Royal Ridge Recorder

Volume XXVII, Number 1

January-February 2019

<NOTE: The next due date for news and ads is Saturday, February 16, 2019>

ROYAL RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Dan Calderon, President, 210-693-2744 Email: rrna@royalridgesa.org Website: www.royalridgesa.org

What we can do to deter neighborhood mail theft

Happy New Year! As I write this I'm proud to say I joined eight other RRNA neighbors for the annual Polar Bear plunge at the Royal Ridge Clubhouse, including six of them under the age of 15. The weather, and the water, were a little chilly on New Year's Day, but we all made a brisk entry and exit from the pool to enjoy Frito pies, hot dogs, tamales, pizza and more goodies inside the warm confines of the clubhouse. Thanks again to Diane Luna for all her hard work in making this annual tradition success.

Kathie Obeck, who sits on the board of the Patio Homes II Neighborhood Association, told me we are still getting reports of strangers in the neighborhood peering into people's mailboxes. Hopefully this kind of clearly illegal activity will subside as we are past the holiday season when sometimes expensive gifts are sent by mail, which can be tempting targets for criminals. Much of our mail also has personal information that could make us targets for identity theft.

We must all be on the lookout and report anything suspicious. The phone number to report to the San Antonio Police Department is 210-207-7273.

This is a federal crime, punishable by up to five years in prison and a \$250,000 fine, so you can also call U.S. Postal Inspectors at 877-876-2455 or visit usps.com/ postal inspectors.

danger of potential mail theft is to set up a security camera to watch over the mailbox. I won't advocate one way or the other for the expense, although I don't think that should ultimately be the solution to this problem.

zens on Patrol organization headed by the evertrustworthy Bob Robbins. The Royal Ridge COP is in need of more volunteers, so I urge you to reach out to Bob if you can help. The email is rrcop@att.net and Bob's number is 210-655-4226.

Another thing you can do, which was mentioned briefly in the last Royal Ridge Recorder, is to register online with the U.S. Postal Service to get access to an and we can really use more members. Please cononline preview of the mail being delivered to your ad- sider joining RR COP and attend the SAPD COP dress daily. This way, you will know if anything is miss- Training to get started. The January class will ing. You may not know if anything has been delivered have been conducted by the time you read this.

to the wrong address, but you will know if an important piece of mail was supposed to arrive. To sign up, visit informeddelivery.usps.com.

Don't worry that just anyone can go to the site and pretend to be you to sign up for a preview of your mail. The site will try to verify you are who you say you are online. If it can't, you will be asked to print out a barcode and go to a participating post office to show an official photo I.D., such as a Texas Driver's License, within 30 days of applying for the service. If you don't want to go to the post office, you also have an option to have something mailed to your home to verify you have signed up for the service.

Taking an active part in our community makes us all safer, and keeps Royal Ridge a neighborhood where people want to live, grow and thrive. I will be making a New Year's resolution to be more involved, to watch out for each other, and to be a better neighbor.

ROYAL RIDGE CITIZENS ON PATROL Bob Robbins, Coordinator, 210-655-4226 Email: rrcop@att.net

A belated Happy New Year to all our Royal Ridge neighbors. Here's hoping everyone had a very Merry Christmas and are on your way to a great new year.

A big thank you to each of our Royal Ridge Citizenson-Patrol (RR COP) members for their commitment and contributions to our safety and security efforts throughout 2018. We continue to patrol RR streets and alleys roughly two hours a day every day of the year. Several members patrol twice each month and some three Police have said one good way to cut down on the times. We truly appreciate everyone's efforts and especially those who go above and beyond.

I again want to offer a special thanks to Officer Jason Reno, our San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) San Antonio Fear Free Environmental (SAFFE)/Community Policing Officer. Officer Reno One major deterrent to mail theft is our Citi- has quietly yet aggressively addressed continuing and emerging police matters in our neighborhoods, some mundane and others more serious, many on his own and others at our request, efficiently and effectively. We appreciate his efforts on our behalf as well as those of his fellow officers. Thanks SAPD for helping us keep RR an attractive place to live.

Still, we need help. RR COP membership is low



When it's finally time to sell, call the agent that knows the neighborhood best!

Thomas D. Fentress, Broker/Associate



210-349-6671 210-861-9119 mail@ThomasFentress.com



Looking for a great way to stay healthy and meet new people? Come on over to the Windcrest Golf Club! Open to the public!

Enjoy a challenging round of golf on the narrow, tree lined course, which will test the skill and game levels of all players. After golf, come in to our newly renovated clubhouse to eat, drink and socialize. Planning a party or reception, clubhouse is available for bookings, or wanting a private area, book our spacious room upstairs at a great price!



