



Upcoming Events

October

- 10/02 Recycling Day
- 10/03 Garden Work Day
- 10/09 OHNA Garage Sale
- 10/10 OHNA Garage Sale
- 10/12 Board Meeting
- 10/15 Crime Watch Meeting
- 10/16 Recycling Day
- 10/30 Recycling Day

November

- 11/07 Garden Work Day
- 11/09 Board Meeting
- 11/13 Recycling Day
- 11/27 Recycling Day

December

- 12/10 Recycling Day
- 12/14 Board Meeting
- 12/24 Recycling Day

Orchard Hills Neighborhood Quarterly Newsletter

Third Quarter 2020 | Although most of us didn't have a typical summer filled with family gatherings, BBQs with friends or anything close to a vacation, let's be thankful for all that we did do! We saw so many enjoying the mild summer by walking the neighborhood and beautifying their yards and homes. We saw so many children playing outdoors and sidewalk art on every street. As the weather cools down, let's all take a deep breath and keep looking forward. We are all in this together!



Calling all Artists...

ARTISTS WANTED - professional or amateur, young or old.

We invite you to design a sign for our neighborhood billboard on the corner of Glenbrook and Briarwood. The message can be seasonal, informative or inspirational. We provide poster board, art supplies and ideas if you need a little help to get started. Please help us add new signs to our growing collection.

Contact DesignASign@ohna.us for more information. We can't wait to discover new talent right here in Orchard Hills!



We would like to thank the Saturn Road Church of Christ for providing a convenient location for our monthly board meetings. All OHNA members are invited to our gatherings.



Introducing the Yard of the Season



Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association is pleased to have a new method of recognizing the great efforts residents put into having beautiful yards.

Our neighborhood is a place of beauty. Take time to drive slowly and observe. We all can brag about the neat, well maintained yards on our streets. Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association is pleased to have a new method of recognizing the great efforts residents put into having beautiful yards. It is the **Yard of the Season**. Each season we will recognize a yard that represents that season. Everyone is invited to participate and nominate a yard.

The basic requirement is that it be inviting.

This may mean you might like to sit under their trees, have a glass of tea at their picnic table, stop and smell the roses or you would like ideas to improve your yard. The yards do not need to be elaborately landscaped --- just inviting. A sign will be in the yard for the whole season. (This does not include Christmas decorations). To nominate a neighbor, reach out to any board member (contact information is on the last page of the newsletter) to provide some information. After the information of all nominees is collected, a team will oooh and ahhh over the amazing yards and make the final selection.

2020 Yard of the Season

This is being written July 24. It is hot. It will probably get hotter and much hotter. As the temperature goes up, so do our water bills and our frustration as we watch the lawn and plants fade away. Our first Yard of the Season not only survives summer, it thrives in the summer. It is beautiful to look at, invites people to slow down and wonder how anyone can keep it looking so good, and provides lots of good ideas.

2609 Glenbrook, home of Reg and Lauren Grant, is an example of a summer yard.



Try to count the variety of plants in the yard. The variety of NATIVE plants, maybe 60. They have all been selected because they like summer and every season. They attract hummingbirds, butterflies, bees and wasps. (Yes, wasps are pollinators too. They also kill off the bad bugs.) Some of us call the house the “new house” built seven years ago or the “green house” because it was built to high environmental standards. For us old timers it was the Morton house, nestled in among the trees. The “green house” kept all but one tree that was beside the garage and charred. The house sits higher than neighboring houses because of flood plain requirements for new buildings. The yard is also designed with high environmental standards.



2020 Yard of the Season Continued...

The plants are native plants that like the sun and require minimum watering. The water wise method is a 14 zone drip irrigation system with some spray heads along the perimeters. Most of the yard is natural looking beds or hardscape of paving stones and gravel walkways. The tiny green lawn in the front is zoysia. The two yard art, or yard sculptures, are beautiful onyx stones. Most of the plants were bought at Covington's from their sale items. Those plants have grown, been divided and multiplied. An old rose bush was cut back, dug up and brought from another location. All the paving stones, rocks and gravel are from AAA Sand and Stone. The back yard also has zoysia, hard scape, beds and groundcover.

