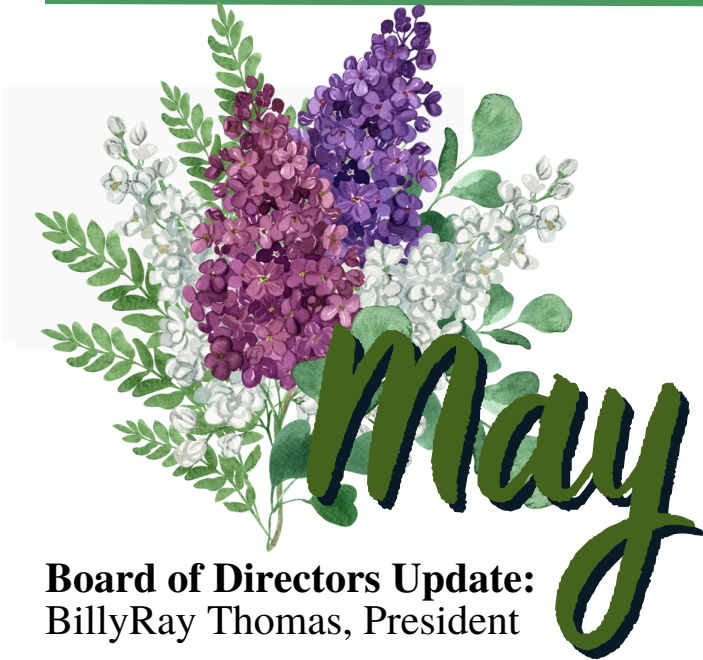


OAKRIDGE NEWS

www.oakridgena.org

May 2023, Vol. 31, No. 04



Board of Directors Update: BillyRay Thomas, President

As the 2022 fiscal year comes to its end, I can whole heartedly say it was productive and a great experience. I am thankful for the collective efforts of the Board members and continued support of the community.

Our membership drive is in full swing. I look forward to a new term working with new neighbors who will join us. With your continued support, we can make this membership drive one of the best we have ever had.

The Annual Membership Meeting is May 25th on Zoom. Information will be distributed via all ONA communications channels.

Oakridge is truly a great community -- truly a reflection of America's diversity of backgrounds and cultures. Our crime stats remain low. Our location in Garland could not be better. We are close to the action in all our surrounding cities, easy access to freeways, dining, shopping, recreation and more.

Improvements are going on all around us; a new Holford Park, new homes in Riverset and a new Starbucks. Places of worship for every choosing including a Catholic Church, Mosque, Jehovah Witness Temple, Spring Creek Church, Spanish Church, and others.

Not only that, soon we will have a newly remodeled Club House right here in our neighborhood. Thanks again to Brent and Alesha for their commitment to rebuild and help make Oakridge a GREAT community for all of us!

As you all know our neighborhood infrastructure is aging and the first order of business is to address the sprinkler system, landscaping, maintenance, and beautification of our entries which takes a huge chunk out of our budget. We are on par to close out fiscal 2023 on target but there is work to be done. Financial Reports will be posted on the web site prior to the annual meeting.

In addition to financial resources, we need volunteers. WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN MEET ALL CHALLENGES. You've heard "It takes a village" -- well it rings true for Oakridge. It takes all of us as we are better together.

The key word in our name is Neighbor! Membership is not required, it's desired. Join us!

Until next time.



DUCKCREEK
— GOLF CLUB —
214-440-2229 duckcreekgc.com
Hurray! Restoration is on the way!



Membership

Cecile LaBossiere, Director

The 2023 Fiscal year ends May 31st and on behalf of the ONA, thank you for your continued support.

This month we kick off our 2023-2024 Membership Drive. The official year begins June 1st and our new flag color is Pink. Let's see those flags flying throughout the neighborhood this year! Remember, when you join the ONA, you make a difference.

For new Members, a Membership Form is included to mail in or join online. See detailed instructions to Join and Renew online at <https://www.oakridgena.org/join>.

