

Enchanted Valley Echo

Official Newsletter of the Enchanted Valley Subdivision

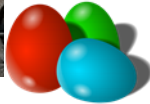
January 2017

2016 IN REVIEW

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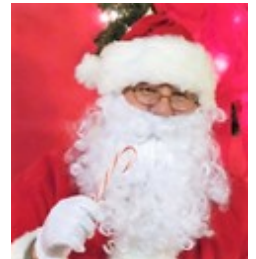
Easter in Enchanted Valley



Adult Night at Pool



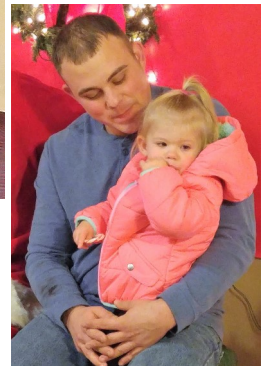
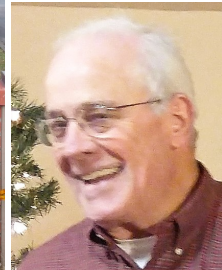
Help for Flood Victims



Cocoa with Santa



4th of July



Scout Donation





Enchanted Valley 2016 Board and Committee Heads

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

Directors

Gene Tips Bill Loving
 Cathey Spies Carolyn Maniscalco

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 December 2016

Architectural Control Violations	2
Clean Up Requests	41
Lawn Maintenance	7
Repair Requests	19
Vehicle Violations	28
Misc.	7
	104

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

Important Phone Numbers To Know

Emergency

Constable, Precinct 4 281-376-3472
 Sheriff Dispatch (non-emergency) 713-221-6000
 Poison Control 1-800-764-7661
 Fire Department 281-550-6663

Utilities:

Centerpoint Energy—Gas
 Customer Svce (report a leak) 713-659-2111
 Centerpoint Energy—Electricity
 Customer Svce (Outage or line down) 713-207-2222
 WCA Garbage Service 281-368-8397
 Water District #113 713-937-1959

Harris County

Animal Control (dogs & cats) 281-999-3191
 Wildlife Removal Svce. (fee based) 281-292-8866
 Health Department 281-439-6000

Post Office

Cypress 281-373-0279
 Ace Hardware—Jones Road 281-469-8020

Library

NW Harris County 281-370-2665
 LSC—Cy-Fair 281-890-2665

Schools

Millsap Elementary 281-897-4470
 Arnold Middle School 281-897-4700
 Hamilton Middle School 281-320-7000
 Cy-Fair Sr. High 281-897-4600

My Contact Numbers

Mom _____

Dad _____

Neighbor: _____

Neighbor: _____

Other: _____



Management Services, Inc.

JESSICA SMITH
 Association Manager

7170 Cherry Park Drive
 Houston, TX 77095-2713

Main: 281-463-1777
 Fax: 281-463-0050
 Direct: 281-500-7129
 Direct Fax: 281-500-7179
 Email: jsmith@scsmgmt.com

All are Invited

All residents are welcome to attend the monthly **EV HOA Board** meetings. If you would like to address the board please contact SCS Management at (281) 463-1777 to be placed on the agenda.

Meetings are held the first Monday of each month and begin at 7 pm with a general session. Visit www.enchantedvalley.org for a copy of the agenda.

JANUARY HOA MEETING WILL BE HELD JANUARY 9th 2017



The January meeting of the **Water Board** will be held on Tuesday, January 10th at 12706 Shady Knoll Ln. The meeting begins at 7:15 pm and is open to

Election Results for 2017 HOA Board

Thanks to all residents who voted in November's HOA Board elections and thanks to those residents who attended the Annual HOA Meeting. It was wonderful seeing a full house!

Four directors were up for election: Bill Loving, Gene Tipps, Cathey Spies and Jason Folk. There was one write-in nominee: Carolyn Maniscalco.

After counting the ballots, the Directors returning to the Board are: Bill Loving, Gene Tipps and Cathey Spies. One new Director was elected: Carolyn Maniscalco. She will assume her position as Director when the Board meets on January 9th.