Two interesting ones are horse herb and wild strawberries. A new tree is a chocolate mimosa, an unusual color all year. There is a controlled bamboo "jungle" along the side, soon to have a secluded reading nook for grandchildren (and grandparents). A tall spindly plant has come a long way from its native grounds. It is an artichoke thistle from Canada. Yes, there is such a plant; look it up. When asked what plants he would recommend, Reg said Turk's Cap, Lantana and Salvia. These grow profusely with few needs.

The Grants live in the big house. They have some "boarders" in a tiny house. Almost directly above them is an owls' nest. If you are walking by at the right time, you might see Hootie, Hazel and their children.



Bridge Repair on Glenbrook



The work being done at Glenbrook is part of the erosion control and/or bridge reinforcement. Twenty-four bridges in Garland are being brought up to new standards required by TxDot and the City of Garland.

Last year, concrete work was done around the bridge. Jack hammers are breaking up the shale to make level working areas for a stone foundation. A retaining wall, several layers thick, will be constructed on each side of the bridge. The walls will go from the bridge to fifty feet east and fifty feet west. The west bank is being straightened. Loads of dirt are being hauled out daily.

After the stone foundation is completed, five vertical layers will be constructed of fill stone and fill dirt. The outside layer will be R-Rap, sacks of sakrete stacked vertically. The east side of the bridge will be done the same way.

Other work will be done in the creek to the intersection of our creek and Duck Creek. You can see where the creeks merge from the bridge on Briarwood.



Work began July 28th and completion of all phases may take six or eight weeks more.

Improved Incentive for Sidewalk Repairs



The city of Garland has upped the incentive for homeowners to fix deteriorating sidewalks. You qualify for the increased incentive (15%) if you live on one of the following streets:

Ashwood Dr, Briarwood Dr, Overhill Dr or Sycamore Dr Garland offers three new reductions to supplement its established 50-50 share of sidewalk reconstruction costs.

A property owner who qualifies in all three categories may now bear as little as 10% of the cost of fixing their sidewalk. In addition to the 50% match, the following reductions in cost may now apply:

- An extra 15% if the property has a homestead exemption through Dallas County records
- An extra 15% if the address is in a Community Development Block Grant area as marked by the Department of Housing and Urban Development
- An extra 10% if the property owner is disabled according to Social Security Administration records or is age 65 or older

If you have questions about the matching grant program, call **972-205-2930**. City staff will then determine what work is eligible and the estimated cost. For more information go to:

<https://www.garlandtx.gov/384/Hazardous-Curbs-Gutters-Sidewalks>

It is the property owner's responsibility, per City ordinance, to keep sidewalks in safe condition. Unsafe conditions include more than two inches of elevation difference between adjacent sections of sidewalks, cracks of two inches or more and sunken portions that create excessive ponding of water. Property owners are generally not responsible for sidewalks along streets of four or more lanes. (W. Kingsley Rd)

Free Garden Therapy

Are you tired of being cooped up in the house?

Do you need incentive to get outside in the fresh air and sunshine?

Do you need to relieve some frustrations with all that's going on these days?

If you need garden therapy, we would be glad to be your therapists. Any assistance you would like to offer to help in maintaining the gardens would be greatly appreciated. If you don't know a weed from an Echinacea, that's not a problem. We would be delighted to show you the difference AND show you where the irrigation lines are!



Join us October 3rd for the next workday.

Make a note and put them on your calendar so that you can join us!

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14TH ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD GARAGE SALE



**Get ready! The Orchard Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale is coming
October 9th & 10th.**

2020 is the 14th year for OHNA to host this popular event. Historically we have had as few as 12 and as many as 25 sales that weekend. The greater the number, the bigger the draw for customers. Each participating family holds a sale at their house.