Just so you know:

- ONA Membership is Voluntary. (Not an HOA)
- ONA relies on dues and donations to maintain the lighting, sprinkler systems, landscape and maintenance and utility costs for entries and perimeters.
- ONA dues fund community activities so residents can meet each other right here in our neighborhood.
- ONA encourages and welcomes member feedback, and suggestions, and participation.
- ONA does not share your information.
- ONA cannot do what we do without you!

Help us keep our community maintained and inviting to our current and prospective residents and visitors.

ONA Members!

ONA Member Flags will be delivered by your District Director or Membership.

Email oakridgemembership@gmail.com if you don't receive yours!



Join Today!



Oakridge Residents, Garland's best!



ONA Annual Membership Meeting & General Election

May 25, 2023
7pm via Zoom

Make your voices heard. Vote for:
Officers and Directors
Annual Budget

Check the website for slate of nominees and proposed budget at:

www.oakridgena.org/fy24elections

協泰
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Local Asian Marketplace!
Fresh Meat & Seafood!

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Fax: 972-487-9092

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Arlington, TX 76010
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(830) 216-3784

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Oakridge Resident since 1996

34 Years of Real Estate experience
Offering Oakridge Discounts and Rebates

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Independently owned and operated.



NOTARY



MLS



Garland City Council, District 7 Update Councilman Dylan Hedrick

The weather is warming up and that means our annual summer festival and music series is ready to begin again. This year's lineup features a wide variety of artists from Latin, blues, rock and Texas country.

The Sounds of Summer concert series starts May 5 and runs every other Friday until June 30. The concerts will be held at either Winters Park or Audubon Park. Go to <https://www.VisitGarlandTX.com/SoundsofSummer2023> for more information.

Another celebration I am looking forward to is this year's 10th annual Cinco de Mayo celebration. It will be held at Lakewood Brewery on Sunday, May 7, 2023 from 2:00-9:30 pm. Music will be performed by Grupo Romero, Conjunto Cats and the Hometown Boy. If you are looking for a smaller, more intimate setting for music, check out our Band Together concert series every other Friday evening from May through July in downtown. The shows start at 7:00 PM and are held at 506 Art (506 Main St.). For more information, go to <https://www.visitgarlandtx.com/bandtogether>.

To celebrate its first year of operation, Animal Shelter & Adoption Center hosted a Grand Bonanza Saturday, April 22. Even though the shelter more than doubled its space over the previous shelter, it has been operating at or near capacity daily since its opening. To give you an idea of the numbers, during the month of March, Animal Services Officers answered 1,789 calls for service and removed five animals from cruelty.

The Shelter adopted out 163 animals and took in 427 for the month. This large discrepancy between adoptions and intakes continues to present operational challenges for our staff. I highly encourage you to visit the shelter if you are looking for your next pet like our family did with our new cat Mittens.

Our 2019 Bond Program continues to progress as several projects in District 7 have been awarded or started in the past few weeks. Holford Recreation Center has been completely torn down in preparation for the new center and pool to start construction this summer.

LOOKING FOR GARLAND EVENTS?
Scan me!

The Garland Texan

Construction has also started on the 10' wide, mile-long Busby transmission Trail that runs in an existing high-voltage transmission easement north of Apollo Road to Lawrence Drive. At our April 18 council meeting, we awarded the contracts for the design of Holford Road segment C which is the southernmost section connecting to Arapaho Road.

We also approved two design contracts for the Duck Creek-Audubon Trail and the Naaman Forest trail connection. These projects will help to further develop our growing trail system as outlined in our 2021 Trails and Bikeways Master Plan.

Finally, Central Library will close for the next 12-14 months as exterior and interior renovations are completed. Temporary operations will be moved to the nearby 713 Austin Street (formerly the Women's Activities Building) in May. During construction, only limited services will be provided from the Central Library Express location, but you can still visit other branch locations. The Central Library will be getting a new entrance, security improvements and an entirely new façade to bring new life to the building. Interior renovations include reconfiguring the spaces to add new technology, infrastructure improvements and - my kid's favorite - a children's slide from the ground floor level down to the new children's area in the basement. Go to <https://www.buildgarland.com/project/19590> to view renderings of the new exterior and interior.

It is my great honor to continue to serve the citizens of Garland and District 7. Please contact me at 469-560-6099 or council7@garlandtx.gov if there is anything I can do for you.

