



Upcoming Events

March

- 10 Board Meeting
- 12 Recycle
- 21 Garden Workday
- 26 Recycle

April

- 02 Town Hall Meeting
- 09 Recycle
- 14 Board Meeting
- 16 Annual Meeting
- 16 Crime Watch
- 18 Garden Workday
- 23 Recycle

May

- 07 Recycle
- 12 Board Meeting
- 21 Recycle
- 23 Garden Workday
- 25 Memorial Day Flags

Events on Website:

<https://www.ohna.us/wordpress/events/>

Social Media

Website: [ohna.us](https://www.ohna.us)

Facebook: [facebook.com/groups/ohna](https://www.facebook.com/groups/ohna)

X: @OrchardHillsNe1

ORCHARD HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD Quarterly Newsletter

First Quarter 2026

What are you doing to build YOUR neighborhood?

At all our OHNA meetings, we ask the question "Who is in need of assistance?" I encourage you to ask this of yourself. You probably know someone who could use assistance, and you have a talent, a service, a contact, an idea, or a resource to reach out and lend a hand.

This month, a good neighbor planted bulbs for a woman who was physically unable; one of our teenagers took it upon himself to rake leaves for an elderly neighbor; another good neighbor offered to repair the pull-chain on a widow's favorite lamp; another community member looked after the mail while their neighbor was away.

"You can do it, too!" B. Roberts

[Maria C. King](#), OHNA Member at Large

OHNA Annual Meeting and Crime Watch

Thursday, April 16, 2026

Saturn Road Church of Christ, 3030 Saturn Rd

6:30 - 7:00 p.m. Meet-n-Greet

7:00 - 8:45 p.m. Meeting & Speakers

Come and celebrate our 25th anniversary! Meet your neighbors and get valuable information from our outstanding lineup of speakers:

- Mayor Dylan Hedrick
- Mayor Pro Tem & District 5 Council Rep. Margaret Lucht
- Neighborhood Police Officer Nick Sherry
- Cyber security expert Jennifer Duman
- Director of Engineering, Saturn Springs Drainage Improvements Project, Mike Polocek

Garden Workdays

Neighborhood flower garden workdays are scheduled for Saturday February 28th, March 21st, April 18th, and May 23rd, and they offer a great opportunity to come together and help our community bloom.

We meet at 8:00 a.m. at Robert's rest stop at Briarwood and Glenbrook and work until noon (or until we are tired).

District 5 Update

Hello, Orchard Hills Neighbors!

Please join me for a District 5 Town Hall on Thursday, April 2 at 6:00 p.m. at the South Garland Library. I will share updates on my priorities along with a look ahead to topics expected to be front and center this year. I will also introduce you to our new City Manager, Mr. Mike Betz.

Public Safety

Public safety continues to guide many of the decisions before Council. In addition to ongoing support for police, fire, and emergency response services, I am serving on an EMS Committee reviewing the feasibility of a 24/72 work schedule for Garland firefighters. This review includes evaluating operational impacts, cost considerations, recruitment and retention implications, and potential timelines. Our goal is to ensure Garland remains competitive while maintaining high standards of service, fiscal responsibility, and, above all, firefighter safety and well-being.

Economic (Re)Development

Economic development and redevelopment remain critical to Garland's long-term stability. We are advancing several focused initiatives, including the CZB Housing Study, which identifies targeted revitalization strategies for specific neighborhoods; the Economic Redevelopment Strategic Plan, designed to attract quality projects and encourage reinvestment; and Garland Forward, a comprehensive reconstruction of the Garland Development Code. Thoughtful (re)development supports sustainable growth, improves neighborhoods, and attracts the commercial and retail opportunities our community deserves.

Aesthetic Improvement Programs

Aesthetic improvement programs, including public art, gateway and corridor improvements, and proactive code and parking enforcement, remain priority initiatives for District 5. These efforts enhance quality of life, shape how our surroundings look, and reflect the standards we expect.

Tax Rate Swap and Drop

Because of SB2 limitations set by the Texas Legislature, cities are restricted in how much operational revenue can grow each year without voter approval. As property values increase, the operations and maintenance portion of Garland's tax rate is compressed even as costs for police, fire, streets, parks, and other services continue to rise. Long-term financial planning requires swapping the debt service and operations rates while lowering the overall tax rate. We will discuss what this means, why it is necessary, and how it affects property taxes and the city's budget.

These discussions help me understand your priorities and ensure you have clear, accurate information and the opportunity to ask questions and share feedback. As always, please feel free to reach out if you have questions, concerns, or just want to chat.

