



## City Councilman Update

by Dylan Hedrick, District 7 City Councilman, Oakridge Resident

I hope you are enjoying the cooler weather as we move into fall. I certainly enjoyed the nice weather during Oakridge's National Night Out event on October 5. There was a great turnout of both neighbors and city employees including those from the Animal Services and Police Departments.

I also had the pleasure of speaking to the Daytimers women group on Tuesday October 12. I am happy that they are able to meet in person again and I was happy to share some developments across the city that I will highlight below.

On the City Council, we have been debating how to spend the \$53.5 million allocated to Garland as a result of the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA). The funds may be used for a variety of uses including replacing lost revenue as a result of the COVID-19 pandemic. We decided to use the funds to supplement the 2019 bond program projects and add several additional projects. Per federal regulations, the funds must be allocated by 2023 and spent by 2026.

Projects which will be funded include expanded sport courts for basketball, tennis, and pickleball at Holford Park, renovations to the North Garland Branch Library, a splash pad at Rick Oden Park, and new shade structures at the recently opened Dog Park.

We also will be adding scope corrections to Fire Stations 1, 6, and 7 projects to provide for individual sleeping quarters for the firefighters to prevent the spread of disease if we ever have another pandemic in the future. Several drainage studies to correct flooding issues will be conducted in the Gatewood and Saturn Springs neighborhoods and additional funding will be allocated to fixing the pavement issues at various railroad crossings around the city.

One project I am most proud of is providing approximately \$8 million to build a tennis complex at Tuckerville Park. The new tennis complex will provide about 20 courts which will allow Garland to become a tournament destination for tennis tournaments in the state. The new facility will replace the existing tennis center at Rick Oden Park.

In District 7, you may have noticed construction at the southeast corner of Arapaho and Shiloh Roads. A new Murphy's Gas Station and Convenience Store is being built there. Soon, construction will begin on a

new Starbucks Coffee free-standing store with a drive-thru to be built in the parking lot of the Home Depot at the northeast corner of Jupiter and Buckingham. The existing Starbucks across the street in the Albertson's parking lot in Richardson will be closed when the new store opens.

I am here to serve you so please reach out to me via email at [council7@garlandtx.gov](mailto:council7@garlandtx.gov) or by phone at 469-560-6099 if I can do anything for you.

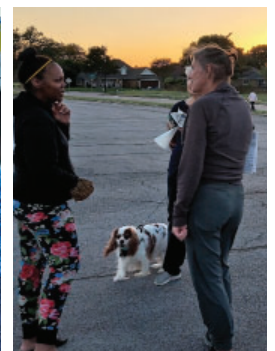
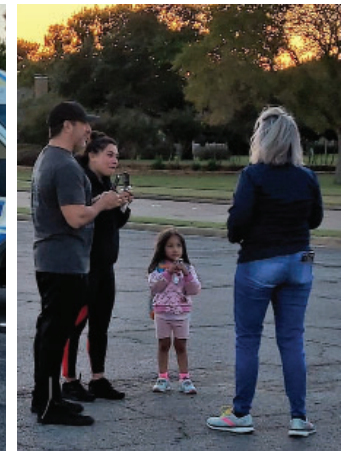
## ONA Volunteer Opportunity

If anybody wants to give back to their community, loves working with numbers, and has knowledge of QuickBooks and Excel, then step forward to **be the next ONA Treasurer**. Contact the ONA Board for more information ([info@oakridgena.org](mailto:info@oakridgena.org)).

## Walk, Greet, & Ice Cream!

by H. Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

Oakridge residents headed out of their homes on October 15th to enjoy the beautiful weather. The ONA arranged for the DFW Ice Cream Truck to hand out free ice cream in the golf club parking lot, and many residents dropped by to take advantage of the free frosty treats.



## Report Suspicious Activity in Oakridge

For emergencies or crimes in progress, call 911.

For non-emergencies, call Garland Police  
at (972) 485-4840.

