

Newsletter of the CandleRidge Homeowners Association

# From the President's Desk...

Dear CandleRidge Residents,

The CandleRidge Homeowners Association wants to extend its appreciation to all of you for being a part of your neighborhood association and paying your 2024 annual dues. We do this to help knit our community together into a tight knit group that can stand up against crime, government inaction, code violations, and any other actions that affect our neighborhood. A tight knit community where we know our neighbors and come together from time to time helps us accomplish this goal. We also do this to have some fun and food and provide opportunities to get to know each other and understand our community's wants and needs. This HOA is totally voluntary and volunteers serve as our board of directors and committee chairs. If you are new to the area and are thinking of joining, we want to take this space to promote the association and tell you about some of the things we do with the money that you pay as dues.

Some of the things that we do are: maintain the website, send blast emails, write this newsletter quarterly, support the egret defense team, support and communicate with our Citizens on Patrol, the employees at animal control, code enforcement, neighborhood police officers, city council, office of economic development, public works, parks department, planning and zoning, and transportation. We support the Christmas lights contest each year, July 4<sup>th</sup> parade at the lake, National Night Out (this year also at the Lake with food), and Great American Clean-up Day twice per year. As new opportunities to meet and get together to accomplish a goal arise, we will surely let you know about them via newsletter or email blast. This makes it important we get everyone's email address. You can send it, along with your name and mailing address to <a href="mailto:membership@candleridgehomeowners.com">membership@candleridgehomeowners.com</a>.

Please take time to read this newsletter and get up to date on many issues including French Lake's dredging, our Lighting contest, and our park's playground situation.

Thank you for allowing me this spot to speak about CandleRidge. I really love living here, and our goal within this association is to promote the betterment of our neighborhood and make it even a better place to live. I look forward to meeting more of you at our next gathering. See the Calendar of Events inside and mark your calendars!

At Your Service, Steven Roebuck, President

#### 1st Quarter 2024



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# In the Park...



The major part of the dredging of French Lake has wrapped up at CandleRidge Park! If you visited the park or even drove by it, you were sure to see a lot of activity during the Summer and Fall months of 2023! American Underwater Services conducted the actual dredging with the Fort Worth and the Parks and Recreation Department overseeing the activities. Nine very large dewatering bags measuring 100 ft. long by 30 ft. wide and up to 5 ft. tall were filled with sediment taken from the bottom of the lake. These large bags were then left to dry in the sun. Once the dirt and 'duck deposits' became dry, the water was removed from the bags and loaded with a front-end loader onto semi-trucks. The loading of one bag of "dirt" onto a truck took all day to do, and at least 15 truckloads were hauled off. American Underwater Services estimated that about 4,000 cubic yards of sediment was removed from the lake and taken to a landfill for disposal. While the sediment was definitely nutrient rich, it also contained trash that had to be disposed of at the landfill. There are still some issues with debris that was left on the grass, but the Parks Department has committed to restoring these areas. Contact me if you would like to help with that effort.

As you know, the lake was very shallow in places before the dredging took place as you could see the ducks walking in it at the large end of the lake. The lake is now much deeper with some spots as deep as twelve feet. The City will still be working on the shallow parts of the lake, and we look forward to its conclusion.

The CandleRidge HOA is thankful for the dredging because it has created a better environment for the wildlife at the park and for the residents who visit the park. Additional photos of the dredging are posted on the CandleRidge Facebook page and on page 10 of this newsletter.

THANK YOU to all the many residents who contributed to the beautification efforts throughout our park and who have provided watchful eyes and reported suspicious activity. These continued efforts indicate how much you care about the neighborhood that you live in. Keep it up! If you are interested in helping with wildflower donations, planting flowers, flower bed maintenance, or other park issues, or just have inquiries, please email parks@candleridgehomeowners.com.

#### HAPPY NEW YEAR!

#### Sandra Allen, Park Coordinator





# Holiday Lighting Contest Winners

1st place-4700 Foxfire—\$100 2nd place-7121 Windchime—\$75 3rd place-7420 Fuller—\$50 Honorable Mention-6901 Winchester —\$25



This year the competition was fierce for the Holiday Lighting Contest, and winners were awarded their awards right after Christmas. Many thanks to all who decorated their property, and we encourage all to "go for it" next year and have an even better competition in 2024.

# **Code Compliance Corner**

There are many issues that face your neighborhood. The streets, street lights, and infrastructure are aging and often need to be reported to the City. You also have some crime that you need to remain vigilant about reporting. Everyone can watch and report litter issues, people poaching ducks at the lake, and neighborhood code violations—high grass and non-permitted construction in particular. I ask your help in reporting any of these issues to the City. You can find all city of Fort Worth contact numbers at www.fortworthtexas.gov.