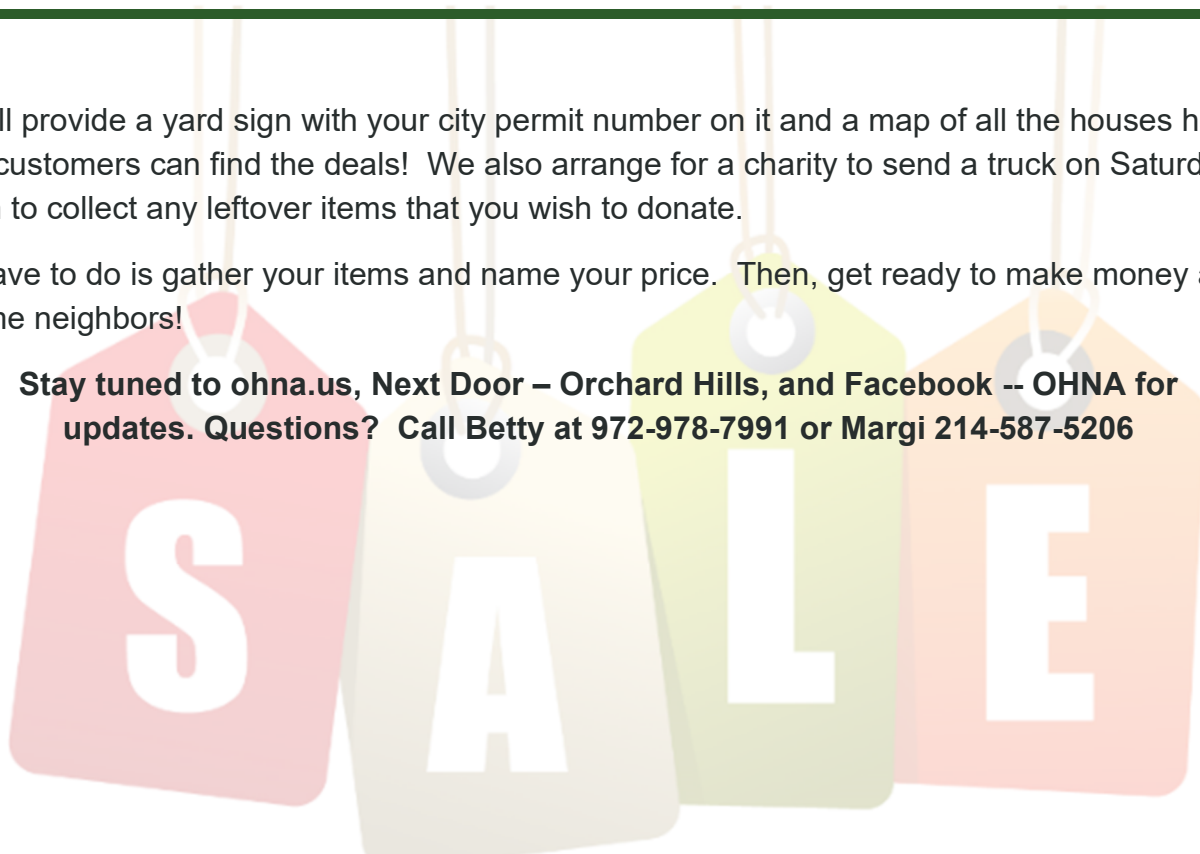
SIGN UP

Send your name, address and phone number to garagesale@ohna.us by October 5th, 2020. **Be sure your OHNA membership is current so you can take part.**

OHNA will provide a yard sign with your city permit number on it and a map of all the houses having sales so customers can find the deals! We also arrange for a charity to send a truck on Saturday afternoon to collect any leftover items that you wish to donate.

All you have to do is gather your items and name your price. Then, get ready to make money and meet some neighbors!

Stay tuned to ohna.us, Next Door – Orchard Hills, and Facebook -- OHNA for updates. Questions? Call Betty at 972-978-7991 or Margi 214-587-5206



Meet Our New NPO

District 42 and the Orchard Hills neighborhood have a new Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO).

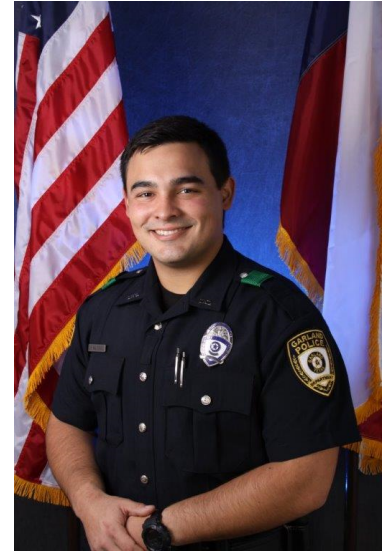
Officer Maldonado was born in Garland and raised in Rowlett. Prior to working for Garland PD, he worked at a plant nursery as a salesman and then worked for a stucco construction company. Officer Maldonado has served with the Garland Police Department for 4 years. His father is also with GPD.