The next class is Monday, February 4th from 6-10 February 18- School Holiday/ Teacher Workday PM followed by Saturday, March 2nd, from 9 AM - 1 PM. The classes are held at the North Patrol Sub- February 28- STEAM Night for all Royal Ridge famistation, 13030 Jones Maltsberger. One 4-hour class lies is all that is required and entitles you to a ridealong with a patrol officer arranged at a mutually agreeable later time. Give Officer McDonald a call at forcement officers in municipalities within the NEISD 210-207-6086 and let him know you will attend for boundaries for a FREE SCHOOL LUNCH every day from 11 planning purposes. Or email him james.mcdonald@sanantonio.gov.

You've read it here before and in our emails because your involvement is crucial in maintaining our collective you are interested in dedicating one to two hours per safety and security. Report any and all suspicious week to a student Pre-K through 5th grade who needs persons, vehicles and activities to the SAPD on extra support, please contact Michelle Martinez at (210) their non-emergency number, 210-207-SAPD (210- 407-7024. It takes a village to raise a child. 207-7273) at the time you observe it. Certainly report all crimes regardless of whether or not you think the SAPD can do anything about it or might be concerned with more important matters. Knowing the extent and nature of all crimes allows us to be more aware and more vigilant. It allows the SAPD to allocate the proper resources to problem areas. You can report all crimes using the non-emergency number above or on-line at https:// www.sanantonio.gov/SAPD/File-Electronic-Report.

for getting involved either by attending a training class, come to come joining RR COP or just making the appropriate calls. The and see if they RR community will benefit from your involvement. We are interested in need and appreciate your help.

Again, Happy New Year! And, stay safe!

(P.S. If this article seems familiar, it may be. It's essentially a reprint of my last two year's Jan-Feb article. "The people are asked more things change, the more they stay the same." Jean to bring finger -Baptiste Alphonse Karr)

ROYAL RIDGE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

Counselor Michelle Martinez, 210-407-7024 Email: mmartri20@neisd.net

January 8- Classes Resume

January 14- Introduction to Ready Rosie (Pre-K parents only) 9:30-11 am Room 233

January 22- Dealing with Anger Parent Academy 9:30-11 am Room 233

Academy 9:30-11 am Room 233

NIGHT 6 pm

Parent Academy 9:30-11 Room 233

January 29—Digital Responsibility Parent Academy, 9:30-11 am, Room 233

February 15- Early Dismissal

NEISD Elementary schools invite all fire and law enat -12. Only requirement is that you come in uniform and eat lunch with the students!

Royal Ridge Elementary is searching for mentors! If

MONTHLY SOCIALS AND TRIPOLEY Bonnie Hopkins, 210-650-0852 Email: bhopkins9@satx.rr.com

The next Monthly Socials will be Friday, January 25 and February 24 at 5:30 pm, at the RRRC Clubhouse. All adult members of the Royal Ridge Recreation-Thanks for your attention, interest and support—and al Club (RRRC) Clubhouse are welcome. Visitors are wel-

> joining the RRRC. Drinks are provided for a small donation and foods to share. Hope to see you there!



The next Tripolev Nights

will be Friday, January 11 and February 8 at 7 pm, also held at the RRRC Clubhouse.

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

Gary H. Harmon Jr., Editor, 210-884-6926 Email: gharmon@idworld.net

There are eight homeowners associations (HOAs) listed in the Directory but not all provide input to the Royal January 23- Helping children resolve conflict Parent Ridge Recorder. We would enjoy hearing from the other areas on a regular basis.

If you have input for the newsletter please let your January 25- PTA General Meeting/MATHNASIUM Royal Ridge Recorder point of contact or me know so we can include it, if appropriate.

Qualified volunteers are still needed in key Royal Ridge January 28- Building and Nurturing Self Esteem areas such as RRRC, RR COP, Royal Ridge Recorder newsletter deliveries, and individual HOAs.

