



Oakridge News

City of Garland Strategy for Vital Neighborhoods Kick-Off Meeting
Saturday, Nov. 11, 8:30 - 11 a.m.
Oakridge Country Club

Vol. 15, No. 5

Published by the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

www.oakridgena.com

October 2006

Oakridge is moving closer to becoming award-winning community

By Mike Dollar
ONA President

I sometimes have an opportunity to get a unique perspective on our neighborhood. Whether this vantage point comes from participating in this summer's series of block parties, studying the last several neighborhood surveys, patronizing the surrounding businesses, talking with the ONA membership, or golfing at the local Oakridge Country Club, I have seen many facets of the neighborhood. Through my activities, I've begun to realize Oakridge has a certain ability to manifest a distinction dependent on one's viewpoint.

For example, in some areas of our neighborhood, there is a real concern about educating renters on lawn care and parking in front of their neighbor's mailbox. Some renters seem to maintain a different standard from that of a homeowner. This creates problems in that vicinity. We estimate just over thirty homes in our neighborhood are being rented; some are government sub-

sidized. In other areas of our neighborhood, renter behavior has never been an issue. So this is a localized problem, but a large problem if you happen to be living in that particular vicinity. It depends on your viewpoint.

We also like to believe that all Oakridge residents are concerned about the appearance of the neighborhood perimeter and common areas. Certainly the ONA membership has made it a priority to keep these areas well maintained and updated. From our viewpoint this makes our neighborhood a nice place to come home to. We enjoy living somewhere that looks nice.

Unfortunately sixty percent of our residents do not support the volunteer efforts of the Neighborhood Association. These residents must believe in a different paradigm that we don't understand.

In the upcoming months we will begin to work with the City of Garland Revitalization Program to define goals, set milestones, and develop a complete neighborhood strategy tied together by

an economic logic. I would like to include as many viewpoints as possible in this strategy, and invite you to e-mail me yours.

Most of us have seen certain small towns and communities embodied with an award winning environment. I suspect that those areas developed through the pride and hard work of the people who live there. The people take ownership and action.

The Oakridge neighborhood is closer to becoming an award-winning community than we might think. It is a versatile and lively community. It is "A Place for All Seasons."

No matter what stage in life one is in, type and size of residence preferred, or social activity enjoyed, Oakridge is the destination.

How many neighborhoods can say that? With the help of all, we will continue to make improvements and keep our community beautiful for many years to come. This is my viewpoint.

Send your viewpoint of Oakridge to onapresident@aol.com.

I·N·S·I·D·E this issue

The holidays are not too far off, so see what the ONA has in the works for Christmas. Caroling, anyone? **Page 2**

The Women's Club is bubbling with activity. Read this article to find out how Rebecca Chanez's first time hosting a meeting went. **Page 3**

The Daytimers are back in business for a new year, and they're celebrating the group's anniversary. How many years has it been? **Page 4**

Webworms, earwigs, and ants, oh my! The list of Halloween-time critters is lengthy. Find out how to get rid of them and keep them away. **Page 5**

Check out the latest golf results from the tournaments at the Club. **Page 6**

There are two plays coming up at the Garland Civic Theatre: *Big River* and *You Can't Take It With You*. Get times and ticket information. **Page 7**

Oakridge to stand in revitalization spotlight

By Mark Monroe
District 7 City Council Member

As many of you know, Oakridge will be in the spotlight on October 28 at the first Neighborhood Revitalization Conference. I am extremely proud of Oakridge and the dedicated people that help make this a great community. Stay tuned for the results.

Thanks to those for relaying my e-mail about the meeting with the developers of the old Target shopping center. Obviously, judging by the turnout, there are many in our district that have concerns about the future of this center and what impacts it will have on the surrounding communities. Please note that there will be two more occasions to give input on the decision regarding the Specific Use Permit.

Planning and Zoning will hear the

Mark Monroe
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case, and then it will be forwarded on to the council for action. These are public hearings and open to everyone.

