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# ◊ Oakridge News ◊

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Vol. 7, No. 2

A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

July, 1998

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## PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE - Donna Dayhoff

The Board and myself would like to thank everyone, who have sent in their membership renewals or have just recently joined the O.N.A.. If you have not sent back your renewal form yet please do or if you have not joined us, we would like to welcome you to become a part of our association. Without your support we cannot keep our neighborhood maintained and looking "great".

An update on the Retirement Community Development.

1. June 30<sup>th</sup> – A meeting was held with the developer so the residents could obtain further information on the development. An informal vote was taken at the end of discussions. The majority of those in attendance favored the development.

2. July 7<sup>th</sup> – A public hearing was held at the City Council meeting. All sides "for" or "against" had the opportunity to express their views, if they wished to do so. The Council vote was 5 to 4 in favor of the land usage.

3. July 21<sup>st</sup> – The actual ordinance for the rezoning will be on the Council agenda for approval or disapproval. The outcome is unknown as of the printing of this newsletter.

Reminder: Everyone take it easy in this 100 degree heat we are having. Let us all hope rain will come soon! Do not forget about our outside pets – take extra precautions for them – the heat is hard on them too.

**OAKRIDGE  
NEIGHBORHOOD  
ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 450145  
Garland, TX 75045-0145  
ONA Hotline: 214-967-5136

### OFFICERS

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	Fern Cook
Newsletter	Jackie Griffin
	Luanne Payne
Environmental	Cy Farver
Architectural	Gary Richey
Crime Prevention	Luanne Payne
Citizens on Patrol	Lila LaGrassa
Homeowners Coal.	JoAnn Schmerheim
Welcome Wagon	Luanne Payne



## "Garland Graffiti Clean-up Campaign III"

Do you or your teenagers want to get involved in some volunteer community service? If you answered yes, then the Garland Police Department needs your assistance. This Graffiti Clean-up project was started two years ago to help clean-up gang related graffiti. You will work with the police and other volunteers in the northwest section of Garland to paint over any graffiti that has been located.

The police have many needs for the volunteers to help paint, supervising a work group or in a support role. This has been a very successful program and it sends a very strong message to the gang members that the citizens will not tolerate this graffiti in their neighborhoods.

The clean-up date is scheduled for Saturday, September 12. You meet at Central Park at 8:00 am and return by noon for a small ceremony and lunch. Last year's event attracted nearly 300 people. If you would like to sign up, you can contact Officer S. P. McCully at 205-2740 or call the Clean-up Campaign Hotline at 205-2736.



## Environmental Committee Report

*Cy Farver*

We have contracted with a new landscaping company beginning July 1st. We expect to see considerable improvement in the maintenance of our grounds because we have added additional fertilization and weed prevention to all of the grounds.

A truck has again hit our post on Laurel Oaks and Beltline and knocked it down. Fortunately, it was observed and the truck license was noted. A report has been made to the police and action will be taken to recover our cost to replace the post. A special thanks to both individuals who reported the "accident".

I attended the Citizens On Patrol (C.O.P.) program held in June. One of the problems noted by the officers was the lack of addresses on the alley side of residences. Several stories were told of being in foot pursuit of a villainous character down an alley. They were unable to call for back-up because they didn't know the address of their location.

Garland residents are encouraged to have their street numbers posted on the alley or golf course for just such occurrences as well as fire dept. use. We have a source for alley signs (white) with the street number and the neighborhood watch logo. This serves as a reminder to the "evildoer" that you and your neighbors are looking out for each other. If you want one of these signs they can be ordered from Mr. Gerald Cowan at:---972-272-7433. The cost is \$10.00 and half of that is returned to the O.N.A. to support the crime watch program with street signs, etc. Mr. Cowan is only covering his material cost and donating his time. Buy a sign because you will provide added protection for your home and help your Oakridge neighbors at the same time.

### **Heat Relief !**

Your plants are suffering from this heat as much as you are. Help them by placing mulch around the flowers and shrubs up to, but no more than four (4") inches deep. Keep a 4" open space around the plant base to prevent root rot. The mulch will reduce evaporation and allow the plant to retain more of the water you supply. It will also reduce the weed growth because it cuts off their sunlight. Before you go on vacation, remember to eliminate the weeds. They will compete for both nutrients and water in your environment.

