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# ◊ Oakridge News ◊

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Vol. 5, No. 8 A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

February, 1997

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

*Luanne Payne*

The ONA had a general membership meeting in January with a fair turn out. The guest speaker was Jerry Halpin from the GISD. This meeting was very informative about the process of how the choice of school forms work. We were also very proud of the fact that GISD is one of the highest ranking districts in the state of Texas, as well as the metroplex.

Elections for officers and district directors are nearing and we would love to hear from you. We really need to have some new faces with new ideas on the continuing growth of the ONA. Some of us have been involved for the past five years in helping to make this association prosper and to bring Oakridge together as a whole neighborhood. There are many benefits, as all the members are aware of. We just need you to help spread the word and encourage your neighbors on your street to join. So please think about getting involved. The more participation we have the smoother the association runs. One example that occurred just this month, was a wreck that happened on Shiloh which ended up in the brick wall. I am sure most of you have seen the damage. Since we do have a neighborhood association, the police and fire department contacted me to see if I could help in identifying the resident who lives directly behind the damaged section of the wall. By using the membership list, I was able to give the police the name of the resident, so they could complete their report. In turn, the police provided me with all the necessary information the resident would need to file a claim with the insurance company advising it of the person who was responsible for the wreck. I then contacted the resident, who is a **MEMBER** of the ONA, and gave them all the information. This will help to expedite the repair of the brick wall rather than being an eyesore for many months. The resident and **MEMBER** was very appreciative for all the help provided to them. This one example to me, and there are many other examples, is what being a neighborhood association is all about

*Neighbors Helping Neighbors!*

### OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 450145  
Garland, TX 75045-0145  
ONA Hotline: 967-5136

President	Luanne Payne
Vice President	Ron Horan
Secretary	Pam Hubbard
Treasurer	Toledo Mulder

#### DIRECTORS

District 1	Donna Dayhoff
District 2	Kay Hackler
District 3	Vicki Hanas
District 4	Lila LaGrassa
District 5	John Sholden

Civic & Political	Dave Winter
Crime Prevention	Luanne Payne
Environmental	Pam Harbach
	Ron Harbach
Finance	Dan Cole
Liaison to OCC	Luanne Payne
Membership	Mary Musseman
Communication	Jackie Griffin
	Jim Griffin

\*\*\* ATTENTION \*\*\*

### ONA HOTLINE

**967-5136**

### ONA HOTLINE UPDATE

It was brought to my attention that many of you (even after 2 years) do not know what or how the ONA Hotline Update signs mean when you see them in the neighborhood. These signs are used to communicate crime problems or important information that pertains to Oakridge. When these signs are placed around the neighborhood, this is to alert the residents to call this number that is on the signs, 967-5136.

The Hotline has been very beneficial for various means of communication in Oakridge. You may call the Hotline 24 hours a day and leave a message with your name and number and someone will call you back with an answer to your question. We have been able to help many pet owners who have lost their pets or have found pets and want to help find their owners through the use of the Hotline. The ONA has a Pet Register with a compiled list of residents and their pets in case their pets ever happen to get out of the house or yard by accident and become lost.

Many calls are for how to place an ad or run an article in the Newsletter. Some call to see if we can help them out with a problem or furnish a phone number from one of the many ads in the Newsletter. We have also had neighbors call to inform us of a new resident who has moved in so we can send the Welcome Wagon to visit them.

All and all, the Hotline has proved to be very beneficial for those of you who use it and know about it. Now for those of you who were unaware of the uses of the Hotline and how important it is to call when you see the signs out (which isn't very often), I hope this information will be useful to you. So don't hesitate to call it if you have any questions, suggestions or comments.

**ONA HOTLINE 967-5136**

### OAKRIDGE WELCOME WAGON

*Lila LaGrassa*

The following families were welcomed into Oakridge in February:

<u>Big Oaks:</u>	Gordon & Sharon Carlton
	Christopher & Shirley Tan
	Sam & Charlotte Vaughter
<u>Hearthside:</u>	Amy Jahnel

From the families that were welcomed in January and February of this year, 50% have already joined the ONA. This is very encouraging and we appreciate the following families for showing their support: *Marie Hubbard, Amy Jahnel, and Sam & Charlotte Vaughter*. Your help is still needed when you notice a new family moving in on your street. Please call Lila LaGrassa at 530-8613 or the ONA Hotline at 967-5136 with the address of the new resident.

