www.oakridgena.org April 2025, V34, 3

A DETAIL

Board of Directors Update

Vickie Litton, President

ni hao • anyoung haseyo • ahlan bekum • sà wàtdii • shalon • xin chào • namaste • konnichima • tena yisti

April brings the primrose sweet,
Scatters daisies at our feet
—Sara Coleridge, English Poet (1802–1852)

This poem perfectly captures April for me.

Everything is turning so green and looks so lovely. Our atrium seems to be the top spot for birds to build their nests, lay their eggs, and welcome new hatchlings. Each year, Mourning Doves and Cardinals scope out the location, with the Mourning Doves usually winning the battle for prime nesting space. However, this year the Cardinals have claimed victory! The male Cardinal is stunning, with his vivid red feathers, and the female, no slouch herself, even has hints of purple in her tail. They swoop in and out like dive bombers, gathering materials to build their nest. Lee and I especially love watching the parents teach their fledglings how to fly. It is truly a blessing to witness the young feathered family take flight and venture out on their

Our nominating committee, approved at the February General Meeting, has made great progress in finding and recruiting candidates for the various open positions for the 2025–2026 service year. These candidates will be presented at the General Membership Meeting on May 22, 2025, for review and approval by the ONA members. Attendees of the February meeting shared how exciting it was to meet in person compared to Zoom meetings.

We were thrilled to have 32 people attend the February 2025 General Meeting—including one member who has lived in Oakridge for about 24 years and attended his FIRST ONA membership meeting! We look forward to breaking that record at the May 22, 2025, in-person General Membership Meeting, which will be held at the North Garland Library from 6:00 to 7:45 PM.

As always, thank you for your support. We look forward to seeing everyone at the upcoming May events.



Membership Update

Cecile LaBossier, Membership Coordinator

Spring Has Arrived, and So Has Our ONA Funding Drive!

The ONA is excited to launch our Membership Drive this month! As a reminder, our sole source of revenue is you—we rely entirely on supporter membership donations. To raise awareness, we will be placing signs at the neighborhood entries to reach all Oakridge residents during our Membership Drive. These signs will remain in place from April 1st through June 30th.

We have big plans for this year! Your contributions will help fund the matching portion required for the City of Garland Vitality Grant, which will support landscape, irrigation, and lighting improvements at the entries.

We need every Oakridge resident to pitch in! Our organization is a 100% volunteer-run, non-profit neighborhood association. Our primary purpose is to maintain the neighborhood entries and common areas while fostering community through social gatherings. We are committed to using every dollar wisely. Please consider supporting us today. As a resident of Oakridge, your help is crucial to funding maintenance, irrigation, and lighting. Simply click the link below to donate:

Oakridge Membership Form

Not interested in becoming a member? That's okay—you can donate anonymously by skipping the membership form and clicking the "Donate" button.

If you have any questions about the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, feel free to reach out to us at oakridgemembership@gmail.com.

Nominating Committee Update Joan Nichols

We are still looking for volunteers to become district directors. This is a wonderful way to meet your neighbors and be part of a great neighborhood association.

Click https://www.oakridgena.org/seven-districts-of-oakridge/ to find your district. Want to know what being a district director entails? A description will be shared soon, but feel free to reach out to Joan Nichols or anyone on the nominating committee if you or someone you know is interested.

Here's the scoop: Districts 1, 3, 5, and 7 (odd year) are up for election, and District 6 is currently vacant.

Don't miss this chance to make a difference in our community!

Stay tuned for more details, and let's keep Oakridge thriving together.

Membership is still open. Join ONA Here!!!

Click this link or scan QR Code



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 <u>ONA</u> and help us maintain and beautify Oakridge entrances!











Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025

5th Sunday of Lent

April 06, 2025

Environmental

Joshua Lamb, Director



What beautiful days we've been having! Goodbee will be out soon, refreshing the flowers and colors at our entrances, making it feel even more like spring with summer just around the corner.

With all this new growth comes the need to water the greenery around the neighborhood. Please keep an eye out for any broken irrigation spots or areas where water may be running unnecessarily. Notify me right away to help us conserve water and save money.

We're also excited to be working with Katie, our new Social Media Rep, to spread the word about our Neighborhood Vitality Grant and the opportunities it brings. While the grant was approved at the last City Council meeting, it is currently under review at the City Attorney's Office before being distributed for signing. I'll keep you updated as we make progress!

A big thank you to all our wonderful residents who pick up trash during their daily walks and take extra steps to keep our Oakridge area looking clean and beautiful. Your efforts are truly appreciated!

