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## New membership drive for the new ONA fiscal year

By Mike Dollar  
ONA President

Our new operating year begins this month and we kick this off with a membership drive. Membership forms have been mailed to the entire Oakridge neighborhood. Please fill yours out carefully and return it. Remember to signify whether or not you want included in the annual membership directory, and if you'd like your newsletter by email instead of a hardcopy.

We will soon be getting a plan from the City of Garland's Oakridge Neighborhood Program Team. The leadership from Oakridge, Oakcrest, and Briar Oaks developments will have an opportunity to evaluate an improvement plan developed by this team. Our hope is that, with help from city departments, we can revitalize and impact this community in a positive way. As a neighborhood we must continue moving forward, setting long-term goals, and making improvements. Our progress on landscaping the entrances has been slow due to the large amount of rain

we've received. Our plan is to address each entrance in the neighborhood in a sequential manner beginning with Diamond Oaks at Jupiter. The board believes we can make significant progress on these efforts this year.

The City of Garland has asked that citizens sign up for the CodeRED Notification System. The CodeRED system gives city officials the ability to deliver pre-recorded emergency telephone notification/information messages to targeted areas or the entire city at a rate of up to 60,000 calls per hour. Such urgent notifications would include water main breaks, large electric utility outages, time-sensitive public health alerts, hazardous chemical spills, emergency evacuation alerts and more. The notifications can be limited to a specific area within Garland or can be sent city-wide. To ensure no one is omitted, Ms. Dorothy White, the City's Public and Media Affairs Manager urges all individuals and businesses to log onto the City's website, [www.ci.garland.tx.us](http://www.ci.garland.tx.us), and follow the link to the "CodeRED Residential and Business Data Collection" page. Those without

Internet access may call 972-205-2828 to provide their registration information. Required information includes first and last name, street address (no P.O. boxes), city, state, zip code, and primary phone number, additional phone numbers (optional).

Finally, I want to thank this year's nominating committee for their hard work in bringing to the general membership a list of fine volunteers to fill positions on the ONA board. I want to thank the new board members for their volunteerism and help. I want to also thank those who helped on the board last year, but whose busy schedules wouldn't allow re-enlistment for this year.

Last but not least, I want to especially thank the board members who are returning this year. Participating with this group of individuals makes me proud to be part of this community and organization. As a neighborhood we are fortunate to have such residents, and I am fortunate to have this group as my friends. Their support of me and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association has been huge. Thank you all!

### I•N•S•I•D•E *this issue*

The Oakridge Daytimers celebrated another great year at the May Luncheon. **Page 2**

Bruce Miller helps us diagnose common plant ailments. **Page 3**

Oakridge artist Becky Parks places in the Irving Art Association Annual Show. **Page 4**

Oakridge Women's Club share their announcements. **Page 4**

Summer brings fire ants and mosquitoes. Find out what to do about them. **Page 5**

## Thank You, Oakridge

By Rick Williams  
District 7, City Council

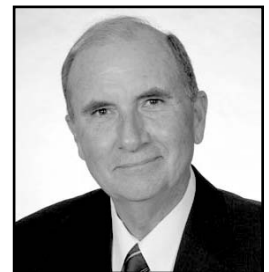
I was obviously very pleased with the May 12th election, and it was gratifying to see that my door knocking campaign to introduce myself to the voters paid off. There are 7 precincts in District 7, and precinct 2106 is bounded by Buckingham, Shiloh, Beltline, and Jupiter (i.e., basically, the Oakridge neighborhood). When I started my campaign, I began in precinct 2106 because I knew there were a lot of active voters. During my Oakridge campaigning, I rang many door bells and met many very nice individuals. Special mention has to go to Tony and Tillie Battaglia on Laurel Oaks who got me involved in their "Our Heroes" celebration which raised a lot of

Rick Williams

District 7

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money for our soldiers in the Middle East. Tony's effort, with the assistance of many others in Oakridge, is a perfect example of what a neighborhood can do when residents come together for a common purpose. My campaigning efforts in precinct 2106 paid off, as I carried that precinct 162 to 99. Thanks to all of you who voted – no matter for whom you voted!