Finally, the City Council has formed a Blue Ribbon Panel to look at specific issues related to the rental registration process. This is open to everyone, and if you are interested in serving in this capacity, please contact the city secretary's office for the application.

If you have any questions, do not hesitate to give me a call or e-mail.

ONA plans old-fashioned holiday caroling

By Sherri Rutherford-Franks
Special Events Coordinator

It's hard to believe the holidays are just around the corner when we are still having summer weather. However, it's not too soon to start your holiday plans. The ONA special event planners are hoping you will mark Sunday, December 3 on your calendars for some old-fashioned caroling. Please join us at 5:30 p.m. in the Oakridge Country Club parking lot.

Our goal is to have at least 2 groups of a dozen carolers each. Several carolers signed up at the ONA general meeting. We will sing traditional holiday carols, so there is no need for a practice session. Song sheets will be provided so we don't end up singing a bunch of *la la la*. After caroling, we will finish the evening in the home of Roger and Sherri Franks for coffee, hot chocolate, hot apple cider, and dessert.

Carolers need someone to carol to, so if you would like for us to sing in your neighborhood, let me know. If you want to be a "caroler" or a "carolee," please give me a call at 972-

496-5454 or e-mail me at srutherford72@comcast.net.

This will be lots of fun. Please plan to join us — even if the only singing you do is in the shower or in your car with the windows rolled up.

I want to take a moment to thank the over 100 people for attending the ONA general meeting on Thursday, October 5. What a great group! We certainly showed our City of Garland guests 1) that we are interested in what happens in our neighborhood and 2) they made a great choice in selecting Oakridge for this pilot program.

As you may remember, we had a contest for the most non-members a member could get to attend the general meeting. We had a three-way tie between Brenda Olive, Margaret Fowler and Jan Schrah. The winner of the \$35 Black Eyed Pea gift certificate was Margaret Fowler. Way to go ladies!

The general meeting was dismissed by everyone turning their chairs upside down to see if they had been sitting in the "lucky" chair. Robbie Lang was the lucky winner of the \$20 Starbucks gift certificate.

Be wary of any mischief on Halloween night

By Carol Garrison and Eric Morris
ONA Crime Prevention and Safety

October is here, and as we all know, Oakridge will be one of the prettiest communities by the end of the month! It has been a long hot summer and the cooler weather will invite your neighbors out of their homes for strolls in the evening.

Pedestrians do have the right of way even if you're in a hurry, and speaking of hurrying, slow down and keep under the speed limits on our streets (30 miles/hr).

I have noticed several vehicular fatalities (mostly squirrels), but this week on Diamond Oaks a grey cat and a large tan retriever were killed and left behind. If an animal is injured, please call animal control at 972-205-3570.

At the end of this month (Halloween is on a Tuesday this year), we will be invaded by a large number of ghosts and goblins traveling from house to house in search of treats. If you are

opening your door this year, please make sure your entry way is well lit. Leaving vehicles on the street is not a smart idea considering the high volume of cars carrying these kids in addition to the older children with tricks on their minds. Try to keep all vehicles in the driveway to avoid accidents or mischief.

Last year, my pumpkins were all smashed along Diamond Oaks, so I advise all of my neighbors to bring in their pumpkins when you're done handing out treats.

One last note: Eric was informed during the General Meeting that an Acura was stolen Wednesday, Oct. 4 from Fulton Drive with the residents in their home. The car was locked and the alarm was activated.

If anyone has any information, please notify the authorities. Need the number? NPO (Officer Bergin) is at 972-485-4896, COP is at 972-495-3402, and the non-emergency police line is 972-485-4840.

About the ONA

Oakridge News is a publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association.

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Nervous hostess: Hosting first Women's Club meeting turns out fine

**By Rebecca Chanez
Oakridge Women's Club**

This month's meeting was held at my house. This was the first time since I had been in the women's club that I had hosted a meeting. I have to say I am not much of a party planner, but I try my best. I was also a little apprehensive, as the house I live in now used to belong to a former club member, who from what I understand was very meticulous and very much the planner.

