



Oakridge News

Vol. 3, No. 5

A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

October, 1994



Happy Halloween

HELPFUL INFORMATION FOR HALLOWEEN NIGHT:

Trick-or-Treating:

1. A responsible adult or teen should accompany each group.
2. Try to limit the group size to four or five.
3. Trick-or-treating should be for small children only, if the child is too old to be accompanied, then the child is too old to go trick-or-treating.
4. Walk! Don't run while going from house to house.
5. Stay in your own neighborhood and only go to houses with porch lights on.
6. Never enter a stranger's house, even if you are invited.

Parents:

1. Don't invite trick-or-treaters into your home.
2. Give only wrapped commercial treats.
3. Know which friends your children will be with and also if there is a responsible person with the group.
4. Leave porch lights on for trick-or-treaters.

Costumes:

1. Keep costumes simple. Long and fancy ones could cause children to trip and could also be a fire hazard.
2. Costumes should be white or light colored material to be easily seen at night. Reflector patches can be added for extra protection.
3. Regular street shoes should be worn, as opposed to fancy high heels, clown or pirate shoes.
4. Props, such as guns or swords, should be made of styrofoam or cardboard.
5. Carry a flashlight in each group.

Treats:

1. Never eat anything until after you are home and have examined all the treats.
2. Throw away anything that is not commercially wrapped and check for signs of tampering
3. Notify police if any harmful items are found.

Parties:

1. Older children should attend parties instead of going trick-or-treating.
2. Younger children may enjoy attending organized parties with their playmates.

**OAKRIDGE
NEIGHBORHOOD
ASSOCIATION**
P.O. Box 450145 Garland, TX
75045-0145
Phone: 220-2286

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V.President Jack Rash
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Crime Prevention and Safety

Luanne Payne, Chairperson

CRIME STATISTICS FOR SEPTEMBER:

2 - Burglary of Habitation	Oak Point Diamond Oaks
4 - Burglary of Vehicle	Creighton Meadowridge Laurel Oaks Stoneridge
1 - Unauthorized Use of Vehicle	Crestedge
2 - Theft \$20 - \$200	Lone Oak Rocky Trail
1 - Theft Under \$20	Willow Ridge
4 - Criminal Mischief	Stoneridge Rocky Trail Oak Point Diamond Oaks
1 - Class C Misdemeanor	Creighton

As you can see, the offenses for the month of September increased considerably from the August report. This month there were a total of 15 offenses which is up 8 offenses from the previous month. This is very disappointing to me as I felt we were getting the crime under control here in Oakridge.

Halloween is coming up and some of us don't like to answer the door, especially if you live alone. That is fine. I have found that most kids will not go to houses with the porch lights off, so if you feel comfortable turning the porch light off, maybe you will be by-passed.

We only had a handful of people attend the "free" Personal Defense Tactics class that was put on by the Garland Police Department. This was a very simple but informative class and I think we all left feeling a little more self-confident about protecting ourselves in a stressful situation.

★★★



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Coordinators and Block Captains

- The Garland Police Department would like to recognize all Coordinators and Block Captains for our efforts in promoting Neighborhood Crime Watch.
- To show their gratitude they would like you attend a reception to be held on Thursday, November 17, at 7:00 pm to be held at the Performing Arts Center.
- This invitation is extended to the Mayor and the City Council so they may see who is involved in the Crime Watch Program. If you plan to attend please call me, Luanne Payne at 530-9323 to make your reservation.

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GANGS & OUR KIDS

*Gang activity in Garland is increasing.
Where do the kids in these gangs come from?*

These kids are our kids.

They come from our neighborhoods, they come from our schools. Gangs don't just happen. A combination of circumstances have to be present.

Kids that belong to gangs come from every racial and economic background.

They are attracted to gangs for a variety of reasons:

- * They have needs that are not being met.
- * Lack of positive male role model in the family. Older gang members become father figures.
- * Gangs become families; support groups that reinforce false ideas of what "masculine" and "strong" mean. Masculine comes to mean violent and controlling.
- * Their need for acceptance and approval.
- * Their need for attention.
- * Their need for identity.
- * Their need to have power and respect.

