

# Richland News



Richland Park, Richland Oaks Homeowners Association Newsletter  
P. O. Box 852636, Richardson, TX 75085-2636 February 2007

Website: [www.richlandhoa.com](http://www.richlandhoa.com)

## Calendar

Feb. 10	Scout Food Drive
Feb. 18	RHA Board Meeting
Mar. 11	Daylight Saving Time Begins
Mar. 18	RHA Board Meeting
Apr. 8	*Easter Egg Hunt
Apr. 22	RHA Board Meeting
May 17	**SPRING General Homeowners' Meeting
May 19	Bike Rodeo

\* Your help is needed to organize the annual Easter Egg Hunt. See page 4 for more information.

\*\* The RHA Board has voted to have two General Membership meetings in 2007. Mark your calendars NOW.

## Inside

President's Message	2
Meet the Board Officers	3
Easter Volunteer Needed	4
New Spring Meeting	5
Crime Watch Information	6
Crime Watch Form	7
RHA Membership Form	9
Yard Awards	10-13
Advertisers	14-19
Water Conservation Kit	20

## News at a glance

### Food drive set for Feb. 10

The bag attached to this newsletter will allow you to participate in the Feb. 10 **Scouting for Food** drive. This is the largest door-to-door food drive in the metroplex with donations delivered to area food banks for distribution to those in need. Hats off to Scout Pack 526 who will collect for our neighborhood. **Have your canned food donations bagged and on your front porch by 9 a.m. on Feb. 10.**



### Recent rain helps but water restrictions stand

Despite the rain we've experienced recently Richardson and all other cities on the north side of the Dallas metroplex remain in Stage 3 water restrictions.

In a continued effort to encourage water conservation, the City of Richardson is offering a Water Saver Kit for \$8. The kits can be purchased at the City Service Center or at City Hall.

A complete description of the kit and additional information is on page 20 of this newsletter.

### Water line repair due for Richland Park Drive

E.A. Hoppe, management analyst for the City of Richardson, reports that Richland Park Drive will soon undergo rehabilitation of some 2,500 linear feet of sanitary sewer forcemain. The plan is to slip new pipe inside the existing one to provide the least intrusive method of repair. This replaces the typical open cut approach. However, some locations along the street will need to be "open cut" to allow the new pipe to be inserted.

The project goes to bid in February with construction likely to begin after school is out. However, Mr. Hoppe said, it could begin earlier. In any case, residents will be notified before construction begins.

### Abrams Road improvements on the way

Be aware that construction on Abrams from Centennial to Walnut will begin in the next few weeks. This is likely to cause traffic delays and some additional traffic in the Richland Park/Richland Oaks neighborhood.

**Homeowners  
Association  
2006  
Officers**

**President**

Charlie Patchen  
972-690-5817

**Vice President**

Ken Schuman  
972-889-9436

**Secretary**

Karen Sandlin  
972-669-1778

**Treasurer**

Bill Greenhaw  
972-644-2204

**Board of Directors**

**Architectural/Beautification**

Curtis Dorian  
972-235-0230  
Susan Mather  
972-690-4123

**Block Captains**

Cassie McCampbell  
214-621-5586

**Crime Watch Coordinator**

John Estridge  
214-675-0444

**Crime Watch Patrol**

Open

**Database Coordinator**

Open

**Membership**

Angela McCants  
214-207-4218

**Newsletter**

Jim & Valenda Archer  
972-238-9434

**Social**

Open

**Sunshine**

Open

**Website Coordinator**

Brian Smith  
972-235-2324

**Board Members at Large**

Tony Calderone  
972-480-8468  
Gary & D'Nelle Lyons  
972-238-8560  
Dave Peters  
972-231-7909



**Charlie Patchen**

**President's  
Public Service  
Announcement**

**Howdy Neighbor,**

I'm ushering in 2007 with these resolutions:

- 1) Spend a little more time BEING a neighbor and not as much time "presidenting." It occurred to me over the holidays I hadn't taken the opportunity to do that as much as I'd like. Watch your fridge...
- 2) Spend a little more time in my yard...hopefully with **you** (you know, being neighborly)! I can show you how to run the edger...
- 3) Get a couple more "operatives" for the board. I'm doubling salaries for every RHA board member this year...resumes now being accepted!