## Oakridge Homeowners

We continue to have a problem with Oakridge Homeowner children climbing\cutting holes in the fence line, and swimming in the pools at Pavilion, Tanglewood and Windsor Apartments. In the past we have chosen not to exercise our rights to file criminal trespass charges, but in the future we will need to pursue these rights.

The City of Garland has consistently notified us of the fence line damage, of which we promptly repair so as not to receive a citation. When this damage occurs, it sometimes prevents the homes bordering the three properties from having their garbage picked up due to the bent posts. We have a tremendous working relationship with Oakridge now and will continue to in the future. But please, talk with your children and warn them of the circumstances that surround this violent act.

Thank you for giving us this opportunity to communicate this in your newsletter, and we appreciate your cooperation regarding this important matter.

Respectfully,

Berkshire Realty Company, Inc.

OAKRIDGE RESIDENT SINCE 1986 - GARY HEARN

## Home Maintenance by Steve Brandt

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- Plumbing
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References

## A SPECIAL THANK YOU!

We want to thank the couple who were so wonderful to our granddaughter, Erin, on July 4th. While she was visiting and playing outside with her cousins, Erin became lost and couldn't find her way back to our home. While we were frantically hunting her, this special couple found her, looked out for her, and was trying to help get her home at the time our daughter located them.

We weren't able to meet you or thank you properly, but we hope you will know how very much we appreciate your kindness and your caring for our special girl.

This is Oakridge at its best!! Thank you so much!!

Sharon & Gordon Carlton

## OAKRIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB

*Suzanne Fletcher*

### Thanks to you....

The Fourth of July parade was a huge success! The Oakridge Women's Club would like to acknowledge all of those who helped make it happen. Thanks to all who participated in the parade. It was nice to see so many residents using this opportunity to show their patriotic spirit! We also appreciated the spectators along the parade route who cheered us on. A special thanks goes out to Maxine & Bill Stilger and Gene & Marian Willett for furnishing their golf carts for use on the parade route. We would also like to express our gratitude to Mary Macejewski for coordinating this event.

### Welcome New Members...

We would like to welcome 3 new members of the Oakridge Women's Club. Tami Graves and Brenda Allen both of Hickory Bend Drive, and Libby Morse of Grand Oak Drive. We are so glad that you've joined us. We look forward to getting to know you and your families!

### Next Month...

The next meeting of the Oakridge Women's Club will be held August 11<sup>th</sup> at the home of Kay Steelman beginning at 7:00 P.M. We will elect new officers for the upcoming year and discuss a proposed expansion of our club's goals and purpose. If you have questions call Suzanne at 530-8526.

### The OWC

*What is it...*The purpose of the Oakridge Women's Club is to develop friendships with other women in the neighborhood and to get to know their families. The principal aim of our monthly meetings is to plan activities for our children, special seasonal events and to socialize with other members. Our dues, which are only \$12 per year, are used for our children's activities and for printing costs.

If you are interested in joining us please call Lisa Kolacz

## NOW OPEN!!

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*TY Beanie Babies*

### LET SUE DO IT

The refrigerator repairman is coming today  
but you have an important meeting

### 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

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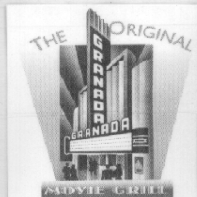
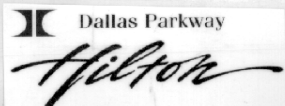
- ROOFING
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PLEASE PATRONIZE THESE LOCAL BUSINESSES. AS SPONSORS OF THE 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY PARADE, THEY DONATED SOME WONDERFUL PRIZES. THANK YOU FOR



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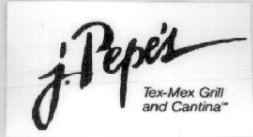
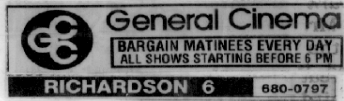
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## Crime Statistics for May & June 1998:

*Luanne Payne*

Due summer vacations and the timing for the Newsletter, the following reports will include May and June offenses. There were only two offenses listed in the June newsletter for May statistics. After receiving the police report there were 7 more to be reported which would make a total of 9 offenses during May. The June report increased by 2 offenses, for a total of 11. For the most part, many of these offenses are reported as criminal mischief. That does not lessen the crime. Sometimes the cost and inconvenience of these crimes can be rather expensive. You can help prevent many of the vehicle burglaries simply by removing any items of value from your car. Cell phones seem to be a hot item right now. If you have one, either take it out of the car or lock it in the trunk or glove box so it can not be seen. Don't leave your purse, wallet, briefcases or any loose cash/change in plain sight for temptation. It not only cost to replace your personal items but the cost of the damage to your vehicle can really add up.

