

# Enchanted Valley Echo

Official Newsletter of Enchanted Valley

August 2016

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## July 4th in Enchanted Valley was Enchanting



Posted: Tuesday, July 12, 2016 4:57 pm

By Cathey Spies  
Special to The Mirror

While many Americans agree that patriotism seems to be at a low point, Enchanted Valley residents felt it is more important now than ever before to rally 'round the flag. So they celebrated on this 4th of July the old fashioned way and showed their patriotic spirit with a parade and a party at the neighborhood park.

By 9 a.m. the Harris County Jr. Mounted Posse was already preparing to lead a parade of fire engines from the local volunteer fire station, a fine assortment of classic cars, highly decorated golf carts, a float, and just about anything on wheels — including a riding mower and a teen on a hoverboard — past cheering children and flag-waving adults who had already started to assemble along the parade route. The celebration would ultimately end up at the Enchanted Valley Park for grilled burgers, hot dogs, swimming and bingo.

The event, hosted by the Enchanted Valley Swim Team, has been rather slim in recent years; the economy, you know. But just ask Gene Tips, the HOA Director in charge of organizing the event and he will tell you we needed to show our patriotism to the flag and to our country. The love of country and service to what this nation stands for runs deep in Enchanted Valley. Many of the residents are firemen, EMT's, policemen, constables. They also have their fair share of armed forces veterans.

And rally this neighborhood did! In spite of the 95-plus degree weather, all agreed this was a wonderful way to spend the 4th of July and not even leave home.

Will there be another parade and party next year? You bet.

## What's the Value of Our HOA?

Ever wonder why we have a homeowners association? Enchanted Valley HOA may be our best tool to protect the value of our homes and the quality of our neighborhood. HOAs do any number of different things: set and collect the maintenance fees required and needed to run an association, maintain landscaping or neighborhood pool and park, and provide for events or meeting places for neighborhood functions. That being said, one of the most important functions of our HOA is to enforce deed restrictions and protect the value of the neighborhood's assets, among those being your home. Deed restrictions are legally binding covenants, filed with real property records, which provide for building, maintaining, and using the homes in our neighborhood.

Why do so many homeowners buy their home in a particular neighborhood? According to neighborhoodlink.com, purchasers make a decision to buy into a lifestyle and surroundings which include so many things outside the home itself, encompassing everything from the subdivision entries and community center to the general condition of all the other homes in the neighborhood. They purchase with an expectation that their property and those in their community will be protected by deed restrictions and maintained to a certain reasonable standard.

What does it take to keep a neighborhood attractive and nice? The crucial factor is the willingness of the HOA's board of directors to enforce the rules that have been created. The appearance of a neighborhood can steadily decline if the board members do not discuss and establish uniform standards for everyone. The neighborhood can either become a showcase for sustained property values, or it can become a venue for the weird and unusual.

So, what is the value of our HOA? It depends. What's it worth to preserve the lifestyle you thought you were buying into?

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## Enchanted Valley

### 2016 Board and Committee Heads

President.....Steve Thomson  
 Vice President/Treasurer..... Lloyd Coker  
 Secretary.....Rick Nickerson

### Directors

Gene Tips  
 Cathey Spies  
 Bill Loving  
 Jason Folk

### Committee Heads

#### Community Center Rental

14910 Enchanted Valley Drive  
 Contact SCS Management

Beautification .....Laura Loving  
 Communications Coordinator .....Cathey Spies  
 (Marquees, Newsletter, Website)  
 Webmaster..... Heidi Steinhagen  
 Pool .....Steve Thomson  
 Swim Team ..... Tanya Lyroc  
 Security .....Steve Thomson  
 Block Captains .....Cathey Spies

### Water Board Members

President .....Ken Atchison  
 Vice President .....Carl Linseisen  
 Secretary..... Keith Armstrong  
 Asst. Secretary ..... Carolyn Maniscalco  
 Director .....Darren Hoyland

## Deed Violation Summary July 2016

Architectural Control Violations	0
Clean Up Requests	31
Lawn Maintenance	28
Repair Requests	11
Vehicle Violations	29
Misc.	4
	<u>103</u>

If you receive a violation letter you can contact SCS Mgmt. to request additional time or request more information.

