
◊ Oakridge News ◊

Vol. 10 No. 8

A Publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

February - 2002

President's Message

Scott Youzva

With the New Year now in full swing and the latest cold blast of winter snow gone, we can begin to hope for the warmth of spring to be just around the corner. It is this time of year that we will be getting out in the yards more often and seeing our neighbors. I would hope that you have gotten to know your neighbors and they know you. If not, take these opportunities to introduce yourself and in doing so, ask if they are members of the ONA. Our goal is to involve as many people in the ONA as possible and will be starting a new membership campaign in the next few months. Our greatest recruiter for the ONA is word of mouth from each of you to your neighbors and friends in Oakridge.

The ONA is working to address many of the issues that affect our neighborhood and will try to work with our residents to keep everything in good shape. Several issues have lingered and we are doing everything within our authority to correct these. The Jupiter perimeter wall has yet to be repaired and the residents responsible have not taken the necessary action to make these repairs. We will investigate the resources available to us to make this happen. The wall at Shiloh and Big Oaks was damaged again, just weeks after it was repaired. The wall reconstruction should start very shortly. We have investigated the possibility of having a traffic light installed at this intersection, but the city has not given us much hope to have this done. Because of the cost of a traffic signal, the city must prioritize the installations and they state there are worse intersections waiting on traffic signals.

(Continued on page 4)

City Seeks to Retain Sound Financial Foundation for Future

By Mayor James Spence, GaOrland

The 2000 census shows the population in Garland to be over 215,000 citizens. This is a 35,000 increase since 1990, or almost 20% in ten years. With rapid growth comes the need for expanded city services — more fire stations, fire equipment and firemen, more police, equipment and facilities — more solid waste facilities like Raney landfill — more streets and alleys to build, rebuild and maintain. The list is endless.

The 1995-96 city budget was \$300.5 million. The 2001-02 budget is \$422.2 million, an increase of \$121.7 million. This does not include Capital Improvement Programs, which have ranged from \$80 million to \$128 million each year. The operation of your city is indeed "Big Business" in terms of dollars.

As both a council member and mayor, I have continually worked to hold the line on property taxes. In 1995 the property tax rate was \$0.6336 cents per hundred dollars of valuation. The rate for 2001-02 is \$0.6411, an increase of only $\frac{3}{4}\%$ in almost six years. I am very proud of this accomplishment.

In 1998, shortly after being elected mayor, the city staff and I reviewed the PCI index of street conditions. It showed we were falling behind in street maintenance. I made a proposal to the city council that would almost double the amount of dollars going into street repair and replacement. The council endorsed my proposal and has carried this maintenance program forward each year since.

2001 was a great year for Garland. In spite of the economic downturn and the tragedy of September 11, progress has been made. The city manager and his staff, working with the city council, put plans in place not only for the balance of

(Continued on page 7)



General Membership Meeting



Thursday, February 21, 2002



Social: 6:30 p.m. Meeting: 7:00 p.m.



Come and "Ask the Board" (see page 5)



Oakridge Women's Club

Libby Morse



At the Last Meeting:

We Planned the Progressive Dinner and the Babysitter Meeting. We had the Progressive dinner on the 9th of February. It was fun! Thanks to Pam, Rita and Maranda for opening up their beautiful homes! The food was superb!

The babysitter meeting on Tuesday the 19th at Tricia's. Call 972-495-9034 if you are interested in attending. The babysitter packets will be coming out for the next meeting. It is good to get to know all the girls in the neighborhood that are interested in watching our angels!

Next Month:

We are meeting at Rita's house to plan the spring party. Feel free to stop by and meet the group!

About the OWC:

Come and join the OWC. We meet the Third 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 couples activities. Our dues are only \$15 dollars per year. Just call Libby Morse 972-495-9034 for more information or e-mail tomlib@attbi.com

ARE YOU READY TO DO YOUR PART?

Do you enjoy the newsletter? Do you enjoy using the PC? Do you have a few extra hours a month? Jackie Griffin has resigned from the newsletter effective June 1. There is a great need for someone to serve as a volunteer to do the newsletter. Please contact Jackie at 972-530-4777 if you are interested.

We also have need of someone to take over the environmental position. Dennis Cheatham has been handling this position on an interim basis but the ONA needs some one to take care of this on a regular basis. Contact Sott Youzva at 972-495-1833 if you are interested.

Visit
us.
First.

