



Upcoming Events

March

- 2 Recycle
- 14 Board Meeting
- 16 Recycle
- 18 Garden Work Day
- 30 Recycle

April

- 11 Board Meeting
- 13 Recycle
- 15 Garden Work Day
- 20 Annual Meeting, Crime Watch
- 27 Recycle

May

- 9 Board Meeting
- 11 Recycle
- 20 Garden Work Day
- 25 Recycle

June

- 8 Recycle
- 13 Board Meeting
- 20 Garden Work Day
- 22 Recycle

Orchard Hills Neighborhood Quarterly Newsletter

First Quarter 2023 | It is a new year with new opportunities for our neighborhood and community! We hope you will join us at the annual meeting and upcoming garden workdays. We look forward to meeting all our new neighbors and reconnecting with friends.



OHNA Annual Meeting

The Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association annual meeting is on **April 20 at Saturn Road Church of Christ, 3030 Saturn Rd.** (enter through the drive-through):

- 6:00-6:30 pm Meet and Greet
- 6:30-8:00 pm Speakers and Business Meeting

Everyone in the neighborhood is invited. This will be an information-filled meeting:

- Mayor Scott LeMay will bring us up-to-date on city events and plans.
- Margaret Lucht, our District 5 Council Person, will share specific information that relates to our corner of Garland.
- Officer N. Sherry, our NPO, will lead the presentation of our crime watch program.
- The meeting will also include important information from Jerry Click with the Fire Department.

Those of us who live on Carney Drive, Saturn Springs Drive, Briarwood, Ashwood, and in between will be especially interested in the ongoing development of the Saturn Springs Project.

Every two years we have the election of board members: two Co-Chairs, a Secretary, a Treasurer, and three Members-at-Large. A slate of potential members will be available at the meeting. The nominations are open: anyone can volunteer to serve or nominate someone who has already agreed to serve if elected.

The OHNA annual meeting is an excellent opportunity to meet your neighbors while learning more about the city and the neighborhood. We hope to see many of you.



Y'all come on out and join us. Oh, yeah, we'll have real cookies.

District 5 Update

Hello, Neighbors!

Election:

Election Day is May 6th, and early voting begins April 24th. There are two major items for consideration on the District 5 ballot: the mayoral election and school funding. Mayor Scott LeMay is running for re-election. Additionally, the 2023 GISD bond on the ballot includes three propositions totaling \$1.279 billion, which aim to modernize facilities, enhance student safety, and provide for new construction. You can find more information about the bond propositions on the GISD website, GarlandISD.net.



Updates:

A pilot program for the gunshot detection system will be implemented in the Embree Neighborhood and Central Park. Once installed, this will create an opportunity for Orchard Hills residents to see the detectors, monitor their effectiveness, and decide if they are appropriate for the neighborhood.

Phase One and Two of the Rick Oden Park project are scheduled to be completed by early fall of this year. The parking lot along Briarwood should be completed within four to six weeks. Three tennis courts will be removed to make room for park improvements. The Duck Creek Central Trail is almost complete and will stretch from Briarwood to Avenue F. The installation of a splash pad will be completed by 2026. We will have an amazing park!

The Saturn Springs Drainage Project is in the design phase; however, there is no expected start date. This project is at the top of my list of bond program projects, and I will provide updates as soon as I receive them.

Initiatives:

Organized Neighborhood Groups: I cannot express how much I appreciate Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association. Organized neighborhood groups truly make a difference in our community. I am working on a neighborhood association in my neighborhood from Saturn to Garland Rd, between Miller and Kingsley. Hopefully, this will inspire others around District 5 to do the same.

District 5 Esthetics: In the next few months, I will begin a multi-pronged initiative to improve esthetics around District 5. This is extremely challenging because many improvements come with a high cost. I am working with several city departments to redevelop Orchard Hills and Ridgewood shopping centers. I will also be working with code to spruce up some non-compliant businesses in regard to their landscaping and signage. I am open to any ideas, especially those that can bring the community together for art, clean-up, or other special projects.

Garland Citizens Police Academy: I will begin classes on March 2nd, and I encourage everyone to sign up for the next session this fall. I will post updates on social media throughout the 13-week course.

I will host another Town Hall mid-May or early June. If there are any issues you would like addressed at the meeting-or if you just want to chat-please reach out any time. It has been my absolute pleasure to serve District 5 on City Council, and I thank you all for this wonderful opportunity.

