

Presidential Address



by Mike Rodriguez

I was pleased to represent our neighborhood at the opening ceremony for our new Austin Fire Station No. 49 at the corner of Old San Antonio Road and FM1626. Many of you will remember this location was formerly the site of a youth baseball field. This great looking station will reduce emergency response times for our neighborhood for both Fire and EMS needs to a target of just eight minutes! Note that I said that the station house houses both Fire engines and EMS vehicles and first responders, so needed services are tailored just right for our most common Onion Creek resident needs.

Several of you have inquired about the status of flood buyouts, and we will endeavor to keep that information current at our OCHOA office for your information. As of this writing, there have been 58 homes purchased by the City of Austin and 21 demolished. Of the initial 60 offered in the initial buyouts and Phase 1, only two homeowners declined. At the March 28th City Council meeting, an additional \$45Million was approved to fund all remaining homes that are identified for purchase in Phase 2 and

Continued on page 2

UPDATES from your HOA Board of Directors

Finance Kathy Lahaye

As of March 2019, the total YTD operating expenses were \$93,769 which is \$1,177 under budget. YTD excess revenue over expenses was \$122,524. The total Cash balances at 3/31/19 was \$395,140 plus reserves of \$140,655 and a CD of \$100,841. The 2019 budget includes \$493,738 in revenue; \$470,209 in expenses with a surplus of \$26,529

Development/Infrastructure Wendall Braniff

The City of Austin Corridor Program Office invites all OCHOA residents to the Slaughter Lane Corridor Public Office Hours event. Learn about mobility, safety and connectivity improvements planned for Slaughter Lane between FM 1826 and Bluff Springs Road. The improvements are funded in-part by the 2016 Mobility Bond as part of the Corridor Construction Program.

Saturday, April 13

1:30 – 4:30 p.m. (stop by anytime)

Circle C Community Center

7817 La Crosse Ave

Austin, TX

Residents are encouraged to stop by and chat with members of the Slaughter Lane corridor team, who will be on-hand to answer questions and provide corridor updates. No formal presentation is planned, and visitors are welcome to come and go at their convenience.

The Infrastructure and Development committee continues to receive and review about 25-30 applications each month for zoning changes, site plans and hearings on development of properties in South Austin – an area defined as south of Hwy 71 (Ben White Blvd.), some of which may have direct and indirect impacts on flooding, property values, traffic congestion, safety and other issues for the Onion Creek community. We are currently monitoring approximately 25 development projects, which were identified and summarized in the preceding OCHOA Newsletter. Monthly updates are provided at OCHOA Board meetings on the third Thursday of each month at 4:00- 6:00 pm in the private dining room at Onion Creek Club.

Traffic Control Carolyn Dyer

On February 12, 2019 I called 311 in entered a request for the completion of the sidewalk on the east side of Pinehurst Drive from where it ended by the city street lamp to Legends Lane road. On March 6, 2019 I received an answer from the Sidewalk & Special Projects Division that currently there is over \$1.5 billion in new sidewalk construction needed city-wide that we (OC) scored as a low priority according to the city's prioritization matrix – i.e. have there been any pedestrian safety concerns reported; how many people live in the area; how far to schools, employers, transit shops and etc. At the March 16 HOA Board meeting this issue was discussed and because the Board believed that this was a heav-

Continued on page 3

Onion Creek Homeowners Association

10816 Crown Colony Dr., Ste. 105

Austin, Texas 78747-0760

Ph: 512-280-8110 Fax: 512-280-8162

www.onioncreekhoa.org

"LIKE" us on Facebook

Office Hours: M-T-Th-F 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

Weds 8 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Security: 512-940-9269, email-onioncreek13@yahoo.com

