



OAKRIDGE NEWS

www.oakridgena.org

October 2024, Vol. 32, No. 10



Board of Directors Update

Vickie Litton, President

It is officially FALL even though the temperatures are still in the high 80s and 90s. The calendar does not consider temperatures. Hopefully, we begin to cool down especially in time for our Halloween trick or treat, Thursday, October 31, 2024.

It was good to hear you on our General Membership Zoom meeting September 26, 2024. Unfortunately, we only had a handful of members joining the meeting. Therefore, we did not have a quorum to approve the May 23, 2024, General Membership Minutes. We will have this business to approve at our next meeting, February 27, 2025.

We cannot stress enough about participating in the General Membership meeting so that your voice can be heard. We need your approval on assorted items. Without that approval, we cannot move forward in adapting recommendations and/or changes to our budget among other matters.

We had two special guests Dylan Hedrick, our District 7 Councilman, and NPO Officer Murphy. Dylan, shared with us the 2025 Garland Bond Program and other City business. Officer Murphy let us know that our crime rate continues to decline. To date, Oakridge has had only two (2) incidents. Officer Murphy asked us to keep up the excellent work, watching for open garage doors, removing valuable items from your car when parked on the street, etc. The Members thanked Officer Murphy for his hard work.

The National Nite Out event is Tuesday, October 1, 2024. Please join us in meeting and greeting the Garland police officers as well as your Board members. Your feedback is always welcomed by the ONA Board. There is room for membership and volunteers.

Until November.....



Today, 5-7pm
Holford Recreation Ctr
Parking Lot on Shiloh
See you there!

If you are new to the Neighborhood...

Join the ONA and help us maintain and beautify Oakridge entrances!

Welcome



Membership Update

Cecile LaBossiere, Membership Director

A special thanks to everyone that has participated in our Annual Membership Campaign. We have 1166 homes in Oakridge and we currently have 225 residents that have contributed to the ONA!

If you have questions about the Neighborhood Association, please reach out so we can answer your questions, concerns, etc.... via email at oakridgemembership@gmail.com.

Membership Summary YTD

District #	SUM of Current Year Supporter (2024-2025)	SUM of Not yet renewed	SUM of Not yet supporting	SUM of # Households	% Supporting
1	43	16	126	185	23%
2	55	9	90	154	36%
3	7	8	126	141	5%
4	44	12	95	151	29%
5	22	13	155	190	12%
6	22	11	148	181	12%
7	32	12	120	164	20%
Total	225	81	860	1166	19%

Membership Flags



To show our appreciation, your ONA Membership Flag will be delivered by your District Director or Membership volunteer. Find your District Director at <https://oakridgena.org/seven-districts-of-oakridge/>. Contact Membership at oakridgemembership@gmail.com if your flag is not delivered.

Membership is still open.
Join ONA Here!!!



Join Today!

Click this link or scan QR Code

Pay using PayPal (fee) or Credit Card
Most Major Cards Accepted.

Pay by Mail:

Print Invoice enclosed and Mail check/money order payable to ONA: PO Box 450145 Garland, TX 75045

District Directors are more than happy to pick up your payment. Just let them know.

We still have Open Positions:

- **Secretary**
 - Document minutes for Board/General Membership Meetings
- **District 1, 3 and 6 Director**
 - Represents district, delivers member flags and welcome bags
- **Communications Director**
 - Appointed by the President and confirmed by the Board.

The ONA is continually looking for ways to streamline our processes and improve efficiency.

For more information and ways you can help, email us at communications@oakridgena.org.

Oakridge Neighborhood wide Garage Sales



Contact Jackie Reynolds
ONA Events Coordinator
events@oakridgena.org

Financial Report

Sarah Freeman, Treasurer



The ONA Board is committed to be fiscally responsible for your membership and beautification dollars. The 2024-2025 Budget is available now online at www.oakridgena.org/financials-main. Click the above link or find it on the "Resident Resources" page under "Financials". If you have any questions, contact us at treasury@oakridgena.org.

Oakridge Safety

Lee Litton, Crime & Safety



The Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO) initiative with GPD plays a vital part of keeping Oakridge safe. We are especially grateful for our NPO, Officer Jordan Murphy. Officer Murphy can be reached at murphyj@garland.tx.gov.

We are looking forward to seeing you all at the National Night Out event Tuesday, October 1, 2024.

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.