Membership Flags

To show our appreciation, your ONA Membership Flag will be delivered by your district director or a volunteer.



Find your District Director at ttps://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

Spring is here, and that means more opportunities to enjoy the wonderful weather outdoors. I hope you'll join us for the sixth Build Garland Day on April 19. This event allows the City Council to visit various locations and recognize the incredible progress we've made in improving our city's infrastructure and public facilities as part of the 2019 Bond Program. This year's celebration will feature:

I'm especially excited about District 7's Holford Recreation Center finally opening! It will now be the largest recreation center in the city. This \$41.6 million project includes a completely rebuilt recreation center with expanded parking, a gymnasium, fitness room, multipurpose rooms, and a kitchen. There's even an indoor walking track overlooking the basketball courts! The new Aquatic Facility features a lazy river, a leisure pool with spray features, an aquatic play structure, a children's pool, shade structures, and splash pads.

We'll also break ground on two fire stations: the new Downtown Fire Station #1, located just east of Downtown, and Station 7, which will be at 805 Pleasant Valley Road.

Lastly, we'll unveil the city's newest park—Speegle Green. The city acquired the closed Las Brisas Residence Club at 1002 Marion Drive in 2021, demolished the abandoned structures (formerly Speegle Hospital), and, with the help of the Office of Neighborhood Vitality, transformed the entire neighborhood. This \$2.2 million project includes a pedestrian bridge, parking, trails, a playground, lighting, and creek improvements.

This entire event highlights the over \$423.7 million we've invested in Garland's future. I encourage everyone to attend and see how these projects are enhancing our community.

In addition, I invite all residents to join me for a Town Hall Meeting on April 17 at 6:00 PM at the North Garland Branch Library. This is a great opportunity to discuss the future bond program on the May 3 ballot, upcoming city initiatives, and any concerns or questions you may have. I look forward to connecting with you and hearing your thoughts on the future of our city.

I have truly enjoyed serving the residents of District 7 for the past six years. If there is anything I can do for you, please don't hesitate to reach out at **469-560-6099** or **council7@garlandtx.gov.**



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





Daytimers Group CoffeeOakridge Resident



Our monthly coffee was hosted by Chris Beyers with about 30 attendees. Many arrived in festive St. Patrick's Day attire! The table arrangement was gorgeous, and food hostesses Pam, Jane, Shirley, and Chris outdid themselves with breakfast casserole, fresh fruit, stuffed apricots, veggies and dip, and assorted cakes—such amazing creativity!

Sharon opened the meeting by welcoming our guests, Rachel and Cecilia from the Garland Senior Center/Parks and Recreation Department. They shared that although the Senior Center is closed for renovations, their programs continue at Gale Fields Recreation Center, just 6 miles from Oakridge. They provided great information on free classes, food programs, medical transportation, and travel trips, which was all neatly summarized in an information folder. They even held a raffle with prizes won by Emma, Gloria, and Sharon: a Bath and Body Works Travel Kit, a scented candle, and a wine tasting! Sharon and her guest also shared experiences from their trips through the Senior Center, including plans for the sold-out Mackinac Island trip in June and past adventures to Natchez, New Orleans, and Niagara Falls. Rachel and Cecilia closed their presentation with a chocolate box for everyone—such a sweet touch!

Gloria then shared her experience on the "Tea Around Town" High Tea/Bus Tour through Downtown Dallas, which began at the Red Brick Courthouse. The tour featured a comfortable bus, Valentine's Day decorations, a singing guide, and a delightful tea selection. It's inspiring to hear how our group explores so many fun and adventurous activities.

Sharon followed up with a history of St. Patrick, focusing on his use of the shamrock to illustrate the Holy Trinity and his role in bringing Christianity to Ireland.

Daytimers Group Coffee Continued

We also celebrated two Daytimers, Mariam and Liem, who recently passed the U.S. Citizenship Test to become U.S. citizens. What an incredible achievement! For those curious, there's a practice test on uscis.gov—how many of us would be brave enough to give it a try? Congratulations to Mariam and Liem!

Until next time, I wish you all a wonderful month and am grateful for the friendships we share. Don't forget our other activities, like book clubs, game days, and cards. Daytimers is open to all female Oakridge residents and meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 10:00 AM. After visiting, we invite you to join us. Annual dues of \$20 support speakers, community projects, and the annual luncheon. For questions about joining or the next coffee's location, contact Sharon Eppler at 214-690-3340.



ONA members can email their special announcements, such as anniversaries and birthdays, to communications@oakridgena.org.

