.turman@cor.gov) or [Stephanie.pennington@cor.gov](mailto:Stephanie.pennington@cor.gov). Regular office hours are Monday through Friday from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m.

## BRUSH AND BULKY ITEM COLLECTION

Have you recently trimmed your trees? Are you considering replacing appliances or worn out furniture? Before you set these items outside, there are a couple of things you should know. To help residents dispose of brush and large bulky items, the City offers several waste disposal options including Brush and Bulky Item Collection or BABIC. BABIC is designed to assist residents with the disposal of large amounts of brush or other large bulky items.

Although BABIC is a free service, a homeowner or resident must request collection prior to placing an item on the parkway for collection. Requests for collection service can be made 24-hours a day, 7 days a week by leaving a voice-mail message at (972) 744-4111 or completing an on-line request at [www.cor.net](http://www.cor.net).

## BABIC GUIDELINES

1. Your BABIC pickup is Monday.
2. Request for a BABIC pick up must be made by 12:00 midnight the night before your designated pick-up day.
3. The items to be collected are out by 7:00 am the morning of collection.
4. Bricks, concrete, and dirt CANNOT be picked up – these items must be taken to: 121 Regional Disposal Facility, 3820 Sam Rayburn Highway, Melissa, TX 75454, (972) 295-6380, Monday – Friday: 8:00 am – 5:00 pm, Saturday: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm.
5. Hazardous Waste, such as, paints, oil, chemicals, pesticides, etc. CANNOT be collected and must be taken to the Home Chemical Collection Center located at: 11234 Plano Road, Dallas, TX 75243, (214) 553-1765, Tuesdays: 9:00 am – 7:30 pm, Wednesdays and Thursdays: 8:30 am – 5:00 pm, 2nd and 4th Saturdays of each month: 9:00 am – 3:00 pm.



POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

**OCTOBER 4, 2016  
RICHLAND PARK  
5 P.M. TO 8 P.M.**

This year on October 4, 2016 during *National Night Out*, we want to put an extra effort into the canned goods drive. So, the Richland Homeowners Association (RHA) has decided to hand out T-shirts for canned goods donations. Here are some guidelines for food donations and a list of most needed items according to the COR website. We hope to see everyone Tuesday, October 4, 2016 at Richland Park from 5 p.m. to 8 p.m.

**DONATION GUIDELINES :**

- Items that are past the expiration date cannot be distributed and must be discarded
- Even though home canned goods are tastier, we have no way of knowing how they were processed and when they were processed therefore they are discarded.
- Items that have been opened and partially used. We are unable to distribute these items so they are discarded. Most often this occurs with spices, condiments, cereal, rice, pasta, tea etc.
- Items that contain any alcohol must be discarded, including Vodka Sauce, Red Wine Vinegar, etc.
- All donated items that are severely dented or damaged cannot be distributed and must be discarded.
- Over the counter medicines cannot be distributed and must be discarded.
- As much as we appreciate jars of baby food and formula, we often have to discard this since the majority of our clients qualify for *Women, Infants and Children* (WIC).

**MOST-NEEDED ITEMS:**

- canned meats
- soup
- rice
- beans
- pasta
- macaroni and cheese
- canned fruit
- canned vegetables
- shampoo
- detergent
- deodorant
- soap
- diapers
- dog and cat food (Purina or Pedigree only)
- Coats (children's through adults; new or very gently used)
- Monetary donations
- Pet store gift cards



# HELPFUL INFORMATION ABOUT PURCHASING A SECURITY CAMERA

by Ronnie Brock



More folks in our neighborhood have been considering purchasing security cameras for their homes, but are wondering where to start and what to get. Our neighbor Ronnie Brock shared some helpful information about his purchase.

