



OAKRIDGE NEWS

www.oakridgena.org

May 2024, Vol. 32, No. 5



**Oakridge Neighborhood Association's
Annual Spring Party and Membership Drive!
May 5th, 1-3pm**

All Oakridge Residents welcome--Bring the entire family.

***Note: Limited Parking: Please consider walking to the cul-de-sac
or park nearby and walk if you live far away.***

**Set-up at 11:00am in the Cul-de-sac. If you can help out, that
would be great. Contact jackiesr@twc.com.**

**Food/Drinks
sponsored by ONA**

New Location for 2024

**Culdesac at Lone Oak & Rocky Trail.
In times past, we gathered right here.**

**Party Trailer, Table and Chairs as usual.
Special thanks to our Lone Oak/Rocky Trail
neighbors for their support.
Please be respectful of driveways.**

Will be a great time, Come see!!!

**No room for Fire/Police Units/but they are
always welcome.**

***Don't miss the great Desserts
courtesy of the
"Oakridge Daytimers"***

If you're new to Oakridge,

Welcome

Not an ONA Member yet, Join us!



A "Welcome Bag" is coming your way! See "Oakridge 411s".

Board of Directors Update

Vickie Litton, Acting President

May is named for the Roman goddess Maia, who oversaw the growth of plants. Also, from the Latin word mairoes, “elders”, who were celebrated during this month. It is exciting to be able to celebrate holidays and events this month with our neighbors and families – the Oakridge Spring Party on Sunday, May 5th ; Mother’s Day, May 12th; and Memorial Day.

The 2023-2024 fiscal year ends May 31st, closing with 273 membership supporters. We appreciate you all for your generosity and commitment to supporting the ONA's charter to make sure Oakridge entrances and landscaping reflect the great neighborhood it is. Our Spring Party is May 5th, Cinco de Mayo, kicks off our 2024-2025 Membership Drive. Don't forget we are at a new location as reflected on page 2 of the newsletter. We need our membership numbers to increase to meet the proposed 2024-2025 budget. Please encourage your neighbors, Tenants or Owners to help us make this year the highest membership ever.

In addition to financial resources, we need volunteers. **WORKING TOGETHER WE CAN MEET ALL CHALLENGES.** It takes ALL of us to maintain our wonderful Oakridge neighborhood. The key word in our name is Neighbor!

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.

Wishing everyone a great May and looking forward to seeing everyone at the Spring Party!

SAVE THE DATE

ONA

Annual Membership Meeting & General Election

May 23, 2024, 7pm via Zoom.

Make your voices heard for the 2024-2025

Officers, Directors and Annual Budget

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

www.oakridgena.org/fy25elections

Membership Update

Cecile LaBossiere, Membership Director

Annual Membership Drive Campaign. Join Us Now!

We have some exciting news for our Membership Campaign this year.

1. FREE ONA POP UP EVENTS

- Our Pop-Up Events give you the opportunity to:
- Meet Your Neighbors
- Grab a Goodie Bag
- Come and Go Anytime
- Held Weekly starting May 11th thru June 30th
- Details on the Event Locations, Day and Time will be posted on the www.oakridgena.org website and sent via Mailchimp

2. WEEKLY MEMBERSHIP RAFFLE for a \$25 DOLLAR GIFT CARD

- Renew or Join the ONA and your name will be entered into our Weekly Drawing for a \$25 gift card.
- The weekly drawing will be every Sunday starting May 12th thru June 30th.



Membership Continued

- Renew or Join early for more opportunities to WIN!
- Winners will be notified via email
- We could not offer these raffle prizes without the generous donation from an anonymous member. Thank You!

3. WHY SHOULD I BECOME A MEMBER AND MAKE A DONATION?

- Oakridge does have not a mandatory homeowner association.
- Oakridge has common areas that need to be maintained.
- The Oakridge Neighborhood Association (ONA) maintains the lighting, sprinkler systems and landscape maintenance at all common areas and around the perimeter of the neighborhood.
- The ONA is voluntary, and your membership dues allow us to pay for the services and utility bills associated with maintaining these common areas.

4. JOIN US TODAY. Online or by Mail. See below.

It will only take a few minutes to contribute to your neighborhood and won't you feel better knowing that you're doing your part to keep our Oakridge Neighborhood looking good?

Thanks to Everyone that has already joined and renewed. We really appreciate the support, and we couldn't do it without you!

Join ONA Here!!!

**Click this link or scan
QR Code to Join the ONA**

**Website: www.oakridgena.org/join-us
Pay using PayPal or Credit Card**



Join Today!

