

Richland Park Estates Neighborhood Association



Local 4th of July Events

Richardson Family 4th Celebration (Saturday, July 4, Gates open at 6:00 PM): Located just north of 75243, the City of Richardson hosts its free patriotic salute at Breckinridge Park. This event features kids' activities, live music from the Richardson Community Band, and a massive fireworks show under the stars. Free shuttle services run to the park from nearby designated parking lots on the President George Bush Turnpike.

Addison Kaboom Town (Friday, July 3): Situated roughly 15 minutes northwest of 75243, this is the premier pre-Fourth celebration in North Texas, featuring a world-class air show and legendary firework display at Addison Circle Park.

Lake Highlands 4th of July Parade & Carnival (Saturday, July 4 at 9:00 AM): This is the ultimate neighborhood event located directly inside 75243. The parade kicks off at Church Road & Green Oaks Drive, heading west down Church Road. It finishes at the circle drive of the Lake Highlands North Recreation Center for a free community carnival featuring food, music, games, and a festive atmosphere

Latest Community Updates

Infrastructure & Roadwork: The Dallas City Council has approved significant park, library, and infrastructure investments for the area. Drivers in 75243 will also see recent repaving improvements along Forest Lane.

Investigations: Police continue to investigate fatal shootings in the northeast Dallas corridor, including incidents near Forest Lane and the U.S. 75 Central Expressway.

Restaurants in or near 75243 with recent health inspection issues

Health inspections that score below 80 require immediate re-inspection or trigger closures. The most notable recent failing inspection in this area includes:

Escape Ultra Kitchen and Lounge (12255 Greenville Ave, Ste 130) – Score: 70

- *Details:* Inspectors noted multiple violations, including improper raw food storage (raw eggs stored above vegetables), a dishwasher testing at 0 ppm for sanitizer, and evidence of employees smoking in the kitchen area with ash/cigarette butts present.

Abrams Street Tacos (12125 Abrams Rd, Ste 108) – Score: 75

Taqueria Garcia's (9794 Forest Ln) – Re-inspected for previous violations. – Score: 75

Use this link to check on your favorite restaurants periodically. [City of Dallas Code Compliance](#) and the exact data set is [here](#).

A Disabled Dallas sanitation truck rolls into Lake Highlands home

By Syra Castillo courtesy of Advocate

A disabled Dallas Sanitation truck struck a house located in the 8500 block of Thunderbird Lane early Friday, June 26. According to a special announcement from the office of Council Member Kathy Stewart, the truck was being towed by a third-party towing company when it became detached from the tow vehicle, rolled away and struck the house.

Dallas Fire-Rescue crews responded to the scene, assessed the situation and confirmed there were no injuries. A structural assessment is underway, and the investigation is ongoing.

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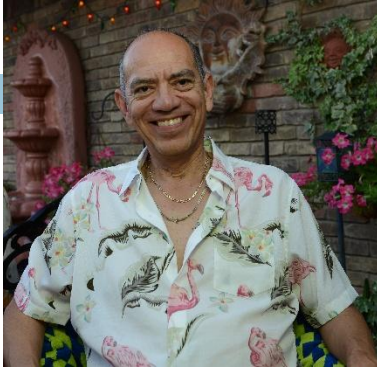
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President’s Letter

Hello Neighbors!

Summer has arrived and we are still getting rain, thank you mother nature! Thank you to all our neighbors who care for and nurture the wellbeing of our small neighborhood.

Texas weather can be so unpredictable. We can only control so much and the weather is not one of them.

We have two vacancies available on our board for the upcoming election. The first position is Beautification, which oversees the front entrance with plants, shrubs, flowers and watering. The second position is Activities chair. The board extends: "THANK YOU to Cindy Gautreaux for Beautification and husband Joe Gautreaux for all the hard work and Meghan Slavings for Activities chair. We miss you already, again Thank you for all your support to RPENA.

No prior experience is needed, just a positive attitude and "YES WE CAN" approach to both Beautification and Activities. We are all Volunteers on the board, and we help one another and support our association. We have meetings once a month that last from 1 hour to maybe 1.5 hours maximum. The board manages our neighborhood dues and stretches every dollar to help with everything from lawn service, camera security, signage, picnic supplies, and paying water bills. You can always send an email to rpena.president@gmail.com or speak to any board member for any concern. You can also visit our webpage rpenatx.org for important information.