Pickle Ball at Duck Creek Scott Youzva Resident



Spring is in the Air—and Pickleball is Calling!

The season of sunshine and outdoor fun is nearly here, and we're thrilled to share that Pickleball will now be available at Duck Creek! Whether you're just starting out or looking to sharpen your skills, Pickleball lessons for beginners and intermediates have kicked off off at the Hollanbaugh Recreation Center in Garland.

- **Here's the Scoop:** Got questions? Feel free to reach out at 972-816-5116 (text preferred).
- Stay Connected: I'll also announce organized events or Pickleball sessions through the Playtime Scheduler app—a free tool to keep you updated on upcoming matches or help you plan your own game time.

Let's make this spring the most active one yet. See you at the courts!

Financial Report Sarah Freeman, Treasurer



All 2024-2025 financial reports are accessible online at www.oakridgena.org/financials-main. You can click the link above or locate it on the "Resident Resources" page under "Financials." For any inquiries, please contact us at treasury@oakridgena.org.

	2024-2025 ONA Act	tual	vs Budg	et	as of 3/3	0/20	025					Ac	tual Spent		sget Amt naining)
	Revenue	Me	mbership	8	autification	Advi	ortising	Interest		Tot	tel				
	2024-2025 Budget	\$	17,692.92	\$	7,885.68	\$		\$		\$	25,578.60				
Category 1	2024-2025 Actual	\$	15,350.00	\$	10.327.50	\$	300.00	\$		\$	25.977.50				
	\$ Difference	\$	(2.342.92)	\$	2,441.82	\$	300.00	\$		\$	398.90				
	Member Difference		-39												
	Mandatory Operating Expenses					Moni Bud	get	Months Remaini	ng		maining dget				
	Newsletter (Sep. Jan. May)					\$	445.00			5	1,335.00	\$	1,255.20	5	79.
	Bulk PostageMailing (Sep, Jan, May)					\$	380.00		- 1	1 5	1,140.00		686.68	\$	453.
	Postage & Printing: Newsletter (25 copies/month)					\$	27.40		- 0	5	246.60	\$		\$	245
	Software License					\$	160.00			\$	160.00			1	160
	Goodbee Lawn Care					\$	680.36		12	8	8,164.32	\$	6,943.60	\$	1,220
Category 2	Goodbee Lawn Care Beautification					\$	657.14		12	. 5	7,885.68	\$	6,571.40	\$	1,314.
	Storage					5	121.00		12	5	1,452.00	5	1,260.00	5	192
	Avg Utilities per month estimated					\$	410.00			5	4,920.00	5	5,104.69	5	(184)
	Annual Domain Name Registration (Due April 2025)					\$	25.00		1	\$	25.00				
	3-Year Website (Due May 2027)					\$	00			5		\$		5	
	Annual PO Box Fee (Due June 2024)					\$	250.00			\$	250.00		256.00		(6.0
					Tot	ii Ope	rating Expo	nses Ren	naining	5	25,578.60	5	22,077.57	5	3,476
	Money Market Balance	\$	18,004.68												
	Events Budgeted	\$	1,000.00												
	Events Spent	\$	146.32									\$	145.32		
	Events Balance	\$	853.68												
Category 3	General Maintenance Budgeted	5	1,500.00												
	General Maintenance Spent	5	1,345.00									5	1,345.00		
	General Maintenance Balance	\$	155.00												
	Checking Account Balances	\$	9,061.41												
	Total Operating Expenses Remaining	\$	(3,476.03)												
	Special Events Money Remaining	\$	(853.68)												
	General Maintenance Money Remaining	\$	(155.00)												
	Minimum Checking Account Balance to avoid fees	\$	(2,000.00)												
	Operating Funds Remaining (Deficit)	\$	2,576.70												

Oakridge ONA SPRING FLING

JOIN US FOR OUR ANNUAL SPRING FLING PICNIC, GRACIOUSLY SPONSORED AND PAID FOR BY THE OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MAY 4TH FROM 3-5 PM. LOCATION TO BE DETERMINED.

THIS EVENT IS FREE FOR EVERYONE, WHETHER YOU'RE AN ONA MEMBER OR NOT. ENJOY DELICIOUS FOOD AND REFRESHING DRINKS ON US!

WE'LL ALSO HAVE SPECIAL VISITS FROM THE GARLAND POLICE, GARLAND FIRE DEPARTMENT, AND THE GARLAND ANIMAL SHELTER (COMPLETE WITH ADORABLE DOGS). THE LOCATION WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER AS WE ARE WORKING WITH THE CITY TO BE ABLE TO HOLD THE EVENT ON ONE OF OUR OAKRIDGE STREETS.



