Gakridge News



www.oakridgena.org

June 2012 Vol. 20, No. 06

Presidents Message for June 2012

Our meeting on May 24th was well attended. We now have a new slate of officers and new district directors in four districts. Changes in your officers are secretary Sharon Parrish and Treasurer Jim Conrath, I want to Thank both Sharon and Jim for stepping into very important roles on our board as officers. We also have four new district directors: District 2 Fern Cook, District 3 Sandra Stevens, District 4 Mary Pattie and District 7 David Parrish. I want to Thank these new directors for stepping into these very important roles.

Thanks goes to Joe Fagan for getting two gentlemen from Bruce Miller Nursery to visit with us and give us some information for our landscaping and yards. Howard Little and Steve Robinson from Bruce Miller Nursery gave a presentation on the

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ONA OFFICERS

President Larry Walters
Vice President Larry Grisham
Secretary Sharon Parrish
Treasurer Jim Conrath

ONA DIRECTORS

District 1
Deb Pandak
District 2
Fern Cook
District 3
Sandra Steven
District 4
Mary Pattie
District 5
District 6
Mark Edwards
District 7
David Parrish

ONA COMMITTEES

Membership Cecile LaBossiere
Communications Dana Hopkins
Environmental Joe Fagan

Crime Prevention & Safety Brenda Olive

City Council by Rick Williams

In a previous article, I mentioned that we had changed our ordinance in Garland so that the water stage restrictions were generally consistent with other North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) cities and consistent with the stage restriction guidelines provided by the NTMWD. The major change in our new ordinance is that Stage 3 means only watering once per week (on Saturday only!) during months April through October, and we were in Stage 3 in Garland until the Council Work Session on May 1. During that meeting, we decided to move to Stage 2 for a variety of reasons, not the least of which was the fact that NTMWD had been releasing water from Lake Lavon as part of its conservation plan. So, effective May 2, Garland went to Stage 2. Another change in the new ordinance is that when twice per week watering is allowed in Stage 2, the two watering days are Tuesday and Saturday. The old ordinance tied the twice per week

watering days to odd/even house numbers, but that rule is <u>gone</u>. As always, no matter what the stage restriction is, watering can only be done before 10:00AM in the morning or after 6:00PM in the evening. By the way, the NTMWD Board will meet on May 24 and I'm pretty sure they will go to Stage 2 effective June 1. As a member city (and there are 13 of us) of NTMWD, we can independently decide when to go to stage restrictions, and that's what we did on May 1.

At the May 1 City Council meeting, the Mayor read three "Excellence in Neighborhood Service Award" proclamations for three city employees who had done noteworthy work as part of the Neighborhood Resource Team. NPO John Capers was one of them, and he was recognized for solving a large number of burglaries and other crimes as well as his excellent working relation-

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Page 2 ONA Newsletter

Daytimers by Dianne Winters

OAKRIDGE DAYTIMERS SPRING LUNCHEON

To celebrate the past year and preview the coming year, the Daytimers met at Siciliano's Italian Restaurant for the Spring Luncheon on May 8, 2012. More than two dozen attendees enjoyed the program and fellowship that Chris Beyers had planned in the absence of Peggy Crenshaw, outgoing president.

Chris had prepared a beautiful brochure with the menu and a poem of Daytimer friendship that she had creatively composed. Suzanne Snow educated the Daytimers with the Special Days of May including May 8th – No Sock Day. Suzanne led the prayer to bless the food and the Daytimers were served salads or soups, a choice of Italian dishes and desserts.

Chris announced the current birthdays, the events of the summer and the Daytimers 2012 – 2013 Officers and Group Leaders.

Members receive either a paper or email copy of

the upcoming events to refer to which include Mah Jongg, Book Club, Canasta, Bridge, Special Events, Coffees and Luncheons. Ruby Nell Ormon circulated a sign- up sheet for Water Aerobics.

Special Event Announcements will be sent via email for members to participate in.

Daytimers encourage all Oakridge women residents who are interested in meeting their neighbors and receiving neighborhood information to come and join Daytimers. Daytimers is an excellent forum for discussion and information concerning Oakridge.