2019 Board of Directors, Committees and Support Staff

President

Mike Rodriguez – 512-292-1300
lmiker@msn.com

Vice President

Jerry Patterson - 512-740-5650
jerrypattersonatexas@gmail.com

Secretary / Treasurer

Kathy Lahaye– 512-599-2424
kathy.lahaye@sbcglobal.net

Directors

Wendall Braniff 512-924-2216 wbraniff@icloud.com
Carolyn Dyer 512-280-6732 cefroggie@gmail.com
Robb Edgecomb 512-784-3643 onioncreekvoice@gmail.com
Cecily Raiborn 512-396-3240 OCHOAArchComm@gmail.com
Pamela Beattie 512-291-8624 ppbeattie@att.net
Stuart Osantowski 512-291-4800 stuo@castlecleaning.net
Martha Owan 512-394-5087 marthaowan@icloud.com
Scott Hutchinson 512-809-2168 512hutchinson@gmail.com
Rose Mary Gomez-Meade
512-393-9413 rose.mary.gomezmeade1@gmail.com

Committees & Chairs

Architectural Control: Cecily Raiborn 512-396-3240
Communications: Robb Edgecomb 512-784-3643
Crisis Management: Pamela Beattie 512-291-8624
Dev./Infrastructure: Wendy Braniff 512-924-2216
Garage Sale: Susan Dunning 512-280-8110
Security: Scott Hutchinson 512-809-2168
Landscape & Parks: Stuart Osantowski 512-291-4800
Neighborhood Watch: Martha Owan 512-394-5087
Government Affairs: Jerry Patterson 512-740-5650
Traffic Control: Carolyn Dyer 512-280-6732

Staff

Office Manager: Susan Dunning 512-280-8110
Asst. Ofc Mgr: Annette Waller 512-280-8110
email: ochoa8110@sbcglobal.net

Financial Services Company

Giles and Shea, Terri Giles – 512-451-9901

Presidential Address, *cont'd from page 1*

an added Phase 3. There are therefore, all told, a total of 146 homes identified for purchase offers here in Onion Creek. The pace of demolitions will now pick up pace as the city contractor has committed more resources to preparation and removal.

Although we fully appreciate the City Council commitment of a total of \$75M on buyouts here, for our part OCHOA continues to seek flood mitigation to protect all our remaining homes. The Watershed Protection Department in their Atlas 14 initiative has identified around 165 Onion Creek homes as "at risk" due to their placement in the FEMA 500 year flood plain, and has proposed redesignating the 500 year flood plain here as the new 100 year flood plain. If WPD genuinely believes the new risk assessment, we will continue to press city leadership and them to aggressively pursue a regional flood mitigation strategy along with specific measures here in Onion Creek.

Changing focus to security, you no doubt have heard that their have been several instances of mail theft in the neighborhood. We recommend that you do not put the flag up on your mailbox when you put out outbound mail and, to the extent you can, collect your mail promptly. Naturally, this also pertains to packages delivered by UPS and Fedex left on your porches. Even USPS has removed their mail box at Jack Brown Cleaners due to break-ins. We are told this will be relocated near the bank, but have not seen it yet. We have made this a priority for our Security guards and Neighborhood Watch, but that is of limited effectiveness in stemming these nuisance crimes.

Two recent serious road safety incidents make it necessary to reemphasize an appeal against drinking and driving. In one case, a non-resident drove his car into the brick stand surrounding a tree by the golf cart drive in the Onion Creek Club parking lot. Not only did he destroy club property and do significant damage to his car, he then drove off after having given his driver's license information to our security guard. Clearly this driver should not have been behind the wheel! In a second such incident, a young woman driving southbound late night in the 10300 block of Pinehurst Drive departed the roadway, jumping the curb, going up a rise to sideswipe a tree and flipped her car over in the roadway. The person in question was cited for DWI, but was luckily not seriously injured. The point is though we are neighborhood streets, with low speed limits, we are not safe from reckless or impaired drivers (nor safe to overindulge, ourselves).

