



# OAKRIDGE NEWS

www.oakridgena.org

January 2025, V33, 1



## Board of Directors Update

Vickie Litton, President

Happy New Year from your ONA Board! We sincerely thank everyone who supports the Oakridge Neighborhood Association and our ongoing mission to maintain the beauty, safety, and stability of Oakridge. It is both a blessing and a privilege to serve our neighbors and friends. Your feedback is invaluable to us, and we greatly appreciate any suggestions or recommendations to help grow ONA membership.

**Membership is still open.  
Join ONA Here!!!**

[Click this link or scan  
QR Code](#)



Join Today!

**Check, Money Order, 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.**

## If you are new to the Neighborhood...

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





Happy

# NEW YEAR 2025

Wishing you all a year filled with love, laughter,  
and lots of joyful moments. Let's make 2025  
amazing together!

• **OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION**

## Daytimers Group Coffee Oakridge Resident

What a Christmas Celebration we had at Ann's home! Everyone was in the holiday spirit with the house beautifully decorated and our Daytimer attendees joining in with Christmas themed attire. Our food hostesses, Jessica, Ann and JoAnn were sure to give us a generous assortment of fruit, cookies and dips to keep us going back for more at the dining table.

Our guest, Mrs. Coy from Coys Kitchen gave us a wonderful demonstration of all the various items and decorative things you can do with Charcuterie! She made beautiful tiny roses and uniquely carved fruits and went through every step and really made it easy for us to understand how these techniques add a lot of beauty to a serving tray without being impossible for the average person to make! The Chef, her husband, also showed us how to successfully cut a pineapple and how to tell if it is ripe. It was also interesting to find out that charcuterie boards have expanded from the traditional meat and cheese to boards for all occasions and dietary types from desserts to vegan! Coys Kitchen also provides home delivery meal service that may be good for those of us that would like options other than fast food.

## Daytimers Group Coffee Continued

They have a website if anyone is interested in looking them up and a sample of their menu items was emailed to the group. We also had quite a few chuckles when we were challenged with Christmas Song Trivia Questions! There were 12 questions, and we teamed up to see who could answer the most questions correctly. I have to say we have some competitive women in this group! But along with our competitive nature and of course the bragging rights for winning (Team Ann/Ann), some of the questions invoked memories of Christmas past, present and future. It was so nice to hear the Christmas stories that many of you shared. Hope everyone makes more memories this holiday season.

I'm thankful for the camaraderie of this group and look forward to seeing everyone in January!

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 214-690-3440

### Oakridge Neighborhood wide Garage Sales



Contact Jackie Reynolds  
ONA Events Coordinator  
events@oakridgena.org

### 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/>.

If you have not received your 2024-2025 Flag, email Membership at oakridgemembership@gmail.com.





## Garland City Council, District 7 Update Councilman Dylan Hedrick

As I look back on 2024, I am so appreciative of what we were able to accomplish this past year as a city working through your City Council. The top of the list is the City's response to the straight-line winds which hit Garland with hurricane force winds in the early morning of May 28.

The debris from the storm created approximately 28 tons and more than 390,000 cubic yards of debris – enough to stack 18 football fields 10' high. This was six times the amount collected during the 2015 and 2019 tornadoes combined.

I am so proud of how the City's residents came to help their neighbor clean up after the storm, and how our Bulk and Brush sanitation crews worked tirelessly to clear the debris from our neighborhoods.

Garland recognized the crews during the December 10 Council Meeting as the 2024 Garland Neighborhood Award's Public Servant of the Year. I am so grateful for the men and women who work to daily keep our city clean and respond with such great dedication when they are needed most during times of disaster.

This year also marked the first time that the City Budget was larger than \$1 billion. As part of the budget, we voted to implement a Cost-of-Living Adjustment, or COLA, for our city employees.

This is a benefit to retiree pensions that was taken away during the Great Recession of 2008 to balance the city budget but was reinstated this year. We set up a fund that will allow the COLA to be self-sustaining into the future and allow the City to attract top talent as we were formerly the only Metroplex city not offering a COLA. In May and in November, we celebrated the fourth and fifth Build Garland Day which celebrated

groundbreakings and ribbon cuttings of projects from the 2019 Bond Program. In May, we opened the Police Department's Simunitions Training Facility and the newly renovated Hollabaugh Recreation Center. We also cut the ribbon on the splash pad and futsal court at Watson Park. In November, we broke ground on the new Surf sump; Swim facility and the expansion of Naaman Forest Road. We then observed the opening of the new Street Department Facility and Fire Station 6. Also, as part of the Bond Program, we unveiled the renovated exterior of the North Garland Branch Library and shopping center in September. The improvements bring new life to an aging shopping center in a public-private partnership that we hope to repeat in other shopping centers around the city.

