

**Points of Interest**

- MSNA July 4th Parade and Picnic
- MSNA Website
- Crime Prevention Tune-up
- Plants that repel mosquitoes
- Family 4th

**Inside this issue:**

Restaurant Park	2
MSNA Housing Market	2
July 4th Yard Decorating	2
Calloway's Garden Tips	3
Neighborhood News	4
Nextdoor	4

## President's Message

Summer is here! As I drive around the neighborhood, there is nothing but very green lawns thanks to all the rain. The weather has been kind to us by keeping our grass watered. It has reduced our water bills for which we all are thankful. Also, please be aware that we are now under new water restrictions that started in May. We are allowed twice a week watering; days are dependent on your address.

I am sorry to say that we do not have an exact date for our letters to be installed at the entrance. I have been insured by more than one person with the City that it will happen. The one good thing is that I am meeting some nice people that work for the City of Richard-

son. They are getting used to my weekly call. For those that have inquired, the City did repair the sidewalk on the outside of our neighborhood wall on Spring Valley.

Our next exciting event will be the July 4th parade and picnic which will be held on Potomac Drive this year.

We have new people in the neighborhood and I encourage everyone to welcome them. I know everyone is busy but a simple hello can make a difference in someone's day.

**Peggy Sanford  
President**

## MSNA July 4th Parade and Picnic



**Where: Potomac Drive**

**When: Saturday, July 4th**

**Parade: 10:00 a.m.**

Parade awards for most patriotic, creative, and imaginative costumes. If you are interested in participating, arrive at Potomac/ Mt. Vernon corner at 9:45a.m.

**Cookout: Following the parade**

Hot dogs, chips, and drinks provided.

A-M Bring salad

N-Z Bring dessert

\*Please come even if you can't bring a food item.

## Restaurant Park

**Restaurant Park**, a new restaurant development on the west side of US 75, south of Belt Line Road (site of the old Continental Motel and adjacent properties), has been approved by the Richardson City Council in mid-June. The developer has completed purchasing a five-acre tract owned by the city and will be breaking ground soon. It will have up to seven restaurants with patio dining around a central plaza. Two restaurants – The Rock Wood Fired Kitchen and VertsKebap – have already been secured, according to Hermansen Land Development, Inc. Restaurant Park is scheduled to open in mid-2016. The project is the culmination of several years of planning to try to revitalize an older area of the city and expand dining options for residents.



## Marlborough Square Market Analysis

Active Listings: 0  
Avg list price: NA  
Avg price/sq ft: NA

Sale Pending: 1  
List Price: \$159,900  
Price/sq ft: \$73.96

Sold past 6 months: 3  
Avg sold price: \$196K  
Avg price/sq ft: \$87.26

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](tel:9727430196) or [marilyn@ryancox.com](mailto:marilyn@ryancox.com).

**Marilyn Jones, REALTOR®, SRES, VLB**  
**Realty Executives Metroplex**

### MSNA Website

Want to know what’s going on in the neighborhood and community? Now you no longer have to wait until the next Newsletter to see what is going on in Marlborough Square. The New MSNA website is up and running. Check it out!

<http://marlboroughsquare.wordpress.com/>

## 4th of July Yard Decorating

July 4th is such a meaningful day for our nation. Let’s proudly celebrate our support for our country during this special time.

There will be a Star Award for each of our six neighborhood streets, as well as a Grand Prize Winner for the neighborhood. This award is separate from our monthly Yard of the Month.

Judging will take place on Friday, July 3rd at 5:30 p.m. With your patriotic décor in place, we’ll have a more enthusiastic spirit to lead us on during our July 4th parade and party.

# Calloway's Gardening Tips

## Timely Tips for July Gardeners

Gardening activities usually slowdown in the summertime as the temperature continues to climb into the 90's and beyond. New garden projects are not usually started but there are always maintenance chores to do. The best time to do any kind of gardening or maintenance is in the early morning or late in the day after supper.

Proper watering is essential to keep plants healthy in the heat of summer. It is best to water as deeply and infrequently as possible, as opposed to frequent light sprinklings. This will encourage a deeper root system that can take advantage of water stored in the soil. One of the best strategies for getting shrubs and young trees through summertime dry spells is to apply a thick layer of mulch over the root systems of plants. A three to four inch layer will prevent most evaporation from the soil and lower the soil temperature in the root zone, reducing stress on the root system.

Drip irrigation combined with mulch is an excellent way to maintain high quality of plant materials. Drip irrigation, is an irrigation method that saves water and fertilizer by allowing water to drip slowly to the roots of plants, either into the soil surface or directly into the root zone. Soil erosion and weed growth is lessened with this type of irrigation along with the foliage remains dry, reducing the risk of disease. If drip irrigation is not an option at this time, consider using soaker hoses to provide a good source of water to your garden or bedding plants.

Water plants in containers and hanging baskets more frequently in the summer to keep them from drying out. This can leach out plant nutrients from the soil, so use a water-soluble fertilizer regularly to keep your plants growing and healthy

## July Clinics

Saturday, July 18th at 10:15 am – Save Water & Money with Drip Irrigation

## Timely Tips for August Gardeners

August is HOT! However, Fall is right around the corner and here are a few tips to get you through the scorching days of August and into the "Second Spring" of the South – Fall. This is usually one of the driest months for our region, and rainfall may be sparse.