Margaret Lucht

Council5@garlandtx.gov

[\(469\) 264-3556](tel:(469)264-3556)



Yard of the Season Goes to...817 Blossom

Blossom is truly the appropriate street for the house at 817. The yard is colorful all year. Yes, even in the winter. The house by itself is colorful: white brick, dark green shutters, and a red front door. (The door is hard to see, but it is there.) Oh, and a beautiful stained glass window.

Green is the predominant winter color. The winter grass in the front yard almost glows. Unlike most of our yellowish-brown yards with a few green spikes of weeds, this winter lawn is luxurious. I think this is a case of my being green with envy-for a front yard. Not everything is bright green. The ivy on the oak tree is winter pale, the Asian jasmine is brownish green, and the liriope in the parkway is yellowish green. But it all blends in with the hedges that are a deep, rich green.

There are at least four kinds of holly along the yard, creating a green fence, creeping green along the sides of the house, and extending to some in the parkway. Under the front windows are red tip photinias, adding another color.

Other shrubs along the driveway include three rose bushes and nandina. A very contained clump of bamboo is in the parkway. A flowering quince is under an oak tree. There are two really large oak trees and five crepe myrtle, all in winter-mode. The live oak does bring some green up from the ground.

Saving the best for last: look at those pansies! Such color-yellow and purple. These almost perfect flowers, beautiful and hardy, survived the last two freezes and will thrive until warm weather. The pansies provide brilliant color on three levels. They are planted along the driveway around the crepe myrtles, in three planters in front of the bay windows, and in the tall brick planter in front of the house.

As this lovely yard transitions from winter to spring, we can drive by and admire the new blossoms on Blossom.



*Article contributed by
Betty Roberts*



Home Improvement Incentive Rebate for 2023

There are 500 properties in Orchard Hills Neighborhood that meet the qualification of being over 30 years old and appraised below \$250,000. Are you one of them?

The city is offering a 50% cash rebate (up to \$10,000) on approved exterior remodeling. All applications must be approved prior to any work starting. Minimum investment for the program is \$1,000.

Items covered:

- Re-shingle roof with 30-year shingles
- Replace windows with energy efficient windows
- Replace exterior doors, including garage door
- Replacement of soffit and fascia
- Replace entire driveway with concrete
- Replace or repair fence
- Install or replace gutters
- Add or repair front porch

For more details, view the pdf file at the following link:

<http://www.garlandtx.gov/DocumentCenter/View/6459/Homeowner-Improvement-Incentive-Program-Policy-PDF>



OHNA Board

Co-Chairman: Betty Roberts

betty@ohna.us

Co-Chairman: Jason Lain

jason@ohna.us

Secretary: Cathy Stark

cathy@ohna.us

Treasurer: Rhonda Spence

rhonda@ohna.us

Member at Large: Leslie Cooper

leslie@ohna.us

Member at Large: Shelby

Jones, shelby@ohna.us

Member at Large:

Greg Alford, greg@ohna.us

Social Media

Website: ohna.us

Facebook Page

facebook.com/groups/ohna

Twitter: [@OrchardHillsNe1](https://twitter.com/OrchardHillsNe1)

Contact Us

Send a Historical Article

history@ohna.us

Volunteer to Distribute Flags

flags@ohna.us

Nominate Yard of the Season

yard-of-the-season@ohna.us

Submit a Newsletter Article

newsletter@ohna.us

Subscribe to the newsletter

subscribe.ohna.us

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, or our social media groups on Facebook, Nextdoor, Website or Twitter. 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

Garden Work Days

Join us for our upcoming Garden Work Days where we will do some Spring cleaning in the 6 gardens around our neighborhood.

We will be gathering April 15th & May 20th.

Bring gloves and water but most importantly, just bring yourself. We will meet at Roberts Rest Stop at Glenbrook and Briarwood at 9 am.

Hello Orchard Hills Neighbors!!!

Hope everyone is doing well and having a safe new year. The latest crime report from Ofc. Sherry, our N.P.O., is good news for the most part, but there have been some petty thefts. We all need to keep our car doors locked and no valuables left inside of them. Keep our garage doors down when we are not inside them. If you see anything suspicious or doesn't look right, call the police, make a report and let the responding officer contact you by phone or in person.

If you have an interest in participating in the Neighborhood Watch Program, contact Jimmy Hooten at crimewatch@ohna.us.

Stay safe and keep a watchful eye!!!



Important Contacts

Garland Non-Emergency:

[\(972\) 485-4840](tel:(972)485-4840)

Code Enforcement:

[\(972\) 485-6400](tel:(972)485-6400)

Neighborhood Patrol:

Officer Nicholas Sherry

[\(972\) 205-4024](tel:(972)205-4024)

SherryN@garlandtx.gov

District 5 Councilman:

Margaret Lucht

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