My husband and I worked frantically to get things just right, so that even though I have known these ladies for some time, I would make a good impression. Well, I don't know why I was so worried. Although it was a small turnout for my first meeting, everyone was very complimentary about the house and what we had done with it. Mind you, we are not interior decorators, but it is our home and we love it. After just a few minutes of welcoming everyone in and getting the food ready, I had completely forgot about my worries and began to enjoy playing hostess. As I had mentioned in my last article, the women in the club are great friends. I am lucky to know them.

The themed menu was baked potato night. Joy brought over these enormous potatoes that were delicious. Everyone brought over a topping of some sort

and I made a salad. We enjoyed a few drinks and planned the Halloween party. I have to say thank you to my husband who took our 2-year-old son out to dinner so that we could have our meeting. It's not easy taking a toddler to dinner — as I am sure quite a few of you know — but he managed to come back in one piece. My husband, that is. I appreciate him for helping out.

This year there will be a Halloween party at Rita Morrison's home. This is a party not only for the children, but for adults too. After a quick meal we plan on trick or treating around the neighborhood and then head back to Rita's for more snacks. Get ready for us, Oakridge neighbors, because our kids are going to be out in full force!

Two days after this, on Nov. 2, will be our next meeting also at Rita's home. It's Keno Night! Everyone brings a \$5 gift, and whoever wins gets a gift. Some of the ladies are still planning on taking a short overnight trip to Canton on this same weekend. So the final planning will be made at this meeting. We will also plan our Christmas caroling event at this meeting.

I can't express enough how wonderful it is to belong to an organization that makes me feel so welcome and appreciated. If you would like to make some new friends, enjoy some time out and be a part of an organization that cares about you, your well-being, and your family, please give us a call.



We'd love to have you.

The **Oakridge Women's Club** meets the first Thursday of every month at 7 p.m. If you would like more details about the upcoming events or joining the OWC, please contact our president, Libby Morse, at 972-495-9034, 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 strong and common bond in the love of our children and families. We welcome prospective new members at all meetings! Annual dues are \$20.

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Garland Water Use Restrictions

The City of Garland continues to enforce Stage 2 of its Drought Control Program. The city will turn off water service to repeat offenders, and there will be a \$50 reconnection fee in addition to other expenses.

Designated Watering Times:

- Even-numbered addresses: Sundays and Thursdays, from midnight to 10 a.m. and from 8 p.m. to midnight
- Odd-numbered addresses: Saturdays and Wednesdays, at the same times

Prohibited Except on Watering Days:

- landscape irrigation except with hose-end sprinklers or automatic systems
- washing of any vehicles
- filling, refilling, or adding to any pool or hot tub

For more information, visit www.ci.garland.tx.us.

Oakridge Daytimers celebrate start of organization's eighth year

Oakridge Daytimers Dianne Winter

Daytimers congregated in the home of hostess, Frances Morgen, for the September Coffee to celebrate the beginning of the eighth year of the organization. Roberta Jones, founder, who has relocated, was welcomed. Nearly 40 members enjoyed the breakfast dishes prepared by hostesses, Martha Boyette, Audrey Golden, Cecile La Bossier, Suzanne Snow and Dianne Winter.

After reminiscing about summer activities, the members gathered for some announcements. Sally Weiss, new president, entertained the members with several official observances on certain days in September. Vice President Cecile La Bossier encouraged members to sign up with an interest group. Treasurer JoAnn Williams had created new name tags for this year, and she collected dues.

All interest group leaders were enthusiastic about beginning a new year and listed upcoming and recurring meetings. Mary Jensen asked for ideas to continue the Secret Pal Group but with a reduced commitment to the program. The discussion to improve the recording of history through the scrapbook method concluded with the formation of a planning group: Chris Beyers, Cecile LaBossier and Suzanne Snow. Beverly Pierce and previous historians have performed a superior job of gathering and arranging the information and photos, but the amount of scrapbooks to store and prepare may be a problem.

Audrey King announced birthdays and concerns. Many of the members have experienced illnesses recently. Jo Dietz held a drawing for the door prize.

