



Second Quarter Newsletter

April, May, June

www.OHNA.US
OHNA
P.O. Box 472685
Garland, TX 75047

Annual Meeting Review

The Annual Meeting of the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association was held on Thursday April 9 at the Saturn Rd Church of Christ in Garland. Neighbors came out to enjoy Craft sodas made by Cary Hodson of Intrinsic Brewing and frost-your-own cookies. We were entertained by Gecko Hardware's mascot rooster "George" and by the opening mixer which rotated everyone around the room to visit with neighbors who operate small "craft" businesses. A big thanks to those who participated in this: Sherrill Brown, Ronnie Spurlock, Christi Baughman, Betty Roberts, Cary Hodson, Jan Alexander and Andrea Ridout.

Former District 5 councilman, John Willis urged neighbors to let their State and Federal Representatives know they support funding the LBJ/635 reconstruction. Please contact: Senator Don Huffines 512-463-0116, Senator Bob Hall 512-463-0102, Congressman Pete Sessions 972-392-0505, Congressman Jeb Hensarling 214-349-9996, Rep Kenneth Sheets 512-463-0244 and Representative Cindy Burkett 512-463-0464.

Mr. Michael Polecek of the City of Garland Engineering department gave an update on the Parkmont Drainage Capitol Improvement Project. This project will be in the design stage in 2015 with construction projected to begin in 2017. Improvements will involve new utility lines, sidewalks, streets and alleys to eliminate drainage issues.

District 5 councilman Billy Mack Williams gave an update on our district. He shared that traffic issues will improve on Kingsley as the construction of the new McCree Rd water tower is constructed. Discussions on improvements in Orchard Hills Shopping Ctr and the former Hypermart are being held with the city. The Lon-Wynne pool has been repaired and will be open this summer. Mayor Doug Athas shared recent updates on the I-635 project from the RTC, expressing that there would be no tolls in the HOV lanes. There will be five free lanes, two toll lanes and a free HOV lane for 2 or more occupants. He also shared about new developments in the northern corridor of Garland where the city, homeowners, and developers have worked together. The redevelopment of downtown continues. The "State of the City" address by Mayor Athas is on the City of Garland website.

Our neighborhood police officer (NPO) Officer Jeffery Summers, encouraged residents to be vigilant in not leaving garage doors open – things can easily be taken. He shared how a thief who was stealing packages off porches was caught through the cooperation of citizens and police. Please report any suspicious activity to Officer Summers.

OHNA officer elections were run by Charles Axe: Ronnie Spurlock was elected Co-chair, one co-chair position is still open, secretary serving again is Jan Alexander, returning treasurer is Roger Mowery, and members at large are Margi Bice, Eula Axe and there is a position open for one more at-large member.



<http://www.nextdoor.com>



<http://www.facebook.com/groups/ohna.us/>



<http://www.ohna.us>



Calendar

June

4, 18 *Recycle*
8 Board Meeting

July

2, 16, 30 *Recycle*
13 Board Meeting
18 Workday

August

13, 27 *Recycle*
10 Board Meeting
11

September

10, 24 *Recycle*
14 Board Meeting

October

8, 22 *Recycle*
12 Board Meeting

November

5, 19 *Recycle*
9 Board Meeting

Annual Picnic Announcement

Annual Picnic postponed to next year.

The Orchard Hills Neighborhood Assoc. board members and officers have decided to not host a summer picnic this year. Many in our leadership have major conflicts, leaving us with a shortage of personnel. Plan on helping out next year or volunteer to help with the fall Garage Sale in October.

Garden Therapy and Community Service Saturday, May 23rd from 8:00 - 11:45 a.m.

Meet at corner of Briarwood and Glenbrook

Bring gloves, clippers, hand shovels.

We need your help to finish up our neighborhood gardens.

Questions & suggestions:

Call Margi Bice 214-587-5206

Plant Sale

What is a plant sale? Well, duh, it is where plants are sold.

Okay, maybe a better question. What is an Orchard Hills Neighborhood Plant Sale?

We did sell plants, but so much more happened. We sold a rose bush, Sweet William, aloe vera. Mostly, we saw neighbors from the area, people who live almost in the area, people who used to live here, and people who wish they did. We saw irises, turk's cap, zinnias, jasmine, airplane plants go to new homes.

It was a beautiful day, and people were ready to work in their yards. They were also ready to sit and visit, eat donut holes, sausage rolls, Ronnie's cinnamon bread and tomato/basil bread.

Some of us worked hard moving our chairs to stay in the shade. Others helped identify four kinds of peppers, varieties of tomatoes, differentiate annuals from perennials. We had some experts who could answer any questions. Others not so much. When asked, "Does this plant grow in the sun or shade?" we said, "Yes." Surely, we were right part of the time.

Thanks to Whitetail Nursery, Gecko Hardware and Naaman Forest for their donations. More thanks to people who brought wonderful plants. Special thanks to those who bought plants. Very special thanks to those who worked: Eula, Charles, Roger, Jan, Ronnie, Rhonda, Linda, Betty, Jim, Christi.

We had more plants than named. How do you spell pittosporum? We had 2" to 5 gallon containers, potted and labelled plants to loose and fistfuls, tiny herbs to a tree we never identified..

