



UPCOMING EVENTS

May

- 03 Garden Work Day
- 08 Recycle
- 13 Board Meeting
- 22 Recycle

June

- 05 Recycle
- 10 Board Meeting
- 20 Recycle
- 21 Garden Work Day

July

- 03 Recycle
- 04 Independence Day
- 08 Board Meeting
- 17 Crime Watch
- 17 Recycle
- 26 Garden Work Day
- 31 Recycle

August

- 12 Board Meeting
- 14 Recycle
- 28 Recycle

Recycle Calendar (2025):
https://e.issuu.com/embed.html?d=2025_sanitation_calendar&u=garlandtx

ORCHARD HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD Quarterly Newsletter

Second Quarter 2025

Our neighborhood association is beginning its 25th year! Congratulations to the newly elected 2025–2027 association officers. These dedicated individuals invite you to join them in continuing the legacy of community service and connection that was sparked back in 2001. You will find their contact information in this newsletter. Please reach out to them with any questions or ideas.

Remember to send in your OHNA membership for 2025. Dues are \$20 per household payable at OHNA.us. These much-needed funds support neighborhood events and maintenance of our six landscape beds.

This spring our neighborhood is awash in colorful flowers, some planted decades ago by the original residents of our homes. Take time to get out and enjoy the beauty of your surroundings. I encourage you to meet one new neighbor this month, especially those who live across the street or next door to you, if you do not know them already. You are an important part of the fabric of the Orchard Hills Neighborhood.

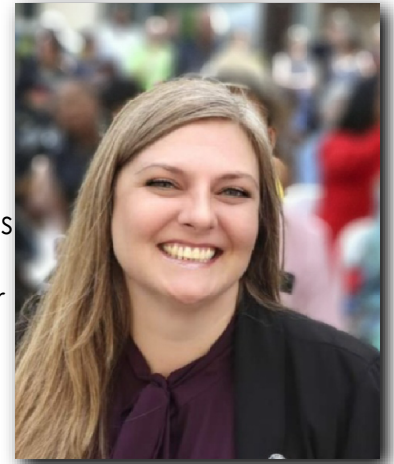
[Margi](#), Co-Chair of OHNA



District 5 Update

Hello, Orchard Hills!

Exciting things are happening around Garland, from summer events to construction projects. The city is moving forward in a positive direction. I've worked for years to improve economic development, and—thanks to the voters—we now have bond proposals that will revitalize key areas of the city, especially District 5. Thank you for the opportunity to represent our District. Feel free to reach out if you have any questions or concerns, or if you just want to chat.



Upcoming Events in Downtown Garland

Red, White & You – Independence Day Celebration

Wednesday, July 3 | 5:00 PM | Downtown Garland Square

Family-friendly event featuring live music, food, games for all ages, and a spectacular fireworks show.

Music Made Here – Concert Series

First Friday of each month | 7:00 PM | Downtown Garland Square

Free live music. For more details: Visit GarlandTX.com

- June 7 – The Band Feel
- July 4 – Rachel Stacy
- August 2 – The Selena Experience

Election Results

2025 Bond Propositions

All bond propositions passed in the May 3rd election, with significant funding earmarked for South Garland. Proposition A focuses on citywide improvements to residential streets, alleys, gateways, and corridors. Proposition B allocates \$75 million for economic development, targeting South Garland, the Medical District, and Harbor Point, including development incentives, land assembly, and revitalization efforts. Proposition C funds renovations to the Granville Arts Center, while Proposition D directs resources to the underutilized Harbor Point area, capitalizing on the potential of the lakefront coastline.

Mayoral Race

Runoff Election Day June 7 | Early Voting May 27 – June 3

Folks, we have a runoff! Council Member Dylan Hedrick is facing off against former Council Member Deborah Morris for Garland's Mayoral seat. Both candidates have websites and contact information available. I encourage you to research both and reach out to them directly. Mayor Scott LeMay has truly left big shoes to fill. He has been an outstanding leader, and it has been an absolute pleasure to serve alongside him.

Projects Around the Neighborhood

Miller/Glenbrook/Saturn

This project is expected to be fully completed by mid-June. The sewer line and main water tie-ins along Miller are finished, along with most of the paving. The final portion of the project involves the Saturn Rd water line and will require multiple concrete pours over several weeks to complete. While it has been a difficult process to endure, we now have dedicated left-turn lanes at Glenbrook and Miller, which has already improved traffic flow and reduced red-light runners.