Everyone was encouraged to come in costume to the October meeting at the home of Chris Beyers. There are so many creative members that everyone is looking forward to this meeting. Audrey Golden has parted with her chicken hat, but the rumor is that Gladys McGhee will be the one to look for.

The following words (not necessarily in this order) were overheard at the meeting. You should ask Dot Mohrle about all her trips to the emergency room. Also, Martha Boyette, who celebrated a certain birthday in Las Vegas, says that what happens in Vegas stays in Vegas. Brenda Britton and Ruby Nell Ormon each have a new puppy. Mary Jensen is preparing to fulfill her role as the mother of the groom in a December wedding. Our artists, Becky Parks and Beverly Pierce, won awards: 1st place for Becky in the Associated Artists Show and 3rd place for Beverly in the Creative Artists of Allen Show. We missed Jackie Tucker and Norene Murphy, who were unable to attend.

The meeting led to these continued events:

Sharon Carlton reports that a group of Daytimers met Jerry McGrew, Garland watercolor artist and musician, at the Patty Granville Performing Arts Center to view the first-ever Garland showing of the Southwestern Watercolor Society.

Mr. McGrew accompanied the Daytimers throughout the exhibition and explained the watercolor techniques used in each painting to produce the effect wanted by the artist. After the tour the Daytimers had a delicious lunch in downtown Garland and everyone pronounced the tour and lunch as an outstanding outing. A future event, traveling to the Farmer's Market, is being planned for the third Monday in October. The Canasta, Bridge, Stitch and Chat, Book Club and the Go Goes are all reporting good get-togethers.

Many Daytimers support ONA by not only membership, but also by attendance at the meetings. At the October 7th meeting Clara Meurer, Eleanor Nelson, Doris Autrey, Audrey King, Joan Canby, Monica Evans, and Sally Weiss were seated together at a table. At another table were Dot Mohrle, Robbie Lang, Audrey Golden and Martha Boyette. JoAnn Williams, Dianne Winter, Lucy Brock, Chris Beyers, Margaret Fowler, Sharon Carlton, Cecile LaBossier, Betty Prickett, Arlene Tovey, and Sarah Traylor and others also attended.

You will be thankful if you attend the special November Coffee at the home of Monica Evans, 2815 Hickory Bend on November 14 at 10 a.m. Plan to attend.

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$15 annual dues. Daytimers promote the Oakridge community and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. Any questions should be directed to President Sally Weiss at 972-202-1140.

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Webworms, earwigs, and ants populate list of pesky autumn pests

By Kimberly Schofield
Program Specialist, Urban IPM
Texas A&M University

FALL WEBWORMS

The fall webworm, *Hyphantria cunea* (Drury), is usually noticed when the light gray, silken webs are discovered on trees in late summer and early fall. Webworms enclose leaves and small branches within their webs. They are considered pests of shade and ornamental trees in urban areas, attacking more than 88 plants. Four generations occur in the south Texas, with 2 to 3 generations occurring in northern Texas. The last generation in the fall is usually the most damaging.

The caterpillars build webs soon after hatching and they will remain inside the webbing to consume the tender parts of the leaves. If the caterpillars consume all of the leaves within the web, then new foliage is encased within the webbing.

Caterpillars are 1 inch in length and they are pale yellow or green, covered with white and black tufts of long hair. The caterpillars will molt 6 or 7 times before dropping to the ground to pupate. Pupae are usually in the ground. The pupae over-winters, and the adult moths then emerge in the spring.

Some Control Options

Mechanical Control: Small webs can be removed by pruning and destroying the infested portions of branches. Also, a stick or pole can be used to snag individual webs. By twisting the pole, the web will wrap around the pole so it can be removed and destroyed.

Biological Control: Social wasps such as yellow jackets and paper nest wasps, birds, predatory stink bugs and parasitic flies are some of the natural enemies of fall webworms.

Bacillus thuringiensis, B.t., is effective against fall webworms if it is applied when the caterpillars are small. It is better to apply after the eggs hatch and the web is not so dense. Also spray surrounding leaves, since the *B.t.* coated leaves will also be eaten by the caterpillars.

