
◊ Oakridge News ◊

Vol. 9, No. 5

A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

October 2000

Observations by - Mike Rose

The ONA Board made a donation, on behalf of the entire association, to the Susan G. Kohmen Foundation in the name of long time ONA member Bertie Lee Cunningham. We thought the general membership would like to be made aware of this gesture.

Fall is finally here and we all are happy that the extreme heat is gone. Fall and Winter are times when we tend to hibernate in our homes. We all should make an extra effort to continue to "talk over the fence" with our neighbors. As good neighbors, we should be alert to strange happenings going on in and around our homes. If we hibernate, how are we able to be attentive to potential problems developing in our community?

The Board would like to thank those who attended the past general membership meeting. The presentations made by the two speakers were very informative and helpful. Has anyone contacted their insurance agent? Would anyone like to be the point person in their immediate area (street) to spearhead the development and implementation of speed humps?

Please see the article on this page regarding the "benchmarking process" in which the entire Oakridge community has participated. The **November 30th** general membership meeting should be equally informative. Mark your calendar.

The ONA Environmental Committee will be coordinating the installation of new seasonal color in the Oakridge community. See additional articles in the newsletter regarding same. We all like the way this color improves the beauty of Oakridge.

The ONA Board would like to offer its' thanks to the webmaster for the way he continues to improve our web site.

(Continued on page 11)

Oakridge Neighborhood Survey Update

By: Rebecca Beck
ODT Project Manager,
City of Garland

As part of its Neighborhood Benchmarking Program, the City of Garland recently conducted a neighborhood opinion survey of the Oakridge area. As the result of a partnership between the City and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, every household in Oakridge was mailed a survey during the first week of September. The survey included questions related to the appearance, infrastructure, nuisances, and other issues directly related to the neighborhood. The survey also included questions for developing a needs assessment profile, as well as questions about participation in the Oakridge Neighborhood Association.

Survey participants were requested to return their surveys by September 22nd. As of October 10th, 571 surveys, or 50%, have been returned. This is considered a very good response rate for a mail survey.

We are currently in the process of entering the results from the returned surveys into a database for analysis. Surveys that are received during this processing time will still be accepted and included in the survey results. Surveys received after the final report is generated will not be included.

Once the survey results are compiled, a full copy of the report will be provided to the ONA Board and the City's Office of Community Coordination for follow-up. In addition, I will be presenting the results at the November 30th ONA meeting.



Happy Halloween!!

Drive Safely and Keep a Lookout for Ghosts & Goblins!!

The Fall Landscape

Cy Farver

This is the time of year when we help our plants prepare for the colder months ahead, as well insure they are full of vim and vigor during next springs growing season.

Things to do now:

Remove dead stalks and seed heads from your perennials.

Divide your spring perennials that have become crowded. (Start new beds or give the extra tubers away.)

Plant mums for fall color.

Plant pansies, dianthus, and snap dragons for some winter color and a big splash of color in the spring.

Spray your roses with a fungicide every week to eliminate black spot and mildew. These warm days and cool nights are perfect for the fungus to spread.

In the next few weeks:

Prune the dead and damaged limbs from your trees and shrubs.

Plant container grown trees and shrubs. This will allow their root structure to spread and become more established. (The better to survive next summers heat spell.)

Remember, your grass, trees and shrubs require water all year. They just don't need as much as they did during those 100 plus degree days. As the nights cool off, start your watering a little later in the morning. This will help discourage the growth of fungus on your shrubs as well as your roses.

The environmental committee needs your donations to help off set the cost of flowers at the entrances with sprinkler systems. Your check can be mailed to the ONA's P.O.Box with the notation that it is for flowers.

All of us will appreciate your contribution.