I hope to see you all in my yard **soon**, brandishing lawn mowers and wanting to join our board! In the meantime consider the following:

- Many other neighborhoods continue to create their own crime watch patrols, while ours continues to be a model for success. Please consider dedicating 3 hours a month towards this fantastic community service. John Estridge is our board member in charge and he indicated a new class was getting ready to start...give him a call!
- Curtis Dorian can always use a hand with the landscaping and beautification work he directs. He has some interesting things planned this year... give him a call!
- Easter is around the bend and we need folks to pitch in. Without your help our annual Easter Egg Hunt could become a thing of the past. Please give me a call if you can participate!
- Cassie McCampbell is looking for block captains, too!

We should anticipate the Abrams construction to begin soon so please be aware... and drive carefully and friendly around that area. Additionally, our entry-way work proposal is being considered by the COR folks, and we look forward to meetings this spring to begin the process of refining the scope of work and schedules (we will keep you posted). I do not expect the barrier wall extension work to start for a few more months, pending outcome of decisions being made by the developer who has purchased the property on the corner of Park Bend and Abrams.

One last thing... the RHA board will begin drawing up a petition in the next few weeks in anticipation of the COR work with city council that will create a formal path for potential street closures. Once drawn up, and assuming we garner enough signatures (which will no doubt be a hot topic) the city will work with us to continue more traffic studies and eventually close off a couple of streets on a trial basis. One benefit we hope to glean from potential street closures is less crime, and our evaluation of this is ongoing.

Hope to see you around!

Yours in service,

*Charlie Patchen*

# Meet your 2007 RHA Board Officers



## Charlie Patchen, President

**How long in Richland Park:** 12 years, 601 Birch

**Children:** Joey, 13, Andy, 8, Ben, 5

**Why work with RHA?** A desire to make the neighborhood a great place to live.

**What committees have you worked on?** Fall Festival, Bike Rodeo, Crime Watch.

**Top goal for the neighborhood:** To “knit” folks together—connect them.

**Last book read:** “A Brief History of Almost Everything”

**In the changer:** Rascal Flatts

**Favorite Meal:** Anything Mesquite smoked or “chicken” fried.

**Dinner Guests:** Winston Churchill, my wife (we rarely get to eat out!), Nolan Ryan, Mark Twain, John Adams



## Ken Schuman, Vice President

**How long in Richland Park?**  
4 years, 618 Goodwin

**Children:** Two girls ages 10 and 8.

**Why work with RHA?** Pride in the neighborhood.

**Committees?** Fall Festival, chair, RHA Board, Easter Egg Hunt.

**Top goal for the neighborhood:** Provide a safe and involved neighborhood.

**Last book read:** “Where the Red Fern Grows.”

**In the changer:** KEB Mo’, Genesis.

**Favorite Meal:** Poached salmon with garlic potatoes.

**Dinner guests:** My wife, my children, my friends from South Africa, assorted neighbors.

**Each edition of the 2007 “Richland News” will feature information about those who serve on the Richland Homeowners’ Association Board.**



## Karen Davis Sandlin, Secretary

**How long in Richland Park?** 4 1/2 years,  
646 Goodwin

**Children:** Austin, 17, Madeline, 15, Molly, 11.

**Why work with RHA?** Existing board member, Dave Peters, invited (coerced) me!

**Committees?** Fall Festival, Easter Egg Hunt.

**Top goal for RHA:** Increased participation which means more accomplishments.

**Top goal for the neighborhood:** Improved aesthetics throughout the neighborhood. This is an older neighborhood beginning to show wear. Dedicated aesthetic improvements from all residents keeps values high, attracts good neighbors and makes it a great place to come home to.