District 5 Update (continued)

CIP Projects and Expected Completion Dates

- Jon Comer Skatepark Fencing: Q2 2025
- Rick Oden Splash Pad: Q2 2026
- Jack Coleman Tennis Courts Conversion to Pickleball Courts: Q4 2026
- Saturn Springs Estates Drainage Improvements: Q1 2029. Please note that the design has not yet reached 60%. Once it does, residents will be able to schedule one-on-one meetings with staff.

Yours in cheerful service,
Margaret Lucht
Deputy Mayor Pro Tem
District 5 City Council
[469-264-3556](tel:469-264-3556)
Council5@garlandtx.gov



Margaret's VCARD (QR Code)

2025 OHNA Board Members & Neighborhood Crime Watch

Crime Watch: Nancy and Jimmy Hooten



Cathy Stark
Secretary

Leslie Cooper
Member at Large

Maria King
Member at Large

Donna Fielding
Co-chairman

Rhonda Spence
Treasurer

Margi Bice
Co-chairman

Missing from photo: Cle Kimble, Member at Large



Yard of the Season - 2929 Larry Dr.

The 2025 Spring Yard of the Season is 2929 Larry Dr, owned by Salvador and Sulema Hernandez. They have lived here for 50 years! The yard is covered in a beautiful green blanket of St. Augustine grass. Red and yellow hibiscus are in several pots lining the driveway alongside pots of red begonias and geraniums. Pink and white petunias bloom in a three-tiered planter near the front entrance. More pots of petunias in purple and pink sit in front of the boxwoods lining the front of the house. Under a huge, old tree surrounded by a pretty stone border, various plants including yellow tulips, phlox, impatiens and sweet potato vines thrive. More bushes hug the side of the house, and a large birdbath stands in the stone border. If you want to gaze at a peaceful, serene yard, go check it out. Thanks to the Hernandez family for making our neighborhood amazing!

Submitted by [Cathy](#)



To nominate a Yard of the Season, send the physical address
to: yard-of-the-season@ohna.us



Flags

A Proud Tradition: Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association Honors Patriotic Holidays with American Flags.

Every Memorial Day, Independence Day, and Veterans Day, residents of our neighborhood wake up to a stirring sight: a bright American flag standing proudly in front of every home. This heartwarming tradition is made possible by the tireless efforts of our Neighborhood Association, whose members work together to ensure the spirit of patriotism is alive and visible throughout our community.

The project, which has been a cherished tradition for several years, serves as a reminder of the sacrifices made by generations of Americans and the freedoms we enjoy today. Memorial Day honors those who gave their lives in service to the nation. Independence Day celebrates the birth of our country and the ideals of liberty and democracy. Veterans Day pays tribute to all who have served in the armed forces. Displaying the flag on these important days brings neighbors together in a shared expression of respect and gratitude.

Well before each holiday, volunteers from the Association meet to prepare the flags, making sure each one is in good condition and ready for display. Prior to the holiday, teams spread out across the neighborhood, placing a flag at the front of every home. After the day's celebrations, they return to carefully collect the flags for storage and future use.

For many residents, the sight of the flags fluttering in the breeze is a highlight of the year. "It's such a beautiful way to show that we're united, not just as a neighborhood, but as Americans," says one of our longtime residents. "It makes me feel proud and grateful every time I see it."

This tradition also offers an opportunity for new neighbors to get involved and feel a part of the community. Each year, the Association welcomes volunteers of all ages to help place and retrieve the flags, making it a meaningful, shared experience for families and individuals alike. As the stars and stripes line our streets again this year, the Neighborhood Association invites everyone to reflect on the importance of these days—and to take pride in being part of a community that honors them so thoughtfully.



Annual Meeting Review

The Orchard Hills Annual Business Meeting held on Thursday, April 17th at Saturn Road Church of Christ was an absolute triumph! The dynamic Co-Chair of the Orchard Hills Neighborhood Association, Margi Bice, kicked off the event with enthusiasm, turning it into a whirlwind of important information and vibrant community spirit.

Attendees were treated to an action-packed agenda that included the latest updates from our dedicated Councilwoman, Mrs. Margaret Lucht, shining a spotlight on District 5's initiatives. The evening was filled with valuable insights, from vital crime watch and safety tips shared by the knowledgeable Officer Sherry of the Garland Police, to the thrilling opportunity to meet candidates for both the Garland Mayoral and School Board elections. With engaging discussions and the election of neighborhood association board members, it was truly an exhilarating night of connection and community involvement!

