



JANUARY 2023

News from the Hills

Published by the Eastern Hills Neighborhood Association • Fort Worth, Texas

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the
future
is BRIGHT
in
2023



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& BEREAVEMENT**
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Nichelle Lang

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



EHNA Meeting/Board Election

Tuesday, January 17, 2023 @ 6:30 PM
Eastern Hills High School

125th Fort Worth Stock Show & Rodeo

January 13 – February 4, 2023
Will Rogers Memorial Center- Coliseum
www.fwssr.com

Martin Luther King Day

January 16, 2023

EH Wine Night

January 19, 2023 — 6 PM - 8:30 PM
1509 Dandciger Dr.

Eastern Hills Bulk Waste Collection Week

Monday, February 13, 2023
Place items at the curb by 7AM Monday

Happy Valentine's Day — Love to All!

February 14, 2023

Cowtown Marathon & Running Events

February 24-26, 2023
cowtownmarathon.org

Eastern Hills Neighborhood Garage Sale

Get Ready for Your Spring Cleaning
Friday, May 5 & Saturday, May 6, 2023
(More details in April)



from Julie West

PRESIDENT, EASTERN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

Dear Fellow Neighbors and Friends,

A very happy and healthy new year to all of you. I hope everyone enjoyed a lovely holiday season surrounded by those you love and hold dear. I am looking forward to a year full of incredible events we have planned for Eastern Hills in 2023. I encourage you to attend our monthly general meeting held in the Eastern Hills High School cafeteria. It will be Tuesday, January 17th. At this meeting we will hold elections for Board positions as well as renewing memberships to our association. I hope you decide to get involved with our neighborhood association and make your voice heard. I feel certain there are lots of neighbors who can contribute with time, talent and treasure and, we want to meet you! If you have any questions or feedback for our neighborhood, please reach out to any board member.

Check out upcoming events and all the interesting articles in this newsletter. Perhaps I will see you at our first Wine Night of the year or one of the many upcoming events. I hope your 2023 is off to a great start and thank you all for being the best part of our neighborhood.

— Creatively, Julie West

Eastern Hills Neighborhood Association Comparative Profit & Loss Twelve Months Ended December 31, 2022 and 2021				
Income	Jan-Dec 2022	Jan-Dec 2021	\$ Change	
Advertising	\$ 560.00	\$ 650.00	(90.00)	
Membership dues	1,544.84	1,621.52	(76.68)	
Plant sale	542.84	709.00	(166.16)	
T-Shirt rebates	-	136.50	(136.50)	
Book Drive donation	-	300.00	(300.00)	
Cash Received-July 4th Parade	56.00	-	56.00	
Cash received-Fall Festival	-	115.00	(115.00)	
Cash received-Holiday party	-	133.00	(133.00)	
Cash received-meetings	36.00	26.00	10.00	
Total Income	2,739.68	3,691.02	(951.34)	
Expense				
Printing-Kwik Print	149.75	259.30	(109.55)	
Printing-Speedpro	238.15	-	238.15	
Printing-Printplace	153.17	125.25	27.92	
Donations	-	100.00	(100.00)	
Dues	-	35.00	(35.00)	
Meeting expense	-	236.40	(236.40)	
PO Box 1 YR Renewal	182.00	-	182.00	
Rent expense	100.00	146.00	(46.00)	
Square Reader	10.80	-	10.80	
Website expense	-	129.90	(129.90)	
Zoom Acct Renewal	116.46	-	116.46	
Potluck Dinner	123.66	-	123.66	
July 4th parade/picnic	146.06	125.25	20.81	
National Night Out	44.82	24.87	19.95	
Fall Festival	268.47	197.96	70.51	
Holiday party	369.60	295.10	74.50	
Total expense	1,902.94	1,675.03	226.91	
Net operating income	836.74	2,015.99	(1,179.25)	
Other Income (Expense)				
Interest Income	10.26	23.17	(12.91)	
Cash received-Wine Nights	15.00	-	15.00	
Net Other Income (Expense)	25.26	23.17	2.09	
Net Income	\$ 862.00	\$ 2,039.16	\$ (1,177.16)	
Cash in Bank				
Wells Fargo Checking	\$ 8,893.20	\$ 8,273.25	619.95	
CD Pinnacle	7,482.68	7,464.93	17.75	
Total cash in bank	\$ 16,375.88	\$ 15,738.18	\$ 637.70	



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ELECTION TIME AGAIN!!!

The "Election of Officers" will be the program for the **Tuesday, January 17, 2023** general assembly meeting.