On a brighter note, enjoy our warm weather season, and please keep your lawns attractive so we can all enjoy our great looking neighborhood. Our Board will continue to work on the green belt and press COA to maintain their buyout properties, but we appreciate you doing your part, as well..

Regards,

Mike

The Onion Creek Homeowners Newsletter is published six times per year by the Onion Creek Homeowners Association. It is one of four official sources of information for Onion Creek residents which includes the OCHOA website (www.onioncreekhoa.org), the Onion Creek HOA Notification Network, and Facebook. The purpose of the newsletter is to inform residents of issues that directly involve the neighborhood and impact our community, to promote neighborhood events, and to encourage a sense of community in the Onion Creek neighborhoods. Editor: Robb Edgecomb, 512-784-3643, onioncreekcommunications@gmail.com. Submissions are welcome and may be included in appropriate issues, subject to editor's discretion, board approval and/or space available. • Advertising: Cathy Miller 512-426-9758, catmiller@mindspring.com. Ads must be formatted as TIFF, EPS, or PDF. Written permission to use customer-supplied art/specialty fonts must accompany all ads. • Photo Guidelines: Written permission to reproduce must accompany all copyrighted material. Photo caption and photo release must accompany photos. Photos should be 300 dpi at 100% in jpeg or tiff format. • Disclaimer: Neither OCHOA nor CMC endorses any advertising in this newsletter, nor will either entity incur

Have anything you want Onion Creek to read about?
Contact Robb Edgecomb at OCCVOICE@Gmail.com

UPDATES *continued from page 1*

ily traveled road area as well as more and more parents walking baby strollers and young toddlers that we should look into the possibility of Onion Creek building the sidewalk. Thus, I am currently working with a gentleman from the city of Austin's Neighborhood Partnering Program to see what the cost would be for Onion Creek. Hopefully, I will have this information to bring the April board meeting.

In regards to the golf cart crossing marks that were never repainted following the road resurfacing I received word that these pathways marks should be repainted by end of April - I will keep checking on them.

At the March 16 HOA board meeting a parent made known his concerns about the speeding occurring on Pinehurst Drive between Onion Creek Parkway and Legends Lane area as it dangerous to parents who are walking and pushing strollers. I emailed Officer Gamboa asking if he could please have some motor cycle officers or patrol cars come into this area use radar instruments and issue speeding tickets. So far I have not had a response nor have I heard of anyone spotting police cars in the area. I will contact officer Gamboa again. It would very helpful if anyone who witnesses speeding to call 311 and put in a complaint. The more people there are calling in to complain the BIGGER OR MORE IMPORTANT the problem will be to the police.

Architectural Control Cecily Raiborn

Spring is here and so many people are out working in their yards! It's so nice to see residents taking care of their property: mowing, edging, planting, trimming, etc. We are all lucky to be living in such a beautiful community and we definitely want to keep it that way. Just a couple of things worth mentioning:

1) Remember that the easement (if you have one) between sidewalk and the street is yours to maintain.

2) Most yards (except for xeriscape ones) require regular watering to keep them looking good but we are still in Conservation Stage Restrictions. Automatic sprinklers can only be used one day per week from midnight to 10AM and/or 7PM to midnight; even numbered addresses on Thursday and odd numbered addresses on Wednesday. Hose-end sprinklers may be used two days a week or, if an automatic system is also used, one additional day per week: even numbered addresses on Thursday and Sunday, and odd numbered addresses on Wednesday and Saturday. Watering with drip irrigation, a hand-held hose, or a refillable container is allowed at any time on any day of the week.

3) To keep those cute little deer from eating your plants, try using something that is deer-resistant. One website say most of those kinds of plants are "stinky, spikey, or stabby"...but lots are also really pretty including such things as Texas Lantana, White Salvia, Butterfly Weed, Greggs Mist, Moon Flower Datura, Paprika Yarrow, Yellow Bells, Confederate Jasmine, and many of the "herb plants" like sage, mint, and rosemary.