It is safe to say Carolyn knows this neighborhood and knows quite a number of the residents. She and husband Ken moved here in 1973. They moved away briefly in the mid '70's then returned in 1980, and they have called Enchanted Valley home since then. She is no stranger to serving her community. In fact, Carolyn first served on the Water Board as a Director in 2006 and is presently Assistant Secretary.

Her decision to run for the Board was made **in the hopes I could make a difference for Enchanted Valley residents and to help maintain the quality of life for all residents in EV.** She went on to observe that **Today one-third of the residents are 65 years of age and/or disabled. A number of these residents have been in Enchanted Valley since the early 1970's.**

Continued

I don't believe there is a more worthy reason for serving on the HOA Board. Congratulations, Carolyn, on being elected to the Enchanted Valley HOA Board. We all look forward to working with you.

Jason's last meeting as Director was December. In a gracious resignation post to residents of Enchanted Valley, Jason addressed his time on the Board:

...filling the empty Director seat this past year has been both educational and rewarding. I have a new appreciation for what the Home Owners Association does on our behalf. Thank you for the comradery, and support. I have not yet decided in what capacity I will continue to volunteer, but I will continue to volunteer, but I will see you around EV. Regards, Jason.

Jason was a great addition and a terrific asset to the Board. We all wish him well and look forward to taking advantage of his expertise and experience in his volunteer positions.

Thanks, Jason, for a wonderful job.



What Can I Do For My Neighborhood?

The greatest contribution an individual can make is to be available. The amount of time you spend helping with a neighborhood event is a very personal decision. However, the old adage that states, "a little bit is better than nothing at all" holds true. We have several events coming up in 2017, most require very little amount of time; some only require a bit of baking, putting together gift bags or decorating the community center. Decide how much time you have to give and then set about determining on how best to serve your community.

Go to the Enchanted Valley website, click the Contact tab on the navigation bar, and drop us a line. Let us know you would like to help out and we will get back with you. That's all there is to it! There are plenty of opportunities.

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Keeping up Appearances

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It's no small effort to make our neighborhood attractive—homeowners take care of their own homes and yards, the landscaping service that maintains the common areas, pool service for the neighborhood pool. It is truly everyone pulling together to keep up the standard of quality we enjoy in Enchanted Valley.

A few months ago we reported the successful efforts of our HOA Treasurer, Lloyd Coker, to save us money on the street light bills. Please remember to report any light outages by calling the number provided in the newsletter. It doesn't matter if others have reported an outage as well. Just don't leave it to someone else to do it. Go ahead and make the call.

Our Beautification Committee has been hard at work coordinating efforts with the landscaping service to make sure our public areas are attractive and well maintained. In addition, Committee Chair Laura Loving is spearheading the signage updates for the Enchanted Valley entrances. These should be complete early in the New Year.

Talking about improvements and updates, many of us who are regular visitors to the Enchanted Valley Pool will be pleased to hear that the pool and surrounding deck will be under construction for much earned updates and maintenance such as new decking, LED lights, new guard stand, pool autofill, and revamped filtration system, etc. Work should begin in January and be complete before the swim season starts.

With our warm climate in Texas—even in the winter it is relatively mild—we all know how hard to keep leaves raked up; clean yard today, only to have a yard full of leaves tomorrow. If you don't have a yard service and you decide to burn instead of bag your leaves, be aware of burn laws in the area. Give our local fire department a call before setting a match to a pile of leaves to make sure all is clear—wind, and burn bans if any. The phone number is in the newsletter.



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In addition to leaves, the warm moist climate here along the gulf coast encourages mold and mildew to form on the siding of our houses.

This is most noticeable when the leaves have all dropped off trees—like now. There are a number of solutions to rid your exterior of this unsightly growth, from professional cleaning services to power washers you can rent or buy to do-it-yourself preparations. The sooner it's taken care of, the less damage to your investment.



Before Power Washing



After Power Washing

Taking care of our property is an investment we can all participate in—from the Homeowners Association ensuring our amenities are in good shape to each homeowner doing the same with our own homes and landscape.