THE PROPOSED SLATE FOR 2023 IS:

- President:** Julie West
- Vice President:** Barbara Boyett
- Secretary:** Crystal Thomas
- Treasurer:** Barbara Ragsdale
- Parliamentarian:** Diane Wahl

NOMINATION COMMITTEE:

Cynthia Brink Fenny is the chairperson for the election nominating committee. Cynthia is currently accepting nominations for all officer positions, as per the By-Laws.

If any member would like to run or nominate others, please contact Cynthia @ 214-394-3001 or email her at brinkassociates@gmail.com

Election & Voting Information:

As a reminder, only members of the Eastern Hills Neighborhood Association will be eligible to vote. Only 1 vote per address.

Membership registration will be accepted between now and the January meeting. Memberships will also be accepted at the January 17th meeting. All payments must be accompanied with an application. Please complete the membership application prior to the meeting to assist the process.

Membership applications are located on the back cover of this newsletter. You can also visit our website for online payments: www.EasternHillsFortWorth.com

NOTE: *If joining online, please bring your printed receipt to the meeting.*

2023 Spring Plant Sale



ATTENTION NEIGHBORS!

This spring we will host our **3rd Annual Eastern Hill Neighborhood Plant Sale!**

The plant sale was a great fundraiser the past two years, as well as an excellent chance to meet and mingle with your neighbors.

Start Thinking Now!

Do you have any plants that need to be split?

Do you have seeds that you can plant now and donate the seedlings?

Do you have extra seeds?

All of donations are welcome!

Also, we will be accepting any garden related crafts too!! Be creative!

More Information Coming Next Month!

Stay Close to People Who Feel Like Sunshine

EHNA BYLAWS REVISIONS

At the January 2023 meeting the EHNA Membership will be asked to approve the revisions. The revised Bylaws will be presented for review, discussion and then a vote. Any changes or amendments to the Bylaws will only be accepted by a two-thirds vote of the current membership present at that meeting.

The revised Bylaws may be viewed at:
www.easternhillsfortworth.com/bylaws.html

Please review the document prior to the January meeting. If you have questions, feel free to contact our Parliamentarian.

Diane Wahl
EHHA Parliamentarian
dianewahl@yahoo.com

WINE NIGHT

The Eastern Hills Wine Night will be gathering for sipping, eating and mingling with friends and neighbors.

Thursday, January 19, 2023
6:00 PM - 8:30 PM
@ 1509 Danciger Drive
Host: Arturo Alvarez

Please bring a light snack/appetizer and a bottle of wine.

Would you like to host a Wine Night?
Contact: Nichelle Lang • 214-868-4741



Residential Portal and Mobile App are Available

The wait is over! Residential customers now have water use data available at their fingertips. It is not real time data, but just a day behind. Go online or download the app to:

- Access previous day's water use data in hourly increments
- Set alerts and notifications about water use
- Detect continuous water flow, indicating a possible leak
- Pay your water bill and access payment and billing history

PROGRAM OVERVIEW

MyH2O is a City of Fort Worth program that brings advanced technology to the water utility and its customers. Fort Worth is embracing these new tools for their efficiencies and business innovations.

The implementation phase of the program for most customers is complete, and customers can now enjoy the benefits. All customers received water meters equipped with a digital-read display and radio transmitter. The meter lids hold the radio transmission unit, which sends water usage data via a secure fixed wireless network to the utility. This eliminates the need for crews to read water meters, resulting in reduced billing errors.

Register For MyH2O Portal:
<https://fwmyh2o.smartcmobile.com/portal/>

Do You Know Where You Live, Ecologically Speaking?

by Dee Cloud

As an educator, I've always found school names interesting. Eastern Hills, Western Hills and Cross Timbers are three of my favorite school names as they are descriptive of their locations. In fact, these school names provide information regarding their respective ecoregions.

