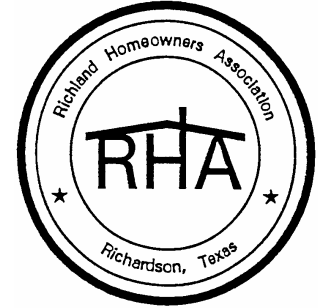


RICHLAND NEWS



Richland Park/Richland Oaks Homeowners' Association Newsletter
 P.O. Box 85236, Richardson, Texas 75085-2636
 Website: www.richlandhoa.com
June 2008

CALENDAR

June 6	D-Day
June 7	Neighborhood Trash Pick-up morning
June 14	Flag Day
June 15	Father's Day
June 20	First day of Summer
July 4	Independence Day
July 5	Neighborhood Trash Pick-up morning
July 27	Parent's Day
August 2	Neighborhood Trash Pick-up morning
August 3	Friendship Day



K-12 students at Richland Elementary celebrated Green Day May 16 by scouring our neighborhood and park collecting trash and materials to be recycled. The students also installed new plantings in front of their school building.

Richardson is “going green” for 2008

From handling the city's recycling program internally to stressing recycling at its biggest event, the annual “Wildflower Festival,” Richardson is “going green” and urging residents to participate.

All Richardson residents were to have received a letter announcing the expanded recycling program. Letters can be exchanged for a year's supply of recycling Blue Bags at City Hall, Heights Recreation Center, Huffhines Recreation Center, Senior Citizens Center and the Municipal Service Center. If you have not yet gotten such a letter, call Richardson's recycling hotline, 972/744-4231 for assistance or visit www.cor.net/PublicServices/PublicPages/Recycling.html.

The “Blue Bag” program allows you to combine *all* of your recyclables into one bag (no sorting, no limitations). Now you can recycle aluminum, tin, steel, empty aerosol cans, glass (clear, green and brown), plastic bottles numbered 1-5 and 7, as well as mixed and office paper, junk mail, magazines, catalogs and corrugated cardboard—all in one bag—all at one time. And, there will be make-up collection days for recycling materials if a holiday falls on your regular collection day.

According to the Environmental Protection Agency we can save up to 2,400 pounds of carbon dioxide each year just by recycling half of our household waste. It also saves landfill space and helps preserve the environment and natural resources.

INSIDE

President's Message.....	2
Spring Meeting Highlights.....	3-4
New Neighbors.....	11
Homestead Exemptions.....	10
Beautification.....	7-8
In Sympathy.....	11
Safety.....	6
Birthdays/Anniversaries.....	12
Questionnaire results.....	5
Picnic/Rodeo shots.....	9
Advertisers.....	13-16

RHA OFFICERS/BOARD

2007-2008 Officers

President

Curtis Dorian
972-235-0230

Vice President

Ken Schuman
972-889-9436

Secretary

Traute Malhotra
972-669-1970

Treasurer

Bill Greenhaw
972-644-2204

Board of Directors

Architectural/Beautification

Susan Mather
972-690-4123

Block Captains

Millie Harrison
972-231-2748

Crime Watch

Bob McClure
972-699-7668

Database Coordinator

Judy Blome
972-783-7069

Membership

Angela McCants
972-380-3441

Newsletter

Jim & Valenda Archer
972-238-9434

Social/Event Décor

Michael Bahr
972-235-0230

Website Coordinator

Brian Smith
972-235-2324

At-large Board Members

Charlie Patchen
972-690-5817
Tony Calderone
972-480-8468
Gary & D'Nelle Lyons
972-238-8560
Dave Peters
972-231-7909



Curtis Dorian

President's Message

Dear Residents,

I receive about 20 e-mails a week with questions, concerns and general happenings in the neighborhood. I try to get back with you in a timely manner; however, it may take a few days from time to time depending on my schedule.

I appreciate everyone's involvement and concerns, so feel free to continue corresponding via e-mail. Most of my recent e-mails are concerns for the Abrams Road Project and all concerns have been addressed with the city. The city has followed through in correcting or modifying to keep things safe and accommodating to the best of their efforts.

