



OAKRIDGE NEWS

www.oakridgena.org

September 2023, Vol. 31, No. 09



Board of Directors Update: BillyRay Thomas, President

Hello Oakridge,

Any Blues lovers remember the song “September Blues”? I wonder if it was inspired by this Texas heat. Ok, I digress.

September ushers in the change of the seasons and hopefully a change in temperatures -- as we all could use a break right about now. I hope you enjoyed your summer and are as eager as I am for Fall.

September is also a time of commemoration and remembrance. May we never forget the events and aftermath of 9/11; how we united as Americans to lift, console, and pray for one another. It is also a time to celebrate all of us, the American Worker. Have a great September Oakridge, and Happy Labor Day!

A note of thanks to ONA Board members and neighbor volunteers who continue to work tirelessly to support our great neighborhood. It’s never too late to join, and we have several vacant positions we hope you will consider.

The ONA General Meeting will be held Thursday, September 28th at 7:00pm via Zoom. If you can’t attend but have questions or concerns, please share them via email at communications@oakridgena.org with “Question & Concerns” in subject line by September 22nd. A list will be compiled and published prior to the meeting. We want your voice to be heard.

Your Oakridge Neighborhood Association needs “neighbors”, that you. Will you join us? Membership in is not required, it is desired and greatly appreciated.

Until Next time.



Membership

Cecile LaBossiere, Membership

I would like to thank everyone that has joined the ONA thus far! Your decision to spend your hard earned money to support Oakridge is greatly appreciated. We recognize the value of every dollar and can assure you your contributions will be spent wisely!

Recognitions:

This year we had the following distribution of member contributions:

5 members at the \$500 + Oak Level

7 members at the \$250 + Maple Level

119 members at the \$100 + Crepe Myrtle Level

131 members at the \$60 + Good Neighbor Level



2023-2024 Membership Summary	Member Count
Renewals	223
First Time Supporters	8
Came Back after Hiatus	24
Total	255

District	Current Supporting Members	# of Pending Renewal	# Not Yet Supporting	# Total Households	% Households Supporting
1	45	14	126	185	24%
2	52	11	91	154	34%
3	14	8	119	141	10%
4	52	7	92	151	34%
5	26	12	152	190	14%
6	30	7	144	181	17%
7	36	10	118	164	22%
Total	255	69	842	1166	22%

Membership Flags

Member Flags will be delivered by your District Director or Membership Volunteers. If you have not received your Flag, please email **Membership** at oakridgemembership@gmail.com.



RE/MAX Associates of Dallas

Jeff Stone
Managing Broker
214-957-4386
Oakridge resident over 30 years
offering special commission rate for my neighbors!

DUCKCREEK
— GOLF CLUB —
214-440-2229 duckcreekgc.com

ONA
General Membership Meeting

SAVE THE DATE

September 28, 2023
7:00pm via Zoom

Make your voices heard.
Got Questions? Email communications@oakridgena.org by 9/22.



CLICK TEXT OR SCAN CODE TO JOIN THE ONA

JOIN PLEASE

Join Today!

協泰 Hiep Thai

Local Asian Marketplace!
Fresh Meat & Seafood!

3347 W. Walnut St., #101
Garland, TX 75042
Tel: 972-272-1993
Fax: 972-487-9092

2430 E. Pioneer Pkwy.
Arlington, TX 76010
Tel: 817-459-1311
Fax: 817-459-1317

Oakridge Safety

Joan & Dan Nichols, Crime & Safety

Oakridge prides itself on a long history of active involvement of its members in watching out for one another. The ONA Crime Prevention and Safety Committee serves its mission to improve and maintain the quality of life in Oakridge.

The Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO) initiative with GPD plays a vital part of keeping Oakridge safe. We are especially grateful for our new NPO, Officer Jordan Murphy who will continue the great work began by Officer Barnes. The "Meet and Greet" was a great success and thanks to all who were able to come. Visit the [ONA Photo Gallery](#) and don't forget to add a note to the [Kudoboard](#). We are looking forward to seeing you all at the [National Night Out](#) event October 3rd, so save the date.

