



# Oakridge News

*oakridgena.org*

*June 2020, Vol. 28, No. 06*

## A Multilingual Approach

*by Scott Barnes, ONA President*

Neighbors,

As we continue to make efforts to evolve the ONA, we are looking at ways to provide newsletter articles/information in the different languages which are reflected in our neighborhood. We are asking for our neighbors - of any age - to help us move this process forward. We need input on where to source relevant content, who can translate, who can submit, and how we review/proof the content. If you can help us reach out in languages that reflect our neighborhood, please contact us at [communications@oakridgena.org](mailto:communications@oakridgena.org).

We are also looking for input on news, content, and important dates (such as festivals) that would be interesting and relevant to our diverse neighborhood.

We look forward to hearing from you.

Thank you.

## ONA Membership Drive

*by the ONA Membership Committee*

We are in the middle of our ONA Support/Membership drive for the new fiscal year (June 1st through May 31st) and we would love to have you join us. In fact, now is a wonderful time to join the ONA. We are updating entryways, working to improve our communication methods, and brainstorming new social opportunities.

There are 2 ways to join or renew:

1. Go to our website ([www.oakridgena.org](http://www.oakridgena.org)) and click on the blue "JOIN THE ONA" button; or
2. Complete the Support/Membership form (at the end of this newsletter) and mail it to us with your check.

This year the ONA Membership Committee is also pleased to offer "door prizes". To be eligible to win, you must submit your payment *no later than July 1, 2020*.

Winners will be selected in a random drawing conducted by the ONA Membership Committee. The names of the winners will be published in the newsletter.

## Newsletter Hard Copies

*by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director*

Occasionally residents will ask us if it is necessary to mail hard copies of the newsletter. After all, we live in a time when so many things are going digital.

This is a great question, and one we should routinely revisit as part of our ongoing effort to make the ONA relevant to Oakridge residents.

It is true that sending the newsletter by email would save a considerable amount of resources (in terms of cost, labor, and paper). However, we also recognize some of our neighbors may have limited access to technology, making it difficult for them to access a digital version of the newsletter.

So the question becomes: *are there Oakridge residents who still want to receive hard copies of the newsletter?*

If you prefer receiving hard copies of the newsletter by mail, then please let Heather Englebretson know. You can leave her a voicemail (214-562-7857) or contact her by email ([communications@oakridgena.org](mailto:communications@oakridgena.org)). Simply provide your name and let her know you prefer hard copies of the newsletter. That's all you need to do.

Please note, we are not making any decisions at this point. We are just gathering data.

Thank you for your help in this process!

## Annual Meeting *This Month!*

ONA Members - *Let's Vote!*

Thursday, June 25th, on ZOOM\*

6:30 - log on & visit with other members

7:00 - meeting begins

*\*ZOOM link will be sent by email*

## ONA Annual Meeting

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

The final ONA General Membership Meeting of the fiscal year (also referred to as the “Annual Meeting”) is customarily held in the month of May and is the meeting when current ONA Members vote to elect the Board of Directors for the coming fiscal year.

This year, out of a concern for the health of our community, the Annual Meeting is being held online using ZOOM on Thursday, June 25th, at 7 p.m.

If you have been unable to attend meetings in the past due to work conflicts, childcare needs, or inability to physically travel to a meeting, this online format is a wonderful opportunity for you to join us. The agenda includes updates from the current Board of Directors on what is happening in our neighborhood, as well as updates from City Councilman Dylan Hedrick and Neighborhood Police Officer Tommy Barnes. ONA Members will also have the important task of electing the Board of Directors for the coming fiscal year.

We will email ONA members with more details, including the slate of candidates for the board, the ZOOM link, and handouts for the meeting.

## Video Crime Watch

by Joan Nichols, ONA Crime & Safety Director

In our April newsletter, we let you know about the Video Crime Watch Program recently launched by the Garland Police Department. This strictly voluntary program helps GPD more quickly identify cameras that may have captured footage in the area where a crime occurred. (The program does not provide police direct access to any surveillance system.) If the police believe footage from your camera may be helpful, they will contact you using the contact information you provide.

We would love to have all our Oakridge residents with surveillance cameras add their information to the Garland Video Crime Watch map. To add your camera(s) to the map, go to the GPD website ([www.garlandpolice.com/331/Police](http://www.garlandpolice.com/331/Police)) then scroll down to the “Garland Crime Watch Video” section.