4) Getting out on the lake or off to the beach is wonderful fun but boats/jet skis/motorhomes/campers/etc. are only allowed to be parked in your driveway or in front of your homes for 36 hours. Also, simply moving them to another location for a few days and moving them back doesn't "stop the clock".

The covenants, conditions, and restrictions of our Onion Creek community are there to keep this the desirable place in which you bought or leased a home. Thank you all for your efforts to preserve the attractiveness of our south Austin neighborhood.

Security Scott Hutchinson

Austin has experienced an increase on credit card skimmer at gas station pumps and I thought I might provide a couple of tips to watch out so that you can avoid your credit card being compromised. Skimmers are placed over the credit card reader so it would appear as a fixture to the machine. One of the key items to look for on the terminal is to ensure the red security tag has not been tampered with. There are supposed to be two red stickers covering the terminal openings. If the seal is broken you should find another pump to use and report the broken seal to the gas station attendant. The second thing to be aware of is if the seal has been removed and placed back so it would appear the seal is not broken. However, upon close inspection the seals pattern will look different than the other portion and, in most cases, will show void. This tips will hopefully avoid your credit card being compromised and having to go through the headache of challenging fraudulent charges on your credit card.



Continued on page 4

**Government Affairs Report
Jerry Patterson**

What's New in the OC

On March 28th, OCHOA president Mike Rodriquez testified before City Council to support the allocation of \$45 million dollars for buyouts of homes in areas of flood risk, including the Onion Creek subdivision. Mike also urged he city council to accelerate the process of removing the driveway curb cuts that remain after buy out homes have been demolished and removed. The \$45 million measure passed without opposition.

On April 1st, OCHOA President Mike Rodriquez, along with Randy Zunke, Ken Jacob, and Jerry Patterson met with Councilmember Ann Kitchen, her staff and members of the City of Austin Watershed Protection Department (WPD) to discuss the progress of the buy outs in Onion Creek, and the possibility of economically feasible measures to mitigate the possible flooding of homes that have not been impacted by flooding. Also in attendance was a representative engineer from Halff Associates, the firm the City of Austin has employed to consult on flooding issues in Austin. As usual, Council Member Kitchen was very supportive of our desire to seriously study and consider measures to reduce flooded homes in Onion Creek, measures that go beyond just buyouts. These measures could include, diversion or impoundment of flood waters or a flood wall along the creek. In addition, the subject of the unsightly curb cuts was discussed. At the end of the meeting, WPD stated they wanted to discuss the matter among themselves and with additional city and Halff staff which would then be followed by another meeting with CM Kitchen and OCHOA representatives. It is expected the follow up meeting will occur in April or early May.

The South Austin Neighborhood Association (SANA), along with OCHOA, will be hosting a meeting with newly elected State Representative Vikki Goodwin. The meeting will occur on April 23rd at 7 PM at the Onion Creek Country Club. All OC residents should consider attending in order to meet with, and ask questions of, your State Representative.

Below is just a few items on updates, changes or info on the neighborhood.

- In the Real Estate Round-Up you will notice a change in the picture and person who is handling. Darlene reached out recently and decided to step down and suggested that Hector take over the Yard of the Month. Therefore, I am excited to announce that Hector Eichelmann with Mustin Porter will now be selecting the Yard of the Month, so make sure to be nice to him if you are trying to win.

I have known Hector for 30 years and he a long time friend. I actually spoke with him just prior to this change on a different matter. He was telling me about a recent cleaning on his solar panels and how much of a difference it made, in regards to energy received. This was news to me as I always thought they were pretty self-sufficient. I mention this, as the service was provided by another OC Resident, named Hector as well, that I had played golf with before. I reached out to him and he said that it was a new business and was still in the developmental stage. I asked him if he would be open to using Onion Creek as a testing ground to gather information on before and after readings from interested residents, however in return he could not charge more than his cost. He agreed to my terms and therefore if anyone is interested in trying out this new service and is willing to provide before and after results at set periods and report back then he will conduct service at cost. I am not sure what cost is but I know it is usually a significant amount less than normal. If interested, Hector #2 can be reached at 915.727.6780.

