

ONION CREEK MEADOWS property owners association

P.O. Box 434

Manchaca, Texas 78652

Fall 2016

Get your holiday décor ready. Your Onion Creek Meadows Property Owners Association is happy to announce the...

2016 HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

Judging dates: **Saturday, December 10**

and

Tuesday, December 13



First place: \$150

Second place: \$100

Third place: \$75

Honorable Mention: One year POA membership (\$20 value)

Judging is done by an impartial panel of three from outside the neighborhood. Winners will have signs placed in their yard through the holiday season.

Only current, paid members of OCMPOA are eligible to compete for the cash prizes. Contact any board member to check the status of your membership.

NEIGHBORHOOD CHRISTMAS CAROLING

Thursday, December 15

6:30 PM

Join us on Thursday, December 15 at 6:30 PM as we Celebrate the Season in Song!!

Meet in Karen Jellison's backyard, 13206 Easley Drive (corner of Easley and Onion Creek Drive). We'll have hot chocolate and cookies around the fire pit, practice a few songs, then load onto the trailer at 7:00 PM for a hayride and caroling through the neighborhood and see all the wonderful lights! Feel free to bring your guitar or musical instrument!! Please RSVP to Karen at 512-565-5621 or karenjellison@austin.rr.com.



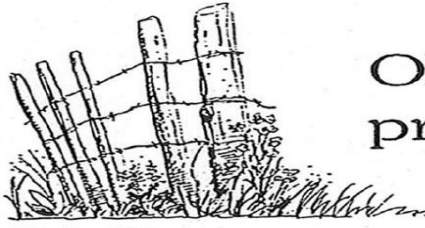
NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

onioncreekmeadows@yahoo.com – online forum (to join, as well as communicate with neighbors, send an email to this address)

www.ocmpoa.org – neighborhood information, announcements, newsletters, POA information

www.facebook.com/ocmpoa - announcements, neighborhood information

www.nextdoor.com – neighborhood-specific social network. Allows us to message, talk online, get recommendations and safety announcements, and put a name to the faces we see on our streets.



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A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT...

At the General Meeting on May 1 at the Manchaca Volunteer Fire Station, Jim Cullen and Debra Tompkins were re-elected to three-year terms on the Board of Directors, while Jamie Beard, who had been appointed to the unexpired term of Phyllis Stegall that expired this year, was elected to a three-year term and Karen Jellison was elected to a three-year term succeeding Antonio Lopez, who did not seek re-election. Lance Farley was elected to the two years remaining on the unexpired term of Andrea Bright Fontana, who stepped down.

At the board's organizational meeting that followed the General Meeting, the board re-elected Jim Cullen as president, Temple Gossett as secretary and Jamie Beard as treasurer and elected Debra Tompkins as vice president to succeed former veep Andrea Bright-Fontana.

At the General Meeting, Bob Moore, assistant to County Pct. 3 Commissioner Gerald Daugherty, said the state Department of Transportation is proceeding with the design process and is acquiring right of way for the expansion of FM 1626 into a five-lane road west of Manchaca Road and expects to let the contract in February 2017, with completion of the project expected in 2019.

The county has asked the state Department of Transportation to put a traffic light on FM 1626 at Old San Antonio Road to handle the expected increase in traffic from the Estancia multi-use development, which will include retail and commercial uses as well as residential condos and apartments, and Bear Creek Crossing, the 195-lot development formerly known as Cebolla Creek. The county is asking for left-turn lanes on Twin Creeks and Old San Antonio roads and sidewalks on Twin Creeks Road, Moore said. Old San Antonio Road also will be considered for resurfacing in 2017, he said.

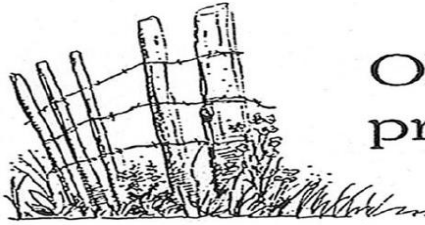
Construction of a new bridge over Old San Antonio Road, which was authorized in a 2011 bond issue and was supposed to be built in 2015, has been delayed due to a dispute with the City of Austin over right of way north of the creek.