The ONA proudly supports the Garland Police Department Foundation's support for "First Responders" dealing with Cancer. Click link below for more information or for donations. <https://garlandpolicefoundation.org>



Environmental

Joshua Lamb, Director

We have submitted the Neighborhood Vitality Grant to change entrance lights to color changing lights to reflect seasonal holidays and other improvement. Specifics and status information can be found on the website.

We solicit neighbor volunteers to help make our entrances and perimeter stellar. Contact me environment@oakridgena.org

Thanks again for your donations to the Beautification Fund!

Commercial Solicitation

§ 26.51 Permit required for commercial home solicitations.

The city of Garland requires a Permit for Commercial solicitations of homes. For more information contact Code Compliance at 972-485-6400.

Solicitation permits may be obtained at the Garland Police Department's Records Unit, located at: 1891 Forest Lane, Garland, TX 75042. Download the application here: [Solicitation Permit Application \(PDF\)](#).



Daytimers Coffee

Oakridge Resident

What a great time we had catching up during our September Coffee. Our hostess Gloria Turner's home was beautifully decorated for the beginning of the fall season! Our food hostesses did a great job with delicious treats! There weren't a lot of leftovers as everyone enjoyed the mini quiche, fruit salads, wrapped sausages and of course the desserts. Our group had a chance to mingle and dine before the meeting was officially started by our incoming President, Sharon Eppler.

Most of us chimed in with conversations of new grandchildren, summer travel adventures and somber updates about friends or family members. It's always such a blessing to have a close-knit group for socializing and support. JoAnn Williams and Diane Winter spoke up about the activities that are available every month such as book club, game day, etc. so be sure to put those on your calendar! Ann Williams talked to us about a sleeping pad project where members of her church make these for the homeless out of plastic trash bags! The sleeping pads were beautiful and what an inventive idea for plastic trash bags!

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 check us out. You'll meet a friendly group of women who will be happy to help you feel a key part of this great neighborhood! We look forward to meeting you!

Daytimers is open to all female residents of Oakridge and meets on the second Tuesday of the Month at 10:00 am. 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 Sharon Eppler at 214-690-3340.

City of
Garland

UPCOMING
EVENTS

Click the link or scan QR Code
www.visitgarlandtx.org/p/events



Pickleball Anyone?

Scott Youzva, Resident



If you're interested in Pickleball, you can catch a game at Duck Creek Golf Club. For more information, contact the golf club or give me a call. If interested, you can search for the "Pickleball at Duck Creek" Facebook Group for additional information. All levels of players are participating and we can get everyone on a court with players of equal experience.

I look forward to meeting anyone that wants to play or learn to play. I hope to "See you at the courts!"

Scott Youzva

s.youzva@gmail.com

972-816-5116



HELPING EACH OTHER!
OAKRIDGE FOOD DRIVE



Sunday, Nov 10, 2-4pm

**Good Sam truck will be at Holford
Park parking lot—across Shiloh Rd,
between Rich Oak and Big Oaks!**



Food & Warm clothes Drive

Food Items

- Beef stew/Chili
- Ravioli/Spaghettios
- Soups
- Spaghetti Sauce
- Canned meat (chicken, tuna, salmon)
- Peanut butter (plastic jars are preferred)
- Canned vegetables (low sodium)
- Brown rice
- Whole grain pastas
- Canned tomato sauces
- Vienna Sausage
- Hearty Soups (with meat, preferably)
- Fruit Cups
- Applesauce Cups
- Mac n Cheese Cups
- Fruit/Energy/Breakfast Bars
- Peanut Butter or Cheese Crackers



Cold Weather Clothing

- Socks
- Warm jackets
- Gloves, hats, scarves



Oakridge Women's Club (OWC)

Libby Morse, Oakridge Resident

OWC is open to all women Oakridge. If you need a break once a month to relax, come and unwind with the Women of Oakridge. Contact Libby at tomlib@tx.rr.com. OWC has a private Facebook Group Page. Find us and join.

Garland City Council, District 7

Councilman Dylan Hedrick

After we finished the important work earlier this month of passing the city budget which addresses the needs of the current fiscal year, your City Council is now focusing on two important forward-looking tasks.

Our 2024 Bond Study Committee is well underway already having met throughout August and September. The charge of the committee is to evaluate public infrastructure and potential development and redevelopment opportunities in order to increase Garland's competitive position in the Metroplex in order to drive increased tax revenues.

