

Issue 1: October 2024



Welcome to our new Community Engagement Spotlight Newsletter

We're excited to bring you the first edition of our quarterly newsletter, created to connect you to all the wonderful things happening in our community. In each issue, we'll feature neighborhood spotlights, share heartwarming good neighbor stories, and provide updates on community engagement efforts. Our goal is to celebrate the spirit of collaboration and connection that make our neighborhoods such special places to live.

Thank you for being an essential part of this vibrant city! Together, let's continue building stronger community and making a positive impact.

Neighborhood Spotlights

Lake Como Wins National Neighborhood of the Year Award

After winning Fort Worth's Neighborhood of the Year Award, Lake Como
Neighborhood Association went on to win the Social Revitalization/Beautification
Award at the 2024 Neighborhood USA
Awards for their outstanding Juneteenth
Celebration. In addition to this impressive win, the Lake Como Neighborhood
Association is also the recipient of the 2024
Neighborhood of the Year Grand Prize
Award for the same Juneteenth Celebration.

This vibrant event not only highlights the rich history and culture of the community but also showcases the power of collective effort in bringing people together. This recognition underscores the impact of their



commitment to community engagement and revitalization.

Congratulations to the Lake Como Neighborhood Association for their remarkable achievements and dedication to making a positive difference in their community!

Neighborhood Know-How: City Updates and Resources

- Save the date: Neighborhood Awards 2024 (March 1st, 2025)
 registration will open in Mid-October. Special bulletin coming soon.
 Check out 2023 Neighborhood Awards highlights
- Engage with us online at https://www.connectfw.com/
- Quickly and easily report issues with the <u>MyFW App</u>
- Sign-up for zoning notifications, district newsletters, and more with CityNews

Oakhurst Neighborhood Celebrates 100 Years



The Oakhurst Neighborhood in Fort Worth celebrated a major milestone—its 100th anniversary. Since its founding in 1924, Oakhurst has become one of the city's most cherished communities, known for its rich history, strong sense of community, and commitment to preservation.

Oakhurst's dedication to excellence has not gone unnoticed. The neighborhood has been named Fort Worth's Neighborhood of the Year on three separate occasions, in 2006, 2010, and 2022, and has earned national recognition for its efforts. In 2010, the Oakhurst Historic District was officially

listed on the National Register of Historic Places, underscoring the neighborhood's significance and commitment to preserving its unique charm.

To celebrate the 100th anniversary, the neighborhood planned events throughout the year. They also opened the time capsule that was buried at the 75th anniversary celebration(pictured). Plans to bury a new time capsule are underway, so that future neighbors will be able to see what life was like in 2024.

With a century of history behind it, Oakhurst remains a shining example of what a community can achieve when residents come together with a shared vision for the future. Here's to another 100 years of success!

Fort Worth Neighborhoods Come Together for National Night Out



On October 1st, neighborhoods across Fort Worth came together to celebrate National Night Out, an evening filled with community spirit and camaraderie. From block parties to cookouts, residents had the chance to meet new neighbors, strengthen connections, and engage with local law enforcement and city officials. These events highlighted the importance of unity and collaboration in making our neighborhoods safer and more welcoming. Thank you to everyone who participated and made this year's National Night Out a success!

Good Neighbor Shout-outs

Jack Bowen: Chisholm Ridge Neighborhood Association

The Chisholm Ridge neighborhood in Fort Worth has its very own storyteller: Jack Bowen. A retired TV journalist, Jack has traded in the fast pace of the news world for something a little closer to home. These days, he spends his time capturing the heart and soul of his community through videos he produces for his YouTube



channel, as well as his online newspaper dedicated to his neighborhood called Chisholm Ridge News.

Jack's passion for storytelling didn't fade after he retired; instead, it took on a new life. Now, rather than reporting on news events, he focuses on showcasing the people, places, and stories that make Chisholm Ridge special. His videos cover everything from neighborhood happenings and interviews with residents to community engagement events with local leaders. These videos have become a fantastic way for neighbors to connect and celebrate the vibrant community they proudly call home.

With Jack Bowen behind the camera, the story of Chisholm Ridge continues to unfold in creative and inspiring ways, one video at a time.



Register to attend and help plan Fort Worth's future at our upcoming Community

Choices Summits

Submit Your Stories

The *Community Engagement Spotlight* is all about celebrating the people and accomplishments that make our neighborhoods special, and we want your input! Do you know an outstanding neighbor who goes above and beyond? Has your neighborhood achieved something worth sharing, whether it's a new community project, a successful event, or a positive initiative that brought residents together?

We'd love to spotlight these stories in upcoming editions of the newsletter, so others across the city can be inspired by your experiences. Whether big or small, every story has the potential to make a difference in another neighborhood!

You can email us at engagement@fortworthtexas.gov with a short description and one good photo.

Let's celebrate the spirit of community that makes Fort Worth such a great place to live!

About Us

The Community Engagement Office connects neighbors, educators, and community leaders with city services and each other. We provide educational programs for students and adults regarding city services and training programs for community building. For more information, find your liaison or contact us at the office:

- Phone 817-392-6201
- Email Engagement@FortWorthTexas.gov
- Website <u>Community Engagement</u>

