

Royal Ridge Recorder

Volume XXV, Number 4

July-August 2017

<NOTE: The due date for news & ads for the next issue is Saturday, August 19, 2017>

ROYAL RIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Lee Mays, President, 967-6501 Email: mays7772@gmail.com Website: www.royalridgesa.org

This article was written and submitted by **Dan Calderón**, Vice President, Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association.

During early voting and on Election Day on June 10, fewer than 1 out of 7 registered voters in San Antonio decided who will lead our community for a two-year term (for City Council members) and four-year term (for Mayor).

While it was a runoff election, which notoriously has lower voter turnout versus general elections, the fact that the race for San Antonio Mayor was contested should have spurred more people to come to the polls.

It did not. In all, a little more than 99, 000 voters in San Antonio - out of a pool of more than 750,000 registered voters - turned out to decide the mayoral race.



In District
10, which
includes Royal
Ridge, 14,000plus voters
turned out
between early
voting and
Election Day
voting. That's
encouraging,

because it represents the second-highest voter turnout among the six contested City Council races. Only District 9 had more voters cast ballots, with 16,900-plus people taking part in the election of their city council representative.

In Royal Ridge, Election Day numbers were pretty good. Exactly 200 people showed up at Royal Ridge Elementary School on June 10 to pull the lever for mayor and District 10 City Councilman. Some District 2 voters also call Royal Ridge Elementary home to their polling location. The District 10 race, which represents the Royal Ridge neighborhood, was the driver for voters.

Civic engagement has always been a hallmark of

our community. One of the priorities for the Royal Ridge Neighborhood Association will be to urge our newly elected District 10 City Councilman, Clayton Perry, for better traffic enforcement in our neighborhood. Specifically, we are concerned about speeding in and around the elementary school as parents have been known to speed at 40 to 50 mph on the way to drop off their kids at school. Our goal is to have an officer with a radar gun set up periodic checkpoints to stop, warn and possibly ticket drivers to discourage this dangerous trend.

Yet our priorities also need to be your priorities. We urge you to contact your elected neighborhood association board members and tell us what YOU want from your city leaders. Our collected voices should have more weight in making our community safer, better and more welcoming.

Here is our newly elected Mayor and City Council member and their contact information (the other city council members and their contact information is available on the city web site).

Mayor Ron Nirenberg

(210) 207-7060 Mayor.RonNirenberg@sanantonio.gov

District 10 Clayton Perry

(210).207-7276 District10@sanantonio.gov

Mailing address for City Hall P.O. Box 839966 San Antonio, TX 78283

ROYAL RIDGE CITIZENS ON PATROL

Bob Robbins, Coordinator, 655-4226 Email: rrcop@att.net

Another long hot summer is underway. And with it, some miscreants appear to be coming out in the overnight hours.

Contemporaneous and anecdotal reports gathered from Spotcrime.com, LexisNexis.com, NextDoor.com, and the San Antonio Police Department (SAPD) Calls for Service web page suggest thefts from vehicles and actual vehicle thefts increased in early June both within Royal



Ridge and in nearby neighborhoods. Most overnight crimes are discovered in the mornings or even later in the day as folks go about their normal routine.

The crimes are not concentrated in any one particular area but seem to be somewhat evenly distributed suggesting the criminals move about and randomly chose targets of opportunity. In some instances, vehicles were rummaged on being discovered unlocked and in others the vehicles were broken into where something of value was left in plain sight. Generally, locked vehicles and vehicles not "displaying" something of value are not disturbed even if left on the street or in a driveway. The safest way of course to protect your vehicle is to park it in your garage.

Certainly we don't have a lot of folks out in the wee hours of the morning but we have a few to include some Citizens on Patrol (COP) patrols. We encourage those who might be out at those times, and everyone at anytime, to report any and all suspicious persons, vehicles, and activities to the SAPD on their nonemergency number, 207-SAPD (207-7273).

Give the description of the people, vehicle, or activity best you can but don't let the lack of detail deter you from making the call. Even limited information is often sufficient for SAPD to intercept and interview the folks described. Certainly there are few candidates in the wee hours and so calls at those times may be particularly productive for us and the SAPD.

