

RICHLAND NEWS

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

Ever wanted to serve on the RHA Board? Now is your opportunity!

Serving on the RHA Board is a great way to get involved with your neighborhood while serving your community in a positive, fun way.

Currently, the Richland Park/Oaks Neighborhood Homeowners Association is needing to fill the following position vacancies:

Block Captain Coordinator: This position requires nominal time, but is important to communicate with each block captain throughout the neighborhood!

Database Coordinator: This support-chair position requires Microsoft Excel and Publisher experience, plus entering data for the Neighborhood Directory.

Marketing Coordinator: This support-chair position will work with obtaining advertisers for the newsletter and assisting with promoting events, plus assisting our Activities/Socials Chair.

Contact Curtis Dorian at curtis@dorianbahr.com or 214.698.9936 to discuss the amount of involvement for each position, time expected and qualifications required.



2015 CALENDAR

FEBRUARY

- 12 Lincoln's Birthday
- 14 Valentine's Day
- 16 President's Day
- 17 Mardi Gras
- 18 Ash Wednesday
- 22 Washington's Birthday

MARCH

- 8 Daylight Savings Time
- 17 St. Patrick's Day
- 29 Palm Sunday

APRIL

- 1 April Fool's Day
- 15 Tax Day

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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 19-24.

**RHA
OFFICERS/BOARD**

2015 OFFICERS

President

Curtis Dorian
972.235.0230

Vice President

Traute Malhotra
214.597.2962

Secretary

Margaret Watt
972.783.7606

Treasurer

Valerie Standifer
972.977.0162

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Architecture/Beautification

Michael Bahr
972.235.0230
and
Millie Harrison
972.231.2748

Crime Watch

Bob McClure
972.699.7668

Newsletter

Jay Weesner
972.664.9210

Membership

Karla Weesner
972.664.9210

Website Coordinator

Open Position

Activities/Socials

David Kirkland
469.323.3422
and
Susan Bishop
214.793.1736

Advisory Members

D'Nelle Lyons
972.238.8560
and
Dave Harrison
972.231.2748



President's Message

Richland Homeowners Association
Richland Park and Richland Oaks Community

Dear residents of Richland Park/Oaks,

This was another good year for accomplishments in Richland Park/Oaks. Infrastructure is key to building a solid foundation; there are many people to thank for all the work that gets done throughout the year, far too many to list them all, but let me start with the following;

- Our streets and sidewalks continue to be worked on by COR and will continue to be a major priority,
- Previous landscaping has paid off, thanks to Michael Bahr (Beautification Chair); new sustainable and indigenous planting are now taking root and shaping all our entrances
- Our newsletter has never looked better, thanks to the talents of Jay Weesner (Newsletter Chair)
- We had a great turn out for our Spring Fling & Fall Carni-Fall (David Kirkland-Activity/Social Chair), NNO (Bob McClure-Crime Watch) and Flag Day (D'Nelle Lyons-At Large Member). Thanks to all the volunteers/vendors, residents and neighborhood friends that help puts these events in motion
- Thanks to Valerie Standifer, (Treasurer) for taking the lead locating a firm that specializes in HOA websites and providing materials needed to bring our HOA website current and adding PayPal for your convenience.
- Thanks to Traute Malhotra, (Vice President) for taking the lead in establishing our first "Little Library" in collaboration with FOL (Friends Of the Library).
- Karla Weesner, (Membership Chair) has surpassed her efforts to organize and provide a data-base for future Directory's and engaging in one of our best years ever for HOA membership.
- Thanks to Margaret Watts, (Secretary) for taking time to document our board minutes and provide a new simple and comprehensive outline for our residents to access. Now available on line.
- Special Thanks to Dave & Millie Harrison for providing us a place to hold our monthly HOA meetings among the many other long-time volunteer efforts contributed to this Community.

2015 proposed goals: Entrance Lighting, Architectural Landscaping
Don't forget to "LIKE" us on FaceBook and follow us on Nextdoor.
Remember, your greatest asset is your home.

Respectfully,
Curtis Dorian, President, RHA



Crime Watch Report

Richland Homeowners Association
Richland Park and Richland Oaks Community

Hi neighbors, in case you haven't noticed our crime rate has dropped...**big time**. For the last few months we have only had **TWO** incidents and that is only because they left their car unlocked. Keep up the good work. Remember to keep your garage door down and lock your cars.

Be aware of your surroundings at all times. Be careful out shopping, and if you can, take someone with you.

If you have tried to reach me and left a message on my home phone, I did not get it. My recorder has bit the dust so if you need to talk to me please call my cell, 214-763-0589. It's always on 24/7.

Stay safe out there!

Bob McClure, Crime Watch Coordinator
214.763.0589 • crimewatchone@yahoo.com

Criminals are targeting vehicles when items are left inside unattended.

Tips to remember:

- Park your vehicle inside your garage if possible.
- Remove all items from inside your vehicle every time you are away for any reason!
- If you cannot take your items out for some reason, place them inside the trunk.
- If you have a removable faceplate on your car stereo,

remove it before going inside. Take it with you inside!

