



Oakridge News

www.oakridgena.org

January 2023, Vol. 31, No. 01

Happy
New Year
Oakridge!

2023

Lets make it a great year!!



Note from the ONA President

by BillyRay Thomas, ONA President

HAPPY NEW YEAR!! May the spirit of hope bring you joy and peace in 2023.

First, let me begin by expressing my thanks for the opportunity to work with an exceptional group of people.

I have great respect and appreciation for the dedication and hard work of the past and present Board Members, At-Large Directors, Committee Chairs and Volunteers whose combined efforts help to make Oakridge one of the best, if not The Best Neighborhood in Garland. More importantly, is my resounding "Thank You" to our loyal renewing members, those returning after hiatus, and the record number of first-time members. You make the ONA possible. Thank You All!! If you are new to Oakridge, Welcome! If you are not an ONA Member, Join us anytime at <https://www.oakridgena.org/join-us/>. Annual dues are \$60.

Oakridge, I am so proud of the work of this 2022-2023 Board. We closed out 2022 with 289 members. We nominated our most diverse Board, a group of new faces more reflective of the diversity of Oakridge. We held our first face-to-face General Meeting at the Duck Creek Golf Club in September. Sadly, our newly renovated gathering spot was lost to fire, but we are grateful for the owner's commitment to rebuild. Our crime rates remained low -- generosity high, as we came together again to support our Neighborhood Police Officer Barnes. The Spring event, National Night

Out, and Good Sam's food and coats drives were successful because neighbors came out. The spring and fall plantings were beautiful. However, the Texas summer, freeze in December, and aging sprinkler system has taken its toll. By the way, our hardworking environmental committee is looking for volunteers with ideas on how to best deal with these challenges.

Lastly, thanks to our Communications Team, past and present, for their commitment to produce an outstanding, award-winning Newsletter. Oakridge won "Best Newsletter" in 2019 and we expect to be a contender every year <https://www.garlandfire.com/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=1557>.

For 2023, we will build upon our successes, look for areas of improvement, continue to be fiscally responsible and anticipate more of you will support the neighborhood through ONA Membership and Board participation. Please join us!

Our next Board Meeting is February 13, 2023, at 7pm via Zoom. If you would like to attend as our guest, email us at info@oakridgena.org to receive access.

The next ONA General Meeting will be February 23, 2023, via Zoom. The Zoom link will be posted on the website, Nextdoor and emailed. Please ensure your email and contact information is current at <https://www.oakridgena.org/join-us/>.

Until next time.

We Need Your Input

by Cecile LaBossiere, ONA Membership Director

The ONA is reaching out to all Oakridge Residents and asking for your input by completing a brief survey. The survey will only take a minute.....

You can remain anonymous or complete your name and address to be eligible for our \$25 Albertson's Gift Card raffle.

The input we receive will assist us in setting our goals for the upcoming year. Please scan the QR code and give us a chance to hear from you!

The survey is also available via our website www.oakridgena.org.



Thanks for taking the survey –
We appreciate your participation.

MARTIN LUTHER KING JR DAY

16 January, 2023

In honor of his contribution and sacrifice
to Civil Rights!

City Councilman Update

by Dylan Hedrick, District 7 City Councilman, Oakridge Resident

I hope everyone had a safe and happy holiday season! On City Council, we are moving into another one of our important budgeting seasons as we are now reviewing the proposed Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) budget. The CIP budget is a plan for funding projects which have a useful life of not less than five years and exceed \$25,000 in cost. Approved projects in this year often have budget implications for future years as funding for projects such as buildings and utility improvements are often spread over multiple years.

This year's proposed CIP budget is the largest in city history at \$557.9 million and includes \$157.8 million for funding to continue the implementation of the 2019 Bond Program. During 2023, 54 of the 58 2019 Bond Program projects and programs will be underway as we continue to meet our promise of delivering them as soon as possible. Additionally, the CIP includes \$12.3 million for 13 additional projects not included in the 2019 Bond Program using funding from the American Rescue Plan Act.

Park projects account for the majority of the tax-supported funding proposals with \$69.5 million going towards the renovation or construction of Holford, Granger and Hollabaugh Recreation Centers, the new Garland Senior Activity Center, and trail development such as the Bisby Transmission Trail near Jupiter Road and Apollo Road.