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 Funk, NPO	972-205-2740
ONA information Line	214 -967-5136

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

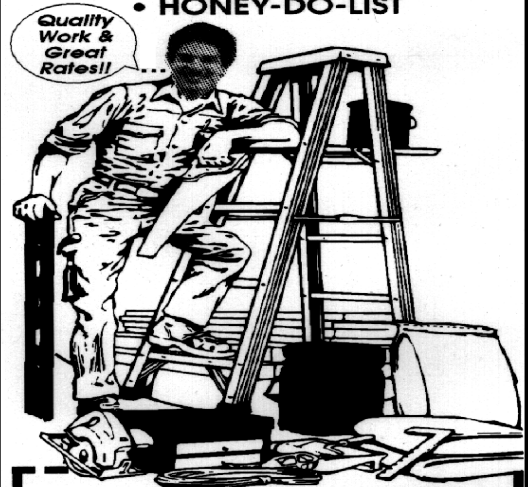
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Neighborhood Crime Activity

Bill Johnson

At the Sep Crime Watch meeting, Police reported the following:

Crime activity for District 12 (covering the period from Jul 17 to Aug 31) lists 57 items. Forty-five of these were in Beat 7, of which nine were in Oakridge:

8/11/00	11:30am	2700-block Laurel Oaks	Habitation burglary
8/11/00	3:30pm	3200-block Ridge Oak	Habitation burglary
8/29/00	4:26pm	2900-block Laurel Oaks	Habitation burglary
7/22/00	4:00pm	2900-block Big Oaks	Habitation burglary
7/22/00	1:00pm	2700-block Big Oaks	Habitation burglary
8/06/00	4:30pm	2800-block Winding Oak	Habitation burglary
8/24/00	9:00pm	2800-block Oak Point	Criminal mischief
8/20/00	10:15am	2500-block Golden Oaks	Criminal mischief
8/18/00	10:30pm	2100-block Diamond Oaks	Unauthorized use of car

The twelve items in Beat 8 (east of Shiloh) included vehicle burglary (6), criminal mischief (3), building burglary (1), and unauthorized use of a motor vehicle (2).

This report reflects increased Oakridge crime activity as compared to the prior few months. Whether the increase is real or reflects improved reporting is not clear. The system recently installed by the Police to monitor crime activity is still evolving.

Thanks to Luanne Payne for attending the Sep Crime Watch meeting in my place.

A Citizens On Patrol (C.O.P.) training class was held by the Police on Sep 30. Thanks to seven Oakridge members attending in anticipation of joining in with our patrol activity:

Robert Bianchi
Fern Cook
Jim Griffin
Marge Johnson
Bill Olive
Brenda Olive
Betty Sloane

Do you keep your car registration, proof of insurance, and garage door remote in your car? The Police ask that you reconsider doing this. If the car were stolen, thieves are provided with more information than we would like, and possible access to your house.

A new Garland City ordinance requires all residents with rear-entry garages to place their house number in a manner visible from the alley (2-3 inch numerals).

Should anyone need to contact our Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO), Officer Stephanie Funk can be reached at (972) 205-2740, or at skfunk480@hotmail.com.



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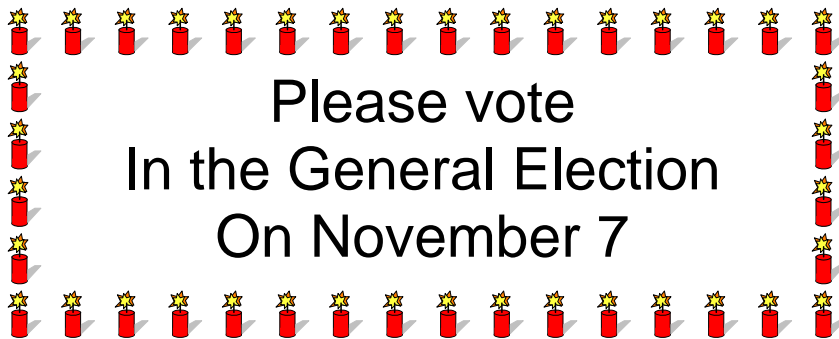
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Prepare Your Lawn for the Winter

Cy Farver,

Wow! The weather has done an about face and really cooled off in a hurry. It makes you think about the even colder weather ahead and what should be done now to have a better lawn next year.

Dr. James McAfee writes about this topic in this month's Neil Sperry's Gardens magazine. Dr. McAfee states fall is one of the most important times of the year for your lawn even though it takes less of your time. It is still necessary to fertilize, water and control weeds, insects and diseases. He recommends the following:

A. Add fertilizer now. Most of your past applications will have been used by the plants for the leafy green we have to mow. This application will be used by the plant for its roots and to store food for the spring. Thus getting you off to a better start with deeper roots for more moisture.