- Remove your garage door opener from inside your vehicle.
- Park your vehicle in a lighted area. If you cannot park in the garage, park in the driveway with security lights that cannot be reached easily.
- Become members of your Crime Watch Patrol in your area and help make your neighborhood even better than it is already!

Richland Park and Richland Meadow's Personal Officer

Ed Coleman [214.282.0843]

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.).



You may have heard of the “Little Free Libraries”. These are small boxes often mounted on poles or stands in neighborhoods that hold a small collection of books that are available on a free “take a book, return a book” basis. These “Libraries” are often installed by neighborhood associations in a member’s front yard, or in the common areas of a homeowners association.

Great News! Richland Park HOA has received its first Little Free Library. It is located in front of 638 Goodwin Dr.

A big thank you to The Friends of the

Richardson Public Library who approved our request and provided us with a do-it-yourself kit to build it.

A Little Free Library becomes a magnet for those in the neighborhood out for a walk, who might want to stop by and see what books are available. And the books never run out, because these same neighbors are encouraged to leave books when they are finished with them, or to add even more books that they think their neighbors may enjoy.



Pictured, left to right: David Kirkland, Millie Harrison, Dave Harrison, Michael Bahr, Traute Malhorta, Curtis Dorian, Karla Weesner, D’Nelle Lyons.

The RHA officers and Board Members want to give a heartfelt thanks to Ken Shuman, who passed away on October 6th 2014. He served as one of our HOA board member for many years. Ken, provided a multitude of volunteer services for our neighborhood, most notably for his efforts in overseeing our fun-filled Spring & Fall neighborhood events. He will be missed. Ken is survived by his wife Ruth, and daughters, Teresa and Melissa.

Nextdoor

When neighbors start talking, good things happen. Nextdoor makes it easy to communicate with your neighbors about the issues that matter most in your community.

- Share recommendations about local services (e.g. babysitters, plumbers, dentists)
- Organize neighborhood events (e.g. HOA, neighborhood watch, National Night Out)
- Report suspicious activities, help prevent crime, and receive updates from local police
- Connect with parents, pet owners, and other groups in your neighborhood
- Get to know your fellow neighbors so you can finally call them by name



Nextdoor protects you, your information, and your neighborhood. More than 40,000 neighborhoods across the country trust Nextdoor to keep them safe.

- Neighbors only**
Each Nextdoor website is password-protected and private to you and your neighbors. Members must verify that they live in the neighborhood before they can join a Nextdoor website.
- All your information is secure**
Nextdoor takes your privacy seriously. None of the information you share on Nextdoor is available on search engines. And your personal information is never shared with advertisers or third parties.
- Make your neighborhood safer**
When neighbors know each other, they look out for one another. Nextdoor makes it easy to come together to create watch groups, report suspicious activity, and prevent crime before it happens.

Join today!
It's free.

Join your Nextdoor neighborhood at:
nextdoor.com

Featured in

The New York Times USA TODAY Los Angeles Times CNN WALL STREET JOURNAL parenting WIRED

Creating Better Home Protection

Article submitted by Dr. Leonard Nijssen.

Hello fellow residents, my name is Dr. Leonard Nijssen. My wife and I have been residents of Richardson since early 2014.

On Monday, October 7 we were at the National Night Out when it was suggested by a neighbor that I write an article for the RichlandNEWS newsletter.

First I will give a few links to good but limited reports. For your protection please read the articles:

1: <http://yourlocalsecurity.com/blog/2012/10/30/five-ways-id-break-into-your-home-a-former-cop-tells-all/>

2: <http://yourlocalsecurity.com/blog/2012/10/04/distraction-burglary-even-a-security-system-cant-protect-you-from-it/>

Note from one of the articles:

Burglar's tools. *If I must, I'll bring along some burglar's tools. A crow bar, a credit card or a bump key make ideal burglary helpers. If I have a quality bump key (a key that is filed and manipulated to unlock nearly any door) I can enter your home nearly as fast as you can.*

In view of this last statement, I suggest that a hotel type flip latch is installed with screws that go not less than 3 inches into the framework. A chain is only "decorative", is easy to cut and gives no real protection.

2013 Richardson population statistic as per the Internet: **104,475.**

Statistics dealing with what I believe to fall under "home crimes" year to date 10-9-2014 extracted from: <https://www.cor.net/modules/showdocument.aspx?documentid=10976>

"Robbery Individual"	29
"Burglary Habitation"	126
"Burglary of Motor Vehicle"	585
"Theft of Bicycles"	25
"Theft from Building"	160
"Trespassing" (This may be anywhere, not just private homes).....	35
Property totals:	
Value of stolen property.....	\$3,480,190
Value of recovered property.....	\$913,529

The overall crime rate is low. However, anyone of us can be a victim, as we were. To me, the value of stolen property is staggering with non-recovered property being **\$2,566,661.** Therefore we need to take reasonable precautions to protect our hard earned valuables and loved ones.

In June, we were subjected to a break-in/burglary while we were absent. According to the police, I may actually have chased them off when I arrived home and opened the garage door.

They, I suspect more than one and young by all indications, were quite blatant. They removed a bunch of grapes from the refrigerator and were eating them while going through the house. The balance of the bunch was on the back deck, where they escaped over the high wall.