I want to thank the City of Richardson for all its hard work and dedication. I know at times it is difficult to realize what it takes to put projects together such as the Abrams Road Project. Each project and program designed by the city has its pluses and minuses, but look at the bright side; we will all enjoy the new development and efficiency this project will bring.

Thanks to our Matching Fund Program, Audelia should be wrapping up soon. Remember, this is the First Phase. The Proposed Designs will follow.

New designs are in the works for our Entry Features. Look for more information on pages 3 and 4.

Our Bike Rodeo and Picnic in the Park were very successful. We had a lot of fun playing Croquet and Horseshoes. It was great to spend time with neighborhood residents and get to know one another.

Our first Block Party for the 600 block of Stillmeadow was also successful and very down to earth. It was like having the old fashioned picnics; everyone bringing a dish, something to drink and a lawn chair. The people made it special. Look for other Block Party gatherings to spring up from time to time throughout the neighborhood—especially on *your* block.

Thank you all for participating in the recent survey and questionnaire. This information was very helpful and will be taken into account for new programs and events for the neighborhood.

I am here to serve you. If you have any suggestions, concerns or just want to talk; contact me at president@richlandhoa.com or call 972/235-0230 (home) or 214/698-9936 (office). My door is open!

Sincerely,

Curtis Dorian

Curtis Dorian, President, RHA

INFORMATION

Residents fill school cafeteria for the Spring 2008 HOA meeting Entryways, crime, budget, membership are topics of interest

Budget: Treasurer, Bill Greenhaw reported that the goal of more than 500 Homeowner Association members has been reached. In addition, revenue from the City of Richardson is expected allowing continuation of the beautification projects at neighborhood entryways. The recent questionnaire completed by residents will be used by the HOA Board to determine activities for the remainder of 2008.

Crime: Coordinator, Bob McClure reported that many neighborhood mailboxes are in need of repair. Flimsy mailboxes are an invitation for mail theft. A mailbox that can be locked is the best deterrent. Crime now on the rise in-



More than 80 Richland Park/Oaks residents filled the Richland Park Elementary School Cafeteria May 23 for the spring General HOA Membership meeting. City of Richardson officials joined the group for a lively Q&A session.

cludes theft of tools and equipment being used by contractors doing repairs or renovations at neighborhood homes. Best idea is to allow workmen to set up tools and equipment in your back yard rather than on the front lawn. Open garage doors continue to be a problem with entire sets of lawn tools being stolen while the homeowner works in the front of the house. Gas is also being stolen from parked cars. Solution; if you cannot park your car in your garage, purchase a locking gas cap. The Richland Oaks area has experienced two incidents of kids shooting ball bearings and pellets through windows of homes. Paint balls are also being shot at homes. These do not appear to be neighborhood kids. Residents are encouraged to install lights in the backs of their homes. Light has been proven to deter crime. Richland Park has recruited enough new Crime Patrol volunteers that the City of Richardson Police Department is considering adding a training session in the next few months.

Membership: Chair, Angela McCants presented results of the recent neighborhood questionnaire (expanded results appear on page 5 of this publication). She also announced winners in the Block Captain competition for bringing the most members into the association. Winners were Millie Harrison and Pamela Tharp.

Architectural, Landscaping, Beautification: Co-chair, Curtis Dorian and City of Richardson Director of Neighborhood Services, Don Manger talked about the next phase of entry development. The Park Bend wall (to be funded with bond dollars) will begin in the summer. Proposed designs for the neighborhood's six entries will be studied by a City of Richardson architectural consultant who will then work with the HOA design team and the COR to refine the designs. Expected completion date is April 2009. Selected entry designs being proposed are on page 4.

City leaders, Mayor Steve Mitchell and City Council members Gary Slagel and Bob Townsend answered a variety of questions from residents. Some of their comments are below.

The new date for the completion of the Abrams Road project is "late 2008." There are many repairs to make to sidewalks plus ADA requirements to be met.

Lowe's opening is scheduled to be in the next two months. Exact opening date not available. The area will include pad sites for four or five additional restaurants.