An Oakridge Neighbor since 1986  
Office Close to Home

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## TAKE TIME TO TRAVEL

### **Important Phone Numbers**

<b>Police &amp; Fire Emergencies</b>	<b>911</b>
<b>Police Non-Emergencies</b>	<b>205-2150</b>
<b>Lone Star Gas</b>	<b>800-817-8090</b>
<b>Sanitation</b>	<b>205-3420</b>
<b>Environmental Code</b>	<b>205-3374</b>
<b>Animal Control</b>	<b>205-3570</b>
<b>Poison Center</b>	<b>590-5000</b>
<b>Street Light Repair</b>	<b>205-3449</b>
<b>Electricity Emergency</b>	<b>205-3000</b>
<b>Water &amp; Sewer</b>	<b>205-3210</b>
<b>Richard Fricks, City Council</b>	<b>495-7932</b>
<b>ONA Hotline</b>	<b>967-5136</b>

*FYI. . .*

**NEW BRUSH & BULKY GOODS  
COLLECTION & PLACEMENT RULES**

The City of Garland has made several changes to its policies and laws governing trash collection. The new rules take effect on March 3, 1997. If you need more information, call Solid Waste & Recycling Services at 205-3500.

1. Place all limbs and tree trunks in one pile and don't mix the bagged waste or bulky items.
2. Place all bagged leaves and grass in one pile and don't mix the bags with brush or other waste.
3. Place all bulky items (other than appliances), such as furniture, construction waste, etc., in a separate pile. Don't mix bulky items with limbs or bagged leaves and grass.
4. Place appliances (refrigerators, washers, dryers, dishwashers, etc.) at curbside away from other brush and bulky items.

Brush & bulky goods that **CAN** be placed out for curbside collection. (The City **WILL** pick up these wastes)

Brush, tree limbs, and tree trunks  
Bagged leaves & bagged grass clippings  
Appliances, furniture, plumbing fixtures  
Fencing, lumber, insulation, siding, paneling  
Flooring, carpet & pads, plastic sheeting  
Plastic laminate, piping, wire  
Gypsum board (sheetrock)  
(broken & placed in a cardboard box)

Brush & bulky goods that **CANNOT** be placed out for curbside collection. (The City **WILL NOT** pick up these wastes.)

Roofing material, concrete, asphalt  
Rocks, dirt, bricks, tires (with or without wheels)  
Unbagged garbage or trash outside of the trash can  
Bagged garbage or trash outside of the trash can  
Lawn waste or construction debris generated at another address (contractor waste)

\* This information was furnished by the City of Garland.

**LET SUE DO IT**

Junior forgot he needs brownies for the bake sale and you're already late for work!

**LET SUE DO IT**

You need a week away, but Kitty and Rover don't want to go to the Kennel

**LET SUE DO IT**

The possibilities are endless  
(and the prices are reasonable)

- Pet/House Sitting
- Errands
- Taking kids to soccer, ortho, Etc.
- Shopping
- Baking/Cooking
- Etc., Etc.

**LET SUE DO IT**

**Oakridge Resident Since 1988**

**Sue Hageland**

**530-5089**

**CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Crocheted Names**

**Suitable for Framing**

**(Angels, Snowflakes, Doilies, etc.)**

**\$5.00 Per Letter**

**Norene Murphy**

**530-6669**

**Beautiful Antique Looking  
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**White Powder Coat Finish**

**Genuine Brass Accents**

**Queen size Head & Foot Boards**

**Paid \$550 asking \$250 obo**

**530-0712**

**“DOLLARS FOR FLOWERS”  
We Need Your Support!**

Spring is just around the corner and we are once again looking at the money we have available in our “Beautification Fund”. You may recall that in 1993/1994 we raised money for the beautification of our entryways through donations from the residents within our neighborhood.

We were very successful with our first campaign and are once again asking for your help. During the past three years we have been able to finance several seasonal plantings and implement various other projects needed to maintain our entryways in as “eye appealing” mode as possible.

**What have we used these dollars for???** These are examples of what we did!

- (a) Seasonal planting of flowers/bedding plants at least twice a year. This included the hauling in of fresh soil in some cases. Also planted ground cover in some areas.
- (b) Seasonal mulch and fertilizer for the flower beds.
- (c) Removal of trees and/or roots, etc. as needed due to storm damage, etc. Fill dirt was hauled in to fill the vacancy caused from the removal of roots/tree trunks.
- (d) Repair of brick work as needed, in the entryways.
- (e) Planted/ replaced damaged or dead shrubs.
- (f) Repairs needed due to minor acts of vandalism.

