

# ONION CREEK MEADOWS property owners association

P.O. Box 434

Manchaca, Texas 78652

Fall 2017

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



## 2017 HOLIDAY LIGHTING CONTEST

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. Judging dates will not be disclosed. For eligibility, lights need to be kept on through Christmas Day. 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.

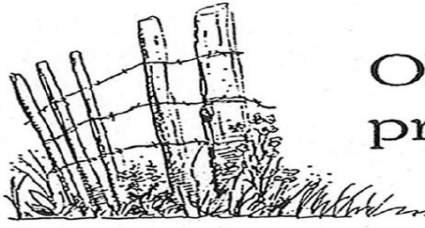
### ***A LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT...***

At the General Meeting of the Onion Creek Meadows Property Owners Association on May 7 at the Manchaca Fire Rescue Station, the board re-elected Jim Cullen as president, Debra Tompkins as vice president, Temple Gossett as secretary and Jamie Beard as treasurer, and Christopher Mitchell was named to fill an open seat. One seat was not filled and remains open.

Travis County Pct. 3 Commissioner Gerald Daugherty spoke at the General Meeting and said work on the new bridge on Old San Antonio Road over Onion Creek will get started before the end of the year. The old bridge will remain open during the construction and will remain as an historic site after completion of the new bridge.

Travis 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, where plans are to build 195 single-family houses. The county is asking for left-turn lanes on Twin Creeks and Old San Antonio roads and sidewalks on Twin Creeks Road.

The state Department of Transportation is proceeding with plans to expand FM 1626 into a five-lane road west of Manchaca Road, with completion of the project expected in 2019. Expansion of FM 1626 east of Manchaca Road is expected to come later.



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Work has been going on in Estancia and has started in the Bear Creek Crossing housing development off Twin Creeks Road, where 112 lots are being developed in the first phase of the development.

We already can see an increase in traffic on Twin Creeks and Old San Antonio roads.

Voters on Nov. 7 will decide on bond proposals for county and school district projects affecting Onion Creek Meadows.

Travis County has called an election to seek voter approval for a \$184,940,000 bond issue with two propositions that focus on road safety and park projects. Proposition A includes \$93,445,000 worth of projects, including \$6,888,200 for bicycle lanes for Old San Antonio Road from FM 1626 to the Hays County line. County officials have said the total package would cost the average taxable homestead about \$24 a year.

Austin ISD will vote Nov. 7 on a \$1.05 billion bond proposal, which includes \$33.3 million for a new building to replace the current Manchaca Elementary School, which was built in 1975. School officials said the bond issue would not trigger a tax increase, because the new debt is replacing old debt that is being paid off.

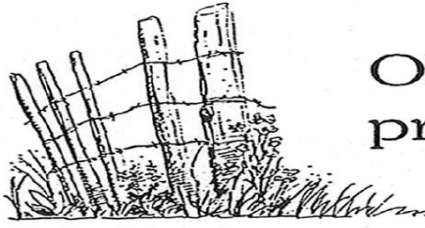
In other news, Austin city officials and Travis County officials broke ground July 31 on a new station at the intersection of FM 1626 and Old San Antonio Road for the Austin Fire Department and Austin/Travis County Emergency Medical Services. When the new AFD station opens in 2018, it will house two fire vehicles and an ambulance with full-time crews.

The new Onion Creek fire station was authorized by a 2012 city bond election.

Currently, emergency medical technicians serving Onion Creek Meadows are based in the Manchaca Fire Rescue/Travis County Emergency Services District 5 during the day, with ambulances responding in off-hours from an Austin fire station on Ralph Ablanedo Drive.

Ambulances will be responding to Onion Creek Meadows 24/7 from the Onion Creek station on FM 1626 at Old San Antonio Road, with backups from Ralph Ablanedo Drive. Austin Fire Department crews also will be available for backups to the Manchaca Fire Department.

Manchaca Fire Rescue, formerly the Manchaca Volunteer Fire Department, now employs 12 full-time firefighters, driver/operators and officers staffing the fire department 24 hours a day, seven days a



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week, under the auspices of the Travis County Emergency Services District No. 5. The district also employs a part-time paid chief, and a part-time office administrator. (It still uses volunteers as firefighters, EMTs and support roles.)

Dispatches are coordinated on a 24-hour basis through the Austin Fire Department, and all personnel have radio communication/notification devices. Much of Travis County Emergency Services District No. 5’s funding is derived from property tax receipts and a 2% sales tax on goods and services sold within the service district.