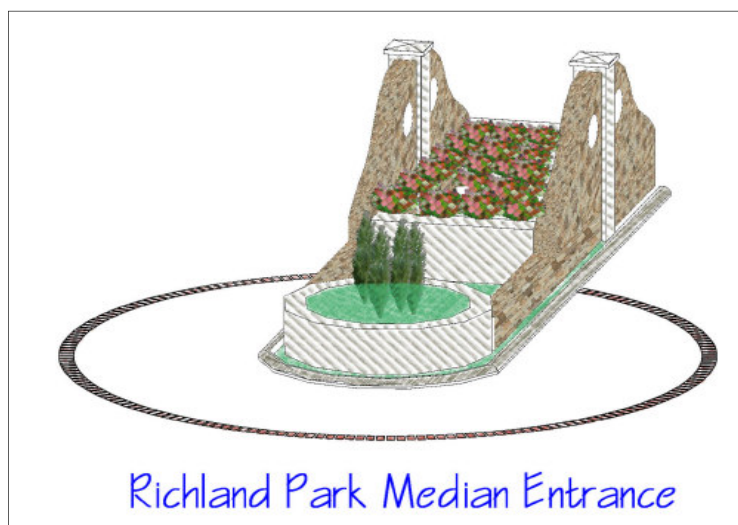
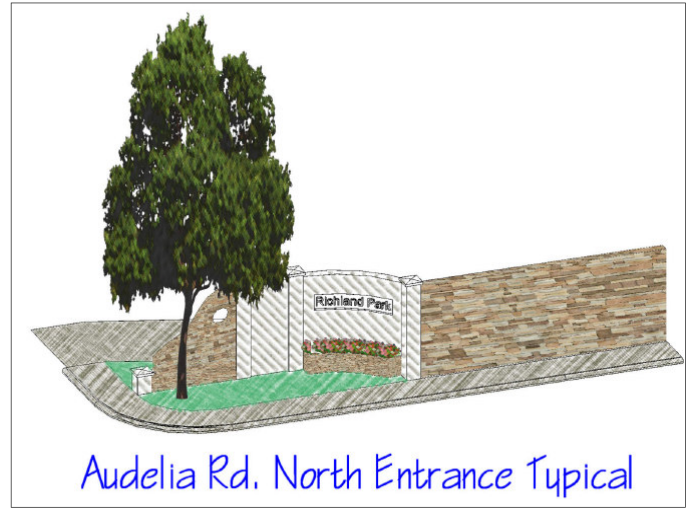
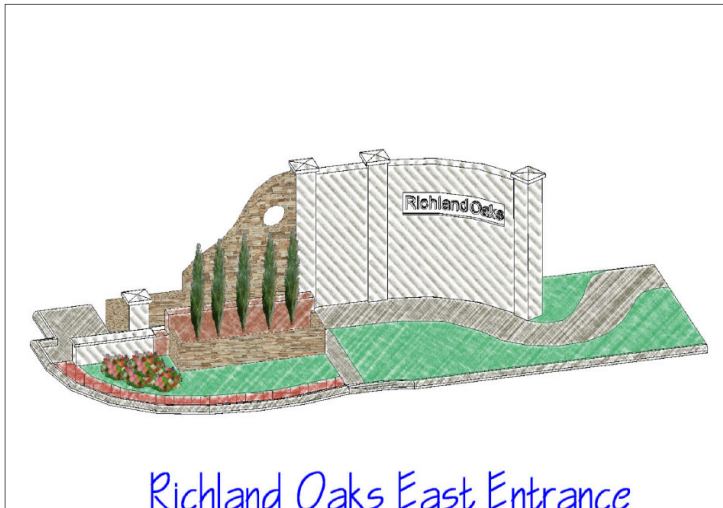
Plans for the corner of Abrams and Buckingham are still being studied with the owner and the City working together. The drawing board shows a retail development with a restaurant pad.

The process for closing neighborhood streets is now on paper. City staff hope to have a proposed process ready for review by City Council this summer.