**Last book read:** “My Sister’s Keeper.”

**In the changer:** Trans Siberian Orchestra.

**Favorite Meal:** Chilean Sea Bass from Café Pacific.

**Dinner guests:** My family. They’re great to hang with!



## Bill Greenhaw, Treasurer

**How long in Richland Park?**  
25 years, 644 Tiffany Trail

**Children:** Three young adult daughters (Kate, Emily, Margaret)

**Why work with RHA?** To have a positive impact—make a difference.

**Committees?** President, (twice), Treasurer, Newsletter, Fall Festival, Egg Hunt, Christmas decor.

**Top goal for RHA:** Improvements to make us more secure & attractive to homebuyers.

**Top goal for the neighborhood:** Enhance the value of our homes; more residents involved in neighborhood & community leadership.

**Last book read:** “Shadow Divers”; “Freakonomics.”

**In the changer:** Dads Greatest Hits (compiled by my daughters).

**Favorite meal:** Pizza of the Gods from The Hideaway (a hole-in-the-wall pizza parlor in Stillwater)

**Dinner guests:** My family, Dwight Eisenhower, William Donovan (founding director of the OSS, predecessor to the CIA), Chuck Yeager, James Lovell.

# Your Neighborhood Needs YOU!



## Help save our annual **Easter Egg Hunt**

We need a coordinator to work with  
volunteers  
(and the **Easter bunny**)  
so the event can continue.

**To volunteer to coordinate**, call Charlie Patchen,  
972/690-5817.

**To volunteer to work at the event**, call any board  
member. Phone numbers are on page 2 of this  
publication.

## News from Richland Elementary

We cannot believe the school year is half over!  
The holidays were filled with many exciting activities,  
starting with our Grandparents' Feast. Grandparents  
and special guests were invited to share in a Thanks-  
giving lunch with all the trimmings. Ms. Chicone and Mr.  
Chen took photos of each student and their special guests.



The Adopt a Rocket program was a great success this year.  
Berkner High School Student Council adopted 15 families for  
Thanksgiving and Christmas. At Thanksgiving, families were given  
food boxes with all the items needed for their meal and at Christ-  
mas each family filled out a wish list. Berkner students adopted  
family members and Principal Gaston's office became a sea of toys  
and clothes for some students and their brothers and sisters.

Richland will host a multi-cultural night Feb. 15 in the cafeteria.  
Students and their families will enjoy food and activities from cul-  
tures around the world. There are 18 different languages spoken at  
Richland Elementary. Our students bring a variety of different cul-  
tures to our campus.

Please contact Greg Gaston, Richland Elementary Principal, if  
you have questions or comments.

## 2007 Block Captains

### Birch

400 Carol Levy 972-234-8069  
500 Block **Open**  
600 Delia Estridge 972-699-3839

### Country Side

400 Lucy & Marshall Bateman 972-889-2922

### Fieldwood

400 Pam & Daryl Crum 972-690-6091

### Fieldwood Circle

600 Janet Kurka 972-699-0913

### Goodwin

400 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434  
500 **Open**  
600 Vinod & Traute Malhotra 972-669-1970

### Harvest Glen

400 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434  
500 Wendy & Greg Steagall 972-231-1420  
600 David & Faye Galvan 972-689-8759

### Hilton

1100 Judy Blome 972-783-7069

### Park Bend

400 Pam Crum 972-690-6091  
600 **Open**

### Richland Oaks

1100 & 1200 Blocks **Open**

### Richland Park

1200 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434

### River Oaks

400 Alice Alvarado 972-437-9053

### Sheffield

400 James & Juanell Teeague 972-238-5863,  
Janet Maher 972-680-2512, Karen  
Atkinson 972-480-8712  
500 Ron Coyne 972-690-5397  
600 Dewayne Mosley 972-437-1211 (600 to 622)  
Billie & Rodney Lara 972-231-2808 (623 to  
651)

### South Lois Lane

1000 Janet Kurka 972-699-0913

### Stillmeadow

400 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434  
500 Cary & Arden Fitzgerald 972-234-6670,  
Gary & D'Nelle Lyons 972-238-8560  
600 Dorothy & George McKearin 972-238-9308

### Tall Oaks

400 **Open**

### Tiffany Trail

400 **Open**  
500 Barbara & Russel Reed 972-234-1726  
600 Pamela & Robert Tharp 972-690-0931

### Wentworth

500 **Open**  
600 Millie & Dave Harrison 972-231-2748

### Whispering Oaks

1100 & 1200 Blocks **Open**

### Winding Brook

400 **Open**

Welcome to new block captains Carol Levy, Delia  
Estridge and Dorothy & George McKearin. Call  
Cassie McCampbell, 214/621-5586, to volunteer.