Maldonado is married, has one son and two dogs. He is a big football fan but also enjoys baseball, basketball and golf. In his free time he likes to fish or play golf. But most of all he loves spending time with his family.

The NPO works with patrol officers, employees from other city departments, GISD, business owners, and especially citizens to identify and assist with ongoing problems that affect the area. For more detail about the NPO Unit of GPD go to GarlandTX.gov.

Welcome, Officer Maldonado, to the Orchard Hills family!

Thank you Officer Josh Morillos for stepping in as our interim NPO these past 5 months. We slept better at night knowing you were there for us.



Contact: C. Maldonado
MaldonadoC@garlandtx.gov
 972-485-4841

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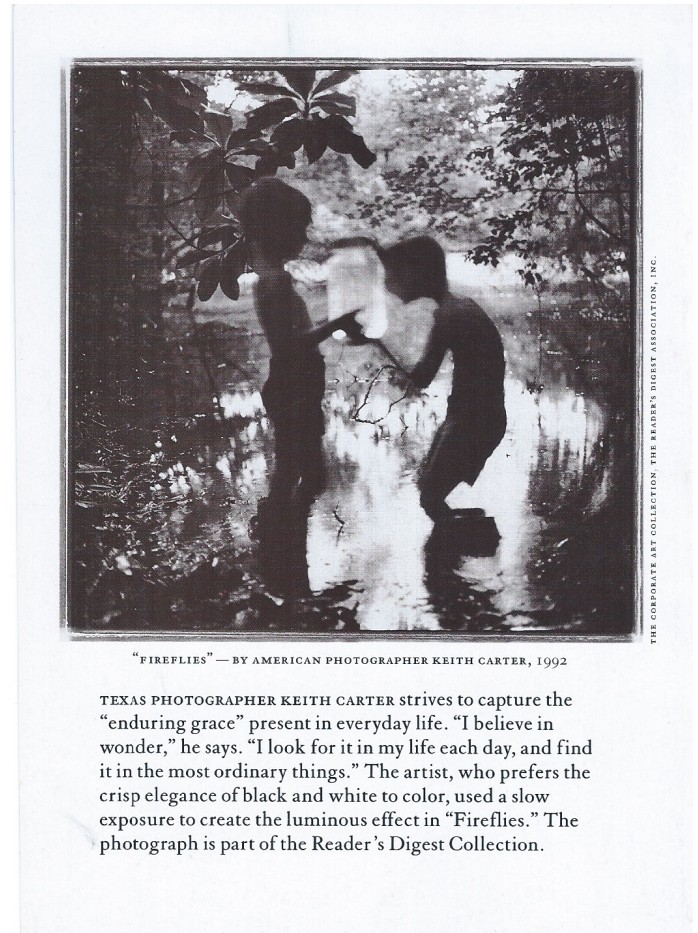
Go-Karts - Bumper Boats - Miniature Golf - Train - Laser Tag - Eurobungy - Batting Cages - Paintball - Video Arcade

Installment III

A human interest piece by Gary Turnipseed

I took about a day to recover from my Mom's home run heard around the world and she didn't make it a topic at the dinner table for the rest of the summer. Even though the season stopped, the baseball didn't and we would interrupt our backyard games to help my Dad churn homemade ice cream for backyard picnics or social gatherings with my Great Aunt Erma and Uncle Harry and Second Cousin triplets Jane, Jean and June and their older sister Susan, who all lived catty-corner across the street from us. I was in awe of my Dad's physical strength. He could turn the crank on the homemade ice cream machine for what seemed to be an eternity. He would give my best friend Dennis and I a turn at it and I remember only being able to crank for a few times and having to concede defeat due to muscle failure. It's a good thing baseball didn't require that kind of physical strength or my career would have been punctuated severely.

When the fireflies would come out, we'd grab our bats and try to hit them like baseballs. When hit, the fireflies would shoot like meteors across the backyard because for some strange reason the impact would cause their lights to come on steady when they expired due to the concussion. Many years later my son discovered this sport on his own. I didn't do anything to discourage it. I rationalized that it was a great hand-eye coordination exercise! For full disclosure, my sensibilities have evolved, and I now give total sanctuary to fireflies.