## Food & Sock Drive

by Jackie Reynolds, ONA Events Director

The ONA has arranged for Good Samaritans of Garland to bring their truck to the Duck Creek Golf Club parking lot for a Food & Sock drive on **Sunday, November 7th, from 2-4pm**. In addition to needing new socks, some of the food that Good Sam needs includes peanut butter, canned meat, canned green beans, canned corn, dry pasta and canned pasta sauce. Visit their website for more food donation ideas (<http://www.goodsamofgarland.org/>).



Come drop off food and/or sock donations and receive a free cookie! We look forward to seeing you there.

## Citizens on Patrol

Citizens on Patrol (C.O.P.) is a program offered by the Garland Police Department. Citizens who participate are required to be trained through the GPD Citizens on Patrol program. (For more information, visit <http://www.garlandpolice.com/461/Citizens-on-Patrol-COP.>)

The ONA Crime Prevention and Safety Committee coordinates the C.O.P. in the Oakridge neighborhood. When patrolling the neighborhood, the Oakridge C.O.P. will have signs on their vehicles (see pictures below). This lets everyone know they're not just a suspicious vehicle driving slowly through the neighborhood.

If you have questions or concerns about the C.O.P. in Oakridge, please email [safety@oakridgena.org](mailto:safety@oakridgena.org).



## ONA Members October Winner

by Cecile LaBossiere, ONA Membership Director

Congratulations to ONA Members **Larry and Susan Tomson** (Oakridge District 6), winners of the October Member Raffle. They won a Goodie Bag from SF Supermarket (located in Cali Saigon Mall).

Our monthly raffle for ONA members is made possible by the generosity of these businesses. Please join us in supporting them in appreciation for their donations.

Baskin Robbins

Dallas Superstore-SF Supermarket  
(in Cali Saigon Mall)

Frank Marino's Texaco

Griff's Hamburgers

Panda Express

Pizza Hut

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*Monthly Raffle Eligibility: All ONA Members (excluding current board members) are automatically entered for the monthly raffles. ONA Members cannot win twice in the same membership year.*

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## Oakridge Daytimers

by Sally Weiss, Oakridge Daytimers

The Daytimers welcomed Fall by gathering for their October coffee at President Chris Beyer's home which was beautifully decorated for the season. After light refreshments—provided by Chris, Jan Perry Loyd, and Sally Weiss—we were visited by District 7 Garland City Councilman Dylan Hedrick who brought us up to date on various changes and developments to our fair city. He also highly recommended the app eAssist which is the quickest, most efficient means of reporting issues or requesting specific services. Councilman Hedrick, who also serves as Mayor Pro Tem, recently missed a Council meeting for the birth of his son who has now been playfully dubbed “Baby Pro Tem” by Mayor Scott LeMay.

Next month's coffee will be Tuesday, November 9th at 10:00am when we'll be sharing stories of favorite, special quilts. 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 us and the location of our next coffee may be directed to Chris Beyers at 214-697-9541.

## Get to Know Other Moms

by Libby Morse, Oakridge Women's Club

**Attention Moms!** Oakridge has a handful of experienced ladies who started a mom's group back when their kids were young (Oakridge Women's Club). Now their kids have grown and they are interested in helping the current generation start a group! This is a great opportunity to meet others, find encouragement, and plan activities for your kids such as parades, holiday parties, babysitting swaps, & play dates. If you are interested, please contact Libby Morse at 972-523-3069 or [Libbymorse@me.com](mailto:Libbymorse@me.com). Save the date:

**\*\*Join us at the next Oakridge Women's Club  
Thursday, November 4th @ 7pm\*\***

## Oakridge Gentlemen

by Mark Edwards & David Parrish, Oakridge Residents

Oakridge has a new men's group—Oakridge Gentlemen. Mark your calendar for our next meeting: Wednesday, November 17th, 10:30 a.m., at the Duck Creek Golf Club Grille. Come join us for friendship, activities, and great conversation. Questions? Contact Mark Edwards (972-414-8525).



## Oakridge Holiday Decorations

by H. 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.

If you see these little holiday elves putting up decorations, be sure to give them a friendly wave and say thank you.