## What is *your* home worth in today's market?

While the Dallas area pre-owned housing market has not suffered the decline that has occurred in other parts of the country, much of the area is experiencing a slow to no growth period. According to a report in the Jan. 26 *Dallas Morning News*, most Dallas-area neighborhoods saw moderate increases in sales prices with Richardson pre-owned home prices down 3 percent. Median price for Richardson homes is \$156,700 or \$84 per square foot. On average, homes were on the market 54 days.

How are homes Richland Park and Richland Oaks doing? As any Realtor will report, the final selling price depends on the condition of the home and landscaping but here are some examples of home sale prices in the neighborhood.

400 Blk. Winding Brook	\$164,900
400 Blk. River Oaks	\$169,500
300 Blk. Birch	\$179,000
500 Blk. Birch	\$225,000
400 Blk. Sheffield	\$214,000
	\$200,000
	\$174,000
500 Blk. Sheffield	\$186,900
	\$198,500
400 Blk. Park Bend	\$187,500
	\$187,900
500 Blk. Tiffany Trail	\$199,500
	\$189,500
400 Blk. Fieldwood	\$215,000
1200 Blk. Whispering Oaks	\$148,000
400 Blk. Tall Oaks	\$185,400
500 Blk. Harvest Glen	\$189,900

## Board adds spring meeting for Richland Park/Oaks

The RHA Board has added a Spring General Homeowners' meeting for 2007. **Date is Thursday, May 17.**

"With many neighborhood issues on our agenda such as the barrier wall extension, assessment program follow-ups, proposed trial street closures, beautification, and more, we felt a Spring meeting was in order, at least this year," said RHA President, Charlie Patchen.

Depending on attendance, the Spring meeting may become a permanent fixture for the Neighborhood Association.

"We have no plans to cancel our traditional fall meeting," Patchen said, "we just want to make sure everybody has a chance to attend and provide the Board with feedback."

## Moms welcome to join group

Several neighborhood mothers are meeting every month in the evening and invite you to join them. Bonnie Abadie and Wendy Steagall say they meet at a home or a restaurant for some "adult conversation."

They visit, schedule play dates and generally take well-deserved breaks from mothering.

If you are interested, call Wendy, 972/231-1420 or Bonnie, 972/664-0525. E-mail is [bonnieabadie@tx.rr.com](mailto:bonnieabadie@tx.rr.com).

## Spring Valley development on target for area near DART rail

(Compiled from reports in *The Dallas Morning News* and *Richardson Today*)

Richardson officials have approved the city's third transit-oriented development which will include 950 residences—a mix of apartments, condominiums and townhouses near DART's Spring Valley rail station.

The project will encompass half of the 60-acre Spring Valley Station District which was created in 2004.

City Council did receive some petitions signed by more than 600 residents who objected to the project saying it would "bring too much density to the neighborhood." However, not all oppose the plan which would replace an aging apartment complex with retail space and a planned two-acre park. The development has already received funding from the North Central Texas Council of Governments to be used for landscaping, walkways and other enhancements.

While city representatives say they understand the concerns about overcrowding, the majority think projects like Centennial Park are crucial to revitalizing the aging inner-ring suburb.

"If we want to succeed as a first tier suburb, we've got to encourage development," said Mayor Pro Tem John Murphy.

## Quick Watch

### Use your home alarm system

If your house has an alarm system, use it. These devices help prevent home burglaries. They can also help warn you about fire and smoke.

You can even sign up for alarm monitoring services where a company will watch your alarm system (over the phone lines) for you. If your alarm sounds, the monitoring service can call the police for you.

Insurance companies sometimes offer significant reductions in annual fees if you have an alarm system.

If you do have an alarm system, make sure there is enough protection

for the back of your home since this is where most criminal activity starts. Richardson Police will evaluate your home security. Call 972/744-7955 for details.