**Print Invoice enclosed and Mail check/money
order payable to ONA: PO Box 450145
Garland, TX 75045**

Membership Flags

Member Flags are delivered by your District Director or Membership Volunteers. You can find your District Director at <https://oakridgena.org/seven-districts-of-oakridge/>

We appreciate our members and if you have not received your Flag, please email us at:

oakridgemembership@gmail.com.



Financial Report

Sarah Freeman, Treasurer



The 2023-2024 Actuals vs. Budget reports are available online at www.oakridgena.org/financials-main. Click the above link or find it on the "Resident Resources" page under "Financials". If you have any questions, email us at treasury@oakridgena.org.



Environmental

Joshua Lamb, Director

We are working to submit an Neighborhood Vitality Grant to change entrance lights to color changing lights to reflect seasonal holidays.

We solicit neighbor volunteers to help make our entrances and perimeter stellar. Contact me environment@oakridgena.org

Thanks again for your donations to the Beautification Fund!

Garland

**UPCOMING
EVENTS**

Click the link or scan QR Code
www.visitgarlandtx.org/p/events



Oakridge Safety

Joan & Dan Nichols, Crime & Safety



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.

REMINDERS FOR SPRING

Spring and warmer weather are on the way which means more people may be working in the yards or venturing out for vacations. Criminals are also out and about. The best way to stay safe is with neighbors looking out for each other. Here are some tips from the Garland Police for keeping yourself and your neighbors safe.

Especially in the spring -

- Keep garage doors closed, especially when you are working in the yard or just stepping inside. Open garages are an easy target for thieves.
- Meet your neighbors – Knowing your neighbors, the cars they drive, habits, and visitors can help to identify suspicious activity and look out for each other. Coming to the ONA events (district pop-ups, Spring Membership Drive) is a great way to meet your neighbors and have fun!
- Vacation Watch Request (free for Garland residents). If you plan to be out of town, consider having Volunteers in Policing check your home while you are gone. You can go to the Garland Police website to complete the Vacation Watch Request form

And all the time -

- Lock your cars to help deter thieves who are looking for an easy target.
- Remove valuables from your car including keys, purses, shopping bags, guns, electronics, money, medicine, and jewelry.
- Discourage Porch Pirates with the following:
 - Track deliveries online and quickly retrieve packages from your porch as soon as they are delivered.
 - Have packages delivered to your office building or remote pickup site. Amazon has several hub lockers around the city. FedEx and UPS also offer similar options. Walgreens and others offer free delivery to the store.
 - Ask your neighbor to collect packages from your porch when you are away from home.
 - Get a video doorbell (Nest or Ring). They may not always stop a Porch Pirate in their tracks, but they can help the police identify them later.

Crime & Safety Continued

- Video doorbells like Ring can be good deterrent and aid police in catching criminals (even if it is blurry). Add yours to the Garland Video Crime Watch by going to <http://www.garlandpolice.com/331/Police> to complete a short survey.

- Report suspicious activity. If you see suspicious activity or something (or somebody) that seems out of place, call the non-emergency number at 972-485-4840 (or call 911 for emergency or crime in progress). Remember to include details that go beyond race and gender such as behavior, vehicle description, location, time of day, hair, clothing, identifying marks, etc. Share any security camera video that may be helpful with Officer Murphy at MurphyJ@garlandtx.gov.

As always, please feel free to see our monthly crime reports on the Oakridge Website or contact us with your Crime and Safety questions at safety@oakridgena.org.

Passing the Baton

Cheryl Jones, Communications Director

This will be my final edition as Communications Director. It has been a labor of love and I hope you have enjoyed our output. It takes a village to do just about everything and this position is no different. I'm passing the baton with hopes that the next generation can take "Oakridge News" to the next level. It has been my pleasure working with this ONA Board in the service of our great neighborhood.

The ONA Communications Director/Committee:

- Receives, Creates and Edit content (Canva)
- Distributes Newsletter online (Mail Chimp) and mailed 3 times per year.
- Keeps website current (Word Press or Elementor)
- Posts to Social Media

Volunteer needed--Training is provided. For more information, contact a nominating committee member or email communications@oakridgena.org. Please consider!

Garland City Council, District 7

Councilman Dylan Hedrick

On May 4, Garland will hold an election for council districts 1, 2, 4, and 5, as well as 17 City Charter amendments. The current council members in Districts 1 (Jeff Bass), 4 (BJ Williams) and 5 (Margaret Lucht) do not have opponents and will be returning for another two years. In District 2, either Eric Stuyvesant and Kris Beard will replace the outgoing council member Deborah Morris who is term limited.

