

Oakridge News

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Neighborhood Update with ONA President Dwight Davis

by Dwight Davis
ONA President



Mike Ussery, the owner of Duck Creek Golf Club is currently talking with three different developers who are considering the repurposing of the acreage off of Big Oaks Drive where the Swimming Pool and several Tennis courts now exist. (See my article and aerial photograph in last month's October 2016 ONA Newsletter available on the ONA website at oakridgena.org.) Ussery still needs to have a firm approach and executable repurposing plan to City by December 31st. If you wish to provide feedback, you can contact Mike Ussery at 512-347-1244 or e-

mail ussery@oncoursestrategies.com. You can also contact me, Dwight Davis, ONA President at 972-675-9195 or e-mail dwight@dwightdavis.org.

There are Oakridge members that have contacted me about solicitation within the Oakridge Neighborhood concerning having a mandatory HOA. In my opinion, the

majority of the homeowners in Oakridge share that they want to keep and maintain the ONA as a voluntary neighborhood association rather than a mandatory HOA.

They like the freedom to choose or not to choose to be members of the ONA. They also declare that they like the freedom from having a mandatory HOA code enforcement regulating their personal home decisions and depriving them from the freedom and flexibility of living their lives as they want and have lived for a number of years. I have encouraged them to say NO to a mandatory HOA, which practically could not happen unless more than 50% of the 1166 homeowners in Oakridge agree.

HAPPY HOLIDAYS



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Meet Your ONA Neighbors – David and Sharon Parrish



by Dwight Davis
 ONA President

David and Sharon Parrish live on Pepperidge Drive in Oakridge. They have lived in Oakridge 31 years since October 1985. They are long time ONA members and really appreciate the ONA neighborhood and have supported the ONA by serving on the ONA Board for a number of years. Sharon served the ONA as Region 7 Director for a few years and now serves as our current ONA Secretary. David picked up the Region 7 Director position when Sharon moved to Secretary, and has also served for several years in this position.

Sharon received her Bachelor's Degree at Boston University in Massachusetts in 1976. David received his Bachelor's Degree at Oklahoma State University in 1975. They both met at Oklahoma State University as they were working on their advanced degrees, and have been married 38 years since 1978. Both David and Sharon are retired after 35+ years of service with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Both worked at the Dallas Region 6 office in downtown Dallas. David worked at the EPA in water quality monitoring and for 25 years in computer mapping. Sharon worked at the EPA in all aspects of water quality including civil and criminal enforcement action that and most recently focused on wetland protection as a supervisor of a staff team.

Both David and Sharon have remained active as volunteers in a number of community and non-profit organizations. David now serves as President on the Board of the Achievement Center of Texas (ACT) and has served in various positions on the board for a number of years. Their son Matthew attended ACT from 2002 until 2010 when he passed away from his condition. Jared is their grown son, graduated from UNT and likes construction work. They have a Vietnamese foster son, Phung Bui, who is married with two children.

David also works with the Boy Scouts and has recently joined the Garland Park Board. David and Sharon also volunteer at the Hagerman Wildlife Refuge at Lake Texoma, where they own a summer place for their enjoyment. Both have volunteered at the North Texas Food Bank. They also help raise money for the MDA walk and the ACT walk and ACT's other fund raising events. Sharon also prepares the ONA welcome bags for the District directors to distribute to new Oakridge residents that have recently moved in. We really appreciate David and Sharon for their excellent service to the ONA and their other community service efforts.

Daytimers are Grateful for the Season

by Dianne Winter
ONA Daytimers

There was a special feeling that matched the Thanksgiving season as almost 20 members of the Daytimers Book Club met at the home of Chris Beyers on November 18th. To prepare for the approaching Christmas season, the group had selected the book, *The 13th Gift: A True Story of a Christmas Miracle*, by Joanne Huist Smith. As Jan Reed began the discussion it became apparent to the group that the two holidays have the common threads of gratefulness, compassion and generosity. As Jan led the group through a series of questions everyone responded positively about the author and her message. One of the themes the book exhibited was that acts of kindness can change hearts and lives.

An exercise in gratitude was led by Betty Prickett that involved a statement on a card that led each person to reflect and share some thoughts. As the members expressed their thoughts it was interesting that a repeated answer stated by the members was gratitude for Oakridge and their neighbors and each other. That group feeling is a testament to the good that the Daytimers organization has accomplished in the Oakridge community since it was formed in 1998 by former resident, Roberta Jones.

This book club group will meet next in December on Friday, 16th, at 11:30 at the home of Jan Reed, at 2441 Fulton Drive phone - 972-896-1104.

If you are interested in joining this group call Peggy Crenshaw at 972- 530-1645.

You are invited to enjoy the Christmas fellowship of your neighbors at the December gathering of Daytimers at the home

of Lila LaGrasse, 2125 Diamond Oaks Drive, on Tuesday, December 13th, at 10 am. Think about a Christmas memory to share and bring a neighbor. See you there!

Daytimers is a social organization that requires residence in Oakridge and \$20.00 annual dues. Daytimers promote the Oakridge community and the Oakridge Neighborhood Association. Any questions should be directed to president, Gloria Turner, 972-530-0082.

Rodgers BAPTIST CHURCH
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Firemen Receive Thanksgiving Dinners from ONA

by Mark Edwards
Former ONA Safety Director

Continuing the Oakridge Neighborhood Association's long time tradition on Thanksgiving and Christmas, Thanksgiving Dinners for the fire crews working on Thanksgiving Day were provided by the ONA for the #3 crews at Fire Station #11 (Houston and Beltline) and Fire Station #3 (Jupiter and Lawler).

Each fire house received a turkey dinner and a spiral ham dinner. The 16 pound turkey was accompanied by

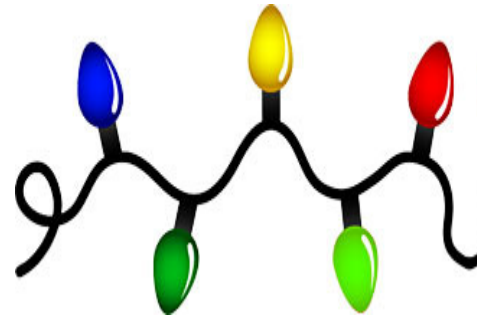


mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, green bean casserole, Hawaiian dinner rolls, cranberry sauce and a 10" pumpkin pie.

The nine pound ham was accompanied by scalloped potatoes, green bean casserole, cinnamon spiced apples and dinner rolls. The Daytimers Club

and various other Oakridge bakers provided deserts.

We are so grateful for the brave firefighters who serve our neighborhood.



If you have a community event you would like your Oakridge neighbors to know about or would like to be featured in the Meet Your ONA Neighbors section, please contact the ONA Communications Director Dylan Hedrick at dylan.hedrick@gmail.com.



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Evening Worship 6:00 P.M.
Wednesday Service 7:00 P.M.
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