

# Oakridge News

Vol. 8, No. 7

A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

January 2000

## President's Corner - Mike Rose

We had the first annual Christmas decoration contest for the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. It was a success. Thanks to all homeowners who made the effort to make our neighborhood festive. Some verbal comments from the judges expressed this fact. Maybe next year more of our blocks could get together and do a unified decoration much like the folks on Rocky Trail and Lone Oak Trail. This was one comment repeatedly communicated by the judges. Upon hearing their other comments we may be assured that these officials are aware of our community and its impact on the city of Garland. Winners of this years contest are listed on back page. Our thanks to all who participated!

We are about to embark on a project that will further emphasize O.N.A.'s influence in the city. At our next Board meeting people from the city involved in "Benchmarking" will discuss the process and the need for members of our association to take an active part in the process. These same employees will be at our General Meeting. See the notice below for the date and time of this meeting.

Do you know if your neighbor is a member of O.N.A. ? Why not ask them. We must increase the number of homes that are members in order to cause our community to be a stronger and more viable entity. This effort, to increase our membership, should be the responsibility of all of us. Are you helping to further strengthen the Oakridge Neighborhood Association ?

We hope to see you at the General Membership meeting.

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

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Secretary	Fern Cook
Treasurer	JoAnn Schmerheim

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District 4	Bill Johnson
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District 6	Nelson Prater
District 7	

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	Fern Cook
Newsletter	Jackie Griffin
	Luanne Payne
Environmental	Cy Farver
Architectural	Peggy Richey
Crime Prevention	Luanne Payne
Citizens on Patrol	Bill Johnson
Homeowners Coal.	Mike Rose
Welcome Wagon	Luanne Payne



## OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

**General Membership Meeting**

**Thursday, January 27, 2000**

**Social Hour: 6:30p.m.**

**Meeting: 7:30p.m.**

**Program - "Benchmarking Oakridge" - Speaker Becky Beck**

**Invited Guests: Jan Dolph, Community Services Manager  
Honorable Council Lowell Hyatt, District 7**



## Oakridge Women's Club

Libby Morse

Happy New Year 2000!



**Last Month:** We had a great holiday season! The Children's Christmas party was wonderful! Santa brought gifts to all the good little girls and boys of the OWC. (Thank you Emma for hosting!) The Adults night out at Benihana was fun!

In January we met at "A Taste of Italy". We discussed the upcoming progressive dinner and the babysitter recruitment night in February.

### ATTENTION ALL BABYSITTERS!

The Oakridge Women's club annual "Meet the babysitter night" is just around the corner!! All interested baby-sitters and their moms are invited to attend. You'll fill out a questionnaire (including names and phone numbers of references), meet our members, and help yourself to refreshments! We have great door prizes! If you are interested in expanding your baby-sitting business, Mark your calendar:

Tuesday February 1<sup>st</sup> 2000, at the home of Libby Morse (2822 Grand Oak Drive) at 7:00 p.m. If you have any questions, Please call Libby at 972-495-9034.

If you can not make this meeting but would like to be added to our baby-sitting packet call Libby to give your information.

**Next Month:** February is also the month of our Progressive Dinner! This is a great way to meet the spouses and see some houses! It is Saturday February 19<sup>th</sup>. We will begin with refreshments and appetizers at Wendy's house at 6pm. The cost is \$5.00 each. (Please bring to the Feb. 1<sup>st</sup> meeting). RSVP with Sharron by Feb. 8<sup>th</sup> at 972-530-3873. She also has the sign-up list for the food and beverages. Thank you Wendy, Diane and Ann for the use of your houses!

**Member News:** We had a visitor Lianne Merger. Welcome to Oakridge!

If you are interested in joining the Oakridge Womens Club please call Kay Steelman at 972-495-4879

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### 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

The possibilities are endless  
(and the prices are reasonable)

- Pet/House Sitting
- Errands
- Taking kids to soccer, ortho, Etc.
- Shopping
- Grocery Shopping (Especially for Home Bound Seniors)
- Etc., Etc.

### LET SUE DO IT

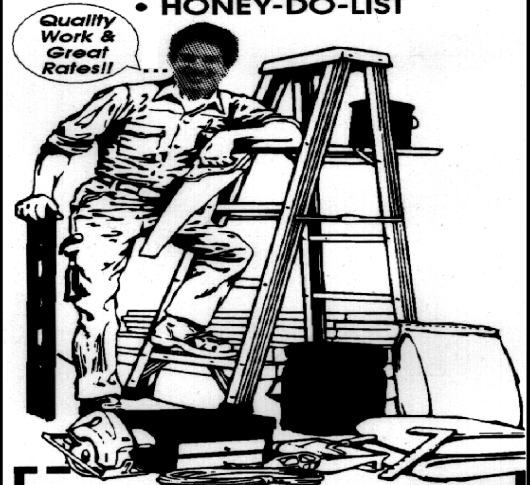
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Valentines' Day is just around the corner!