Since that time I have joined the Richland Crime Watch Patrol and soon you may see me cruising around with the Crime Watch signs on my car.

After the break-in and more trespasses, I have been working with several Police Officers including Officer Adam Perry who has given great suggestions for added security. These suggestions have now been implemented.

Professionally, I come with a strong criminal justice background as a superintendent at the largest (clearinghouse) prison in California. One of my degrees, a B.S. in psychology, was quite useful in dealing with the inmates. Therefore, I have, other than the police, most likely a better insight than many people as to the "mindset" of criminals. Here I am referring to "professional" and/or "habitual" criminals, which are not necessary the same. Please do not be mistaken; quite a few of the "professional" inmates are highly intelligent. Prior to being caught, they first think out their crime(s) and "case the potential crime scene" before committing the crime. They also have people go around potential target areas to obtain information regarding the security. It occurred (belatedly) to me that, not long before the burglary, what looked like a family of women and children rang our doorbell wanting to know whether

we needed any kind of service. While this *may* have been genuine, it also *may* have been "spotters". It looked "unusual" and the adults seemed "jittery". ***I should have called the police*** to report this but didn't.

Many of the "habitual" criminals are more the impulsive, opportunistic type and are frequently of lesser intelligence- while not always so. Many of the criminals have a low opinion of "free" people. To quote verbatim from inmates I counseled: "Most of the 'free' people are stupid, they give us many a time an easy opportunity to commit a crime, like open doors or windows, unlocked car doors, even keys in the ignition". *I suggest that we attempt to do better.*

The laws we have to protect us are good but the legal system has, in my opinion, some flaws with regards to the *protection* of **criminals**. As an example, it is not recommended to put barbed wire on top of your high fence (any fence) or any device that could cause serious bodily injury. A criminal intending to break into **your** place **may get hurt** and **may sue you for damages!** Check it out if you doubt me. Or worse, a person with a legitimate reason to be there may get injured and sue you for damages.

Unfortunately, while obviously needed, prison is not the deterrent that many people think it is. As a matter of fact, while in prison, those inmates may have better access to **free** food, clothing, housing, medical, library, study materials, entertainment, **criminal "education,"** even drugs, and more.

Frequently, they get substantial **free** services. More needed services than some "free" people on limited income have access to.

As a result, to give an example of one inmate I counseled, when I told him that, if he would repeat.... he would be back in prison. His answer, "So what!" He did not care; prison

was "home" to him. His age was 28.

To give another example, an older inmate who was released after serving his time. **Immediately** he stole a car, went on a police chase, of course was captured and returned to the prison the same day that he was released. When he was walked in he called out to the other inmates: "Hey guys, I am back" and was a hero to many inmates. "Outside" he had nothing to look forward to, no money, no housing, none of the benefits you and I, as taxpayers, are paying for, and **free** to him "inside" where he had all he needed. This thinking goes for both male and female criminals.

Of course you and I, the taxpayers, have to pay for **our** needs as well (double jeopardy?), we pay "coming and going".

Criminals have absolutely NO respect or consideration for people like you and I. For that matter, to the vast majority of "professional" and/or "habitual" criminals, the only important person is themselves. If someone else in whatever manner gets hurt "That is too bad."

I would like to reiterate some advice that at least in part you probably have been given repeatedly by both the police and the crime watch. I will add two more useful, easy and cheap things that you can do to create further security.

To repeat some strong suggestions and while, for some people, some of this might sound like "overkill", when one has been burglarized like we have, and knows, more or less, the criminal's mindset (nobody ever knows for sure) it certainly is not overkill. Better safe than sorry and you might sleep better. After getting into a habit of doing what is needed it becomes easy.

If you find problems with the following, ask the police/crime prevention for confirmation.

1: Be sure that all doors and windows are secured properly, day and night, **at all times** that you do not immediately need to use either the door(s) or windows **and they are out of your direct line of sight.** For "just a moment" is all an observing criminal may need to enter. It is recommended by the experts to install secondary locking devices and make sure that any deadbolt extends at least 1 full inch into the striking plate of the doorframe.

2: To repeat: **at all times**, be sure that **every door and window you cannot observe directly at all times** is locked. This includes the garage door even if you are working in the immediate area, out of "direct line of sight" and in an area where a criminal might enter unseen into the garage. Even when you need to go "just for a moment" inside the house. When I clean our alley from leaves I first close the garage door and have a spare door opener on me. Even turning my back "for a short time" so that I cannot see the parking area behind the garage may be sufficient for a criminal to enter and remove something of value. Closing the door is simple to do. Also, when closing the door, never leave the garage door out of direct line-of-sight until it is actually fully closed.

That "just for a moment" is all an observing criminal will need to get inside and you may be faced with a face-to-face confrontation, which may get you seriously hurt. This is the psychological reaction of the "flight or fight" aspect.

Additionally, I found out that the electronic signal for the older type of garage door opener may be on a "rolling sequence" and it is possible that a close neighbor *may* have a signal that temporarily matching a nearby garage door receiver. But don't let this alarm you, one reputable garage door company states that their

system uses “billions of possible code combinations” and changes each time this system is used. Calling *Overhead Door* I was informed that about every 5 years controls are upgraded and “an older type” **could** be as short as over 5 years old. How old is **your** system? I would suggest asking for expert advice about the security of your system. Just calling Overhead Door again I was told that they charge \$29 to \$39 for a service call.