Thank you all. Sam Puentes, RPENA President

“The Board needs your continued support and dues. The cost is \$110.00 for annual membership. The board is reviewing options to upgrade our security cameras, so if you can assist with some extra money we will gladly accept and thank you in advance. Sam Puentes

RPENA Officers

President	Sam Puentes
Vice President	Carol Eardley
Membership	James Hambay
Treasurer	Brooks Snyder
Activities	OPEN
Beautification	OPEN
Crime/Safety	Diane Mott
Secretary	Maria Tran
Member At Large	Angela & Levi Thurman
Newsletter	Tim Gallegos

Wildlife Activity

Urban wildlife like coyotes, bobcats, raccoons, possums, and skunks are highly active. They frequently navigate our neighborhood seeking food and water.

Per the Dallas City Wildlife Guidelines, they advise securing all outdoor trash, feeding pets indoors or behind fenced in area, and supervising small animals closely.

Let Wildlife Be Wild!

Please **DO NOT** feed, touch, or attempt to catch any wildlife you find. Our city is their home as well and we should view them from a safe distance and avoid interactions that could cause them to be more social or friendly with humans.

This can be difficult for those of us who love animals such as leaving water or food for feral animals, but it causes harm to attract them to the neighborhood.

While wildlife and pet interaction is rare, it is often our pets that cause the interaction. Neighbors are reminded to keep pets leashed while on walks. Summertime also brings one particular pest, the skunk. While it is beneficial to have them in the area, you don’t want them on your property. You can deter them by sealing gaps under sheds, decks and patios and any potential entry point in your fence and foundation.





MEMBERSHIP REPORT—June 2026

The Richland Park Estates Neighborhood Association exists because neighbors believe working together, we can best preserve our investment in our community, making RPE a great place to call home. That is evidenced by the fact that some of the original owners of homes built in 1977-79 are still living here. To maintain this organization over the years has required a lot of volunteers all doing their part, meeting once a month to discuss issues and plans and pitching in for special work projects and events like our upcoming neighborhood picnic on May 17.

We will be electing new officers this August who will guide RPENA Sept '26 through Aug '27. Would you be interested in joining our team? Here are the positions:

- President—Prepares agenda and presides over 11 monthly meetings currently on the 4th Tuesday of the months Jan-Nov.
- Vice President—Fills in for the President and handles special projects.
- Secretary—Prepares minutes of the monthly meeting which are then posted on our website—RPNATX.org
- Treasurer—Keeps financial records, depositing dues and paying bills.
- Membership—Conducts annual membership drive Sept-Nov with help of block captains.
- Beautification—Maintains front entrance at Audelia and the Claymore bridge area with assistance from a professional lawn service.
- Activities—Organizes 3 annual events to draw neighborhood together: #1 Spring Picnic—May 17, #2 National Night Out—Oct 6, and #3 Winter Holiday Party—TBA.
- Crime/Safety—Patrol neighborhood as needed, monitors our surveillance cameras, acts as our liaison to the Dallas Police Department.
- Newsletter—Prepares our digital newsletter for distribution to entire neighborhood. Articles are contributed by others.
- Website—Maintains and updates our neighborhood website, RPNATX.org where minutes and newsletters are archived.
- Member At Large—A good entry point for someone new wanting to learn about the workings of RPENA.
- Block Captains—Promote and assist with the annual membership drive Sept-Nov. This is another good entry point for someone wanting to get involved.

The first four positions are elected in August with the remainder being appointed.

Summer Cocktail



Blackberries are in season. This is great summer idea that blends the rich, smoky notes of Bourbon with the tart sweetness of muddled blackberries. A simple but sophisticated twist on the classic.

INGREDIENTS:

- 2-part(s) Bourbon
- 1 part(s) Blackberry Liqueur
- 2 dash(es) Bitters
- Blackberry for garnish

INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Add all ingredients to a mixing glass, add ice, and stir until well chilled.
2. Strain into an Old-Fashioned glass.
3. Garnish with a skewered blackberry

Meet Your Neighbors

We live in a vibrant community full of fascinating stories, and we want to hear yours! We are looking for local households to be featured in our upcoming "Meet Your Neighbor" column. It's a wonderful way to celebrate the diverse backgrounds that make our neighborhood feel like home.

Whether you've lived here for decades or just unpacked your last box, we'd love for you to share a bit about your journey.

How to Participate:

Please take a few minutes to complete our neighborhood questionnaire. You can access it via the link or QR code below:

Link: bit.ly/rpenaneighbor

(Note: The link is case-sensitive, so please type it exactly as shown or just follow the hyperlink!)



Beautification

By Cindy Gautreaux

Perennials: My New Hobby!

I hope you all have noticed the plant activity at the Claymore entrance. Experimenting with perennials has become my new hobby. While the flower beds on Audelia face west, there are only certain areas that receive full sun due to the large oaks. This shade/sun situation has presented a challenge in identifying the plants that will thrive. I've been extremely pleased with the African Daisies. There are two on each side of Claymore. Deadheading is helping to keep these plants blooming, but I'm sure it's not completely necessary.