Summer intervenes now so the next meeting will be held at:

The home of Betty Prickett, 2013 Diamond Oaks –September 11th at 9:30 am. Please come and bring a neighbor.



Daytimers 2012 - 2013 Officers + Group Leaders

President: Chris Beyers

Meeting Coordinator: Dianne Winter

Treasurer: Peggy Crenshaw

Sunshine (Birthdays): Audrey King

Sunshine (Illness): Lillian Dalton

E-mail Messenger & Nametags: Jo Ann Williams

Telephone Messengers: Charlotte Vaughter

Calendar: Ernie Gharis

Gifts: Ann Conrath

Meeting Correspondent: Dianne Winter / Chris

Beyers

Digital Media: Suzanne Snow

Programs & Special Event Announcements: Sally

Weiss and Gail Durbin

Bridge Coordinator: Dot Mohrle

Canasta Organizer: Margaret Fowler

Book Club Leader: Peggy Crenshaw

Mah Jongg Coordinator: Chris Beyers

GOGO Coordinator: Margaret Fowler

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President's Message (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

type of plants to grow in Texas. They also gave our Association. If you need to know who your some helpful hints on how to water and fertilize to district representative is or need to get in touch keep your plants and yards healthy through the with your district representative go to our ONA summer months. If you take a picture of a sick website. My email address is on the ONA web plant, you can take the picture to the nursery and site. Our website is www.oakridgena.org. Please they will attempt to diagnose the problem.

Did you know if you mention that you are an Oakridge resident you will receive a 15% discount on I am sure that all of you are aware that the sale your purchase.

Again I would like to Thank Brenda Olive and her committee for their time that they spent finding volunteers to fill the open board positions.

starting her membership campaign. It is the ONA policy to send out our newsletter in June to all the residents in Oakridge. Please take the time to read the newsletter and join Our Neighborhood Association. We had some growth in the 2011-

2012 year and would certainly like to have everyone in the neighborhood to become a member of take a look at our website and become a mem-

of the golf course had a setback. From the grapevine I think we still have an interested party or two. I do know for a fact that our water permit has been approved. At least if there is another buyer, they will not have to wait for approval of Everyone get ready Cecile is getting close to the permit. Let's all keep our fingers crossed and maybe we will have better news soon.

> Hope all of our neighbors have a good and safe June.

City Council (continued)

(Continued from page 1)

ship with home owner and neighborhood associations. We in District 7 all know what a great job he does, so it was nice to see him be recognized.

Most of you likely received your new voters registration card recently. I noticed on mine that the precinct number changed from 2100 to 2700, so keep this in mind when you are looking for where your precinct is voting.

On May 22, we swore in two new council members. Tim Campbell replaced Doug Athas as the District 1 representative, and B. J. Williams replaced Larry Jeffus as the District 4 representative. However, in District 2, Perky Cox will remain for about another month as there is a runoff election for her position in District 2.

I had an Oakridge constituent call me about a lost dog that had been picked up by a neighbor and turned into Garland Animal Services. The dog was not claimed, and by State law, it be-

came the property of the City after 3 days. The dog was then adopted by another Garland citizen. Once it was determined what had happened to the lost dog, we were most fortunate that the person who adopted it did agree to give it back to the City so it could be returned to the original owner. This was a happy ending as the adopted owner had no legal obligation to return it. The moral of this tale is, keep a name tag on your dog.

On May 15, the Garland City Council approved a single story medical office/clinic on the NE corner of Jupiter and Collins. When I first got elected 5 years ago, we turned down a video store at that location hoping we would find something more desirable. This clinic is exactly the type of development I had hoped for. After this is built, there will still be one more empty lot between it and the animal clinic just to the north.

As always, if you have questions or concerns, feel free to call me (214 535-2648) or E-mail me at rickwilli@gmail.com.