A few days ago, my wife got up at about 5 am and felt nothing wrong. When I got up at about 7 am, the first thing I felt was a cold draft coming from under the connecting door to the garage. When I looked down I saw a line of light coming from under the door. The garage door was open. The conclusion was two fold (I of course had called the police). First, and worst, was that a criminal(s) had just opened the door somehow and I surprised the criminal(s) because, after further review, nothing was missing. Less likely, as the police officer pointed out, there might have been a temporary match with the door opener from a neighbor. Fact remains, the door was open. Further, I have heard about criminals having several door openers using them while driving down the alleys to see if a garage door will open. This is rare and their chances are slim with the code technology today. Regardless, check the garage door frequently and call or notify your neighbor if you see his or her garage door opened. Together, as neighbors watching out for each other, we can deny a criminal access to our hard earned belongings and loved ones.

3: Lock the door between the house and the garage when you do not need immediate access. Often it is very easy to get into the garage and from there into the house. Experts recommend a solid core door with a deadbolt locking system. It is **your** security and safety you are dealing

with. Protect yourself.

4: Lock the backyard gate and, as mentioned, any door into the house that you cannot observe directly to include the door to the patio. Leaving any door partially open for a pet, even with a “locking stick” is **dangerous** thinking. Many a time, a criminal may be able to “flip” the stick reaching through “the pet opening”. Pet doors are notoriously dangerous because they allow access to more than just your pet(s). Criminals also use petite people or children to enter through a pet door or windows including small basement and bathroom windows. All need to be secured properly. If a pet door cannot be removed and closed off, consider having a locking mechanism on it and only unlocking it during the time the pet needs to go outside. After the break-in we do not sleep soundly and wake up frequently. This is both physically and emotionally unhealthy. I went to bed last night at about 2am and woke up several times.

5: Install automatic motion detection lights *including beside the house* in otherwise a dark ally or anywhere where criminals might hide in shadows. Help the police and the crime-watch to keep **you** safe and secure. Remember, neither the police nor the crime-watch can be everywhere at all times.

6: An alarm system with a loud alarm can be quite useful and work as a deterrent for the criminal. It can also be strong irritant to neighbors. Get advice for this. There are several types of alarm systems, from simple and “relatively cheap” (usually inadequate) to highly sophisticated and more costly. The industry standard is that all doors and windows, as well as the garage door, have an active sensor and the alarm monitored 24/7. Surveillance cameras are another option that can be added to many alarm systems.

Certain systems not only alert the alarm company of motion but can also send the resident a message and image of the monitored area upon activation. I have heard of a situation where a home owner, who was out of the country, could see an intruder on their cell phone (I don’t know what kind of cell phone that was).

7: Avoid having high plants or other objects in the back yard and immediate area around the house where bandits might hide. Make it easier for the police and the crime-watch to try to keep you secure and safe. Trim your trees up at least 7 feet off the ground and your shrubs no higher than 3 feet tall. A good rule of thumb is, if you can hide behind your landscaping, so could a criminal.

8: You may have been told this before, lay a stick behind the sliding **locked** patio door to prevent the door from being slid open. Additionally, install a lock pin device in the frame to further secure the door from being tampered with.

9: A less inexpensive option that has probably been suggested before is to get security doors for all outside doors. Some garages have an extra entrance door and this door is included for the need of a security door. Most homes already have solid core doors on the front and back doors but occasionally they are replaced by a homeowner years after who, for cost savings measures, installs a hollow core door.

10: Another less expensive option is to install or have installed security film (or laminate) over all windows. In our house this cost about \$500.00. There are various types and levels of security film so it is important to do your homework before making this purchase.

11: One of the suggestions I have received is to remove the handle at the end of the cord hanging behind the garage door in the center. A criminal can easily and quickly “fish”

that cord through the upper part of the doors (which can be pushed inward) and pull the cord to open the garage door. With the handle removed, such a fishhook will slide off the cord.

Garage doors with windows should have the windows closed or “blacked out” or a criminal can see what they are doing and use a different device to hook into the top above the cord into the door lever and thus open the door. By blocking the view through the windows, it also prevents a criminal from seeing your valuables inside.

12: Having pepper spray or pepper mist on hand is a warranted additional precaution. At the advice of the sales person at Academy Sports and Outdoors we decided to get Mace Pepper Gel Magnum 3 Spray for \$14.99 but would have preferred the Pepper Mist, which they do not stock. The Pepper Spray has a straighter spray and reaches supposedly up to about 18 feet on full charge, further than the mist. The distance is expected to diminish after use and over a period of time. However, the mist spreads out faster and thus is easier to handle under stress situations where one may have less accuracy. The type we got also includes invisible UV Dye, which is hard to remove, so that, when a criminal has been hit anywhere, the police can quite easily identify the criminal as the person they are looking for.

Per the information received from the store manager, the shelf life, the length of time that the unit is expected to last before considering replacement, is at least 5 years when stored under standard home conditions. When stored in a place like the glove compartment, the shelf life will be greatly reduced.