Most of all, we had fun. We hope you join in the fun next year.



eMail

OHNA Board Members:

board@ohna.us

OHNA Newsletter:

newsletter@ohna.us

OHNA Website:

webadmin@ohna.us



Web

OHNA Website:

<http://www.ohna.us>

City of Garland

<http://www.ci.garland.tx.us/>

City Maps:

<http://www.garlandgis.com>

Thanks to **Saturn Road Church of Christ** for hosting our monthly and annual meetings!

3030 Saturn Road
Garland, Texas 75041

Services:

Sunday Morning 8:00 AM & 10:30 AM

Sunday Evening 6:00 PM

Hispanic Assembly 10:30 AM & 6:00 PM

<http://www.saturnroad.org>

HB 3556

On April 30, 2015 a number of Garland officials and a couple of residents traveled to Austin to attend and provide testimony at a House Transportation Committee meeting regarding HB 3556, authored by Representative Cindy Burkett. A video of the full proceedings may be viewed here:
<http://tlchouse.granicus.com/MediaPlayer...>

I should have noted that HB 3556 relates to the reconstruction of IH 635 East, from US 75 to IH 30. It specifies a minimum of five general purpose lanes in each direction and continuous frontage roads on both sides of the facility, that this entire section of highway be built, similarly to LBJ Express on the other side of Central, below grade, and allows for the strictly time limited use (35 years or when the bonds are paid off, whichever is sooner) by TxDOT of a small tolled component that would help fund the project. The entire facility would be owned and operated by TxDOT and not some outside concessionaire like is the case with LBJ Express. That means all revenues generated by any tolled component go to pay off associated debt, and when it is paid off, or after 35 years, the tolled component goes away.

All this, and more, is covered in the video in the link above. This reconstruction is the most important issue for this part of Garland. The project will likely cost well in excess of \$2 billion, and it will spur major economic redevelopment along the 635 East corridor. I strongly encourage everyone who believes this part of town needs help and attention to contact the members of the House and the Senate Transportation Committees and simply let them know you support this project. Information about those committees can be found here:

House Transportation Committee: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Committee...>

Senate Transportation Committee: <http://www.capitol.state.tx.us/Committee...>

Plant Sale Thank Yous!

Thanks to Whitetail Nursery, Gecko Hardware and Naaman Forest for their donations



**OHNA
Contacts**

Co-Chairman

Ronnie ronnie@ohna.us

OPEN

Treasurer

Roger roger@ohna.us

Secretary

Jan jan@ohna.us

Members at Large

Margi margi@ohna.us

Eula eula@ohna.us

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www.gaiabodywork.com



Phone

Police Non-Emergency
(972) 485-4840

Animal Services
(972) 205-3570

Code Enforcement
(972) 485-6400

Narcotics
(972) 205-2098

Graffiti
(972) 205-3999

Streets
(972) 205-3555

Neighborhood Patrol Officer
Jeff Summers
summersj@garlandtx.gov
(972) 485-4814

District 5 Councilman
Billy Mack Williams
bmwilliams@garlandtx.gov
(214) 500-5460



WWW.OHNA.US

MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name: _____
Address: _____
City: _____ State: _____ ZIP: _____
Phone: _____ eMail: _____

The Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association newsletter and reminders of our meetings and events will be sent to you by email if you have a current e-mail address, otherwise we will deliver newsletters and notices to your door.

The annual fee is \$15 per household, renewed annually at the annual meeting in April.

Send completed form along with a check made payable to:

Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association (OHNA) to

P.O. Box 472685 Garland, TX 75047-2685

Membership in the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association is an unbelievable \$15 a year. With this fee you contribute towards making this neighborhood a better place to live. Elected representatives work on ideas and agendas that will make Orchard Hills safer and prettier. Neighborhood associations are a strong voice that gets heard by city government. We communicate through newsletters, monthly meetings and an active website. One of the most attractive things about a good neighborhood is getting to know each other. OHNA stimulates "knowing your neighbor" through a variety of social events during the year.

These are only a few of the benefits to a neighborhood association. Even though the fee is minimal, it can be mountainous as we put the funds to work. The majority of funds pay for the newsletters and flyers that are distributed to your doorstep throughout the year; funds are spent to put on events like the Annual Meeting, Plant Sale, Annual Picnic, Neighborhood Garage Sale, and Christmas Party. Additional money is spent for administrative costs and matching funds for grant funded improvements on such as sidewalks and landscaping.

The list can go on and on, but as you read, your dues are very important, valuable and necessary...so keep them coming...and Thank You for your support. We would not have an Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association without YOU!! If you are not a member sign up today! There is no better way to spend \$15



Woody's Makeover, Inc.
1005 Saturn Springs Dr.
Garland, TX 75041

HELPING TO KEEP OUR NEIGHBORHOOD LOOKING ITS BEST

JUST SOME OF THE SERVICES WE OFFER...

- Interior/exterior painting
- Custom cabinetry and woodworking
- Cost saving resurfacing of sinks, tubs, counter tops, appliances, and ceramic tile
- Custom texture and faux finishing
- Ceramic tile installation and repair
- Crown moulding and custom built-in's
- Sheetrock repair and installation
- Room conversions and additions

21+ YEARS OF EXPERIENCE BONDED & INSURED RESIDENTIAL REFFERALS AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST

CALL TODAY AND ASK FOR WOODY 214-202-3809 OR PATRICK 214-405-5798