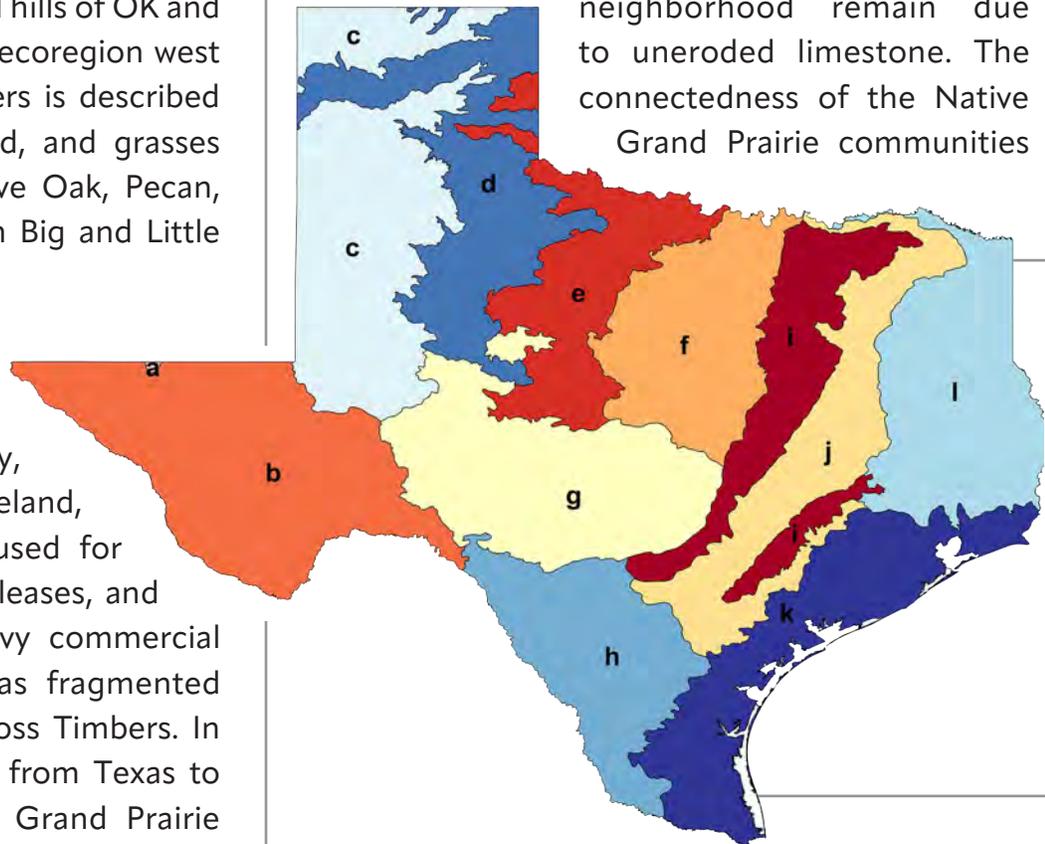
The state of Texas contains twelve ecoregions, <https://gaftp.epa.gov>. Each ecoregion has specific characteristics regarding geology, soil type, climate, vegetation, land use, and pre-settlement conditions.

Fort Worth can be described by two subregions within the twelve ecoregions; The Western Cross Timbers (a subregion of Cross Timbers) and The Grand Prairie (a subregion of the Blackland Prairie). The Western Cross Timbers is a transitional area found between the Great Plains and the deciduous forested hills of OK and TX. In Fort Worth, this is a small ecoregion west of 35. The Western Cross Timbers is described as a mosaic of forest, woodland, and grasses with dominant species being Live Oak, Pecan, Sycamore, Virginia creeper, both Big and Little Bluestem, and Side-Oats Grama.

The Western Cross Timbers has an underlying layer of Sandstone with rolling plains. Historically, this region was used for pastureland, not farming, and is currently used for oil and gas production, hunting leases, and pastureland. Unfortunately, heavy commercial and residential development has fragmented the once thick oak forest of Cross Timbers. In contrast, the Grand Prairie runs from Texas to Kansas. Before settlement, the Grand Prairie

contained grasses, wildflowers and few trees. Trees found in the Grand Prairie historically grew in low lying areas where sediment was deposited or the underlying limestone bedrock eroded. Grand Prairie trees include Oak, Elm, Pecan, and Hackberry. The Grand Prairie is characterized by shallow soils due to an underbed of limestone. Soils are a mixture of sand (silica from quartz), clay, and weathered limestone, which contains calcium carbonate.

Our neighborhood is in the Grand Prairie! Once home to black bears, ocelots, and bison, the Grand Prairie has roots in pastureland (early 1900's) and more recently farming, with corn, hay and wheat as the main crops. Historically, the Grand Prairie has also been an ecoregion containing a few successful dairy farms. The rolling hills that are characteristic of our neighborhood remain due to uneroded limestone. The connectedness of the Native Grand Prairie communities



GARDENING IN JANUARY



has been fragmented due to extensive commercial and residential development. There are a few remnant prairies, think Tandy Hills and LBJ Grasslands, that can be explored. In these remnant prairies one will find native plants such as Big and Little Bluestem, Clover, Black-eyed Susan, and Antelope Milkweed. Learn more about our ecoregion by exploring the sources below!

REFERENCES:

Environmental Protection Agency, Ecoregions by State <https://epa.gov>

National Plant Society of Texas Class on Native Grasslands Participant Guidebook: Class taken on 10/08/22 and 10/09/2022.