## All Are Invited

Monthly meetings of the **Enchanted Valley HOA** are held the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of every month at 7:00 pm in the club house. All residents are welcome to attend the meeting. If you would like to address the board please contact SCS Management at (281) 463-1777 to be placed on the agenda.

The August Meeting of the **Water Board** will be held August 9<sup>th</sup> at 12518 Pleasant Grove. These meetings are open to the public. Interested in knowing what's going on with the Water District? Now's your chance to find out!



### 2016 Assessments were due January 1, 2016

To avoid continued collection fees make your payments as soon as possible.

To set up an installment plan please call SCS Management at 281-463-1777.



Management Services, Inc.

**JESSICA SMITH**  
 Association Manager

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## EV Beauty

The EV Yard Of the Month (YOM) campaign is being resurrected! A group of volunteers will survey the neighborhood during the third week of each month and the winning yard's residents will receive the EV-YOM sign to be displayed in their front yard for a month—beginning September 1, 2016. *HINT: Drive through surrounding neighborhoods to get ideas.* As an exception, the month of December will be dedicated to special YOM winner's signage for the yard/Christmas decorating display (1<sup>st</sup>, 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place). *More to follow in a later newsletter.* Let's all be involved in making EV a special place to live. Simply mowing grass and trimming bushes makes our homes look more polished and inviting.



## Laura's Landscape

Many of us enjoy the leafy green privacy screen that bamboo plants offer us in the summer. In this part of the state, they are a “go to” plant for privacy; easy to grow and sun loving. But if you aren't careful, you could end up with your privacy screen taking over not only your own yard but growing under fences and invading your neighbor's yard as well. To be fair, there are non-invasive varieties of bamboo, but I am talking about the invasive ones. Chemical sprays and digging roots will not work to eradicate this woody grass. The only remedy is to wait until the new shoots reach about a foot in height in the spring—then cut them off at ground level. This method works because bamboo sprouts only in the spring. No more shoots will emerge until the next year. It takes a few years to starve the roots. Good Luck!

*(Laura Loving is the EV Beautification Committee Chair and contributes a monthly column to the Enchanted Valley Echo)*

## What's Your Story?

If you have looked at the Enchanted Valley website lately, you've seen an article on the early days of Enchanted Valley. More precisely, what this area was before it became Enchanted Valley. In the months to come we will cover the history of our Cypress area and how we came to be as a neighborhood.

Many residents who have lived in our subdivision for an extended number of years are familiar with the stories, fact as well as fiction, about our historical area. The history of Enchanted Valley isn't finished. It continues through the stories we share with each other and with anyone who reads about us.

What's your story? Let us hear from you. It doesn't matter how long you have lived here. We'll set up an interview to talk about how you came to live in Enchanted Valley and go from there. Your story will be published in the newsletter as part of the series on the continuing history of the area.

Let us hear from you. We'll sit down and talk about your story and about Enchanted Valley.

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## WHERE TO FIND NEWSLETTERS

Pick up your free copy of the Enchanted Valley Echo at the Main Marquee on Enchanted Valley Drive, the Community Center, check our website: [www.enchantedvalley.org](http://www.enchantedvalley.org), or ask your Block Captain. Still can't find one? Contact the Communications Coordinator at (832) 484-3681.

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August 2016						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	1 HOA Mtg. 7pm Pool Closed	2 Pool Open	3  Pool Open	4 Pool Open	5 Pool Open	6  Pool Open
7	8 Pool Closed	9 Water Board 7:15 pm Pool Open	10  Pool Open	11 Pool Open	12 Pool Open	13  Pool Open
14 Pool Open	15 Pool Closed	16 Pool Open	17  Pool Open	18 Pool Open	19 Pool Open	20  Pool Open
21 Pool Open	22 School Starts Pool Closed	23	24  	25	26	27  Pool Open
28 Pool Open	29 Pool Closed	30 Pool Closed	31  Pool Closed			

**Notes:**  Please do not put out trash before 6 pm the day before pick up!



Parents, good news!!! Less than 30 days before school starts!!!!



Kids...sad news...Less than 30 days before school starts



*Thank you to The Law Office of Keith D. Peterson For sponsoring the printing of our July issue.*