13: Burglars will knock on doors to see whether anyone is home. If they hear nothing they will assume

that nobody is home and very likely will, somehow, enter your home. When people are home and have failed to call out, they could startle a burglar inside the residence causing a dangerous situation for both.

In some cases juveniles or younger are left alone in the house. In such a situation the juvenile/child should be trained to call out **LOUDLY**: “Dad, MOM, there is someone at the door” pretending that adults are present. Quite likely the criminal will look for an easier target.

14: Security at the pump.

A number of people make various mistakes when filling up at the gas station and I used to make one of the mistakes myself. My neighbor related that recently, in the middle of the day and at one of the gas stations on Greenville, his grand daughter was subject of an attempted carjacking.

Mistakes people make, starting with the worst: Leave the engine running while filling up. While it is not illegal as long as the vehicle is attended, this should be illegal. It is very dangerous. It becomes even worse, when the potential victim goes into the station to either shop or for whatever other reason. I saw an article on the news recently where the car was stolen with a small child in the car when the driver went into the station.

Some will leave the keys in the car while filling up and possibly go into the station for whatever. It is therefore strongly suggested to turn off the engine, remove the keys and lock the car while filling up. This even applies when a passenger is present who remains in the car. A carjacker can jump into the car while the passenger is present and effectively kidnap the passenger.

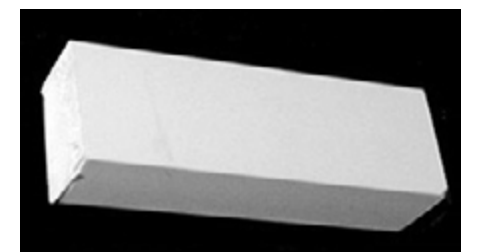
To add a few tricks which are indeed inexpensive and quite effective.

A: Get a cane with an upward

curved part of the handle and, especially (where this can be done) when absent or when going to bed, prop this on an angle securely under any door not needed to get back into the house. It will be almost impossible to “kick in” the door. There are security devices that are made specifically for this purpose and can be purchased online or at many home improvement stores.

B: We have sliding windows and I had been unable to find, in my opinion, proper security locks without costing more than I wished to spend and which would require drilling for mounting. Thinking this over and looking around at local hardware store, I found a hard plastic white rectangular solid rod (not a tube) of, I believe, 10’ length and costing just over \$10.00. Dimensions of this “rod” are 1” wide and ¾” thick. Easy to cut to a slightly greater length (1/16”) for the space to be secured and clamped into the opening. After installing this, that window will not move, will be very difficult for criminals to remove and, for seven windows, cost just over \$20.00.

Here is an image of the “stick”.



As a crime watch patroller newly working with the Crime Prevention Unit, may I offer a suggestion to refer your readers to contact the Richardson Crime Prevention Unit with any technical questions or for a free home safety survey by calling 972-744-4800.

This information has been reviewed and edited by Officer Adam Perry of The Richardson Police Department, Crime Prevention Unit.



In Case of an Emergency, Be Ready Richardson!

Prepare yourself and your family:

- 1. Be Informed:** Learn what protective measures to take before, during and after an emergency.
 - Sign Up for the **Local Emergency Notification System** which will notify you of emergency situations in your area based on your home address. To register visit: www.cor.net/ENS or call 972-744-0900.
 - Follow us on Twitter: <https://twitter.com/RichardsonOEM>
- 2. Make a Plan:** Establish a support network and create an emergency plan by visiting [ready.gov](http://www.ready.gov), direct link: http://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/FamEmePlan_2013.pdf
- 3. Build a Kit:** Gather supplies for an emergency using this list http://www.ready.gov/sites/default/files/documents/files/checklist_1.pdf
- 4. Get Involved:** Volunteer to support efforts in our community. For more information on opportunities and groups, visit www.cor.net/GetInvolved

**Richardson Office of
Emergency Management**
<http://www.cor.net/em>



City of Richardson Programs

What should responders know about you?

Special Needs Assistance Program: Allows citizens to notify responders of any need or medical condition. Register online at www.SnapForYou.org or call 972-744-0900.



File of Life: Allow medical responders to quickly access your medical and prescription information in an emergency. For more information, visit www.cor.net/FileOfLife. Pick up a kit at any Fire Station, at the Senior Center, or call 972-744-5750.



Residential Lockbox Program: Expedites access inside a home during medical or other emergencies. Offered at no charge to residents who meet the requirements. Register online at www.cor.net/Lockbox or call 972-744-4800.



Prepare Your Business

Visit [ready.gov/business](http://www.ready.gov/business) for resources and take an assessment quiz at readyrating.org/

Contact Us!

The Office of Emergency Management provides public education presentations on emergency preparedness to groups within the City of Richardson.
Please contact us to request a presentation at 972-744-0900 or oem@cor.gov.



Are You **READY!**

Some disasters strike without any warning. Have you thought about those supplies you'll need the most? They will usually be the hardest to come by. Enlist your children to help gather supplies for your family's emergency kit. It'll bring you a sense of relief, and your kids a feeling of empowerment.