Texas Parks and Wildlife Ecoregions: <https://tpwd.texas.gov/education/hunter-education/online-course/wildlife-conservation/texas-ecoregions>

Tandy Hills Natural Area: <https://tandyhills.org>

LBJ Grassland Prairie: <https://www.fs.usda.gov>

- A Arizona/New Mexico Mountains
- B Chihuahuan Deserts
- C High Plains
- D Southwestern Tablelands
- E Central Great Plains
- F Cross Timbers
- G Edwards Plateau
- H Southern Texas Plains
- I Texas Blackland Prairies
- J Eastern Central Texas Plains
- K Western Gulf Coastal Plain
- L South Central Plains

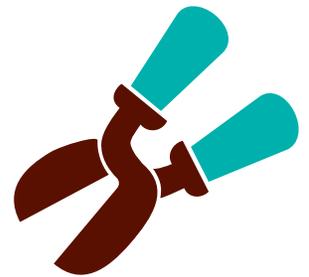
January is a month when several critical tasks must be accounted for in the landscape and garden. Here are a few:

PLANT

- Dig and relocate any trees and shrubs you need to move during the winter. They are dormant now, best able to establish new roots before the growing season arrives.
- Fruit trees, vines and bushes. Find a list of varieties recommended by Texas A&M for your part of Texas and buy accordingly. Local independent retail garden centers are much more likely to have the best types than national "box" stores. Womack's Nursery in DeLeon TX is an outstanding mail order source for both home garden and orchard needs.
- North Texas plantings should be made in the next 3-4 weeks.
- Cool-season annuals, including pansies, violas, pinks and snapdragons in Central and North Texas.

PRUNE

- Dead and damaged branches from trees and shrubs, including limbs killed by the extreme cold 22 months ago and any growth frozen two weeks ago. For the latter, however, scratch bark to be sure it's brittle and dry, not moist and green. It may be that only the foliage was damaged.
- Summer-flowering shrubs and vines, but do so cautiously. Over-pruning can reduce bud production dramatically. Do not "top" crape



[Continued on Page 10]

Why A Neighborhood Association?

Neighborhood associations are voluntarily organized groups of residents who work together to create a unified voice, enhance living conditions in their neighborhood, and address neighborhood concerns. Neighborhood associations can hold block parties, neighborhood events or provide advice to local government. Neighborhood associations can take various forms such as grassroots neighborhood organizations, civic associations, or city-sanctioned governing structures: they are different from homeowners' associations in that homeowners' associations impose mandatory membership and dues on groups of property owners, whereas neighborhood associations do not.

Expected Beneficial Outcomes

- *Increased social capital*
- *Increased social cohesion*

Other Beneficial Outcomes

- *Increased community involvement*

Evidence of Effectiveness

Neighborhood associations are a suggested strategy to increase social capital and social cohesion in communities. Available evidence suggests that involvement in neighborhood associations and meetings may be associated with residents' increased socializing and cooperation with neighbors along with positive perceptions of neighborhood norms and values. Neighborhood associations also appear to be associated with increased communication and community activities, and higher neighborhood satisfaction among residents

Among individuals participating in neighborhood associations, those who are most active report the highest levels of social capital. Participants who spend face-to-face time and develop interpersonal relationships with other group

members may be more likely to continue their participation than those who do not.

Also, available evidence suggests that living in areas with active neighborhood associations may be associated with increased property values.

WHY SHOULD I JOIN THE EASTERN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION?

Why not!? If you live or own a business in our great neighborhood, it is likely because the community, location, events, or spirit enticed you! Joining the neighborhood association is a great way to connect with neighbors, stay informed with our award-winning newsletter, and contribute to your community. We need you, your presence, your input and your passion. Becoming a member does not require any further commitment, but it does open up opportunities to get involved and to be more engaged in your community, and your membership fees help us put on social events and fund neighborhood beautification projects.



WHAT DOES MEMBERSHIP PROVIDE?

- *A FORUM for what's happening in the neighborhood.*
- *A MEANS for a cleaner and safer Eastern Hills.*
- *A MECHANISM to connect with city government.*
- *A GATEWAY to connect with neighbors.*
- *AN OPPORTUNITY to protect & improve property values.*
- *A WAY to make the neighborhood an interesting and fun place to live.*
- *A Monthly newsletter, filled with useful information, delivered digitally.*

7 Simple Exercises You Can Do At Home

It's no secret that exercise is good for you. But it's not always easy to know where to begin — or how to avoid injury-causing exercise mistakes.

One great way to stay active and help prevent pain and injury is with functional fitness — or simple exercises that use many muscle groups at once.