The apparent uptick in vehicle crimes may have abated by the time you read this but the advice is timeless. See something, say something! Anytime and every time! Many have heard my encouragement to overcome their reluctance to call. If you ask yourself a second time whether or not to call, you've asked the wrong person. Call 207-SAPD (207-7273) and talk with the dispatcher!

The next edition of the Royal Ridge Recorder will

likely hit the streets after the next SAPD COP training class. While the date has not yet been announced, I anticipate, based on prior year schedules, it will be held on the second Saturday in September, i.e. Sep 9th, 9 AM - 1 PM. Pencil it in on your calendar now and we will update you by email when the actual calendar is published.

Thanks to all for your interest and support of the RR COP program with a special thanks to our members, past and present for their contributions and dedication. Have a great, safe and secure summer!

EDITOR'S COMMENTS

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

n May, I received a call from **Lilo Bryan** on Meadow Haven. She and her husband discovered a tree had fallen on their property. While they were discussing the best way to have it removed, the tree was removed and the residue cleaned up. She doesn't know the good Samaritan but wanted to express her gratitude publically.

The due date for news articles of the next issue of the *Royal Ridge Recorder* is displayed under the heading on the top of the first page and in the Calendar. I usually send a reminder email several days before it is due. Please mark your calendar.

Qualified volunteers are still needed in many key Royal Ridge areas. Check the *Royal Ridge Recorder* as well as the Calendar on the last page.

Recommend use of Nextdoor.com. Nextdoor is a free, private social network for neighborhoods and you can filter it specifically for the Royal Ridge subdivision. It is one way for us to hear what's happening in our local community. When neighbors start talking, good things happen. Lost and found, giveaways, wanted items, recommendations of repair folks, etc.

Weeds in the rocks, yards, shrubs, and trees need attention, trash cans should be put away, and some fences need repair. Let's all do our part to keep Royal Ridge looking nice.

Be very careful with the heat. Stay cool! Wishing everyone a safe and happy summer.

MONTHLY LADIES LUNCHEON

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

Every lady in Royal Ridge is invited to attend the monthly luncheons. The dates and locations of follow-on luncheons are determined by the host for that month and will be announced when available. Call me for additional information and for the next scheduled luncheon date.

MONTHLY SOCIALS AND TRIPOLEY

Bonnie Hopkins, 650-0852

The next *Socials* will be *Fridays, July 28, August 25*, and *September 22* at *5:30 PM* held at the Royal Ridge Recreational Club (RRRC) Clubhouse. All adult members of the RRRC are welcome. Visitors are welcome to come and see if they are interested in joining the RRRC. Drinks are provided for a small donation and people are asked to bring finger foods to share. Hope to see you there!

The next *Tripoley Nights* will be *Friday, July* 14 and *Friday, August* 11 at 7:00 PM and held at the RRRC Clubhouse.

ROYAL RIDGE RECREATIONAL CLUB

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

The heat is on! Keeping with tradition on Memorial Day weekend, the RRRC Club and Pool Open House was held on Saturday – Monday, May 27-29. The turnout was GREAT. MANY NEW Members came out to enjoy the amenities of their membership.

On Saturday, May 27, we offered door prizes along with our Fundraiser Plate Sale. The Fundraiser Plate Sale yielded \$364. Visitors took advantage of our Concessions over the three-day weekend and helped add to the pot.

Club membership is around 162 members at the time of my article submission, June 24. This is the most members we have had in a long time. The membership numbers are great however financially we are short from last year. Last year we had 110 members at \$225 yielding \$24,750. Below is this year's breakdown:

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

In order to break even for our annual costs, we need at least 16 extra memberships at \$175. We truly value each and everyone's membership however we are also striving to keep up with the operation costs of the facilities.

Our goal is be able to build up a "rainy day" fund. Keep in mind that our facilities are 30+ years old. Any major repair in our air conditioning (AC), pool pumps and filters, or plumbing will put a large dent in our yearly operational costs. As in any household, we want to be ahead of the game.