Submitted by Cle



Margi



Margaret



Stevie Hogue
District 5 Youth Council



Lesa Murray
Animal Service Officer II

Crime Watch

Hello, everyone! Hope all is well. It was good to see everyone at the meeting and have a chance to meet some of the candidates running for mayor and school board. Officer Sherry was there to let us know what has been happening in the neighborhood. He said that small crimes have picked up some. He also reminded everyone that school will be out soon, meaning more kids will be on the streets. Residents should be sure to lock car doors and take out all valuables, especially firearms. Hope you have a great summer, and see you at the next meeting

[Jimmy](#)

Crime Watch Coordinator



For information on how to become more active in crime prevention in your neighborhood, go to <https://garlandtx.gov/461/Citizens-on-Patrol-COP>



Garden Workday - Spring and Summer 2025

Attention all green thumbs and community enthusiasts! We are excited to announce a series of Neighborhood Garden Workdays this spring and summer. Mark your calendars and join us for some rewarding mornings of gardening, community building, and fresh air!

Dates:

- Saturday, May 3rd
- Saturday, June 21st
- Saturday, July 26th

Start Time: 8:00 AM

Meeting Location: Robert's Rest Stop, located at the northeast corner of Glenbrook and Briarwood.

These workdays are a fantastic opportunity to help beautify our neighborhood, meet neighbors, and make a positive impact. Whether you have a passion for planting, mulching, weeding, or just lending a helping hand, there's a spot for everyone.



Please bring gloves, gardening tools if you have them, and plenty of water. We recommend wearing sun protection and clothes you don't mind getting a little dirty!

Let's come together and make our community spaces shine. See you there!



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Typically blooming after 10 to 15 years, the **whale's tongue agave** sends up a massive flower spike that can reach heights of 14 to 20 feet. This bloom is the plant's final act, as it invests all its energy into flowering and seed production before dying—a process characteristic of monocarpic plants, which flower once and then perish.

Observe the final act at both the NE corner of Glenbrook and Briarwood and at Treasure Island.



A Bit of History

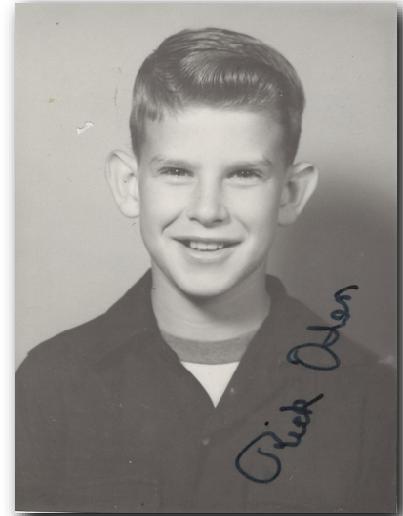


Who Are the Odens — And Why Is There a Park Named After Rick Oden?

The Oden family's story is deeply woven into the history of Garland—a story of community, tragedy, resilience, and service.

The Oden family's journey to Garland began in 1945 when Jack and June Oden moved here from Oklahoma City. Jack, a seismic interpreter with Magnolia Petroleum Company (now part of ExxonMobil), relocated often for work. After years of transfers, the Odens finally planted roots in Garland when Jack was assigned to the company's Dallas headquarters in the early 1950s, meaning—at least temporarily—an end to the constant moving.

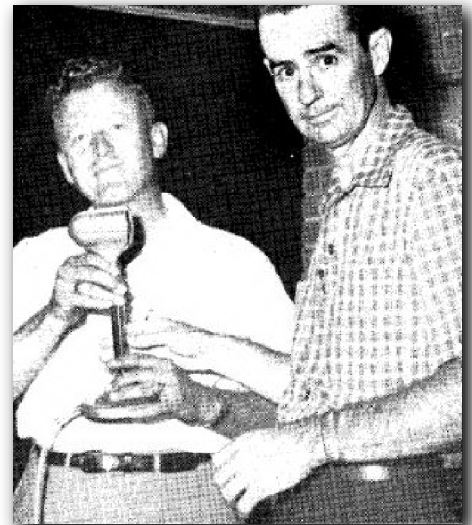
Rick Oden, their son, was born on January 5, 1945. A bright, athletic boy, he quickly became a part of Garland's budding Little League baseball scene. Rick started playing Little League in 1952 at the age of seven, the year after Garland's Little League was founded. He became a standout first baseman for the Temco team, showcasing both skill and passion for the sport.