With the 2019 bond program taking care of many of the long neglected needs of the city, the future bond program will start to address some of the wants to take the city through the next 20 years. Already the Committee has learned about the challenges Garland faces concerning low sales tax and property values as compared to peer cities and has seen presentations on catalyst areas such as the Forest/Jupiter/Walnut, South Garland Avenue, Medical District, Centerville Marketplace and Interstate 30 areas that the city has identified for future growth.

The consultant hired to guide the discussions is now estimating the cost of implementing various projects in the focus areas, and the Committee will evaluate the projects and provide a recommendation for what the Council should present to the voters in an upcoming bond election.

If there are any projects you would like to see included, please contact me so I may relay it to the bond committee. You can follow the committee's work and view presentations and see recordings of the meetings on the committee's website here: <https://www.garlandtx.gov/4329/Bond-Study-Committee>

The second item we are working on is the new city comprehensive plan. The previous Comprehensive Plan entitled Envision Garland was adopted in 2012 and did not contemplate the additions from the 2019 Bond Program. Now that those projects are largely finished, we are looking at what Garland's future will look like out to the year 2050. The city has hired consulting firm Verdunity to lead the process which is expected to run through 2025. During that time, citizens will be presented with opportunities to provide input through community meetings and surveys. Kevin Shepherd of Verdunity held the first introductory meeting on September 11.

If you were unable to attend, I highly encourage you to watch the 30 minute presentation here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PnJLGuXZaDU&t=329s> or search YouTube for "Garland Forward Community Event."

In the meeting, Shepherd posed three questions that his firm will use to guide the process:

- What resources do we have?
- What is the value we provide?
- What can we do with those resources?

In understanding the resource gap that I described above which was presented to the bond committee, the new comprehensive plan aims to provide options to close the resource gap. Shepherd stated that we can do so through increasing taxes and fees or reducing services – two things that no one wants to see – or by developing responsibly which is where the comprehensive plan comes in.

Just as in the kickoff presentation, I will leave you with three open-ended questions to consider as we form the new comprehensive plan:

- How might we...?
- What do you love about Garland?
- What is your biggest hope for Garland?

If you have ever wondered about any of those questions, please send those answers to me so I may relay them to the consultant team to incorporate into the plan. I cannot stress the importance of community involvement in shaping the vision of our city. We want you to tell us what you want your city to become in the future. Also, please visit the plan's website at garlandforward.com to learn more about the process, see future upcoming events, and follow the plan's progress as we work to build Garland's future.

It is my extreme privilege to represent you as your District 7 City Council representative. Please contact me at 469-560-6099 or council7@garlandtx.gov if there is anything I can do for you.

Oakridge Gentlemen

Mark Edwards, Oakridge Resident

The Oakridge Gentlemen meet on Wednesdays at 10:30am. All Oakridge Men are welcomed. Last Wednesday we met at Garland Cafe. Email Mark at medwards@gmail.com for the next meeting time and location.

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Oakridge Residents 411s

New Residents: 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 supporting the neighborhood by joining the ONA. Join anytime online at www.oakridgena.org/join.

About Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA):

The ONA is a 501(C)(4) Non-Profit chartered in 1992. Its powers and authority is limited to the maintenance of 9 Entries and subdivision perimeter landscaping. The ONA has no authority over and takes no position over private property matters. The Fiscal Year begins June 1 and ends May 31st of the following year. Membership is voluntary but necessary to fulfill its charter. Dues are \$60 annually per household. Click the link for information at <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/4086/Sidewalk-Participation-Program>

2024-2025 Board of Directors

Officers

President, Vickie Litton 972-762-2805
Vice President, Yvette Bonavita 214-734-2186
Secretary, OPEN
Treasurer, Sarah Freeman 214-927-1148

District Directors

District 1, OPEN
District 2, Charles Leonard 972-619-9310
District 3, OPEN
District 4, Oliver Harter 214-663-8862
District 5, OPEN
District 6, OPEN
District 7, Joetta Harris 469-955-1513

Committees

Communications, OPEN
Crime & Safety, Lee Litton 972-762-0938
Environmental, Joshua Lamb..... 682-558-5528
Events, Jackie Reynolds 469-649-5799
Membership, Cecile LaBossiere 972-896-9413



**GPD Non-Emergency
972-485-4840**



Oakridge News

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



PSRST STD
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EDDM Retail

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.

Thank you for supporting your neighborhood!