

# ◊ Oakridge News ◊

Vol. 7, No. 5

A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

October 1998

## President's Message - Donna Dayhoff

I would like to thank all members, who attended our first membership meeting for this year. If you were unable to attend, you missed being able to meet with your neighbors during the social hour and meeting the firemen from Fire Stations No. 3 and 6, who presented a very interesting program. These two stations are the ones assigned to respond to a fire or medical emergency in Oakridge. The information given on emergencies in the home should be very helpful.

As always, the O.N.A. Board tries to come up with fundraisers to help supplement our treasury. Passbooks are available again this year - call Luanne if interested. This year we are going to try a couple of new fundraising ideas. The first one is "Red Wheel Cookie Dough". There are seven different kinds available at \$10 or \$12 for a 3-lb bucket. Each bucket makes 4 to 6 dozen cookies. I have it on good authority that these are "delicious". You can order from any Board member or call the Hot-Line and leave a message with a telephone number.

The second fundraiser, we are doing is a "neighborhood" cookbook. We would like everyone to submit at least one or two recipes by November 21st. I'm really excited about this - just think of all the different family favorite recipes we can have printed. The books will be available in March or April depending on the printing time. So please take a few minutes of your time and share with us your favorite recipe.

In advance, the Board and myself thank you for your support in all our fundraisers.

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

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Welcome Wagon	Luanne Payne

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★ Red Wheel Cookie Dough ★  
★

★ The ONA is currently taking orders for ready-made cookie dough. Some of us are lucky enough to already know how easy and great it is. Some of the high schools sell it for fundraisers for various groups. From past experience, most of us who order only one or two buckets, are wishing we had ordered three or four. The dough comes frozen and can be thawed within a couple of hours and can be refrozen or just kept in the refrigerator. It is so handy and easy to use when you need to make a batch of cookies real quick for something. The dough comes in a 3 lb. container and makes 4 to 6 dozen cookies. The dough will be delivered on December 1<sup>st</sup> just in time for making holiday cookies for family, friends and neighbors. We have 7 different selections of cookie dough: Chocolate Chip, Sugar Cookie, M&M Cookie, Oatmeal-Raisin, Peanut Butter-Chocolate Chip, Double Chocolate and White Chocolate Macadamia Nut. All dough is \$10 a bucket with the exception of the White Chocolate Macadamia Nut, which is \$12. If you work at an office and could take an order blank to work, we would really appreciate it. We can use all the help you can offer. If you would like to purchase some of this delicious and easy cookie dough or could take orders for us, please call Luanne Payne at 972-530-9323. The Final Date to order cookie dough is November 10<sup>th</sup>. This will be the only notice

★  
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## The Global Economy and How it Affects us Locally

Peggy Richey, CRS,GRI , Keller Williams Realty

1998 began with the start of a Sellers Market. After over 10 years we finally saw a decrease in inventory which caused a rise in the value of our homes. Fortunately for both Buyers and Sellers the interest rates have been at an all time low. Currently running around 6% - 6.5%, they jumped up a full point last week to stabilize at about 7.25% in a response to the Bond Market. They are continuing to drop back down again this week as the market stabilizes. Don't forget we have experienced record-breaking highs in the stock market for the past 6-7 years. The low interest rates have allowed so many families to move and either buy a home for the first time or move their growing families into larger ones.

So why has the market slowed since September of this year? Usually, home sales slow the last two weeks of August through the second week of September as families and their children adjust to a new school year. The housing market has always picked up in October responding to families wanting to move before the holidays.

The global economy has a direct effect in our market. The behind the scenes talk is that of layoffs and job security. I think the closing of the Raytheon plant in Lewisville may be the tip of the iceberg. It has been 10-15 years since we have seen unemployment as a major threat to our area. The prediction is that there will be more layoffs this next year. Under these circumstances, many people have a wait and see attitude about selling their homes and buying a larger home.

The slow down in the housing market is affecting the higher priced homes more than the moderate priced homes. Executives that are using stock options, big bonuses and personal stock market gains to purchase, usually buy these homes.