# Oakridge Daytimers May Luncheon

**By Dianne Winter  
Oakridge Daytimers**

To celebrate the end of a wonderful year, more than 40 Daytimers met at the Veranda Room at Antiqueland for lunch on May 8th. Everyone visited and discussed summer plans while enjoying tasty soup and salads. Colorful gladiolus brightened the eye pleasing surroundings of the tea room. Our newest member, Betty Cavanaugh was in attendance and Lois Troup attended as a guest

President, Sally Weiss, made a few announcements before lunch was served. Beverly Pierce and Becky Parks were recognized as winners in art shows in which their paintings were exhibited. Roberta Jones, founder of Daytimers, was recognized.

Margaret Fowler related the success of the Heroes Golf Tournament in recognition of the troops in our area. The event raised money for the Fisher House for veterans.

She thanked those who helped make it successful.

Shirley Mohler and Sharon Carlton reported on the Daytimers T shirts, the ONA Picnic and asked for volunteers for the 4th of July Parade.

Sally presented Gail Durbin with a going away gift and thanked her for all of her contributions and devotion to the organization. The club members autographed a Daytimers T shirt for her.

Audrey King announced birthdays and well wishes.

Cecile La Bossier presented Sally with a parting gift and thanked her for her leadership and work in the past year.

September Coffee will be held September 11th, 10 am at the home of Betty Prickett, 2013 Diamond Oaks. Get ready for a great year.

Annual Dues of \$15.00 will be collected at that time.

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$15 dues. Daytimers promote the Oakridge Community and the ONA. Questions should be directed to President, Cecile La Bossiere, at 972-896- 9413.

## About the ONA

Oakridge News is a publication of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association.

### ONA OFFICERS

President .....Mike Dollar  
Vice President .....Keith Engler  
Secretary .....Karen Engler  
Treasurer .....Joann Williams

### DISTRICT DIRECTORS

District 1 .....Joe & Beth Fagan  
District 2 .....Jim Norris  
District 3 .....Sandra Stevens  
District 4 .....Joan & Dan Nichols  
District 5 .....Tony & Tillie Battaglia  
District 6 .....Phil Hanas  
District 7 .....David & Sharon Parrish

### COMMITTEES

Membership .....Cecile LaBossiere  
Communication ....Ben Moss & Keith Engler  
Environmental .....Don Pattie  
CPS .....Eric Morris & Carol Garrison  
Special Events .....S. Rutherford-Franks  
Welcome Wagon .....Cecile LaBossiere

## Daytimers 2007/2008 Leadership:

### Officers:

President: Cecile La Bossier  
Vice president: Nell Burt  
Treasurer/Membership: Jo Ann Williams

### Committee Chairmen:

Calendar: Mary Pattie  
Email Messaging: Sally Weiss  
Historian/Scrapbook: Suzanne Snow, Chris Beyers, Monica Evans, Cecile La Bossiere  
Hospitality: Margaret Fowler  
Nametags: Jo Ann Williams  
Newsletter: Dianne Winter and Chris Beyers

Secret Pals; Mary Jensen  
Sunshine: Audrey King  
Telephone Messaging: Charlotte Vaughter, Frances Morgen, Bev Pierce, Jo Bristol, Clara Mae Muerer

### Group Leaders

Book Club: Betty Thomas  
Bridge: Dot Mohrle  
Canasta: Chris Beyers  
ETC: As volunteered  
Late Bloomers: Suzanne Snow  
Special Events: Shirley Mohler and Sharon Carlton  
Stitch and Chat: Norene Murphy and Mary Musseman

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# July gardening tips

**By Bruce Miller**  
[www.bruce millernursery.com](http://www.bruce millernursery.com)

July in Texas is like living in the tropics without the equatorial monsoon and rains. Because of the lack of rain our humidity is relatively low, making our temperatures bearable. Bearable also is relative to whether you are in air conditioning or re-roofing a house. This heat opens up a whole other world of wonderful, magnificent plants from the tropics. True, we have to treat them like annuals and replant them each year, unless you have the space to winter them inside

Bougainvillea, hibiscus, mandevilla, allamanda, and pentas, among others, are some of the world's most beautiful flowering plants worthy of pot culture, hanging baskets and even in the garden soil.