First United
Methodist
Church of
Garland

801 W. Ave. B at Glenbrook
(972) 272-3471
www.firstmethodistgarland.org

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

Oakridge Resident Since 1988

Sue Hageland

972-530-5089

WE SPECIALIZE IN:

- INSURANCE CLAIMS
- REPAIRS FOR REAL ESTATE CONTRACT SALES
- ALL GENERAL REPAIRS
- HONEY-DO-LIST



MR. FIX-IT-ALL

WE FIX ^{ALMOST} ANYTHING

972-272-3700 **FREE ESTIMATES**

- ROOFING
- PLUMBING
- REMODELING
- ELECTRICAL
- PAINTING
- FENCE REPAIR
- SHEET ROCK
- BATHROOM TILE & CAULKING

C.O.P./Crime Watch Report

By Bill Olive

The following is the crime stats for the month of December. Statistics for January won't be available until mid-February.

- 12/24/01 Burglary, 2100 block of Diamond Oaks, approx. 6 pm
- 12/01/01 Burglary, 2500 block of Creighton Dr., approx. 5:30 pm
- 12/03/01 Burglary, 2500 block of Pepperidge Dr., approx. 8 am
- 12/28/01 Unauthorized use of vehicle, 2800 block of Laurel Oaks Dr., approx. 9 pm
- 12/06/01 Unauthorized use of vehicle, 2700 block of Stoneridge Dr., approx. 9 am

New C.O.P. Patrollers

Congratulations to Ken Byrd, Jane Mayers, and Jim Tucker for attending the Garland Police Department's Citizens on Patrol Academy last month. After being immersed in an all day study and lecture session, all three graduated from the academy. Perhaps you've seen these people already on patrol in the Oakridge area. The addition of these new C.O.P. members will mean more hours of neighborhood patrol. Other residents had signed up to join the C.O.P. but were unable to attend the January classes. We hope to have another session very soon. We're still looking for additional members, so if you're interested, please give Bill Olive a call. The more people we have on patrol, the more eyes and ears we have and that makes it less likely that someone is going to come into Oakridge to commit a crime.

New NPO for Oakridge

Our new neighborhood police officer is Jeff Gooch. Jeff is a veteran with the Garland Police Dept and he has assumed the duties of NPO for Oakridge in addition to the other duties he already had. Officer Sam Castorani, our previous NPO, has been reassigned to the southern part of the city where additional officers were needed.

Did you know that each Oakridge C.O.P. member submits monthly reports to me (Bill Olive) regarding the number of patrol hours and any activity that may have occurred during their patrols. I then compile this information into a report that is submitted to the Garland Police Department each month. In turn, the NPO advises us of any ongoing problems or areas that need additional patrolling in the Oakridge area. The NPO and the C.O.P. work together, trying to keep Oakridge a safe, crime free neighborhood for all of us.

ADDED VISIBILITY

One of the "common sense" things we learn at the C.O.P

Academy is that patrol visibility decreases the incidents of

crime. *We want to thank Marge Johnson for making the great blue vests which patrollers wear while on patrol She did a very professional job, even adding the C.O.P. insignia to each vest.* These blue vests are unique to Oakridge and make the patroller visible to residents as well as provide the Garland Police with an easily recognizable person should they have to respond to a call. To add even more visibility Oakridge patrollers who use their vehicles while patrolling have magnetic signs for the sides of the vehicle and starting this week, they will have yellow revolving lights for the top of their car. Unfortunately, they haven't come up with a yellow revolving "dome" light for the top of people's heads yet, but our walkers can still be recognized by their blue vests. Officer Gooch was pleased that Oakridge has taken this "extra step" and stated the added visibility will help by showing potential "bad guys" that they should go somewhere else.

Membership Update

Peggy Richey

If you have not received your directory, please contact your district director. If you don't know who that is call Jackie Griffin at 972-530-4778. Or come to the general membership meeting on February 21, 2002!

Thank you for your continued support and we appreciate those of you who have started renewing your dues for June. It is easier for our committee to have our membership drive consist of the first six months of the year rather than trying to collect in May, June and July.

Update on the Lots in Oakridge

Peggy Richey
Keller Williams Realty

Just a short not to let you know that two of the lots on Oak Point have been sold. One of them will be in the building process very shortly. I know that you all agree with me that the rock retaining wall along the golf course looks wonderful and the development company did a great job getting the lots ready to sell. Hopefully within the next two years it will be full of houses and the neighborhood will be complete.

