

Oakridge News

June, 2014

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City of Garland District 7 Report—Scott LeMay

As I mentioned before a good sign that the economy is picking up can be seen in the amount of zoning cases being heard. You can also see that in the number of relocations and existing company expansions in the area. While many of you have probably read that Raytheon has decided to move their operations to Richardson, I can tell you that more are making the choice to locate here and several well established companies are making the commitment to stay. Many of those like Kraft Foods and MAPEI are also expanding their production facilities. While everyone knows what Kraft makes very few probably know that much about MAPEI. Based out of Italy they are a worldwide leader in the development and production of construction adhesives and sealants. They like Kraft, Atlas Copco, Plastipak and Valspar just to name a few call Garland home and support the community not only with jobs but also as partners in "Growing Garland". That is something that our city staff and your City Council are committed to. If you would like to learn more, just ask.

On May 31st the city will celebrate the re-opening of the Landmark Depot Museum in the new Heritage Crossing location at Sixth and Walnut. During that time there will be activities and exhibits at the Central Library featuring trains and railroad history. I am excited to see the refurbished museum and see all the local artifacts on display again. If you are a history buff or would just like to learn more about early life here in Garland this is a great resource. You can see more about the schedule of events here. <https://www.ci.garland.tx.us/news/displaynews.asp?NewsID=581&TargetID=23>

Council Updates-

At our May 5th Work Session we received a very detailed report from the North Texas Municipal Water District (NTMWD) on our current water status as well as long range projections. There is no real need to cover our current status here because it is well known and discussed. If you have any question as to the severity of our current challenges I will just remind you that the every other week

watering schedule has been extended through May. As to our long range projections they are dependent on the approval and funding of new reservoirs and ultimately conservation. The current drought cycle obviously impacts us daily and I am happy to report that we are exceeding our conservation goals. For a city our size that is no small accomplishment. The demands on the system will continue to increase as our region grows. If you would like to learn more I would encourage you to view the presentation at <http://garlandtx.swagit.com/play/05052014-764>

This month we will reconvene our joint meetings with the Plan Commission on the Garland Development Code (GDC). We concluded our first round of meetings in late March. Since that time our excellent Planning Staff has worked to further refine and better define the GDC. This is a critical step in the process as we prepare for public hearings and hopefully adoption this fall. If you would like to learn more please visit- www.garlanddevcode.org

Around The District-

I'd like to share a little more good news about our local economic outlook. This is really not just specific to District 7 but you can see the signs all around. The preliminary numbers from DCAD show total tax base increases in both residential and commercial property values that include \$115 million in new construction. The certified values will be finalized in late July. Other positive indicators show an increase in building permit valuations and a decrease in the time residential property is on the market. One of the most positive signs is also a decrease in foreclosed properties across the city. We can only hope that this trend continues and we need to stay focused on moving forward. I think we are in a good position to build on our successes and create new opportunities for the near future. Stay tuned.

I encourage you to use the city's website for information about the city. When that doesn't work you can always contact me. My direct cell phone number is (214) 794-8904 and my direct email is scottlemayd7@gmail.com.

Scott LeMay- Garland City Council, District 7

City of Garland Police—Did You Know?!

1. It is a State of Texas law one must not park ones car closer than 20ft. of an intersection?
2. One must not park ones car any closer than 30ft. from a stop sign?
3. One must park ones car at least 15ft. away from any fire hydrant?





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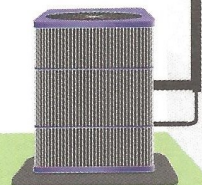
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In Balance—Dave Morgan ONA Treasurer

The entire group of officers is back for the forthcoming fiscal year of service because, for myself at least, there is unfinished work to be done after less than stellar results for this past fiscal year. We have some new Board members joining us as well. We have already been aggressive in righting this forthcoming fiscal's year ship by invoicing early – thanks to all that have already responded to that call. We will work hard as a Board and we would really appreciate your help in achieving a significant membership recovery this year. Our goal is to have the largest membership ever in ONA history and we need you!

We are going after tangible results to make Oakridge better. It starts with the conversion from our wasteful sprinklers to drip irrigation. From there, entryway plantings can be done without much fear of losing that work because of the watering restrictions that might even get stricter as the days progress. We can properly water without usage costs increasing much, if at all, with the drip irrigation, proper mulching, and proper fertilization. Neighborhood picnics and events will be a priority because that builds “community” when we get out and interact with our neighbors. If we have excess funding, improvement to the lighting at our entries will also be a priority so that you can actually see where you are going and all in an aesthetic layout.



Daytimers by Diane Winter

The success and growth - 10 new members this year - of the Daytimers have been the result of the input of several residents through the years. This all started with Roberta Jones in 1998 and has grown from a membership of 17 to over 50. Many people have contributed to this success but none more than the outgoing president, Chris Beyers. She has served in many capacities and has supplemented her job description with additional amenities and respect - always keeping Daytimers current and inclusive.

On May 13th, a group of 35 Daytimers met to enjoy the Spring Luncheon with special music by Myrna Blackwood. A short business meeting was held in which Chris thanked the past officers and announced the incoming officers for 2014 -15. A big surprise for the members was an excellent new directory that was created by Chris Beyers and Suzanne Snow. Suzanne has contributed greatly through digital media to document the events, photographs and history of Daytimers.

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$15.00 annual dues. Daytimers promote the Oakridge community and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. Any questions should be directed to Ann Conrath, 972 346 8167 or Mary Jensen, 972 414 1458.

May 22, 2014 ONA Picnic at Duck Creek Golf



**A Big Thank You !
-Sherri Rutherford**

Thank you to everyone who attended the ONA picnic in May. We had a large turn out and everyone had a good time. Of course, the picnic could not have happened without some really wonderful volunteers. The grill kings of Dale Rouze and Mark Edwards cooked over 2 hours without a break churning out 120 burgers and 70 hotdogs.

A big thanks to our set up volunteers, Sue Hageland and her grandson Brandon, Bob Williams (new district 1 director); Debra Pandek (old district 1 director) and Tom McDuff.

Volunteers David and Susan Connors kept the serving line moving and supplies filled up. Sue Radcliffe and many others who helped with clean up. Then of course there is Margaret Fowler who always helps me do whatever needs to be done at any ONA event. The pictures are courtesy of Roger Franks.

And my favorite part of the picnic was the Daytimer cookies and cupcakes. Thank you ladies for all fresh baked goodies. Also a big thanks to James Roberts, Duck Creek Golf Course for his support and use of the club. I hope many of you were able to meet him and his staff.

I also appreciate Firestation 3 & 11 for stopping by with their trucks for the kids to see; our NPO Tommy Barnes and our City Councilman Scott Lemay. It was our honor to have you.

I enjoyed hearing from many neighbors who were attending their 1st ONA picnic because they are new to our neighborhood and from those who always attend the picnic and make it such a fun event. Oakridge is truly a wonderful neighborhood.





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Photos by Roger Franks



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