The county is studying changes in the flood plain, which county officials hope will be completed by the end of the year. The study includes an attempt to model what happened in the October 30, 2015 flooding along Onion Creek that included Onion Creek Meadows. It will seek to determine how manmade developments have enhanced the chance of flooding.

Blayne Stansberry, president of the Barton Springs/Edwards Aquifer Conservation District and a resident of the Arroyo Doble neighborhood, noted at the General Meeting that spring rains had recharged the aquifer, which remains well above the drought level, both in the Lovelady Monitor Well elevation and the Barton Springs discharge (see bseacd.org for current conditions). Since Barton Springs is a karst aquifer, which recharges quickly, she noted that the main challenge is to protect water quality, and the Conservation District board is concerned about a request by Dripping Springs to increase the amount of treated sewage effluent it can discharge into Onion Creek upstream of Manchaca.

The Conservation District board adopted a resolution in June opposing Dripping Springs' application for the increased discharge because of the potential for groundwater to be impacted if water quality in the creek is degraded. The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality has set a public hearing on the Dripping Springs application for Nov. 10.

The board also has adopted new director precinct boundaries to extend representation into territory annexed when the Legislature, with House Bill 3405, expanded the district's boundaries and gave it



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jurisdiction over the Trinity Aquifer In Hays County. The precincts extend into shared territory in Hays County and group communities of interests and their common sources of water supply, according to a district news release. Generally, there are two City of Austin urban precincts, one I-35 corridor urban precinct (with combined surface and groundwater supplies), and two rural precincts (one primarily Edwards Aquifer users, one primarily Trinity Aquifer users). Onion Creek Meadows and most of Manchaca is in Precinct 2, which is represented by Stansberry, whose term expires in 2018.

Another development that has a major impact on Onion Creek Meadows is the transition of the Manchaca Fire Department from a volunteer service to a full-time paid staff supplemented with volunteers.

Since 1968, emergency services have been provided by the Manchaca Volunteer Fire Department, according to the department website (mvfd.org). MVFD (also known as Manchaca Fire/Rescue) serves about 12 square miles just south of the City of Austin to the Travis County line. The coverage area includes subdivisions such as Bear Creek, Onion Creek Meadows, the City of San Leanna, and Shady Hollow, with a total population around 17,000.

Voters created Travis County Emergency Services District No. 5 in 1985 to improve and enhance the services with taxing authority. In 2004, MVFD began employing paid fire and EMS personnel, in addition to its volunteer members, to meet the growing demands of increased call volumes, types of emergencies, volunteer work schedules and enhanced levels of emergency services.

When the fire station on Brodie Lane was built several years ago by the Shady Hollow Municipal Utility District for ESD 5, it was built to City of Austin specifications, since it was known that eventually, when Shady Hollow was annexed, it would become a city fire station. Part of the agreement between the MUD, the city of Austin and ESD 5 allowed for the AFD to co-occupy the fire station with MVFD.

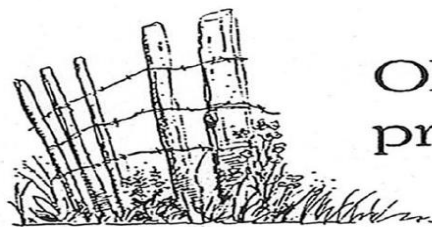
In late 2015, AFD identified several areas in the city where response times for fire and EMS services were falling below its standard of coverage. AFD noted that the station on Brodie would allow it to improve its performance. AFD requested to fully occupy the station beginning June 12, 2016. As part of the transition, Shady Hollow will continue to be in ESD 5, while its residents would not be annexed into the city or pay City of Austin taxes until the Shady Hollow area is annexed in 2020.

Rather than duplicate services by having MVFD and AFD equipment and personnel in the same station, AFD and ESD 5 agreed that MVFD personnel would consolidate its operations at the new Manchaca Fire/Rescue station on FM 1626, with AFD providing services not only to the ESD 5 area along Brodie Lane but also the newly annexed areas of the city from the Shady Hollow station on Brodie Lane — as well as calls in Manchaca when, for example, trains block FM 1626.