They are cautious about their futures as many of them are being asked to relocate as their companies merge and others are being offered early retirement packages. Many middle management jobs are deleted during these mergers. Until we know what the employment situation is for 1999, you will see a more cautious attitude from consumers through the remainder of this year. New construction nationwide had a 30% drop in sales last month.

The unemployment and relocation of families could increase the number of homes available for sale and cause a halt in the increase in the value of the housing market if not a possible decline of prices. At the same time, if the inventory stays about the same and the buying public has a wait and see attitude, the housing values will continue to level and there will be moderate or no price increases.

On the bright side, it is expected that Greenspan will lower the rate 25 basis points this month causing the interest rate to continue to drop. What a great time to be buying a home! I remember my Father telling me years ago when the rate was hovering between 17% and 18% that he borrowed money against his life insurance policy to buy a house at 4% interest. Now, many years later, 5.75% to 6.25% is not bad and who knows how far it will drop.

### 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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- Grocery Shopping (Specially for Home Bound Seniors)
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**CRIME STATISTICS FOR SEPT. 1998:**

*Luanne Payne*

**Habitation Burglary – Hickory Bend:**

No data available at time of printing. Offense occurred on Thurs. 9/17 between 8:00 am & 4:00 pm.

**Habitation Burglary – Peakwood:**

Thief stole hand tools, cassette reorder and equalizer from garage. Offense occurred between 9:00 pm on Fri. 9/18 & 4:30 am on Sat. 9/19.

**Habitation Burglary – Big Oaks:**

Three juveniles were arrested in connection with a burglary of this house and released to the custody of their parents. Offense occurred on Sun. 9/20 at 11:45 am.

**Vehicle Burglary – Laurel Oaks Dr.:**

No data available at time of printing. Offense occurred between 11:00 pm on Wed. 9/30 & 3:00 am on Thurs. 10/1.

**Theft \$50-\$500 – Grand Oak:**

No data available at time of printing. Offense occurred between 7:00 pm on Mon. 9/21 & 7:00 am on Tues. 9/22.

**Theft \$50-\$500 – Shady Oaks Ct.:**

No data available at time of printing. Offense occurred between 6:00 pm on Sun. 9/13 & 3:00 pm on Wed. 9/16.

**Stolen Vehicle – Lone Oak:**

Thief stole 1997 Honda Accord. It was later recovered in Mesquite. Offense occurred between 11:00 pm on Fri. 9/4 &

9:00 am on Sat. 9/5.

**Stolen Vehicle – Hearthside:**

Thief stole 1986 GMC Suburban. This vehicle was later recovered. Offense occurred on Thurs. 9/24 between 1:00 am & 7:45 am.

**Stolen Vehicle – Ridge Oak Ct.:**

Thief stole 1989 Chevrolet pick-up, brief case and cell phone. This vehicle was later recovered in Dallas. Offense occurred between 10:00 pm on Wed. 9/30 & 3:00 am on Thurs. 10/1.

**Criminal Mischief – Rocky Trail:**

No data available at time of printing. Offense occurred between 12:00 Noon on Wed. 9/16 & 7:30 pm on Sat. 9/19.

**Criminal Mischief – Big Oaks:**

This offense is in conjunction with the three juveniles that were arrested for the habitation burglary. These were damages done to the house after entry. Offense occurred on Sun. 9/20 at 11:45 am.

The crime statistics increased by 2 offenses from the previous month of August which reported 9 offenses. The two related offenses that occurred on Big Oaks were juveniles who are Oakridge residents. This house was for sale and vacant. This happened within a week of closing on the house and the owner had to make all the repairs quickly to be able to finalize the sale of the house. The damages incurred by these juveniles was extremely expensive. Remember the holidays are approaching which means we need to take special precautions with our home and while we are out shopping. During the next few months we will be featuring some safety tips from a young man who lives here in Oakridge. We hope these tips will be helpful to all us.



Safety Tips – 1<sup>st</sup> in a Series:

*Josh Criswell*

This feature is being provided by Josh Criswell, who is working towards his Eagle Scout rank. He represents Boy Scout Troop 437 and is providing these safety tips for his community to earn his Safety Merit Badge. Josh lives here in Oakridge with his parents and sisters.