INFORMATION

Drawings of proposed designs for new neighborhood entries ready for study and input by City of Richardson consultant

Below are a few of the drawings of proposed entry designs for the neighborhood. The HOA Board design team will work with the City of Richardson to finalize the designs. Target date for completion is April 2009.



INFORMATION

Questionnaire garners variety of responses and comments

Some 280 households responded to the neighborhood questionnaire included in the March newsletter and membership letter. Thank you. Below are highlights from those responses.

The first section asked you to value five events/services offered to residents with 5 being the highest value and 1 being the lowest. The “Richland News” was rated 5 by 179 and yard awards was second. The Fall Festival and Easter Egg Hunt were rated about the same with the Bike Rodeo having the least value to respondents.

The second section asked which two events/services should be kept and which two should be curtailed if faced with a budget crunch. Crime Watch, with 253 “keep” responses, led the list with beautification, newsletter and membership directory valued about the same. The clear preference for curtailment if needed was Social Activities.

You were asked about a neighborhood-wide curb number painting program. 57% said they’d participate, 12% said no thanks and 31% said it depended on the cost. When asked about additional lighting most said it depended on cost, with 30% of the respondents preferring overhead lighting and 12% wanting bollards.

About the HOA website; 65 respondents didn’t realize there was one and 56 said they knew about it but never looked at it. Seven responded that they looked at it often. FYI it’s www.richlandhoa.com.

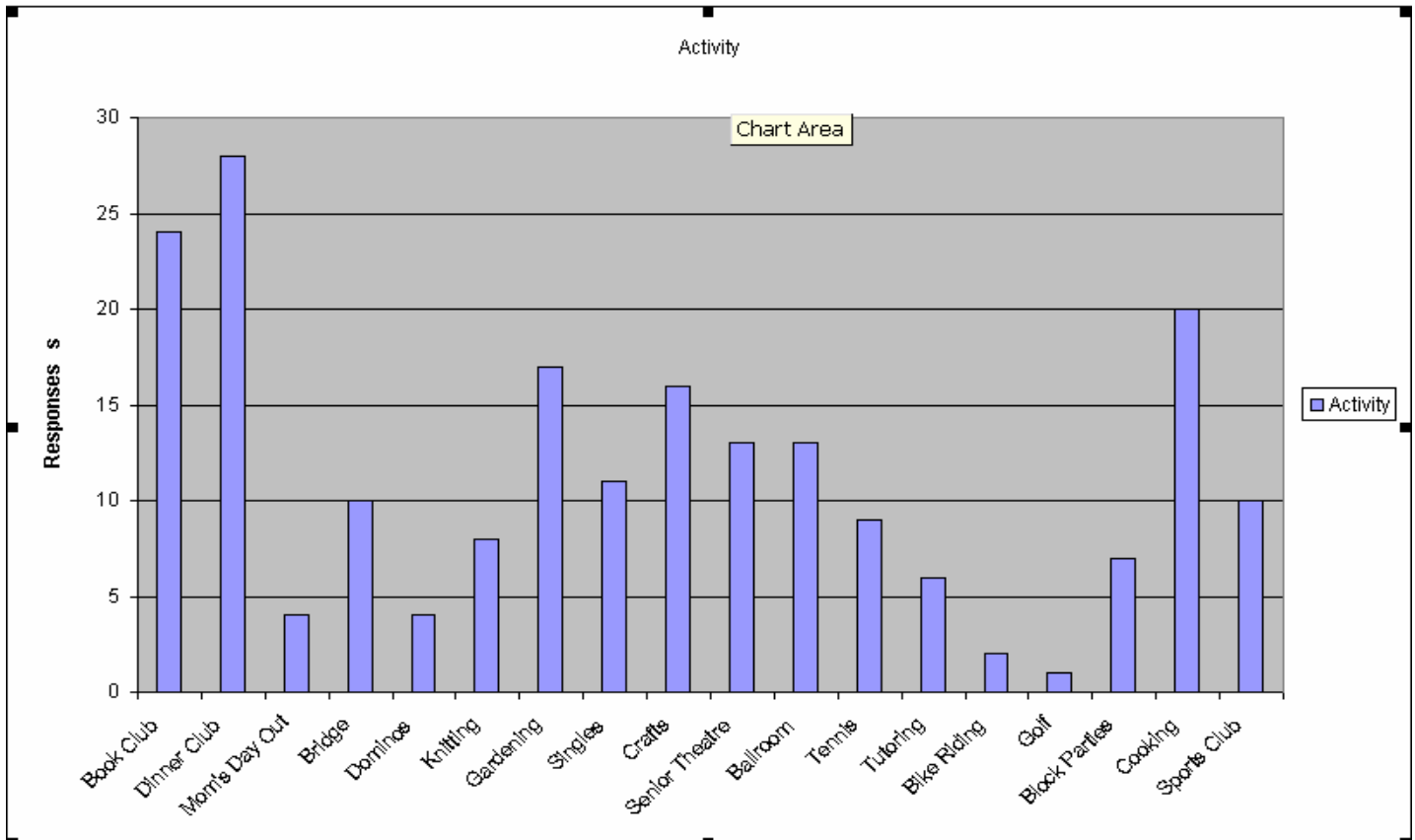
About an on-line newsletter; 114 preferred it in hard copy while 107 said they’d prefer it on-line. The newsletter is now on the website but it will also continue to be delivered to homes.