AFD and ESD 5 are working on an agreement where areas of the City and ESD 5 will be served by either department, depending on the location and type of emergency, essentially eliminating jurisdictional boundaries and providing service from the closest, most appropriate resources, whether from ESD 5, the city, or surrounding emergency services districts. The goal is to provide the highest level of services in the fastest time possible for all residents of ESD 5 and the city.

Thanks for your support.

Jim Cullen
President



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HISTORY CORNER WITH DEBRA...Who Were the Turleys?

I know most of you have driven down Turley Drive in our neighborhood. Have you ever wondered where that street got its name? Well read on and I'll tell you!

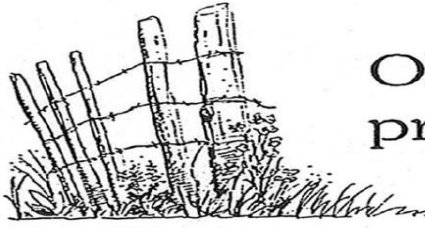
Turley Drive is named after James Monroe Turley (1816-1883). "He was a young Tennessean who migrated to frontier Texas while it was still a shirt tail republic, he carved a thriving farm out of virgin but rocky soil on Onion Creek, just 12 miles South of Austin."

The story I'm about to tell is taken from the book "Tales from the Manchaca Hills. An Unvarnished Memoir" as told by Edna Turley Carpenter. I found out about the Turley family along with a lot of interesting history about the Manchaca area from this book - if you live in Onion Creek Meadows, then you NEED to read this book! (Look for it on Amazon, it only had one printing so there aren't many copies available.)

James Turley and his second wife, Jane Soules Turley (1832-1924) built the house pictured below which used to be located at 110 Turley. Today it's just three vacant lots. James and Jane Turley had 12 children together, one of them being Edna Turley Carpenter.

I took this picture of the "Old Turley House" in 2002. The house burned to the ground on January 4, 2003. The cause of the fire is unknown. All the Manchaca Volunteer Fire Department could do was to keep the fire from spreading to adjoining properties.





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This house was built in 1851. What you see in the photo as the front of the house that faced Turley Drive was actually the back side, as the front of the house faced Live Oak Cemetery where a lot of the Turleys are buried. You can see their graves in the Southwest corner of the cemetery right along Twin Creeks Drive.

James Turley followed his sweetheart, Lucinda Smith, to Texas and they had 3 daughters. When Lucinda was pregnant with her fourth child, she got sick with tuberculosis. She said "If I die, I'd like for Jane Soules to bring up my children – that is, if you can persuade her to marry you." Lucinda and her infant son passed away. James married Jane in 1851 and they had 12 more children together. Edna tells how her father "did not own a colored shirt and he produced everything they needed for food except coffee and sugar on a farm near Onion Creek." In 1882 he patented a Cotton and Corn Planter, "He had an inventive mind. He was the superintendent of the Methodist Sunday School, though refused to join the church. He interviewed and hired teachers by asking them to spell "arithmetic." During the Civil War, he was secretary of the Onion Creek Lodge #220. He opposed secession yet was loyal to the Confederacy; he never used slave labor, he employed all his workers and treated them like family."

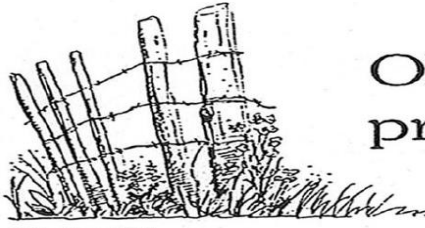
Jane Soules Turley was the daughter of Neilan Soules, who moved his family to Texas by wagon from Indiana in the 1830's to be "near a new village called Austin." He had to hire guards "to protect his family from Comanche's while he built a log cabin with two rooms separated by a dogtrot." One of Jane's brothers, Charley, went out to round up cattle in 1840 around Onion Creek but he never returned. He had been killed by Indians, "they found his arrow-riddled body, his entrails draped about the bushes, they had eaten his heart which was customary when they had finally killed an unusually brave fighter."