Onion Creek Meadows, and other neighborhoods that comprise the unincorporated community of Manchaca, got more control over our future this summer when the Texas Legislature approved Senate Bill 6, which requires cities in large counties to receive voter approval from areas that cities propose to annex before the cities can complete those annexations. Gov. Greg Abbott signed the bill Aug. 15.

The Onion Creek Meadows Property Owners Association is a voluntary organization, which represents our mutual interests. Our annual dues are \$20 (and memberships expire July 1).

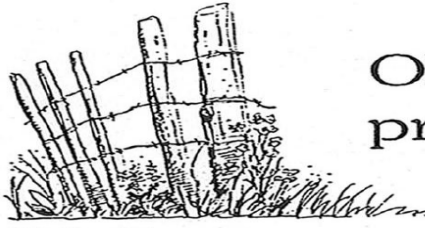
Although membership in Onion Creek Meadows Property Owners Association is voluntary, every property owner in the Onion Creek Meadows subdivision is bound by deed restrictions that are on file with the Travis County Clerk’s office of Real Property Records (see the text under “Deed Restrictions” at [ocmpoa.org](http://ocmpoa.org)).

Thanks for your support.

*Jim Cullen*  
President

## UPCOMING EVENTS NEARBY:

BudaFest	December 2-3	Downtown Buda	Christmas Parade, Live Music, Carnival & Craft Fair	<a href="http://www.budafest.org">www.budafest.org</a>
Buda Trail of Lights	December 7-9 December 14-17	Stagecoach Park	Free walkable, lighted trail with exhibits, Santa & concessions	<a href="http://www.ci.buda.tx.us/525/Trail-of-Lights">www.ci.buda.tx.us/525/Trail-of-Lights</a>



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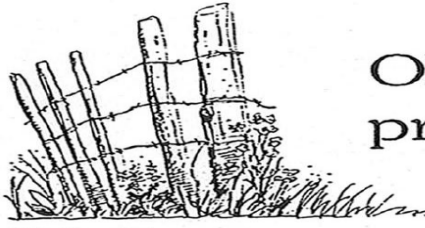
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## MOCHA: Manchaca Onion Creek Historical Association



“MOCHA” is a non-profit 501c (3) organization. MOCHA members adopted the goal of researching, preserving and sharing the rich history of southern Travis County and northeastern Hays County, as it borders Travis County.

In 2006 a group of like-minded individuals, many of whom lived in the Onion Creek subdivision, shared a keen interest in the area’s history and organized to form the **Manchaca Onion Creek Historical Association (MOCHA)**. The founding members decided that their scope of interest included far south Travis County (Manchaca area) and northeastern Hays County. These areas enjoyed a common history. Many of the pioneering families of both counties were related through kinship or marriage, the educational needs of children were met by schools in both counties and lastly, early pioneers shared common water resources from



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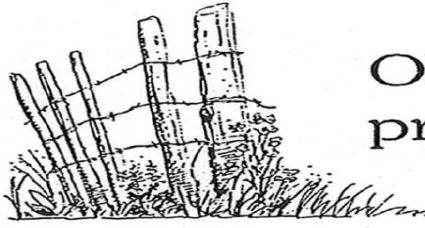
Onion Creek and Bear Creek waterways. Today, many current residents in these areas are descendants of the early pioneering families whose names are forever etched into the history of this area. In 2017, our mission still remains: ***“Area residents racing against time to preserve local history.”***

From the inception of MOCHA, members remain dedicated to the sharing of information with our community. Our efforts have been fruitful. We have published books and calendars highlighting the history of this area. Teaming with Arcadia Publishing Co, in their **Images of America** series, we published **Images of Manchaca**. This publication contains a plethora of information about families, businesses, churches and other areas of interest. In addition, we have published **Memories of Manchaca** and **Historic Manchaca, Texas**, Each compiled and written by descendants of early pioneer families.

Most importantly, MOCHA members have visited with long-time residents and produced video /audio recordings of their early recollections. These interviews contain something more precious than gold - **memories**. MOCHA remains privileged to have shared their memories and to have produced a permanent record for all of us.

Our most recent activity has been to provide *individual markers* for important historical areas such as the African American School House and Church location on FM 1626, (now the site of a BBQ business) Another marker has been placed at the location of The Old Rock Church, which was owned and operated by the Cumberland Presbyterian Congregation and became the community gathering spot. It is located on Twin Creek Rd. near the Live Oak Cemetery. (Currently, it is the site of the Cidery, whose owners are allowing MOCHA to display some of the original Manchaca Post Office boxes) The owners are new to the area and enjoy unique, historical perspective of their business location. Other important locations will be designated as well with permanent historical markers, such as the original post office, site of the Mexican American School and others.