As always, call 911 for an active crime, or the non-emergency number at 972-485-4840. Subscribe to "Siren Alerts" to be notified of incidents in our neighborhood on our website or email us at safety@oakridgena.org.

Visit <https://www.oakridgena.org/crime-prevention-safety/> for all Crime Prevention and Safety Information and Tips.



Juliard Ishizuka

REALTOR®

(817)739-1139

juliardishizuka@ebby.com



Oakridge resident since 2013. I am here to assist you in your real estate needs!

Financial Report

Sarah Freeman, Treasurer



All 2023-2024 financial reports are available online at www.oakridgena.org/financials-main. Click the above link or find it on the "Resident Resources" page under "Financials".

Oakridge Culture:

Cheryl Jones, Communications

Oakridge has a rich diversity of cultures, and the Board would welcome current and potential members to share that diversity by joining the Board in an open seat.

These roles take very little time each month and provide a wonderful opportunity to get to know their fellow residents, as well as convey needs and wants a district may have.

We welcome you to join the Board in any of the open roles listed on page 8 of this newsletter or on our website at <https://www.oakridgena.org/ona-board/>.

Oakridge Men

Mark Edwards, Oakridge Resident

The Oakridge gents take a hiatus during the summer. We look forward to reconvening in September.

SAVE THE DATE

This year Garland will be hosting the
2023 Neighborhood Summit

Saturday, November 11, 8:30am-noon.
Garland Fire Admin Building, 1500 Highway 66.

Event is Free

Register early to receive a Free T-Shirt
<http://www.garlandtx.gov/4081/Neighborhood-Summit>

**Attention Business Professionals
and Service Providers!**

Your business card here could reach over
1,100 households each month.

\$300 Per Year

Prorated per fiscal year.
Ad Placement rotates monthly.

Contact Cheryl Jones, at communications@oakridgena.org
to place your ad today!

Garland City Council, District 7 Councilman Dylan Hedrick

It's August and that means temperatures are in the triple digits, and the City Council is focused on debating and approving the operating budget for the 2023-2024 fiscal year. This year, the City Manager Jud Rex presented a budget focused on six areas: improving public safety, increasing personnel and operational funding as a result of the Bond Programs, strengthening Citywide staffing from lean years to improve programs and services, maintaining compensation/Merit increases to stay competitive, continuing to fund master plans to provide direction on strategic priorities and keeping high levels of reserves to respond to unforeseen financial challenges.

[Click here to read the entire article](http://www.oakridgena.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/District-7-Update-2023-08-20.docx) or copy <http://www.oakridgena.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/District-7-Update-2023-08-20.docx>. Key features:

- Fire fighters and Police Officer compensation increases.
- GPD Officer Recruiting and retention.
- City employees merit and employee group health insurance contributions increases.
- Staff increases at Hinton Landfill, Transportation Department, Customer Service call center, Fleet Services, Information Technology Department and Water and Wastewater Utilities.
- District 7 Town Hall Meeting September 21 at 6:00 PM at the North Garland Branch Library.

I encourage everyone to read through the city budget on the City's website at <https://www.garlandtx.gov/DocumentCenter/View/14602/City-of-Garland-2023-24-Proposed-Budget-PDF>.

Visit my Substack blog at dylanhedrick.substack.com. Look for the Garland's Biggest Challenge post.



CHERYL JONES REALTY
CHERYL JONES
Broker-Owner
214-437-9132
www.cheryljones.realestate
Special Rates and Neighbor Rebates
Call or go to the website to schedule an appointment.
Oakridge resident since 1996.
34+ years Real Estate experience.  Independently owned and operated. 