ROYAL RIDGE RECREATIONAL CLUB

Diane Luna, President, 393-6976 Website: rrrecclub.org Facebook.com/royalridgerecreationalclub

ed both by young and old. We truly are looking forward to club rental for your family events. to another successful event.

member Volunteer, Mario Lockwood (pictured feel free to contact me via my cell at 210-393-6976 or above). He not only took the time to help put up the Deb Edens at 210-861-9512 with any questions or con-Christmas lights at the Clubhouse but made sure they cerns. stayed lit by replacing ones that shorted out. We are grateful for helping us put the Clubhouse in a festive Saturday, April 6 from 9 am to 2pm. You may host at look.

progress. Our ultimate challenge remains that we side of Royal Ridge. Contact Diane Luna at 210/393still must be able to keep up our operational costs and yet be affordable enough to join. Our new membership dues are as follows:

EARLY BIRD Special

Jan 1 - April 30st \$175

2018-2019 Dues \$195

Our last two membership drives were indeed major factors in making our decision for the 2019-2020 membership dues. Below is the recap of the 2016/2017 and 2018 memberships:

In 2016, we had 110 members at \$225 yielding \$24,750.

127 at \$125 (\$15,875) 5 at \$150 (\$750) 30 at \$175 (\$5,250) Yielding \$21,875 Shortfall = \$2,875 (2017)

84 at \$150 (\$12,600) 13 at \$175 (\$2,275) 23 at \$195 (\$4,485) Yielding \$19,360 Shortfall = \$2,515 (2018)

Shortfall 2017/2018 = \$5,390

of shortfalls. Our incoming monies should by all Jan 1-11. Orders will arrive and be delivered in Februmeans be at a plus and not a minus. Our facility is ary. For those not able to place orders in January or who starting to show its age and repairs are forthcom- want more cookies, boxes will be available for purchase ing.

shape or form. This means we don't have much leeway again be hosting several sales at the Clubhouse and be on how much we charge for dues. We manage to remain making some door-to-door visits. We will keep you postopen by being extremely resourceful, and truthfully ed via NextDoor and neighborhood email blast. thanks to the hard work/dedication of our volunteers. Pool/lawn maintenance along with make-ready of Club- our sales with a fun field trip, we also need to share the house for each rental is **all** done by volunteers.

bership renewals to keep us in operation.

community and become a member. Membership is a two- to three-minute presentation at our next meeting

June through May and includes up to eight (8) fam-Happy New Year! At the time of this article submis- ily members residing in your household. Membersion, our annual Polar Bear Plunge on New Year's Day ship amenities include year-round access to tennis has not yet taken place. This event is always well attend- courts, numerous social events, and rental access

Membership form is included in this issue and will also I wish to give a HUGE Thank You to our non- be available at the Clubhouse by the iron gates. Please

Our semi-annual Community Garage Sale will be your residence or rent a space at the Clubhouse. Spaces The 2019-2020 Membership Drive is officially in are available for \$10 and open to anyone inside or out-6976 for more info.

> We look forward to 2019 being a year of positive outcomes. We wish to thank each and every one of you, both members and non-members, for your continued support. Our possibilities are endless when we come together as a community.

~ THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR CONTINUED SUPPORT ~

MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Community Garage Sale Saturday, April 7th 9 AM - 2 PM

~ GIRL SCOUT TROOP 0871 ~

*****IT'S COOKIE SEASON*****

The weather was perfect for our attendance with Wreaths Across America on Dec. 15. A total of five girls (1 Daisy/1 Brownie/3 Juniors) placed 122 grave-specific wreaths. The experience is most humbling and we will continue to make this event a tradition.

We had our last meeting of the year on Dec 18. We made Christmas ornaments for our families to enjoy and played host to a toy drive for Blue Santa. The girls enjoyed playing a Left/Right game during their gift exchange.

Our Cookie Sale Campaign officially begins on Jan. 1. We simply cannot continue taking in these kinds Cookies are \$4 per box. We will begin taking orders on in February. Be on the lookout for us throughout the area Keep in mind we are **not** HOA funded in any way, as we participate in our cookie booth sales. We will once

We not only look forward to reaping the rewards from wealth with those less fortunate than us. We are hereby Our ultimate desire continues to be able to find a hap- giving the girls ownership of choosing a cause they feel is py median whereby we can be confident with our mem- most worthy and will promote it during our cookie booth sales. Over the Christmas break, each girl is to research We hope you will continue to take pride in our a cause/agency/organization of their choosing and make



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Call (210) 692-9911 or visit us online at goci.com!

Interested in placing an advertisement in The Roval Ridge Recorder? For information, email Norma.Rabago.RRNA@gmail.com.



ProScape offers year round landscape services such as: Grounds Maintenance, Irrigation Installation and Maintenance (LI0019773), Landscape Design & Installation, and Bush & Tree Trimming. We are recommended by Barbara Rierson, a resident in the Royal Ridge area.