Keeping on a positive note, we hope that we will reach our needed amount of memberships. A HUGE Thank You to ALL who included added donations to their memberships ranging from \$5 to \$500. Your generosity is truly appreciated and acknowledged.

At the time of our last article submission, our 2nd annual Fiesta FUN Friday had not yet taken place.

We brought a little bit of Fiesta to our neighborhood and took our April monthly social up a notch or two. Fiesta Fun Friday was held on Friday, April 21. It was set in a Night in Old San Antonio (NIOSA) style atmosphere. Participants enjoyed brats and sauerkraut in the German area; chicken fried rice, egg rolls, and fortune cookies in the Chinese area; and taco-chalupa bar in the Mexican area along with an assortment of Mexican pastries and bunuelos. Margaritas, wine, and an assortment of Mexican beers were enjoyed throughout the evening.

Admission was Free for members and a \$5 Donation for non-members. Both members and non-members were in attendance. THANK YOU to ALL who attended. We hope to make this event an annual event and add live entertainment. The planning is already in the works.

Our Pool Season officially started on June 3. June rentals and pool parties were booked months in advance. Bookings for July and August are finally being filled. Feel free to contact me at 393-6976 or **Deb Edens** at 861-9512 with any questions or concerns regarding membership, rentals, and pool parties.

Our new members are truly taking advantage of the pool. We have seen a lot of new faces. We hope that your new membership will be the beginning of a lasting tradition with our facilities. Members can purchase guest passes \$3/person with a limit of five daily. We ask that everyone adhere to our pool rules and policies respectively. They are there for your safety and to ensure your visit is a pleasant one.

I am very pleased to welcome back a very dedicated and efficient young lady, **Victoria**. She served as our Concessions attendant last year and will now be our Lead Pool Attendant. Your safety and overall pool experience is her priority.

We also welcome back as Concession Stand attendants, **Celleste** and **Diahann**. They are both ready to assist with concessions, guest passes, and receiving memberships during our new concession hours – Saturday and Sunday from 3 PM to 7 PM. Pay us a visit on **Sundae Sundays** and make your own sundae for (\$1 Regular Bowl/\$2 Waffle Bowl).

Our first summer event was our Summer Bash/ Movie Night on Friday, June 23. This event included a small fundraiser alongside our Movie Night featuring "Finding Dory". We offered \$3 Sausage Wraps, \$2 Hamburgers, and \$1 Root Beer and Big



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Stephen Burkett, RR Resident sburkett89@hotmail.com 210.601.3057 Fax-210.654.9390



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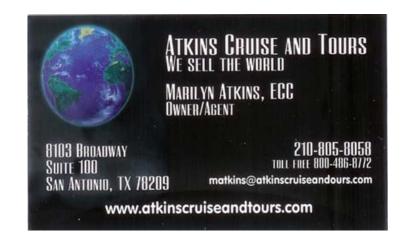
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Red Floats at the Concession Stand. Our concessions netted \$268. This event consisted of family fun with goodie bags handed out to the kiddos.

THANK YOU to **Sharon Arnold** for the sausage donation along with **Jerry Brown** and **Steve Camp** for providing the audio for our movie. Your generosity and giving of your time is a true sense of community. We are truly blessed to have you as members.



We will host First Teen our the Night of season on June 28, from 8 PM-10 PM. Future *Teen* Night dates are July 15 and August 19. These are Lock Down events with no in and out access. Admission is \$5.

We will end the season with the

3rd Annual Aloha To Summer Luau on Friday, August 25, 7 PM – 9 PM. We hope to host another fundraiser and bring back some live entertainment. Looking forward to a fun and memorable summer season.

We have had several requests from members to host an "adult" night by the pool. At the time of this submission, we are looking into making this possible and will report back in next issue. We "aims" to please. We are ALWAYS open to suggestions/ideas.

I would like to end this article by thanking a long standing resident and member, **Joe Stuvall** and a non-member, **Mario Lockwood**. These two individuals unselfishly assist with our lawn maintenance. Mr. Stuvall helps out by bringing over his own lawn tractor and cutting the grass when he sees the need. Mario assists by pruning our bushes and small trees as well as assisting our ever loyal volunteers, **Bob Robbins** and **Ernie Jones** with any other projects. We hope other members and residents will follow suit.

