



ORCHARD HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD Quarterly Newsletter

First Quarter 2024

The First Quarter Newsletter is distributed to all houses in the neighborhood. The digital version on the website will contain more pages than the printed version. Go to OHNA.us to see more and renew your OHNA membership.

UPCOMING EVENTS

March

- 12 Board Meeting
- 14 Recycle
- 16 Garden Work Day
- 28 Recycle

April

- 09 Board Meeting
- 11 Recycle
- 13 Garden Work Day
- 18 Annual Meeting
Crime Watch
Meeting
- 25 Recycle

May

- 09 Recycle
- 14 Board Meeting
- 18 Garden Work Day
- 23 Recycle



OHNA ANNUAL MEETING & CRIME WATCH

Speakers include Mayor LeMay, District 5 Councilwoman, Crime Watch, EWS Recycling

April 18th, 6:30pm to 9:00pm (6:00pm meet & greet)
Saturn Road Church of Christ, 3030 Saturn Rd.

Greetings neighbors! I trust your new year is off to a great start. It's time to mark your calendars for the annual crime watch meeting. The meeting will take place on April 18th from 6-9 pm at the Teen Center of Saturn Road Church of Christ, located on the Kingsley side of the building at 3030 Saturn Rd.

The block party in December went well. We got to meet a lot of people in the neighborhood, and we look forward to doing it again this year. I've had a conversation with Officer Sherry, our Neighborhood Police Officer (NPO), who informed me that things are generally going well in our area. There have been a couple of domestic calls and some incidents of porch pirates/mail thefts, but overall, our neighborhood remains safe.

Keep an eye on things—if something doesn't look right, please report it to the police. With your help, we can keep our neighborhood safe. Hope to see everyone at the meeting!

[Jimmy Hooten](#)
OHNA Crime Watch Coordinator



District 5 Update

Greetings and Salutations, OHNA!

I hope everyone had a great holiday season. The return of Garland's Christmas on the Square was a success, with record attendance reaching 21,000 attendees, as captured by cell phone pings.

Upcoming Events:

Independence Day: Join us for celebrations on the square on July 3rd, 2024 from 5:00 pm to 9:30 pm. Instead of fireworks, we'll be presenting a spectacular drone show.

First Fridays: Experience our free concert series every first Friday of the month at various venues including the Square, the Atrium, and the Plaza Theatre. Gary P. Nunn will kick off the First Fridays season on March 1st at 7:00 pm at the Downtown Garland Square. Visit GarlandArts.com for more details.

News Updates:

635 East Construction: Unfortunately, there is no good news here. The completion date is extended to December 2025. The intersection at Garland/Shiloh/635 is very confusing. I've asked for improvements to the signage at the onramp. Please exercise caution when traveling in this area.

Glenbrook/Miller Intersection: Utility work has begun for the addition of dedicated left turn lanes on Miller. Expected completion: December 2024.

Saturn Springs Drainage Project: Thank you for attending the open house and giving comments. This project is on hold while the consultant re-evaluates the design. I will have a neighborhood meeting to discuss the design as soon as the consultant comes back with new plans.



Bob Day Tennis Complex Groundbreaking: On January 12th, Garland broke ground at Tuckerville Park for the future home of the 12-court facility. Amenities include a pro shop, terraced spectator seating, a pavilion, food truck bays, picnic areas, and trails. The Jack Coleman Tennis Center will remain in use until the new facility opens. There are no concrete plans for Jack Coleman yet, but I do foresee the addition of pickleball courts. Staff and I have received multiple requests to keep a few existing tennis courts, so that will be a consideration in future planning for the center.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to me via call, text, or email.

Yours in faithful service,
[Margaret Lucht](#)
District 5 City Councilwoman

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Block Party Review

On Saturday, December 2, 2023, seventy-eight people and two dogs attended the OHNA block party and food drive in the 900 block of Old Orchard Drive. Thank you to the City of Garland for the Capacity Building Grant from the Office of Neighborhood Vitality that helped fund this event.

Toney Smith, our resident DJ, provided fun music to get the party started. Our Neighborhood Police Officer, Nick Sherry, was there to meet everyone and answer safety and crime prevention questions. The Garland Fire Department brought two engines this year for kids of all ages to tour. Our brave firefighters also took on the kids in a lively game of football. The weather was perfect. Kids played with new friends without an electronic device in sight. Adults enjoyed grilled hot dogs by Jim Nearing and hot chocolate by Cle Kimble while visiting, making new connections, and getting questions answered. And everyone went home with a prize to remember the great afternoon they shared with their Orchard Hills neighbors!