The graph below illustrates the number of respondents who’d like to participate in certain activities. If you would be interested in leading one of the activities, contact Angela McCants, Membership Chair, 972/380-3441 or www.AngelaMcCants.com. She will provide a list of neighbors who’d like to join you.

We also asked for birthdays and anniversaries if you’d like us to list them. The results for June, July and August are on page 12.

The comments were varied and covered many topics. Respondents clearly are concerned about crime and the aesthetics of the neighborhood including cars parked on the street, unkempt yards, unkempt fences, speed bumps, street closings, lighting on the tennis courts and alley speed limits. You’d also like to focus more on National Night Out, have craft fairs, chili cook-offs, car shows, quarterly HOA meetings, monthly welcomes, block parties, pet parades, 4th of July celebrations and you want more notification about any events that are planned.

The HOA Board appreciates your responses. They will serve as guidelines for future planning.



SAFETY

Crime Watch

Hello, neighbors. Spring is here and summer is on the way—and so are the yard thieves. While out working in your yard be sure to close your garage door. An open garage door is our **NUMBER ONE** invitation for burglars.

It can take a thief only 30 seconds to take your lawn mower or power tools, etc. and when he does, he will remember where he got them and be back to get your new ones if you leave the door open again. Don't leave your lawn tools out in the front yard for a moment; not even to get more gas or line for your trimmer. Odds are they won't be there when you get back.

There have also been a lot of car burglaries lately. **DO NOT LEAVE ANYTHING** in your car or truck. Many

laptops, wallets, purses, ipods, and GPS units have been taken, along with garage door openers. The burglars also check for the little circle left on your windshield from your GPS unit and will smash your window to see if you left it under your seat. So, when not in use, remove it from your car and clean the windshield. Just use a little common sense. When in doubt, don't do it.

Remember, if you see something suspicious in the area **CALL 911** then call Crime Watch at 214-763-0589. I will respond or send a co-worker to check it out. As you know, bad times have fallen on a few of our neighbors and there are some vacant homes around. Please take a moment as you go by these homes to make sure all is OK. If not, call 911.

School is out now. Be sure and tell your children to be very careful when out riding their bikes. When they go over to a friend's house they should not leave their bikes outside. Tell them to ask if they can put their bike in the friend's garage (and close the door) or in the friend's back yard.

Have a safe and wonderful summer and share a smile with a neighbor.

Bob McClure
Crime Watch Coordinator
214-763-0589
CRIMEWATCHONE@YAHOO.COM



Is this you? Ok, we staged this photo but it illustrates the number one problem our Crime Watchers find. Sure, it's a hassle to close that garage door but it's also a hassle to replace your stolen stuff. Right?