This year, we completed our Street Conditions Survey which scanned every street and alley in the City. We will use that data along with our expanded street funding to raise our citywide Overall Condition Index, which is a grade of city streets. You can find the OCI of any street by visiting <https://www.garlandtx.gov/816/Street> and clicking on the "INTERACTIVE: Street OCI Map" button on the left side of the page.

We also made other government data including health scores and apartment (multi-family) score cards available in a GIS format and will soon add a searchable council member voting record historical database. Next year, I pledge to have even more public data available on the City's website.



## District 7 Update Continued

This year, we saw the start of two big items which will greatly impact Garland's future. The first was that the 2024 Bond Study Committee finished its work in December and recommended a new \$360 million bond program to the Council in December. This program, which doesn't require a tax increase, will concentrate on street and alley reconstruction, and economic development by encouraging redevelopment and site improvements. The Council will discuss the bond propositions in January and plans to put it to voters in May 2025. The second big item was the start of the Garland Forward Comprehensive Plan. The plan, scheduled to be adopted in 2026, will serve as a guide for land use, zoning decisions, and City development through 2050. More information on the plan can be found at [garlandforward.com](http://garlandforward.com). Next year, I will reach the end of my third two-year term in May, and I can no longer serve as your city councilman due to term limits. It has been an honor to represent District 7 residents for the past five-plus years. I hope to serve Garland's citizens in another capacity in the future, so please watch for upcoming announcements. Until then, please contact me at 469-560-6099 or at [council7@garlandtx.gov](mailto:council7@garlandtx.gov) if there is anything I can do for you.

### 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](mailto:s.youzva@gmail.com)  
972-816-5116



Chinese new year is January 29th, Followed by the Lantern Festival is February 12th.



Martin Luther King Day is January 20th

## City of Garland

UPCOMING  
EVENTS

Click the link/Scan QR Code  
[www.visitgarlandtx.org/p/events](http://www.visitgarlandtx.org/p/events)



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>

# November 2024 Crime Report

**Emergency: 911**

**Non-Emergencies: 972-485-4840**

**Graffiti Removal=City of Garland Code**

**Enforcement: 972- 485-6400**

- To help keep the neighborhood safe, report any concerns you think the neighborhood should be aware of to: [safety@oakridgena.org](mailto:safety@oakridgena.org) .
- 9-1-1 should be dialed for Police, Ambulance or Fire unit. A Police emergency is any situation involving a crime in progress, or an imminent threat to life, bodily injury, or major property damage or loss (e.g. fight or assault in progress, or a home or business burglary in progress).

### Oakridge Select Incident Report (Source:

<http://www.garlandpolice.com/396/Crime-Statistics-Maps>)