# A message from the neighborhood crime watch coordinator

**NOTE: A review of the crime statistics reveals a downward trend which is reported in this web edition. The print edition contains unrevised statistics. Crime has not increased by 17% but is down by 7.5%.**

**Final crime statistics have been compiled for 2006, and crime is down 7.5 percent from last year.** Thank you to our crime patrol—men and women who donate countless hours of personal time, driving around at all hours of the day and night, to help reduce crime. If anyone is interested in joining the crime patrols, please contact me, 214/675-0444. Filling out the Crime Watch application on the next page is a good way to start. If we could double the amount of volunteers it would improve our patrol coverage. We are especially short handed on evenings and deep nights. Your time will greatly help our neighborhood.

**After perusing our crime statistics it seems to me that the best way to reduce crime** is to get to know our neighbors. Reach out to your neighbors on a personal level. Note important information about them—telephone numbers—emergency contact information. Remember what they look like, what kinds of cars they drive, the names, ages and descriptions of their children. Give the same information to your neighbors. Not only will this help enrich your life, it will also strengthen this community. By knowing your neighbors, you will learn how to point out strangers in this community, an invaluable tool to help fight crime. By learning more about your surroundings, you can help protect our neighborhood. I encourage you to drive around a bit before going home. Look for open garage doors, strangers, strange cars or anything else that looks out of place. No one knows your part of the neighborhood better than you, and I can't stress how important this is when it comes to stopping crime. If you see a problem, call the police and give them the information. This is a great way to make a positive difference in this community. If we stand together, we can get just about anything accomplished, which includes kicking crime out of the neighborhood.

**Another important tool to help fight crime** is the new solicitation legislation recently passed by the City of Richardson. If you see people walking door to door in this neighborhood they must be wearing large, easy to read badges, clearly displaying their name and permit number. If they are not, please call the police. Be sure to give a good description and location of the individuals. This new legislation allows us to keep strangers out of our neighborhood, which will help reduce our crime.

**Please remember** to keep those garage doors closed, stay alert to your surroundings, remove all valuables from cars, secure purses and keys, and share a smile with a neighbor! For those interested, I have compiled more details about crimes in our neighborhood and crime prevention tips on our website, [www.richlandhoa.com](http://www.richlandhoa.com).

Your neighbor,  
John Estridge  
Crime Watch Coordinator

## Mail theft: a serious thing

Unfortunately our neighborhood has experienced problems with mail theft for several years. Here are some suggestions to protect your mail.

- \* Don't have sensitive mail (checks, tax forms, etc.) delivered to your home. Get a PO Box.
- \* Don't SEND sensitive mail from your home. Mail it from work or take it to the post office.
- \* Get a locking mailbox. Thieves typically go for quick, easy targets. Locking boxes cost around \$50 and are available at local home improvement stores.
- \* Always keep up with your credit reports and credit card transactions to make sure all activity is accounted for.

Report any suspicious people or vehicles in the alleys, especially if they are tampering with mailboxes by calling 911 and then John Estridge, 214/675-0444.

## Lost pet services available

The City of Richardson (COR) has online services to help connect owners with lost pets. Owners can post text and pictures of lost pets directly on the COR .net website as well as view lists of found pets. For more information, contact:

Richardson Animal Shelter, 972/744-4480  
<http://www.cor.net/AnimalShelter/LostORFound.html>  
Dallas Animal Shelter, 214/670-6800 or 214/671-0249  
Dallas Lost Pets, 214/670-1965 or 214/670-8389

Remember to always keep collars on pets and make sure their tags are updated with correct information.

Be sure to check that all of your gates are closed before letting your pets outside, especially if workmen have been in your back yard.

P.S. And, it's against the law to allow your sweet puppy to poop on your neighbor's yard. Carry a poop bag, please.