Make sure you have enough supplies to last for at least **three days**. Think about where you live and your needs. Consider having a large kit at home, and smaller portable kit in the car or your workplace.

If a big storm is coming...

- ✓ Fill your car with gas
- ✓ Fill plastic bags with water and place them in the freezer
- ✓ Get extra cash out of the bank
- ✓ Fill prescriptions

Emergency Supplies List

- | | |
|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> 3-day supply of non-perishable food (dried fruit, canned tuna fish, peanut butter, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Can opener <input type="checkbox"/> Paper plates, plastic cups and utensils, paper towels <input type="checkbox"/> Moist towelettes, garbage bags and plastic ties for personal sanitation <input type="checkbox"/> Water – at least a gallon per person, per day for drinking and hygiene <input type="checkbox"/> First aid kit <input type="checkbox"/> Prescription medication and glasses <input type="checkbox"/> Sleeping bag or warm blanket for everyone in your family <input type="checkbox"/> Change of clothes to last for at least 3 days, including sturdy shoes; consider the weather where you live <input type="checkbox"/> Matches in a waterproof container <input type="checkbox"/> Toothbrush, toothpaste, soap and other personal items <input type="checkbox"/> Feminine hygiene supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Fire extinguisher <input type="checkbox"/> Wrench or pliers to turn off utilities <input type="checkbox"/> Dust mask, and plastic sheeting and duct tape, to help filter contaminated air <input type="checkbox"/> Battery-powered or hand-cranked radio and extra batteries <input type="checkbox"/> Flashlights and extra batteries <input type="checkbox"/> Cell phone with charger, extra battery and solar charger | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Whistle to signal for help <input type="checkbox"/> Household chlorine bleach and medicine dropper (when diluted nine parts water to one part bleach, bleach can be used as a disinfectant. Or in an emergency, you can use it to treat water by using 16 drops of regular household liquid bleach per gallon of water. Do not use scented, color safe or bleaches with added cleaners.) <input type="checkbox"/> Local maps <input type="checkbox"/> Cash or traveler's checks <input type="checkbox"/> Emergency reference material such as first aid book or information from www.ready.gov <input type="checkbox"/> Important family documents such as copies of insurance policies, ID, and bank records in a waterproof, portable container <input type="checkbox"/> Pet supplies <input type="checkbox"/> Infant formula and diapers <input type="checkbox"/> Paper and pencil <input type="checkbox"/> Books, games or puzzles (let your kids pick these out themselves!) <input type="checkbox"/> Your child's favorite stuffed animal or security blanket <input type="checkbox"/> Pet food and extra water for your pet |
|--|---|

Don't forget to think about infants, elderly, pets, or any family members with special needs!



<http://www.ready.gov/kids>



Emergency Notification System Enrollment

City of Richardson Office of Emergency Management

PO BOX 830309 Richardson, TX 75083-0309

Phone: (972)744-0900 Fax: (972)907-1603

Email: oem@cor.gov

Emergency Notification Enrollment	
Last Name:	First Name:
Address:	
Street Address	Apartment
City	State ZIP Code
Note: Residential landlines are automatically included in the system	
Mobile or VOIP Number: ()	Can we send text? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
2 nd Phone: ()	Can we send text? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
3 rd Phone: ()	Can we send text? YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO <input type="checkbox"/>
Email:	
Additional Information	
How did you learn about this program?	

NOTICE: This system IS NOT utilized for Severe Weather Notifications due to lack of warning time associated with most severe weather. For timely severe weather warnings, secure a NOAA All-Hazards Weather Radio with Specific Area Message encoding (SAME) technology. Due to the unforeseen events and lack of warning time associated with some emergencies, no agency can guarantee you will personally receive a notification for every emergency. This resource is intended to serve a ONE tool to help provide emergency warning information; therefore, please keep yourself informed by continuing to monitor other public safety warning and information systems such as social media, television & radio whenever possible.

Richland Park & Richland Oaks

Architecture • Landscaping • Beautification

Contact: Michael Bahr 972.235.0230 or architectural@richlandhoa.com

Working in your garden is an excellent escape. It's a great time of year to do some of the heavy work in the landscape as opposed to sweating it up in the heat of the summer.



Don't put up the mower yet. Although turf grasses have stopped growing, you can use the mower to chop up and recycle the leaves back into the lawn or for a compost pile.

Prepare gas-powered engines for winter. The owner's manual is the best guide to winterizing a lawn mower, tiller, garden tractor or other power equipment.

Drain and store garden hoses and watering equipment in a readily accessible location. Lawns and other plants may need an occasional watering during prolonged dry spell.

In general, once the weather gets and stays cold, pruning of deciduous plants (ones that lose their leaves) can be safely done. Evergreen hedges can be sheared or cut back in the winter also. Wait until February to prune your roses. Remember – Do Not Top your Crapemyrtles! Simply prune to remove seed heads and shape.

One of the best things you can do for your landscape plants is to provide a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch during cold weather. Mulching is necessary year round but during the colder periods it provides a layer of insulation for the roots. Water your landscape well before a cold spell. A drought stressed plant is more susceptible to freeze damage. For more tender plants, purchase frost cloth for extra protection. Cover the plant completely allowing the edges to come all the way to the ground, utilizing the heat which radiates from the ground.

