



Oakridge News

oakridgena.org

June 2021, Vol. 29, No. 06

The Challenge Continues!

by Cecile Labossiere, ONA Membership Director

Let's see those member flags fly!

I'm an optimist, so as we continue our Membership Drive I have a vision of *ONA Member Flags at every front door!*



I know we have a challenge to see flags at every front door but I have confidence that our Oakridge Residents will come through, joining the ONA and supporting their district in our Membership Flag Race!

Let's have a little competitive fun while striving for greater participation in the ONA! The Membership Flag Race gives each of us an opportunity to:

Become a Member

Have a Chance to Win a Weekly Raffle Prize

Become a Member

Help your District Win!

Become a Member

Feel Good about being a part of the community you call "Home"

We have a goal to reach 500 ONA members this year. We have 1166 homes in Oakridge and our average ONA membership for the last 3 years has been 348 members. Wouldn't it be great to have an increase in ONA members this year?

Have you joined yet? If not, consider the value the ONA brings to Oakridge.

Environmental: Maintains perimeter and entrances with lighting, lawn care, landscaping, and seasonal plantings

Social Events: Sponsors events so residents have an opportunity to get to know each other

Crime Prevention & Safety: Works with the Garland Police Department for Crime Watch, coordinates the

Citizens on Patrol in Oakridge, notifies residents of important crime & safety information through Siren Alerts

Communications: Keeps residents informed with a monthly newsletter, emails, and a current website

Welcome Bags: We provide Welcome Bags to our new residents in order to provide helpful information about City Services and the ONA

If you want to learn more about the Oakridge Neighborhood Association please visit the website at www.oakridgena.org and click on "Resident Resources" at the top of the page. If you do not see what you are looking for on the website, please reach out and contact one of the Board Members so we can answer your questions (info@oakridgena.org).

Please consider being part of your community by joining us and supporting the ONA. Our organization can only survive with voluntary participation from residents like you!

I'm an optimist and I believe everyone reading this article right now can do their part by joining the ONA today (www.oakridgena.org/join-us/). I hope my vision comes true for flags at every front door!



Is your District winning the Membership Flag Race?
Check the chart on page 3 to find out!

Are you a New Oakridge Resident?
Contact us at info@oakridgena.org to receive your free welcome bag!
Generously sponsored by the Oakridge Neighborhood Association

Congratulations Oakridge!

Video Crime Watch Neighborhood



Video Crime Watch Program

by Joan Nichols, ONA Crime & Safety Director

We are pleased to announce that Oakridge has been nominated as the first “Video Crime Watch” neighborhood in Garland. We were selected based on the current video coverage (the number of residents participating in the Video Crime Watch Program) and our organized Crime Watch program. Be on the lookout for new signs to go under our Crime Watch signs at each entrance and a communication campaign featuring us on GPD social media.



How do I sign-up and what is involved?

[Please note, the system is strictly voluntary and cannot provide direct access to any surveillance system.]

Sign-up is simple. Anyone with video doorbells or any surveillance system can sign up. Visit the GPD website (<http://www.garlandpolice.com/331/Police>) then scroll down to the Garland Video Crime Watch Program. Information requested via the online form for any resident includes:

- street address
- primary contact (last, first name)
- primary phone # (best number to reach you)
- email
- video storage (cloud, local, both or unknown)

Once completed, double-check the pin map to ensure an accurate location and hit “submit”.

If a crime occurs near your area, an investigator may privately email or call you using the contact information provided and ask you to review your camera footage for suspicious vehicle(s) or person(s) during a specific time. Your participation in this program helps to quickly identify and recover critical video related to criminal investigations and deter crime in our community.

Thanks to all who have already signed up! We need your help to identify willing neighbors with cameras in under-represented areas and those at intersecting streets or entrances. Look for more communication as we reach out in the coming weeks.

If you have any questions, please contact Officer Barnes at BarnesT@garlandtx.gov or call the program coordinator, Captain McCully, at 972-485-4844.

To become a part of Oakridge Crime Watch, you can reach out to safety@oakridgena.org.

Oakridge Crime Reports

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communication Director

Did you know the Oakridge newsletter originally started as a Crime Watch flyer distributed throughout the neighborhood? Keeping an eye on crime has always been a big priority for Oakridge residents. Our low crime rates are directly related to this vigilance in our community to watch out for each other and report suspicious activity.

The Crime Prevention & Safety Committee page on our website provides links to monthly crime reports for our neighborhood as well as additional Crime Watch information. Visit our website (www.oakridgena.org) and click on “Resident Resources” at the top of the page. There you will find links to various resources including Crime Prevention & Safety.