With that said, I wish to give my continued RESPECT and GRATITUDE along with A HUGE "THANK YOU" to:

~ BOB ROBBINS AND ERNIE JONES ~

I can NEVER say enough on how these individuals continuously go above and beyond their call of duty year-round with any and all repairs and maintenance at the Clubhouse. Your efforts are notably recognized. We truly CANNOT function without YOU. We Appreciate ALL You Do!!!

Neighborhood News

PATIO HOMES II

Wanda Espinosa, Reporter, 382-0613 Email: wandamespinosa@gmail.com

ot summer days are upon us. Be sure to have your AC checked out and change filters every two weeks during the summer. That way the AC doesn't work as hard.

Don't forget to give your yards some attention. I noticed that our front yards are in need of weed pulling. It is that time of year when those weeds can come up quickly.

Early May, we had a big mess on Royal Ridge where a dog decided to do its business, and if it wasn't a stray, the owner opted to not clean it up. Come on folks, this is our neighborhood and we need to take better care of it.

As for new neighbors, we have two new ones on Royal Ridge. **Areli Rodriguez**, her mother **Yolanna Garcia**, and brother **Ivan Rodriguez**. Also, **Nash Posey** and **Victoria Shaw**, if you happened to see them around, please let's make them feel welcome.

If you would like to share some news just shoot me an email and we will get it in the *Royal Ridge Recorder*. As for us it's time to hit the river and make some homemade peach ice cream.

PATIO HOMES I

Catherine "Taffy" Haenze, Reporter, 424-0110 Email: lchaenze@gmail.com

Summer finally found us. The flowers are growing when watered. The weeds don't care. They grow anyway. Be sure to pull/control yours. Your neighbor doesn't need/want them anymore than you do. Please, my dog, as well as all the pets, are begging you to kill the sticker burrs. If you wonder why, step on one when you are properly dressed for summer.....without shoes.

Welcome to all the new people in Patio Homes I. If you wonder who is new, introduce yourself. I'm thinking between 1/3 and 1/2 half of the houses have new owners/renters since we moved in, in 2004. If you came after that, you're new. If you were here before that, go find a newbie and introduce yourself. If you're trying and "they" are trying, sooner or later you will meet someone who wants to meet you. This true happening in one of the houses happened just in the last three years. The couple were gone to work. Thieves blatantly broke in and took things, even large items. A next door neighbor saw the things going out, but didn't know the neighbor, and didn't have a way to contact them. The thieves were never caught. Get to know the people in your "quad." If you live on the end of

a fourplex, reach out, walk the extra steps and get to know at least in the first house in the next quad.

Survive the summer, neighbors. Well, do more than survive. Make the most of it. If you have children, the pool is just the right size. Walking after dark is cooler, and you can meet some other neighbors. If you really want to help uplift our "hood," call up **Damon Tabor**, our Association President. See what is in your line of helping our three streets with 103 houses. You'll surprise the heck out of him, and bring joy to his entire family....yourself too. We need the younger blood in the Association's veins. We older grunts are ready, willing, and able to step aside and let you fill our worn out shoes.

Thank you all for driving more slowly through the neighborhood. Remind your visitors there are people out walking their dogs. Please, don't cut the corners. When someone comes wheeling around the corner, I for one don't know which way to jump: get smacked on the right, the left or dead on?!?

Enjoy the rest of our extended summer.

GARDEN HOMES I

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

Welcome to Larry and Thuy Green, our new neighbors on Royal Ridge Dr. The Greens moved here from Floresville, Texas. Larry is retired Air Force. If you see them out and about, welcome them to Royal Ridge.

Let's take care of our wonderful neighborhood and ensure we keep up with weeding in the rock landscaping, mowing, edging, shrub and tree trimming, repairing fences, storing trash cans out of sight, and alley landscaping.

GARDEN HOMES II

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

i neighbors throughout Royal Ridge; hot enough for you, yet? Isn't it great to have a pool to be able to cool off in right down the street? The daily walkers are out and about earlier now so curbside visiting is a sometime opportunity.