My email is bridgett.roden@fortworthtexas.gov. My number is 682-2014574

**Bridgett Roden, Code Compliance Officer** 

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# CandleRidge Garden Club

Winter and Spring 2024

Garden Club meets at 7:00 PM the 3rd Tuesday of the month at St Matthew's Lutheran Church which is located at Granbury Road at Welch. It meets September through May.

ALL interested gardeners (beginners - pro) are invited to join in learning, sharing, and growing!! Dues are \$16 a year. Come and bring a friend!! Also, the FW Garden Club Council meets every 3rd Wednesday at the Botanical Gardens, 9:30 AM, and always has an interesting speaker. Garden Club members may also attend these events.

#### **Garden Club Schedule:**

February 20—Seeding when? Thinning how?? Getting started!

March 19—What to do with all those Herbs?!? From garden, to kitchen, to table, and more

April 16—Wrapping it all up!!! Q and A, Get ready for Summer!!!!

May 21—Pot Luck and Plant Exchange. Bring boxes to take home a multitude of plants.

#### Faye Youngblood

President Candleridge Garden Club gardenclub@candleridgehomeowners.com







# Citizens On Patrol

#### Thank You Citizens on Patrol Volunteers

HAPPY NEW YEAR CandleRidge Homeowners. How much do you know about the area?

Did you know that CandleRidge is located in the Fort Worth Police Department's South Division and is located within what is known as "John 16" or "J-16" as it is referred to by its call sign?

Boundaries of John 16 (Call sign J-16):

Berry Street on the north FM 1187 on the south Granbury Road on the west Wichita Ave. on the east

While the South Headquarters is located at 3128 W. Bolt Street, there is a patrol office at 7650 McCart that houses the "John" District patrol and the Neighborhood Patrol Officers (NPOs). This current location is next door to Chase Bank on McCart Ave. (strip center between Panda Express and Great Commission Baptist Church). It will move in April to the southwest corner of Risinger and McCart. Candleridge's NPO is Billy Atkins. He can be contacted by phone by calling 817-988-1031 or by emailing him at Billy. Atkins@fortworthtexas.gov.



Never hesitate to contact the police department. If you need police services, call 911 for emergencies or 817-392-4222 for non-emergencies. Both of these numbers are answered 24 hours a day

Short Term Rental aka STR: This is a hot topic in Fort Worth, especially in CandleRidge right now. The city of Fort Worth does not allow STR's in areas zoned A-1, and Candleridge is zoned A-1. As many of you know, a STR here in CandleRidge was recently the location of a very violent, brutal murder. Our CandleRidge president Steve Roebuck plans to attend the Public Comments Session of the City Council on Feb. 6 regarding this topic. This Feb. 6 date is the date that anyone can speak before the City Council regarding any non agenda item. President Roebuck will address the lack of enforcement of city laws and city codes at this meeting, and he could use your support at the meeting. If at all possible, plan to attend the meeting in the "old" council chambers located at 200 W. Texas Street, Fort Worth 76102 at 6:00 PM. More information can be found at <a href="https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/citysecretary/events/2024-City-Council-Public-Comment-meetings">https://www.fortworthtexas.gov/departments/citysecretary/events/2024-City-Council-Public-Comment-meetings</a> If you also wish to speak, you must sign up to do so. If you see a lockbox on a house that is not for sale, it is probably a short term rental, and you need to report it. If you suspect that any location is a STR, lockbox or not, report it on the MyFWApp, contact our NPO, or call the police.

If you'd like to learn more about Citizens on Patrol or become a member of our team, we would love to have you join us. Please contact patrollers@candleridgehomeowners.com. Once your training has been completed, the time commitment is only four, one-hour time slots a month—driving, bicycling, or walking in CandleRidge.

**Steve Roebuck,** Acting Captain

#### **Egret Preparation and Awareness**

Herons were recently seen flying over CandleRidge in late January. Egret and Heron migration begins in January and early February, and local nesting will begin in late February. Since we are in that time frame, it is time for residents to prepare for possible egret and heron nesting.

In the last two years CandleRidge has not had egret rookeries, breeding colonies of birds typically seen as a collection of nests set up high in a clump of trees. This was probably due in large part to the excellent support that came from our homeowners in trimming trees, patrolling the neighborhood, and reporting sightings to both Animal Control and to our local egret support team. Thank you for your assistance!

Here's a good time line to follow to keep your home Egret free

November-March—Trim trees if they have not already been trimmed.