*The unit itself is a Winbook system bought at the Microcenter on Central Expressway by the Wal-mart. It comes with four cameras, four 60-foot cables and the DVR for \$99. It allows eight cameras to be connected to the system. You have to purchase the hard drive separately; I bought the Toshiba 1 terabyte for \$39.99. The extra cameras are \$19.99 for the 700 line, and the 600 line cameras, which are better clarity with night vision, are \$29.99. It has an app that allows for viewing the system remotely which is downloadable for both Android and iPhone. It connects through the home internet, and can easily be installed by the average homeowner. If anyone would like to view the system before buying it, they are free to contact me. Also the 1 terabyte hard drive stores well over a week's footage if it is set up to record on motion activation. Mine captures a lot of motion because it is catching both the alley and the entrance of Birch Lane in both directions coming from Abrams.*

*So for a total of \$200, I installed a seven camera set-up that gets two views of the front yard, two views of the driveway and mailbox, and two views of the back yard plus a camera inside for extra security.*

For information about contacting Ronnie, send an email to [News@richlandhoa.com](mailto:News@richlandhoa.com).



# NEIGHBORHOOD BLOCK PARTY!

On Saturday, July 30th, the folks in the 500 block of Wentworth hosted a fun block party! They blocked off the street, set up a grill in the Stapp's shady front yard and prepared a feast. They shared brews and favorite beverages, swapped stories, laughed with their kids, played yard games, and even had their very own teen artist Alex to apply colorful face paint and designs to everyone who wanted!

Phil Cullens initiated putting together the block party by gathering information from the city on how to proceed.



Here's the information from the City of Richardson how to organize a block party. Also, if you're not sure who your Block Captain is, just ask by sending an email to [Captains@richlandhoa.com](mailto:Captains@richlandhoa.com).

## REASONS TO HOLD A BLOCK PARTY

- To meet your neighbors. The more you know who belongs to the neighborhood, the more likely you are to identify strangers or suspicious people.
- To increase the sense of belonging in your neighborhood.
- To make connections within the community.
- To meet some of the long time residents in the neighborhood.

## GOOD IDEAS TO CONSIDER

- Invite City Council members, school officials or Neighborhood Services staff member.
- Call the Police Department, Fire Department, Health Services, or other City department to obtain literature, give-aways, or to request a presentation.
- Make sure you record the name and contact information for everyone who attends and everyone you contacted; after all, the idea of a block party is to connect neighbors.
- Plan lots of activities for children.
- Include activities that encourage people to meet each other. Use name tags and include children by asking them to create the tags.
- Have a block/street clean up as part of the party.



## BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED!

Block Captains help keep neighbors connected and are a great way to serve your community. For information contact Jeana Dickerson at [Captains@richlandhoa.com](mailto:Captains@richlandhoa.com)

## STEPS FOR ORGANIZING A BLOCK PARTY

- **Gather neighbors and divide up the tasks.** Your block party will be much more successful if you involve others in planning the event.
- **Go door to door.** Start knocking on doors to find out if there is enough interest and, if so, which day would be the best for most people.
- **Pick a date and time** (mid-afternoon to evening works best). Try to pick a date 4-6 weeks in advance to allow plenty of time for planning and notifying neighbors.
- **Decide on a location.** Where you have your party depends on where you live. Look around and evaluate your area. Cul-de-sacs and road ends the best places for hosting a Block Party. What if you can't have a Block Party on your street? No problem! Many sports fields are surrounded by non-playing areas that are free for you to use. There are many neighborhood parks built for your enjoyment-use them!
- **Obtain a Special Activity Authorization form and Block Party Petition** from the Traffic/Transportation Department by calling 972-744-4333. If you plan on closing off the street with barricades you must fill out the request form and collect your neighbor's signatures.
- **Make Decisions about the food.** Food is a must for a block party. If you want to have a good party, you've got to have food. Suggest a pot luck or have everyone chip in for catering.
- **Decide on Activities.** To spice up your party, you may want to include some games and activities for both children and adults. Often block parties are held at the end of a block cleanup, a block garage sale, or a day of tree-planting; others have a theme such as Fourth of July or celebrating a neighborhood anniversary.
- **Go door to door to hand out invitations.** Going door-to-door with invitations adds a personal touch that will help you get more people interested in volunteering for and attending the event.
- **Keep the invitation simple** and remember to include contact names and phone numbers for R.S.V.P's.