(Continued from page 1)

Our committees have been active and we will begin to see the fruits of their labor in the next few months. We are currently looking to recruit 3 additional people to our nominating committee for this next year's slate of officers. If you would like to volunteer, please contact one of the other board members.

The City of Garland has agreed to look at the nepotism situation with the City Council appointment for various volunteer positions within the city. This issue was raised through the Garland Homeowners Coalition, which the ONA is a member. Our voice was heard and this should be addressed at the next work session for the City Council.

One other issue that has been raised by several residents in our neighborhood is the activity of businesses being run out of the homes within our neighborhood. The problems with increased traffic, parking problems and in some cases illegal modifications to their property are all reasons why this practice is not allowed. The ONA cannot file a complaint with the city. Individual residents with in the neighborhood must do it. The ONA will help whenever it can, but our authority is very limited in these regards. We would appreciate knowing about any problems and will put any pressure that we can on the city as needed, but you will need to contact the code enforcement section of the city to register a complaint.

Our next General Meeting will be held on Thursday, February 21st, at 6:30pm. I look for everyone to attend this meeting.



OAKRIDGE PAINT & PAPER

Wallpaper: Hanging & Removal
Painting: Interior & Exterior

FREE ESTIMATES

Philip Hanas, Resident

Phone: 972-414-1912

Cell: 214-724-1912



Oakridge Country Club

A New Year Brings....

Renewed Passion

Oakridge Country Club is the perfect place to entertain clients or relax with family and friends while enjoying premier country club amenities.

Keep your New Year's Resolution...

Let Oakridge Country Club be your family's entertainment center this year!

For information call our Membership Office at (972) 530-8008.

RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
Repair Specialists
Service on All Makes & Models

**7 Days
24 Hour
EMERGENCY
SERVICE**

**Need Help?
We're On The Way!**

RICHARDSON
Heating Air Conditioning and Appliance Repair

NO HOURLY LABOR CHARGES
All Repairs Are Done On Flat Rate Basis

You know the exact repair cost before repairs are made

"WE KNOW OUR BUSINESS AND APPRECIATE YOURS"
CALL FOR FREE ESTIMATE ON PROFESSIONAL DUCT CLEANING

OAKRIDGE RESIDENT SINCE 1986.
OWNER: GARY HEARN

SALES • SERVICE • INSTALLATION

9
7
2 **272-1606** TACLA003291

FIREWHEEL MALL

Developer Presents "Town Square" Concept for Mall

By Douglas Athas, Greens Resident

The Garland City Council received a presentation on the new mall from the Simon Property Group at its work session Tuesday, Jan. 22.

Jeff Muzzy, city manager and Greens resident, announced at his quarterly meeting with homeowner and neighborhood associations that the presentation was being prepared for separate viewing on the city's Channel 16 available on cable. He also said attempts were being made to include the PowerPoint presentation on the city's web page(www.ci.garland.tx.us), which includes a map of the planned development.

Mr. Muzzy, Mayor Jim Spence, and Councilman Michael Holden traveled to Bowie, Maryland, recently to see first-hand the "town square" concept that is being offered by the Simon group. Stores can have more individual architecture and are "open" as in a town setting, but are managed so that anchors are still strategically situated as in a traditional mall.

Mr. Muzzy said antidotal evidence shows that many people in the Bowie area, in some cases over a hundred miles away, are reporting family trips to the new mall.

The Bowie mall is primarily retail and most of the structures are reported to be essentially single-story except for the anchors. The Firewheel facility could have higher facades with office space on higher floors.

Over one million square feet are included in the development.

In the north Texas area, Highland Park has long had a town square-type shopping center, as well as the recently completed Southlake Facility. Both are doing well.

reprinted with permission from The Greens Homeowners Association Newsletter

Meetings

The following are the next meeting dates for Executive Board and General Membership Session of the ONA. As members you are welcome to attend them. Contact one of the members of the board for time and place.

March 12, 2002

April 9, 2002

May 14, 2002

General Membership Session:

February 21, 2002

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Police & Fire Emergencies	911
Police Non-Emergencies	972-205-2150
Lone Star Gas	1-800-817-8090
Sanitation	972-205-3420
Code Violations	972-485-6400
Tommy Cobb	972-485-6418
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. Jeff Gooch NPO	972-205-2740

Ask The Board....

Do you have a question about the beautification? Newsletter? What does the board do?

Come to the next General Membership meeting —bring a neighbor, member or not. And ask the board any question you want—well almost! Try to keep it related to the ONA!!