**Richland Park Crime Watch Patrol**

Statistics indicate that crime is down considerably in the neighborhood since the patrol began in 1994 and we all feel a little safer. We believe that despite the improvement we can be even better. If we had a few more patrol members we think we could accomplish this objective. Please give careful consideration to becoming a part of the patrol. It requires only a few hours of training and just 1 to 1 1/2 hours every two weeks. **You can choose the time.** In addition, you will become acquainted with a great group of Richland Park/Oaks neighbors. Please complete the application blank below and return it to John Estridge, 610 Birch, by mid February. You can also call John at 972/675-0444 and he will pick it up. **Your help will make a difference.**

**APPLICATION**  
**CRIME WATCH PATROL**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE OF BIRTH: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_ D.L. NUMBER: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ WORK PHONE \_\_\_\_\_

T-SHIRT SIZE: M L XL XXL

WINDBREAKER SIZE: M L XL XXL

**IN CASE OF EMERGENCY, CONTACT:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ ALTERNATE PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

**REFERENCES:**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ RELATIONSHIP: \_\_\_\_\_

**ARE YOU ABLE TO DONATE THREE HOURS A MONTH TO ASSISTING THE RICHLAND PARK CRIME WATCH PATROL?**

***I UNDERSTAND AND GIVE MY FULL CONSENT TO THE RICHARDSON POLICE DEPARTMENT TO CONDUCT A CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECK. I FURTHER UNDERSTAND THAT MY CHARACTER REFERENCES MAY ALSO BE CHECKED. (THIS INFORMATION WILL BE CONFIDENTIAL AND NOT ALLOWED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE).***

SIGNATURE: \_\_\_\_\_ DATE: \_\_\_\_\_

**OFFICIAL USE ONLY: OFFICER ID# \_\_\_\_\_ APPROVED \_\_\_\_\_ DATE \_\_\_\_\_**

## Your guide to city code violations

(As published in *Richardson Today*)

**Graffiti:** Richardson Neighborhood Services works with residents and business owners to remove graffiti from public and private property. Graffiti is promptly and persistently removed at no cost to the resident or business owner. For more information, call 972/744-4166 or visit <http://www.cor.net/NeighborhoodServices/GraffitiAbatement.html>.

**Garage Sales:** Residents may conduct up to three garage sales per year. Each sale may last no longer than three consecutive days.

**Home Businesses:** Home businesses are permitted in Richardson as long as they are incidental to the primary use of the premises. If you want to operate a business from your home, contact Neighborhood Services to ensure your business does not violate the home occupation ordinance.

**Open Storage:** Open storage is defined as the placement of an item that is not customarily used or stored outside, or that is made of a material that is not weather resistant in an unenclosed outdoor area for more than 24 continuous hours. Open storage is prohibited in the front yard, on a front porch, under a carport, or any other unenclosed area. All items stored outdoors must be screened from adjacent properties, streets and alleys by a six-foot, solid wooden fence. Outside storage is limited to one percent of a residential lot.

**Vegetation:** Trees, bushes and other vegetation must be kept trimmed seven feet above sidewalks, 14 feet above streets and alleys, and one foot back from the alley pavement. All vegetation should also be kept trimmed so that it does not obstruct the view of motorists or pedestrians using public streets and alleys.

**Fences:** Residents are responsible for maintaining the fence around their property. Fences should be maintained so that they do not lean severely and are not missing slats or sections.

**Junked Vehicles:** Junked vehicles, which are defined as vehicles that are wrecked, dismantled or inoperable and do not have a current registration or safety inspection sticker, cannot be parked in public view under any circumstance.

**Volunteer Assistance Program:** This program unites owners who cannot properly maintain their property because of age, finance or disability with volunteer groups who wish to provide assistance. Neighborhood Services provides the expertise and experience needed during planning, implementing and evaluating stages of each volunteer project. If you are interested in volunteering or know someone who needs this service, call 972/744-4166.

## Crime comparisons 2005-06

Below is a comparison of crimes in Richland Park/Oaks from 2005 to 2006.

Crime	2005	2006
Forced Burglary	22	24
Theft-Motor Vehicle	4	4
Theft-Motor Veh. Parts	14	22
Theft-From Mtr. Vehicle	26	17
Theft-Other	12	8
Criminal Mischief	12	9
Robbery	1	0
Other	2	2
<b>Cumulative Incidents</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>86 (-7.5%)</b>

Multiple incidents were reported in the 600 block of Fieldwood, the 1000 block of Lois, the 400 block of Sheffield, the 400 block of Tiffany, the 500 and 600 blocks of Stillmeadow and the 500 and 600 blocks of Wentworth.