### May Offenses

#### Habitation Burglary – Hearthside:

Stole bikes and golf clubs from open garage. Offense occurred on Sat. 5/16 during 3:30 & 4:00 pm.

#### Theft \$500 - \$1500 – Hearthside:

A lock box, jewelry and miscellaneous papers were taken from residence after cleaning service left. Offense occurred on Wed. 5/27 during 1:30 & 7:00 pm.

#### Theft Under \$50 – Diamond Oaks:

Rear license plate was stolen from Ford pick-up truck parked on street in front of residence. Offense occurred on Fri. 5/1 about 8:30 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Diamond Oaks:

Vandal drove on the bent grass on the 7<sup>th</sup> green causing \$2,000 in damage. Offense occurred between Fri. 5/8 & Sat. 5/9 during 10:00 pm & 5:00 am.

#### Criminal Mischief – Bending Oaks:

Vandal kicked car door and dented it. Offense occurred on Sun. 5/17 during 12:30 am & 8:00 am.

#### Criminal Mischief – Big Oaks:

Vandal dented 1998 Mazda causing \$3,000 in damage. Offense occurred between Sun. 5/31 & Mon. 6/1 during 6:00 pm & 9:30 am.

### June Offenses

#### Building Burglary – Diamond Oaks:

Vandals broke window of the pool snack bar and stole food. Offense occurred between Wed. 6/17 & Thurs. 6/18 during 10:00 pm & 8:00 am.

#### Vehicle Burglary – Big Oaks:

Thief stole cell phone valued at \$450 from 1990 Mazda parked on rear driveway. Offense occurred between Sun. 6/21 & Mon. 6/22 during 9:00 pm & 8:00 am.

#### Vehicle Burglary – Hickory Bend:

Thief stole \$10 cash from 1989 Ford Probe. Offense occurred between Sat. 6/20 & Mon. 6/22 during 2:00 pm & 8:00 am.

#### Vehicle Burglary – Crestedge:

Thief stole cell phone valued at \$200 from 1997 Lincoln Town Car. Offense occurred on Mon. 6/22 during midnight & 10:30 am.

#### Theft \$50 - \$500 – Big Oaks:

Homeowner reported his watch was missing after having a house guest. Offense occurred on Sun. 6/14 during 10:00 am & 2:00 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Beaver Run:

Vandal shot window out of car with pellet gun. Offense occurred on Sun. 6/21 during 10:00 & 11:20 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Bending Oaks:

Vandal shot window out of car with pellet gun. Offense occurred on Sun. 6/21 during 7:00 & 11:20 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Bending Oaks:

Vandal shot window out of car with pellet gun. Offense occurred on Sun. 6/21 during 10:00 & 11:30 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Ridge Oak:

Vandal broke rear window of 1995 Jeep Cherokee causing \$300 in damage. Offense occurred on Mon. 6/22 during 10:00 & 11:30 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Bending Oaks:

Vandal smashed windows of 1995 Dodge Avenger causing \$200 in damage. Offense occurred on Mon. 6/22 at 10:00 pm.

#### Criminal Mischief – Ridge Oak:

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<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>205-3483</b>
<b>Electricity Emergency</b>	<b>205-3000</b>
<b>Water &amp; Sewer</b>	<b>205-3210</b>
<b>Councilman, Lowell Hyatt</b>	<b>495-9394</b>
<b>Chris Tannock, NPO</b>	<b>205-2740</b>
<b>ONA Hotline</b>	<b>214 -967-5136</b>

**TAKE TIME  
TO TRAVEL**

**ONA HOTLINE – 214-967-5136:**

The ONA Hotline is a great way to communicate with the ONA. We use this to receive questions, comments, suggestions and other information. When you call to make a complaint, please leave your name and number so we can address the problem in a timely and more efficient way. Someone called last month wanting to know about the entryway at Winding Oak. There are no utilities at this entryway, as well as, Greenview, Richland and Rich Oak. The other five entryways do have utilities and the maintenance workers keep these trimmed and updated with seasonal planting. If you have any further questions about this or anything else, call the ONA Hotline and be sure to leave a name and number.