**Next Question . . .“WHAT EXPENSES ARE PAID FOR WITH THE YEARLY DUES???”**

The money accumulated through the solicitation of membership dues goes towards the “Monthly” maintenance contract which covers the common areas of Oakridge. This includes mowing, edging, trash pickup, trimming of trees and shrubs, along the entire outside perimeters of the neighborhood and the entryways. We also pay the monthly electric and water bills incurred through the use of the sprinkler systems. Maintenance checkups of the irrigation system is included in our monthly maintenance contract. Your dues also go towards the payment of any expenses incurred in the implementation of our Neighborhood Crime Watch. Any minimal supplies or postage expenses are paid from these funds.

Your support of the ONA has given us the opportunity to maintain and improve upon the appearance of our common areas. This only enhances our personal properties and works for us in maintaining the value of our homes and increases the desire of others to live in our neighborhood.

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**972-414-0183**  
**Call Today**  
**Don't wait another minute to take off the weight.**  
**forever**  
*Ask about how you can get your program free.*

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED FORM AND MAIL YOUR CHECK TO US TODAY!**

Make Check Payable to:

**OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSN.**

**Mail to: Ron Harbach  
3102 Big Oaks Dr.  
Garland, TX. 75044**

**Thank you in advance for your support.**

**Name:**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**Address:**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

## **CRIME STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 1997:**

- 1 - Habitation Burglary Diamond Oaks  
(Broke in thru bedroom window and stole jewelry between 9:00am and 10:50pm on a Sat.)
- 1 - Habitation Burglary Winding Oak  
(Broke window but unable to enter because of heavy furniture in front of window between 4:00pm and 8:30pm on a Sat.)
- 1 - Habitation Burglary Grand Oak  
Cut screen door, broke out window in French door and unlocked door. Jewelry was stolen between 5:30pm and 11:30pm on a Sat.)
- 1 - Habitation Burglary Rolling Oak  
(Broke in thru bedroom window and stole jewelry between 2:30pm and 9:30pm on a Sat.)
- 1 - Habitation Burglary Big Oaks  
(Broke window in French door and exited thru garage. Computers, fax, clothes and other office equipment was stolen between 11:30am and 12:30pm on a Thurs.)
- 1 - Vehicle Theft (non-motorized) Ridge Oak Place  
(16' tandem-axle trailer was stolen from back yard between 4:45pm and 10:10pm on a Tues.)
- 1 - Criminal Mischief Oak Point  
(Reported as a drive-by shooting but when officers arrived found the window had been hit with a paintball which occurred about 8:30pm on a Sat.)
- 1 - Criminal Mischief Moss Trail  
(Kicked out slats of fence and moved patio furniture around. Occurred between 6:00pm on a Mon. and 4:30pm on Tues.)

As you can see from the January report, Oakridge was hit hard with some very serious habitation burglaries. Four of these occurred on the same Saturday afternoon and one happened within a one-hour time frame on a Thursday during broad daylight hours during the lunchtime. Even the report of the 16' trailer that was stolen was during early evening hours. If anyone remembers seeing any suspicious activity or persons on the streets listed above, please call Det. Monty Poteet at 205-2084. This particular Saturday, which the 4 offenses occurred, is January 18th, the trailer was on Tuesday, January 21st and the fifth habitation burglary was on Thursday, January 29th. Any information you might have could be helpful to the police and the residents whose homes were burglarized. Please keep your eyes and ears open. If you see any suspicious persons or activity call 911 and the police will respond as soon as possible.

When the above burglaries occurred, the police informed me and immediately increased the patrol in the neighborhood to become as visible as possible. The only way for me to communicate this information to you is through the Hotline and by placing the **ONA Hotline Update** signs throughout Oakridge. These signs were posted for 3 full days and out of 1140 homes in Oakridge there were only 14 curious people who called the Hotline number. When these signs go up, that is a red flag to the residents that something important is going on in

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the neighborhood and you should call the number. I have only had to put these signs up on 3 occasions in the last 2 years. These signs can be used for a crime alert message or some other important message that needs to be relayed to you. The Hotline is used for many reasons and you should not hesitate to use it. It is a great way to communicate within the neighborhood. (See article on ONA Hotline)

I would also, like to take a minute to give you prevention tip. I know many of us, and I am one, who leaves their keys in the deadbolt locks on our doors. After being informed of the above habitation reports and seeing how easy it is for someone to break a glass in a door and just reach in and unlock the door, I immediately got in the habit of taking my keys out of the doors when I am not at home. This is a just one more way to prevent us from being a victim.