Even though there is not a council race to vote in if you live in District 7, I still encourage you to go to the polls and vote on the 17 City Charter amendments. The amendments cover a range of issues proposed by the city council, the charter review committee, and the city attorney's office. A brief description of the charter changes is here:

- Proposition A: An amendment to redefine "term" to mean in excess of annual consecutive statutory election dates
- Proposition B: An amendment to mirror state redistricting law of 10-year intervals
- Proposition C: An amendment to add protections against gerrymandering
- Proposition D: An amendment to the qualifications of Council members
- Proposition E: An amendment to increase the compensation for Mayor and Council members
- Proposition F: An amendment to add gender-neutral language consistent with the rest of the charter
- Proposition G: An amendment to add a reference to the Deputy Mayor Pro Tem position on Council
- Proposition H: An amendment to add a 30-day deadline for the Governor to respond to an election petition from the City before the City Council can fulfill the vacancy by appointment
- Proposition I: An amendment to clarify the Council-appointed positions to which the removal procedure applies
- Proposition J: An amendment to change the enforcement procedure of improper communication with appointments to be pursuant to the City's Code of Ethics
- Propositions K-M: Amendments to change the allowed contract of the City Auditor, City Manager and City Attorney to not exceed five years

Councilman update continued:

- Proposition N: An amendment to clarify the circumstances of the Mayor's appointment to a vacancy on the Plan Commission
- Proposition O: An amendment to simplify and clarify the zoning powers of the City to be consistent with City ordinances and state law
- Proposition P: An amendment to add the allowance of delegation of certain plat approval pursuant to recent changes in state law
- Proposition Q: An amendment to remove the specific reference to May and be consistent with any statutorily designated uniform election date

I support all of the changes with the exception of item E. A full list of the proposed charter changes can be found on the City's website:

<https://garlandtx.gov/DocumentCenter/View/16689/Ordinance-Calling-Special-Election-for-Charter-Amendments>

Be sure and join us this summer on the first Friday of each month for our concert series in the new Downtown Square. The Grammy-nominated La Alianza Norteña will be performing May 3. They are known for their energetic performances and authentic interpretation of Norteño music combined with modern influences. Their music typically features the lively rhythms of the accordion, bajo sexto (a type of guitar), and saxophone, complemented by spirited vocals and intricate harmonies.

Also at the concert, be sure to also check out the The Great Garland Restaurant Salsa Competition featuring 10 salsas from local restaurants. You can sample the various salsas and vote on your favorite to crown the restaurant with the best salsa in Garland.

You can find out more about the first Friday concert series here:

<https://www.visitgarlandtx.com/events/2023/music-made-here>

As always, it is my pleasure to serve the citizens of Garland and District 7 as your city council representative. If there is anything I can assist you with, please contact me at 469-560-6099 or council7@garland.gov.



214-440-2229 | www.duckcreekgc.com

Pickleball

Scott Youzva, Resident



If you're interested in Pickleball, you can catch a game at Duck Creek Golf Club. For more information, contact the golf club or give me a call. If interested, you can search for the "Pickleball at Duck Creek" Facebook Group for additional information. All levels of players are participating and we can get everyone on a court with players of equal experience.

I look forward to meeting anyone that wants to play or learn to play. I hope to "See you at the courts!"

Scott Youzva
s.youzva@gmail.com
972-816-5116



The ONA proudly supports the Garland Police Department's Foundation and its dedicated support for "First Responders" dealing with Cancer. Click link below for more information or for donations.

<https://garlandpolicefoundation.org>

Achievement Center of Texas

David Parrish, Oakridge Resident



The Achievement Center of Texas (ACT) is excited to announce its first official fundraiser since reopening, our Spring into ACTION 5K! This walk kicks off on Saturday, May 18th at Montgomery Park (2905 Edgewood Dr Garland, TX 75042) at 10am. Our event brings the community together in support of different abilities in a fun and engaging way.

Join Matthew's Raider's on May 18 or donate at <https://achievementcentertexas.org/campaign/actionwalk-2024/team/5/>

All monies go towards a wheelchair accessible van and off-site community outings. Thank you in advance for supporting the Achievement Center of Texas. Together, we can make a difference in the lives of those we serve and create a memorable event experience for our community.

Commercial Solicitation

§ 26.51 Permit required for commercial home solicitations.