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Crime and Safety Report By Brenda Olive

This month's crime report is pretty much where we find ourselves every month. Too many, only zero would be great, but at least we're not in the numbers that other neighborhoods find themselves in. That being said, we can do better. Every day when we make our rounds, we see garage doors standing open, with some enticing things clearly visible—I know it's a pain to constantly be opening and closing the garage door when you're working outside, it always seems the one thing you need is back there in the garage and you've got to go and get it out, and of course, rather than constantly raising and lowering the door, we tend to just leave it open—this one time it won't make a difference. But, unfortunately, it can, and often does. Remember, burglary habitation includes items taken from garages where the door has been left open. The other concern, when you leave the garage door open it provides an easy entry into your house too, if you're working outside and can't see the garage door, even for a few minutes, close it. Otherwise, when you go back inside you may find that more than your lawnmower or golf clubs have been stolen, and you definitely don't want to go back inside and find a stranger standing in your bedroom, cleaning out your jewelry box.

Statistics for weeks 4/22/12 through 5/12/12; statistics for week beginning 5/13 are not yet available.

4/23/12 2300 block of Diamond Oaks---Burglary, Vehicle

4/27/12 2100 block of Diamond Oaks---Property Theft-greater than \$50

4/28/12 2900 block of Willow Ridge---Burglary, Habitation

4/29/12 2000 block of Overview—Theft of Vehi-

cle Parts

5/07/12 2400 block of Golden Oaks---Criminal Mischief-less than \$50, (house is vacant)

5/09/12 2100 block of Windy Ridge---Property Theft- \$ amount not available

As some of you are aware, the individual we dubbed "The Oakridge Peeper" was released from prison in December, 2011. The Garland Police Department was not notified of his early release and discovered this only after an incident in a nearby neighborhood in March, 2012. At that crime scene a fingerprint was found by the GPD forensics team and it was visually matched to our "peeper". GPD detectives made a call to the state prison system and learned of his early release. This probable arrest for breaking and entering fell through, however because there was an eye-witness who gave a description of the culprit who, in no way, matched our peeper. The eye-witness could not pick our guy out of a lineup, and there was no additional evidence to put him at the scene. He was ultimately charged with a parole violation and he was placed in Dallas County jail, where he stayed until the week of May 7th. He was then released because he had been in jail for the maximum time for the parole violation. We know this individual's parents live in Holford Park, although we don't know where he is currently residing, we are alerting Oakridge residents to be on the watch... In conjunction with this request, we are asking that Oakridge residents refrain from riding bikes on the golf course because this was a favored method of traveling around Oakridge previously and we have no reason to believe that he would change a very successful mode of transportation. A lone individual out on the course will be far more noticeable if residents aren't riding there also. This individual is white, 42 years old, balding on top,

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Crime and Safety Report (continued)

(Continued from page 4)

sandy colored hair on sides and back, cut very short, he weighs around 180 lbs., is approximately 6 ft. 2 inches tall, sometimes wears glasses, sometimes wears his beard in the latest "scruffy" manner. In the past he usually wore shorts and t-shirts, or long sleeved shirts, oftentimes with a shirt tied around his waist. He may have more than one bike in his possession, so the color of the bike can vary. If you see someone matching this description riding a bike here in Oakridge, either on the course or on the street, please let us know at 972-495-3402. You can leave a message, including your name/address/ phone number for a call back, along with the date, time and location you observed this individual, what he was wearing and if possible the direction he was traveling. In this way we can build a record for the GPD to follow-up on. The

> Groom & Sons' Hardware

5130 N. Jupiter Mon. - Fri. 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. 214.703.6565

Sat 8 to 6 / Sun 10 to 5



Great Father's Day Gift!

A New Weber Grill for Dad





Citizens on Patrol are on the look-out also. Be aware also that his favored time for "looking" was early am or late pm, particularly at homes that have a rear, outside wall bathroom or bedroom. He tends to ride around the neighborhood during the daytime, just cruising along watching the neighbors, looking for his next target.