Over \$60.5 million is allocated to street improvement projects including southern Shiloh Road, Holford Road, Naaman School Road, and various bottleneck improvements throughout the city. The budget also includes funding for traffic signal equipment modernization projects to improve traffic flow through the city and railroad crossing improvements to smooth the roadways over the tracks. Public safety funding includes the construction of the new Fire Station 6 which is moving from Holford Road to north of President George Bush Turnpike and Campbell Road, and a permanent restroom facility at the Police training gun range.

Funding is proposed for the construction of a new Walnut Creek Branch library as well as modernization upgrades

to Central and North Garland Libraries. We also proposed the funding of library kiosks throughout the city to spread library services to areas typically underserved or more distant from our four library locations.

Utility-funded projects include the purchase of 13 new pieces of equipment for the Sanitation Department, enhancements to water transmission mains and distribution lines throughout the city, and \$122.4 million for Garland Power & Light to fund ERCOT-driven reliability upgrades to transmission lines and substations.

With the recent increase in property valuations, there is no proposed increase to the property tax rate for fiscal year 2022-2023 to fund the CIP budget. However, we do anticipate a modest increase to sanitation and wastewater rates, but no increase to water or GP&L electric rates.

I am looking forward to the upcoming meetings and discussions regarding our CIP budget and value your input in this process. Please contact me at 469-560-6099 or council7@garlandtx.gov if you have any questions or comments regarding the CIP budget, or if there is anything I can do to assist you. It is my extreme pleasure to continue to serve the citizens of Garland and District 7.

ONA Membership Update

by Cecile LaBossiere, ONA Membership Director

The Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA) is dedicated to serving all residents of Oakridge by utilizing member dues to maintain the neighborhood. Oakridge does not have a mandatory homeowners association but is Voluntary, so we rely on membership dues to maintain the nine entrances' landscape services, lighting and sprinkler services that needed to keep Oakridge beautiful and welcoming for our residents. Please consider being a part of your community by contributing to the ONA through Membership. It only takes a minute at <https://www.oakridgena.org/join-us/> or scan the QR Code.



Join Here

Current ONA Membership Totals

District #	Current Members	Have Not Renewed	Not Yet Supporting	# of Households	% Not Yet Supporting
1	54	20	111	185	29%
2	54	12	88	154	36%
3	18	9	114	141	13%
4	51	15	85	151	34%
5	34	9	147	190	18%
6	37	8	136	181	20%
7	41	9	114	164	25%
Totals	289	82	795	1166	25%

The Survey will also be available via our website at www.oakridgena.org. Thanks for taking the survey – We appreciate your participation!

Oakridge Crime & Safety

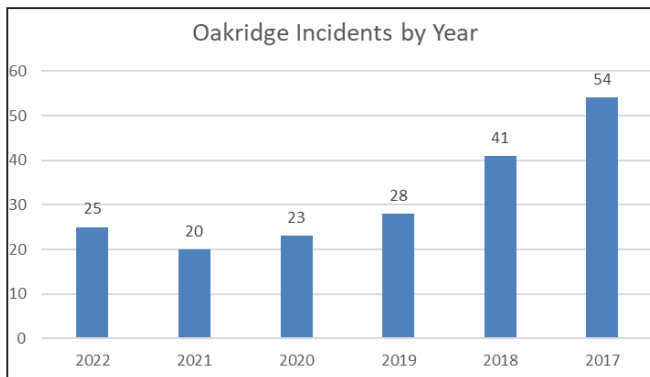
by Joan Nichols, ONA Crime & Safety Committee Director

Oakridge prides itself on a long history of active involvement of its members in watching out for one another. 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 notifying residents of incidents in our neighborhood are available to anyone who has subscribed on our website or by contacting us at safety@oakridgena.org.

CRIME HISTORY

Oakridge crime rates remain low. The increase this past year was mostly due to theft from and unauthorized use of unlocked vehicles. We would like to thank everyone, especially our COPs, Crime Watch volunteers, and Garland Police who together continue to keep us safe.



Visit our website at <https://www.oakridgena.org/crime-prevention-safety/> to see monthly Crime Reports and other useful resources.