If you need to contact Hector #1 in regards to Yard of the Month, you can reach him at (512) 282-8039.

- In the month of April the OCHOA had a Austin Police officer come out and running traffic in the 10900 block of River Plantation NB from 7am-9am. I have a chart below of the exact findings but his overview was that less than 1% of the vehicles were driving between 6-10mph over the speed limit and 99+% were traveling less than the speed limit or 1-5mph over. He also put up a speed trailer and those results will be sent in soon.

Time	21-25mph	26-30mph	31-35mph	36-40mph
7-8am	3	42	26	3
8-9am	6	34	23	4
Total	9	76	49	7

Neighborhood Watch Martha Owan

As the Rain Falls, thoughts turn to the needs our Community has if a flooding disaster should happen again. The development of the Neighborhood Watch program in Onion Creek took the form of dividing the entire community into Sections and then those Sections into Districts. The intent was to make it most effective for notification of a “Crisis” and to check on individual residents. By creating a close grouping of neighbors.

The past Flooding history led to incorporating the Watch as the most effective way to contact neighbors whether to warn of an upcoming crisis or to check on the well-being following a crisis.

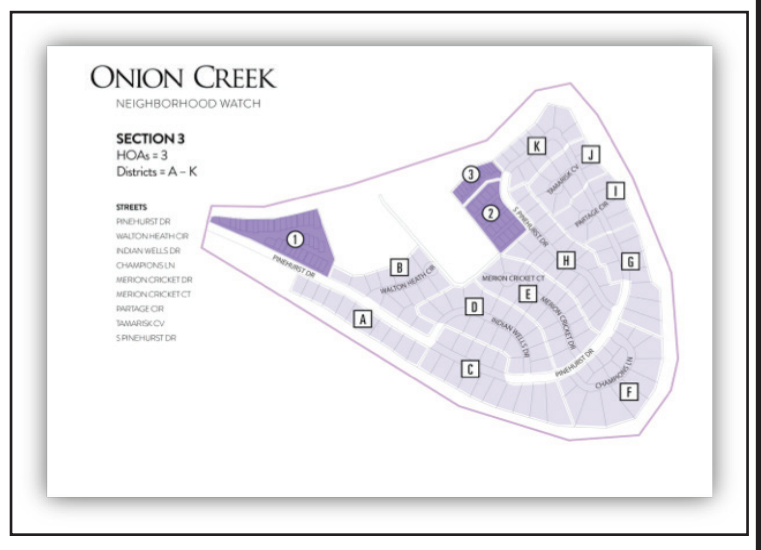
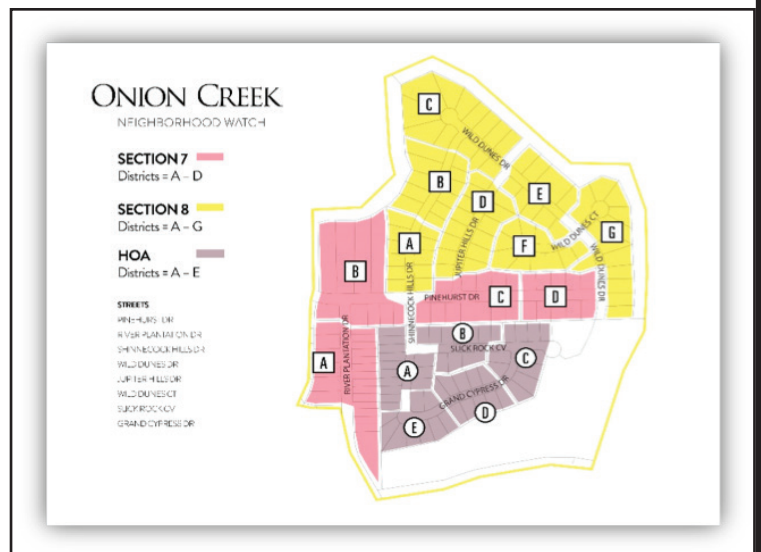
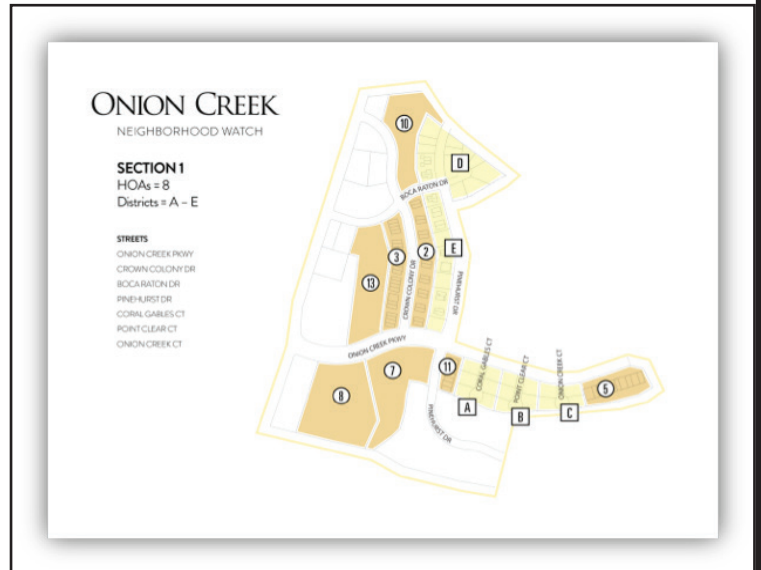
The Areas of our community that are most at risk during a Flooding incident have been identified by the ATLAS 14 study are shown by the following illustrations.