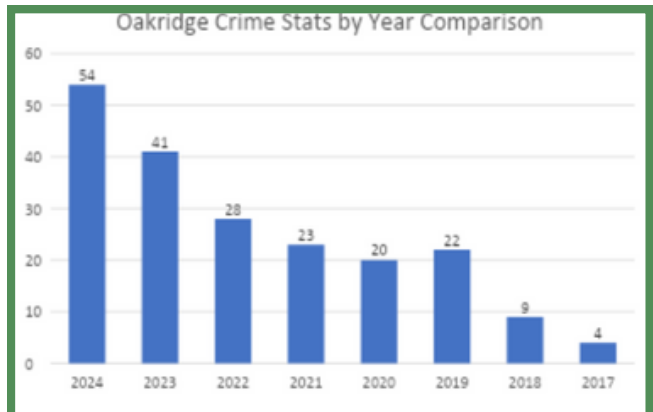
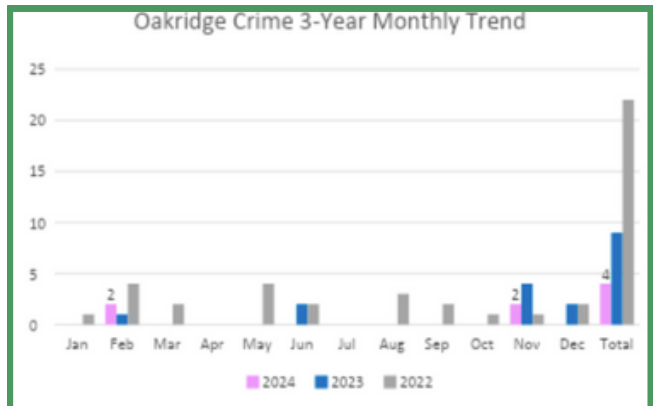
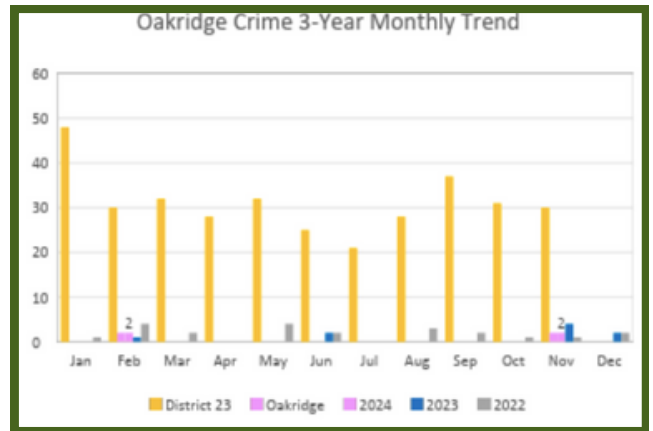
Incident	Date	Address
Burglary-HAB	11/18/2024 9:30 AM	23xx Diamond Oaks Dr.
ASSAULT-AGG-D/W	11/09/2024 2:00 AM	19xx Hearthside LN

**A constant reminder...** Please lock your car and remove valuables – especially your guns and keys. If you can, put your car in the garage. Almost all unauthorized use motor vehicle and theft from vehicles were unlocked with keys inside – don't make us an easy target!

**Continue to be watchful neighbors.** Addition of outdoor security lights, cameras, being outdoors walking etc., all help make our community less inviting to potential criminals. It also helps to get out and meet your neighbors.

**Report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number at 972-485-4840:**

- **Focus on behavior:** What was the person doing that made you suspicious.
- **Details matter:** Hair, clothing (head to toe), identifying marks. Race or gender alone is not enough.
- **Vehicle:** Make, Model, Color, Direction of travel, License Plate
- **Location & Time:** Address, date, time
- If you have security camera video, please sign up at [Garland Video Crime Watch Survey](#) or email Officer Murphy at [MurphyJ@garlandtx.gov](mailto:MurphyJ@garlandtx.gov).





## Membership Update

Cecille LaBossiere, Membership Director

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! We are currently under our needed members to meet this years fiscal budget. Its not too late, please join.

2023-2024 Membership as of November 30 <sup>th</sup>	Member Count
Renewals	237
First Time Supporters	10
Came Back after Hiatus	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>273</b>

### 2023-2024 MEMBERSHIP BY DISTRICT

District	ONA Members	Pending Renewed	Not Yet Supporting	Total # Households	% Supporting
1	51	9	125	185	27%
2	55	9	90	154	36%
3	14	8	119	141	10%
4	53	7	91	151	35%
5	30	8	152	190	16%
6	33	5	143	181	18%
7	37	9	118	164	23%
<b>Total</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>55</b>	<b>838</b>	<b>1166</b>	<b>23%</b>

### ONA MEMBERSHIP HISTORY

Month	2023	2022	2021	2020	2019	2018
Jan		1	1	1	1	0
Feb	2	0	2	1	0	2
Mar	8	0	5	1	4	5
Apr	36	92	96	10	25	5
May	94	94	125	124	134	162
Jun	71	35	57	125	80	44
Jul	38	54	47	51	64	21
Aug	11	7	11	12	13	41
Sep	8	7	8	7	9	45
Oct	9	0	5	17	1	21
Nov		2	2	0	3	15
Dec	1	1	1	1	0	0
<b>Total</b>	<b>278</b>	<b>293</b>	<b>360</b>	<b>350</b>	<b>334</b>	<b>361</b>

## Financial Report

Sarah Freeman, Treasurer

All 2023-2024 financial reports are available online at [www.oakridgena.org/financials-main](http://www.oakridgena.org/financials-main). Click the above link or find it on the "Resident Resources" page under "Financials". Contact us [attreasury@oakridgena.org](mailto:attreasury@oakridgena.org).