## Sales pitch may be a sham

Richardson Police report that burglars are now working in groups of two (one on foot and one in a vehicle) often between the hours of 9 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Here's the scam. Your doorbell rings and if you answer they'll ask if you have seen their dog or if you need your grass cut or if you need your trees trimmed. What they are **really** doing is "casing the joint" to see if you are home.

Here's what to do:

**1. Do not open the door but DO talk to them through the closed door saying you are not interested. Do not indicate that you are alone. If they know someone is home they'll move on to the next house.**

**2. Call 911 or 972/744-4800 immediately to let them know what happened.**

## Richardson is third safest

Richardson was ranked 3rd in the state and 61st in the nation in a recent Morgan Quitno "Safest (and most dangerous) Cities" study.

In all, 371 cities and 344 metro areas were ranked in a multi-step process with city and metro crime stats per 100,000 population compared in six basic categories—murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft.

City officials cited the Richardson Police Department as well as the city's nationally-recognized neighborhood Crime Watch Programs as contributors to the high safety ranking.

**RICHLAND PARK/ OAKS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION –2007**

Dear Neighbors:

It's time to begin our Membership drive for 2007. We hope this will be the year that everyone gets involved in the neighborhood and the year we have 100% paid membership. Please help your Neighborhood Association continue to provide the services it has in the past with your membership dues and volunteer in an area of interest to you. We need your expertise and new ideas. Our neighborhood is fortunate to have experts in all areas. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call any Board Member for further information. Thank you for your support.

Our membership dues of only \$40.00 are a small investment in the community. Your dues help the Neighborhood Association provide many benefits, such as

- Maintenance and updating of Entry Landscaping
- Crime Watch Patrol (All patrol members are volunteers.)
- Social occasions such as Fall Festival, National Night Out, Bike Rodeo, etc.
- Neighborhood Newsletter
- Seasonal Yard Awards (Only paid members can receive an award)
- Representation at City Meetings; interaction with Police and Fire Departments
- Neighborhood Directory (a 2007 directory will be published and only paid members receive a directory)

**PLEASE** take a few minutes and complete the form below and enclose it with your check of **\$40.00** and mail it to RHA, P. O. Box 852636, Richardson, TX 75085-2636.

Please consider volunteering to serve in one of the following areas:

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crime Watch Patrol                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership Canvassing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification Committee           | <input type="checkbox"/> Board Position        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fall Festival                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Social Chairman       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Easter Egg Hunt                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Website Committee     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Elder Care Assistance |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Other Interest (Please list below) |  |

Name \_\_\_\_\_ & \_\_\_\_\_  
Last First Last First

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-Mail \_\_\_\_\_

(Will **NOT** be published in directory)

Check here ( ) if you would like to receive important neighborhood information/alerts via e-mail. Information will NOT include advertising.

**Work or Cell Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ (This will not be published in the directory. Crime Watch Patrol uses the number to contact you should the need arise when you are not at home.**

Amount Enclosed \_\_\_\_\_. If, for some reason, you cannot join the Association, please fill out the form and return it so we can have the correct information for the directory and Crime Watch. Any questions, please call Angela McCants, 972-680-1533.

# Richland Park and Richland Oaks

## Architectural ▫ Landscaping ▫ Beautification

A.L.B.

Contacts: Curtis Dorian 972.235.0230 Susan Mather 972.690.4123



# HAPPY NEW YEAR 2007

This will be a great year!

Hello Neighbors,

I want to thank everyone who participated in the October (Scary Yard Award), November (**Autumn Home of the Month**) and December (**Christmas Decoration Awards**).

I have to say our community did an exceptional job on Christmas Decorations. I was amazed and happy to see the number of homes that sparkled with lights, ornaments and yard art.

It was difficult choosing only 3 awards; there were so many more winning decorations and much more to feast your eyes upon.

You can view some of these images in color, on-line at [www.richlandhoa.com](http://www.richlandhoa.com). I added additional images, as many as would fit on one page, in this newsletter. I hope you all took time to drive through the neighborhood and see all the creations and all the hard work that went into the season.