B. Reduce your watering schedule but maintain a system applying about an inch of water per week. This would include any rainfall amounts. Don't overwater, because too much will encourage the development of lawn diseases. Avoid watering in the late afternoon or evening, because the moisture will stay on the leaves again abetting the disease situation.

C. Keep mowing! As the grass growth slows down, your frequency can slow down as well. But always mow in time to keep your cuts at under 30% of the leaf height. It is not a good time to scalp your lawn but you can reduce the height of your grass to encourage a denser stand of grass next spring. Watch your timing because as we get close to the end of the growing season, you will want to let the grass grow a little higher for the winter dormant season.



PLEASE VOTE

NOVEMBER

7th

7:00 AM to 7:00 PM

**Just remember—if you don't
exercise your right to vote, you
forfeit your right to complain
about the next president!**

Oakridge Neighborhood Association

P.O Box 450145
Garland, Texas 75045

DISTRICT 1 :

10 STREETS

RIDGE OAK DRIVE	GREENVIEW DRIVE
RIDGE OAK PLACE	GREENVIEW CIRCLE
RIDGE OAK COURT	RIDGE VIEW LANE
BENDING OAKS	GOLDEN OAKS
BEAVER RUN	DIAMOND OAKS (begins at 2518 and ends at 2326)

DISTRICT 2 :

8 STREETS

DIAMOND OAKS (begins at 2322 and ends at 2002)	MOSS TRAIL
LONE OAK TRAIL	SHADY OAKS TRAIL
ROCKY TRAIL	ROLLING OAKS (begins at 2102 and ends at 2222)
OAK POINT (begins at 3026 and ends at 3021)	OAK SPRINGS (begins at 2901 and ends at 3017)

DISTRICT 3 :

3 STREETS

OVERVIEW
PEAKWOOD
HEARTHSIDE

DISTRICT 4 :

11 STREETS

GRAND OAK	ROLLING OAK (begins at 2001 and ends at 2013)
WINDY RIDGE	OAK SPRINGS (begins at 2701 and ends at 2817)
WILLOW RIDGE	OAK POINT (begins at 2909 and ends at 2606)
WINDING OAK	

DISTRICT 5 :

4 STREETS

LAUREL OAKS DRIVE	BIG OAKS (begins at 2901 and ends at 3221)
LAUREL OAKS COURT	STONERIDGE (begins at 2881 and ends at 2802)

DISTRICT 6 :

6 STREETS

MEADOWRIDGE	CREIGHTON
RICHLAND	CRESTEDGE
SUNCREST	STONERIDGE (begins at 2741 and ends at 2701)

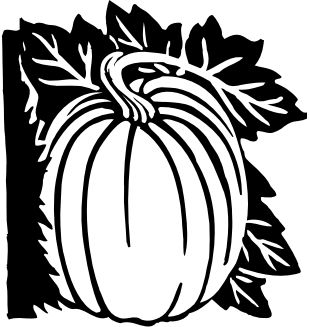
DISTRICT 7 :

6 STREETS

BIG OAKS (begins at 2842 and ends at 2502)	PEPPERIDGE
HICKORY BEND	PEBBLESTONE
FULTON	RICH OAK

OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS

by *Dianne Winter*



Almost three dozen neighbors and friends met Tuesday, October 10th, at the home of *Mary Pattie* on Windy Ridge to exchange greetings and enjoy the cooler fall weather. The fall decorations highlighted the food and hospitality of the additional hostesses

who were *Pam Hubbard, Mary Jensen and Betty Thomas*. Two new members, *Joanne Beneventi and Hazel Toberny* were welcomed.

The group expressed their sympathy to the family of Bertie Cunningham and discussed the safety issues involved in this tragedy .

The president, *Roberta Jones*, reported that the date-mate function that was held at her home on October 8 was a great success.

The door prize was won by *Janice Schadegg*. Door prize winners are always appreciative of the fine buying expertise of *Jo Dietz*.

The new calendar chairman, *Mary Musseman*, distributed the October– November calendars and the group reviewed and added following information:

One of the favorite activities is **THE OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH** which will meet at **THE POT-POURRI COTTAGE** in Garland on Thursday, October 26th. Contact *Mary Musseman* at 972-414-1098.