FALL SERVICE

We are growing and looking for new properties to managel No job is too big or too small. Take a much needed break, stay inside, and let us deal with the heat. October is the month you need to prepare your turf for winter. Winter Fertilizer is a must to strengthen your root system to ensure quick green-up in the spring. We can treat your yard with Lesco/John Deere's top guality winter fertilizer for just \$35. We also recommend you compost your grass. This will help heal your turf after the heat and add much needed nutrients to the soil. It is also our pleasure to help you with any questions you might have about your yard. Give us a call today!

Stephen Burkett, RR Resident sburkett89@hotmail.com

210.601.3057 Fax-210.654.9390





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on January 8.

charity they wish to assist/promote during Cookie Sea- homes. But, the board does not want to schedule the son. The girls' hard work on their presentations will not painting of a townhome block until we are confident be in vain. We will use all the information presented for that we have replaced the majority of any rotten fascia. future community service projects.

We strongly want to empower the girls by making them more aware of how blessed they are to have what be sending a letter to all homeowners about the situathey have, and to pay it forward to those less fortunate.

MONTHLY LADIES LUNCHEON

Janet Latiolais, Coordinator, 210-655-1873 Email: jmlatch@satx.rr.com

Our monthly ladies' luncheon resumes this month. We will meet at Papa Dante's on Gibbs Sprawl Rd. The lunch will be Tuesday, Jan. 22 at 1 pm. I am the hostess so please call me (210-655-1873) to RSVP to secure your place. We always need to let the restaurant know how many will come. We average about twenty (20) ladies per meal. Wow, that's great! We have about 30 names on the list, but not all ladies come each month. We carpool and if you call, I'll make sure that you are in someone's car from your section of the housing section. There's no reason for you to always be alone if you live alone. Please come out to meet your neighbors and make new friends.

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

PATIO HOMES I

Lisa Gerlich, Reporter, 210-590-6095 Email: lisagerlich@me.com

Greetings - I hope everyone is enjoying the holidays. I see many light displays in our neighborhood. I have been enjoying the beautiful weather that we have been getting in between the dreary cold days.

Ernie Jones has been serving as maintenance director since 2014. He has indicated via a letter that he intends to resign as he is having increasing medical problems. I want to extend my gratitude to Ernie for his work over the last four years. He has managed to make a lot of repairs and has worked very hard to keep costs down. Patio Homes I needs a new Maintenance Director.

The position of Maintenance Director is key to the upkeep of our neighborhood. The Maintenance Director manages the repairs to Patio Homes I exteriors according to the provisions of the original Covenant and any amendments. I cannot stress enough how vital the Maintenance Director position is. If no one volunteers to serve as Maintenance Director, we may need to hire a management company to help us with exterior upkeep and dues will undoubtedly increase. Or we will need to amend the Covenants to make homeowners responsible for the exterior repairs to their units.

Changing the Covenants is a time-consuming process requiring the approval of 75 percent of homeown-

ers. The Board is still planning to start soliciting bids in The girls will vote after their presentations on the January and February for the painting of all the town-Also, if a Covenant change is required, it will delay the painting unless we can obtain more help. The Board will tion in early January.

> There is good news: Under Ernie's supervision, Jerry and Frank have completed a lot of work. The costs have been minimal, and we are on target to begin 2019 with about \$80,000 in the bank. We have 103 townhomes, and any amendments. I cannot stress enough how vital the Maintenance Director position is. If no one volunteers to serve as Maintenance Director, we may need to hire a management company to help us with exterior upkeep and dues will undoubtedly increase. Or we will need to amend the Covenants to make homeowners responsible for the exterior repairs to their units.

Changing the Covenants is a time-consuming process requiring the approval of 75 percent of homeowners. The Board is still planning to start soliciting bids in January and February for the painting of all the townhomes. But, the board does not want to schedule the painting of a townhome block until we are confident that we have replaced the majority of any rotten fascia. Also, if a Covenant change is required, it will delay the painting unless we can obtain more help. The Board will be sending a letter to all homeowners about the situation in early January.

There is good news: Under Ernie's supervision, Jerry and Frank have completed a lot of work. The costs have been minimal, and we are on target to begin 2019 with about \$80,000 in the bank. We have 103 townhomes, and current dues are \$420 per home. That gives the Association \$43,260 a year to maintain exteriors, clean up the walkways, mow the grass between the wall and Randolph Boulevard, enforce compliance, pay for postage, pay for certified letters to collect unpaid dues, and pay any lawyer's fees. So, it will be nice to start the year with a positive balance. But remember, the Board provides its labor free of charge.

PATIO HOMES II

Kathie Obeck, Reporter, 210-967-5038 Email: <u>dkobeck@sbcglobal.net</u>

Patio Homes II hopes that everyone had a very Merry Christmas and a safe New Year's Eve. The Christmas decorations were great, so good to see so many participating.