Our neighbor "Flip" Flipin was recently laid to rest at Ft. Sam Houston. He was a nice neighbor, always had a funny joke to tell.

Further down the street, **Bruno** and **Marge Szczepaniak** moved away to live closer to their daughter. Time marches on as our neighborhood continues to change.

Nancy Cochran is still having problems with her knee. She really misses her morning walk and visits with her neighbors.

Steve and Loretta Camp just celebrated their

21st wedding anniversary by doing some indoor skydiving. What an interesting way to celebrate!

Jim and Pris Goodgion went back to Virginia for Jim's 50th college reunion. He went to the Virginia Military Institute (VMI) and then they stayed a few days to visit Washington, D.C. Also, Jim is

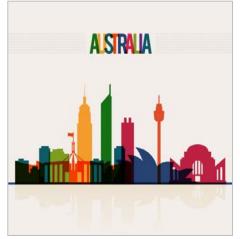
D.C. Also, Jim is active in the



Writers' Group at the Northeast Senior Center. He recently received the Bexar County Judge's 2017 Senior Service Award for the volunteer work he does each Thursday. This is a great way to meet other writers right here in our area of the city.

Pat Biggs spent a week in Hawaii as well as taking a cruise while there. Richard and Linda Pritchett are enjoying their new beach condo in Corpus Christi. They love to fish and the condo offers great fishing areas to cast a line from.

Lee and Debbie Larson have been travelling the world to scuba dive at far-away places such as Fiji, and Bonaire, a Dutch island. And, just recently they also took a short visit to San Clemente, California to visit family.



Lee and Sandi Mays recently spent almost a month travelling down under Australia, New Zealand, and several of the Pacific islands. Lee says the islands are good places to purchase black pearls.

The annual June graduations brought family in to town to visit **Norman** and **Ruth Graham**. Their granddaughter, June Stephens with her husband and new son (the Graham's great-grandson born last December) came for another granddaughter's graduation, Jenna Fuller, from Judson High School. The Stephens live in San Juan Capistrano, California. **Janet Latiolais'** second granddaughter, Megan Chank graduated from McArthur High School. She was also awarded a four-year scholarship to St. Mary's University. Needless to say, our small family is very proud of her.

<u>DIRECTORY</u>

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RRRC Pool Management Manager
Club ActivitiesTripoley (Fri)Shirley Bryan392-6095Socials (Fri)Bonnie Hopkins650-0852
Royal Ridge Citizens-on-Patrol (COP)

CALENDAR

July 2017

Monthly Ladies Luncheon, Date TBD, Call 655-1873

10 Mon 7:00 PM, Citizens-on-Patrol Meeting

7:00 PM, Tripoley 14 Fri

15 Sat 8:00-10:00 PM, Teen Night at RRRC

17 Mon 6:30 PM, RRRC Board Meeting

28 Fri 5:30 PM, Monthly Social

August 2017

Monthly Ladies Luncheon, Date TBD, Call 655-1873

7:00 PM, Tripoley 11 Fri

14 Mon 7:00 PM, Citizens-on-Patrol Meeting

19 Sat 8:00-10:00 PM, Teen Night at RRRC19 Sat Royal Ridge Recorder Input Due to Editor

21 Mon 6:30 PM, RRRC Board Meeting

25 Fri 5:30 PM, Monthly Social

7:00 PM, Aloha to Summer Luau at RRRC 25 Fri

September 2017

Monthly Ladies Luncheon, Date TBD, Call 655-1873

08 Fri 7:00 PM, Tripoley

09 Sat 9:00 AM, SAPD COP Training, please call to verify 655-4226

18 Mon 6:30 PM, RRRC Board Meeting

22 Fri 5:30 PM, Monthly Social

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ROYAL RIDGE COMMUNITY WEBSITE

Your site for neighborhood-wide information or just for your section of Royal Ridge including RRNA, RRRC, and current/back issues of the Royal Ridge Recorder.

www.royalridgesa.org Check it out!

Coordinator..... Bob Robbins...... 655-4226