## 4TH OF JULY FLAG PARTY

A **big thank you** goes out to all who helped distribute the flags for

the 4th of July weekend. So many neighbors have made this a yearly tradition for their 4th of July.

It is such a joy to see the flags flying throughout the neighborhood and knowing it is a joint effort between the HOA and the neighborhood.

After flags are distributed everyone comes back to enjoy breakfast and a chance to get to know their neighbors. Knowing your neighbors is what makes a neighborhood strong, safe and connected. Join us next year on Saturday, July 1 and make it a tradition for you and your family.

-D'Nelle Lyons

RHA Board Member-at-Large



Thanks to our sponsor ACRI windows for contributing to our 4th of July get-together and distribution of neighborhood flags.



Charlie D. Neighborhood Window Specialist

214-916-7870



# CRANK UP YOUR CURB APPEAL

*What kind of impression does your home make from the street view? Don't let the neighbor's house steal all of the attention.*

If you haven't thought about your home's curb appeal, or if it's been a while since you've considered it, walk or drive past your home and look at it from the street with a critical, impartial eye. Ask yourself, "What would a stranger notice first about my home?" Would they see an inviting and well-kept exterior, or would they immediately notice some delayed maintenance and room for improvement? A home's curb appeal can be critical from a real estate and value perspective.

Whether your house is on the real estate market or you'd just like for the exterior to be more attractive from the street, there are some simple outside DIY projects that you can do to increase your home's curb appeal:

**PAINT THE FRONT DOOR.** A fresh coat of paint or stain on the main door can do a lot to make your home's entrance look clean and inviting. Consider a bright paint color that contrasts well with your home's exterior wall and trim color. Shades of red, blue,

and yellow are popular colors that can make your front entrance "pop." Or, if your home has a more traditional, classic design, consider a glossy black paint. Either way, you can't go wrong.

#### **DECORATE WITH A WREATH.**

Give your guests a special welcome at the front door with a friendly wreath or basket. Wreaths can be seasonal, or you can choose one that will be appropriate all year around. If you don't want to put a nail in the door, look for a wreath hook hanger at your local home or crafts store.

**REPLACE YOUR MAILBOX.** Tired of the same old mailbox? Get a new one or spruce up the one you have with a fresh coat of paint or some new numbers. Plant some blooming flowers or shrubbery at the base of the mailbox to add some color and interest.

#### **SPRUCE UP THE FRONT LAWN.**

You can never go wrong with clean landscaping in the front

yard. Focus your efforts around the walkway and front door for maximum impact. Think about creating curved garden areas rather than straight lines for visual interest. Be sure to intersperse some evergreen plants for color and texture during all seasons of the year.

**PLAY WITH FLORALS.** Flowers can light up any space. Add some blooming container plants to anchor plants to anchor the front entrance or walkway areas. Be sure to coordinate the colors with the rest of your garden, and remember that containers usually need more water than bedding plants because they dry out more quickly.

#### **GARDEN WITH WINDOW BOXES.**

Window boxes are a simple and seamless way to add color and charm to your home. For visual appeal, be sure to plant some trailing plants as well as a variety of colors and textures in the boxes.

**CONSIDER SHUTTERS FOR YOUR WINDOWS.** If your front windows don't have shutters, consider adding some that complement your home's style. Paint or stain the shutters to match or to contrast well with the exterior wall, trim, and door color. Visit your local home or lumber store to see styles and material options.

**INSTALL NEW OUTDOOR LIGHTING.** Exterior light fixtures can add to or detract from your home's curb appeal. If your exterior light fixtures are old, damaged, or dated, consider enhancing your yard with outdoor lighting. Make sure the type of light fixtures you choose are in keeping with your home's architecture and scale. If you don't want to purchase new ones, consider cleaning and painting the ones you have. You can also add landscape lighting to enhance your home's evening curb appeal.



**REVAMP YOUR PATIO.** If your home has one, fix up your front porch or patio with some planters, outdoor furniture, and maybe even a relaxing porch swing. In addition to making the exterior of your house more attractive, you'll gain an outdoor living space for your family to enjoy.