Jane was a member of the Manchaca Methodist Church. Her most lucrative business deal was negotiated in 1880 when the International and Great Northern Railroad was built through the Onion Creek community of Manchaca. "The minute she heard about the prospect of a railroad, she made arrangements to board the section bosses and persuaded them to build the track through Manchaca." "Jane lived 92 years and still had an alert mind and all her own teeth."

I really enjoyed the stories Edna told about the "mysteries of the Southwest upstairs bedroom of the farm house. "Any of the 10 Turley daughters who slept there could attest that the odd happenings were not imagined – such as bed-shakings lasting 10 seconds, then silence on and off again, baffling noises on the porch roof outside the South windows, sounded like a rooster's claws scraping against tin." They also "heard tiny pebbles being dropped in the pitcher of water on our washstand." Once Edna and her sister "did jump out of bed to light a match to find circles on top of the water but no pebbles." Even at 88, Edna said "she would never sleep in the room again for any kind of pay!"

Edna also talked about her wart removal remedy: "Take a dirty dishrag – good and dirty – and rub the wart real good. Then bury that dishrag near a ugly Oak tree and you'll see the wart disappear." She talked about "digging up blue clay along Onion Creek and molding all sorts of knicknackery and gewgaws." They would "gather weeds from the pasture and tie them together with scraps from Ma's sewing basket and transform them into "weed-ladies."

Edna attended a "Summer Normal Institute offered in the courthouse in Austin in 1891." She was awarded the top certificate that could be attained and was allowed to teach for 2 years anywhere in Texas. She taught at Bluff Springs for \$40 per month. Eventually after more schooling, she became the principal of the two-teacher school in Manchaca for \$60 per month. She says "I now know that my struggle to obtain a teachers education had not been in vain, for I was among those who helped a new and more civilized generation to emerge from the Manchaca hills."



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Edna married Shawnee Thomas Carpenter, another Manchaca citizen, in June 1897 at Manchaca Methodist Church. They built and raised their family in the beautiful, two-story house located on the south side of FM 1626 next to the railroad tracks. It is now known as the “Carpenter House,” which has several businesses.

The Turley stories go on and on but I’m afraid I’ve run out of room in this newsletter. If you are still interested in reading more, check out the book.

That’s all for now, until our next newsletter, Happy History to you!

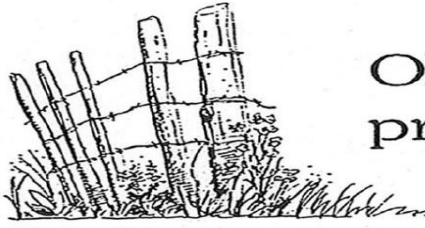
Debra Tompkins

Bibliography: Carpenter, Edna Turley; Tales from the Manchaca Hills: An Unvarnished Memoir; recorded and edited by Jane and Bill Hogan, The Hauser Press, New Orleans, 1960, 221 pages.

SERVICE RECOMMENDATIONS

From time to time, neighbors have searched for and recommended service people and companies on our Yahoo Group. Here’s a snapshot of recommendations submitted over the last few years:

Type	Person/Company	Contact #
APPLIANCE REPAIR	T&P Appliance Service (<i>OCM resident</i>)	512-282-2638
AUTO REPAIR	Latham Automotive	512-282-8108
ELECTRICIAN	William Duhon (<i>OCM resident</i>)	512-844-5552
HAIR STYLIST	Ambrosia Salon - Kelle Villarreal (<i>OCM resident</i>)	512-745-3310
HAIR STYLIST	D R Salon - Debi Rodriguez	512-657-5427
HOUSE CLEANER	Lucy Mancha (<i>OCM resident</i>)	512-292-4218
HVAC	Del’s Heating & Air Conditioning (<i>Arroyo Doble resident</i>)	512-448-3484
HVAC	Michael Dowell	512-233-9104
LAWN SERVICE	Robert Walker (<i>OCM resident</i>)	512-786-7768
LAWN SERVICE	Rufino Ponce (<i>Arroyo Doble resident</i>)	512-845-0871
PEST CONTROL	Aardvark Pest Control – Julian Villarreal	512-282-6741
PLUMBER	L&M Plumbing – Lucy Moreno	512-825-2892
ROOFER	Jay Puckett	512-784-4992
TREE SERVICE	Rufino Ponce (<i>Arroyo Doble resident</i>)	512-845-0871



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COMING SOON...