My Mom and Dad had these Chinese lanterns they bought at Rexall Pharmacy in Orchard Hills Shopping Center. They would string them from tree to tree in the backyard for these social events and, as the evening sun faded, I remember the vivid greens and oranges and reds that illuminated our space and how carefree the feeling was. And how good the homemade ice cream tasted and how it could make your head ache with brain freeze when you ate it too fast. The same way the snow cones we got for retrieving foul balls at the ballpark could go right to your head like a Voodoo daiquiri in summer in New Orleans, something I discovered many years later on my first trip to the French Quarter.

Installment III Continued...

It's no wonder we loved that summer so much. Buoyed by the success of my first season and the homerun baseball trophy on my bookcase, all was right with the world. That was, until school started again and the Cuban Missile Crisis threatened to displace the great American game with the great Russian/Cuban Ballistic Missile game.



9th Birthday

We kids didn't understand what a nuclear holocaust was, and I don't remember any of our parents or teachers explaining it to us. What I do remember was mixing our recesses with disaster drills that required us to file out into the school hallway and kneel and put our heads between our legs. Even at that we were clueless as to the ramifications of a nuclear attack on the United States. I was just glad my Mom and Dad didn't mess up our backyard baseball field with a shelter like some of the neighbors on our street put in. The thought of having to drink the water out of the Clorox bottles we had to bring to school was the worst possible thing as far as we knew. And the possibility of getting paddled by our elementary school principal Mr. Smith, who was a formidable presence in our lives, was a fate worse than nuclear fallout, whatever that was.



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Installment III Continued...

I made it through second grade without getting incinerated but unfortunately not without getting paddled. My second baseball season didn't come quick enough to save me from that fate!

My next-door neighbor and best friend Dennis lost his Dad to leukemia. I think that brought us closer together, and baseball was our biggest bond. We ended up on the same team together our second year and my Mom made our uniform pants since Dennis' Mom was busy working to support his family. My Mom also took us to all the practices and games and knew our schedules better than we did. You never really appreciate that until you're a parent yourself. Dennis and I figured out another baseball drill we could do in our backyard. We threw chinaberries from our chinaberry tree at my little sister Darla.



Christmas, 1963

We were constantly in trouble that way and incurred Mom's wrath with regularity. My sister couldn't retaliate effectively and, when she reads this, I hope she accepts my long overdue apology for targeting her that way. You name it, we were throwing or hitting it. I remember one time we invented a new game in the front yard.



Time Saver, 1963

We converted croquet mallets and balls as baseball bats and baseballs. Unfortunately for me, while "swinging for the fences", the club of my croquet mallet flew off the handle and through our living room window. Dennis and I ran around to the backyard as a deception move. My Mom was not deceived, and I ended up on the receiving end of the proverbial hickory stick for not fessing up to the deed. It would take quite a while for me to realize that, when it came to matters of skullduggery and misdeed, honesty was always the best policy with my parents.

That's one of the important things baseball was teaching us. Baseball was just that, an honest game with rules we lived by and coaches and umpires we respected. I pitched again that year and I liked it because

Installment III Continued...

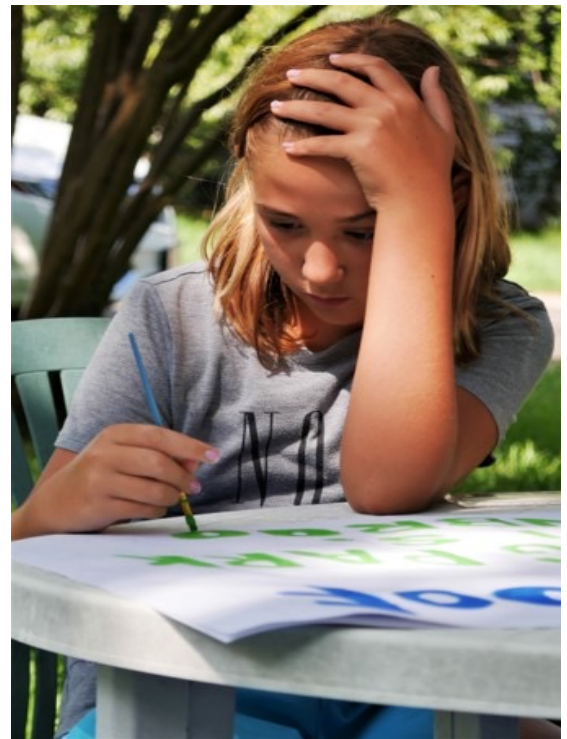
throwing was good. In fact, it was so good that one time Rusty Evans missed one of my errant high fastballs and it hit the umpire in the chest, as I mentioned in a previous installment. The umps didn't wear Kevlar back then and this one must've hurt pretty bad. I felt some exhilaration at the fact that maybe cranking the homemade ice cream churn was helping me throw these little bullets. At the same time I felt bad about the umpire getting hurt, just as I had felt bad afterwards about my sister getting hurt with the chinaberries. And I got a lot more hits than the year before which I could only attribute to the firefly drills and hitting chinaberries with little miniature wooden bats I got on vacation, a game we had to resort to when my sister came under the witness protection program.