REMINDERS FOR THE NEW YEAR

Garland Police Department has several good tips to keep in mind all year long:

Lock your vehicle... Please lock your vehicles and remove valuables – especially your guns and keys. If you can, put your vehicle in the garage. Many thefts from vehicles were unlocked – don't make us an easy target!

Watch out for "Porch Pirates"... Watch out for package deliveries. Track arrival and have a neighbor pick up or deliver to a business (e.g. Walgreens, others) if you are not available.

Continue to be watchful neighbors. Addition of outdoor security lights, cameras, being outdoors walking etc., all help make our community less inviting to potential criminals. It also helps to get out and meet your neighbors.

Report any suspicious activity to the non-emergency number at **972-485-4840**:

- **Focus on behavior:** What was the person doing that made you suspicious.
- **Details matter:** Hair, clothing (head to toe), identifying marks. Race or gender alone is not enough.
- **Vehicle:** Make, Model, Color, Direction of travel, License Plate.
- **Location & Time:** Address, date, time.
- **If you have security camera video,** please sign up at Garland Video Crime Watch Program <https://survey123.arcgis.com/share/2b672c80bd9540b78afca229e4e1f4bc> or email Officer Barnes at BarnesT@garlandtx.gov.

CHERYL JONES
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NOTARY
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214-437-9132
cjones@cheryljones4homes.com
www.cheryljones4homes.com

- Oakridge Resident since 1996
- 30+ Years of Real Estate experience
- Oakridge Discounts and Rebates

協泰
Hiep Thai

*Local Asian Marketplace!
Fresh Meat & Seafood!*

3347 W. Walnut St., #101
Garland, TX 75042
Tel: 972-272-1993
Fax: 972-487-9092

2430 E. Pioneer Pkwy.
Arlington, TX 76010
Tel: 817-459-1311
Fax: 817-459-1317

Are you a business owner?

Consider advertising in the Oakridge newsletter and reach over 1,000 residents each month.

*Business-card-sized ads only.
Placement of ads in the newsletter is rotated monthly.
\$300 per membership year (June 1 - May 31).*

Email communications@oakridgena.org for more information.

ONA Flag Team

by David Parrish, ONA Environmental Director

Oakridge has a long history of showing Patriotism. The ONA is currently recruiting residents to join or lead a dedicated team to deploy U.S. Flags (8"x12" on a dowel rod) to all nine entrances before and collected soon after each of the Flag Holidays. For more information or to join the Flag Team, please email environment@oakridgena.org. Information will also be on the ONA website.



Board Positions/Opportunities

by BillyRay Thomas, ONA President

The ONA Board is made up of neighbor volunteers, like you. Qualifications are simple, be a resident of Oakridge, an ONA Member and willing to serve. On-boarding support is provided.

Open Board/Committee Positions

- President
- Vice President
- Treasurer (*Familiar with QuickBooks, Excel*)
- Secretary
- District Directors for Districts 1, 3 and 7
- Nominating Committee Chair (*Chair + 2 volunteers needed*)
- Environmental Director

Please get involved. Your neighborhood needs you! You can find more information on the ONA Board and position duties at <https://www.oakridgena.org/ona-board/>.

To volunteer or nominate someone, email us at info@oakridgena.org with "Count Me In" in the subject line. We'll take care of the rest.



Are you an ONA member?
Have you received your flag?

If not, please contact us at
oakridgemembership@gmail.com



RE/MAX Associates of Dallas

Jeff Stone
Managing Broker
214-957-4386

Oakridge resident over 30 years
offering special commission rate for my neighbors!

Oakridge Resident 411s

by Cheryl Jones, ONA Communications Director

If you are new to Oakridge, WELCOME to the neighborhood! The Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA) Welcome Committee would love to send you a "Welcome Bag" filled with goodies from the City of Garland, helpful tips and ONA information. Email us at info@oakridgena.org and let us know you are here.

ONA Fiscal Membership Year

Begins June 1 and ends May 31st. We are currently in the 2022-2023 year; 2023-2024 Membership Drive will kick off in the Spring and officially begin June 1, 2023. Membership dues are \$60 annually. Join by Mail or on the website. Instructions are located at <https://www.oakridgena.org/join-us/>.