The **STITCH AND CHAT GROUP** will meet on Tuesday, October 17th, 10am at the home of

Norene Murphy, 972-530-6999. The group thanked *Jackie and Norene* for their leadership and work on the tree skirt that was made to be raffled to the group. The money will be donated to the beautification committee of Oakridge. The tree skirt will be given away at the November meeting.

The **WALKERS** still meet at 7:15 am at the corner of Windy Ridge and Grand Oak. This group invites you to join them in the Komen Race for the Cure on October 21st. Call *Mary Pattie* , 972-496-6486.

All the **CANASTA GROUPS** are in "fall" swing . Call *Barbara Brunette*, 972-530-4288 or *Diane Owens*, 972-530-6513 for Daytime, and *Margaret Fowler*, 972-530-8585, for Evening. (These girls have a great time and with one group you even BYOF – Bring Your Own Food.) *Lucy Brock* served mice to the Canasta group when she was hostess. A couple of the mice even made it to the coffee – much to the surprise of the hostess!

If you are interested in **BRIDGE** (a new advanced group is in the making) call *Jane Buchanan*, 972-520-4762.

The **BOOK CLUB** will meet at the home of *Robin Yaklin*, 2525 Creighton, on Friday, October 20th, to discuss the book, *Tuesdays with Morrie*. Call *Jo Ann Williams*, 972-530-2938, for info. Last month the group discussed selections and ways to improve the quality of the club.

The **FUN ON THE RUN GROUP** has completed the Grapevine Mills Trip and is ready to proceed to Canton on Friday, November 3rd, 7am. Meet at the Country Club parking lot on the pool side near Big Oaks ready to spend the day. Call *Becky Parks*, 972-495-8776, for more details.

This group has more trips in the planning stages. Join us at **Daytimers** to find out more about a Christmas Homes Tour and an Arboretum trip.

\$\$ IF you want to participate in the **OAKRIDGE GARAGE SALE** to



be held , **Saturday November 8th** , please call *Barbara Brunette*, 972-530-4288, by November 7 to register. Pick up maps on November 9th. No charge is made for this service.

Don't miss the **NOVEMBER COFFEE** at the home of *Gail Durbin*, 3322 Greenview, on **Tuesday** , **November 14th** at 10am. The **TREE SKIRT** will be given away and **SECRET PALS** will be drawn for the year 2001.

TAKE TIME TO TRAVEL



NOTABLE NEIGHBOR

By Dianne Winter



When you talk to **Cheryl Lanning** you are immediately drawn to her warm smile and sparkling eyes. I also noticed that the shirt she was wearing was decorated with stars and I thought that to be quite appropriate, since Cheryl is quite a star herself.

Cheryl and her husband, Sherman, came to Texas from Cleveland, Ohio, and have lived in Texas about 25 years and in the Oakridge area almost 10 of those years. Cheryl's admiration of the neighborhood shows as she tells of the sincere friendships she has acquired and the sewing and reading activities she has enjoyed in Daytimers.

She shares the information that she was a "workaholic" and she realizes now that there are more important things in life than work. "You have to make a living, but it is important to nurture friendships and be there for friends and family when needed. Work is not the only thing in life".

Serving other people has been a great part of Cheryl's life since she has been a nurse for over forty years. For a couple of years she was employed as a flight attendant as she was traveling with TWA to "see the world". She began that career on the airplanes that were propeller driven and remembers the challenge and excitement of the first jet airplanes. Cheryl's greatest challenge came in July, 1999, though, when she was diagnosed with lung cancer. From her struggle with the recommended chemotherapy and radiation comes a message that Cheryl delivers to anyone who will listen. She converses with individuals and groups about the dangerous results of smoking.

She narrates that she was startled when she was diagnosed with lung cancer because she had quit smoking for the second time about 10 years ago and she thought quitting was the answer. She started some fact finding of her own and learned just how dangerous lung cancer is, especially for women. One woman in three has a defective K gene that is triggered by smoking and the danger remains for up to 40 years after smoking, so one of Cheryl's messages is: **DON'T START SMOKING**. She gets sad when she sees young women smoking, because she knows how lung cancer is increasing in this group and what could be in store for them. Sometimes she shares her story with these potential victims even if she doesn't know them.