With the passing of many founding members and the health issues of others, MOCHA meetings are now held quarterly. Members continue to spend countless hours researching old records, maps and personal journals in order to glean the most accurate historical portrayal of our area. Go to our website site for a discussion of the origin and spelling of Manchaca.



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MOCHA maintains a website at [www.MOCHAonline.org](http://www.MOCHAonline.org) and email [99Mocha@gmail.com](mailto:99Mocha@gmail.com). Our mailing address is MOCHA, POB #58, Manchaca, Texas. Our publications are still available for purchase. Please check out the website for descriptions. We invite the public to continue to share family pictures and memories with our organization. We will preserve them, share them and be very grateful that this area's history is well-documented. If you have questions, email and we will try to answer them or research in order to find the answer.



Winnie Spitz, Co-Founder of MOCHA  
Resident of Onion Creek Neighborhood for  
many years, now resides in Austin.



Joellen Flores Simmons, Co-Founder of MOCHA  
Long time resident of Onion Creek Neighborhood,  
lives in Rockport, Texas.

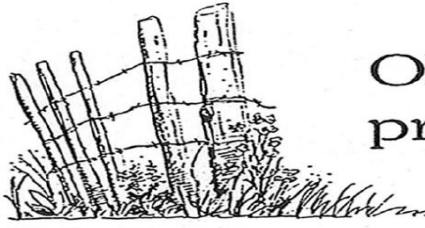


## NEIGHBORHOOD CONNECTIONS

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

[www.ocmpoa.org](http://www.ocmpoa.org) – NEW & IMPROVED neighborhood information, announcements, newsletters, POA information  
[www.facebook.com/ocmpoa](http://www.facebook.com/ocmpoa) - announcements, neighborhood information

[www.nextdoor.com](http://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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## Neighbor Meet-Ups:

### ART GROUP

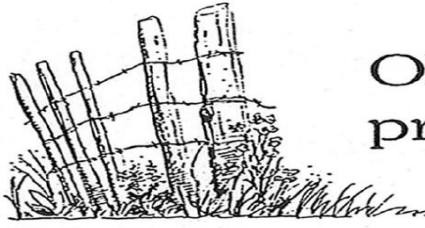
Neighbor Audrey is looking for interested parties to get together for a two-hour time, once a week, for Watercolor, Acrylic Painting, Chalk & Pencil Drawing, Oil Painting or your choice of medium. Preferred time is Thursday between 10:00 AM and Noon. No experience or talent needed. Just a desire to relax and create. If interested, contact Audrey at 512-507-3554.

### TENNIS

Neighbor Louis is looking for someone who likes to play tennis doubles about an hour or more several times on weekdays. The players who are committed are all seniors. To qualify, you will have to win some games against our oldest player and you should not serve over 70 mph. Play happens at the tennis court on Easley Drive as well as occasionally at Akins High School. If interested, contact Louis at 512-282-3335 or 512-796-4329 or [louisccastillo@yahoo.com](mailto:louisccastillo@yahoo.com).

### OCMPOA BOARD MEMBERS 2017-2018

<b>Jim Cullen</b>	Board President Database Membership	512-447-8201	jcullen@austin.rr.com
<b>Debra Tompkins</b>	Board Vice President Welcome Chair Nominations	512-282-2380	dltompkins4@gmail.com
<b>Jamie Beard</b>	Board Treasurer	409-382-3585	jclark1212@live.com
<b>Temple Gossett</b>	Board Secretary Newsletter Editor	512-745-2617	temple.gossett@gmail.com
<b>Karen Jellison</b>	Board Member Activities Chair	512-565-5621	karenjellison@austin.rr.com
<b>Annette Folmar</b>	Board Member Neighborhood Watch	512-496-0739	dafolmar@gmail.com
<b>Lance Farley</b>	Board Member Webpage Administrator Bear Creek Crossing Development	512-573-7300	honkydrum@yahoo.com
<b>Christopher Mitchell</b>	Deed Restrictions	512-638-0988	chris@znth.co
<b>Ron Ralph</b>	Estancia Development	512-280-9648	ronralph@austin.rr.com
<b>Robin Haralambous</b>	Garage Sale Coordinator	512-569-9850	robin_302@yahoo.com



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## Calling all neighbors...

Forget to submit your dues? Just clip off the Membership/Renewal Form and mail in.



### MEMBERSHIP/RENEWAL FORM

(From July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018)

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.