As of this week, there are 25 Oakridge participants in the Garland Video Crime Watch program. If we have enough people add their cameras to the map, we will receive a plaque to hang beneath our Crime Watch signs throughout the neighborhood, indicating we are a Video Crime Watch neighborhood. This visible statement of our level of security would be a big deterrent to criminals looking to target our neighborhood.

## New Entrance Plants

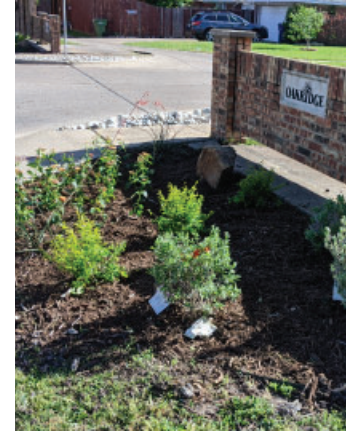
by David Parrish, ONA Environmental Committee Director

Thanks to the ONA members who generously contributed to the Beautification Fund, we have been able to add plants to every entrance. The Environmental Committee’s new mission is to ensure that our new (and old) plants get enough water to flourish.

Did you know Oakridge has 9 entrances? That makes for a lot of plants to keep track of.

Therefore, as we head into the warmer months of the year, we would greatly appreciate the extra eyes of our residents. As you enter or exit the neighborhood, if you happen to notice some plants in need of assistance (e.g. dried out, dug up, fallen over) please notify the environmental committee at [environment@oakridgena.org](mailto:environment@oakridgena.org).

Thank you for helping us keep the neighborhood beautiful!



## Thank You!

A big THANK YOU to Bruce Miller Nurseries for providing us with great discounts on beautiful plants for our neighborhood entrances. Consider visiting Bruce Miller for your next landscape or garden project.





# Volunteer with the ONA

The ONA has several volunteer committees that do a lot of things for the neighborhood - and they could use YOUR skills. Do any of these areas interest you?

*website design, language translations, writing articles, crunching numbers, budgeting, maintaining spreadsheets, gardening, irrigation, landscape lighting, socializing, event planning, welcoming new neighbors, collecting crime stats, compiling data, crime watch activities*



If you are interested in volunteering, we would love to hear from you. Send us an email ([info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org)) and let us know how you would like to help. We will be happy to connect you with one of our committees.

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TACL36068E  
[excelairheat@gmail.com](mailto:excelairheat@gmail.com)

**DMW Construction**  
Remodel-Restoration-Repairs

**David Whittington**  
Owner  
214-892-8939

20+ Years Experience  
[DMWConstruction19@gmail.com](mailto:DMWConstruction19@gmail.com)

# JOIN

[oakridgena.org/join-us](http://oakridgena.org/join-us)

The 2020-2021 Oakridge Neighborhood Association Membership Drive is underway! Join online ([www.oakridgena.org/join-us](http://www.oakridgena.org/join-us)) or complete the membership form included at the end of this newsletter and send it with your check by mail.

## The ONA Board

([info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org))

- President, Scott Barnes .....602-791-2492
- Vice President, Mark Edwards.....972-414-8525
- Secretary, Sharon Parrish .....469-939-2270
- Treasurer, Keith Engler .....972-834-0096
- District 1 Director, Mary VanPelt ..... 972-496-1744
- District 2 Director, **vacant**
- District 3 Directors, Dotty Moseley .....214-703-3532
- District 4 Director, Keta Woods .....469-877-7009
- District 5 Director, Michelle Mizerak .....214-962-7795
- District 6 Director, **vacant**
- District 7 Director, Sharon Carlton.....972-345-9741
- Communications, Heather Englebretson .....214-562-7857
- Crime & Safety Committee, Joan Nichols .....214-543-2546
- Environmental Committee, David Parrish ....469-733-6089
- Events Committee, **vacant**
- Membership Committee, **vacant**

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Garland, TX 75042 Arlington, TX 76010  
Tel: 972-272-1993 Tel: 817-459-1311  
Fax: 972-487-9092 Fax: 817-459-1317

# Oakridge News

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

PRSRT STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S.POSTAGE  
**PAID**  
EDDM Retail



## Local Postal Customer

### Being Neighborly

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

We are always on the lookout for helpful neighbors. A few weeks ago, District 1 Director Mary Van Pelt spied this helpful duo.



A Big thank you to Kevin & Julissa for laying mulch on the Ridge Oak median!

