

## Richland Park Estates

## Neighborhood Association

## NEWS YOU CAN USE—CITY OF DALLAS AND TRASH COLLECTION—AFTER THE STORM

Sanitation has rapidly increased the number of crews to collect debris through the use of on-call contractor services. However, it will likely take at least 60 days more to complete a first collection pass through the city. Regular brush and bulky item collection is suspended until further notice, and any non-storm-related debris placed at the curb will not be collected. City of Dallas residents are asked to hold or self haul non-storm related brush and bulky items until all the storm debris has been collected.

From the Dallas Morning News: The maximum grant amount is \$42,500. FEMA often refers disaster survivors to other agencies such as the Small Business Administration to help with long-term recovery.

How do I register for assistance?

Affected residents can apply online at [DisasterAssistance.gov](https://DisasterAssistance.gov), download the FEMA App for mobile devices or call the agency's helpline at 800-621-3362. Applicants will typically hear back within seven to 14 days, and a FEMA representative might visit the residence to document the damage.

Residents are urged to beware of bad actors seeking to exploit a terrible situation. A FEMA representative isn't going to ask for money, for example.

## WHAT IS IN A ZIP CODE: 75243

## Health Insurance: 75243



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## SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST

- Any ideas for added content to the newsletter?
- Please contact [rpena.president@gmail.com](mailto:rpena.president@gmail.com).



## PRESIDENT'S LETTER

Dear Neighbors,



Many summers ago, several dedicated neighbors got together to form an association. The houses here were very new back then, and Audelia was a 2-lane road. The new homeowners in Richland Park Estates had been promised a park in the area where the Tides at Lawler apartments now stand. When they learned that instead of a park, apartments were to be built, they decided to band together to address this issue.

Unfortunately, the homeowners lost their bid to win the promised park, and the apartments were built.

However, when these neighbors united in 1980, the association they started grew into the Richland Park Neighborhood Association which exists 44 years later! The association of neighbors stands because it remains necessary. Together, we make it our responsibility to mow the common areas,

maintain the Audelia wall, plant flowers, strive to fight crime, repair the sprinklers, fix the lighting, install and maintain security cameras, and pay yearly dues, because this "association of neighbors" is more powerful together than any neighbor standing alone. All of us are an integral constituent of this effective alliance.

2024 is an exciting time for our neighborhood. The new RPENA Board members will be taking office at the end of Summer. After serving as your president for several years, I will be stepping off the Board then, along with Joe Gautreaux and Callie Sallee, who have each served several terms.

Joe, Callie and I appreciated the opportunity to serve. We also look forward to the new leadership that will guide our beautiful neighborhood beyond this year and into the next 44 years.

Laura

*"Never forget to count your blessings. You might be surprised how big the number is" Laura Bigi*

Here is the **proposed** slate of officers for 2024 - 2025.

President -- Sam Puentes

Vice President -- open

Secretary -- Linda Chieng

Treasurer -- Brooks Snyder

Membership Chairperson --  
Jim Hambay

Crime Watch Chairperson --  
Diane Mott

Activities Chairperson -- Meghan Slavings

Beautification Chairperson --  
Cindy Gautreaux

Newsletter -- Tim Gallegos

Member at Large -- Maria Tran

## BE ON THE LOOKOUT—BOLO

By Brooks Snyder

BOLO! - (Police jargon for: "Be On the Look Out!")

These hoodlums viciously destroyed an RPENA security camera cable before escaping over an adjoining yard fence. Pictured is one of a gang of rowdy ruffians who vandalize property.

Gang members wear red-gray coats with long plumage-like tails. Like ninjas, they descend from trees headfirst, and can use their bushy tails to navigate (and even parachute) between tree branches.

While some people may find them to be adorable and fun to watch, squirrels are known to curse, mock, and laugh at humans in their native rodent language.

Squirrels can be destructive if they take up residence in your attic (or access security camera cables), and they love to feast on vegetable garden plants. Squirrels have a strong sense of smell which can be used to drive them away.

Some common items that produce repellant scents are: coffee grounds, peppermint oil, capsaicin, white vinegar, black pepper, dryer sheets, Irish Spring soap.



# BEAUTIFICATION REPORT

By: Jim Hambay

Beautification Report—June 2024

This will probably be my final “Beautification Report” as I am retiring from this RPENA position. As far back as my childhood I have enjoyed browsing gardening catalogs, growing plants from seed and nurturing beautiful plants. Unfortunately, my age (82) has made working with plants at ground level more difficult. I feel that I have enough to do with my own yard and even there I have to increasingly depend on Sam’s help. My RPENA position will be filled by Cindy & Joe Gautreaux who will bring new ideas to the role. Watch for improvements to our front entrance at Audelia/Claymore.