This was the first year you could be selected as a T-Shirt All-Star, and Dennis and I both made the Odd team. From our team, Rusty and Wayne and fast Eddie made it too. I don't have a clue about what really happened in that All-Star game, but according to the Garland Daily News this is what transpired. "One of the largest crowds of the season saw the Senior T-Shirt All-Star game. The Evens, led by Kenny Quesenberry with two hits and the pitching of Vince Ortiz, came from behind in the 6th to tie the game for the final 7-7 count." At least we didn't lose even though we obviously choked, but as far as I was concerned it didn't matter. **I was going to be a Major League ballplayer someday.**

OHNA Annual Meeting Recap

The 20th annual meeting of OHNA took place on Thursday, July 16, 2020 online via Zoom. It is evident that our community prefers gathering in-person, when possible, and sharing a meal as opposed to a virtual meeting as was reflected in lower attendance this year. None the less, we forged ahead with business.

- Mayor Scott LeMay spoke about the eventful year Garland has had with flooding, a destructive tornado and now a pandemic. While Covid-19 temporarily dominated the focus of city officials, heartwarming events have come along to give us hope, including the opening of a new playground and dog park at Central Park.
- District 5 Councilman, Rich Aubin, reported that the Rick Oden Park design is mostly complete. The skate park is estimated to be completed in 2 years. The study phase of the Saturn Springs Street and Drainage Project is underway. The Day Labor Center at the corner of Saturn Road and Miller closed in March. The LBJ/635 E. construction project has started and



One of our volunteers for the Community Billboard Project is hard at work. Check out the first page of the newsletter for more information on how you could be our next featured artist!

OHNA Annual Meeting Continued...

is expected to take five years. To sign up for weekly Traffic Alerts & Lane Closures sign up at Info@635east.com or call the project hotline 1-833-499-6353.

- Betty Roberts, co-chair, presented the Yard of the Season Award to Reg and Laura Grant of 2609 S. Glenbrook Drive.
- Margi Bice, co-chair, recognized the many volunteers who generously give of their time and talents to enhance life for all of us in Orchard Hills. Let us know if you would like to be involved with any of our projects or events.
- Door-prize winners were: Angela Crum and Scott LeMay recipients of a free slice of pie at Piefalootin; Mike McBride won Dallas Arboretum tickets; and Rich Aubin received a free one-year OHNA membership.
- The billboard art project was introduced. Greg Alford, member at large, explained the Garland Home Improvement Incentive Rebate Program.
- Officer Matt Pesta introduced our new neighborhood police officer, Caleb Maldonado. They gave a summary of crime statistics for the last quarter in GPD's District 42. Pesta assured us that 911 service is GPD's number one priority and will not suffer during Covid-19. As always, if you see something happening, call 911!

We missed seeing everyone in person this year but we would like to thank you again for your contributions to our neighborhood.

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Have you Renewed Your Membership?

We usually get membership renewals at the annual meeting, plant sale or picnic. We haven't had any of these this year. As a result, membership renewals are lagging. If you can't remember when you last renewed, it's probably time to renew. If you can't find your records, shoot me an email at rhonda@ohna.us and I will be glad to check for you.