If your tropical plant has healthy foliage but does not bloom, you are probably over watering. Most tropicals perform better in pots with good drainage and in full sun. They are well worth any effort or expense.

To read more Bruce Miller columns, visit [www.bruce millernursery.com](http://www.bruce millernursery.com).

## Pests and Diseases

When walking through the garden check the leaves of shrubs and flowers. A close inspection may reveal some oddities that need attention. You have been looking at healthy foliage all spring but suddenly something about it is different.

### Symptom

- Not quite as green as it should be?
- Funny little speckles on the leaves?
- White fuzzy blobs scattered along the stems?
- Sticky leaves?
- Black soot on leaf surface?

- Little purple circles on leaves?
- White chalky stuff on leaf surface?
- Holes in leaf?
- Edges of leaves missing?

- All leaves missing?
- Plant totally brown?
- Plant completely missing?

Bring in samples of your ailing plants for accurate solutions by our experts.

Keep pruning roses to instigate new growth and new blooms. Remember to prune far enough to include two sets of leaves. Rose aficionados call this "dead heading". The more you prune, the more they bloom. Fertilize often, at least monthly.

If you last planted petunias in the spring and they are getting leggy, prune them back to about 6 inches. Check the cuttings for stickiness usually caused by aphids. Spray them with Pyrethrin or neem oil then feed them with our 19-13-6 'color up' fertilizer and water well. They should recover in about two weeks.

Chinch bugs can be a serious problem in the July lawn and can damage large areas of turf in a short period of time. Use 'Kill-a-Bug' granules which also controls fleas, chiggers, crickets and other crawling critters. We also have organic solutions for these problems.

Check zinnias for mildew on lower leaves. It will appear to be a white powder. Spray with the fungicide Daconil or Fertilome's Systemic Fungicide.

### Diagnosis

- Mites, lace bugs, leaf hoppers
- Scab, fungal leaf spot
- Mealy bugs, wooly aphids
- Honey-dew left by aphids
- Honey-dew that has collected pollution, white fly mold on gardenias
- Many forms of fungus
- Powdery mildew
- Slugs, snails
- Pill bugs, sow bugs, caterpillars, grasshoppers
- Very hungry grasshoppers
- Whoops, forgot to water!
- Neighborhood bandit!

Philip Hanas  
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# Oakridge artist wins awards



**Becky Parks**, a resident of Oakridge, has been awarded second place in the oil, acrylic and pastel division of the Irving Art Association Annual Members Show. Other juried shows in which Parks has exhibits are the Associated Creative Arts and the Texas and Neighbors Shows at the Irving Center for the Arts. Parks also has paintings exhibited in the Richardson 50 plus Show at the Richardson Library.

Becky travels in France and Italy and is fluent in the French language. Ask her and her husband, Sonny, about driving in France.

## Oakridge Women's Club notes and announcements

There will be no Parade at the Country Club this year.

Please join us at the Garland Star Spangled 4th celebrations!

We are meeting on the 4th of July for a family swim at Libby's at noon. Bring your suits and a snack. Then we will go the Firewheel Town Center for the family fun and fireworks celebration.

Congratulations to Rebecca and James on their newest addition. Little Sophia Nicole born May 24th on her mommy's birthday! Big brother James Jr. is so proud!

Check your e-mail for the upcoming ladies night out!

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@tx.rr.com](mailto:TOMLIB@tx.rr.com)

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 \$20.00.

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**NO JOB IS TOO SMALL**

## Summertime pest control tips

**Kimberly Schofield**  
**Program Specialist-Urban IPM**  
**Texas A&M University**

Red imported fire ants are a major insect pest in Texas. They affect everyone from farmers to homeowners due to their aggressive nature and medically important sting. There were no natural enemies introduced with these ants, so their populations have exploded. However recently researchers have been able to detect another natural enemy to decrease the fire ant population, this time it is a virus.