But on a hot summer night, June 29, 1956, at Cole Park (near Miller Road), tragedy struck. During a Little League game between Temco and Garland Shopping Center, Rick was at bat when he was hit by a pitched ball on the back of his neck, just below his helmet. Despite immediate medical attention and hospitalization, Rick succumbed to his injuries two days later, on July 1, 1956. He was only 11 years old.

Rick's passing sent shockwaves through Garland and beyond. It was believed to be the first death of a Little League player in the United States due to an on-field injury. The community rallied around the Odens, mourning a vibrant young life cut tragically short.

In honor of Rick's memory, the City of Garland renamed Cole Park to **Rick Oden Park** a year after the accident. On July 19, 1957, a heartfelt ceremony was held where Jack and June Oden accepted a plaque memorializing their son. Jim Osborn, then baseball commissioner of Garland Little League, noted, "Rick Oden Field is a living memorial for a boy who loved baseball; it's a name all of us are proud of."



Rick Oden Park eventually grew into one of Garland's largest and most beloved parks. Today, it spans nearly 37 acres, offering a baseball field, a playground, picnic areas, and the Jack Coleman Tennis Center. Thanks to the 2019 Bond Program, the park is undergoing major upgrades, including a new regional playground, a skatepark, and significant infrastructure improvements.

Continued on next page...

A Bit of History...continued

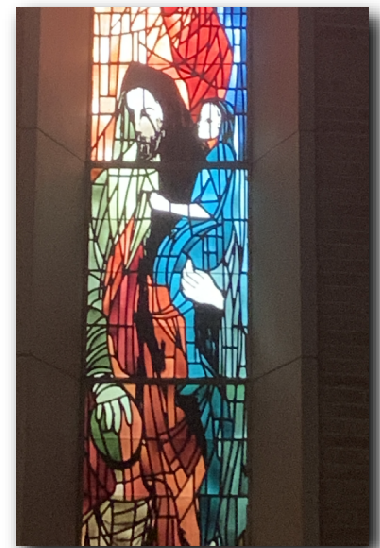
The Odens' story didn't end with Rick's death. Life carried them on a winding path—after Garland, the family moved to Oklahoma City, then Casper, Wyoming, and finally Shreveport, Louisiana, where Jack passed away in 1967 from a brain tumor.

June Oden, a dedicated nurse, returned to Garland, resumed work with the Garland Independent School District, and later answered a different kind of calling: at the age of 59, she joined the Peace Corps, serving in Colombia and Liberia. She remarried later in life and moved to Tulsa, but after her second husband's passing, she came back home to Garland, where she remained active in her church and community until her death in 2006.

A stained-glass window at Garland's First United Methodist Church memorializes Rick Oden, depicting "Let the Little Children Come." Both Jack and Rick Oden are buried at Restland Cemetery, marking a resting place for a family whose history is forever intertwined with the story of Garland itself.

John Oden, Rick's younger brother, carried forward the family's legacy of service and excellence. He graduated from Louisiana State University and earned an advanced degree at Duke University. John pursued a career in hospital administration, managing the construction of major medical facilities across California in cities like San Diego, Los Angeles, and Ventura. Now retired, John lives in Altadena, California, with his husband, Mark. Their home narrowly survived the devastating Eaton Canyon wildfire—another testament to the Oden family's enduring resilience.

Today, Rick Oden Park remains a vital part of Garland, a living tribute to Rick, June, Jack, and John—a family whose story continues to inspire.

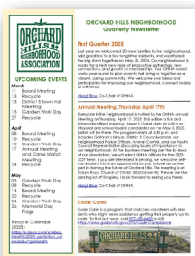


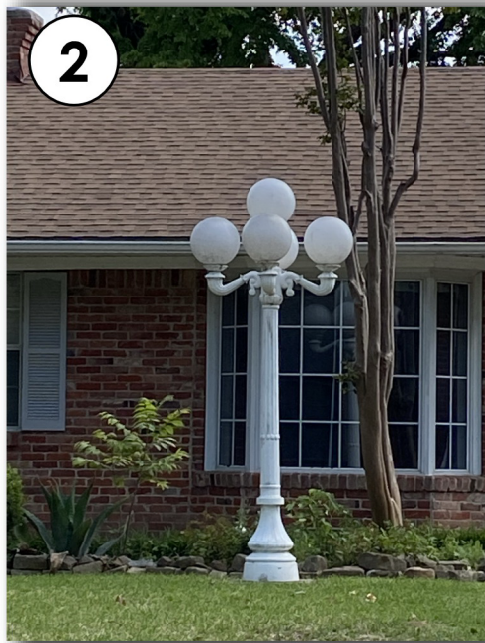
Thank You to our volunteers

A team of nineteen volunteers wrote, edited, printed and delivered the first newsletter of 2025 to each and every home in the neighborhood.