WHAT MAKES FUNCTIONAL FITNESS SPECIAL

While exercises like weightlifting and cardio target specific health needs, functional fitness is meant to reduce your chance of injury while doing everyday things. Functional fitness helps you stay strong and flexible as you go about your life. Simply put: It's about preparing your body for everyday life.

Like most exercise, functional fitness is good for your mental health too and it works well for all ages.

7 SIMPLE FUNCTIONAL FITNESS EXERCISES

You may be familiar with most functional fitness exercises, which are easy to do at home and usually require little to no equipment. Some examples include:

1. **SQUATS** for your legs, stomach, and lower back.
2. **LUNGES** for your upper legs and glutes.
3. **PLANKS** for your core, back, and shoulders.
4. **PUSH-UPS** for your chest, shoulders, triceps, and core.
5. **Pull-ups** for your biceps, triceps, forearms, wrists, shoulders, and core.
6. **SHOULDER PRESSES** for your core, shoulders, and back. Tip: To help prevent injury, try sand-filled weights not dumbbells.
7. **STACKERS** for your whole body. Not familiar

with stackers? Here's what to do:

- Stand with your feet a little more than shoulder's width apart and pretend to hold a basketball straight out in front of you.
- Bend at the waist to reach and tap the outside of your left heel.
- Then reach back up and across your body to the right, as if you're stacking a box on a shelf right above your shoulder.
- As you twist across your body, your left heel may come off the ground as you pivot your hips to the right.

Whichever exercises you do, remember that form is key. If you're working out at home, you can always search online for videos and step-by-step graphics that show how to do these exercises correctly. Make sure to go with a source you trust, and if something hurts, always stop and find help.

TIPS FOR A SUCCESSFUL FITNESS ROUTINE

Warm up and cool down — Start with a warmup to get your heart pumping blood to your muscles. Some jogging in place and light stretching are great ways to get your body ready. After your workout, go for a walk and do more light stretching or yoga to help your body cool down."

Pay attention to posture — To prevent injury, keep your back straight and avoid hunching your shoulders or straining your neck.

Mix it up — Variety is key. Mix and match exercises each day to keep your workout fresh and give different muscles time to rest.

Know your limits — Check with your doctor before you start your new training program so you can discuss your needs. Everyone is different, so take it slow and listen to your body as you create a workout that works well for you.



Get Well

to Mary Jane McNeeley
wishing you a healthy recover.

Thank You

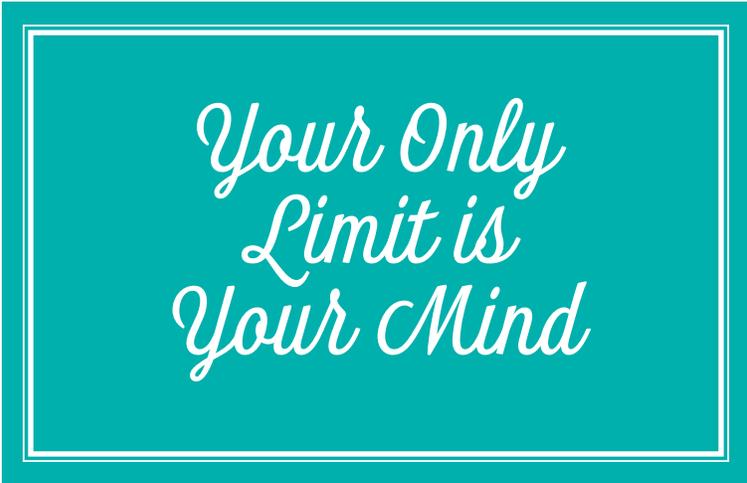
to all the 2022 EHNA Officers
for your time and commitment to our
Eastern Hills community.

Congratulations

To the Masons
on the new additions to their family.

What A Year!

The TCU Frogs were Amazing!
Thank you for allowing the rest of
us to watch your journey and wear
purple with pride.



*Your Only
Limit is
Your Mind*

GARDENING IN JANUARY [cont.]

myrtles. It is not a way to reduce their height because they will merely grow back. And it does not improve their blooming – in fact, it delays and diminishes flower production.

- Evergreens to reshape, but avoid formal shearing. Hand shears and loppers give the most natural-looking results.
- This is the time to reduce the height and width of evergreen shrubs if needed, but do so one branch at a time. Prune so that remaining branches will conceal the cuts. You can probably reduce their size by 30 to 35 percent, but try not to do this very often or plants will quickly lose vigor.
- Grapes to remove 80-85 percent of the cane growth. Without this pruning the vines will over-produce and fruit quality will be poor. Maintain the vines on their scaffold wires.
- Peach and plum trees to establish strong scaffold branching 24 to 30 inches from the ground. Remove all strongly vertical shoots each winter.