The Section 1 needs a Section Chief to organize it’s Five Districts

The Chilton Place Townhomes Labelled #5 in **Section 1** of our neighborhood needs its own Chief

Section 3 needs a Section Chief to organize is 11 Districts Captains. The individual HOA’s located in Section 3 and labelled as follows: #1 One Onion Creek; # 4 Onion Creek Townhomes; # 6 Heritage Place each needs their own Chief to organize their residents. **Section 7** has a Section Chief as does Cypress Ridge in **Section 7** a HOA Chief and District Captains. **Section 8** has a Section Chief.

If you are interested in helping in your neighborhood or wish more information, you can contact the HOA office. An information session and training session will be held beginning in July 2019. Please check the HOA website for more information and listings of duties and responsibilities for Section Chiefs and District Captains.





Contact Us

Submit Player Applications and Fees by April 19, 2019 (or sooner) to:

American Legion Post 326
Memorial Golf Tournament
Attn: Jim Stolp
P.O. Box 314
Manchaca, TX 78652
512-280-1598 or jpstolp@sbcglobal.net

Submit Donations by April 26, 2019 (or sooner) to:

American Legion Post 326
Memorial Golf Tournament
Attn: Tony Nuccio
P.O. Box 314
Manchaca, TX 78652
512-282-2502, 512-294-7792, or
tnuccio@earthlink.net

All Other Inquiries:

American Legion Post 326
Memorial Golf Tournament
Attn: Dr. Ron Stried
P.O. Box 314
Manchaca, TX 78652
512-280-3245, 512-496-6745 or rstried@aol.com

Please visit American Legion Post 326 website for more information:
www.alegiononioncreek.org