Petition Notice Dylan Hedrick, District 7

I am leading a petition to hold a local option election to allow for liquor sales within the city. We lose thousands of sales tax dollars to our surrounding cities each year by not allowing packaged liquor sales. Keeping those sales within our city limits and by smartly regulating the stores where it is sold by smart zoning regulations will provide additional funds for public safety, economic development and city programming. I encourage you to visit GarlandLOVE.com where L.O.V.E. stands for Local Option Voter Engagement. You can also read more about the effort by visiting my Substack blog at dylanhedrick.substack.com. Look for the Garland's Biggest Challenge post.

Interested in a Neighborhood-
Wide Garage Sale?

**GARAGE
SALE**
Oakridge

Contact Jackie Reynolds
ONA Events Coordinator



Happy Birthday * Happy Anniversary



Preservation Society Fall Programs

David Parrish, Oakridge Resident

2023-2024 Fall Nature Programs Public Speaking Series at Spring Creek Forest. 1st Tuesday of each month; Runs September to May 2024; 7:00PM to 8:30 PM via Zoom.



Topics / Dates:

- Sex in the Garden (9/5)
- All about Galls (10/3)
- Orthoptera are Hopping Across North America- grasshoppers, katydids (11/7)
- Amy Martin book preview, Wild DFW (1/2).
- 4th Sunday Nature Walks-: Time: 2:00 - 3:30 p.m. Locations vary.
- Insects on the Prairie (9/24)
- Galls in the Forest (10/29),
- Family Time in the Forest (11/26)
- First Day Hikes on January 1, 2024

For information such as locations/directions, details and newsletter subscriptions:

- Preservation Society website:
<https://www.springcreekforest.org>,
- Email:
springcreekforestpreservation@gmail.com
- Facebook Group Link:

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/113504751995744>

*Looking for things to do this summer?
Check out the
Visit Garland Event Page
Scan QR Code or click link below.*



www.visitgarlandtx.org/p/events

Oakridge Women's Club (OWC)

Libby Morse, Resident

The Oakridge Women's Club is open to all women of Oakridge. We share a common bond of love for our children, families, and community and even become friends.

OWC meets the first Thursday of the month at 7pm at various locations.

If you need a break once a month to relax and unwind, email Libby Morse at tomlib@tx.rr.com for information. OWC is on Facebook and Nextdoor.

Daytimers Coffee

Sally Weiss, Oakridge Resident

After a long, HOT summer, the Oakridge Daytimers will finally reunite at Gloria Turner's lovely home.

What have our friends and neighbors been up to all summer? Have they been to the lake, on an Alaskan cruise, a comfortable "staycation" or maybe a safari? I can't wait to find out!

If you're new to the neighborhood or recently retired or you've just been debating coming to one of our coffees, I encourage you to come check us out. You'll meet a friendly bunch of ladies who will be happy to help you feel a key part of this great neighborhood and, in many ways, become extended family. I've never known this many neighbors any place else that I've ever lived. So come on over. We look forward to meeting you!

Daytimers is open to all female residents of Oakridge and meets on the second Tuesday of the month. After visiting, we welcome you to join us. Annual membership dues of \$20.00 are used for speakers, community support and the annual end-of-year luncheon. Any questions about joining us and the location of our next coffee may be directed to Ann Conrath at 469-367-0802.



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

2023 Oakridge National Night Out

By Oakridge Crime Watch and Garland Police



Free Admission

Date and Time	Location	Taste of Oakridge
Tue, October 3, 2023 5:00 – 7:00 PM CDT	Duck Creek Golf Club Parking Lot 2800 Diamond Oaks Drive	Register online or to volunteer contact safety@oakridgena.org

Featuring Garland Police and Fire Department

About this Event

Join us as we celebrate Oakridge Night Out. Bring an appetizer to share with neighbors and learn about Crime Prevention from our own Garland Police. Bring your own bag chairs and beverages will be available for purchase from the Duck Creek Golf Course beverage cart. **Free for all Oakridge residents and families.** Go to www.oakridgena.org to sign-up and get the latest info.