RE/MAX Associates of Dallas

Jeff Stone
Managing Broker
214-957-4386

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

Concerts begin at 7 p.m. Every Other Friday May 5-June 30

VisitGarlandTX.com

David and Sharon Parrish, ONA Heroes!

by Cheryl Jones, Communication Director

ONA's Dynamic Duo will officially retire May 31st. They have graciously served the ONA and Oakridge community for the past 11 years as District Directors, Environmental Director, and Secretary. Their dedication, level of commitment and work ethic as volunteers is unsurmountable. The ONA owes you a great debt and we all say Thank You for your Service!



In their own words:

"It was with curiosity about our Oakridge Neighborhood that David and I started to participate in the ONA. We first started with the Director for District 7 and years later Environmental and Secretary where we serve to this date.

Over the years we joined in the Holiday Decorations, flyers and flag distribution for upcoming events, welcome bags, fire department groceries, and annual spring flings. These opportunities have been great for our children and encouraged new people to join us.



In recent years David has given great energy to the Environmental Committee including coordinating contracts, sprinklers repairs and breakdowns and keeping our perimeter grass clean and mowed. We will continue to join our neighbors in making Oakridge the warm and welcoming community it is today. It has been our pleasure to live in, raise our family and now move on to other endeavors of retirement."

A job well done. Please join me in wishing them well.



Sunday, May 7th, Cinco de Mayo Fest

www.cincodemayodallas.com

Daytimers Coffee

Sally Weiss, Oakridge Resident

The Oakridge Daytimers is a social organization for women who live in the Oakridge Neighborhood. We meet monthly from September to May each year, promote the Oakridge Neighborhood Association, and friendships within the neighborhood.

On April 11th, we met for refreshments and appetizers in the home of Sharon and Jessica Eppler. Texas Master Naturalist Rebe Collins was the interesting speaker in today's gathering. Ms. Collins is a North Texas Naturalist volunteer from the Spring Creek Reservoir. She spoke to twenty-four members about the various walking trails, plants and birds found in the area.

Our final meeting and luncheon will be held at the Desperado's Mexican restaurant in Garland on May 9th at 11:30 AM. Should anyone be interested in joining us, please contact Peggy Crenshaw Treasurer at 469-371-1618 before April 30th to make a reservation. Include a \$10 check to Daytimers or cash. The cost for nonmembers is \$20. Reservation are required to attend.

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.

Crime and Safety

Joan Nichols, Crime and Safety 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) Crime Prevention and Safety Committee serves its 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. Siren alerts notifying residents of incidents in our neighborhood are available to subscribers on our website or have contacted us at safety@oakridgena.org.

Visit <https://www.oakridgena.org/crime-prevention-safety/> for all Crime Prevention and Safety Information and Tips.

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



Oakridge Men

Mark Edwards

The Oakridge Gentleman's Group held it's April Meeting on the third Wednesday (the 19th) at the 14-18 Coffee Shop (Spring Creek Church). The Coffee Shop is very comfortable. Lots of room. Quiet. Good Coffee-Plus. Great meeting place.

All Men in Oakridge are invited, and we don't mind if you bring a friend. No politics. No religious overtones. No gender discussions. But we do talk about Oakridge and items that concern our Garland community. Councilman Dylan Hedrick has been our guest on several occasions. Other guest speakers have been Golf Club owner Brent Hurt, Garland Fire Department Reps, Officers for the Garland Police Homeless Task Force and other City officials.

The Duck Creek Golf Clubhouse has been one of our concerns as it had been our meeting place before the fire. The Course is open and has continued operations. As of this publication, the demolition of the building is well underway. The owner also expressed they could use volunteers as Course Marshals and Starters. They will train. Check with the temporary office on the premises to learn more.

Next meeting will be at the 14-18 Coffee Shop of Spring Creek Church, 2600 Belt Line Road, Wednesday, May 17th at 10:30am.

Attention Business Professionals!!

**Your business card here could reach
over 1,000 residents each month.
Only \$300 Per Year!**

Runs Membership Year June 1 - May 31st.
Placement rotated monthly.

Email us at communications@oakridgena.org to
start advertising today!