This virus was detected in 2002 by researchers at the U.S. Department of Agriculture in Florida. The virus causes a slow death of the colony, so once it is introduced it will take around 3 months for the colony to decline. The efforts are now to seek a commercial partner to develop the virus into a bait to control fire ants.

The virus is only one weapon against these ants. These fire ants are native of South America and there we find dozens of natural enemies. The trouble is introducing and having the natural enemy survive in North America. One successful natural enemy that has been released in the southern U.S. is the phorid fly. The female phorid fly lays its egg inside the fire ant worker and then uses the fire ant worker to complete its developmental cycle. As the fly develops, it moves into the head capsule of the fire ant, which causes the ant to become decapitated. The fly then completes its final stages in the fire ant head, where it emerges as an adult phorid fly.

Remember that the fire ant is not all bad. They do aerate the soil and they feed on other urban pests such as our cockroaches, fleas and ticks.

### Elm Flea Weevil to Attack Elm Trees

Elm flea weevils have been feasting on elm trees in North Texas. They are very small beetles about 1.6 mm long,

which looks like a black speck to the naked eye. However, under magnification one will see the prominent curving mouthpart which is distinctive of the weevil family. They also have a large hindleg that is similar to fleas, hence the common name of this beetle. Also if populations are large, then some beetles may fall onto the lawn or sidewalk or even onto the homeowner when they are under the tree.

The potential to defoliate elms can be a possibility, since these beetles leave tiny holes in the leaf as they feed. However the defoliation will not kill the tree directly, but the tree may weaken or become stressed. This could lead to other insects or pathogens to attack the stressed tree.

The good thing is these weevils will only feed on elm trees so there is no need to treat surrounding trees. Also their damage will not harm healthy trees, but stressed trees will be affected by these beetles. Since they feed on the leaves, they can be controlled with foliar sprays such as those containing acephate or permethrin. If the trees are large, then pest control professional may need to be contacted.

### Multiplying Mosquitoes

Due to all of the recent rains, we have another flying insect joining us outside: the mosquito. Mosquitoes are a diverse group of flies, and there are over 85 species in Texas.

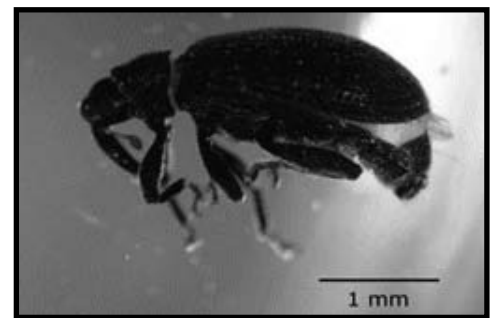
Mosquitoes develop through a complete lifecycle with an egg, larva, pupa and adult stage. Mosquito eggs may be laid individually or in clusters on the surface of water or in dry locations that will flood periodically. The eggs hatch into larvae that eat microscopic plants, animals and other organic material in the water. The larvae will then develop into pupae, which do not feed. Then the adult stage will emerge from the water and take flight.

Adult male and female mosquitoes will feed on nectar, honeydew and fruit



**Red Imported Fire Ant Workers.**

Photo by Bart Drees, Texas A&M University.



**Adult Elm Flea Weevil**

Photo by Mike Merchant, Texas A&M University.



**Asian tiger mosquito.** Photo by Bart Drees, Texas A&M University.

juices. Male mosquitoes will have hairy antennae that they use to locate females. The female mosquito will also consume blood in order to develop her eggs. This causes the female mosquito to be considered one of the biggest medical threats to humans, since they are capable of transmitting many diseases, such as West Nile Virus, Malaria, Eastern Equine Encephalitis, and Yellow Fever.