Anyone who has not received their directory may pick one up at this meeting as well.

This could be a very informative and enlightening meeting! We look forward to seeing you there!

MICHAEL W. STUCKER ATTORNEY AT LAW

Wills & Probate

Commercial Litigation

Contracts · Incorporations

Partnerships

Deceptive Trade Practices

(972) 271-7200

Licensed in Texas since 1976

Not Certified by the
Texas Board of Legal Specialization

OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS

by Dianne Winter

'Twas the night before teatime and all through the house
Daytimers were stirring and choosing a blouse.

The tea committee was baking and trimming crust,
Mary Musseman was shining and looking for dust.

Then Tuesday came and tea was poured-
All were happy – none were bored.

The food was consumed and the table clear,
The guests had uttered the last, "oh dear".

The hostess waved and turned off the light,
Happy teatime to all-It was a delight



The largest attendance to date gathered at the home of confirmed and dedicated tea drinker, **Mary Musseman**, on Tuesday, February 12th at 2 pm. for the second annual tea reception.

The tea committee, composed of **Jo Dietz, Monica Evans, Suzanne Snow, Roberta Jones, Lucy Brock, Mary Jensen and Becky Parks**, had decorated for, planned and executed a tea party that Earl Grey would have approved. A pink tablecloth with tulle and ribbon dressed the table. A side table held the assortment of china cups and saucers. Additional decorations consisted of collections of teapots and tea books, surrounded by fabrics, laces, ribbons and assorted accessories.

Aside from the Earl's tea, the service consisted of scones with cream and strawberry jam, cucumber sandwiches and chicken salad sandwiches, assorted petit fours, sweetbreads with cream cheese and chocolates. Our own Monica Evans, whom we love for her spirit and her English accent, also entertained the Daytimers. Monica shared some of her experiences of growing up in England with us. Each attendee received a special favor.

With the comfort of tea the Daytimers shared the future activities:

BOOK CLUB on the third Fridays—call **Nell Burt** at 972-496-1338. The past meeting was held at the home of **Betty Thomas** with the discussion of *Fortunes Rocks*.

This group enjoys the books and each other. One of the topics discussed was **Audrey Golden's** dog. Ask Audrey for a progress report on the personality of the little dear. In February they will meet at the home of **Carolyn Wallen** to discuss the book, *Josephine B*, and in March they will meet at the home of Jo Dietz to discuss *Blood Rich* by Jane Wolfe.

Call **Jane Buchanan** at 972-530-4762 for **BRIDGE** events that occur on the first through fourth Wednesdays of every month. A new Monday afternoon group has been formed to study the book, *Playing the Cards*. The Intermediate group braved the snow to meet at the home of **Betty Thomas**.

These **CANASTA** groups are recruiting, so for details call **Barbara Brunette** at 972-530-4288 for **DAY CANASTA** and **Margaret Fowler** at 972-530-8585 for **NIGHT CANASTA**. If you have any interest here, this is a fun group that would benefit you. One of our new members, **Karen Bretzke**, has already joined.

The ARTS and CRAFTS Group met in January at the home of **Barbara Brunette** to learn to etch glass. They had successful results on the project. This group has field trips and will meet next at the home of **Becky Parks** on February 18th. Call **Roberta Jones** (972-414-7277) or **Jo Dietz** (972-530-8308) for more information.

The **OUT TO LUNCH BUNCH** had a get together at Patricio's in January and had a great time.

STITCH & CHAT meets at **Norene Murphy's** (972-530-6669) on the 3rd Tuesday to visit and to work on projects. Call for more information.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY wishes for February to: **Jo Bristol, Melvia Coppedge, Gloria Shanhouse and Carolyn Wallen**.

Dues of \$12.00 for the year are to be paid to treasurer, **Mary Pattie**, at 2101 Windy Ridge.

Don't forget your **SECRET PAL** and invite your neighbor to our next meeting !



SOAR TO OUR NEXT MEETING AT
3021 Oak Point –
MARY JENSEN'S
TUESDAY, MARCH 12TH, 10:00 AM

For questions or suggestions concerning Daytimers contact Dianne Winter, president, at ddwinter@attbi.com or 972-530-6210. Dues are \$12 per year- prorated from January.

(Continued from page 1)

2001 but for the future as well. These plans, while prudent in a declining economy, should really be done just as good business practice and will become a part of the standard operating procedures of the city for the future. The bottom line is to deliver quality, timely and cost effective services to all the citizens of Garland.