The city of Garland requires a Permit for Commercial solicitations of homes. For more information contact Code Compliance at 972-485-6400.

Solicitation permits may be obtained at the Garland Police Department's Records Unit, located at:
1891 Forest Lane, Garland, TX 75042

Download the application here: [Solicitation Permit Application \(PDF\)](#).

Oakridge Gentlemen

Mark Edwards, Oakridge Resident

The Oakridge Gentlemen meet on Wednesdays at the 14/18 Coffee House (10:30am) in the Spring Creek Church building, near Shiloh at Beltline. All Oakridge Men are welcome.

Daytimers Coffee

Sally Weiss, Oakridge Resident

What a glorious Spring day for gathering at the beautiful Eppler home and being welcomed by tag team Sharon and daughter Jessica. As usual, refreshments enticed us to forget any resolutions we had made regarding our diets thanks to Jo Ann Williams, Dianne Winter and Suzanne Snow. Thanks to all!

Following our regular order of business, Peggy Crenshaw introduced her friend and fellow board member from Network of Community Ministries Marcie I. Johnson, an attorney specializing in Estate Planning, Medicaid and Veterans Pension Planning. Quite a bit of discussion followed along with several questions regarding wills and trusts. We were reminded that it's never too early to start making arrangements or to update previous ones. The ONA Spring Party is right around the corner (see details in this newsletter) and several of our ladies volunteered to make cookies for the event. If you normally skip dessert, you may not want to this time. We have some great cooks and bakers and you won't be sorry that you gave in!

Tuesday, May 14th at 11:30 is our end-of-year luncheon at Desperado's at Jupiter and Campbell so be sure to get your \$10.00 to Peggy Crenshaw by May 10th. We'll be learning our new slate of officers so you don't want to miss this!

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.

Neighborhood Garage Sales



Contact Jackie Reynolds
ONA Events Coordinator at
events@oakridgena.org



Oakridge Women's Club (OWC)

Libby Morse, Oakridge Resident

OWC is open to all women Oakridge. If you need a break once a month to relax, come and unwind with the Women of Oakridge. Special thanks to Sheila for hosting in April. May 2nd will be hosted by Rita. Contact Libby at tomlib@tx.rr.com or search for OWC's Facebook Page.



Preservation Society Programs

David Parrish, Oakridge Resident



2024 Fall Nature Programs Public Speaking Series at Spring Creek Forest. 1st Tuesday of each month via Zoom; Runs through to May 2024; 7:00PM to 8:30 PM.

Click links below for contact/website/events:

- <https://springcreekforest.org/events/>
- Email: springcreekforestpreservation@gmail.com
- Facebook Group Link:
- <https://www.facebook.com/groups/113504751995744>

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Tel: 817-459-1311
Fax: 817-459-1317



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 News

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



PSRT STD
ECRWSS
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
EDDM Retail

Oakridge Residents 411s:

New Residents: 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 supporting the neighborhood by joining the ONA. Join anytime online at www.oakridgena.org/join.

About Oakridge Neighborhood

Association (ONA):

The ONA is a 501(C)(4) Non-Profit chartered in 1992. Its powers and authority is limited to the maintenance of 9 Entries and subdivision perimeter landscaping. The ONA has no authority over and takes no position over private property matters. The Fiscal Year begins June 1 and ends May 31st of the following year. Membership is voluntary. Dues are \$60 annually per household. Click the link for information at <https://www.oakridgena.org/resident-resources/>.

Oakridge Districts/Directors:

Oakridge 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:

ONA Membership dues provide for the maintenance, landscaping, and mowing "around" the 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://oakridgena.org/perimeter-brick-wall>.



GPD Non-Emergency - 972-485-4840



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/4086/Sidewalk-Participation-Program>

2023-2024 Board of Directors

Officers

President, VACANT
Vice President, Vickie Litton 972-762-2805
Secretary, JC Elliott 469-774-7114
Treasurer, Sarah Freeman 214-927-1148

Directors

District 1, Joanna Albright 973-879-5965
District 2, VACANT
District 3, VACANT
District 4 Co-Directors
Oliver Harter 214-663-8862
Jackie Jones 972-897-5133
District 5, Juliard Ishizuka 817-739-1139
District 6, VACANT
District 7, Joetta Harris 469-955-1513

Committees

Communications, Cheryl Jones 214-437-9132
Crime & Safety, Joan Nichols 214-543-2546
Environmental, Joshua Lamb..... 682-558-5528
Events, Jackie Reynolds 469-649-5799
Membership, Cecile LaBossiere 972-896-9413

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.