It is a perfect time to plant trees and shrubs so they can develop a strong root system for next Spring. Cool weather color such as Pansies, Snapdragons, Cyclamen, Flowering Cabbage and Kale add splashes of color to your landscape. Spring flowering bulbs can be planted now once they have been properly chilled.

Make your home beautiful for the Holidays with a stunning assortment of floral quality Poinsettias, Cyclamen, freshest greenery and Christmas Trees. Add a mix of new indoor and tropical plants to energize your home décor.

Remember to provide food and water for the birds this winter. You can attract just as many birds with a bird bath as with food, especially during the dry spells. To draw a diversity of birds provide a variety of seeds, like sunflower, thistle, safflower and millet; plus suet. Once you begin putting out bird food, continue feeding them through the spring time.

Have a very blessed Happy New Year!

Most Sincerely,

(ALB)Architectural /Landscaping and Beautification Chair, Richland HOA Board

Michael Bahr

Information courtesy of Calloway's Nursery ©2014, www.calloways.com.

RESIDENTIAL CODE ENFORCEMENT

The Residential Inspection Program was established to compliment residents' efforts to maintain neighborhood desirability and encourage reinvestment. By working together we can keep Richardson an attractive, healthy, and safe place to live! Over the years, minimum property maintenance standards have been established to help realize this goal. Below are some of the issues our code enforcement staff address on a daily basis:

Address Numbers

To enable the Police and Fire Departments to respond quickly to emergency calls, address numbers must be posted so that they are clearly visible from the street and alley. Numbers must be posted on the curb or curbside mailbox and on the front and back of a residence on the home, garage, fence, or other structure between 3 and 10 feet off the ground. Address numbers must be a minimum of 3 inches high so that they are easily seen.

High Grass and Weeds

Residents are responsible for maintaining the grass and weeds at their property, including all adjacent parkways and alley easements. Grass and weeds are in violation when they reach a height of 12 inches.

Vegetation

Trees, bushes and other vegetation must be kept trimmed 7 feet above sidewalks, 14 feet above streets and alleys, and 1 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. New fences or significant replacement of existing fences require a permit. Call the Building Inspection Department at 972-744-4180 for more information.

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 6-foot, solid wooden fence. Outside storage is limited to one percent of a residential lot.

Trash and Debris

Residents are responsible for ensuring their property, including all adjacent parkways and alley easements, is free of litter and debris. This includes not placing trash out for collection on non-collection days. To ensure timely collection, trash should be placed out before 7:00 am on collection days only.

Brush And Bulky Item Collection

Brush and Bulky Item Collection (BABIC) is a free service offered to Richardson residents. The service is designed to help residents dispose of large amounts of brush and oversized items like unwanted appliances and furniture that cannot be placed out for regular trash collection. Residents must request BABIC service prior to placing an item on the parkway for collection. Requests for brush or bulky item collection service can be made 24-hours a day, 7-days a week by leaving a voice-mail message at (972) 744-4111 or by completing an [on-line request form](#). If you wish to dispose of (rather than recycle) small bundles of branches, they should be cut to 3-foot lengths and placed out for regular trash collection.

Minimum Property Standards

Residents are responsible for maintaining homes and businesses by keeping the exterior (brick, wood, siding, roof, windows, doors, etc.) free of holes and other defects. All wood surfaces must be painted and in good condition.

Home Occupations/Garage Sales

Home businesses are permitted in Richardson so long as they are incidental to the primary use of the premises. If you want to operate a business from your home, please contact Community Services to ensure your business does not violate the home occupation ordinance. A residence may conduct up to three garage sales per year. Each sale may last no longer than three consecutive days.

Yard Parking

Residents may not park vehicles on grass between a front building wall and the street, or between a side building wall and the street on corner lots. In addition, vehicles may not be parked on vacant or unimproved lots.

Junk Vehicles

Junked vehicles, which are vehicles that are wrecked, dismantled or inoperable and do not have a current registration or safety inspection sticker, cannot be parked in public view. For a brief overview of the ordinances residential code enforcement officers enforce, please visit our [Residential Quick Code Page](#).



RHA Membership

We encourage all residents in our community to participate in RHA. To join, please complete the form that was mailed out recently or use the one that is included on page 13 of this newsletter and return it to: RHA, PO Box 852636, Richardson, Texas, 75085-2636. Our year is based on a calendar year and your dues will be for the current year.

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:

- Crime Watch Patrol (all patrol members are trained volunteers)
- Maintenance & updating of entry landscaping
- Social activities for all ages
- Representation at City of Richardson meetings
- Interaction with RISD, Richardson Police and Fire Departments
- Seasonal yard awards
- The "Richland News" neighborhood newsletter
- Neighborhood Directory (available only to association members)
- Neighborhood Website

Thank you,
RHA Membership Committee





Richland Homeowners Association 2015 Membership Registry

Membership Dues for January 1st through December 31st, 2015

Dear Neighbors:

We are fortunate to have a long-running Richland Park/Oaks Homeowners Association (RHA), established in 1976. RHA provides many services to keep our neighborhood beautiful, safe, and friendly. It's a voluntary organization, open to home owners and tenants alike. **But it only works with your support!** Please be a part by contributing your dues and time. New for this year you can now join online at www.richlandhoa.com and use to pay your dues.