- Signage reminding us all to slow down
Neighbors on Turley and Onion Creek Drive, specifically, are negatively affected by those speeding through our neighborhood. We all lead busy lives, but please remember the speed limit is 30 mph.
- Roll-off trash container
Just in time for Spring cleaning, the Onion Creek Meadows Property Owners Association will be ordering a container allowing residents to clear non-hazardous, bulk items from their property. Stay tuned...

DID YOU KNOW?

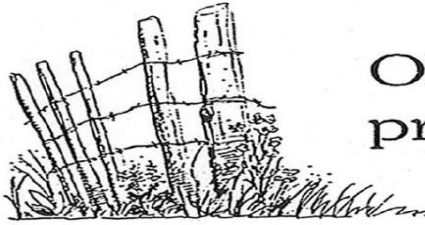
Did you know that you can have a street light added outside your residence? If you have an existing pole, PEC will set up area lighting at no installation cost. The monthly cost added to your electric bill ranges from \$20-45. There are two lighting options, both LED:

- 50 watt costs \$9.60/month for the light and uses 19 kwh (approx. \$11/month)
Total monthly cost = \$20.60
- 100 watt costs \$20/month for the light and uses 38 kwh (approx. \$24/month)
Total monthly cost = \$44.00

If you are interested, please call the Planning Department at Kyle PEC at 800-868-4791, ext. 7524 to schedule a utility designer to assess the pole. If a new pole needs to be set, there is an additional cost.

UPCOMING EVENTS NEARBY:

41 st Annual Craft Show	November 12-13	Manchaca United Methodist Church	Craft Show	www.manchacaumc.org/upcoming-events
BudaFest	December 3-4	Downtown Buda	Christmas Parade, Live Music, Carnival & Craft Fair	www.budafest.org
Rock of Ages Musical	December 8-10	Akins High School Theatre	7:00 PM each night	www.akinshstheatre.org
Buda Trail of Lights	December 9-10 December 15-18	Buda - Stagecoach Park	Free walkable, lighted trail with exhibits, Santa & concessions	www.ci.buda.tx.us/trailoflights



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OCMPOA BOARD & COMMITTEE MEMBERS 2016-2017

Jim Cullen	Board President Database, Membership Deed Restrictions	512-447-8201	jcullen@austin.rr.com
Debra Tompkins	Board Vice President Webpage Administrator Welcome Chair	512-282-2380	dltompkins4@gmail.com
Jamie Beard	Board Treasurer	409-382-3585	jclark1212@live.com
Temple Gossett	Board Secretary Newsletter Editor	512-745-2617	temple.gossett@gmail.com
Trudy Richards	Board Member Facebook Page Yahoo Group Administrator	512-560-7543	trudy_richards@hotmail.com
Janie Richards	Board Member Nominations	210-262-3201	elizabeth-richards@hotmail.com
Karen Jellison	Board Member Activities Chair	512-565-5621	karenjellison@austin.rr.com
Annette Folmar	Board Member Neighborhood Watch	512-496-0739	dafolmar@gmail.com
Lance Farley	Board Member Cebolla Creek Development	512-573-7300	honkydrum@yahoo.com
Ron Ralph	Estancia Development	512-280-9648	ronralph@austin.rr.com
Robin Haralambous	Garage Sale Coordinator	512-569-9850	robin_302@yahoo.com



MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

(From July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017)

Onion Creek Meadows Property Owners Association
P.O. Box 434
Manchaca, TX 78652

Name(s): _____
Address: _____
Telephone: _____ **Date:** _____
 Lot(s) For Each Per Year Total* _____
Property Owner Membership: _____ X \$20.00 = _____

*Multiple lot owners may choose to pay (1) the minimum \$20 dues for a single lot and one membership vote or (2) \$20 for each additional lot which entitles you to an additional vote.