### **MEMBERSHIP NEWS**

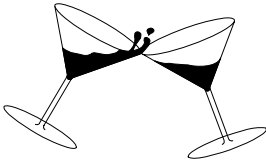
*Mary Musseman*

As of February 15th, the ONA has 473 members. I am personally going to talk to the non-members on my street to answer any questions they may have about the ONA. If you would like me to talk to one of your neighbors, please call me at 414-1098 with their names and addresses. I haven't given up on reaching our goal of 500 members.'

## OAKRIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Last month's wine and cheese social was a lot of fun! We really enjoyed meeting all our nice guests. Thanks for coming! Also, we would like to welcome two new members: Karen Wheeler and Ann Whitehead. We're so glad you joined us! Members ..mark your calendars!

- Tues. March 11, 7:00 Monthly meeting. Meet at J.Pepe's for dinner. We'll plan our Easter egg hunt!
- Sat. March 15, 10:00 Park Day. We'll meet at Yale Park (Spring Valley and Yale). Pack a picnic lunch and blanket!
- Sat. March 29, 11:00 Easter egg hunt!



Wedding bells are ringing!  
Congratulations to the newlyweds,  
Kay (Hackler) and Danny Steelman!  
We wish you the very best!

Christy Elms will be moving out of Oakridge soon. Fortunately, she's not moving very far! Good luck to Christy, Todd, and Taylor in their beautiful new home. Christy, hope you'll continue to join us!



If you are interested in joining the Oakridge Women's Club, please call Mary

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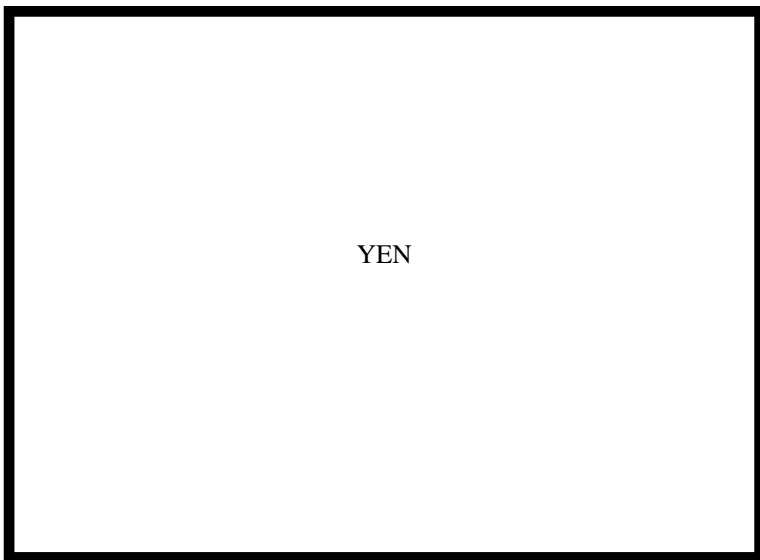
**972 888-0999 Home Office**

**972 733-8555 Messages**

**CRIME STATISTICS FOR DECEMBER:**

- 1 - Habitation Burglary Diamond Oaks  
(Radar detector & billfold taken from partially opened garage between 10:30pm on a Sun. and 7:30pm on Tues.)
- 1 - Vehicle Burglary Big Oaks  
(Telephone stolen from unlocked van parked on rear driveway between 4:00pm and 7:30pm on a Sun.)
- 1 - Vehicle Burglary Golden Oaks  
(Broke window in van parked on rear driveway and stole purse between 11:00pm on a Mon. and 8:00am on Tues.)
- 1 - Vehicle Burglary Ridge Oak Dr.  
(Broke rear window from Jeep Cherokee but nothing was stolen approx. 6:00am on a Tues.)
- 1 - Theft \$50 - \$500 Oak Springs  
(Bench was stolen from front porch between 5:00pm on a Sun. and 5:15pm on Mon.)
- 1 - Theft \$50 - \$500 Grand Oak  
(Chair stolen from front yard between Noon on Sun. and 5:15pm on Mon.)
- 1 - Criminal Mischief Diamond Oaks  
(Car parked on street in front of house was egged between 10:00pm on a Thurs. and 8:00am on Fri.)

