

The Marlborough Messenger

Volume 11, Issue 5

Winter 2014

MSNA Newsletter

Points of Interest

- President's Message
- Holiday Yard Decorating
- Neighborhood News
- Improve Property Values
- Calloway's Yard Tips

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- Many Hands Make Light Work 2
- Richardson Library 2
- Market Analysis 2
- Neighborhood Rec's 3
- Christmas Parade 3
- Season to Winterize 4
- Nico's Cantina 4

President's Message

Where has the year gone? It seems like yesterday we were planning the 4th of July festivities.

I hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving. There are so many activities to do in Richardson during this time of year. In *Richardson Today*, there is a listing of all the things happening in the area. The parade is always fun to watch and you do not have to travel far to see it. Also, you can't forget about going to see *The Nutcracker*. However you celebrate the holidays, I wish you the best.

I have saved the good news for last. Bob Townsend is our councilman and the mayor

pro Tem as most of you know. We were discussing the theft of our entryway letters and his suggestion was to contact the City Manager's office. The City is now in the process of taking bids for the entryway which can take some time but please be patient. However, the wait will be worthwhile, as the city is PAYING for the cost! They will also make repairs to our surrounding wall. We live in a great city!

**Happy Holidays to all,
Peggy Sanford, President**

P.S. Please take the time to welcome our new residents to the neighborhood.



Holiday Yard Decorating

Entire Neighborhood – We would like each home to decorate their front doors with a holiday wreath or ribbon and their center front sidewalk leading to your house with lights. You can use size C-9 or C-7 clear or white lights. Decorate as you wish. We will leave it up to you! It really makes the neighborhood look festive with all the lights and yard art. Our neighborhood is always one of the more festive, and it's wonderful to drive around to see all your efforts. Thank you all!



Holiday Yards of the Month - In December, six "Holiday" yards are selected as yards of the month – one from each street and then one "Best Holiday Home" for the entire neighborhood. For those families participating, please have all your decorations and lights in place by Sunday night, December 14, or earlier. Selections will take place Monday evening, December 15. Please have your lights lit up by 6:30 p.m.

Presenting a Clean Face

On Saturday, November 22, six Marlborough Square members gathered during the misty, moist morning at Forsythe and Mt. Vernon to clean the entryway. They picked up trash, pulled weeds, raked the beds and swept the street. Laughter and doughnuts helped to maintain the energy level.

Part of the entryway is temporarily without plants. More plants will be added in the coming spring.

To help with neighborhood projects, contact Nick Robison, at msnacommunications@gmail.com

By: Robert Sanford



Richardson Library— Book Clubs

Do you like to read? Do you like to discuss what you have read? The Richardson Library has several book clubs. Also, don't worry if you don't have the book. The Richardson Library will provide you with one. Join the Library's book discussion group, BOOKbabble. Each month, members read and discuss the best in literary fiction, memoir and biography. Meetings are held at 10:30 a.m. on the second or third Wednesday of every month. For those that work or can't make the daytime book club, there is the Book Babble at Nite club that meets on the 4th Tuesday of each month at 7:30 p.m.

There is a new book club starting in January for non-fiction books. It is called Real Reads and will meet the 3rd Thursdays of the month at 7:30 p.m. Call the library at 972-744-4376 to sign up for one or two of these book clubs.

By: Myrna Cudlipp

MSNA News

It is with great sadness that I announce the passing of two long-time Marlborough Square residents Diane Capehart, 804 Mt. Vernon, and Ava Conklin, 1501 Forsythe. Both had lived in Marlborough Square for many years and will be greatly missed.

Marlborough Square Market Analysis

Active Listings: 1	Avg list price: \$175K
Avg price/sq ft: \$86.51	Sold past 6 months: 2
Avg sold price: \$228K	Avg price/sq ft: \$98.05

Please note this does not include "For Sale by Owner" Properties. If you would like additional information or a market analysis of your property, please contact me at (972) 743-0196 or marilyn@ryancox.com.

Marilyn Jones, Realty Executives Metroplex.

Neighborhood Recommendations

Mena's Grill– Tex Mex

1851 N Greenville Ave #500
972-235-6300

RESTAURANT- With 25 years of experience in Tex-Mex and Mexican food, they invite you to come and enjoy some of their delicious dishes. They are open Sun– Thurs 11 a.m-10 p.m. and Fri-Sat 11 a.m.—10:30 p.m. Excellent food with diverse menu and very good margaritas. Try it, You'll like it!

Recommended by Richard Cudlipp

RISD Used Book Fair

If you have books you want to clear out from your house, please consider donating them to the RISD Used Book Fair. The Book Fair raises money for college scholarships to students from the four RISD high schools. The sale will be Feb 12 - 15, 2015. You can bring your books in December to Laura Brownlee at 1403 Potomac to donate, or you can wait until January and bring them to the school of your choice for donating .

12 Days of Christmas

This holiday season experience the Dallas Arboretum and Botanical Garden's brand new, one-of-a-kind exhibition, The 12 Days of Christmas. On display throughout the garden November 16, 2014 - January 4, 2015. Enjoy the .75-mile walk through the garden exhibit, as you witness these hand-crafted gazebos spread across our winter wonderland. Visit www.dallasarboretum.org for details.