As most members of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association know, there is an appointed position on the Board of Directors for "Crime and Safety". This is a one year term of office, appointed by the President and approved by the 4 officers and 7 district directors. In May 2011 I was asked to serve in this position and that is why I've been writing a newsletter article each month to not only provide you with updates on the statistics for crime here in Oakridge, but also to keep you informed about matters that can affect you and your family, both criminal and safety I know sometimes these articles have been long winded—and I truly apologize for my love of the written language. Believe me, if I am tapped to serve in the same position again, I will definitely be far less verbose!



Metro Self Storage 2809 Belt Line Road Garland, TX 75044 972-495-9505



- Competitive Rates
- Extended access hours
- Online payment
- 100% drive-up units
- Satisfaction guaranteed

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Let Sue Do It

The repairman is coming, but you have a meeting? Let Sue do it.

Kitty and Rover won't go to the kennel? Let Sue do it.

Endless possibilities and reasonable pricing:

- pet sitting or house sitting
- · mail and paper pickup (nominal charge)
- · errands (bank, cleaners, pharmacy)
- grocery shopping (especially for home bound)



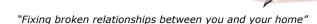
Let Sue Do It
Oakridge area resident since 1988
Sue Hageland 972-530-5089

Sir Fixalot LLC

Keith Engler Handyman Services

Oakridge Resident & ONA Board Member Electrical, Lighting, Painting, Websites, Honey-Do lists... See website or call for more details 972-414-3272

www.SirFixalotLLC.com





David C. Thomas

Certified Public Accountant

Tax Service & Planning

1040 Personal Tax Returns

Business/Corporate Returns

Please call for an

Appointment to review

Your specific situation.

Oakridge resident 21 years.

972-414-8466

dthomas848@aol.com



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OAKRIDGE PAINT & PAPER Philip Hanas 214-724-1912

coachphil57@aol.com

PAINTING: Interior, Exterior, Cabinets, Doors, Faux finish

CARPENTRY: Exterior Soffit and Fascia Repair, Install Crown Molding, Chair Rail,

Baseboards, Remove Paneling, Hang Doors, Replace Exterior Siding

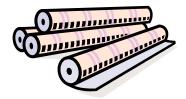
DRYWALL: Repair, Replace, Textures, Skip Trowel, Acoustic Removal

WALLPAPER: Hanging and Removal

OAKRIDGE RESIDENT SINCE 1996

ONA MEMBER/FORMER BOARD MEMBER QUALITY WORK DONE BY THE OWNER

INSURED





Estate Sales

Ву

GRANNY'S DISCARDS

Members of Oakridge since 1996

Specializing in Antiques for 12 years

Jerra Lewis Jan Schrah

Owner Owner

972-670-0373 (Cell) 972-670-2710 (Cell)

972-675-2191 (Home) 972-675-6678 (Home)

janischr9@live.com philjerralewis@hotmail.com

- Downsizing
- Moving Sales
- Liquidating Estates



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Citizens on Patrol by Brenda Olive

During recent weeks we have been questioned about our position as Citizens on Patrol here in Garland. This obviously is a result of the incident that occurred in Florida. Please be aware that the individual charged in the case in Florida was not a trained Citizen on Patrol. He was not operating under the guidance of the local police department there. In fact, that city doesn't have a "Citizens on Patrol" group at all. Apparently he was simply trying to help his local homeowners association. The Oakridge Citizens on Patrol are not a part of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, The ONA doesn't give the COP Power, as one resident put it, and we don't answer to the ONA at all. We do share information with the ONA when it can benefit our neighborhood. We are strictly under the auspices of the Garland Police Department and follow their strict





Flag Fanatics

All states, International, Military & Custom Flags, NCAA Flags

Decals and much more flag related items.