We got some good suggestions on the idea board for future neighborhood activities. If you are interested in a dad's club, a book club, or a walking group, please reach out to margi@ohna.us. Your feedback will help gauge interest levels, and additional information will be provided accordingly.

And lastly, a heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated to the food drive. 401 pounds of food and diapers were collected at the red, curbside tent. The donations were delivered to Good Samaritans of Garland on the Monday following the block party.

Article by: [Margi Bice](#)



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Yard of the Season goes to...2701 Fairfax

The charming trees, distinctive houses, and secluded atmosphere of the neighborhood keep people attached to Orchard Hills. These qualities are also what attracts people to Orchard Hills. When Greg Alford found the area in 2019, he bid on one house, lost the bid, and bid on another. In the end, he claimed a 1955 treasure on Fairfax.

The exterior is a crisp gray with white trim. Greg preserved the landscaping, featuring a Chinese maple, nandina, a boxwood hedge stretching along the entire length of the house, and rose bushes lining the white fence. Monkey grass and ivy provide ground cover, and Greg swapped the picket fence for a horizontal board fence.

The backyard, landscaped by the previous owners, features grass and an 8-foot fence (so the dog could play safely without coyotes for company). The backyard has a huge ash, probably as old as the house. Greg added 12 crape myrtles from Home Depot; in the spring, the periwinkles add color. The minimalist yard is lovely throughout the year and easy to maintain, but it truly comes alive in the fall with pumpkins and festive decorations, transforming into a captivating show-place during the Christmas season.

Greg has remodeled the interior, updating the original kitchen and pink bathroom. He takes particular pride in the exterior improvements achieved through the Homeowner's Improvement Project, a matching grant initiative. These include a new driveway, sidewalk, steps, and paint. Greg highly recommends that people apply for the grant, which also covers fences and foundation repair.



Article contributed by
Betty Roberts

OHNA Drainage Program

Thank you to everyone who signed the drainage/sidewalk poll and put signs in their yard concerning the proposed drainage project in our neighborhood. Your voice was heard! The City of Garland took notice and put the current plans on hold to reevaluate. We should know more in approximately 60-90 days.

We are not out of the woods yet. While progress has been made, our efforts are ongoing. If you haven't yet taken the poll or placed a sign, we encourage you to consider doing so. It's crucial to maintain our unity and strength, ensuring the City recognizes our continued commitment to this cause.

Thank you, [Maria King \(maria@ohna.us\)](mailto:maria@ohna.us)



Block Party 2023 Photos



Block Party 2023 Photos



OHNA 3rd Fall Block
PARTY



Membership



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 X. 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

Neighborhood Opportunities



There are opportunities big and small to get engaged in the neighborhood and make a difference.

Please consider serving at any capacity on the OHNA board or on an event committee.

- **Publication Distribution** (help deliver newsletters and flyers to homes in the neighborhood)
- **USA Flag Display** (help put out flags 3x a year)
- **Annual Block Party**
- **Annual Fall Garage Sale**
- **Garden Work Days**
- **Newsletter Articles**
- **Social Media Postings**



There are so many places where you can join in, meet some neighbors and bring about the change you want to see in your neighborhood! We promise you will have fun! Contact us at Volunteer@OHNA.us for more information.





OHNA Board

Co-chairman - Betty Roberts
betty@ohna.us

Co-chairman - Margi Bice
margi@ohna.us

Secretary - Cathy Stark
cathy@ohna.us

Treasurer - Rhonda Spence
rhonda@ohna.us

Member at Large - Cle Kimble
cle@ohna.us

Member at Large - Leslie Cooper
leslie@ohna.us

Member at Large - Open

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

Social Media

Website
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Facebook Page
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X
[@OrchardHillsNe1](https://twitter.com/OrchardHillsNe1)

Get Involved!

There are opportunities big and small to get engaged in the neighborhood. Consider serving in any capacity on the OHNA board or on a committee. Meet your neighbors!

Important Contacts

Garland Non-Emergency
[\(972\) 485-4840](tel:(972)485-4840)

District 5 Councilwoman:
Margaret Lucht
[\(469\) 264-3556](tel:(469)264-3556)
council5@garlandtx.gov

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

Neighborhood Patrol
Officer Nicholas Sherry
[\(972\) 205-4024](tel:(972)205-4024)
sheryn@garland.tx.gov