The statistics for the month of December (96) increased by 3 from the previous month of November which reported on 4 offenses. I was very surprised and pleased about the December report. I had mentioned in the January newsletter that I did not hear of any vandalism to decorations and at the time I had not received this report. That is not to say the above offenses weren't serious. I am just pleased that we did not have more than what was reported.



YEN

**JIM WHATLEY**  
OAKRIDGE NEIGHBOR SINCE 1985  
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**WHY DO BUSINESS WITH A  
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Call me! I am in the neighborhood and do not plan to move. I will visit with you in person or we can visit on the phone for all the information needed, the easy way. No hassle, no fuss, not pushy, just a friendly person.

**GREAT INTEREST RATES!**

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**DO YOU HAVE . . .**

. . . an old junked car, truck, camper, motorcycle, boat or RV that doesn't run and you just don't know what to do with it? Here's a pain-free solution and one that can actually help put some people back on their feet. Here are a few places that will come pick up the item for free and give you a tax deductible receipt for your generous donation:

- |                    |                  |
|--------------------|------------------|
| Salvation Army     | 214-630-5611     |
| Dallas Can Academy | 214-824-4226     |
| American Red Cross | 214-871-2175     |
| <br>Foster's Home  | <br>800-513-6560 |



## PMI AND POINTS

I receive a lot of questions about PMI, MIP and Points. PMI is private mortgage insurance and is insurance you pay for the bank or mortgage company that makes your loan if you put less than 20% down payment. MIP is the same thing, but is name given to mortgage insurance on government loans such as VA and FHA. The charge is 1% of your loan balance and can be paid in cash at closing or rolled into your note. The monthly PMI renewal charge can be .35, .45 or .50 % of your loan balance as a renewal charge. This amount varies depending on loan amount, and down payment.

This amount is paid monthly as part of your escrow account and is paid annually by your mortgage company. When you pay down your loan enough to have 20% equity you can get an appraisal and petition the lender to remove this charge. It is at their discretion that the PMI is removed and sometimes you need to be persistent.

POINTS are prepaid interest. For example your lender says that the going rate today is 7.75 % and you want 7.5 %. Since the lender will lose money by lending you funds at a lower rate, they will charge you points. Usually the cost to buy down 1/8th or 1/4 of a point is 1 percent. This varies among lending institutions. Each point is 1% of your loan balance paid at closing. Do not confuse the points paid with the origination fee. This is the 1% collected by the lender paid to the mortgage officer as their commission for doing the loan. You will see posted 7.5% at 1+1. This is one point and one percent origination fee. Sometimes you will see 0+0 in which you may have a higher interest rate but you do not pay an origination fee to the lender. Some buyers will do this if they are short on cash.

Please feel free to call if you have any questions or contact your lender.

Peggy Richey, CRS,GRI  
Keller Williams Realty  
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**IN MEMORY OF  
OFFICER MICHAEL DAVID MOORE**

As I write this article, many of us all over Garland and the metroplex are mourning the loss of Officer Michael D. Moore who was killed in the line of duty on Saturday, February 15th while trying to prevent another bank robbery in Garland. This has touched many of our lives and several Neighborhood Crime Watch groups, including Oakridge, sent numerous food dishes over to the church to be served after the funeral services. The police department appreciates all of the outpouring of sympathy for their fellow officer. If you wish to send a cash donation to the family, Bank One has designated a fund for Officer Moore. The mailing address is: Bank One, 1000 W. Centerville Rd., Garland, 75041.

**I AM THE OFFICER**

*I have been where you fear to be.  
I have seen what you fear to see.  
I have done what you fear to do.  
All these things I have done for you.*

*I am the person you lean upon  
The one you cast your scorn upon  
The one you bring your troubles to  
All these people I've been for you.*

*The one you ask to stand apart  
The one you feel should have no heart  
The one you call the Officer in blue.  
But I'm just a person, just like you.*

*And through the years I've come to see  
That I am not always what you ask of me.  
So take this badge, take this gun  
Will you take it? . . . Will anyone?*

*And when you watch a person die  
And hear a battered baby cry  
Then do you think that you can be  
All these things you ask of me?*

*Anonymous*

A cash donation was made to the family of Officer Michael David Moore from the members of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association.