One of the best things you can do for your home's curb appeal is to keep the exterior clean and maintained. Fix any sagging or loose gutters, cracked windows, or damaged wood. Mow the grass regularly and remove leaves and debris from the lawn and flower beds. Keep the shrubbery trimmed, and remember to sweep the walk and put up toys and bicycles every night. Don't let your neighbors steal the show. With just a little effort, your home can be appealing and attractive on the outside as well as on the inside.

Source: [https://www.ahs.com/home-matters/lawn-garden/crank-up-your-curb-appeal?utm\\_campaign=shareaholic&utm\\_medium=email\\_this&utm\\_source=email](https://www.ahs.com/home-matters/lawn-garden/crank-up-your-curb-appeal?utm_campaign=shareaholic&utm_medium=email_this&utm_source=email)

## ARE YOUR ROSES DYING?

They could have the Rose Rosette Virus which seems to be spreading throughout North Texas, including right here at home in Richland Park/Oaks. The symptoms include excessive thorns, malformation of leaves, excessive shoot growth, witches' broom and plant death.

Rose rosette has been documented in the United States since 1941, but only recently did



botanists identify the pathogen and that it is spread by a tiny, wingless mite. The mites, which are invisible to the human eye, feed on a plant's sap, transmitting the virus to the bush. Roses die within two to three years.

Horticulturists are seeing more cases of it on all the different rose varieties. Part of the problem is there is no cure of Rose Rosette. Once a plant is infected the only thing you can do is remove it and throw it away. It's important to remove infected bushes so that they don't become mite breeding grounds.

Be sure to check with your local nursery or expert first to verify whether your rosebush has Rose Rosette. If it does, you need to remove the infected plant, bag it to trap the mites, and then throw it in the trash. You do not want to send the infected rose bush to be composted.

The good news is that experts say it is a manageable situation that shouldn't stop you from planting roses. Just be sure not to plant your roses too close together. Plant them far enough apart so that mites can't blow from plant to plant. So now you can stop and smell the roses again!

Source: *North Texas Roses Dying from Viral Disease* | NBC 5 Dallas-Fort Worth

# GOOD FENCES MAKE GOOD NEIGHBORS

**FENCES** are often a feature of our homes that are taken for granted, but serve various purposes for residents and neighborhoods. A well-maintained fence, properly installed, can dramatically alter the appearance of your property

or that are missing slats or sections are in violation of City code and must be repaired or replaced. All damaged or missing portions of a fence need to be replaced or repaired with comparable materials that match the remaining portion of the fence. This does not pertain to new wood fence sections that have not had a chance to age from time and weather.

Fencing materials not allowed in the City include plywood, barbed wire, razor ribbons, sheet metal, corrugated steel, fiberglass panel or electric fences.

Screening fences are required around all swimming pools as well as open storage areas to keep them hidden from public view. Open storage refers to items stored in the front, rear or side yard, carport or unenclosed porch that are not typically found outside and occupy no more than 1% of the lot. Outdoor furniture, planters and children's toys are not considered outside storage.

Fences in your front yard can be no higher than two and a half feet and fences on the side or back of your



property should not exceed 8 feet. A 4-foot or taller fence is required around a pool. Fences are not allowed on corner lots where their placement might obstruct the vision of motorists on the public streets.

If you plan on installing or replacing more than 25 percent of an existing fence, you will need to obtain a building permit. The fee for a permit is \$30. To obtain a permit you will need to contact the Building Inspection Department located at 411 W. Arapaho Road, Room 108, or via phone at 972-744-4180.



as well as add substantial value and improve "curb appeal." Fences provide privacy, define territory and increase our sense of security. Richardson homeowners and residents are responsible for the upkeep and condition of the fence around their property. Fences that are leaning at a 20% angle or more in either direction

# GOT A PROBLEM WITH YOUR MAIL? WRITE THEM A LETTER, E-MAIL OR CALL!

If you have a complaint about the U.S. Postal Service (USPS), need more information, or have a suggestion or compliment, you can let them know in one of several ways:

- Use the USPS website's email [www.usps.com](http://www.usps.com). You can select an inquiry type that most closely relates to the complaint or question that you have. On the website, you can also file a claim or request a refund for shipping.
- Call 1-800-ASK-USPS (1-800-275-8777) or TTY: 1-800-877-8339.
- Speak to station manager (postmaster) at a local post office.
- Write to the U.S. Postal Service's Consumer Advocate office at: United States Postal Service Office of the Consumer Advocate 475 L'Enfant Plaza SW Washington DC 20260-2200



## THEFT, FRAUD, WASTE, OR ABUSE COMMITTED BY THE USPS OR A USPS EMPLOYEE

File a complaint with the USPS Office of the Inspector General (OIG) by:

- E-mail at [hotline@uspsoidg.gov](mailto:hotline@uspsoidg.gov)
- Filing an online complaint at: [www.uspsoidg.gov/form/new-complaint-form/](http://www.uspsoidg.gov/form/new-complaint-form/)
- Calling 1-888-USPS-OIG (1-888-877-7644)

## MAIL FRAUD OR ABUSE COMMITTED BY A PERSON OR COMPANY

The U.S. Postal Inspection Service (<https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov>) is the federal law enforcement agency that protects the mail system. Contact them to report:

- **MAIL FRAUD** – file an online mail fraud complaint (<http://ehome.uspis.gov/fcsexternal/default.aspx>).
- **MAIL THEFT** – use the e-mail form to explain the issue. Under Inquiry Type, select Problem. Under Customer Service, select Support, and Mail Theft. Under Additional Information, explain why your complaint is mail theft-related.
- **IDENTITY THEFT** – report U.S. Mail-related identity theft via the online identity theft complaint form (<http://ehome.uspis.gov/mailtheft/idtheft.aspx>).

The USPS, its inspector general, and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service handle complaints about service-related issues. If you have a comment or complaint about a major policy change, such as postage rates or a proposed five day delivery schedule, contact the Postal Regulatory Commission (PRC) at [www.prc.gov](http://www.prc.gov) using their online contact form.

## JOIN THE RICHLAND CARES GROUP

The purpose of this group is to connect residents that need help with residents that can offer help. If you know of someone in need, you could coordinate help for them. They don't have to ask, which seems to be the hardest part. Here are some ideas:

- Give/Receive rides to the doctor, grocery store, or take on general errands.
- Help with major or minor household maintenance.
- Arrange meals for residents in need when there is a birth of a baby or the death of a close family member.
- Pull weeds for someone that can't do it anymore.



- Help a neighbor cut up a tree that has fallen down.
- Invite someone over for lunch.
- Help a student struggling with science, math, etc.
- Meet for coffee just to talk and lend a sympathetic ear.

All we need are people who aren't afraid or ashamed to ask for help and people that are willing to help. You can join this Private Group on *Nextdoor*. To Join on *Nextdoor*, go to "YOUR GROUPS", select "Richland Cares," then select the request to join. One of the moderators for this group will include you. It is open to anyone in Richland Park/Oaks that wants to join.

You don't have to be on *Nextdoor* to request or receive help; just send an email to [Cares@richlandhoa.com](mailto:Cares@richlandhoa.com) and someone will get back to you.

If you have questions about this group, email [Cares@richlandhoa.com](mailto:Cares@richlandhoa.com).



## RICHLAND PARK MOMS (RPM)

Our neighborhood has an unofficial group of neighborhood moms that get together, usually, once a month either at a restaurant or at a member's home in the neighborhood.

We are a laid back group of moms that offer each other advice, support, and friendship. We maintain a "secret" Facebook group RPM (Richland Park Moms). You can not find it if you search for it, you have to be a friend of an existing member, then your "friend" has the ability to add you to the group.

This group is open to all moms, no matter what age your kiddos are. We do have moms with fur babies too.