Oakridge Residents 411s:

New Residents:

If you are new to Oakridge, WELCOME! New residents should expect to receive a "Welcome Bag" filled with goodies from the City of Garland, helpful tips, and ONA information. Email us at info@oakridgena.org to let us know you are here or if you have any questions. We hope you will consider ONA Membership. Join anytime via the website or scan the "Join QR Code".

Click **Subscribe** for Email Alerts!

Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA):

The ONA is a 501(C)(4) Non-Profit chartered in 1992. Its Fiscal Year begins June 1 and ends May 31st of the following year. Membership is Voluntary. Dues are \$60 Annually per household. Additional information on Oakridge and the ONA can be found on the web site <https://www.oakridgena.org/resident-resources/>.

Oakridge Districts/Directors:

Oakridge neighborhood is comprised of 1166 homes divided up into "Districts" by Street. Each District is represented by an ONA District Director. Click **Find Your District** to locate your District and ONA District Director.

Oakridge Perimeter Walls:

If your home is on the outer perimeter, you will be 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/>. Note: ONA Membership contributions provide for the maintenance, landscaping, and mowing "around" the perimeter walls.

Sidewalk Repairs-City Cost Share Program:

Per Garland's City Ordinance, if you own property in Garland, it is your responsibility to keep sidewalks, parkways, curbs, and driveways adjacent to your property in a good and safe condition and free from any defects and hazards. A property owner who qualifies in all three categories may now bear as little as 10 percent of the cost of fixing their sidewalk. Find out program details at:

<https://www.garlandtx.gov/384/Sidewalk-Participation-Program>.

2023-2024 Nominating Committee

Vickie Litton, Chair

There is still time for you to serve on the 2023-2024 Board. Contact any nominating committee member for more information on open positions.

Prior to May Annual Meeting, nominees will be presented at the May 16th Board meeting for review, then to members through publication on the ONA Website and Nextdoor Page.

See contact info below:

Vickie Litton, Chair, District 1

vickie.litton@outlook.com

Diana Edwards, District 3, islandgal79@gmail.com

Dan Nichols, District 4, dsnichols1@tx.rr.com



ONA 2022-2023 Board of Directors

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 Qewar972-207-1911

District 7, Joetta Harris..... 469-955-1513

Committees

Communications, Cheryl Jones.....214-437-9132

Crime & Safety, Joan Nichols.....214-543-2546

Environmental, David Parrish469-733-6089

Events, Jackie Reynolds.....469-649-5799

Membership, Cecile LaBossiere.....972-896-9413

Thanks Oakridge for making our Spring party a success!

[Click here for the Photo Gallery](#)





Supporting your neighborhood is like investing in your home.

Join Online Here!

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.
- Publishes 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 prevention and safety information.
- Organizes and funds neighborhood activities for the annual National Night Out.
- Welcomes new residents and delivers a "Welcome Bag" containing community information.
- Plans, organizes, and funds three General Membership meetings.
- Coordinates holiday donations from Oakridge residents to Garland Police Department and the Fire Stations who serve our neighborhood.
- 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.

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

Nothing happens without your support!

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.



Prefer to Join/Pay by Mail? Print Form

Thank you for supporting the Oakridge Neighborhood Association!

.....

Please print/fill out completely

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

Street Address _____

Home Phone _____

First Time Supporter

Renewal

Owner Tenant

Subscribe to ONA emails? Y or N

Contact 1

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

Contact 2

First Name _____ Last Name _____

Email _____ Cell Phone _____

.....

Invoice

The ONA is not a mandatory HOA.
It relies on volunteers and donations.

Support Levels

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

What the ONA does

Perimeter Maintenance	Events & Social Activities
Seasonal Plantings	General Member Meetings
Monthly Newsletter	Holiday Decorations
ONA Website	Donations to Fire/Police Stations
Crime Prevention & Safety	New Resident Welcome Bags

Contact info@oakridgena.org for comments or to volunteer.

Total Amount Enclosed

\$ _____

.....

Payment Method:

Check/Money Order enclosed

Online Payment - PayPal link
is available on the ONA website
(www.oakridgena.org/join-us)

.....

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.