*Jessica Acosta*

Mary Kay Independent Sales Manager

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### NEIGHBORHOOD VITALITY

*Mayor Jim Spence*

What is meant by "NEIGHBORHOOD VITALITY"? This phrase could have several different meanings. In Garland that is certainly true. For the older parts of Garland it could have quite a different meaning than in the newer sections of our City.

In the older parts of Garland it means trying to do things in these neighborhoods to slow down or stop the decline or decay and deterioration of these areas. As neighborhoods get older they sometimes tend to start to look bad, properties have a rundown appearance, etc.

How do you stop this problem ? In Garland, our Neighborhood Vitality programs address things with the citizens such as keeping your lawn mowed, maintaining your alleyway, keeping fences in good repair, keeping your house painted, etc. In general, just maintaining your property properly. This applies to both homeowners and rental property owners. One of the most important things is have a sense of pride in not only your property but in the entire neighborhood in which you live and to encourage your neighbor to do the same.

How does the City Of Garland help out? By having programs that help citizens attain these goals. A few examples are: furnishing paint or building materials and having volunteers to furnish the labor in some cases to paint the house or make minor repairs. Providing low cost or forgivable loans to those whose property need major repairs. Having a program to build new single family housing for those who qualify and move them from being a rental property tenant to a homeowner. For people who are no longer physically able to mow their lawns, there is a program to provide this service to them. The City can also install new streets and sidewalks where needed, contributing to a better general appearance of the area.

A lot of the older areas of Garland do not have the benefit of having a Homeowners Association and the benefits that go

with being a member of such an organization. This makes it much harder to preserve the vitality of a neighborhood. I live in a neighborhood that was built mostly in the early 1950's. It has been a very stable area for many years but a Homeowner's Association was never established. In the last few years some of the properties are beginning to change ownership. Some of it is becoming rental property. The residents of my area need to be vigilant in maintaining their properties or this area could begin to slide into decay. Just because a neighborhood is getting old doesn't necessarily mean that it should automatically start to look rundown. With proper neighborhood participation and involvement, this can be avoided.

Neighborhoods with established Homeowners Associations have the tools in place to prevent decay from ever happening. They have an established set of rules for the property owners to go by, they have a high sense of pride in maintaining their property and of keeping their whole neighborhood looking great. Neighborhood Associations can play a vital part in preserving the well being of an area, but it still takes the willingness and participation of each citizen to make it work.

### **CLASSIFIED ADS**

**Crocheted Names  
Suitable for Framing**

**Also**

**Crocheted Angels,  
Bells, Snowflakes, & Doileys**

**Call Norene Murphy  
972-530-6669**

### **PATIO DECKS**

**RELIABLE / FREE ESTIMATES**

**BOB MUSSEMAN**

**972- 495-6754**

**Information from Councilman Lowell Hyatt**

**Fire and Police Calls for Service:**

I thought the following information relating to calls for service during New Year's Eve and New Year's Day would be of interest to the readers of this newsletter. The information was included in a memorandum from the Emergency Management Coordinator to the City Manager.

**Fire Department call for service;**

December 31 7pm -12am 1999 48 calls - 1998 23 calls  
January 1 12am - 7am 2000 20 calls - 1999 22 calls  
January 1 7am - 12am 2000 36 calls - 1999 23 calls

**Police Department calls for service/ or Officer initiated ( all available police officers were on duty )**

December 31 7pm - 12am 1999 171 calls -1998 133 calls  
January 1 12am - 7am 2000 237 calls -1999 187 calls  
January 1 7am - 12am 2000 369 calls -1999 293 calls

The overall impression from police was that activity was much less for this year than last year. The numeric increase may have been a result of an increase in officer initiated activity since every available police officer was on duty. Dispatchers reported fewer calls/requests for service from the community.

**Excellence Awards Luncheon**

The Garland Health Department held its annual Food Sanitation Awards luncheon on December 17<sup>th</sup>. Awards were given to 41 establishments. Four of the establishments are located in that portion of Garland bounded by Beltline, Jupiter, Campbell Road and Garland Avenue. The Firewheel Golf Park and 19<sup>th</sup> Hole at Firewheel also received awards.

The names of the four establishments are David's Meat Market ( 4010 N.Jupiter ); Bleachers Sports Grill ( 3402 Arapaho ) Wonder/Hostess Outlet ( 1821 Beltline ) and Whistle Stop Station ( 1966 Arapaho ). Bleachers Sports Grill and Wonder/Hostess Outlet are two time winners, Whistle Stop Station is a three time winner and David's Meat Market is an eight time winner. I do not know the number of times the two establishments at Firewheel have received awards.