Recommended by Richard Cudlipp

Santa's Village

Santa's Village will open on Saturday, December 6 with a tree lighting ceremony. The village's hours are from 6 p.m. until 9 p.m. on Thursdays thru Sundays until December 21. This free event is open to the public. Santa's Village is located on the north side of City Hall at 411 W. Arapaho Road, Richardson, Texas, 75080 during the month of December.. Come out, drink some hot chocolate, take a picture with Santa, and sit back and enjoy .

N. B. Exxon

1702 Beltline Road
972-234-1762

AUTO REPAIR- Sammy and his team do exceptional work. I have taken our cars here for years and always got honest, quick and reasonably good priced service. Automobile repair and oil change. Conveniently located across the parking lot from Sears, next to Harbor Freight.

Recommended by Richard Cudlipp

Education for Seniors

SAIL is a participant-led learning program offered to students 55 years of age and older. SAIL classes are non-credit; there are no tests, grades or papers to write. Offered is a wide array of courses, such as, literature, history, art, social sciences, lifestyle issues and discussion of current events. Students learn from each other and will hear and consider opposing ideas. <http://www.collin.edu/sail/>

Recommended by Richard Cudlipp



Christmas Parade



Mark your calendars for Saturday morning, December 6th, for the 42nd Annual Richardson Christmas Parade. The parade will begin at 9:00 a.m. and will travel north on Plano Road from Richardson Square to Apollo Road. Groups of all ages and interests are encouraged to participate in this festive Richardson tradition! This year's theme is Candy Canes and Christmas Carols! For information regarding the parade, please contact Parade Chair Person, Barbara Cottone at Barbara.Cottone@cor.gov.

Season to Winterize



Stop air leaks. Use a leak detector and find where the drafts are coming from. Window-stripping and caulking won't take much effort or cost much, but can tighten up your home.

Replace your furnace filter. Changing your furnace filter on a regular basis will improve its air flow and can extend the life of your furnace. Furnace filters are either disposable or reusable. Reusable filters need to be washed each month.

Insulate, insulate, insulate. Most homes, especially older houses, have far too little insulation in the attic, causing most of the home's heat loss. Your attic needs at least one foot of insulation. If your attic falls short, add another layer.

Check your pipes. Wrapping your pipes not only helps reduce heat loss, but can increase your hot water temperature. This means you won't have to wait as long to take a shower, the hot water will be delivered faster and helps you conserve water. Most hardware stores have pipe foam that can easily be slid around your pipes. You would simply need to cut them and use duct tape to keep them in place.

Clean your gutters. Prevent ice dams from forming on your roof next spring by cleaning leaves and other debris out of your gutters each fall. When water backs up in a clogged gutter, it can put the water up into your roof, creating a build

Nico's Cantina

Nico's on Beltline (old Applebee's site)– The restaurant has mixed reviews, but Daphne Self and Valerie King loved it. Daphne is a connoisseur of chips and salsa and says these are the best. Valerie's chicken (kabobs) skewers were tasty-bacon wrapped stuffed grilled chicken over rice. Valerie will get these again. Daphne liked her dish, but says next time she will order the fresh corn tortillas (excellent) and make her own fajitas. Valerie also recommends the great \$2.99 frozen margarita. Our waiter said they are adding bar food to the menu and will have even more choices.

Chicken Skewers-chicken breast wrapped in bacon and stuffed with jalapenos & Monterrey jack cheese, served w/ cilantro-lime rice, red bell peppers and zucchini -11.99

Fajita Enchilada Dinner -two enchiladas, choice of beef or chicken or with choice of sauce, served w/ rice and beans -10.99

Improve Property Values

Property values generally rise when crime rates decline. The most common neighborhood crimes involve vehicle break-ins. Vehicle break-ins are also easy to prevent. They can't all be prevented, but these simple precautions, in this order, will prevent most of them.

1. If you can, park in a lighted area.
2. Raise your windows.
3. Don't leave ANY objects visible in your vehicle.
4. Take your keys out of your vehicle.
5. Lock your vehicle. This is the final and most important step.

Many people fail to follow these simple suggestions. Make them part of your daily habits.

By: Robert Sanford

Board and Committees

President

Peggy Sanford

Vice President

Carolyn David

Treasurer

Bryan Florez

Membership

Sheryl Radman

Beautification

Ruth Martin
Heidi Walsh

Communications

Nick Robison

Safety

Myrna and Richard Cudlipp

Social

Nick Robison

National Night Out

Dave Riley

Springridge Area Crime Watch

John Shipman

Ten for TIN

Val King and Daphne Self

Block Captains

Mt. Vernon– Ann Simmons
Potomac– Laura Brownlee
Flintwood– Jana Wu
Forsythe– Johnny and Ana-Maria Ramos
Concord- Raymond and Linda Hart
Stonecrest- Norm and Beth Wills

If you would like to advertise, submit an article or have a suggestion for the newsletter, contact Nick Robison at msnacommunications@gmail.com.

Calloway's Timely Tips For December

Working in your garden is an excellent escape during the holidays. 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.

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.

Prepare for the cold weather before it hits! One of the best things you can do for your landscape plants is to provide a 2 to 3 inch layer of mulch. 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.

Enjoy your time with family and friends. Have a very Merry Christmas and blessed Happy New Year!