214-289-7501 214-718-5151 guidelines. Most of us have not only gone through the COP training classes, which means we have been background checked, etc., but then we have also gone through the Garland Citizens Police Academy (pretty difficult!), the Garland Citizens Fire Academy, (very difficult) and we gone through Citizen Emergency Response Team training and been certified. As CERT members and are called upon when there are emergency situations, similar to the hurricanes that hit in south Texas, we were responsible in meeting the evacuees, helping them find families or other sources for living accommodations. We do not carry weapons, in fact, we aren't allowed to have a weapon in our vehicle or on our person even if we have a CHL license (concealed handgun license) while we are out on patrol. We are generally very visible, with signs on our vehicles and yellow dome lights on top of the vehicle. We patrol the entire neighborhood, including the alleys (approximately 14 miles) in our personal vehicles, at our own expense. We are not compensated in any way by the city. (The lights, signs and shirts are paid for out of our personal funds.) The coordinator and some of the patrollers attend quarterly meetings for up -training, and that information is passed on to those who are unable to attend the meetings. We receive updates from the police department regularly and maintain contact with both our Neighborhood Police Officer as well as with the police department itself. We answer calls regarding suspicious individuals, solicitors, unusual activity, etc. and contact the police department for actual contact with any individual(s) in question. We also patrol around the golf course facilities to help ensure that theft, vandalism, vagrancy, etc. are

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Citizens on Patrol (continued) by Brenda Olive

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prevented. When we receive a request from a homeowner who is going out of town, we will check the residence to make sure there are no newspapers, etc. left on the lawn, no flyers left on the door, etc. to help avoid the home looking like there is no one home. Last fall we were able to cut off the water on the exterior of a home when a pipe broke inside and water was running outside. This of course prevented additional damage to the home. We act as the eyes and ears for the police department, many residents simply call us so they don't have to call the police themselves. In most instances we can quickly locate any suspicious persons and then maintain a visual until the police can arrive. This obviously helps the police since they don't have to waste time driving around searching for the person(s). COP members are non-confrontational, however, occasionally, when it appears that someone is simply unaware of the No Trespassing and No Parking status of the club, we remind them, in a friendly manner. We will provide that same courtesy to individuals who are knocking on doors without permits—again in a friendly manner. If that person becomes belligerent or wants to argue, we simply back off and let the police officer who is already in the area handle the matter. The police officer is generally called as we leave our home and we usually arrive just in front of him/her. Sometimes, the individuals are issued citations and are required to appear in Garland Municipal court. At other times, the officer(s) simply order the individuals to leave the area and go to the police department for proper processing (background check, fingerprints, and photo) and if they pass the background check a permit is issued that is good for 1 year. It is issued for the individual whose photo is on the permit only, it

cannot be "shared" with others.

As I noted above COP members do not carry weapons, however, we do carry a police radio, cameras and cell phones, along with our authorized badge, and some of us wear our Citizen's Police Academy Caps, and we all have 2 sets of shirts—a bright orange shirt with the "Eye" logo, and the words Citizens on Patrol. The second shirt is a bright turquoise shirt with the same info.

One last bit of information that you may find interesting: There are numerous Citizens on Patrol groups in north Texas, including the City of Richardson, Plano, Irving, and Fort Worth. Each city has different requirements but, to the best of our knowledge, none of the regular, "Citizens on Patrol" groups carry weapons. None of these cities have had any problems with their COP programs and have found that these groups are actually quite valuable to them, allowing the police to deal with criminal activity, and oftentimes that activity has been spotted by a COP member while he/she is out on patrol. Some cities, like Richardson, Plano and Fort Worth have extended the responsibilities of their Citizens on Patrol groups and you may have seen individuals in Richardson police cars stopping to assist stranded motorists, etc. and patrolling in shopping center parking lots. In Plano, Citizens on Patrol members actually issue tickets to individuals who are caught without handicap placards or proper license plates, when they are parked in handicapped parking spaces. Currently Garland's "Citizen on Patrol" units are neighborhood oriented only, with the express purpose of being extra eyes and ears for the police department. We have been approached to take on some additional duties in the future and we are looking forward to that opportunity when it comes. In the meantime are there to help the residents of Oakridge.