So what do we do to prevent our kids from getting involved in gangs?

- * Observe your kids.
- * Know who they're with.
- * Know what they're doing.
- * Take note of unusual behavior.

Identification with a gang does not happen overnight. Pre-gang behavior usually begins early, sometimes as early as elementary school. While there is no sure way to predict which kids are likely to join a gang, the following is a list of some indications to watch for:

- * Do your kids change friends frequently? Who are these friends?
- * What do your kids do in their free time and who are they with?
- * Change in attitude- lack of interest in family activities and values.
- * Have they suddenly acquired a hostile attitude, or become a bully?
- * Have they become more solitary, spending more time alone when at home?
- * Trouble at home, don't get along with family members- impatient and intolerant.
- * Doing badly in school.
- * Getting into trouble at school, skipping school.
- * Getting into trouble with the police.
- * Wearing the same colors everyday.
- * Wearing bandannas on their heads, stuffed in pockets, or attached to clothes.
- * Tattoos.
- * Drawing strange logos or insignias on their bodies, personal property (notebooks clothes, bedroom walls, etc.).
- * What does your kid think about gangs?
- * Are they using strange new words?
- * Does your kid have a new nickname?
- * Do you live in a neighborhood where there is gang activity?

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Changing with the Seasons

From Susan Sanchez, Decorating Den

If you get bored with your decor as quickly as the seasons change, try some fast-fix seasonal decorating ideas. From throw pillows to area rugs, window treatments to accessories, there are countless ways to give your home a seasonal uplift that won't cost a bundle.

As a backdrop, it helps if the furniture, walls, and floor are a neutral color. Then you can add splashes of color to complement the seasons, holidays, or whatever suits your fancy. For quick-change window treatments, try throw swags or treatments that incorporate velcro in the design. One of our Canadian decorators used deep teal and burgundy for a wintery feel, cinnamon and butterscotch for autumn, peony pink with a dash of sky blue for spring, and for summer, geranium red and green. If you go the extra mile to have quick-change window treatments custom-made for each season, you will find seasonal decorating that much easier, year in and year out.

Accessorizing is a key element to any seasonal room. Think about the holidays and all the accessories that come out of the attic! If you give it a little thought, you could accessorize for every season of the year. In the fall, warm up a room with cornucopia and baskets filled with colorful ears of Indian corn, leaves, gourds that suggest a bountiful harvest. Toss warm, crocheted afghans over the ends of sofas in the wintertime, and area rugs to add a cozy dimension. For springtime fill a room with fresh cut flowers in crystal vases or baskets. Summer is the perfect season for lush hanging plants and a pretty iced tea set displayed on a table skirted with fresh linen. Take up the area rugs to create a cooler, leaner look. Another instant lift for a room can be found with pillows. Cover toss pillows with velcro closures that can be changed every season to provide a quick, inexpensive new look.

There are so many little touches that can change a summer room to fall, or a wintery room to spring. These are just a few ideas to get you started in your seasonal decorating. Don't be afraid to have a little fun and put your own family's personality into it.



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References

- Carpentry
- Sheetrock Repair
- Acoustical Ceilings
- Electrical
- Plumbing
- Fence Repair
- Replace Shower Pans
- Marble Ceramic Tile-Walls & Floors
- Install Dead Bolts
- Hang New Doors
- Storm Windows & Doors
- Ceiling Fans
- Light Fixtures, etc.
- Carpet & Sheet Vinyl
- Pet Doors and More !