1. Do you keep a list of all valuable property with a duplicate list kept in a safe place away from the house, such as a bank deposit box? This is helpful in case of a fire and will be necessary for insurance claims.
2. Do you have a list of your credit cards and serial numbers of valuable property?
3. Do you have a description and photo of any valuable property that doesn't have a serial number, such as antiques or collectibles?
4. Do you avoid unnecessary displays of, or publicity about, your valuables?
5. Do you keep excess cash or other valuables in the bank?
6. Do you hide a house key under your doormat? This is the first place a burglar would look.
7. Do your family members know what to do if your house has been broken into?
8. Do your family members know to leave everything undisturbed until the police have checked your house for evidence?
9. Are your trees and shrubs trimmed to eliminate hiding places?
10. Have you made it difficult for burglars to reach an upper floor by eliminating trellises, drainpipes or ladders?
11. Is the outside of your home well lit?
12. Is your house number easily visible from the street and alley at any hour?
13. Do you have emergency telephone numbers listed by your phone?
14. Do you use good telephone security procedures?

We hope these questions will be helpful in making your home a safer place. Sometimes we have good intentions to take care of these things but usually find ourselves putting it off to do another day. Some of these safety tips can be taken care of easily during a weekend. We just need to make it a priority.

WELCOME WAGON

*Luanne Payne*

The District Directors were able to welcome a few new residents into Oakridge this past month. If you know of a new neighbor that we have overlooked, please call and let us know the address so we can welcome them. You may call the ONA Hotline at 214-967-5136 or call Luanne Payne at 972-530-9323.

<u>District 3:</u>	Hearthside	Katherine Yurch
	Hearthside	Whit Sloane & Duane Ransdell
	Peakwood	Gigi Jacks

<u>District 4:</u>	Oak Point	Randy & Mary Jo Leonard (Joined ONA)
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Last month we welcomed Donna Visneau on Richland Dr., in District 6, and we incorrectly misspelled her last name. The above spelling is correct. She also joined the ONA.

MEMBERSHIP NEWS:

*Mary Musseman*

It's October 15th and we're finally into some cooler weather. Our total membership is 425 members. Thanks to all who sent in their checks. We appreciate your continued support.

NAME TAGS FOR PETS:

*Mary Musseman*

For all you pet owners, I wanted to make you aware of a machine at Wal-Mart that makes name tags for \$4.00 - \$6.00 depending on the size of the tag. It's located across from the return counter. It takes only a few minutes and what a small investment of time and money it is compared to the loss of our pets.

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**HOURS**  
Mon/Tues/Wed/Fri/Sat  
10am - 6pm  
Thurs 10am - 8pm

**TAKE TIME  
TO TRAVEL**

## Article 1 -- About Nelson

My name is Nelson Prater, and I am your District Director if you live in District 7. District 7 includes Stoneridge, Richland, etc. I live at 2617 Richland Drive. My family consists of my wife Kelly, my son John (13), my daughter Katie (9), and our dog Molly (4). We have been residents of Oakridge for almost a year -- since December 1997.

We were drawn to Oakridge because it was well-established (none of the constant construction other neighborhoods endure), it was quiet, large trees were abundant, and the homes were well-maintained. The top-notch golf course didn't hurt, either!

And, the landscaped entrances to Oakridge were beautiful -- they really had a nice feel about them. Those entrances don't get that way, however, by accident. You take care of those entrances by supporting your Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA).

I ask that you please do these two things for our neighborhood, and for those of us who live in District 7:

- 1) Talk with your neighbors and let them know how much we need their support in the ONA. We need everyone's support in the ONA -- both financial and physical.
- 2) Slow down when you drive through District 7. Our district has a lot of long, straight streets. Our district has a lot of cars parked on the street. Our district has a lot of kids. That's a combination for disaster! Please slow down. Let's not wait until someone gets seriously hurt to take action.

If you have any questions about the ONA, or if you want to help me put up holiday decorations this year, or if you need a new member application form for that neighbor you have convinced to join the ONA, please give me a call at 972-495-7769.