Oakridge Plat/Districts

Oakridge neighborhood is comprised of 1166 homes and divided up into "7 Districts" by Street. Each District is represented by an ONA District Director. Find your District and ONA District Director at <https://www.oakridgena.org/seven-districts-of-oakridge/>.

Perimeter Walls

ONA Membership contributions provide for the maintenance, landscaping, and mowing "around" the perimeter walls. If your home is on the outer perimeter, you are responsible for the repair or replacement of damaged walls on your property. Detailed information is available on the ONA website at <https://www.oakridgena.org/perimeter-brick-wall/>.

Donna's Pet & House Sitting
Home: 972-495-8599 Cell: 214-395-5403
Donna Feher
Partnered With Sue Hageland
Oakridge Area Resident for 30+ Years

Insured - Certified in Pet First Aid/CPR

Overnight Stays in Your Home or Mine

Treasurer Report

by Veronica Brown-Corbin, ONA Treasurer

We are a VOLUNTARY Neighborhood Association, totally dependent on Membership Revenue and VOLUNTEERS to keep us going.

We are on track to our budget thanks to member generosity, and if no major increases in environmental, (our biggest

expense) we should close out the fiscal year on target. We will continue to look for ways to best manage what we have with anticipation of increases in membership revenue and beautification donations.

Join us at the General Membership meeting in February. We welcome your input and recommendations. Visit the Website for the latest Budget and Financial Reports.

2022-2023 ONA Actual vs Budget as of 1/11/2023						
Category	Revenue	Membership	Beautification	Advertising	Interest	Total
1	2022-2023 Budget	\$ 14,987	\$ 9,600	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 24,587
	2022-2023 Actual	\$ 17,340	\$ 8,778	\$ 900	\$ 2	\$ 27,019
	\$ Difference	\$ 2,353	\$ (823)	\$ 900	\$ 2	\$ 2,432
	Member Difference	39				
Mandatory Operating Expenses						
		Monthly Budget	Months Remaining	Remaining Budget		
2	Newsletter (May, Sep, Jan)	\$ 212	2	\$ 425		
	Postage (Sep paid)	\$ 195	2	\$ 389		
	Printing: Newsletter (50 copies/month) - Jun-Dec paid	\$ 29	3	\$ 86		
	Postage (First-Class \$0.58): 25 Newsletters	\$ 15	3	\$ 44		
	Platinum Scapes (June-Dec Paid)	\$ 621	5	\$ 3,104		
	Platinum Scapes Beautification (June-Dec Paid)	\$ 800	5	\$ 4,000		
	Storage (Paid through Dec 2022)	\$ 102	5	\$ 510		
	Avg Utilities per month estimated (Jun-Dec Paid)	\$ 350	5	\$ 1,750		
	3-Year Website (Paid until April 2024)	\$ 463	0	\$ -		
	Annual Bulk Mail Fee Due in December	\$ 265.00	0	\$ -		
	Annual PO Box Fee Due in October (Pd thru Oct '23)	\$ 240.00	0	\$ -		
	Total Operating Expenses Remaining				\$ 10,307	
Money Market Balance		\$ 18,002				
Events Budgeted		\$ 950				
Events Spent		\$ 410				
Events Balance		\$ 540				
General Maintenance Budgeted		\$ 500				
General Maintenance Spent		\$ 230				
General Maintenance Balance		\$ 270				
3	Checking Account Balance		\$ 14,254			
	Total Operating Expenses Remaining		\$ (10,307)			
	Special Events Money Remaining		\$ (540)			
	Officer Barnes Fundraising		\$ -			
	General Maintenance Money Remaining		\$ (270)			
	Minimum Checking Account Balance to avoid fees		\$ (2,000)			
	Operating Funds Remaining (deficit)		\$ 1,136			

OAKRIDGE MARKET AT A GLANCE

Provided for informational purposes only. For property specific market evaluations, contact a Real Estate Professional.