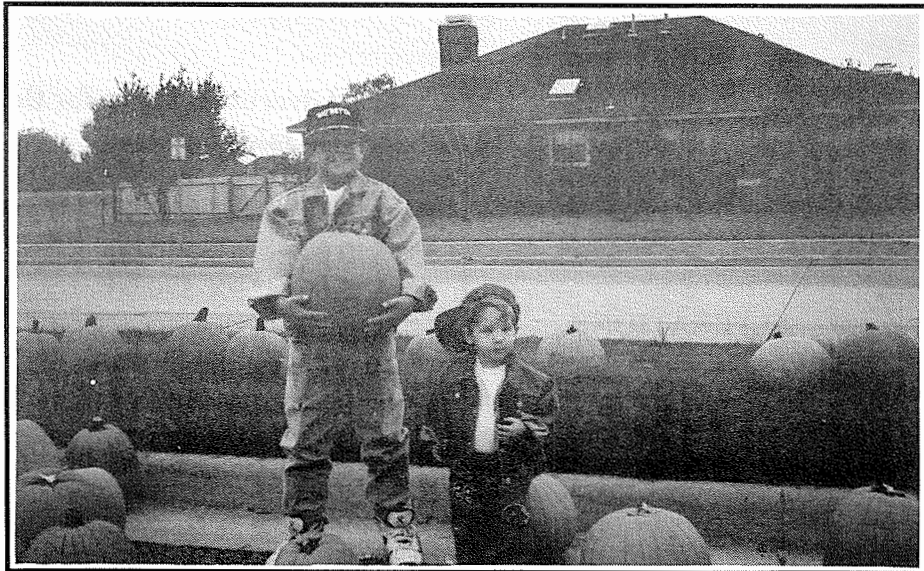
Calling all Moms

The Oakridge Family Co-Op would like to invite and welcome all neighborhood moms to our last monthly meeting of 1994. We will meet on Tuesday, November 8th at 7:30 p. m. at the home of Pam Trutna, 2806 Oak Point. If you need directions, please give Pam a call at 414 -5633. At this meeting, we will have a 30 minute Discovery Toys demonstration (proceeds will go towards the co-op) and will be followed by the final planning of our children and adult Christmas parties.

The Oakridge Family Co-op consists of moms with children of all ages, from infants to grown kids. We meet monthly to socialize, plan family events, receive presentations on things of interest to all of us, share mothering tips, but best of all, to make new friends! Our annual dues are \$10 (through August, 1995) which goes towards expenses associated with family events we plan, such as Easter egg hunts, Fourth of July parades, Pool parties, Halloween parties and Christmas parties. With the exception of the annual Fourth of July Parade, all of these activities are exclusively for Oakridge Family Co-Op members and their families.

Please consider joining the Oakridge Family Co-Op and making new friends! If you are unable to attend the November 8 meeting, but would like more information about the Oakridge Family Co-Op, please call Sharron Smith at 530 -3873.

★ ★ ★



**Two of our ONA Pumpkin Patch Shoppers
Cody and Boone Brinner**

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PUMPKIN & BAKE SALE

The 2nd Annual ONA Pumpkin and Bake Sale was a great success. The rain held off and the sale went on. The Garland Fire Department arrived and entertained young and old with the big ladder truck. The ambulance had to leave on an emergency call as well as the police officer who stopped by.

The pumpkins were some of the nicest we've had and the bake goods all looked delicious. A special thank you goes out to all the people who sent the baked goods over and especially to those who stayed and worked. Without your help, we couldn't have done it. Thanks to the Oakridge Country Club for allowing us to use the parking lot and supplying us with the tables.

We all enjoyed meeting new neighbors and visiting with the old ones. The main objective of this event is to get our neighborhood together and raise funds to help the ONA grow. Again, thanks to all who made this possible.

The "GREAT PHOTOGRAPHER" took pictures of children at the Pumpkin Sale and forgot to make a record of the names. If your child's picture was taken and you would like a copy, call Jo Ann at 495-2726.

DID YOU KNOW !!!

Junked Vehicle

A junked vehicle is a vehicle that is inoperative and does not have lawfully affixed thereto either an unexpired license plate or plates and or a valid motor vehicle safety inspection certificate a vehicle that is also wrecked, dismantled, partially dismantled, or discarded. A vehicle that remains inoperative for a continuous period of more than 45 days. A certified notice is sent to the owner of the vehicle and/or the owner of the property. If violation of this nature are noted in your area, please call Code Enforcement to discuss possible corrective procedures. (205-3374)

Clean Neighborhood System

The CNS is a citizen-run program developed and implemented under the direction of the Housing & Neighborhood Services Department in conjunction with "Keep Garland Beautiful." Its purpose is to promote the philosophy of clean neighborhoods, communities, neighborliness, and pride through education of individuals as to their property maintenance responsibilities and by encouraging a working relationship throughout the community.