The purpose of National Night Out is to build strong partnerships between the police and communities and to promote crime awareness programs such as Neighborhood Community Watch groups.

Oakridge Residents 411s:

New Residents:

If you are new to Oakridge, WELCOME! New residents should expect to receive a "Welcome Bag" filled with goodies from the City of Garland, helpful tips, and ONA information. Email us at info@oakridgena.org to let us know you are here or if you have any questions. We hope you will consider ONA Membership. Join anytime via the website or scan the "Join QR Code".



Join Today!

Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA):

The ONA is a 501(C)(4) Non-Profit chartered in 1992. Its Fiscal Year begins June 1 and ends May 31st of the following year. Membership is voluntary. Dues are \$60 annually per household. Additional information on Oakridge and the ONA can be found on the web site <https://www.oakridgena.org/resident-resources/>.

Oakridge Districts/Directors:

Oakridge is comprised of 1166 homes divided up into "Districts" by Street. Each District is represented by an ONA District Director. Click [Find Your District](#) to locate your District and ONA District Director.

Oakridge Perimeter Walls:

ONA Membership dues provide for the maintenance, landscaping, and mowing "around" the perimeter walls. If your home is on the outer perimeter, you will be responsible for the repair or replacement of damaged walls on your property. Detailed information is available on the ONA website at <https://oakridgena.org/perimeter-brick-wall>.



Sidewalk Repairs-City Cost Share Program:

Per Garland's City Ordinance, if you own property in Garland, it is your responsibility to keep sidewalks, parkways, curbs, and driveways adjacent to your property in a good and safe condition and free from any defects and hazards. A property owner who qualifies in all three categories may now bear as little as 10 percent of the cost of fixing their sidewalk. Find out program details at:

<https://www.garlandtx.gov/384/Sidewalk-Participation-Program>.

ONA 2023-2024 Board of Directors

Officers

President, BillyRay Thomas 214-734-1017
Vice President, Vickie Litton 972-762-2805
Secretary, JC Elliott 469-774-7114
Treasurer, Sarah Freeman 214-927-1148

Directors

District 1, Joanna Albright 973-879-5965
District 2, VACANT
District 3, VACANT
District 4 Co-Directors
Oliver Harter 214-663-8862
Jackie Jones 972-897-5133
District 5, VACANT
District 6, VACANT
District 7, Joetta Harris 469-955-1513

Committees

Communications, Cheryl Jones 214-437-9132
Crime & Safety, Joan Nichols 214-543-2546
Environmental, VACANT
Events, Jackie Reynolds 469-649-5799
Membership, Cecile LaBossiere 972-896-9413

Oakridge News

Oakridge Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 450145
Garland, TX 75045-0145



PRSR STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

We appreciate your support!

Please print/fill out completely

Your information will be used for ONA communication purposes ONLY and will NEVER be given to anyone.

Street Address _____

Home Phone _____

First Time Supporter

Renewal

Owner Tenant

Subscribe to ONA emails? Y or N

Contact 1

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Contact 2

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Invoice

The ONA is not a mandatory HOA.
It relies on volunteers and donations.

Support Levels

\$60+ Good Neighbor Level
\$100+ Crepe Myrtle Level
\$250+ Maple Level
\$500+ Oak Level

What the ONA does

Perimeter Maintenance	Events & Social Activities
Seasonal Plantings	General Member Meetings
Monthly Newsletter	Holiday Decorations
ONA Website	Donations to Fire/Police Stations
Crime Prevention & Safety	New Resident Welcome Bags

Contact info@oakridgena.org for comments or to volunteer.

Total Amount Enclosed

\$ _____

Payment Method:

Check/Money Order enclosed

Online Payment - PayPal link is available on the ONA website (www.oakridgena.org/join-us)

Mail check or money order (no cash) and completed form to:

Oakridge Neighborhood Association
PO Box 450145
Garland, TX 75045-0145

An ONA flag will be placed in your front yard to indicate your support.