January-February—Look for Blue Herons or Yellow Crowned Night Herons. These are the Scouts.

March-April—Herons nest and establish rookeries from March thru April

April-May—Eggs are laid.

April-October—Rookeries with hatchlings and fledglings become fully established.

September-October—Egrets and herons leave.

October-January—Residents clean up trees and remove any nests.

NOTE: Nests can only be removed if they do not contain eggs

In order to learn more and to find additional details about this topic, on the CandleRidge Homeowners Association website page. <a href="https://www.candleridgehomeowners.com/">https://www.candleridgehomeowners.com/</a> Look for the "Egret Information Center" page for more material on how to identify egrets and herons and how to prepare for this coming migration/nesting period. You'll also find photos of the damage that egrets can do to your property as well as the contact information that you will need should you need assistance or have questions.

If you have questions, you are welcome to reach out to Animal Control at 817-392-1234 or our local CandleRidge resident Matt Maxwell at mattmaxwell777@hotmail.com or at 817-929-8867. Matt has experience with egrets, has a close relationship with Animal Control, and is possession of the necessary bird deterrent noise maker devices.

#### Matt Maxwell Egret Support

**Egret** 





Heron

# City Affairs

At the annual meeting 2 years ago, the CHA members present voted to add playground equipment to CandleRidge Park. This was brought about because it was the opinion from most on the Board that the eastern and central portions of CandleRidge lack playground equipment. Adding these three new locations would have been a start towards alleviating this situation. Remember, too, that President Steve Roebuck and CHA Secretary Michael Zamarron personally met with a representative from the Parks Department, and that the three locations for the equipment were agreed upon. Thus, our HOA put down a deposit and ordered three swing sets.

Now, the City has changed a few things. Despite earlier commitments to the three different swings set locations, the city is now holding fast to just one location which would contain three different types of playground equipment located in it. Additionally, this latest proposal is even more expensive than was quoted. CHA membership originally voted to buy the three swing sets at a cost of \$18,000, but now the city wants to do one location with three different types of equipment for a cost of \$20,000. At the latest HOA meeting, the membership voted down this proposal and requested that the Board ask for a refund on the deposit. As of this date, no refund has arrived.

Your Board has reached out to City Councilman Williams for help in this matter, but as of the writing of this newsletter, Councilman Williams and been non-responsive to our request for help in resolving this problem. If you have contact with him, please remind him of the request.

Please know that your Board continues to seek a resolution to this issue. We are still trying to work thru some equipment selection details with the Parks Department before the City starts work on a new playground. We will keep you abreast of this in the next newsletter.

**Bill Atkins**City Affairs





Thank you for accepting our all-electronic newsletters into your home! This electronic newsletter saves the association over \$2,200 a year! This savings frees money which can be used on enriching neighborhood projects. We thank those of you who have provided your email addresses for this. Please let your neighbors know that they need to signup at subscriptions@candleridgehomeowners.com.

In addition to receiving our newsletter, subscribers receive our E-News Blasts and other updates that affect CandleRidge and the city of Fort Worth.

You can also stay informed about CandleRidge and Fort Worth announcements and events by joining our CandleRidge Homeowners Association Facebook page and by visiting our website. Be patient as we do verify that people requesting to be a part of our Facebook page live in the neighborhood!

https://www.facebook.com/groups/172430886475729/www.candleridgehomeowners.com/





# Welcome New Neighbors

The CandleRidge Homeowners Association would like to welcome you to our little corner of the world and to wish you happiness in your new home! Since our last newsletter, six new families have moved and another than the six of the s 📸 into our wonderful neighborhood. If you have new neighbors on your street, take a moment to introduce 📸 ab yourself and welcome them to Candle Ridge. You can also send me an email so that I can stop by with a ab small gift from the Homeowners Association. neighbors@candleridgehomeowners.com

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Roger Ellis

\*\*New Neighbors Chair

Do you have new neighbors?

# Pay your Dues with Cash, Check, or Online

Pay Dues In addition to writing checks, did you know that you can pay your annual dues on our website? To do so, simply go to www.candleridgehomeowners.com

Remember that the CandleRidge Homeowners Association is a voluntary organization. Your dues are needed as they help fund projects that benefit CandleRidge, projects that keep CandleRidge the great community that it is. Your help is needed to do this! Please participate. See page 8 for more information.



#### Be Plugged In Mark Your Calendar

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# Jan 1st to Jan. 31st—Annual dues payment month

Feb. 15<sup>th</sup>—General Board Meeting

March 23<sup>5h</sup>—Great American Clean-up Day (The City sets the date which is subject to change.)