Chemical Control: Chemicals should be applied after eggs hatch, since they are most effective on young caterpillars. Insecticides such as those containing spinosad and tebufenozide as active ingredients can be used. Multiple applications may need to be applied as generations occur.

more and more earwigs in and around structures. Earwigs have flattened bodies that allow them to gain entrance into structures. Once indoors, however, they do not reproduce. They are rarely harmful to humans, but they do have a pincer-like appendage at the end of their abdomen. This appendage can pinch human skin, but earwigs will not enter the ears and bore into the brain like some people may believe.

Earwigs are 1/4 to 1-1/4 inches in length. Their color varies from brown to black, with some species having yellow or buff-colored stripes or a reddish coloring on the head and body. All earwigs have a pair of hardened abdominal appendages at the end of the abdomen and a short pair of leathery wings and a second pair of membranous wings folded underneath the leathery pair.

A few species of earwigs can damage crops and ornamental plants due to their chewing mouthparts. However, most are beneficial, since they feed on living and dead insects. Earwigs found indoors feed on house plants or sweet or oily foods.

Earwigs forage at night, and they are usually attracted to lights.

EERIE EARWIGS!

Due to the drought, we are seeing more

To read the full version of the article, please visit www.oakridgena.com.

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MGA holds its Member-Guest tournament

Oakridge Senior Golf Association
By Jim Vineyard

September was an exciting month for the senior golfers. Our interclub day was at The Country Club of McKinney on September 27. Bob Figone was a member of the third place team. Joe Bennett and Ray Williams were members of the fifth place team. Bill Gamble was one of the closest to the hole. A great time was had by all.

Our first tournament was a mixim held on September 7. The winning team consisted of Henry Stover, Jim Vineyard, Felix Rotello, and Chuck Brown. Bill Gamble was closest to the hole on No. 11.

The Senior Match Play was conducted on 12, 14, and 19 September. The Championship Flight winner was Henry Stover with Bill Gamble second. The President's Flight winner was Rex Ferguson with Jay Miller second. The Vice President's Flight winner was Jim Tucker with Felix Rotello second. The Treasure's Flight winner was Chuck Brown with Bob Yen second. The winners in the consolation bracket were Lou Knight, Joe Bennett, Art Dietz, and Steve Remington.

Oakridge Men's Golf Association
By George Moore

The Men's Golf Association Annual Member-Member Two-Man Quota Tournament was held September 14-

16, 2006 at Oakridge Country Club.

Thirty-two, 2-man teams divided into two flights participated in this year's tournament. The format was Total Quota for the Two-Man Team over 36 holes. The event began with a Calcutta auction of all teams on Thursday night and ended with an awards banquet hosted by Oakridge C.C. on Saturday.

Congratulations to the winning teams listed below and thank you to all the participants.

Flight 1

1. George Moore & Jeff Stone (\$500)
2. Tom Beyers & Dennis Lynch (\$375)
2. Tim Bilton & Gary Zimmerman (\$375)
4. Mike Caruso & Hector James (\$260)
5. Rick Smith & Robert Watkins (\$180)
6. Norman Boss & Ken Talburt (\$100)

Flight 2

1. Tom Brocker & Fred David (\$500)
2. John Agee & Bob Highland (\$420)
3. Frank Puskarich & Darrin Willard (\$330)
4. Chuck Corley & Mike Ubben (\$260)
5. Alex Moch & Mickey Wilkins (\$180)
6. Mike Cunningham & Rob Rummel (\$50)
6. Kirk Beckert & Don Frauli (\$50)

The October MGA tournament is a Blue-White-Green tournament scheduled for Saturday, October 14. Players will receive 80% of their handicap and be flighted. Details and sign up will be in the Oakridge Pro Shop.

