



Oakridge News



Vol. 13 No. 5 "a publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association" October 2004

From the ONA President :

Hello, ONA members. Hope you're enjoying the fall this year. John M. Wiprud, M.D., board-certified family practice physician with Family Medical Center at Garland, located on the campus of Baylor Medical Center in Garland, was our featured speaker at the September 23 general membership meeting. Dr. Wiprud gave an excellent presentation, and answered multiple questions, on hypertension. Three nurses provided blood pressure and blood glucose checks to many attendees. There was also lots of give-aways from Garland Baylor. If you have further questions about hypertension or would like to visit Dr. Wiprud, his phone number is 972-272-6561. We have added links on our website (www.oakridgena.com) to several sites Dr. Wiprud recommended.

Though I wished we'd had a better turnout, if this presentation and these screenings helped one person, we were successful. It's like the story of the grandfather and grandson walking on the beach and coming upon an area covered with sand dollars. The grandfather picked one up and carefully laid it back in the water. The grandson asked, "What are you doing?" The grandfather replied, "That sand dollar is a living thing. If it lays here in the beach, it will dry up and die." The grandson said, "There are thousands of sand dollars on this beach. What difference could that possibly make?" The grandfather replied, "All the difference in the world to that one." Maybe that's a good place to start -- I may not be able to make a difference in the world, or in the country, or in my city, or even in my neighborhood. But, if I can make a difference in just one person's life, I've made all the difference in the world to that person. The world's too big to consider, but I know I can help one person.

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Hello to all in Oakridge:

I enjoyed seeing all of those that attended the ONA meeting in September. I think Nelson Prater and the ONA Board are on the right track with the professional health care providers, as everyone could use a few tips on living healthy. Now an update on the Neighborhood Vitality Program, there were a total of 8 applications from throughout the city totaling around \$600,000. The staff is currently scoring these applications and will have them back to Council in mid October. The council will then decide the final outcome sometime in late November to early December.

Oakridge as a whole does not have many code violations, per say, but there are a few from time to time that are quickly handled by the property owner. There are many areas in Garland where this is not true and the City Council is in the process of reviewing Chapter 32, which is where you can find the ordinances dealing with code enforcement. Many of these suggested changes will deal with minimum housing standards and rental property. These changes are to ensure that deteriorating structures will not become health hazards for the occupant. There are some suggested changes in time frames to handle certain code violations as well as changes to handle appeals for code violations. Please keep an eye on this for the next couple of months on channel 15. These will be important changes for the entire City of Garland and I would like your input as it affects District 7.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, do not hesitate to contact me. Please be safe this Halloween as there will be many pumpkins roaming our streets.

Mark Monroe
 Mayor Pro-Tem
 972-495-8028
mmonroe@ci.garland.tx.us



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I hope you'll be able to make a difference in the lives of the fire-fighters who protect our neighborhood by volunteering to help with the **Annual Christmas Dinner for the Firemen** this year. You don't have to do a lot, but a lot of people doing a little is going to make all the difference in the world. I'm hoping Luann Payne, coordinator of the event, will have so many volunteers this year that all she'll have to do is coordinate -- that she won't even have to turn on a burner. Let's overwhelm the firemen, and Luann, with our caring and support this year. Keep an eye out in the *Oakridge News* and on our website for more information.

Cooking Thanksgiving dinner this year? Be sure to check out the **ONA Thanksgiving** section on our website. You'll find recipes and instructions and even a day-by-day planner to help plan it all out. If you have a good recipe that you're willing to share with your neighbors, e-mail it to me at **nelson-prater@comcast.net**, and I'll add it to our online recipe box. That's about it for now. *Nelson.*

MEMBERSHIP by Jackie Griffin

It is October and we have reached 502 members! The directories are done and in the mail! I would like to thank Kelly Prater for her help with the directory and membership this year. As one of the many volunteers on the board Kelly does a lot of thankless tasks that a lot of people don't even think about. Just because the directories are finished, doesn't mean new neighbors can't sign up! They can still receive the newsletter and a copy of the directory. **So if you have a new neighbor, you can contact Fern Cook and she will visit them!** Thanks to all of you for your support!