Thank you to: Todd Alexander, Greg Alford, Hillary Arrieta, Vickie Askew, Margi Bice, Ray Bond, Leslie Cooper, Donna Fielding, Theresa Hernandez, Cle Kimble, Maria King, Nancy Mendoza, Jim Nearing, Jon & Clarice Segala, Rhonda Spence, Cathy Stark, Susan Thompson, and Mollie Wright. Your contributions are very much appreciated!

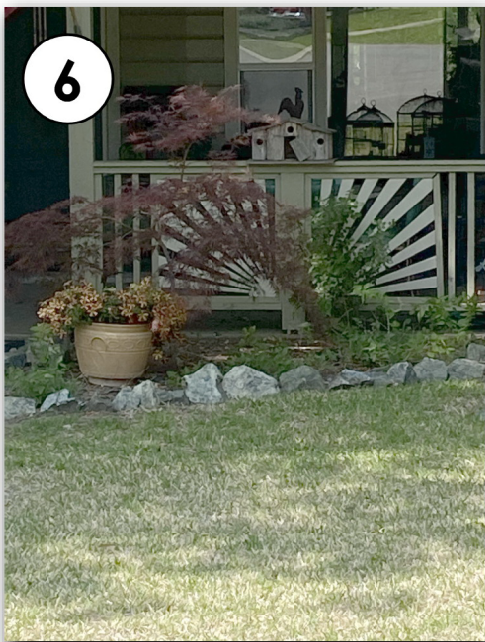
Article contributed by [Margi](#)





Get out and explore our neighborhood!

Please Note:
All items are visible from the sidewalk/street.
There will be no need to go on any property.





Where is Leo
the lion
today?

Need a hint?:



<https://www.ohna.us/wordpress/scavenger-hunt/>

4th Quarter Scavenger Hunt Answers



- 1 916 Ashwood Dr.
- 2 905 Saturn Springs Dr.
- 3 1341 Kynn Dr.
- 4 2602 S. Glenbrook Dr.
- 5 2917 Charles Dr.
- 6 2828 Saturn Rd.
- 7 3012 Daniel Dr.
- 8 2428 S. Glenbrook Dr.
- 9 2828 S. Glenbrook Dr.

Notes

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Kingsley Rd.

Duck Creek

Submitted by [Rhonda](#) and Samantha

Neighborhood Opportunities



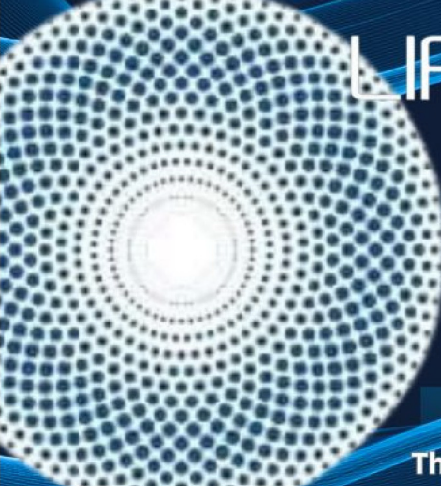
There are opportunities big and small to get engaged in the neighborhood and make a difference.

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.



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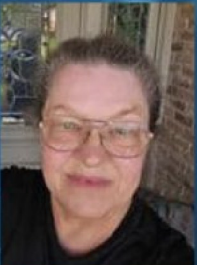
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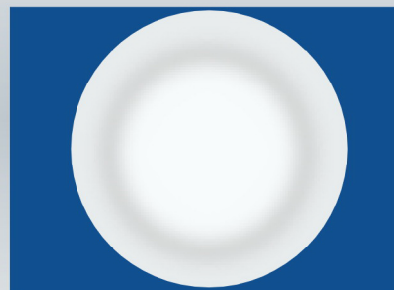
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donna@ohna.us

Co-charman - 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 - Maria King
maria@ohna.us

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)
sherryn@garlandtx.gov

Social Media

Website
ohna.us

Facebook Page
facebook.com/groups/ohna

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



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