★★★

Classified Ads

CAKE ESCAPE

Break away from humdrum desserts with custom decorated cakes. Candy bouquets, too!!

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ALTERATIONS

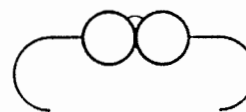
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6X-\$25.00 9X-\$20.00

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Classified Ads

20 word increments, not including contact phone number.

Payment (Pre-publication)

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Non Members \$10.00

SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

October 6, 1994, 7:00 p. m.
Oakridge Country Club

Attendees:

Jay Miles	JoAnn Schmerheim
Pam Harbach	Ron Horan
Barbara Muller	Luanne Payne
Peggy Richey	Lila LaGrassa
Cindie Johnson	Jack Rash
Ron Harbach	Donna Dayhoff
Bonnie Fisk	

REPORTS:

MEMBERSHIP JoAnn Schmerheim, 332 members as of 10-6-94. However, 39 previous members have not renewed; a loss of \$975 in income for ONA.

Secretary Donna Dayhoff, Minutes of previous meeting were distributed. The minutes were approved as read.

TREASURER -Cindie Johnson, a printed report was given to the president. Various payables were discussed, as well as future expenditures. Discussion was held on why residents are reluctant to help Oakridge by spending a little over \$2.00 Per month. There was no answer.

OAKRIDGE COUNTRY CLUB

LIAISON -Peggy Richey's 3 year term on the Board of Oakridge Country Club will end this year. Oakridge will fill this position with an ONA member. The person must be a member of the Oakridge Country Club. Peggy will give names to the club's nominating committee for consideration. This is a welcome gesture on the part of Oakridge Country Club and will prove beneficial to the ONA.

PUMPKIN & BAKE SALE -Luanne Payne, Everything is ready. Needs canopy rental for baked food. Board approved expenditure for same. Proceeds will cover this expense.

BULB SALE -Donna Dayhoff, Not enough orders as yet. Must have \$500.

POINSETTIA SALE -Donna Dayhoff, Dead line for order is November 15. Delivery will be December 3rd.

THESE SALES ARE FOR THE BENEFIT OF ONA. ALL PROCEEDS ARE USED FOR THE BEAUTIFICATION OF OAKRIDGE,

BYLAWS- Bonnie Fisk, No report at this time.

CHRISTMAS DECORATIONS- Ron Horan. Several members of the board offered to help decorate Oakridge. A discussion was held on decorating mailboxes. Peggy Richey will follow up on this idea.

ENVIRONMENTAL -Ron & Pam Harbach

Lila & Harry LaGrassa spent many hours cleaning up a portion of Buckingham. Bid for one time cleanup of Shiloh & Buckingham is \$150. Board approved this expense. It will be done in November. The trees on Over-view must have dirt around base to keep water from puddling. The \$150 expense was approved by board. These moines can be taken from the proceeds of above mentioned sales. Costs for flowers (\$700 per yr.) and sprinkler maintenance by contract (last bid \$48 per mo. which includes repairs) were discussed with the hope that we would have enough members to increase our income to cover these items. The ditch along the apartments again needs maintenance. Ron or Pam will contact City of Garland to direct them to take care of this.

CRIME COMMITTEE -Luanne Payne, Proposed crime alert signs to alert residents to call hot line for information on crimes in the neighborhood that require additional caution on the part of the residents. Red flags were discussed as a possible alternative. Comparative costs will be discussed at next meeting. The possibility of lowering the speed limit to 25 MI. per hr to curb speeding in Oakridge was discussed. Luanne will look into this with proper city authorities.

FINANCIAL- Jay Miles next meeting will have proposed 5 year budget. Investing money in T-Bills, CD's may be a possibility if permitted by law for associations.

Next board meeting is scheduled for January 5th at 7:00 p. m. at the Oakridge Country Club. General membership meeting is scheduled for January 26th. Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p. m.

**30
MPH**

**Reminder...
Speed Limit on
residential streets
is 30 m.p.h. and 10
m.p.h. in alleys.
We have some resi-
dents that are out
early in the morning
waiting for their
school bus.**