## Serving First Responders

by H. Englebretson, ONA Communications Director

Oakridge has a 29-year history of showing appreciation

UPDATE, 11/2/2021: Instead of serving meals to the responders this year, we have a special opportunity before us. Details will be announced in the first week of November on NextDoor, on our website, and through email. Stay tuned!  
*Note: This update arrived after the hard copies of the newsletter were mailed.*

469-649-5799 or [jackiesr@twc.com](mailto:jackiesr@twc.com).

## A Garland Christmas

Source: link at bottom of article

Do you usually attend Garland's annual “Christmas on the Square”? Well this year it is being temporarily relocated to Firewheel Town Center and will be called “A Garland Christmas at Firewheel”.



Mark your calendar for **Thursday, December 2nd, 5:30-8:30 p.m.** and get ready for live entertainment, food vendors, snow hills, inflatables and the lighting of the official Christmas tree!

For more information, visit <http://www.garlandtx.gov/771/A-Garland-Christmas-at-Firewheel>

# Mulching Your Leaves

by David Parrish, ONA Environmental Committee Director



Did you know that scientists say to leave some (or all) of your leaves to help beneficial insects survive over the winter? This year consider letting some of the leaves stay put in your yard.


If you do plan to clean up the leaves, consider mulching instead of raking. Why? When you rake up your leaves, it costs you (us all) money. Your local taxes pay for trucks to sweep up your leaves or pick up your leaf bags, all of which often end up in landfills. If you burn leaves, you're just sending up clouds of carbon into the atmosphere.

Mulching leaves with your lawn mower simply recycles a natural resource, giving you richer soil for "free".

Here's a good resource on Leaf Mulching: <https://www.scotts.com/en-us/library/lawn-care-basics/dont-rake-those-leaves-mulch-them-your-lawn>

### Do you like history?

The website for The Garland Landmark Society, Inc. is filled with historical photos, scans of old city papers, interviews, maps, plats, and more. Visit <http://www.garlandhistorical.org/>.



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# Environmental Committee

by David Parrish, ONA Environmental Committee Director

The Environmental Director says *Thank You, Thank You!* Did I mention *Thank You?*

Thank you to:

1. All neighbors who contributed to the Beautification Fund of \$9,419.50. Hip-Hip-Hurray!
2. The individuals who volunteered their time and energy to the beautification of our neighborhood. These hard workers include John Kelbe, Mike Devanney, Keith Engler, Barbara Mairs, & Bruce Hard.
3. All of our neighbors who maintain their yards, plant flowers, and pick up trash.

Keeping Oakridge beautiful is a job that involves all of us. Thank you for your help!

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# Oakridge News

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## Good Neighbor Spotlight

### Good Neighbors are Like Family

by Heather Englebretson

A year ago, the husband of one of our elderly neighbors passed away. In the months that followed, I was encouraged (and even a bit surprised) to see just how many neighbors reached out to help this now-widowed neighbor. They checked in on her each week to see if she needed anything or to chat and keep her company. When a storm knocked one of her trees into the street, neighbors came out to help cut and move the tree to the curb for bulky trash. When the hard freeze came to North Texas, neighbors broke up the ice on her slippery walkway and checked to see how she was handling the power outages.

Several months ago her health unexpectedly declined, but her neighbors still continued to support her. They checked to see if she had enough food and groceries. When her ability to drive became limited, neighbors drove her to different appointments. When an ambulance took her to the hospital, neighbors looked after her house, cared for her dog, watered her plants, fed her fish, and picked up her mail. When it was clear she would be passing away soon, neighbors visited her at the hospital. These neighbors had adopted her as part of their family and they cared for her as they would a family member.

It was amazing to see so many neighbors showing such care and compassion—not just once or twice, but consistently and over a period of time. Good neighbors do exist and many of them live right here in Oakridge!

If you have a story to share for the Good Neighbor Spotlight, please email ONA Communications at [communications@oakridgena.org](mailto:communications@oakridgena.org). We will post your name as the one submitting the story, but the neighbor you are spotlighting can remain anonymous.

## 2021-2022 ONA Board

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

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