David's Meat Market has the distinction of being the only food establishment in Garland to have received an award each year awards have been given. It competes in the Supermarkets & Meat Markets classification and competes with the other 29 establishments that classification. That classification is one of the nine classifications in which the 703 food establishments in Garland are divided.

The number of inspections conducted by the Health Department at each establishment at each establishment each year ranges from one to four and is based on the food served and past compliance history of that establishment. An award is given to each of the food establishments with an average inspection score that year which falls within the top 5% of the scores in that establishment's classification.

Receiving an award from the Garland Health Department is quite an accomplishment. That Department has a reputation for conducting tough inspections. It also has a reputation for always being fair and consistent.



**MEMBERSHIP**

*Mary Musseman*

As of January 14, our membership is at 424 members. It's still hard for me to believe it's the year 2000. Let's make a New Year's resolution to meet a neighbor we've only waved to in the past. Since we've had such warm weather lately I see so many friendly faces out walking. If they're not O.N.A. members already, I will gladly drop off the info for them to join. All I need is their address. You can reach me at 972-414-1098. Thanks for all your help. **HAPPY NEW YEAR!!!**

## OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS 2000

by Dianne Winter



HAPPY NEW YEAR wishes were bestowed on members attending the lively January 11<sup>th</sup> Oakridge Daytimers Meeting held at the home of Mary Musseman. We had enjoyed each other's company in December at the beautifully decorated home of Jo Dietz where we revealed Secret Pals. This month there was quite a buzz as we greeted many guests, enjoyed refreshments and collected \$12 dues for the coming year. Trudy Schmidt was the winner of the door prize. We send birthday wishes to our celebrants and get well thoughts to all those who have suffered illness including our president, Roberta Jones.

We added Chick Flicks to the array of interests our group participates in. Following is a list of leadership for 2000 and the current activities and /or contact person for the group.

**PRESIDENT:** Roberta Jones 972-414-7277

**1<sup>ST</sup> V. P.:** JoAnn Williams 972 530-2938

**2<sup>ND</sup> V. P.:** Dianne Winter 972-530-6210

**TREASURER:** Mary Pattie 972-496-6486

**HOSPITALITY:** Jo Dietz 972-530-8308

### **BRIDGE:**

*Beginners on Mondays -*

Jane Buchanan 972-530-4762

*Interm.: 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Wed.—*

JoAnn Williams 972-530-2938

**BOOK CLUB 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday:**

JoAnn Williams 972-530-2938

January 21<sup>st</sup>

Home of: Jo Dietz, 2906 Oak Point -10am

February 18<sup>th</sup>,

Home of: Sarah Traylor, 3222 Bending Oaks-10am

### **CHICK FLICKS:**

Martha Boyette 972-414-9875

**CRAFTS: 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday**

Norene Murphy- 972-530-6669

January 18<sup>th</sup> -10am, 2830 Stoneridge

**SUNSHINE:** Gail Durbin 972-495-6045

**SECRET PAL:** Brenda Britton 972-495-6722

### **COMMUNITY LIAISON:**

Luanne Payne 972-530-9323

**WALKERS:** Barbara Brunette 972-530-4288

## **OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH:**

January 25<sup>th</sup>,

Mary Pattie-Reservations 972-496-6486

Swan Court 11:30

February 23<sup>rd</sup>,

Barbara Brunette- Reservations 972-530-4288  
Sweet Temptations

Next month come and meet with neighbors for **FRIENDSHIP** and **FUN** at our **COFFEE** at the home of Gail Durbin, 3322 Greenview at 10 am on FEBRUARY 8. See you there with your neighbor.

## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police & Fire Emergencies	911
Police Non-Emergencies	972-205-2150
Lone Star Gas	1-800-817-8090
Sanitation	972-205-3500
Environmental Code	972-205-3800
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
Off. Stephanie Webb, NPO	972-205-2740
ONA Hotline	214 -967-5136

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## The Month After Christmas

Twas the month after Christmas, and all through the house  
Nothing would fit me, not even a blouse.  
The cookies I'd nibbled, the eggnog I'd taste  
At the holiday parties had gone to my waist.  
When I got on the scales there arose such a number!  
When I walked to the store (less a walk than a lumber).  
I'd remember the marvelous meals I'd prepared;  
The gravies and sauces and beef nicely rared,  
The wine and the rum balls, the bread and the cheese  
And the way I'd never said, "No thank you, please."  
As I dressed myself in my husband's old shirt  
And prepared once again to do battle with dirt--  
I said to myself, as only I can  
"You can't spend a winter disguised as a man!"  
So—away with the last of the sour cream dip,  
Get rid of the fruit cake, every cracker and chip  
Every last bit of food that I like must be banished  
Till all the additional ounces have vanished.  
I won't have a cookie—not even a lick.  
I'll want only to chew on a long celery stick.  
I won't have hot biscuits, or corn bread or pie,  
I'll munch on a carrot and quietly cry.  
I'm hungry, I'm lonesome, and life is a bore---  
But isn't that what January is for?  
Unable to giggle, no longer a riot.  
Happy New Year to all and to all a good diet!

## THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

*Luanne Payne*

Once again, I would like to thank all the families that baked items or donated money for the 2 dinners that were delivered to Fire Stations No. 3 and No. 6 on Christmas morning. The firemen at both stations truly appreciate everything we bring and especially all the thought that was sent with it. I would like to say thank you to these individual families:

Albertson's (Richard Moseley)  
Oakridge Country Club (Joe Don Davis)  
Mr. & Mrs. Terry Blair  
Mr. & Mrs. Williams Edwards  
Mr. & Mrs. Kevin Gingerich  
Ms. Sue Hageland & family  
Ms. Amy Jahnel  
Mr. & Mrs. Gary Klembara  
Mr. & Mrs. Lowell McNally  
Mrs. Marcus Meurer  
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Miles  
Mr. & Mrs. Darrell Morrison  
Mr. & Mrs. Bob Musseman, Jr.  
Mr. & Mrs. William Olive  
Mr. & Mrs. Vance Payne

Next, thank you to all those who supported the ONA by purchasing the 2000 Entertainment Book. I hope you enjoy all the savings you will get and look forward to buying the 2001 book next fall.

## TAKE TIME TO TRAVEL

### Clean Sweep

Residential cleaning - No job too big or too small

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Polly Pickard

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Garland, TX, 75044

Phone: 972-414-6936

Mobile: 972-740-4415

email: rgnash@gateway.net

## A Crime Watch Experience

by Bill Johnson

Recently a home across the street from me on Rolling Oak was broken into. It was entered through a garage door that was in poor condition and easily breached. Apparently a neighbor across the alley alertly noticed the illegal entry and scared the burglars off before anything was taken. The Police conducted an investigation, but I am unaware of their results.

The reason I mention this is because I believe I actually saw the burglars. The illegal entry occurred about 8:00 am on a school morning. As I glanced out my kitchen window around 8:20, I saw three people walking across the front yard of a house facing mine. My impression at the time was that they were teens of high school age, and I wondered why they weren't already in school. When they turned to go between two houses, I still wasn't concerned since kids often cut between houses in our area. But, when they reached the alley they behaved rather oddly. One crouched down alongside a fence and peered down the alley to the left. One hung back from the alley. The third one went to the right behind the house. Then they were gone.

Their behavior should have triggered my alarms but, sad to say, I didn't follow up. Later when a police cruiser passed my house and then went up the alley on the other side, I berated myself for not reporting the odd behavior I had seen. Later, I did flag down a Police investigator and

briefed her on what I had seen. But, I felt badly about not acting earlier, given what I had seen.

Later that same day I noticed another house on my alley had its garage door left open. I tried to contact someone at the house to no avail, and reported this situation to the Police. They came by, checked it out, found no problem, and closed the door.

I encourage all our residents to be alert to behavior that is out of the 'ordinary'. Better to be safe than sorry. If you see something that doesn't look right, please call the Police dispatch number (972-205-2150). They will investigate.

### CRIME STATISTICS FOR NOV. & DEC. 1999:

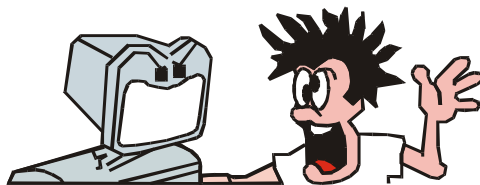
*Luanne Payne*

Due to computer program changes, the police department has been unable to furnish the Crime Watch areas with our monthly crime statistic reports. They are working on the program and hope to have the reports by next month. Until then, the only reports I am able to furnish you with for the Oakridge area, are from the newspaper. Therefore, there was only one report available to print.

### Habitation Burglary – Rolling Oaks:

Thief stole three computers from residence. Offense occurred on Mon. 12/13 between 8:10 a.m. & 8:55 a.m.

# Trouble with your PC?



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**THE WINNERS ARE....**

First of all—a big thank you to everyone who decorated their houses and as a result, participated in the First Annual Christmas Decorations Contest. The neighborhood looked festive!

Also a special thanks for our judges—Mayor Spence, Councilman Hyatt, and Chamber President Mayer.

**Now for the winners:**

**Mayor's Prize—**

**Mr. & Mrs. Harold Whittington**  
2605 Oak Point Drive

**2nd Prize -**

**Mr. & Mrs. Martin Cross**  
2813 Oak Springs Drive

**3rd Prize -**

**Mr. & Mrs. Larry Grisham**  
2705 Oak Point Drive

**Congratulations!**



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