Quick Tip

Ready for a well-deserved vacation? The bad guys are ready for you to leave as well. Here are some things you can do to make your vacation as worry-free as possible.

- * Have your newspaper and mail stopped.
- * Ask a neighbor to keep an eye on your home and pick up any fliers or business cards on your front porch. Give them a way to contact you "just in case."
- * Leave a radio playing softly to give the impression that someone is at home.
- * Alert your neighborhood crime watch.
- * Call the Richardson Police and ask for the vacation watch program. Volunteers will check your home surroundings while you're away.



Night out moves to Oct. for 2008

This year, in Texas only, the National Night Out Against Crime will be in October.

This is a test to see if cooler temperatures will benefit both the event and the participants. Tentative date is Oct. 9.

Several who responded to the recent neighborhood questionnaire suggested that expanding the Night Out program would be an activity they would like to see.

Plans are now underway to do that.

If you would like to assist, contact Ken Schuman or Bill McClure. Phone numbers appear on page 2.

ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPING, BEAUTIFICATION

May Yards of the Month

In living color on our website, www.richlandhoa.com



Richland Park
617 Harvest Glen
Melody & Dennis Lynch



Richland Park
525 Stillmeadow
Judy & Ken Wilson



Richland Oaks
425 Tall Oaks
Janey & Richard Buck

ARCHITECTURE, LANDSCAPING, BEAUTIFICATION

May Yards of the Month

In living color on our website, www.richlandhoa.com



**Richland Park
607 Stillmeadow
Maria & John Danna**



**Richland Oaks
1230 Whispering Oaks
Louis Hamilton**



**Richland Park
529 Sheffield
Susan & Alan Fischer**

NEIGHBORS

Spring **Bike Rodeo** and **PICNIC IN THE PARK** enjoyed by all



Some 40 children participated in the bike rodeo with parents and other neighbors standing by for the picnic in the park which followed. Many thanks to long-time sponsor Bike Mart who provided gift certificates. Thanks also to the volunteers and residents who were there to inaugurate the event.



Race you to Spring!

RICHARDSON
Bike Mart

Richardson
Dallas 214.321.0705 972.231.3993 Frisco 972.335.7600
bikemart.com

Check out the Richardson Bike Mart bike riders @ bikemart.com

Hi-tech Bikes • Old-fashioned Service

NEIGHBORS

Did you say COYOTE!

That's right. COYOTE! You've reported seeing them skulking down Richland Park, wandering around Walnut Street, nosing around in Richland Oaks. What's going on?

Long-time residents report that coyotes aren't anything new around here. They've been seen for years, they say, and speculation is that they come from the high grass area west of Abrams Road construction. The temptation to raid neighborhood trash sacks causes them to be less cautious about risking confrontations with humans.

Here's the thing. Other long-time residents report that cats seem to be a favorite meal for these coyotes.

A word to the wise. Keep your cats confined—especially at night—and if you do see a coyote in your area, call Richardson's Animal Control Department, 972/744-4480.

Permits required for scooter riders

Did you know that operators of electric or motorized scooters, age 12 or older, who do not have a valid driver's license are required to have a City of Richardson Scooter Permit?

Permits are obtained by completing a free scooter safety course sponsored by the Richardson Police Department. Scooter classes last from 45 to 60 minutes and are held every Wednesday at 4 p.m. at the Police Department.

Did you know that scooter operators younger than age 12 are restricted to public sidewalks for riding?

Did you know that pocket bikes or mini motorbikes cannot be legally operated on public roadways or sidewalks in the state of Texas?

Call 972/744-4955 for more information.

Source: "Richardson Today"

When strangers knock at your door— don't open—do report it to the police

A recent article in the city magazine "Richardson Today" asks citizens to report any strangers that knock on your door by calling 911. **According to the police it is important to let the stranger know that someone is in the residence** either by making a noise or asking what they want through the **closed and locked** door. Why? Burglars prefer to work in an empty home. If nobody answers the door they are likely to go to the back of the house to try to gain entry. Here are a few other safety tips from the police department.