The storm that came through on May 27 did significant damage due to the associated high winds. The home on the southeast corner of Harkness/Claymore probably sustained the most damage since it literally crushed the roof structure. Once your home is paid off it is tempting to cut the required insurance from your budget to save money. When damage like this occurs, one will be grateful for having insurance. Insurance may be expensive but doing without can be even more expensive.

Last year we planted a white caladium at the Claymore bridge over the creek. We got many compliments. This year we selected a different variety with a touch of pink. Watch as they emerge in the next week or so.

Thanks to all of you who have helped make Richland Park Estates beautiful:

Those who faithfully put up and retire the flags for patriotic holidays,

Those who decorate your yards for Halloween and the winter holidays,

Those who maintain beautiful yards which we have recognized over the years as



Yard of the Month”,

Those who pick-up litter when they see it.

We cannot have a beautiful neighborhood to be proud when yards and street gutters contain unwanted trash. If not you—then who will pick it up?

WHO ? WHO ? WHO ? WHO ?



## LIMONCELLO SORBET FLOAT

This lemony cocktail float marries the flavors of a French 75 with an added citrusy, floral zing from Italian limoncello. Topping the glass off with sparkling wine yields a bright and bubbly summer sipper, while the finishing scoop of lemon sorbet blurs the line between tippie and dessert in the most satisfying way.

Stirring together the limoncello, gin, and lemon juice along with cubes of ice before straining the drink serves two purposes: It chills down the ingredients and also slightly dilutes the alcohol.

### Ingredients

1 1/2 ounces limoncello

2 ounces gin

2 tablespoons fresh lemon juice

4 ounces sparkling wine

1/4 cup lemon sorbet

### Directions

Stir together limoncello, gin, and lemon juice in an ice-filled mixing glass until mixture is well chilled and slightly diluted, about 30 seconds.

Strain mixture into a rocks glass or a wine glass. Top cocktail with sparkling wine and lemon sorbet, and serve with a spoon.

## TIPS TO AVOID PORCH PIRATES

1. Consider a P.O. Box at Your Local Post Office
2. Use Amazon Lockers
3. Set Up Notifications to Track Your Packages
4. Install a Security Camera
5. Get Your Packages Delivered to Your Office if allowed
6. Require a Signature on Delivery
7. Reschedule Delivery or Ask for a Package Hold When on Vacation
8. Try Smart Locks
9. Get a Package Guard. Quite a few examples online.
10. Insure Your Packages
11. Network with your neighbors. Ask Your Neighbors to Grab Your Packages

## MEMBERSHIP—SIMPLER WAYS TO JOIN

Starting in September 2024 your Richland Park Estates Neighborhood Association will accept checks and Bill Pay, we are unable to accept Pay Pal or Venmo any longer. We apologize for any inconvenience. Many of the major banks such as Wells Fargo, Bank of America, Chase and Credit Unions offer this service for customers who have checking and or savings accounts.

Bill Pay allows you the ability to pay your bills at your convenience thru your bank and or credit union. You simply fill out the information requested for the “payee” on your bank website or portal to set up the payment. The process is simple and quick and you know that your bill is paid.

Bill pay is just like writing a check except your bank or credit union sends the check to your “payee” information. The company or the person you are trying to send the payment. You will need to provide all of the information who the check is being paid to such as name, address and zip code. Bill Pay offers convenience, audit trail and is efficient for paying your bills.

We appreciate your continued support regarding dues payment, as always checks are welcomed.

The Bill Pay information:

Richland Park Estates Neighborhood Association

9926 Claymore Drive

Dallas, TX 75243

Yearly Dues \$110.00

*Be courteous to your neighbors.*

The following link contains some information regarding the ongoing collection of storm debris across Dallas.

<https://dallascityhall.com/departments/sanitation/Pages/May-2024-Storm-Debris-Collection.aspx>



Have a local owned business to spotlight? Submit your nomination to:  
[rpena.president@gmail.com](mailto:rpena.president@gmail.com)

## LOCAL COMPANY SPOTLIGHT:

Global Shout Media is a local video production business owned by our neighbor and RPENA member, Janie Griffith (9945 Burnham). She and her team help businesses, universities, and organizations create video content for corporate communications, employee training, educational programs, marketing products and services, and more. The certified woman-owned business began right here in the neighborhood at Janie's dining room table in 2018 and now offices in Richardson. We'd love to assist any neighbors' companies or organizations that could benefit from video messaging! The QR code has a link to the website for more info and video samples.