See you around the neighborhood.

## Article 2 -- What Were You Doing at 1:00 AM?

What were you doing at 1:00 AM, Sunday morning, a couple of weeks ago? We had been asleep -- until that man in the van pulled up in front of my neighbor's house and fired up a loud on-board engine.

At 11:30, when our neighbor got home from a birthday party, she had two inches of water in the kitchen and dining room, four inches of water in the sunken living room. The hot water hose on her washing machine had burst while she was away. She didn't remember the last time she checked the hoses on her washing machine -- she was almost sure her son put new ones on it, though, when she moved in 12 years ago.

When was the last time you CHANGED -- not checked -- CHANGED your washing machine hoses? If it has been longer than five years, stop reading this right now and run turn the water off to your washing machine!

There are some nifty stainless steel washing machine hoses available now that are almost burst-proof -- they'll last ten years or more. Home Depot has them -- that's where I bought mine, as soon as Home Depot opened that infamous Sunday morning.

If you can't install the hoses yourself, give me a call at 495-7769, and I'll come over and install them for you. No charge -- call it an ONA service.

If you don't act now, your neighbors may be telling a story similar to mine, asking their friends and family, "What were you doing at 1:00 AM?"

## OAKRIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Libby Morse

### At the Last Meeting

We met at Emma McDonald's. Thanks for your hospitality! We discussed the Children's activities for the upcoming year. Keep an eye in the newsletter for all the fun activities throughout the year.

### Halloween Event



This month's children's activity is our Halloween event. We will be going to "Boo at the Zoo". Everyone had a great time last year! The date is Saturday Oct. 24<sup>th</sup>. We will meet at The Dart light rail station at Park Lane in Dallas at 1:30 p.m. Get your costumes and come join us! "Boo at the Zoo" promotes a fun and safe Halloween for kids. It includes carnival games, trick or treating, and a chance to see all the animals at the Dallas Zoo. It is \$6.00 for adults and \$3.00 for kids over 3 years old. For questions call Chetna Naik at 530-9362

### Next Month:

The next meeting will be held Tuesday November 13<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m. We will meet at Sheila Wang's house. She lives at 2201 Rolling Oak. Call her at 496-3161 for more information. We will start planning the Christmas parties!

### About the OWA

Come and join us at the Oakridge Women's Club. We meet the first Tuesday of each month! It is a great way to get to know your neighbors, their families and have fun! Outings are scheduled with a variety of interests in mind. We have holiday parties for the kids, nights out for the girls, and couple only activities! Please join us! Our dues are only \$15 per year! Just call Mary Anne Cullum at 495-9312 for information.

**HAPPY 40<sup>TH</sup> SHARRON!!!**

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

Crocheted Names  
Suitable for Framing  
Also  
Crocheted Angels,  
Bells, Snowflakes, & Doileys  
Call Norene Murphy  
972-530-6669

## OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS

Roberta Jones

Our new neighborhood social group is definitely off and running and has even gotten some of us off and walking! There is one "walkers" group that has been organized and you are most welcome to join the pack! The group starts at Diamond Oaks and Moss Trail at 7:15 AM (M-W-F). For more detailed info, just call the group's coordinator Barbara Brunette at 972-530-4288.

Another activity which has peaked a lot of interest is the bridge group. Jane Buchanan can place you with ladies who play at your level whether you are a beginner or an advanced player if you give her a call at 972-530-4762.

There are more groups in the planning stages--crafts, book club, out-to-lunch, etc. As our numbers increase, and volunteers step into leadership roles, we will be providing more fun opportunities for our neighbors to get together. Our next event is a "THANKSGIVING SHOW & TELL" Coffee at the home of Diane Winter at 2805 Oak Springs Drive on Tuesday, November 10<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. No need to RSVP; just come and bring a special Thanksgiving memory, story, recipe or decoration to share with the group or just come with a heart to listen. Adults can have "Show & Tell" times too!

Won't you come and be a part of this exciting new club and meet more of these women living in the 1,180 homes in our great neighborhood of Oakridge? Any questions or if you would like to join, just call me at 972-414-7277 or drop off your check for dues (\$12.00) at 2601 Oak Point Drive.