Make the best use of the water you have by watering early in the morning before the wind speeds pick up. Otherwise, much of the water will evaporate before the plants get to use it. To further avoid excess evaporation, use a sprinkler that produces large drops of water instead of a fine mist. Plants need about one inch of water each week during this long summer period. If you have heavy clay soil adjust the timing of the irrigation zones to make sure water is not running off the landscape. Your irrigation schedule should be adjusted to allow for slow infiltration of the water. Be a WISE – keep water on the landscape.

Soil that is exposed can heat up to more than 100 degrees Fahrenheit. This is hot enough to kill those tender root hairs near the surface. Three to four inches of mulch can make the soil 10 to 20 degrees cooler. Besides reducing soil temperature, mulches also conserve water by reducing evaporation, often up to 65 percent.

Prune roses back, but do not remove more than one-third of the plant. Prune and remove spent blooms on annuals and perennials to encourage continuous blooming well into fall.



## Neighborhood News

### Give your Mailbox some love

Repairing mailboxes improves the appearance of our community. Typical repairs that need to be done yearly:

- Repairing loose hinges on a mailbox
- Repainting a mailbox that may have rusted or started peeling.
- Remounting a loose mailbox post.
- Replacing the house number
- Repositioning the post and box to be straight and level.

### New Neighbors

Over the last few months there has been a flurry of new residents moving into Marlborough Square. Have you walked across the street to welcome your new neighbor? MSNA wants to ensure everyone who moves into the neighborhood is welcomed! Please take some time to go introduce yourself and encourage them to join MSNA. MSNA recognizes the importance of getting neighbors involved through annual events such as the 4th of July Parade, and social events.

### Yard of the Month Winners

#### May

Randy and Pam Hagler  
1008 Mt. Vernon

#### June

Bill Cade  
906 Mt. Vernon



## Nextdoor— *Stay connected with Neighbors*

Nextdoor is a private social network that makes it easy to communicate with your neighbors about the issues that matter most in our community. The Richardson Police Department utilizes the site regularly to post crime alerts, crime watch meetings, etc. On Nextdoor, you can share recommendations about local services and businesses (babysitters, plumbers, dentists), report suspicious activity, post missing pet announcements, and post advertisements. The goal is to create a safe, civil environment for neighbors to communicate, network, and build relationships. If you would like to join the dozens of Marlborough Square residents already using Nextdoor, you can register at [www.nextdoor.com](http://www.nextdoor.com). You must provide a valid email and home address to register.

## Crime Prevention Tune-up

Summer is here and this is a good time to review some basic crime prevention methods around your house.

When trimming shrubs, keep them low enough so you can see a person who may try to use them as concealment. If you are planting new shrubs, consider thorny varieties under windows and along fence lines. Tree branches should be trimmed so that you have clear visibility under the tree (six feet up is recommended.) Remember to check your exterior doors, since temperature changes can cause doors to not close securely. Make sure door handles and deadbolts extend fully into the strike plates and door frame & adjust and replace as necessary.

Exterior lighting fixtures may need adjusting or replacement and make sure adequate lighting surrounds all outside corners of the home. Lighting helps neighbors see what's happening in the neighborhood at night and also aids officers working to protect your neighborhood when it's dark. If you enjoy opening the windows, check & double-check that you lock them when you close them. Many home burglary reports indicate windows were left unsecured, and this makes it easy for bad guys to enter the home.

Repair damaged fencing around the yard and make sure that gates close tightly and are secured when you're not at home. If you add a video surveillance system to the outside of your home, make sure to register it with the Richardson Neighborhood Video Crime Watch program.

## Board and Committees

### President

Peggy Sanford

### Vice President

Carolyn Davis

### Treasurer

Bryan Florez

### Membership

Marilyn Jones

### 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 – Vacant

Potomac – Laura, Joseph,  
and Timothy

Flintwood – Jana Wu

Forsythe – Harold Stout

Concord - Vacant

Stonecrest - Norm and Beth  
Wills

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

## 11 Plants that Repel Mosquitoes

We can't forget the unwelcome intruders that tag along with the sunny summer weather. Yes, we are talking about mosquitoes, & everybody knows that they can be a huge nuisance. However, using chemical product to keep them away is not on the top of everyone's wish list.

- Citronella
- Catnip
- Basil
- Peppermint
- Pennyroyal
- Geranium
- Lemon Balm
- Marigolds
- Lavender
- Garlic
- Rosemary

Next time you reach for the chemical bug spray, take a minute & think again, & consider choosing something more natural!



**Marlborough Square Neighborhood Association (MSNA)** is a voluntary organization of residents that come together to enhance the quality of life, preserve the value of homes, and promote a safe neighborhood in Marlborough Square. Membership is open to all residents whether you are home owners or tenants.

## Family 4th of July

Sparks will fly at the City of Richardson's annual "Family 4th Celebration" on Saturday, July 4, at Breckinridge Park. This traditional, patriotic salute is free and open to the entire community. Attendees are encouraged to bring picnics, blankets and/or lawn chairs and enjoy the evening under the stars!

Event hours are 6:00 p.m. to 10:15 p.m.

Attractions include strolling **balloon artists**, **bounce houses**, and a **climbing wall** for the kids!

**Food Concessions** will be available for those who wish to buy or supplement their picnic dinner.

### Stage Entertainment:

6:30 Texas Flood (A Tribute to Stevie Ray Vaughan)

8:45 The Richardson Community Band presents its annual Patriotic Salute Concert!

9:45 **Fireworks!**