**ATTENTION HOMEOWNERS**

Recently we had our “YORK” brand condenser replaced. It was seven years old and out of warranty. The interesting thing is that on the same day as our unit was being replaced, one of our neighbors on our street told us that they also had their condenser replaced two weeks prior - yes, it was also a “YORK”. If you too have had to replace a “YORK” condenser that is under 10 years old, please contact us and perhaps a letter of complaint with other signatures on it can do some good when writing to the company. Call Becky or Dave Thomas at 530-5628 and we will get back to you.

An Oakridge Neighbor since 1986  
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## MEMBERSHIP NEWS

Mary Musseman

Everyone should have received their renewal letters. If you did not receive yours you can renew using the membership form in this newsletter. As of July 16, we have 323 current members (renewals and new). That leaves approximately 150 members who have not sent in their renewal checks. Please take a moment out of your busy schedule to send your \$48.00 check to the:

Oakridge Neighborhood Association  
P. O. Box 451045  
Garland, Texas 75045-0145

Thank you once again for your continued support. Have a fun summer.

## OAKRIDGE WELCOME WAGON

Mary Musseman

Because of vacations and the District Directors taking over the Welcome Wagon, no new neighbors were welcomed in June or July. In the next few weeks, we'll be up and running again. If you've moved in in the last several months and have not been welcomed, please contact Luanne Payne at 530-9323 or the O.N.A. hotline at 214-

## Foundation Maintenance Program

With the extreme heat and unusually high temperatures maintaining a moist foundation is essential to prevent structural problems with your home.

Soils of the North Texas area contain highly active clays which exhibit a high degree of expansion when wet and shrinkage when dry. This situation can result in severe vertical and/or lateral displacement of supported structures.

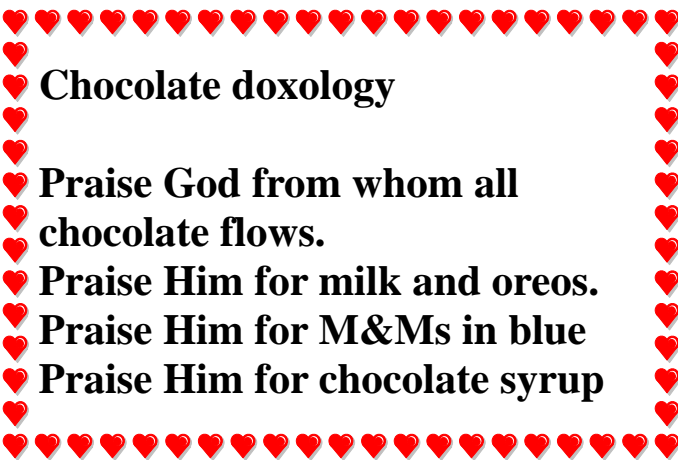
Repeated variations in soil moisture content can cause broken and unlevel floors, masonry cracking and misalignment of doors and windows. Maintain soil gradients around perimeter with a proper slope away from the foundation for a distance of three to four feet. Gutters and downspouts can help in implementing moisture control and avoid ponding.

Large trees or shrubs can consume tremendous amounts of water and should not be planted next to foundation. Make sure that their root systems do not extend beneath the foundation of your home. Whenever cracking of soil occurs or soil is noted pulling away from foundation, it is an immediate signal that soil moisture levels are too low.

Water should be added in a slow, systematic manner using an automated sprinkler system or a soaker hose placed 18 inches from the foundation with holes facing downward. Water should be applied until runoff is observed. During hot weather, this process should be repeated four to five times weekly - less during winter months. Don't forget that the wind also dries the soil and watering is essential all year round.

If you have any questions about drainage, or structural issues, please feel free to call one of our structural engineers, Bob Jensen with R.W. Jensen and Associates at 1411 East Campbell Rd., Suite 1300, Richardson, Texas 75081 (972) 994-9872.

Consulting and putting together a good watering program with a qualified engineer can save you lots of money in the long run.



**Chocolate doxology**  
**Praise God from whom all chocolate flows.**  
**Praise Him for milk and oreos.**  
**Praise Him for M&Ms in blue**  
**Praise Him for chocolate syrup**