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The ARTS in Garland

Granville Arts Center Facilities

300 N. Fifth Street, Garland 972-205-2790

Plaza Theatre

521 W. State Street, Garland 972-205-2782



July 2-30 Mark Mullino Art **Exhibit** Granville Arts Center

Gallery

Mark Mullino

is a local professional musician (pianist), actor, director and artist. It is the influence of all of these artistic genres that bring Mark Mullino paintings their musical life. Every Mullino painting has music in it. The objective is to keep the tune in the viewers ears as he/she views the painting hopefully bringing about the shared enjoyment of textures in both the songs and the visual art at the same time. All of his musical subjects vary in origin from hymns, musical theater, pop, jazz rock and country. Viewing hours are Monday through Friday, 9am to 5pm, and during all performances.



July 6-7 "High School Musical, Jr." by Actors **Anonymous**

7:30 pm Plaza Theatre

Actors Anonymous Theatre Company presents

their 7th Annual Summer Musical: Disney's 7:30pm at the Plaza Theatre in downtown Garland. Tickets are \$8 for students/seniors and \$10 for adults. Appropriate for all ages!!! For reservations or information visit

www.TheDramaQueens.com.



July 20-29 "How To Succeed In **Business** Without Really Trying" Granville

Arts Center

- Brownlee Auditorium

Garland Summer Musicals will present the current Broadway blockbuster How To Succeed In Business Without Really Trying - July 20th thru 29th. How to Succeed... is a delightful satire on big business and all it holds sacred. The story follows the rise of J. Pierrepont Finch, who uses a little handbook called "How to Succeed in Business Without Really Trying" to climb the corporate ladder from lowly window washer to high-powered executive. Hit songs from the score include: Brotherhood of Man; I Believe in You; Grand Old Ivy; The Company Way; Rosemary; A Secretary Is Not a Toy; Happy to Keep His Dinner Warm...and many more. . All performances are held in the Brownlee Auditorium of the Granville Arts Center, 300 North Fifth Street in downtown Garland, Season Tickets are available at the Arts Center Box Office or by calling 972-205-2790. Individual tickets go on "HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL JR." on July 6 & 7 at sale May 1. (MasterCard, Visa and Discover are accepted.) For more information please visit www.GarlandSummerMusicals.org.

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ONA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE BEGINS IN JUNE

The Oakridge Neighborhood Association(ONA) is kicking off its annual membership drive this month. You may be wondering why you received the newsletter. For our June membership campaign – we send our newsletter to every resident in Oakridge. Many of you may not be aware that we have a Neighborhood Association. The ONA is a non-profit organization.

The annual dues of \$60 are spent on:

- → Landscape Maintenance
- → Monthly Newsletter and Website
- → Utilities Expenses for Lighting and Water
- → ONA Membership Events

Why become a member?

What would the neighborhood look like if no one mowed the grass or watered and planted the entrance landscaping?

What would happen to the neighborhood if no one cared about the perimeter property and landscaping?

What kind of community would we have if no one published a monthly newsletter that provides articles about the neighborhood, city, crime and safety?

Our purpose is simple

"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 of Oakridge."

We need your financial support

We only ask for your \$60 contribution once a year*

We make it easy to join.

On the web at www.oakridgena.org and join using paypal.

Complete the membership invoice you received in the mail and include you \$60 check.

All membership information is kept confidential.

* Any contribution over \$60 will be used for landscaping upgrades

If you have specific questions about the organization, our by-laws and contact information for our Board President is available on our website.

I wish all of you well – Cecile LaBossiere, Membership Director

Oakridge News



Oakridge Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 450145 Garland, TX 75045-0145

ADDRESS CORRECTION REQUESTED



PRSRT STD US POSTAGE PAID PERMIT #573 GARLAND TX 75040

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IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS Emergencies 911 **Poison Center** 1-800-764-7661 Non-Emergencies 972-485-4840 **Water & Sever** 972-205-3210 **Atmos Gas** 1-800-460-3030 **Rick Williams** 214-535-2648 Solid Waste & Recycling 972-205-3500 Street Light Repair 972-205-3483 Code Compliance 972-485-6400 **Animal Services** 972-205-3570 **Electricity Emergency** 972-205-3000 **NPO John Capers** 972-205-2740 **CP&S Bill Olive** 972-495-3402

www.OakridgeNA.org