



# Oakridge News

oakridgena.org November 2019, Vol. 27, No. 11

## National Night Out

by Joan Nichols, ONA Crime & Safety Director

Thanks to all those who came to celebrate National Night Out. What a great evening getting to see good friends and meet new ones!

Special thanks to the following:

- Officer Barnes, Garland Police & SWAT
- Garland Fire Department
- Amy Dunphy with Animal Services & Adopt-a-Pet volunteers
- Crime Watch Chili Cook-off participants and all our tasters
- COPs, Crime Watch supporters, & ONA Board
- City Representative Laura Castillo & Councilman Dylan Hedrick
- Duck Creek Golf Course & staff for use of their parking lot

Congrats to Chili Cook-off winners, Sue & Ed Ratcliffe & Wendy Roberts.

For more photos of the event, visit the ONA Website at <https://www.oakridgena.org/national-night-out-2019-thank-you/>.

As always you can visit our updated Oakridge Website for Crime Watch Resources & Monthly Oakridge Crime Watch Reports at <https://www.oakridgena.org/crime-prevention-safety/>.



Sue & Ed Ratcliffe (above)

Wendy Roberts (right)



## Upcoming Oakridge Events

Opportunities for all Oakridge Residents!

### Thanksgiving Meals/Treats for Police & Fire Stations

Nov. 28th (Thanksgiving Day)

See page 2 for ways to get involved in this Oakridge tradition.

### Oakridge Holiday Decorations

Nov. 29th-Dec. 1 (weekend after Thanksgiving)

Help us decorate the neighborhood. See page 3 for details.

### Fa la la la! Christmas Caroling & After-Party

Dec. 8th, 5 p.m. (party to follow)

See page 2 for more details.

### Christmas Decorating Contest

Dec. 16th-18th (judging will take place)

For more details, see page 4.

### Christmas Meals/Treats for Police & Fire Stations

Dec. 25th (Christmas Day)

For more information on the Christmas meals/treats, contact Sherri Rutherford (972-496-5454 or [srutherford2313@yahoo.com](mailto:srutherford2313@yahoo.com)). More details will be provided in the December newsletter.

## Crime & Safety Committee

by Joan Nichols, ONA Crime & Safety Director

The Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA), through its Crime Prevention and Safety Committee, serves the ONA's mission to improve and maintain the quality of life in Oakridge.

Call 911 for an active crime or the non-emergency number at 972-485-4840 when you see suspicious activity. Siren Alerts (emails notifying residents of incidents in our neighborhood) are available to anyone who has subscribed.

If you are interested in our Crime Watch program, the COPs program, or would like to sign up for the Siren alerts, please contact us at [safety@oakridgena.org](mailto:safety@oakridgena.org).

## Thanksgiving Meals/Treats!

by Sherri Rutherford, ONA Events Director

Did you know Oakridge has a long history (27 years) during the holidays of bringing food to the fire stations that serve our neighborhood? We want to continue that tradition this year. In fact, Assistant Chief Kelly Miller has said Fire Stations 3 and 11 are thrilled that our neighborhood will be providing Holiday dinners again this year. We will be providing traditional Thanksgiving turkeys with cornbread dressing. The Oakridge Daytimers will be providing desserts.

This year, we would also like to deliver some treats and snacks to the Garland Police Station. (Due to the work shifts of police officers, treats and snacks work better than trying to coordinate full meals.)

These meals and treats are a wonderful way to show appreciation for the fire crews and police officers who work during a time when many families are home feasting and celebrating.

**All Oakridge residents (adults and kids) are invited to help!** Here are some ways you can be involved.

1) **Make or purchase a food item.** Consider providing a treat for us to deliver to the Garland Police Department, or a side dish for the Fire Station meals. Our neighborhood is full of families from around the globe and we would love to have some treats that are special to your family and culture (maybe some Dumplings, Cranberry Chutney, or Sticky Rice Cakes). On the package your food will be transported in, please be sure to write the name of the food you are providing; this will help others learn the names of foods they may not have heard about before. It will be so special to share our diversity!

2) **Volunteer.** We need volunteers to help with pick-up and delivery of food items. After all, we have 2 fire stations and 1 police station to deliver items to!

3) **Notes of Appreciation.** Write a note of appreciation or have your children create notes of appreciation for the fire crews and police officers.

4) **Make a monetary donation.** Please send your donation to: ONA, P.O. Box 450145, Garland, TX 75045.

Contact Sherri Rutherford to let her know how you would like to be involved (972-496-5454 or srutherford2313@yahoo.com).

**JOIN the ONA**  
[oakridgena.org/join-us](http://oakridgena.org/join-us)

## Fa la la la la!

by Sherri Rutherford, ONA Events Director



On **Sunday, December 8th at 5 p.m.** residents of Oakridge are invited to participate in an evening of caroling. We will conclude with an after-caroling party hosted by Sharon Parrish. (The Cowboys play on Thursday night so caroling won't be a conflict with the game.)

**Add your home to the caroling route.** If you want the carolers to visit your home, please let me know. Maybe you know someone in the neighborhood whose spirit would be lifted by some old-time caroling or possibly young families that have never experienced the caroling tradition. Residents will be notified if carolers will be coming by their home (we don't want to catch anyone in their PJ's!).