FERTILIZE

- Liquid root stimulator to newly transplanted trees and shrubs monthly for first year they are in their new homes.
- Asparagus beds in South Texas with all-nitrogen fertilizer in next 10 days. Wait until late January in Central and North Texas.
- Pansies, pinks and other winter annuals with a water-soluble plant food each time that you water them.
-



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817-475-2939

barbara@austinrealtyconsultants.com

In my many years of selling real estate, I have sold over 70 homes in Eastern Hills! Actually I have sold some of those homes multiple times! I have chosen to live in this great neighborhood because of the beautiful trees, large lots, location, custom homes and of course, the wonderful neighbors! I believe we are one of the most desirable areas in which to live! I will be posting articles with information to help you understand where the real estate market is going and also suggestions to help you when and if you decide to move.

I am very knowledgeable about this area and can help you market your home. Also having worked in the DFW Metroplex for 38 years, I can help you find your next home, wherever that may be! For any questions about value, what to do to get your home ready to sell or for financing questions, I am as close as your phone! I look forward to your call.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

CODE COMPLIANCE: IBN ABDUL-RAHMAN, East District
C: 682.444.6214
e-mail: ibn.Abdul-rahman@fortworthtexas.gov

CITY COUNCIL MEMBER: ALAN BLAYLOCK, District 4
O: 817-392-8804 FAX 817-392-6187
e-mail: District4@fortworthgov.org

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT:
Hazel Harvey Peace Center for Neighborhoods
O: 817-392-6201 e-mail: engagement@fortworthgov.org

MAYOR OF FORT WORTH: MATTIE PARKER,
O: 817-392-6118 FAX 817-392-6187
e-mail: mattie.parker@fortworthgov.org

FWISD TRUSTEE: TOBI JACKSON, District 2
O: 817-457-7816 e-mail: tobi.jackson@fwisd.com

CODE BLUE CAPTAIN: ROGER WOERNER
T: 817-319-4215 e-mail: rosswo2@swbell.net

ADVERTISING RATES

Business Card:	\$10 per month	• \$100 per yr
1/4 Page:	\$25 per month	• \$250 per yr
1/2 Page:	\$50 per month	• \$500 per yr
Full Page:	\$100 per month	• \$1,000 per yr

Paid advertisements may be submitted to mcwattigney@gmail.com.

Ad payments should be sent by mail to:
PO Box 8294, Fort Worth, TX 76124-0294

Checks are made payable to: EHNA Any ad that has not been paid within 60 days of renewal will be removed until paid.

EHNA reserves the right to publish and accept or reject submissions for its publication. Acceptance of any ad by EHNA does not imply endorsement.

"News from the Hills" is published 11 times per year. Its purpose is to keep members informed of upcoming events in the Eastern Hills Neighborhood and Fort Worth area.

Newsletter Submissions: The deadline for submissions is the 1st of each month by email to: mcwattigney@gmail.com. Please include your name and phone number.

JOIN ONLINE @ www.EasternHillsFortWorth.com

2023 Eastern Hills Neighborhood Association Membership Application

Name/Names: _____

Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Email Address: _____

Telephone: Home: _____ Cell: _____ Work: _____

Please Select Your Newsletter Version

Digital: Emailed Interactive PDF

Printed: Delivered to Your Home

Participation Opportunity

Eastern Hills Neighborhood Association exists because residents like you volunteer to serve as officers, board members, planners, newsletter couriers, Code Blue and more. Volunteer positions are always available.

Yes, Call Me — I would like to help

No, Thank You — Maybe later

Annual Dues

Your 2023 dues are \$25.00 per household. Please make your checks payable to EHNA. Mail your application to:

EASTERN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION • PO BOX 8294 • FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76124-0294

EAST FORT WORTH HIGHLIGHTS

2021 was another year of significant progress for east Fort Worth. Here is a brief recap of some of the positive things that took place.

EDUCATION & LIBRARIES

Design work began on two new FWISD elementary schools which will be built in east Fort Worth, replacing existing 1950s-vintage buildings. Eastern Hills Elementary and Maudrie Walton Elementary will be built with large open community spaces and plenty of natural light (similar to several other recent new schools in the district). Construction is set to start in late 2023. These two new schools will represent nearly \$90M in new construction in our community.

* * *

Meadowbrook Elementary School was chosen for a pilot reading program to improve reading skills in third through fifth grade. Instead of children reading a book chosen by the teacher, the students choose books they are drawn to. The reading program was rolled out in the fall to all elementary schools in the district. In 2022, Meadowbrook Elementary received an A rating from the Texas Education Agency.