### Thank You, Oakridge (continued from page 1)

I would also like to acknowledge one other very special Oakridge resident for his contribution to District 7 and that is Mark Monroe. He had been an outstanding councilman during that last 5 years, despite simultaneously raising a young family, having a full-time job, and completing his masters degree from UTD (in May 2007). Despite his very busy schedule, he found the time to come to our Camelot Neighborhood Association meetings, and we always appreciated that. I wish Mark and his family the best in the future!

Speaking of the future, what are my plans? All the candidates had a meeting with Mayor Bob Day and other senior city staff several months before the election. Mayor Day said that you can approach the council job two ways: (A) Show up for council meetings with minimal research on the agenda, and when

you get constituent concerns/issues/questions, just forward them to City staff, OR (B) Work hard, study your agenda, be active in your district, help in every way you can to resolve issues and get needed changes made. Personally, I'm choosing Plan B!! I retired from the Social Security Administration on January 3, and being a Councilman for District 7 is my new job. I plan to work hard, and I plan to attend Oakridge Neighborhood Association meetings to update you on issues and to hear your concerns. As councilman, I am your representative, and to be effective, I need to hear your concerns and suggestions. My email is rickwilli@gmail.com and cell number is 214 535-2648.

Finally, I would just like to thank all of you whom I met while campaigning in Oakridge. Your courtesy and kindness to me when I came knocking on your door will not be forgotten.



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Initiation Fee: \$500

**Special Promotion:** Sign up by April 1st and receive \$100 food credit in the dining room (excludes alcohol sales).

#### Oakridge Neighborhood Sports Plus Promotion

Members and their family enjoy full club privileges at Oakridge Country Club, Los Rios and The Shores. Membership includes golf access, tennis, swimming, dining and participation in events/tournaments.

**Initiation Fee:** Regularly \$199 - waived if membership is purchased before April 1st, 2007

**Sports Plus - Single:** \$49.95/month plus tax

**Sports Plus - Family:** \$69.95/month plus tax

Sign up by April 1st, 2007 and receive 4 guest passes for cart and green fees

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## Summertime pest control (continued from page 5)

### Some Options for Controlling Mosquito Populations Outdoors:

1) The number one way to reduce mosquito populations in your yard is source reduction!! Mosquitoes need as little as a bottle cap full of water in order to complete their lifecycle. If standing water is eliminated in your backyard, then the overall mosquito population in your area will be reduced.

- Areas containing water should be changed once a week or emptied, such as wading pools buckets, bird baths, pet dishes, ponds, boat covers, and irrigation systems.

- Holes or depressions in trees should be filled with sand or mortar.

- Leaky pipes should be repaired.

- If standing water can not be drained, then mosquito dunks containing *Bacillus thuringiensis israelensis (Bti)* can be used.

2) Mow tall grass and reduce the amount of foliage to reduce the resting sites for adult mosquitoes.

3) Insecticides can be applied to trees and shrubs, such as those containing pyrethrins, to kill adult mosquitoes.

### Some Options to Prevent Mosquito Bites:

1) Avoid wearing dark colors, since mosquitoes rely on visual cues to locate hosts.

2) Avoid exercising or yard work in the heat of the day, since mosquitoes are attracted to carbon dioxide and perspiration.

3) Avoid wearing fruity or floral fragrances in perfumes, hair products, or sunscreens, since these scents are more attractive to mosquitoes.

4) Wear long, loose-fitting clothing to avoid mosquito bites.

5) Chemicals can be applied to the skin and clothes to prevent bites. There are many mosquito repellents on the market such as those containing DEET, picaridin, oil of lemon eucalyptus, oil of eucalyptus, and soybean oil-based repellents.

*Mention of commercial products is for educational purposes only and does not represent endorsement by Texas Cooperative Extension or The Texas A&M University System. Insecticide label registrations are subject to change,*

*and changes may have occurred since this publication was printed. The pesticide user is always responsible for applying products in accordance with label directions. Always read and carefully follow the instructions on the container label.*

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### upcoming events

Sundays	Nicholson Memorial Library open, 2 to 6 p.m.
June 17	Father's Day
June 19	Daytimers Weekly Canasta
July 4	Independence Day Garland Star-Spangled 4th Celebration



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