	New Listings	Pending	Closed	Distressed
Number of Properties	4	2	10	1
Low Price / Value	\$365,000	\$278,000	-	\$438,680
Median Price / Value	\$394,950	\$313,950	\$313,950	\$438,680
High Price / Value	\$580,000	\$349,900	\$405,000	\$438,680
Average Price / Sq. Ft.	\$193	\$180	\$127	\$181
Median Price / Sq. Ft.	\$196	\$180	\$182	\$181
Average Days in RPR	52	34	35	-
Median Days in RPR	53	34	35	-
Total Volume	\$1,734,900	\$627,900	\$2,123,950	\$438,680



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12/29/2022

Search Criteria Location: Oakridge in Garland, TX; Date: Changes in the Last 3 Months; Transaction Types: For Sale, For Lease; Change Types: New Listings, Pending, Closed, Distressed; Property Types: Single Family, Condo/Townhouse/Apt.; Beds: 3 - No Max; Baths: 2 - No Max; Maximum Properties per Change Type: 10; Sort Order: Recently updated

Distressed suggests Foreclosure, Short Sale or Habitability.

Oakridge News

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



PRSR STD
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Oakridge Daytimers

by Sally Weiss, Oakridge Daytimers

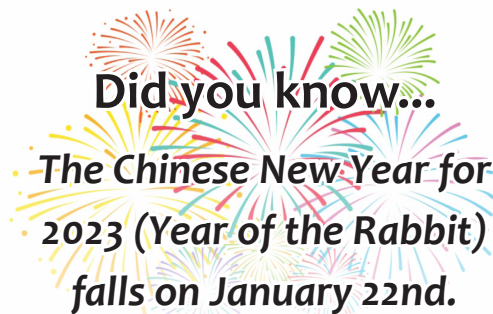
“Happy Birthday to Me” was running through my head as I entered Chris Beyers’ beautiful home for our birthday coffee featuring EVERYONE celebrating a birthday this year. We are all blessed to be among them! Tasty birthday fare was provided by food hostesses Pam Rouze, Ann Williams and Margaret Fowler arranged around a fanciful birthday- inspired tablescape created by Chris. Thanks, ladies, for making us all feel so special.

A short business session followed including introductions to four new members. We’re happy to welcome you aboard, ladies. You’ll find that this is a great way to get to know your neighbors.

Several of us shared special birthday remembrances and spoke of various gifts that made a lasting impression. Mostly, they involved family members but, in a couple of instances, they involved total strangers. In those cases, the strangers were um, let me see I how can put this, um.....well, let’s just say that what was said at Chris’s house stays at Chris’s house!

We’re still looking for food hostesses so, if you haven’t signed up yet, please call Margaret. Her number is on our membership list.

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 Ann Conrath at 469-367-0802. I understand that there will be a lovely surprise for us at February’s coffee. Come see!



2022-2023 ONA Board

info@oakridgena.org

Officers

President, BillyRay Thomas 214-734-1017
Vice President, Vickie Litton 972-762-2805
Secretary, Sharon Parrish 469-939-2270
Treasurer, Veronica Brown-Corbin..... 214-642-4815

District Directors

District 1, Joanna Albright 973-879-5965
District 2 Co-Directors
Jack Lang 214-395-8596
Sallie Lang 214-708-2870
District 3, VACANT
District 4 Co-Directors
Oliver Harter 214-663-8862
Jackie Jones..... 972-897-5133
District 5, Melanie Busby..... 972-989-2253
District 6, Ruba Qewar 972-207-1911
District 7, Joetta Harris 469-955-1513

Committees

Communications, Cheryl Jones..... 214-437-9132
Crime & Safety, Joan Nichols 214-543-2546
Environmental, David Parrish 469-733-6089
Events, Jackie Reynolds 469-649-5799
Membership, Cecile LaBossiere..... 972-896-9413

Oakridge Men’s Group

by Mark Edwards, Oakridge Resident

In 2022, we put together a group called The Oakridge men’s group, sometimes called The Oakridge Boys. We have about seventeen members attending our meetings throughout the summer and fall. We get together on the 3rd Wednesday of the month 10:30 in the morning at the Duck Creek Golf Club. However, since the fire, our next meeting will be February 15th at the Spring Creek Church, 2660 Belt Line Rd, Garland, TX 75044 (Coffee House). All men in the Oakridge area are welcome to come on by. There is also the possibility of putting together an evening Club to serve the folks who are still working. If you have any questions, give me holler at 214-673-8908. Hope to see you in February.