April 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup>—Neighborhood Garage Sale

May16th—General Board Meeting—selection of July 4<sup>th</sup> planning committee

June 6<sup>st</sup>—July 4th Planning Committee meets

July 4<sup>th</sup>—11:00 Parade at the Lake followed by a BBO lunch

August 15<sup>th</sup>—General Board Meeting and Selection of Officer Search Committee

Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>—Annual Board Meeting and Election of Officers

Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024,—National Night Out at The Lake (Date is tentatively set.)

Oct. 12<sup>th</sup> 2024—Great American Clean Up Day (Date is tentatively set.)

See You There!

CandleRidge	Homeowners Assoc	ciation Membership Form
Name:		
Address:		
		(Other)
Email address:		
I am willing to help with:		
Park maintenance	GardeningGreeting neight	oorsLegal Advice (licensed attorney)
Code Issues		Other (indicate position)
your email address to th	is form will allow you to receive	herwise shares its membership list. Providing e urgent email updates from CHA. Please or \$15 for 65+ Seniors households.
	n our website <i>www.candleridgehol</i> ership Chairman, P.O. Box 33187	



Your canceled check will serve as your receipt.

# **Dues are due annually!**

Your board wants to encourage you to become a member of our organization. We want you to join so that you can help fund CandlerRidge projects for this year. Dues are either \$25 per household per year or \$15 per year for Senior Households with one person being at least 65 years old. You can pay online with PayPal on our website www.candleridgehomeowners.com, or mail a check to our membership chair:

P.O. Box 331871, Fort Worth, TX 76163-1871 membership@candleridgehomeowners.com

If you haven't joined for 2024, please do so now.

Aside from efforts to inform you about important news and events for our neighborhood, board members work to keep our neighborhood the great place it is: from Old Glory waiving above French Lake to the beautiful flowers at her feet, from bench painting projects to exercise and playground equipment and smart looking signs, and from maintenance to zoning issues. We regularly keep in touch with the city and other neighborhood associations. Your dues fund these projects, so please join.

Thank you, Your Candleridge Board

# Candlekidge kegues



# **Do You Play Dominoes?**

Your Board has been asked if there is anyone interested in forming a CandleRidge Dominoes Club. Are you interested? If so, contact dominoes@candleridgehomeowners.com and let us know!

#### Mothers in Need



Are your kids "growing like weeds" these days? Do you have clothes that are good shape that your children can no longer wear? Would you like to form a CandleRidge Kids Clothing Exchange? If so, contact: clothing@candleridgehomeowners.com.

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# **City Council Meeting Monitor Needed**

Your Board is in need of someone to monitor the Fort Worth City Council Work Sessions at 1:00 PM on Tuesdays and Meetings at 6:00 PM. This could be done in person on Tuesday nights or watched via ■ the later broadcast via computer from your home. Also, the meetings are broadcast live on the City's TV channel. The Board would just like to be made aware of topics or discussions that could impact \subseteq CandleRidge. Additionally, CandleRidge residents need to know that they are being well represented at the meetings. Do you have an interest? Can you help? Contact your president Steve Roebuck at president@candleridgehomeowners.com to learn more.

# Open Board Positions: We Need Help!

Your Board is in need of a secretary to take minutes at the board meetings and a historian who will keep up with photos or write stories for the newsletter. We are also in need of an attorney who can advise on matters that come up from time to time. To learn more, contact president@candleridgehomeowners.com



# Bonus Page—More Dredging Photos!



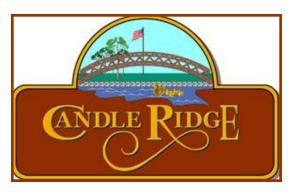












# **CandleRidge Homeowners Association**

P.O Box 331871 Fort Worth, TX 76163-1871 www.candleridgehomeowners.com

#### **CHA Board Members and Committee Chairs**

#### President

Steve Roebuck president@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### **Vice President**

Martha Earngey vice-president@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### Treasurer

Glenn Williams treasurer@candleridgehomeowners.com

# Secretary

Position Open

secretary@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### **Membership Secretary**

Michael Zamarron membership@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### Newsletter

Mellanie Clay communications@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### **City Affairs**

Bill Atkins cityaffairs@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### Historian

#### Position Open

historian@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### **New Neighbors**

Roger Ellis neighbors@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### Park Coordinator

Sandra Allen parks@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### Citizens on Patrol

Steve Roebuck, Acting Captain patrollers@candleridgehomeowners.com

#### Garden Club

gardenclub@candleridgehomeowners.com