Coral Bells are new to me. After planting the bright green variety in the entry beds, I decided to purchase the burgundy and green versions for the beds on either side of my front door.



The coleus (not perennial, but worthy of a photo) got off to a rough start, but after cutting them back and an abundance of rain, they are thriving in the shade of the oaks.

Four-nerve daisies (probably my favorite perennial) are blooming well in my

backyard where we have plenty of full sun. As I've mentioned before, they are not always easy to find, but well worth the hunt. Daisies are in the middle just below the strange bird.



We planted one Blackfoot Daisy last summer and added more a few weeks ago. Constant bloomer! Hope this inspires you to consider some planting. Many of our neighbors have shared plants over the years and it's heartwarming to see they are still thriving!

Repeating my favorite DIY weed killer recipe:

- 1-gallon white vinegar
- 1 cup table salt
- 1 tablespoon liquid dish soap

Combine all ingredients in a sprayer, adding the soap last. Shake to mix and spray on the warmest, sunniest day. Some of the stubborn weeds might need another dose. If you would like additional information, please feel free to email or text:

cindymail@sbcglobal.net, 214-532-7728



Treasurer Report

RICHLAND PARK ESTATES NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

May 2026 Treasurer Report

(Cash Basis)

	SEP	OCT	NOV	DEC	JAN	FEB	MAR	APR	MAY	TOTAL
TOTAL CASH OH HAND	3,091	5,636	9,455	10,461	10,303	8,473	8,398	8,449	7,914	
TOTAL INCOME	2,940	4,430	1,100	225	110	-	125	-	-	8,930

EXPENSES										TOTAL
Social Committee		458		302					74	833
Beautification Committee								458		458
Dues, Taxes, & Legal	16	16								32
Electricity (Ambit Energy)	35	36	36	25	48	37	36	36	36	324
Membership Committee										-
Grounds Maintenance @ \$48 + tax					1,452					1,452
Miscellaneous Repairs										-
Security-Camera System Serv										-
Security-Camera System Repairs					390					390
Security Camera Upgrade										-
Security-Dallas Police Services										-
RPENA Web Hosting (2 yr + domain annual)	15									15
Special Projects										-
Water (5 bills)	328	103	58	57	50	37	38	42	31	744
TOTAL EXPENSES	394	612	94	383	1,940	74	74	535	141	4,248

ENDING CASH ON HAND	5,636	9,455	10,461	10,303	8,473	8,398	8,449	7,914	7,773	
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PRIOR YEAR ENDING CASH ON HAND	10,126	11,051	11,649	10,088	9,846	9,894	9,682	4,235	4,043	
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Meet Your Neighbors

The Tracy Family | Halwin Circle



Say hello to Bob and Jackie Tracy, cherished members of the Richland Park Estates community for 34 years! For more than three decades, Bob and Jackie Tracy have called Richland Park Estates home, building lasting friendships and helping make our neighborhood the welcoming community it is today.

A retired couple with a passion for adventure, Bob and Jackie have traveled extensively, enjoying more than 60 cruises and numerous memorable land tours around the world. Their travels have taken them to destinations including South Africa, Morocco, Thailand, France, and Turkey, just to name a few.

🕒 When they're not traveling, the Tracys enjoy giving back through their church by mentoring engaged couples. They find great joy in helping others prepare for marriage and say the experience helps keep them young.

♠️ They also enjoy playing bridge. While you won't find them competing in tournaments, they appreciate the challenge and camaraderie the game provides.

📺 Bob and Jackie prefer a relaxed pace on weekends. Bob enjoys watching football during the fall, while Jackie often heads to a pops concert at the Myerson Symphony Center with friends. Together, they enjoy musicals, plays, and spending time with friends.

🍝 Favorite Local Spot: Anywhere that serves great Italian food!

🏠 The Tracys are enthusiastic participants in RPENA social activities, including Ladies Night Out, monthly dinner gatherings, and early morning walks where they enjoy greeting fellow neighbors.

★ Jackie served on the RPENA Board as President for three years and Treasurer for five years. Bob is also a dedicated community servant, having been a member of the Kiwanis Club for more than 50 years.

❤️ "It's wonderful feeling connected with our neighbors. We've really made great friends because this is such a caring neighborhood. We don't have any other family in the area, so our great neighbors have become our friends and feel like family."

Although retired, Bob and Jackie remain busy with travel, community involvement, and a wide variety of interests. Their enthusiasm for life and commitment to building connections embody the spirit of Richland Park Estates.

Thank you, Bob and Jackie, for helping make our neighborhood such a special place to call home!