Membership dues are only **\$40 a year** and provide the following valuable services:

- **Crime Watch Patrol** – by trained neighborhood volunteers
- **Beautification:**
 - ~ Matching Fund Projects
 - ~ Neighborhood Integrity Programs
 - ~ Replace Lighting with Architectural Enhancements (e.g., lighting, landscaping)
- **Social Activities for all ages:**
 - ~ Spring Fling Festival
 - ~ Carni-Fall Festival
 - ~ Flags for the 4th of July
 - ~ National Night Out
- **Representation at City of Richardson** meetings and coordination of matching projects
- **Interaction with RISD** (local elementary school), **Richardson Police and Fire Departments**
- **Richland News** neighborhood newsletter. The first two newsletters go to the entire neighborhood, but the last two are delivered **only** to RHA members (also available online)
- **Neighborhood Directory** (available **only** to association members)
- **Neighborhood Website** (www.richlandhoa.com) – linked to <http://www.cor.net/>
- **RHA Social Networking Site** limited to residents only: <https://richlandhoa.nextdoor.com/>
- **We're also on Facebook**

Please fill out the 2015 membership form, even if you're:

- 1) A member who has completed a form in the past, or
- 2) Unable to join at this time, since:

We use the information to compile an accurate list for Crime Watch Patrol contact information, the Neighborhood Directory, and develop email communication lists. We never share this information with outside parties – it's just for the neighbors and the neighborhood.

Thanks for your support!

Richland Homeowners Association 2015 Membership Registry

(Please PRINT clearly or register online at 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 th 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

Annual Dues	\$40.00
Additional Contribution (Tax Deductible)	_____
Total	\$ _____

Check enclosed PayPal Bank Payment Service

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

Crack Pie Recipe from Carni-Fall Pie Contest Winner Amy Peart

Ingredients

Oat cookie crust:

- Nonstick vegetable oil spray
- 9 tablespoons (1 stick plus 1 tablespoon) unsalted butter, room temperature, divided
- 5 1/2 tablespoons (packed) golden brown sugar, divided
- 2 tablespoons sugar
- 1 large egg
- 3/4 cup plus 2 tablespoons old-fashioned oats
- 1/2 cup all purpose flour
- 1/8 teaspoon baking powder
- 1/8 teaspoon baking soda
- 1/4 teaspoon (generous) salt

Filling:

- 3/4 cup sugar
- 1/2 cup (packed) golden brown sugar
- 1 tablespoon nonfat dry milk powder
- 1/4 teaspoon salt
- 6 1/2 tablespoons heavy whipping cream
- 4 large egg yolks
- 1/2 cup (1 stick) unsalted butter, melted, cooled slightly
- 1 teaspoon vanilla extract
- Powdered sugar (for dusting)



Preparation

For oat cookie crust:

Preheat oven to 350°F. Line 13 x 9 x 2-inch metal baking pan with parchment paper; coat with nonstick spray. Combine 6 tablespoons butter, 4 tablespoons brown sugar, and 2 tablespoons sugar in medium bowl. Using electric mixer, beat mixture until light and fluffy, occasionally scraping down sides of bowl, about 2 minutes. Add egg; beat until pale and fluffy. Add oats, flour, baking powder, baking soda, and salt and beat until well blended, about 1 minute. Turn oat mixture out onto prepared baking pan; press out evenly to edges of pan. Bake until light golden on top, 17 to 18 minutes. Transfer baking pan to rack and cool cookie completely.

Using hands, crumble oat cookie into large bowl; add 3 tablespoons butter and 1 1/2 tablespoons brown sugar. Rub in with fingertips until mixture is moist enough to stick together. Transfer cookie crust mixture to 9-inch-diameter glass pie dish. Using fingers, press mixture evenly onto bottom and up sides of pie dish. Place pie dish with crust on rimmed baking sheet.

For filling:

Position rack in center of oven and preheat to 350°F. Whisk both sugars, milk powder, and salt in medium bowl to blend. Add melted butter and whisk until blended. Add cream, then egg yolks and vanilla and whisk until well blended. Pour filling into crust. Bake pie 30 minutes (filling may begin to bubble). Reduce oven temperature to 325°F. Continue to bake pie until filling is brown in spots and set around edges but center still moves slightly when pie dish is gently shaken, about 20 minutes longer. Cool pie 2 hours in pie dish on rack. Chill uncovered overnight. DO AHEAD: Can be made 2 days ahead. Cover; keep chilled.

Sift powdered sugar lightly over top of pie. Cut pie into wedges and serve cold.

Richland News Advertising Rates

The "Richland News" is published four 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. 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 1/2" wide x 2 1/8" deep (max)	\$25.00
Quarter Page (Vertical only)	3 1/2" x 4 1/2" deep	\$50.00
Half Page (Horizontal only)	7 1/2" x 4 1/2" deep	\$75.00
Full Page	7 1/2" x 9 1/2" deep	\$125.00

For additional information email: news@richlandhoa.com



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Offer to serve on the RHA board.**



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