WE'RE THRILLED TO ANNOUNCE THAT KATIE FLEMING HAS
JOINED US AS OUR NEW SOCIAL MEDIA COORDINATOR!
SHE'LL BE LEADING THE CHARGE IN ESTABLISHING OUR
OAKRIDGE ONA'S PRESENCE ON FACEBOOK AND
INSTAGRAM, BRINGING OUR COMMUNITY CLOSER
TOGETHER ONLINE.

OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PAGES ARE COMING SOON, AND WE CAN'T WAIT TO SHARE UPDATES, EVENTS, AND IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS WITH YOU!

ONCE EVERYTHING IS FINALIZED, WE'LL PROVIDE CONTACT INFORMATION FOR SUBMITTING POSTS—IT'S GOING TO BE A FANTASTIC WAY TO STAY ENGAGED WITH OAKRIDGE HAPPENINGS!

STAY TUNED FOR MORE DETAILS, AND LET'S CELEBRATE
THIS EXCITING STEP FORWARD FOR OUR NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION.

February 2025 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, please report any concerns the community should be aware of to safety@oakridgena.org.
- Dial 9-1-1 for Police, Ambulance, or Fire services. A police emergency includes any situation involving a crime in progress, an imminent threat to life, bodily injury, or significant property damage or loss (e.g., an ongoing fight or assault, or a burglary in progress at a home or business).

Oakridge Select Incident Report <u>(Source:</u> <u>http://www.garlandpolice.com/396/Crime-Statistics-Maps)</u>

Incident	Date Reported- Incident Timing	Address
THEFT-ALL OTHER-L/T \$100	02/20/25; 12 am	30XX Oak Springs DR

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 nonemergency 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.

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)





The ONA Proudly supports the Garland Police Department Foundation's Support for "First Responders" dealing with Cancer. Click link below for donations or more information

https://garlandpolicefoundation.org

OAKRIDGE ADVERTISERS

Business Owners and Service Providers, your business card here and our web site could reach over 1,100 households each month for just \$300 per year!

Easy Payments Terms for every budget:

Prorated per fiscal year 1-2-4 Payment Options.

Email communications@oakridgena.org to place your ad today!









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



J Elliott Estate Sales manages the transition process from start to finish! We sort, clean, stage and tag all items and leave you with an empty home.

Contact us today to get started!

jc@jelliottestatesales.com



214-771-8444 gianni@goodbeelawns.com www.goodbeelawns.com LAWN MOWING
SOD INSTALLATION
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SPRINKLER REPAIR
SPRINKER INSTALLATION

TDA LICENSE 928026

IRRIGATION LICENSE 29276

Gianni Mortola







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

2025-2026 Board of Directors

Officers
President, Vickie Litton 972-762-2805
Vice President, Yvette Bonavita 214-734-2186
Secretary, OPEN
Treasurer, Sarah Freeman
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 Toups 469-371-3222
Crimo & Safaty Loo Litton 072 762 0020

District 7, 30ctta 11ai113 403 303 1313
Committees
Communications, Star Toups 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
Nominating Committee, Joan Nichols 214-543-2546
Nominating Committee, Jillian Henderson 903-312-2125
Nominating Committee, David Parrish 469-733-6089



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 Lev		
\$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

Perimeter Maintenance

Crime Prevention & Safety

Seasonal Plantings

Monthly Newsletter

ONA Website

PRSRT STD **ECRWSS** U.S.POSTAGE PAID **EDDM Retail**

Please print/fill out completely	First Time Supporter Renewal					
Your information will be used for ONA communication purposes ONLY and will NEVER be given to anyon						
Street Address		Owner Tenant				
Home Phone	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		Total Amount Enclosed				
The ONA is not a mandatory HOA. It relies on volunteers and donations.		\$				
Support Levels	Payment Method:					
\$60+ Good Neighbor Level \$100+ Crepe Myrtle Level \$250+ Maple Level \$500+ Oak Level	# Online Payment - PayPal link is available on the ONA website (www.oakridgena.org/join-us)					
What the ONA does						

yard to indicate your support.

Mail check or money order (no cash)

An ONA flag will be placed in your front

Oakridge Neighborhood Association

and completed form to:

Garland, TX 75045-0145

PO Box 450145

Thank you for supporting your neighborhood!

Events & Social Activities

Holiday Decorations

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

General Member Meetings

Donations to Fire/Police Stations

New Resident Welcome Bags