BROCHURE SPONSOR

CATHY MILLER COMMUNICATIONS 512-426-9758



31st Annual Onion Creek American Legion Post 326 Memorial Golf Tournament



*American Legion Post 326 Salutes
and Supports All of Our Veterans*

Thursday May 9, 2019

Hosted by the Onion Creek Club

Onion Creek Club

**Charity Golf Event
with On-line Sale
Benefiting a Variety of
Veteran and Community Projects**

• 2019 Calendar •

- Batman Day May 1
- Star Wars Day May 4
- Cinco de Mayo May 5
- Chocolate Chip Day May 15
- *OCHOA BOARD MEETING,* 10am, OCC May 18
- Be a Millionaire Day May 20
- Talk Like Yoda Day May 21
- Scavenger Hunt Day May 24
- Memorial Day (HOA Office Closed) . . . May 27
- Leave the office Early Day Jun 3
- National Doughnut Day Jun 7
- Bourbon Day Jun 14
- *OCHOA BOARD MEETING*, 4PM, OCC Jun 20
- Please Take my Children to Work Day . . Jun 25
- Stop Speeding in Onion Creek Day . . . Jun 28
- Positivity Day Jun 29
- Meteor Watch Day. Jun 30

*Check www.onioncreekhwa.org for meeting agendas

If It's An Emergency Call **911** FIRST
 Then Call
Onion Creek Security
512-940-9269
 IF IT'S NOT AN EMERGENCY CALL **311**

Post your neighborhood events to the

Calendar

Send items to onioncreekvoice@gmail.com

• Newsletter Deadlines •

The Onion Creek Newsletter is published six times per year by the Onion Creek Homeowners Association. Articles and/or photos are welcome and may be submitted via email to onioncreekvoice@gmail.com. Publication is subject to approval and space available.

Issue	Editorial/Photo/Advertising* Deadline
Jan/Feb Issue	December 1
Mar/Apr Issue	Feb 1
May/June Issue	April 1
July/Aug Issue	June 1
Sept/Oct Issue	Aug 1
Nov/Dec Issue	Oct 1

*Direct all advertising inquiries to Cathy Miller, 512-426-9758 catmiller@mindspring.com

• Bulletin Board •

What should we put here. Any suggestions or additional sections / content you would like to see in the OCHOA Newsletter. Send your input to OnionCreekVoice@gmail.com or do nothing and expect to see additional photos of my family!

Sudoku Easy

5			6			9	8	7
	2							4
	9	1		3				6
	5	2		6			7	
1	6	9			7	5		
3		7	9			8		
			7	1	5	6		
	1		2		6		3	
					8		4	

Sudoku Hard

								4
			7			3	5	9
	2		6	4				
8				9				
						6		
		9	1	2	6	4		
9			8		7			
1							7	
		3		1				



NION CREEK HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

10816 Crown Colony Drive, Suite 105

Austin, Texas 78747

Ph: 512-280-8110

Fax: 512-280-8162

Email: ochoa8110@sbcglobal.net

Web: www.onioncreekhoa.org

Office Hours: Mon-Tu-Th-Fri, 10 am - 2 pm
Weds 8 am - 5 pm

PRESORTED
STANDARD
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
AUSTIN, TEXAS
PERMIT NO. 882

The Onion Creek HOA board meetings are held the third Thursday of each month at the Onion Creek Club from 4 to 6 p.m. Check www.onioncreekhoa.org for the meeting agenda and any changes

REAL Estate Round Up

Yard of the Month

by Hector Eichelmann



Yard of the Month for April belongs to Bech and Glenna Bruun 10500 Pinehurst Dr.



Yard of the Month for March belongs to Jason & Amber Schoneman 2500 Royal Lytham Dr.

The Real Estate Report as of April 16th, 2019:

11 houses/condos for sale at the avg price of \$394,686

10 houses/condos pending at the avg price \$413,020

8 houses & condos have sold for:

List Price	Average \$416,650	Max \$595,000
Sold Price	Average \$406,562	Max \$583,599

Onion Creek has a new website. Get news and announcements; pay your dues online; access an online resource center for important association documents and forms; utilize the member directory; and much more. If you have never signed in, do so today. If you were registered on our old website, you will have to create a new password. Check it out! www.onioncreekhoa.org