Lock all doors and windows

Park your vehicles inside your garage

Remove the garage door opener from your car when you park your vehicle outside

Place locks on the inside of all fence gates

Make sure all exterior lighting is operational

Know your neighbors and get involved with your neighborhood Crime Watch program

Call in suspicious activity immediately to either 911 or 972/744-4800

Call for an appointment for a free Home Security Survey with your Crime Prevention Officer

Homestead exemption saves you money on property taxes

To qualify for the General Residential Homestead Exemption, the property must be designed or adapted for human residence and the homeowner must own the property on **January 1** of the year application is made. The person claiming the exemption must reside at the property on January 1 and cannot claim a homestead exemption on any other property.

If more than one individual (not a married couple) owns the property, each separate individual must make application if they reside at the property. Exemptions are allocated according to percent of ownership interest the applicant has in the property. The exemption application must be completed, notarized and include a driver's license or social security number and date of birth.

You may also qualify for the Over-65, Disabled Person and Disabled Veteran exemptions. Contact the DCAD Customer Service department, 214/631-0910 for more information.

To obtain an exemption, you must complete an application. Applications are mailed to new homeowners around the first week in February each year. You may also print an application from the DCAD website, www.dallascad.org. Enter your property address, scroll down and access your account by pressing the link. Just above the owner's name you will find a link entitled "Print Homestead Exemption Form." Print the application, have it notarized, attach any additional documentation requested and mail the form to the address listed on the top of the application.

There is no fee for filing this application with the appraisal district.

Source: Dallas Central Appraisal District (DCAD)

NEIGHBORS

On the market

500 Blk. Birch	\$ 229,900
400 Blk. Countryside	\$ 142,000
400 Blk. Fieldwood	\$ 182,900
400 Blk. River Oaks	\$ 110,100
400 Blk. Sheffield	\$ 187,350
500 Blk. Stillmeadow	\$ 189,000
	\$ 162,000
600 Blk. Stillmeadow	\$ 187,900
600 Blk. Tiffany Trail	\$ 234,500
1200 Blk. Whispering Oaks	\$ 131,000
	\$ 124,900
500 Blk. Wentworth	\$ 170,000
	\$ 185,000
600 Blk. Wentworth	\$ 210,000

Welcome to the neighborhood

Meet and greet these new neighbors soon.

Carolyn Clifford
407 Countryside
Constantine Kokolis
438 Sheffield
Kathy Lee
444 Sheffield
Scott and Amanda Pritchard Geddie
518 Stillmeadow
Everett and Evelyn Andrews
638 Stillmeadow
Derrick and Yquichessia McCloud
650 Stillmeadow
Resom A. Tesfamichael
642 Tiffany Trail
James W. Brown
512 Wentworth
Andrea Harris
524 Wentworth
Jack and Pamela Parker
435 Winding Brook
Jesus Roma
646 Wentworth

In deepest sympathy

Deepest sympathy to the families of Betty Jean Ponder and Andy Krause. Betty Jean passed away April 12 and Andy around the same time. Earlene Krause is now living in a care facility.

2008 Block Captains

Birch

400 Carol Levy 972-234-8069
500 Joseph & Anne Brophy 972-690-0195
600 Cassie McCampbell 972-235-1166

Country Side

400 Marshall & Lucy 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 Andrea & David Pickens 972-479-9122
600 Vinod & Traute Malhotra 972-669-1970

Harvest Glen

400 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434
500 Beverly Peavy 972-235-8518
600 David & Faye Galvan 972-680-8759

Hilton

1100 Judy Blome 972-783-7069

Park Bend

400 Pam Crum 972-690-6091
600 Gwen Turner 972-235-2152

Richland Oaks

1100 & 1200 Blocks Carol Ann Thomas 972-680-3392

Richland Park

1200 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434

River Oaks

400 Alice & Jamie Kelly 972-437-9053

Sheffield

400 James & Juanell Teague 972-238-5863,
Karen Atkinson 972-480-8712
500 Ron Coyne 972-690-5397, Michael Pinto 972-231-5381
600 Dewayne Mosley 972-437-1211, Michael Brown, 972-437-1211