The second message is: **IF YOU HAVE SMOKED**, make sure you are screened with (at the minimum) a chest X-ray, but a CAT or PET scan is preferable, every year.

The third part of Cheryl's message refers to the **support of friends during crisis**. "I don't know if I could have made it this far without the help of my husband, Sherman, my friend, Mary Musseman, who went to radiation and chemotherapy with me, and Betty Thomas who has been very supportive during this time of illness and bouts of pneumonia." Cheryl considers herself very lucky to be surrounded by so much love. "I have a deep faith in God and He sustains, consoles, and loves me."

Mary and Betty were present while we chatted and Mary told how important she thinks it is for us to help each other.

**Tired of looking at the same old things?
Does your home need an update?
Want to rearrange your living area?**

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"People should not have to go through these procedures alone. Maybe the spouse is working. Help whenever you can."

The hair that was stolen by the treatments has returned to the point that Cheryl is contemplating a new "do", and if you ask her how she is feeling, she responds, "Just fine, all things considered."

Cheryl doesn't know what the future will bring, but she wanted to be a computer whiz. "Maybe I still will. I would like to take some more classes." Cheryl is already a whiz and as she would say, "Everything will be O Kee Doke O."

Contact Dianne Winter (972-530-6210 or ddwinter@home.com) if you have a special neighbor that you want to tell us about.

OAKRIDGE WOMEN'S CLUB

Libby Morse

We are having a membership drive in November! The meeting is **November 7th 2000**. We will meet at Pam's house at 2806 Oak Point. We meet at 7pm for snacks and the meeting begins at 7:30. If you have been thinking of joining the OWC, now is the time! Look for our fliers and signs. For More information call Libby Morse at 972-495-9034. 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! We are a fun group and would love to have you!

Come to our fundraiser: You won't want to miss this! Tricia Klimko is opening up her kitchen and welcoming you to taste "Homemade Gourmet". This company has great-prepackaged dry mixes that help prepare homemade meals in minutes! There will be samples. These will make great holiday gifts and will help you prepare that special meal. This is **Sunday November 12th from 2pm-4pm**. Her address is 2718 Oak Point. Look for the signs.

At the Last Meeting: We met at Maryann's. We planned the Halloween Party and November new member drive. Please remember to get out those fliers!

Don't miss the Halloween party for the kids! It is Sunday Oct. 29th from 2pm to 4pm. We are meeting at Karryn's house at 2202 Shady Oaks. There will be a slimy touch table, spooky tattoos, mummy roll games, a pumpkin contest and many other things. You won't want to miss this! It is for boys and ghouls of all ages!



See You in November!

ONa POET'S CORNER by Bill Johnson

Marge and I just returned from a great trip to Maui, HI. While on a day trip to Lanai by sailboat, we returned at sunset. We were treated to a special cosmic event: a full moon rising over Maui's volcano as the sun went down over Lanai behind us. Inspired, I tried to capture the moment in verse:

Moon Over Maui

Atop the old volcano's peak
Looms a silver sphere
Parting mists lingering there
Lifting into eastern sky
With stately grace and measured pace
Lighting our way to Lahaina

While fading light o'er Lanai
Behind our sparkling wake
Tells the setting of the sun
In colors only God can make
Oh, such joy upon this sea
Sailing slow to Maui

(Continued from page 1)

Look it up and share the fun with your kids or grandkids. If you do not have the proper codes or passwords let your Director know.

Do you know the District in which you live? There is a map in this issue and a list of streets by District. Check it out to find your District. It might be good to save this map and list of streets by District.

Another reminder, at the March 1st '01 general membership meeting a nominating committee will be selected. It will be their task to come up with a new slate of officers and report that slate in our April '01 newsletter. Your input is vital to continue the strong growth of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. This organization and all of the various other groups within ONA are used as examples of success within the City of Garland. Careful consideration should be given to those who you desire to continue ONA's reputation.

Thinking ahead, your District Director will be calling upon you to assist in the installation of holiday decorations on the street signposts. We all like the way our community looks when this is done. Your help is needed to complete this task. Perhaps you and your neighbors would get together and create a common theme to the decorations on your street, or portions thereof. The Board will be discussing the success and the merits of last years contest. Stay tuned.

Jessica Acosta

Mary Kay Independent Sales Manager

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