As I traveled to surrounding subdivisions, I have to say, we certainly outdid ourselves. Thank you again, for all your hard work and making our community fun and creative.

Sincerely,

Curtis Dorian, RHA/ALB

**Note:** If you would like to be notified on Beautification/A.L.B., please send me your email address.

---

If you ever have any suggestions or would like to discuss an issue concerning beautification, please feel free to contact either one of us at the numbers listed above or you can **email us** with your comments to: **curtis dorian: [curtis@dorianbahr.com](mailto:curtis@dorianbahr.com)** -and/or- **susan mather: [wam7212@comcast.net](mailto:wam7212@comcast.net)**



As you turn the page,

You will see... November and December Awards for Richland Park & Oaks.



# Richland Park and Richland Oaks

## Architectural ▫ Landscaping ▫ Beautification

**A.L.B.**

**Contacts:** Curtis Dorian 972.235.0230 Susan Mather 972.690.4123

### V.B.C.

#### “Volunteer Beautification Committee”

This committee provides additional assistance over and above general duties performed by Richland Homeowners Association's - A.L.B., in monitoring Landscaping, Park Control, Special Awards, Community Criteria-Maintenance and Concerns and Elderly Assistance. We meet once a month. Feel free to join us at any time by contacting a member below or email your concerns.

**Thank you, Curtis Dorian, RHA/ALB**

**Note:** If you would like to be notified on VBC Activity and concerns such as this one, send me your email address.

**This VBC Newsletter addition — REQUEST from Resident**

## Keep our streets clean and well groomed

**Cars and trucks parked on the streets are hazardous to everyone. We have noticed an increase in vehicles parked throughout Richland Park primarily. This is becoming a concern. We all have garages and driveways. Please use them. Not only does it keep our community well groomed, it also cuts down on theft and accidents.**

**Thank you in advance, VBC Residence Group**

### V.B.C. - Volunteer Beautification Committee for RHA/A.L.B.

<b>Kelly &amp; Mark Wickersham</b> .....	<b>Special Yard Awards</b>
kelljkit@swbell.net	<b>Community Criteria</b>
214.692.0607	(Fences, Sidewalks and Hardscape)
<b>John Estridge</b> .....	<b>Community Criteria</b>
610 Birch Lane	(Fences, Sidewalks and Hardscape, Streets)
972.699.3839	
johnestrige@sbcglobal.net	
<b>Michael Brown</b> .....	<b>Y.O.M. Assistance and</b>
621 Sheffield	<b>Maintenance Control</b>
972.437.1211	(Lawn Clarity, Tree Trimming and Softscape)
michaelbrown7898@sbcglobal.net	
<b>Millie &amp; Dave Harrison</b> .....	<b>Monitoring Entrances, Assisting</b>
612 Wentworth	<b>with Entrance Landscaping and</b>
972.231.2748	Litter Control
millecxc@aol.com	
<b>Angela McCants</b> .....	<b>Special Assistance for the Elderly</b>
613 Birch	
972.680.1533	
a.mccants@tx.rr.com	

# Richland Park and Richland Oaks

## Architectural ▫ Landscaping ▫ Beautification

**A.L.B.**

**Contacts:** Curtis Dorian 972.235.0230 Susan Mather 972-690-4123

### Autumn Houses of the Month



Peggy & Jim Chandler 418 Birch



Nancy & Jim Holt 419 Winding Brook  
Karen & Kelly Shearrer 629 Stillmeadow



### Christmas Decoration Awards 2006

Unfortunately, these pictures do no justice to the amount of work that went into these projects. To truly appreciate the creativity, I only hope everyone took time to view the lights & decorations.



Mary Ellyn & Bob Jamrok 422 Country Side  
Judy & Jimmy Ward 636 Stillmeadow



Patricia Campbell 653 Goodwin  
Barbara & Larry Finnegan 618 Wentworth



# Richland Park and Richland Oaks

Architectural ▫ Landscaping ▫ Beautification

A.L.B.

Contacts: Curtis Dorian 972.235.0230 Susan Mather 972-690-4123

## Additional Christmas Decorations



www.richlandhoa.com