Your \$20 per year contribution goes towards the newsletters and flyers distributed to your doorstep as well as events such as the annual meeting, plant sale, annual picnic, neighborhood garage sale and Christmas party. They also cover admin. costs and matching funds for grant funded improvements such as sidewalks and landscaping. Our biggest expense right now is mulch for the neighborhood gardens. We are trying to keep them mulched so they don't fry with the heat and mulch makes it easier to pull weeds. Your support helps the OHNA board to develop new initiatives to make Orchard Hills welcoming and safer including communication through newsletters, monthly meetings, an active website and up to date social media. Your contributions are valuable and necessary to the continual development of our neighborhood.

Thank you for your support and please renew or sign up today!



3 Ways to Renew!

Option 1: Go to ohna.us and click "JOIN"

Option 2: Go to the direct site, join.ohna.us

Option 3: Send a check to OHNA, P.O. Box 472685, Garland, Texas, 75047, or pay at one of the OHNA events.

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 \$20 per year for 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.
or join/renew at join.ohna.us with credit card





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Stephanie Hutchinson 817.944.7069
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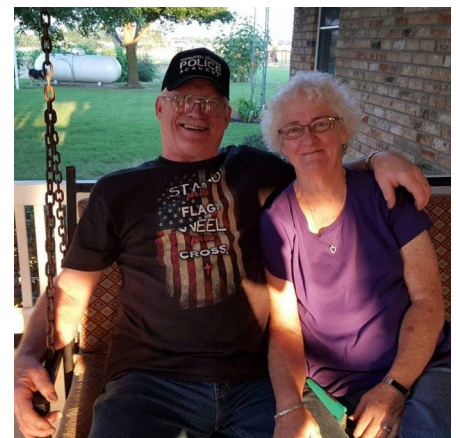
EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

New Orchard Hills Crime Watch Leaders

In January 2020, Jimmy and Nancy Hooten graciously stepped up to lead the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Crime Watch. The Hootens are long time Orchard Hills residents. Their house on Parkmont Drive, built in 1954, was Jimmy's childhood home. They met in high school at the Sonic Drive-In on Miller Road, where Nancy worked as a car hop. They have two daughters and are dog lovers.

Both Jimmy and Nancy completed the Garland Police Department (GPD) Citizen On Patrol Class, GPD's Citizen Police Academy, and the Texas Department of Public Safety's Citizen Police Academy.

Jimmy works as a mechanic and served on the security team for their church. Nancy is on the board of the GPD Citizen Police Academy Alumni Association. They will work with our Neighborhood Police Officer to plan quarterly crime watch meetings. If you have any questions or would like more information about one of the citizen classes, you may contact them at JimNancyHooten@yahoo.com.



Thank you Jimmy and Nancy for serving our neighborhood in this important role!



OHNA Board

Co-Chairman: Margi Bice
margi@ohna.us

Co-Chairman: Betty Roberts
betty@ohna.us

Secretary: Cathy Stark
cathy@ohna.us

Treasurer: Rhonda Spence
rhonda@ohna.us

Member at Large:
Jan Alexander, jan@ohna.us

Member at Large:
Mike McBride, mike@ohna.us

Member at Large:
Greg Alford, greg@ohna.us

Stay Connected

OHNA Historical Committee
Email: history@ohna.us

Website: history.ohna.us

OHNA Website: ohna.us

OHNA Facebook Page
facebook.com/groups/ohna.us

OHNA Garage Sale
garagesale@ohna.us

OHNA Flag Committee
flags@ohna.us

Garden Work Days

Join us for our upcoming Garden Work Days where we will do some winter preparation in the 7 gardens around our neighborhood.

We will be gathering October 3rd.

Bring gloves and water but most importantly, just bring yourself.

We will meet at the Rick Oden Park entry garden at 9am.

See you there!

New to the Neighborhood?

We have a lot of new neighbors – **WELCOME!** We look forward to meeting you, your family, your pets...

Please feel free to reach out to anyone on the board or on our social media outlets if you have questions or if you are interested in getting more involved.



Important Contacts

Garland Non-Emergency:

(972) 485-4840

Code Enforcement:

(972) 485-6400

Neighborhood Patrol:

Officer Maldonado

(972) 485-4841

MaldonadoC@garlandtx.gov

District 5 Councilman:

Rich Aubin

(972) 325-2529

council5@garlandtx.gov