South Lois Lane

1000 Janet Kurka 972-699-0913

Stillmeadow

400 Jim & Valenda Archer 972-238-9434
500 Gary & D'Nelle Lyons 972-238-8560
600 Dorthy & George McKearin 972-238-9308

Tall Oaks

400 Carolyn & Ed Murphy 972-234-6043

Tiffany Trail

400 Susan Mather 972-690-4123
500 Barbara & Russell Reed 972-234-1726
600 Pamela & Robert Tharp 972-690-0931

Wentworth

500 Deborah Jennings 972-699-1754
600 Millie & Dave Harrison 972-231-2748

Whispering Oaks

1100 & 1200 Blks. Neal & Florence Frager 214-766-4384

Winding Brook

400 Open

To volunteer as a Block Captain, call:

Millie Harrison
972-231-2748
milliecx@aol.com

NEIGHBORS

Lots of dates to celebrate this summer

Thanks to all of you who listed your family birthdays and anniversaries in the recent neighborhood questionnaire. As always there will be errors and omissions. Send corrections and additions to Valenda Archer, vk_archer@sbcglobal.net.

Happy Birthday !!

JUNE

Judy Bailey
Andy Patchen
Kathleen Schafer
Jaimie Scheer
Charlotte Gatlin
Tara Smutz
Tony Nichols
Charlie Patchen
Liz Wetherington
Sophie Nichols
Johanna Whitaker
Gill Gatlin
Bonnie Dieckmann
John Mathis
Greg Ylda
Susan Fischer
Dave Harrison
Jerry Smutz
Paul Humphries
Ann Brophy
Blake Burnham
Johnny Moffitt
Rose Lynn Lange
Gerald Perkus
Hazel Merz
Bruce Troy
Rowen Upton, Jr.

JULY

Alanna Singleton
Michelle Justice
Ivy Nichols
Suzannah Steagall
Chris Crank
Brenna Campbell
Alan Fischer
Jesse Nichols
Dominic Pomajzl
Jeromey Lange
Cynthia Rojas
Joni Holliday
Griff Mansfield
Vladimir Bulatovic
Ed Listol
Brooke Atkinson
Lea Ann Benson
Joe Brophy
Louise Metcalf
Perry Martin
Scott Ylda
Roxie Craig
Ronn Garrett
Madeline Fulton
Judy Mathis
Obi Obinwa
Erin Justice
Dee Jacobs
Janice Scheer

AUGUST

Jordyn Johnson
Chris Mansfield
John Barnes
Valenda Archer
Kay Forbes
Suzanne Martin
Martha Serafin
Deniece Moss
Ruth Jones
Charles Peavy
Greg Steagall
Gerry Broome
Pat Peveto
Cassie McCampbell
Abdullah Alkarboly
Benjamin Patchen
Ted Weeks
Lynn Evans
Ernest Rojas
Karen Mather
Amanda Wahdan



Happy Anniversary !!

JUNE

Kay & Phil Forbes
Beverly & Charles Peavy
Paul & Mixon Brabham
Pat & Frank Alexander
Charlotte & Bill Gatlin
D'Nelle & Gary Lyons
Gail & John Colwick
Susan & Alan Fischer
Elinor & Bob Barnett
Judy & Shawn Sutherland
Keila & Tony Nichols
Patsy & John McAdam
Sue & Art Wagner
Kay & Norman Tabor

JULY

Bobby & Joann Wood
Michael & Linda Pinto
Deniece & Curt Moss
Gwen & Roy Turner
Barbara & Larry Finnigan
Byron Clark & Saida Sevil
Sevillano
Joan & Perry Martin
Kirk & Tracey Klatt
Lynn & Jim Evans
Bonnie & Fred Dieckman
Benjamin & Amanda Witt

AUGUST

Brad & Woodrow Wilson
Julie & Steve Colter
Michelle & Charlie Patchen
Ruth & Bill Jones
Lesa & AJ Howard
Mike & Woody Jorgensen
Ann & Bill Medley
Nancy & Carl Wenholtz
Gloria & Paul Humphries
Beverly & Michael Bell