Please contact me (972-496-5454 or srutherford2313@yahoo.com) if you would like to participate in this event or add a home to our caroling route.

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## Meet Your Neighbors

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director



Greetings from the Englebretson household (Eric, Heather, Katie Lynn, and Chloe)! We have lived in Oakridge for 16 years. Before moving to Oakridge, we looked at homes in Richardson and other areas of Garland. Having grown up on the Garland/Richardson border (living in the City of Garland while attending Richardson schools), we were both partial to finding a home and raising our family in this area. Oakridge suited us well and allowed us to be reasonably close to extended family.

In addition to our children, we have 2 fish and 2 cats and we are super thankful for the pet sitters in our neighborhood who watch over our furry (and scale-covered) critters when we are away. We have used Sue Hageland (whom many of you know), though I understand she currently isn't adding new clients. (However, Oakridge still has someone to entrust their homes and pets to; be sure to check the ONA newsletter for Donna's advertisement.)

We love living in Oakridge and we proudly support the ONA as a way to invest in our community. Currently we both serve on the ONA Communications Committee, helping to produce the newsletter and manage the website.

We enjoy supporting our neighbors, and we greatly appreciate the tremendous diversity found within our neighborhood. It is wonderful that our children hear so many different languages and we often enjoy smelling the exotic seasonings and spices wafting from many homes in the neighborhood (it makes Mommy's cooking suddenly seem a bit bland!).

We look forward to getting to know even more of our neighbors as we enter into the next phase of homeownership (tackling the repairs of an aging home). We continue to believe the Oakridge neighborhood is worth our time and investment!

## Next "Meet Your Neighbors"

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

Would you be interested in sharing your story for "Meet Your Neighbors"? Do you have a neighbor who would be great to feature in this section?

Please contact us at [communications@oakridgena.org](mailto:communications@oakridgena.org) with your story or with the name of someone we might be able to feature.

Let's get to know each other!

## Oakridge Holiday Decorations

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

Each year, following the Thanksgiving holiday, the ONA District Directors and other board members take time to put up holiday decorations around the neighborhood. These decorations add a touch of holiday cheer to the Oakridge entryways and the bridge over the golf course.

Oakridge residents are invited to help put up these decorations. It is a great opportunity to beautify the neighborhood and meet your neighbors. It's also wonderful motivation to start decorating your own house for the Christmas Decorating Contest.

If you would like to help decorate the neighborhood, send us an email ([info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org)).

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# Oakridge News

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### Oakridge Daytimers

by Jan Reed, Oakridge Daytimers

The Oakridge Daytimers met on October 8th with a delicious breakfast and coffee at the home of Lila La Grassa. The theme was "What's Going on in Our Community" and our guest speaker was former Oakridge ONA president and current Garland City Councilman Dylan Hedrick. He presented the group with a thorough update on city projects, new ordinances up for vote, and new construction taking place in our community. Following the presentation, Councilman Hedrick stayed to answer questions from individuals.

Daytimers is open to all female residents of Oakridge and meets on the second Tuesday of the month. After visiting, we welcome you to join us. Annual membership dues of \$20.00 are used for speakers, community support, and the annual end of year luncheon. Any questions about joining should be directed to the Membership Coordinator, Peggy Crenshaw (peggy.crenshaw67@gmail.com, 469-371-1618) or Daytimers President for 2019-2020, Chris Beyers (cbeyers2000@yahoo.com, 972-530-8292).

The next meeting will be on November 12th, 10:00 AM, at the home of Jan Perry Lloyd, 2929 Oakpoint. We look forward to seeing you!

### Christmas Decorating Contest

by Sherri Rutherford, ONA Events Director

This year we will once again be having a contest for the best Christmas Decorations. We encourage you to add some festive fun to your home. Prizes will be given to 1st place (\$100), 2nd place (\$50), and 3rd place (\$25). Judging for the **Christmas Decorating Contest** will occur the week of **December 16th-18th** so be sure to have your homes decorated by then.



### The ONA Board (info@oakridgena.org)

- President ..... Scott Barnes
- Vice President..... Mark Edwards
- Secretary .....Sharon Parrish
- Treasurer ..... Keith Engler
- District 1 Director .....Mary VanPelt
- District 2 Director ..... Paula Griffin
- District 3 Directors..... Dotty Moseley & Lila La Grassa
- District 4 Director ..... Keta Woods
- District 5 Director .....Michelle Mizerak
- District 6 Director ..... Linda Horton
- District 7 Director ..... Sharon Carlton
- Communications..... Heather Englebretson
- Crime & Safety Committee ..... Joan Nichols
- Environmental Committee ..... David Parrish
- Events Committee ..... Sherri Rutherford
- Membership Committee ..... Jane Mayers

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<http://www.oakridgena.org/newsletters>

### Christmas on the Square

Source: City of <http://www.christmasonthesquare.com>

The 2019 Christmas on the Square Tree Lighting Ceremony kicks off Christmas on the Square with school carolers, hot chocolate, and the lighting of the official Christmas Tree on Thursday, Dec. 5. The ceremony starts at 5:30 p.m. So come early and carpool! The City of Garland strives to bring families together by spreading the joy of the holiday season. A sensory friendly tree-lighting ceremony is available on Dec. 4. See the website ([www.christmasonthesquare.com](http://www.christmasonthesquare.com)) for more information

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