Now Available **ONA Decals** by Karen Engler

ONA Decals available now. Support the ONA and identify yourself as an Oakridge resident. Decals may be placed on your car to show that you live in the neighborhood. We are suggesting that you place it on the lower left side of the back window (driver's side). The decals are black and white with a logo exactly like the one on the 1st page of this newsletter. They are \$1.00 each; to get one call Karen Engler at 972 414-3272. I will drop one by your house.

ONA Board Speed Bump Policy

The Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA) Board has established the policy that the ONA will not organize or participate in the installation of speed bumps. Speed bumps do not qualify as one of the purposes of the ONA. (See Purposes below.) The ONA Board cannot determine the traffic calming nature of speed bumps as safe or not because they affect the emergency vehicle response time.

1.2 Purposes: The purposes of the Association are to assure the beauty, safety and stability of the area and the surrounding community, and to promote neighborliness and pride among the residents.

[Read the ONA By-Laws](#) A copy may be found on the **ONA** web site or from your District Director.

"LET SUE DO IT"

SO THE REFRIGERATOR REPAIRMAN IS COMING TODAY BUT YOU HAVE AN IMPORTANT MEETING?



"LET SUE DO IT"

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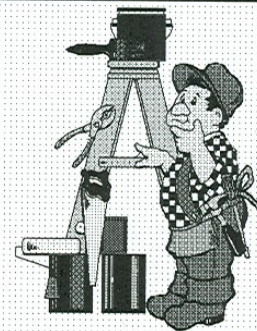
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Kids Today Think on Their Feet *author unknown*

Teacher: John, how do you spell "crocodile?"
 John : K-R-O-K-O-D-A-I-L"
 Teacher: No, that's wrong
 John: Maybe it s wrong, but you asked me how I spell it!

Teacher: What is the chemical formula for water?
 Sarah: H I J K L M N O!!
 Teacher: What are you talking about?
 Sarah: Yesterday you said it's H to O!

Teacher: Willie, name one important thing we have today that we didn't have ten years ago.
 Willie: Me!

Teacher: Tommy, why do you always get so dirty?
 Tommy: Well, I'm a lot closer to the ground than you are.

Teacher: Ellen, give me a sentence starting with "I."
 Ellen: I is...
 Teacher: No, Ellen.... Always say, "I am."
 Ellen: All right... I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.

Teacher: George Washington not only chopped down his father's cherry tree, but also admitted doing it. Now do you know why his father didn't punish him?
 Johnny: Because George still had the ax in his hand.

Teacher: Now, Sam, tell me frankly, do you say prayers before eating?
 Sam: No sir, I don't have to,. . .my Mom is a good cook.

Teacher: What do you call a person who keeps on talking when people are no longer interested?
 Pupil: A teacher

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A man's home is his castle, in a manor of speaking.
A bicycle can't stand on its own because it is two tired
What's the definition of a will? (It's a dead giveaway.)
Time flies like an arrow. Fruit flies like a banana.

A boiled egg in the morning is hard to beat.
He had a photographic memory that was never developed.
Acupuncture is a jab well done.
Marathon runners with bad footwear suffer the agony of defeat

Philip Hanas
OAKRIDGE PAINT & PAPER
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Eve. 972- 414 -1912

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Interesting Facts from Farmers Friendly Exchange Fall 2004 magazine

\$56.2 cents - Cost per mile, of owning a vehicle, according to national statistics. That's up from 39.4 cents a decade ago.

\$5 billion – Cost to consumer, in out-of-pocket expenses, related to identity fraud in 2002, the most recent year's statistics that are available.

More than 20 million people deduct donations of clothes, toys and garage-sale remnants to charities each year, but most don't pocket the tax breaks they deserve. You can capture hundreds or thousands of dollars more in tax deductions by knowing the fair market value of your items. Find the true values by obtaining the book or software version of ItsDeductible, which is updated each year by Intuit.