* * *

Polytechnic High School completed a \$52M renovation, providing for more career and technical education and a new science wing. Now all three east Fort Worth public high schools have been expanded and renovated for the coming decades.

* * *

Uplift Crescendo Charter School opened its new campus on Cooks Lane for the fall semester. The 60,000 square foot facility provides another

education option for kids in Pre-K to 5th grade. Uplift Education is a free charter school with 21 campuses operating in the DFW area.

For more information, see

<https://www.upliftparent.org/crescendo>.

* * *

Texas Wesleyan University opened The Rosedale, an apartment-style residence hall for 101 non-freshman students and students with spouses or dependent children. This \$10.5M facility anchors a prominent corner just southeast of the campus core, and is a further indication of the growth of this important economic driver and educational institution in east Fort Worth.

* * *

Texas Wesleyan University broke ground on a new \$16.6M football stadium as the next step in reviving their football team. The TWU Rams began playing again in 2012, after a 74-year "break," prompted by the country's entry into World War II. The stadium is planned to be built in phases, with the playing field and lighting coming first.

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Rocketship Dennis Dunkins Elementary, a 46,000 square foot charter school serving students in the Stop Six neighborhood, opened its doors. The flagship school campus currently serves 350 students in pre-kindergarten to third grade and is on its way to eventually serving students through fifth grade.

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The **East Regional Library** received a new public art installation called Wildflower, dedicated in July. The art is an abstraction of wildflowers as seen along Texas highways. The design features steel vertical elements whose color palette inspiration comes from native species of Texas wildflowers. Selected elements include library-related quotes.

PARKS AND COMMUNITY

Woodhaven Park was one of three parks added to the city's park system in 2022, with the acquisition of three acres at 401 Woodhaven Blvd. Though it is still to be developed, Woodhaven will finally have a neighborhood park fifty years after the neighborhood was established.

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The first phase of a new **Trinity Trails** route was completed on the north side of Gateway Park, which filled in trail gaps along East 1st Street eastward to the corner of White Lake Hills at Lake Havasu Trail. The improved connections allow bicyclists and pedestrians to remain out of traffic lanes on a dedicated sidewalk or a segregated section of the roadway. The work also added markings and signs for additional safety. Phase 2 will come in 2023, which will complete an alternate trail loop around Gateway Park.

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The **North Texas Community Foundation** awarded \$150K to complete a trail system at the Broadcast Hill / Tandy Hills / Stratford natural areas, perform large-scale invasive privet removal, and implement a Natural Resource Management internship program next summer. In 2020, Broadcast Hill was the first open space acquisition by the city of Fort Worth as part of a new initiative to preserve remaining undisturbed areas.

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In August, the **City of Fort Worth** announced a three-year partnership with Main Street America on a revitalization program in Polytechnic. Through Texas Wesleyan University and Southeast Fort Worth, Inc, the program will offer training and funding to hire full-time staff to help Poly achieve its goals of focusing on historic preservation and creating a small business hub

to accelerate economic development. Vaughn Boulevard between Texas Wesleyan and the Renaissance Square shopping center will be a special focus. A similar effort was announced for Historic Northside.

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A number of significant zoning cases were decided in east Fort Worth, but none more critical to its future than a large warehouse case just outside Gateway Park. Citing the need for a more compatible development, neighbors (with the assistance of a number of local organizations, including Streams and Valleys, Scenic Fort Worth, and the local Sierra Club chapter) were able to convince the applicant to withdraw the case after a five-month effort. Better still, the property owners now have a greater understanding of the importance of their property to the community and are now working together with stakeholders to achieve a quality outcome. In November, they all participated in an Urban Land Institute Technical Assistance Panel to provide ideas on how the area might be developed to create a new destination point in the city.

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In November, the **Fort Worth City Council** approved the purchase about 29 acres of land near Eugene McCray Park and Lake Arlington as part of its open space preservation initiative—the second such purchase in east Fort Worth in the program's first two years. This is a major step towards creating better natural and recreational opportunities on the Fort Worth side of the lake.

EAST FORT WORTH HIGHLIGHTS

EAST LANCASTER AVENUE AND EAST ROSEDALE STREET

In June, Michael Morris with the North Central Texas Council of Governments announced Lancaster 2.0, a revisioning of East Lancaster Avenue that will result in a curb-to-curb rebuilding of the roadway from downtown to the Arlington city limits. Stakeholders will provide input, culminating in a roadway that incorporates a new mass transit option, a fiber optic backbone for internet as a transportation/accessibility improvement, and pedestrian and bicycle safety improvements. Construction is anticipated to start by 2026.