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From the ONA Recipe Box

Sloppy Joes
By Nancy Dupree

- 1 lb. ground chuck
- 1 med. onion, chopped
- ½ cup ketchup
- ¼ cup brown sugar
- ¼ cup apple cider vinegar
- 3 tbsp. Worcestershire sauce
- 3 tbsp. yellow or Dijon mustard
- 2 tsp. honey (optional)
- 6 hamburger buns

Combine beef and onion, brown, and drain fat. Mix all else, add to the meat, and simmer. Makes 6 servings.



Sloppy Joes are an easy dinner option that is sure to be a hit with kids. For more recipes, check out the recipe box at the ONA Web site, www.oakridgena.com.

Garland Theatre presents *Big River* and *You Can't Take It With You*

From *The Garland City Press*

Garland Civic Theatre, a member of Dallas Theatre League and Texas Non-Profit Theatres, is enjoy its 39th season of theatre in Garland. Performances are in the small theatre at the Granville Arts Center, Fifth and Austin Streets in downtown Garland. Season sponsors include Garland Cultural Arts Commission, Texas Commission on the Arts, Target, and *The Dallas Morning News*.

Visit the GCT Web site at www.garlandcivictheatre.org or call us at 972-485-8884 for more information.

Big River

GCT will present *Big River*, Roger Miller's Tony Award-winning musical based on Mark Twain's novel, *Huckleberry Finn*. Performances are set for October 5, 6, 7, 12, 13, 14, 19, 20, 21, 26, 27, and 28 at 8 p.m. and October 8, 15, 22, and 28 at 2 p.m. Tickets are available by calling the box office at 972-205-2790.

Ticket prices are \$21 to \$25, with discounts available for those over 60 and under 18. Group prices are also available. There is a service charge of \$1 per ticket.

The production will be directed by Charles Ballinger. Music director will

be Carey Litchford, and choreographer will be Steve Beene. The cast includes Jonathan Metting as Huckelberry Finn, D. Dean as Jim, Burl Proctor as the King, and S. Russell Vaden as the Duke.

In the ensemble are Gene DuBose, Laurie Johnson, Jan Roeton, Tom Grugle, Jackie Kemp, Delynda Johnson-Morovec, Julia McFerrin, Nikki Britten, Kimberly Mickle, Jack Perl, Angela Basolo, Lindsay Sawyer, Sherna Armstrong, Tom Armistead, Kelli Parmenter, Jeanie Runion, Jarvon Hughes, Quincy Jones, and Marilyn Twyman.

Twain's timeless classic sweeps you down the mighty Mississippi as the irrepressible Huck Finn helps his friend, Jim, a runaway slave, escape to freedom at the mouth of the Ohio River.

You Can't Take It With You

GCT's *You Can't Take It With You* will open with a preview performance on November 16. Other performances are scheduled for Nov. 17, 18, 24, 25, 31, December 1, 2, 7, 8, and 9 at 8 p.m. and Nov. 19, 25, 26, December 3 and 9 at 2 p.m.

Tickets are available by calling the box office at 972-205-2790. Ticket prices are \$16 to \$20, depending on the performance, plus a \$1 service charge. Discounts are available for those over 60

The Garland Civic Theatre will present *Big River*, an award-winning musical based on Mark Twain's classic novel *Huckleberry Finn*.



and under 18 and for groups of 15 or more.

You Can't Take It With You opened in New York in December of 1936 to instant critical and popular acclaim. This collaboration, written, by playwrights George S. Kaufman and Moss Hart, was awarded the Pulitzer Prize in 1936. Kaufman and Hart sold the film rights and the film won an Academy Award for Best Picture.

Directed by GCT Artistic Director Kyle McClaran, *You Can't Take It With You* relates a humorous encounter between a conservative family and the crazy Vanderhof household. The formula — one of a loveable family getting in scrapes and overcoming obstacles — has been adopted as a format by most of today's television comedies.

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Upcoming Events

Oct. 26	Daytimers Ladies Night Out
Nov. 2	Oakridge Women's Club
Nov. 3	Deadline for <i>Oakridge News</i> Articles
Nov. 11	Vital Neighborhoods Kickoff Meeting
Nov. 14	Daytimers Monthly Meeting

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