Now you know everything! *author unknown*

The liquid inside young coconuts can be used as a substitute for blood plasma.

No piece of paper can be folded in half more than seven (7) times.

Donkeys kill more people annually than plane crashes.

You burn more calories sleeping than you do watching television.

Oak trees do not produce acorns until they are fifty (50) years of age or older.

The first product to have a bar code was Wrigley's gum.

The king of hearts is the only king without a mustache.

American Airlines saved \$40,000 in 1987 by eliminating one (1) olive from each salad served in first-class.

Venus is the only planet that rotates clockwise.

Apples, not caffeine, are more efficient at waking you up in the morning.

Most dust particles in your house are made from dead skin. (No wonder my house is so DUSTY!)

The first owner of the Marlboro Company died of lung cancer. So did the first "Marlboro Man."

Walt Disney was afraid of mice.

Pearls melt in vinegar.

The three most valuable brand names on earth: Marlboro, Coca Cola, and Budweiser, in that order.

It is possible to lead a cow upstairs...but not downstairs.

Dentists have recommended that a toothbrush be kept at least six (6) feet away from a toilet to avoid airborne particles resulting from the flush. (I keep my toothbrush in the living room now!)

Richard Millhouse Nixon was the first U.S. president whose name contains all the letters from the word "criminal."

The second? William Jefferson Clinton. (Please don't tell me you're SURPRISED !)

ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER FOR THE FIREMEN by Luanne Payne

It's not too early to be thinking about what you want to cook up for the Christmas dinners that we take to the Fire Stations that respond to Oakridge. This year we may be adding a new station. We will still take dinners to Station No. 3 & No. 6, but the new station on Beltline @ Sam Houston will soon be open, so we might be able to include this new station in our Christmas Day dinners. It will all depend on the donations that we get and how many people are willing to bake something up. As always, I need salads, veggies, side dishes, breads and of course, desserts. In the past I have asked for 2 dishes of each item that you prepare, but I will need 3 if we include the new station. If you do not want to bake anything but would rather donate money, which is a big help in buying the paper products and other incidentals.

My family and I deliver these dinners on Christmas morning before their lunchtime. This is a special gift to them especially since it is on Christmas Day. I will have more information in the November newsletter about whether we will be adding the 3rd station. You may call me, **Luanne Payne**, at **972-530-9323** and I can answer any questions you may have. Thanks and be looking for the November news update.



OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS by Dianne Winter

Praises were expressed following the presentation, "It's Written All Over You", by Barbara Benson at the September Daytimers gathering at the home of Jo Dietz, so the Daytimers were enthusiastically looking forward to the October meeting that was held on Oct 12th – a lovely fall day- at the home of Chris Beyers. Food hostesses were Audrey Castleman, Gail Durbin, Monica Evans, Suzanne Snow and JoAnn Williams.

Daytimers was happy to welcome back the president, Mary Musseman. Mary expressed that she missed her friends and family, even though she had a wonderful time in Alaska.

Daytimers also welcomed five new members: Marialyce DeLoach, Winell Hartline, Shirley Mohler, Charlotte Vaughter, and Sally Weiss. Welcome back to Carolyn Wallen.

Sue Pauly announced that she is hostessing ETC in October and they will be traveling to see the movie, "*Shall We Dance*", on Monday, October 18th. Sue also collected names for a once a month Canasta Group.

Ruby Nell Ormon announced the plans for the drawing for the 2005 Secret Pals in November. Audrey King announced birthdays for October and November and Norene Murphy reminded us that Stitch and Chat is continuing. Chris Beyers asked for some assistance to assemble more cookbooks and reminded Daytimers of the deadline for the calendar dates.

Sally Weiss recruited interested members for a YoChi class at the Garland Senior Center

Barbara Brunette found some partners for a morning walk at 7:30 and Ruby Nell Ormon inquired for members interested in an 8 am walk. Call any of the above named members for information concerning these activities.