## Environmental

Joshua Lamb, Director

Common areas have been trimmed, mulched and seasonal flowers planted. Beautiful Christmas lights have been going up all around the neighborhood and look fantastic. If you have any ideas on how to make our entrances more festive please reach out to me. We are looking for ideas!

## Muscular Dystrophy Association

David Parrish, Oakridge resident



Dear Friends, 2024 makes 20 years and over \$60,000 raised for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. These funds provide support to families, like ours, and research to find cures and treatments. The job is not done, and we are asking you to dig deep and give, today.

<https://mda.donordrive.com/participant/75249>

If you wish, simply mail your check made payable to the Muscular Dystrophy Association to: David Parrish, 2526 Pepperidge Dr., Garland, TX 75044. # Make a Muscle. Make a Difference.

## Commercial Solicitation § 26.51

The city of Garland requires a Permit for *Commercial Solicitations of Homes*.

Permits can be obtained at the Garland Police Department's Records Unit located at 1891 Forest Lane, Garland, TX 75042.

For more information contact Code Compliance at 972-485-6400. Download the application here: [Solicitation Permit Application \(PDF\)](#)

# OAKRIDGE ADVERTISERS

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Donna Feher  
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A Berkshire Hathaway Affiliate

**Juliard Ishizuka**



**REALTOR®**  
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[juliardishizuka@ebby.com](mailto:juliardishizuka@ebby.com)

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

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*Local Asian Marketplace!  
Fresh Meat & Seafood!*

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Garland, TX 75042  
Tel: 972-272-1993  
Fax: 972-487-9092

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Arlington, TX 76010  
Tel: 817-459-1311  
Fax: 817-459-1317



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— GOLF CLUB —

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**j elliott**  
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+1 469 774 7114



## 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](mailto: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](http://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>

## 2025-2026 Board of Directors

### Officers

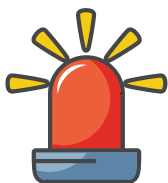
- President, Vickie Litton ..... 972-762-2805
- Vice President, Yvette Bonavita ..... 214-734-2186
- Secretary, OPEN
- Treasurer, Sarah Freeman ..... 214-927-1148

### District Directors

- District 1, OPEN
- District 2, Charles Leonard ..... 972-619-9310
- District 3, OPEN
- District4, Oliver Harter ..... 214-663-8862
- District 5, OPEN
- District 6, OPEN
- District 7, Joetta Harris ..... 469-955-1513

### Committees

- Communications, Star Touns .....469-371-3222
- 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**



# Supporting your neighborhood is like investing in your home.

## What the Oakridge Neighborhood Association does

- Sources and hires qualified landscape contractors to mow, water, trim, remove trash from, and maintain your entrances and perimeter.
- Publishes a monthly newsletter.
- Maintains our neighborhood website.
- Plans, organizes, and funds social activities.
- Partners with our Neighborhood Police Officer and Citizens on Patrol to provide crime prevention and safety information.
- Organizes and funds neighborhood activities for the annual National Night Out.
- Welcomes new residents and delivers a "Welcome Bag" containing community information.
- Plans, organizes, and funds three General Membership meetings.
- Coordinates holiday donations from Oakridge residents to Garland Police Department and the Fire Stations who serve our neighborhood.
- Decorates entrances during Christmas and on flag days.
- Attends quarterly meetings and civic events hosted by the City of Garland.
- And more...

A neighborhood that is attractive, well-maintained, safe, and vibrant can raise the pride of its residents and increase the value of the homes in it. The goal of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association is to ensure Oakridge is one of those exemplary neighborhoods.

The ONA is NOT a mandatory HOA - it relies on the **voluntary** support of Oakridge residents to accomplish its mission.

### Nothing happens without your support!

## ONA Support Levels

Please consider your level of support. Giving more than the Good Neighbor Level could mean improvements to our entrances, new landscaping designs, more events, a better newsletter, and more. Let us know your vision for Oakridge!

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



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



# Oakridge News

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



PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S.POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
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](mailto: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](http://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!