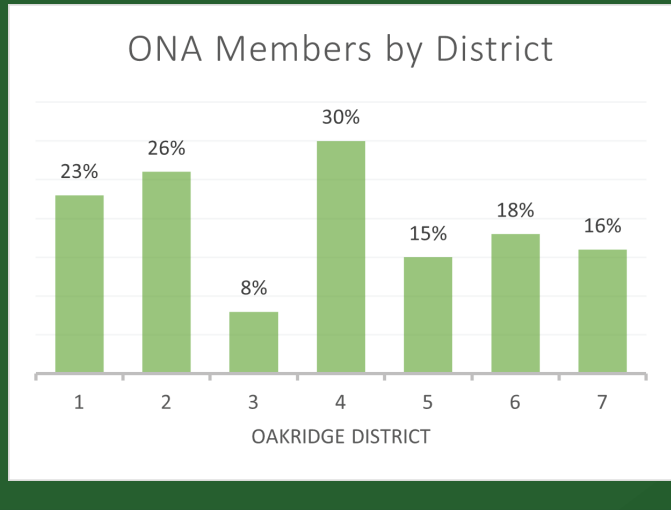
(And if curiosity has you wondering about those Crime Watch flyers from the early days of the newsletter, you can find those in the Newsletter section.)

An advertisement for RE/MAX Associates of Dallas. It features a large grey number '1' with a hot air balloon in the shape of the number '1'. The hot air balloon has the RE/MAX logo. To the right is a photo of Jeff Stone, a man with glasses and a white shirt. Below the photo is his name and title: Jeff Stone, Managing Broker, 214-957-4386. Below that is the text: Oakridge resident over 30 years offering special commission rate for my neighbors!

Membership Flag Race

Join the ONA today & help your District!

www.oakridgena.org/join-us/



Would you like a chance to win one of these prizes?

Join the ONA today (www.oakridgena.org/join-us/) and your name will be entered into the next weekly prize drawing. If your Oakridge District wins the Membership Flag Race, your name will also be entered to win the grand prize. Weekly prize drawings will be held every week now through July 5th. For details on the drawings, the Membership Flag Race, and the names of winners, visit www.oakridgena.org. (There is a link for the Membership Flag Race on the front page of the website.)

ONA Pop-up Events

by the ONA Board

During the Membership Drive the ONA District Directors will be hosting pop-up events in their districts. These are wonderful opportunities for residents to meet their district directors, chat with neighbors, learn more about the ONA, or grab a goodie bag. All pop-up events will be hosted outside and will be announced through email and posted on the ONA website (www.oakridgena.org) and NextDoor.



Thank you!

Help us offer a big "Thank You" to these businesses for their generous contributions to the weekly prize drawings for our Membership Flag Race.

Baskin Robbins

\$35 gift card

Dallas Superstore-SF Supermarket

10 Goodie bags

Frank Marino's Texaco

Free Oil Change

Griff's Hamburgers

Three donations each of
2 Free Combo Meals

Panda Express

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Pizza Hut

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Fax: 972-487-9092

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Arlington, TX 76010
Tel: 817-459-1311
Fax: 817-459-1317

What residents are saying about Oakridge...

"Been living here 24 years, really like the neighborhood association. It's easy to meet neighbors if you like to, great location, quiet & for the most part neighbors take pride in their homes."

~ D. Edwards, Oakridge Resident

Tell us what you love about Oakridge!

communications@oakridgena.org

April Creek Cleanup

by Melanie Busby, ONA District 5 Director

We had another wonderful creek cleanup on Sunday, April 11. We had 8 Oakridge neighbors who came out to help and we were joined by 16 National Honor Society students from Garland High School (a great opportunity for them to earn their service hours).

It's always rewarding to see how much of a difference we can make. I had several neighbors stop me and remark that they haven't seen it this clean in years!

As usual, the rains (of which we've had an abundance) have already brought more debris downstream. We invite you to join us on the next cleanup. Details will be posted on NextDoor and by email.

Let's clean up the creek!!



Our advertisers reach over 1,000 residents each month.

To purchase ad space, contact us at communications@oakridgena.org

(Ad placement is rotated monthly)



ONA Board Members

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

At the May 27th General Membership Meeting, Members of the ONA voted to add 4 new volunteers to the ONA Board. We are excited to have them join the team! Here are their names:

- Joanna Albright**, District 1 Director
- Vanessa Washington**, District 3 Director
- Marty Dall**, District 4 Director
- Joetta Harris**, District 6 Director
- Michael Devanney**, District 7 Director

Welcome!

In addition to welcoming our newest members, the ONA Board would like to thank the following volunteers who are leaving the Board (having completed their terms as District Directors):

Thank you!

- Mary VanPelt**, District 1 Director
- Dotty Moseley**, District 3 Director
- Sharon Carlton**, District 7 Director

We are immensely grateful for the time they donated to serve their neighbors by volunteering on the ONA Board! The success of the ONA depends on volunteers such as these.