Tis the season and mail thefts are on the up again. So please don't put up you flag for the mailman; he checks all our boxes for outgoing mail. If you are going to be gone, please have a neighbor collect your mail on a daily basis.

Sue Hassell has become a proud grandmother to a baby girl. All three are doing fine, baby, Mom and Grandmom.

The **Obecks** attended their first college graduation of a grandchild in San Angelo, TX. With four more in college, they should have many more to attend in the future

tinue to suffer with health problems. If you can help any of them or just check in with them, that would be wonderful.

Once again, we still have a few residents who just don't want to follow our Convents and keep the trash perwork to fill in to send in with the annual dues bins out of the alleys. It would be greatly appreciated payment to Garden Homes. They will need to get to Teri everyone would follow our rules and regulations.

If any of you have news that I'm not aware of, it ter. would be great if you would email it to me at dkobeck@sbcglobal.net for future Recorders.

GARDEN HOMES I

Gary H. Harmon, Jr, Reporter, 210-884-6926 Email: gharmon@idworld.net

All Garden Homes I residents were sent their 2019 assessment letter on 10 December 2018. 2019 assessments are due as of Jan. 15, 2019. If any resident did not receive an assessment letter or has any questions, call John Bertram at 210-390-7172. Elaine Mederos was the first Garden Homes I resident to pay the 2019 dues. Thank you!

> **GARDEN HOMES II** Janet Latiolais, Reporter, 210-655-1873



The annual Polar Bear Plunge was a huge success! Nine RRNA residents including several members of Girl Scout Troop 0871 participated. Thanks to Diane Luna for organizing the annual event!

Email: jmlatch@satx.rr.com

Happy New Year to you! Well neighbor, you can't say it hasn't been an interesting Winter this year. It's defi-Please keep praying for our many residents who con- nitely been colder. Are you familiar with the old saying, "As you get older, you feel the cold more." I think this has happened in my life. Some of these days, I felt like I could not get warm at all.

> A reminder to you: You should have gotten your pa-Sandoval by Jan. 31, 2019. Her address is on our ros-

By the way, since the new pink copy roster came out last summer, I've received many phone calls letting me know of changes of phone numbers from many of our residents. Please look at yours and let me know if your name has changed or if there is a problem with your name. My name and number is above this column.

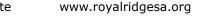
Hopefully in the next issue, there will be more personal news from our neighbors.

DIRECTORY aandan Cta .cc

Recorder Stall					
Editor (News)	Gary Harmon, Jr	210-884-6926			
Editor (Ads)	Norma Rabago	210-846-4759			
Collator/Distro	Jeanette Gittinger	210-656-0656			

Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association

Website





RRNA residents Pat Biggs, Janet Latiolais and Linda Marion enjoy the District 10 holiday party at Morgan's Wonderland.



ROYAL RIDGE RECREATIONAL CLUB 2019 MEMBERSHIP

Royal Ridge Recreational Club Invites Your Family To ...



BE COOL! JOIN THE CLUB & USE THE POOL!

	org Add u	is on Facebook: https://w	vww.facebook.com/royalridgerecreati	ionalclub/
2019-2020 Opening Day May	MEMOR	FREE SWIM IAL DAY WEEKEND Iay – Monday 2-8 pm	*Pool and clubhouse availabl *Family Friendly *Join NOW for over 90 days of *Membership open to	* f summer fun* o ALL*
Please DO NOT drop off or nail payment to the clubbe to arrange payment pickup/Cl ayment please contact Diane Mail payments to: RRRC P.O. Box 33666 an Antonio, TX 78265	ouse. Tredit Card	Wildge Recording	*Community owned and of To Join In Person: • Visit the RRRC Clubhous (During open pool season) • Call Diane Luna (210) 39 • Call Debbie Edens (210) • Attend Open House Ma	se 93-6976 861-9512
Early Bird Membership January 1 – April 30 \$ 175.00		R	egular Membership starting May 1 \$195 COMPLETE REQUIRED INFORMATION RETURN FORM WITH FULL PAYMENT	
		ation (please print clearly - FAMILY = 8 household n		
			()Spouse/Other(2) San Antonio, TX, Zip:	
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Address Phone(s)	Email(s)		San Antonio, TX Zip:	
Address Phone(s)	Email(s)		San Antonio, TX Zip:	
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Address Phone(s) Other Family Member Name(s	Email(s) s) & Age(s)		San Antonio, TX Zip: ITEM Membership (\$175/\$195) SOP (Save Our Pool Campaign)	
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