In Fun and Friendship.....Roberta Jones

P.S. Mark your calendar for a "Christmas Cookie Tasting" Coffee on Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 AM. Look for the announcement in the next issue of the newsletter.

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Laurel Oaks @ Beltline Entrance:

This notice is to inform residents who may require any delivery services that could be made at this entrance. There is a very large NO TRUCKS sign posted at this entrance. We have had several problems with these large trucks using this entrance. They have damaged the posts and the decorative bricks in the median several times. The ONA has replaced these bricks and posts numerous times and it has become very costly. Fortunately two of the trucks have been identified and reports with costs have been turned in to their companies. But unfortunately we have not been reimbursed as of this date. If you have any future deliveries to be made, please inform these companies that they need to enter from one of the other major entrances, such as, Ridge Oak @ Jupiter, Diamond Oaks @ Buckingham or Big Oaks @ Shiloh. We

DIAL THE CODE!!!

Effective December 5, 1998, ALL local calls in the "972" and "214" area codes will require dialing all 10-digits (area code + 7 digit phone number). You also must dial 10-digits for local calls within the same area code. In other words, beginning December 5<sup>th</sup>, everyone will have a 10-digit phone number regardless who or where you are dialing in the metroplex. That means even your neighbor here in Oakridge. So you may want to start practicing this change so you can get use to it by December 5<sup>th</sup>. After that date, if you do not dial all 10-digits, you will get a busy signal. Make sure you give all 10-digits when you give your phone number out to businesses or friends. Remember, MANDATORY

Volunteer Help for ONA Holiday Decorations

If you would like to help participate in decorating your neighborhood, the ONA has scheduled the last weekend of November (28<sup>th</sup> & 29<sup>th</sup>) to put out our holiday decorations. As always, we can use any help you can give, one hour or two. The entryways go pretty fast but it is all the stop signs now that are so time consuming. We wrap them with garland and top them off with a bow and we try to decorate every stop sign in Oakridge. So if you could help out by adopting a stop sign on your street we will bring you the decorations. Any help you can give is greatly appreciated. Please call the ONA Hotline at 214-967-5136 or Luanne Payne at 972-530-9323.Thanks!

1999 Entertainment Passbooks

The Passbooks are going fast since you can begin using them as soon as you purchase one. Also last year's book does not expire until December 1, 1998. Remember these books make great presents for anyone who enjoys getting a bargain. The books are \$30 and the ONA earns \$6 from each sale. If you would like to purchase a book, call Luanne Payne at 972-530-9323 and I will deliver one to you.

**Home  
Maintenance  
by Steve Brandt**

- Carpentry
- Sheetrock Repair
- Acoustical Ceilings
- Plumbing
- Replace Shower Pans
- Fence Repair
- Marble Ceramic Tile-Walls & Floors
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- Carpet & Sheet Vinyl
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References

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police & Fire Emergencies	911
Police Non-Emergencies	972-205-2150
Lone Star Gas	1-800-817-8090
Sanitation	972-205-3420
Environmental Code	972-205-3374
Animal Control	972-205-3570
Poison Center	1-800-764-7661
Street Light Repair	972-205-3483
Electricity Emergency	972-205-3000
Water & Sewer	972-205-3210
Councilman, Lowell Hyatt	972-495-9394
Chris Tannock, NPO	972-205-2740
ONA Hotline	214 -967-5136

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Election Day - Tuesday, November 3rd

Early Voting at:

Garland City Hall - 200 N. 5th Street

October 24th - 7:00 a.m.-7:00 p.m.

October 25th - 1:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.

October 26th-30th - 7:00 a.m-7:00 p.m.

FYI...

Call before you dig! If you are planning on digging in your yard, you are now required to use a special tool; "the telephone". A new state law requires anyone digging or excavating with a machine powered equipment to a depth of more than 16", to call the Texas One-Call Notification Center two days before digging begins. The center will notify all appropriate personnel to mark the locations of underground lines, pipes and other facilities. This law went into effect October 1, 1998. The number to call to report planned digging is 1-800-344-8377.

LC 358



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