### P.A.I.D. Program

Source: <https://www.garlandtx.gov/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1851>

The COVID-19 pandemic is leaving many people in a difficult financial situation. Putting food on the table, paying rent, or even paying utilities becomes difficult.

One way to help those who are struggling financially is to contribute to the City of Garland's Provide Aid in Dollars (P.A.I.D.) Program. This voluntary assistance program allows utility customers to donate money to assist economically-challenged residents in paying their utility bills.

Consider making a donation to the P.A.I.D. Program when you pay your next utility bill. For more information, visit <http://www.garlandtx.gov/652/PAID-Program>.

### Watering Schedule

Source: <http://www.garlandwater.com/530/Water-Utilities>



As we enter the warmer months of the year, be mindful of the City of Garland's water conservation plan. Watering restrictions in place between April 1st and October 31st include:

- Residents may water twice each week if using an in-ground sprinkler system. (Watering between 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. is prohibited.)
- When using hand-held devices, soaker hoses, or drip irrigation, residents may water any time on any day as long as excessive runoff does not occur.

For more information on the water conservation plan for the City of Garland, visit <http://www.garlandwater.com/530/Water-Utilities>.

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Oakridge resident over 30 years  
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[communications@oakridgena.org](mailto:communications@oakridgena.org)





# Supporting your neighborhood is like investing in your home.

## What the Oakridge Neighborhood Association does

- Sources and hires qualified landscape contractors to mow, water, trim, remove trash from, and maintain your entrances and perimeter.
- Creates, prints, and mails a monthly newsletter.
- Maintains our neighborhood Website.
- Plans, organizes, and funds social activities
- Partners with our Neighborhood Police Officer and Citizens on Patrol to provide crime and safety information.
- Welcomes new residents and delivers a "Welcome Basket" containing community information.
- Plans, organizes, and funds three General Membership meetings.
- Coordinates holiday meals and treats from Oakridge residents to the Garland Police Department and Fire Stations 3 and 11.
- Decorates entrances during Christmas and on flag days.
- Attends quarterly meetings and civic events hosted by the City of Garland.
- And more...



A neighborhood that is attractive, well-maintained, safe, and vibrant can raise the pride of its residents and increase the value of the homes in it. The goal of the Oakridge Neighborhood Association is to ensure Oakridge is one of those exemplary neighborhoods.

ONA is NOT a mandatory HOA - it relies on the **voluntary** support of Oakridge residents to accomplish its mission.

### Nothing happens without your support!

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## ONA Support Levels

**Please consider your level of support.** Giving more than the Good Neighbor Level could mean improvements to our entrances, new landscaping designs, more events, a better newsletter, and more. Let us know your vision for Oakridge!

- \$60 Good Neighbor Level
- \$100 Crepe Myrtle Level
- \$250 Maple Level
- \$500+ Oak Level

An ONA flag will be placed in your front yard to indicate your support.

# Thank you for supporting the Oakridge Neighborhood Association!

Please print/fill out completely

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

First name \_\_\_\_\_ Last name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Phone \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Your information will be used for ONA communication purposes **ONLY** and will **NEVER** be given to anyone else.

In the event that a neighborhood directory is published, the ONA has permission to include my information.

First Time Supporter

Renewal

Owner

Tenant

Resident since?  
\_\_\_\_\_

## Invoice

\$60+ Good Neighbor Level Amount \_\_\_\_\_

\$100+ Crepe Myrtle Level Amount \_\_\_\_\_

\$250+ Maple Level Amount \_\_\_\_\_

\$500+ Oak Level Amount \_\_\_\_\_

Total Amount Enclosed

\$ \_\_\_\_\_

Method

Check/Money Order

# \_\_\_\_\_

PayPal

PayPal link on ONA website:  
**[oakridgena.org/join-us/](http://oakridgena.org/join-us/)**

## Please, now get involved!

Areas of interests (check all that apply)

Officers (President, VP, Secretary, Treasurer)

Crime Prevention/Safety

District Directors

Holiday Decorations  
(Installation, Removal)

Membership (Welcome Committees)

Events Planning (Annual Events, Block Parties)

Communications (Newsletter, Website)

Grill/Chef/Cook

Environmental (Landscape, Sprinklers, Walls)

Mail check or money order (no cash) and completed form to:

**Oakridge Neighborhood Association**

**PO Box 450145**

**Garland, TX 75045-0145**

An ONA flag will be placed in your front yard to indicate your support.