In September the Garden Club and ETC traveled to Farmers' Market in Dallas and were rewarded with a view of the display of fall pumpkins and flowers that decorate the area. The group also enjoyed suggestions from Becky Parks to enable them to select and plant flowers for a better array of fall colors. The outing concluded with lunch at Austin's Grille and in October the Garden Club will take a field trip to Rhodes Nursery.

The Book Club will meet at the home of Suzanne Snow with the author, Susan Oliver, who wrote *Once upon a Gulf Coast Summer*. In November the Book Club will read *Blessings* by Anna Quindlen.

Plan now to attend the November Coffee at the home of Mary Musseman on Tuesday, November 9th, at 10am.

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$12.00 dues. Daytimers promotes the Oakridge community and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association.

Any questions should be directed to Mary Musseman, 972-414-1098, or Suzanne Snow, 972-414-3747.

If you have some information for this column, please email mdkwinter@comcast.net or call 972-530-6210.

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Code Compliance	972-485-6400	Animal Services	972-205-3570
Tim George	972-485-6418	Electricity Emergency	972-205-3000
Poison Center	1-800-764-7661		
Water & Sewer	972-205-3210		
Councilman, Mark Monroe	972-495-8028	NPO Tony Blassingame	972 -205-2740

C.O.P. Report *by Bill Olive*

During the month of September, there were four recorded incidents within our community. Two were vehicle burglaries and two habitation burglaries. Each of these incidents was on different dates.

New non-emergency phone number. Recently the Garland Police Department initiated their new state of art communications center at the Forest Ln. facilities. The new **non-emergency** number for the department is now **972-485-4840**.

A Personal Note:

I have made a decision to end my duties as coordinator for the Oakridge Citizens on Patrol. This decision did not come easily; however, personal reasons and other obligations make it necessary. During the past four years, the Oakridge Citizens on Patrol have logged over 2000 hours of patrol time. These hours have been extremely productive. My personal philosophy has been to try to do everything possible to decrease crime within our community and be of help to our police officers. Our group **did** achieve these goals! I only wish that each resident of Oakridge could experience the interaction I have been able to have with many Garland Police Officers. These men and women are truly **the best**. Brenda and I have received, what I feel to be, the ultimate complement of comfortably conversing with many officers on a first name basis.

Brenda and I would like to thank all our Oakridge neighbors who have made this a pleasant and enjoyable experience. To our "friends" at the Garland Police Department; we may be 10-7; however, you are always welcome to stop by for a cup of coffee, soft drink, or simply a visit.

Oakridge Women's Club (OWC) *by Libby Morse*

ATTENTION! WE have changed our meeting night! If you couldn't meet with us on Tuesdays- Join us for our new night- the first **THURSDAY** of the month!

The next meeting is at Libby's house It is Thursday November 4th at 7p.m. We will begin planning our holiday parties! Mark the following dates in your calendar:

Halloween Kids Party Sunday October 24th pm at Amy's

Thursday December 2nd 6:30 pm- Adult Christmas party at Benihana's

Tuesday December 7th- Girls night out: Limo Ride to see Christmas lights

Sunday December 12th Santa party 1-3pm at Tracy's

In our September Meeting and planned the calendar for 2005. Thank you Rita for hosting!

If you would like more details and directions about the upcoming events or joining the OWC, please contact our President, Tracy Murphy at 972-496-3165. Or you may e-mail Libby Morse at TOMLIB@comcast.net

The Oakridge Women's Club is open to all women in the Oakridge neighborhood who share a common bond in the love of our children and families. We welcome prospective new members at all meetings! Annual dues are \$20.00.

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CITY OFFICIALS
September 23, 2004
March 24, 2005
May 26, 2005
Check the ONA web site for current information
www.oakridgena.com

The ONA Board set the dates for the General Membership meetings.
Mark your calendars:
Thursday of each month to conduct the business of the ONA.



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