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TrinityMetro released their draft Transit-Oriented Design Plan for a new mass transit option on East Lancaster Avenue, which is their highest ridership corridor. The plan calls for thirteen stops between downtown and Handley, with a trip taking 12-15 minutes. The actual mode of transportation is not yet determined, but it will occupy its own lane, have stations where ticketing and real-time arrival times are posted, and the ability to turn the traffic lights green. See <https://www.advancingeastlancaster.com/>.

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Progress continued in **Stop Six** with a groundbreaking for Hughes House, the second of six phases of construction to transform this historically underserved neighborhood. Hughes House is a mixed-use development that will bring 210 apartments and townhomes above ground-level commercial space. Hughes House joins Cowan Place, a senior housing development currently under construction.

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Union Gospel Mission broke ground on a new

27,000 square foot Community Outreach Center, which will provide formerly homeless people vocational training in the trades of apartment complex maintenance and fulfillment center logistics (forklift training and other warehouse-centric equipment). These skills will help clients be more employable and better able to sustain themselves with a living wage. The center will open in 2023. <https://www.ugm-tc.org/news/723-the-community-outreach-center/>.

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The National Juneteenth Museum, which will commemorate the emancipation of enslaved people in the United States, was announced in June. The 50,000 square foot museum will contain gallery space, a business incubator, food hall, and theatre. It will be located in the Evans and Rosedale Urban Village, the economic and social center for the African-American community in the early twentieth century. See <https://www.dezeen.com/2022/06/22/national-juneteenth-museum-fort-worth-big/>.

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During its fall conference in Dallas, the Urban Land Institute, an organization for planners and developers, conducted bus tours around the metroplex. The East Lancaster Avenue Public Improvement District worked with ULI and the city of Fort Worth to organize one of the tours to attract pioneering developers to review the East Lancaster Avenue and East Rosedale Street commercial corridors. The participants were able to see the redevelopment potential of these streets, view progress of the Stop Six Choice Neighborhood construction, and hear about plans for street reconstruction and more new housing that are set to begin in the next few years.

GROW SOUTHEAST URBAN FARMS

Now in its fifth year, **Grow Southeast** hopes urban farming can be seen as a form of entrepreneurship rather than a charitable enterprise. Some of the locally-grown harvest is donated to food pantries, some is sold at a discounted price to people underserved by traditional grocery stores, and the majority is sold at the Cowtown Farmer's Market.

In addition to backbone support from Healthy Tarrant County Collaboration, CoAct, and Commissioner Roy C Brooks' office, a number of organizations have partnered through grants, trusts, or donations. These include:

- Tarrant County College Northwest Horticulture Program, which grew and donated close to 6,000 transplants, including collard, kale, mustard greens, hot and sweet peppers, and Celebrity and cherry tomatoes.
- USDA Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education, which provided a grant in partnership with TCU to grow tomatoes with three different types of low-cost amendments to determine the most cost-effective way to produce the greatest yield. Dr. Omar Harvey is leading the research team.
- Rainwater Charitable Trust, which provided a generous grant to support a number of infrastructure and staffing needs at Opal's and Tabor Farms.

Here is a brief report on the farms in 2022:

Opal's Farm:

The longest-operating farm in the network, Opal's Farm harvested over 3,500 pounds of food. It hired a full-time assistant farm manager and hosted Farm School Year One, which provided

training for two young men in bio-intensive, regenerative methods for building and operating an urban farm.

Tabor Farms:

This was the first year of production, with the first harvest of collards, kale, and mustard greens in April. Despite a Harlequin Bug infestation in May and a growing number of hungry rabbits, the farm produced over 1,300 pounds of food from 21 different crops. The farm hired a fulltime farm manager and a farm hand, and became a Cowtown Farmers Market vendor in summer, selling out weekly.

Mind Your Garden Urban Farm:

Owners Steven and Ursula Nunez work to educate others on the value of urban gardening. With grant support, an outdoor kitchen, classroom/gathering area, and bathroom were built to host cooking demonstrations and classes and Healthy Hours social gatherings. Terraced production beds and demonstration gardens were planted for the first time, and over 500 pounds of tomatoes, hot and sweet peppers, onions, potatoes, and greens were harvested.

Black Wall Street Farm:

This is the smallest of the farms, and despite some challenges, the first year of production for the farm yielded greens, tomatoes, okra, peppers, and other plants.

Urban farming is fraught with uncertainties. A ten-inch summer rain caused the Trinity River to crest and caused considerable damage to one farm, leaving behind silt and fish. Aggressive Johnson Grass, foraging animals, and even theft have been challenges as well. Beginning an urban farm involves city regulations which are not geared toward this type of use. Tree canopy for shade is a requirement, for example, which works against sunshine-loving crops.