To join the group, send an email to Liz Wetherington ([lizly@att.net](mailto:lizly@att.net)) to be added to the email distribution list, or "Friend" Liz Wetherington on Facebook.

# Richland Homeowners Association 2016 Membership Registry

(Please PRINT clearly or register online at [www.richlandhoa.com](http://www.richlandhoa.com))

1. Name and Address ( Owner or  Tenant):

First Name	Last Name	First Name	Last Name
House Number and Street Name			
Profession (not published)		Profession (not published)	

2. For publication in the RHA Directory to be used by neighbors to contact you (not available to the public).

Primary Phone _____	Primary Phone _____
---------------------	---------------------

3. For Emergency Use Only by Crime Watch Patrol (garage or entry doors open, or fire).

Home Phone _____	Home Phone _____
Cell Phone _____	Cell Phone _____
Work Phone _____	Work Phone _____

4. For communicating meetings, planned events, and alerts (will not be included in the directory).

E-mail address _____	E-mail address _____
----------------------	----------------------

5. Volunteer Interests (Check each one that interests you!) Best Time for Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

- |   |   |  |
|---|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Watch Patrol (min 2 hrs/month) | <input type="checkbox"/> 4 <sup>th</sup> of July Flags Distribution | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Committee                |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spring Fling! Event Help             | <input type="checkbox"/> DATABASE Support                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Seasonal Yard/Block Award Judging   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carni-Fall Event Help                | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter Contributor                     | <input type="checkbox"/> Advertising Marketer for Newsletter |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain                        | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Media – Photography/Posting Events  | <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification Committee            |

Comments or Suggestions:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

**Enclose Check or use PayPal at [www.richlandhoa.com](http://www.richlandhoa.com)**

Annual Dues	\$40.00
Additional Contribution (Tax Deductible)	_____
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ _____</b>

Check enclosed    PayPal    Bank Payment Service

*Payable to RHA and mail with completed form to:*  
RHA, P.O.Box 852636, Richardson, TX 75085-2636



**RICHARDSON HAS A FOOD TRUCK PARK!**

Move over Dallas, Richardson has its first food truck park, created by longtime Richardson resident Michelle Chesney. The Richardson Food Truck Park (RFTP) is at 522 Bishop, right behind Goldstar Appliances, and it has shaded seating, nice restrooms and the InterUrban bar which will serve wine, beer and spirits including seasonal cocktails.

Nineteen food trucks have registered with the city in order to be available to serve at the RFTP. They will be on a rotation schedule, three or four at a time. So put RFTP on your list of Richardson places to try out! Schedules and other information is on the website: [richardsonfoodtruckpark.com](http://richardsonfoodtruckpark.com)

-Valerie Standifer, Vice President



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**RICHLANDNEWS Advertising Rates**

The **RICHLANDNEWS** newsletter is published four-five times a year and delivered to HOA Members in the Richland Park and Richland Oaks neighborhood. Advertisements must be camera-ready and can be sent via U.S. Mail to "Richland News," P. O. Box 852636, Richardson, Texas 75085-2636 or sent electronically as a High-resolution (300 dpi) jpeg or PDF to [news@richlandhoa.com](mailto:news@richlandhoa.com). The type, size and costs are listed below. RHA Members receive a 10% discount on all ads. Payment for advertisements must be paid in advance, *before* newsletters go to print. Cost is per issue.



Type	Size	Cost
Business Card	3 5/8" wide x 2 3/8" high	\$25.00
Quarter Page (Vertical only)	3 5/8" wide x 4 7/8" high	\$50.00
Half Page (Horizontal only)	7 1/2" wide x 4 3/4" high	\$75.00
Full Page	7 1/2" wide x 9 7/8" high	\$125.00

For additional information email: [news@richlandhoa.com](mailto:news@richlandhoa.com)

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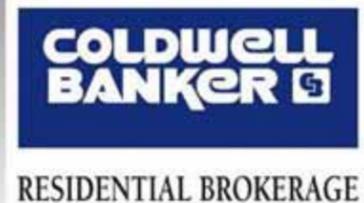
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