2001 saw a slow down in new construction as well as sales tax revenue. \$144 million of new construction was built in Garland, a decrease of about \$37 million from the previous year. Sales tax revenue came in under that collected in 2000 and continues to fall. The Garland Economic Development Partnership, consisting of the city, school district and the Chamber of Commerce, continues to function well. In 2001 the GEDP was involved in the development of over 1.95 million sq. ft. of diverse projects with tax values of over \$83 million and the creation of about 770 new jobs. The city maintained its rating of AA and AA+ with Standard and Poors and with Fitch.

The Gale Fields Recreation Center was opened in October. In April the new South Garland Branch Library opened.

New ordinances regulating charter schools, metal buildings, retail sales of gasoline and new development standards for the I-30 and I-635 corridors, based on the SH 190 corridor standards, were adapted. DART rail service between Dallas and downtown Garland will become a reality later this year. The Garland Police Department celebrated its Fiftieth Anniversary in 2001. The Eleven Fire Stations concept plan continues to move forward. Land for the new fire station at Brand and Talley Rds is in the process of being purchased. A #2 rating for fire insurance was maintained in 2001.

GP&L is ready for electric deregulation in Texas. A new 85 MW turbine generator came on line in June. For GP&L residential and small commercial ratepayers, your bills will be lower than the "price to beat" mandated by the Public Utility Commission of Texas.

In 2001, the Firewheel Golf Course became the largest municipally-owned golf course in Texas and the third largest in the nation, with 63 holes of golf. A new clubhouse is presently under construction on Brand Rd and on September 25 the residents of north Garland saw the opening of the new Brand Rd bridge. In 2001 over 20 miles of streets were repaired with concrete slabs and 2.6 miles of asphalt streets were rehabilitated. New traffic signals and the replacement of street signs continues. In 2001 the downtown Plaza Theater was restored and the renovations and additions to the Performing Arts Center will begin in early 2002.


These are just a few examples of the many, many things going on in our city.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to visit with you about happenings, past and present, in our growing city. I want to thank all of you for allowing me to serve the last four years as your Mayor. It has been an honor and a privilege.

My prayer is that God will continue to bless our families, our city, our great nation, and that 2002 will be a great year for all of us.

reprinted with permission from The Greens Homeowners Association Newsletter

STERLING
PEST MANAGEMENT



Proud To Live In Oakridge
Pleased To Support The ONA

SERVING NORTH TEXAS WITH THE BEST IN
 PEST & TERMITE CONTROL

OFFICES IN DALLAS & ARLINGTON

FOR INFORMATION OR
 APPOINTMENT

(214)320-1020

State License TPCL9130

Thank You...

Thanks to the Daytimers Stitch and Chat group for their donation to the beautification fund, collected from the Christmas Raffle.

CLASSIFIED ADS

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

**Master Electrician
972-495-7383
Ceiling Fans hung to cool you
Electrical Outlets or Phone Jacks
added too
Indoor/outdoor lighting
Installed
Jobs large or small**

**RESIDENTIAL
COMMERCIAL**

**REPAIR
INSTALLATION
DESIGN**

BILLY JACK SPRINKLER CO.



WE SERVICE ALL-TYPE SYSTEMS



**RAIN BIRD
Select Contractor™**

**BACKFLOW
TESTING**

**FREE ESTIMATES
ON INSTALLATION ONLY**

**VALVE LOCATION
CONTROL & WIRING
PROBLEMS
DRAINAGE SERVICES**

972-303-0007 OR 214 460-2209

OAKRIDGE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION
P.O. BOX 450145
GARLAND, TX 75045-0145

PRSR STD
US POSTAGE
PAID
PERMIT # 573
GARLAND TX 75040

CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

ONA Website: oakridgena.com

OFFICERS

President Scott Youzva
Vice President Dennis Cheatham
Secretary Debbie Zellars
Treasurer Mary Musseman

DIRECTORS

District 1 Gene & Diana Bauske
District 2 Pam Hubbard
District 3 June Phipps
District 4 Bill Johnson
District 5 Brenda Olive
District 6 Nelson & Kelly Prater
District 7 Chris Beyers

COMMITTEES

Membership Peggy Richey
Communications Jackie Griffin
Environmental Dennis Cheatham, Interim
Technical Peggy Richey
Crime Prevention Bill Olive
Citizens on Patrol Bill Olive
Civic Interests
Welcome Wagon District Directors
NPO Jeff Gooch