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



Yard of the Season - 2944 Larry Drive

Ruben Garcia lived near the Orchard Hills area for most of his life. So, naturally, when he and wife Ana Bertha decided to look for a home for their own family, they wanted to stay near where Ruben had grown up. They looked for a calm and quiet place and discovered our own Orchard Hills Neighborhood. For the past 20 years, they decided to call this place home and raise their four children here-Jesus, Diana, Ruben and Fatima, now all grown up.

No matter the season, Ruben's yard is full of color...even in the winter. Ruben is a landscaper by trade. In April and May, his flower beds are lined with yellow and purple tulips, herbs, and his favorite perennial, hibiscus. His grass is always well-groomed and vibrantly green. The wintry mix hit just in time to settle a white blanket of snow (atop ice) providing a nice backdrop for Ruben's colorful pansies. His peach, pear, and walnut trees produce in their seasons. In spring, his family savors jalapenos, strawberries, and vegetables from their garden.



See more photos at <https://www.ohna.us>

What he enjoys most about landscaping is that it connects him with nature. His tips for keeping a garden and lawn nice? Use specific fertilizer and lots of water to keep it green. Ruben's yard is a testimony to what a little TLC and color can do to transform a yard.

Submitted by [Donna](#) and [Maria](#)

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

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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 916 Old Orchard Rd., Garland, TX 75047-2685. or join/renew at join.ohna.us with credit card

Crime Watch

Hello, neighbors and friends!

As I write this letter, it's snowy, icy, and cold! I hope everyone is staying warm and toasty!

At our last meeting, Officer Sherry said everything was ok, just a couple of incidents of package theft and belongings taken from unlocked cars. He said the task force of officers looking for fireworks and gun shots the night of New Year's Eve was overwhelmed with calls. They are trying their best to find a way to locate any offenders. We also had a speaker at our last meeting talking about cybertheft and some ways to help prevent it. Be careful where and with whom you share information. If you are not sure of any messaging, be sure and research the person and company they are representing.

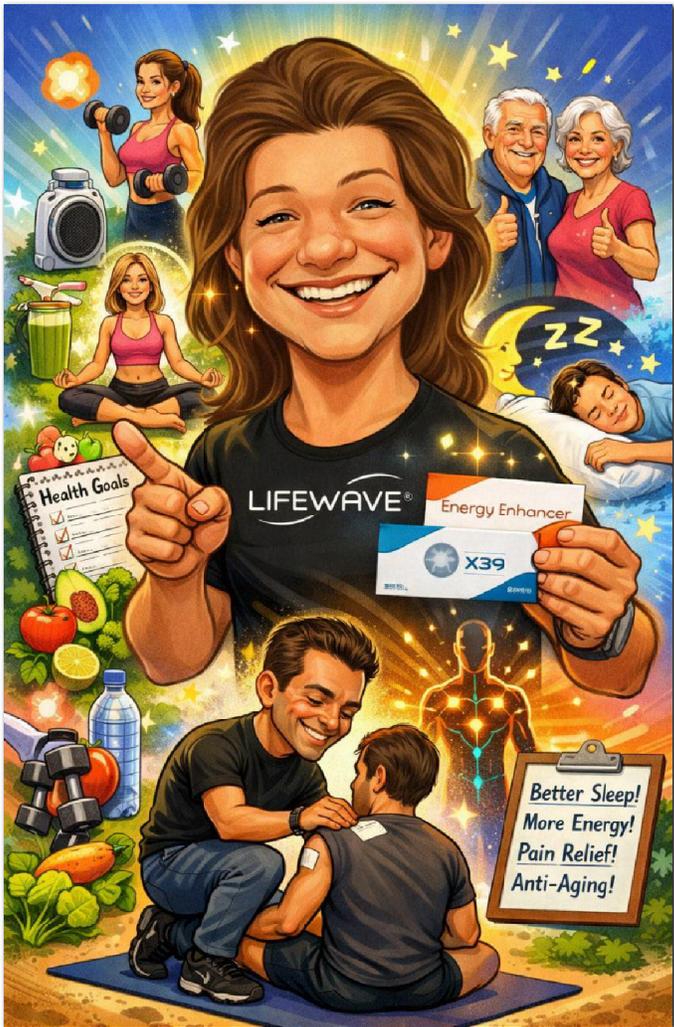
Stay safe and be aware of your surroundings at all times. Hope to see everyone at our next meeting on April 16th.

Jimmy
Crime Watch Coordinator



OHNA Annual Meeting

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Did you know:
At age 35 - 50% of your body's stem cells go dormant, and by age 60 - 90%?. Wake up your own stem cells with a non-transdermal patch and regain quality of life with Life Technology

Susan Roter - [945-241-5565](tel:945-241-5565)
sroter76@yahoo.com
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Wearable Light Technology



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