

Dear Citizens of the Orchard area:

February 12, 2018-----It's time for an update on "What is happening in Orchard"

First the Orchard Jamboree in November was a great success thanks to the hard work from the OCIA committee & the Orchard Fire Dept. The total profits from all the events totaled right at \$14,000. We are very grateful to all the volunteers and the generous donations for auction items and sponsors for the raffle items. This is a new record for the Jamboree and one that will be hard to beat at the Jamboree in 2018 but together I believe we can do even better.

The Economic Development Committee did a great job with all the Christmas Events in December, they are responsible for getting the park decorated, Christmas Parade, Decorating contest and our annual Christmas event at the Community Center. They always make this a great event for Orchard and I am grateful for all their efforts.

The City-Wide Garage sale & Market days will be coming up in April of 2018. The date will be announced this month and it will be posted on the city web site and the Orchard Face Book page. If you know anyone who would like a booth please contact the city hall. The sign-up procedure for a garage sale will be the same as the past years.

The new EMS building is under construction, the location is next to the Orchard Gym. This building will be completed in 2018 and will be the new home for two full time paramedics. Temporary facilities are currently located behind the Town Center. We are all excited to see this new facility in Orchard and it will be a great asset to our community.

The new Pavilion will begin construction in March of 2018. We are still waiting for a grant approval for the second phase of the Pavilion from the Texas Parks & Wild Life which should be at the end of February. This date has changed a few times and delayed are start of construction but we have completed the survey and soil samples so weather permitting we will break ground next month. The Pavilion will be located behind the current concession stands, this will allow us to utilize the concession stands and bathrooms for the 2018 Jamboree and other events. The Pavilion will be 80 feet wide & 120 feet long. When completed it will include a Concession area, Stage area, Mezzanine, and Restrooms. This will be a fantastic addition to our park and to our community. This will allow us to hold special events and additional fund-raising events for our community. 2018 is shaping up to be a great year for Orchard.

In closing I would like to welcome Rene & Lance Wesbrooks to Orchard, they have purchased the home on 403 Illinois Street. I would like to also announce a new business that is located behind Town Center owned by Karen & Louis Schwartz called the "Prairie Rose Emporium"

I will do my best to keep everyone updated with Orchard news through Newsletters and Facebook

Rod Pavlock -Mayor City of Orchard

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