2021-2022 ONA Board

info@oakridgena.org

- President, Scott Barnes480-512-2111
- Vice President, Michelle Mizerak214-962-7795
- Secretary, Sharon Parrish469-939-2270
- Treasurer, Keith Engler972-834-0096
- District 1 Director, Joanna Albright..... 973-879-5965
- District 2 Director, Billy Ray Thomas.....214-734-1017
- District 3 Director, Vanessa Washington...469-774-2425
- District 4 Director, Marty Dall.....505-410-0370
- District 5 Director, Melanie Busby972-989-2253
- District 6 Director, Joetta Harris469-955-1513
- District 7 Director, Michael Devanney 314-440-4350
- Communications, Heather Englebretson .214-562-7857
- Crime & Safety, Joan Nichols214-543-2546
- Environmental, David Parrish469-733-6089
- Events, Jackie Reynolds469-649-5799
- Membership, Cecile Labossiere.....972-896-9413

Emergency Medical Form

by David Parrish, ONA Environmental Director

Do you have a list of your medications, medical history, and allergies readily available? In an emergency, this is important information which the first responders need to know.

The Garland Fire Department has created such a list for you. Please print it, complete it, place it in a baggie and tape it to your refrigerator door. If you are always on-the-go, place one in your purse or wallet. This information could help save your life.

The form is available online at <https://www.garlandtx.gov/DocumentCenter/View/456/Emergency-Medical-Information-Form-PDF>

City Boards & Commissions

Source: City of Garland (link at end of article)

Are you interested in becoming more involved with the City of Garland?

Between now and July 1st, the City of Garland is accepting applications from Garland residents interested in serving on boards and commissions.

For application information, visit the City of Garland's website: <https://garlandtx.gov/282/Boards-Commissions>



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Donna Feher
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Warning Sirens

Source: City of Garland (link at end of article)

Many people call them "Tornado Sirens", however that name is misleading since the sirens can be activated for a number of reasons.

According to the City of Garland, these Outdoor Warning Sirens (as they are officially called) can be activated for:

- Chemical spill emergency
- Other emergencies as appropriate
- Reports or suspected hail larger than 1.75 inches
- State or national emergency declared by the governor or president
- Sustained winds in excess of 70 miles per hour
- Tornado or funnel cloud reported by a reliable source
- A tornado warning issued by the National Weather Service

Also (as is suggested by their name) these sirens are designed to alert individuals who are *outdoors*, alerting them to find shelter. Sirens are not intended to alert people who are in cars, homes, or other buildings.

The sirens are tested on the first Wednesday of the month. Testing only occurs when weather conditions are clear.

To learn more about Garland's Outdoor Warning Sirens (including their locations and what things impact their ability to function) visit the link below.

<https://garlandtx.gov/240/Outdoor-Warning-Sirens>

Holford Rec Center Input

Source: City of Garland (link at end of article)

The Holford Recreational Center is conveniently located across Shiloh Road from Oakridge, making it a valuable resource for Oakridge residents.

As the City of Garland prepares to renovate this dated facility (and the pool), they are inviting residents to provide input. Don't miss out on this opportunity to be involved!

Mark your calendar for **Monday, June 21, at 6 p.m.** to attend (via Zoom) the Garland City Council Meeting. For Zoom meeting details, visit GarlandTX.com and scroll down to the Public Meetings calendar.



Oakridge News

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

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Plant Swap Success

by Jackie Reynolds, ONA Events Director

Thankfully the rain held off long enough for Oakridge plant enthusiasts to gather, swap plants, and share advice at our May 23rd Plant Swap. We look forward to planning another Plant Swap in the future!

2021-2022 ONA Budget

by the ONA Board

The ONA budget for the 2021-2022 membership year was approved by the General Membership on May 27, 2021. The budget is available for viewing on the website (www.oakridgena.org) on the Resident Resources page under "Financials".

City Councilman

Here is some helpful information for our newest Oakridge residents. Oakridge falls within City District 7. The Councilman for our district is Dylan Hedrick - who also happens to be an Oakridge resident. His contact information is: 469-560-6099, council7@garlandtx.gov

Brick Wall & FAQ

by Heather Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

The ONA receives a lot of questions about everything from the brick wall to parking enforcement. As a Neighborhood Association, the ONA cannot enforce anything or assess any fees. However, we are more than happy to provide resources that point residents in the right direction.

We encourage you to check out the Resident Resources section of the website. Go to www.oakridgena.org/ and click on "Resident Resources" at the top of the screen.

The Resident Resources section includes:

- ONA Board Officers & Directors
- Bylaws & Governing Documents
- Meeting Minutes
- Financials
- Environmental (Committee)
- Crime Prevention & Safety (Committee)
- Newsletters
- Upcoming Events
- Photo Galleries
- Subscribe to Email Alerts
- Frequently Asked Questions (*NEW*)
- Oakridge Plats & Deeds
- Perimeter Brick Wall (*NEW*)

Take some time to visit the website and browse these Resident Resources. If you encounter any problems, please let us know (communications@oakridgena.org).

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