*Enchanted
Valley*

Let's Get Outside

It may seem odd to folks who are not "from around here", but the winter months in Harris County can be very pleasant for outside activities. Here's a short list of the County Parks in the area that offer amenities suited for just about anyone who enjoys getting outside:

Telge Park—Precinct 3

12400 Pleasant Grove Road
Cypress, Texas 77429
Phone: (281) 496-2177
Hours: daily 7:00 am until Dusk



Telge Park is a neighborhood park with a play area for kids and some shaded areas for playing sports or picnicking. There is a short trail that leads you over a boardwalk in the wetlands area out towards Cypress Creek. The trail takes you back through the woods and then returns you along the creek. Not really a hike, but more of a nature walk for you and your family.

Bud Hadfield Park—Precinct 3

12405 Telge Rd
Cypress, TX 77429
Phone: (281) 496-2177
Hours: daily 7:00am – 9:00 pm

Play Disc Golf While You Hike!

This is a neat park. It contains a large flood reservoir, a nature trail and an 18 hole frisbee disc golf course that weaves all across the park. The nature trail is not very long so you could skip the trail and "hike" the frisbee golf course. The distance is just about 1.5 miles and the course takes you along Cypress Creek. If you enjoy playing disc golf, there are some very challenging holes here and it's a lot of fun for kids of all ages. There are some undocumented trails that run through the woods, but if you're crossing the path of the course or heading away from the cage towards the launching pad, you run the risk of getting hit by a frisbee. It's a good idea to be away of flying discs in the area.

Faulkey Gully Hike & Bike Trail—Precinct 4

Note: This trail is temporarily closed just west of Lakewood Forest Drive due to culvert repair work. There are plenty of other segments to hike and bike on, however.

This 1.9-mile trail extends from Lakewood Forest Drive to Guernsey Road and accommodates hikers, bicyclists, strollers, wheelchairs, and scooters, but does not allow motorized vehicles.

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The segment from Lakewood Forest Drive to Louetta Road is 4,356 feet long and eight feet wide, and the segment from Louetta Road to Guernsey Road is just over one mile long (5,700 feet) and 10 feet wide. A concrete under-crossing at Louetta Road allows for safe passage on the trail.

For access to the trail, park in front of the Heatherwood Clubhouse at 15118 Willow Branch Drive (off of Louetta).

Matzke Park—Precinct 4

13110 Jones Road
Houston, Texas 77070
Phone: 281-353-8100

A 19.4-acre facility, includes a multiuse trail with water fountains, rest room facilities, one cricket field, an all-inclusive barrier-free playground, two picnic pavilions, one gazebo, and a butterfly and sensory garden.

Amenities include a multipurpose building with a public rest room, staff office, garage, and three equipment and supplies storage rooms at the southwest corner of the park. Additionally, a second parking lot on the west side of the park is now available to visitors near the playground..

Note: Private use of the sports fields requires prior permission from the sports association.

Visit the Harris County Precinct 4 and Precinct 5 websites for more information on these and the other county parks around Houston. You might be pleasantly surprised how many outdoor spaces area available for our enjoyment without spending anything!



Continued

EV Beauty*Laura Loving, Beautification Committee*

I sincerely hope that you all had a joyful Christmas season with family and friends. Enchanted Valley was festooned with many decorations and we are announcing the **winners!**

FIRST PLACE: The Bagley home

12706 New Cypress

This home represented a child's eye view of the season with elves and a Christmas tree, a train complete with Santa and toys, reindeer pulling a sleigh toward the sky, and life sized toy soldiers (nutcrackers). The lights hung from the eaves of the house and wreaths in the windows were the punctuation to the design.

**SECOND PLACE:** Reynaldo and Olga Rivera home

12622 Pine Bough

The real meaning of Christmas was displayed with lighted, white wooden cutouts of a "complete" nativity scene. During many years, these pieces have been designed and made by the Rivera's. The ice cycles hanging from the eaves of the house added just a touch of color to the simply understated and peaceful meaning of the season.

**THIRD PLACE:** The Robert Marquis home

12807 Shady Knoll

The home's lighting was very effective with blue, twinkling lights hanging from the house and manicured bushes. The tree trunks were wrapped in white lights with white, lighted balls hanging from several branches. Traditional red, green, blue and gold lights were displayed on a large bush in front of the property.

**HONORABLE MENTION:**

12615 Bonnywood Lane, 12819 Shady Knoll, and 12827 Shady Knoll.

Kudos to the streets of Shady Knoll, Rolling Valley and New Cypress for looking so festive all along the streets.

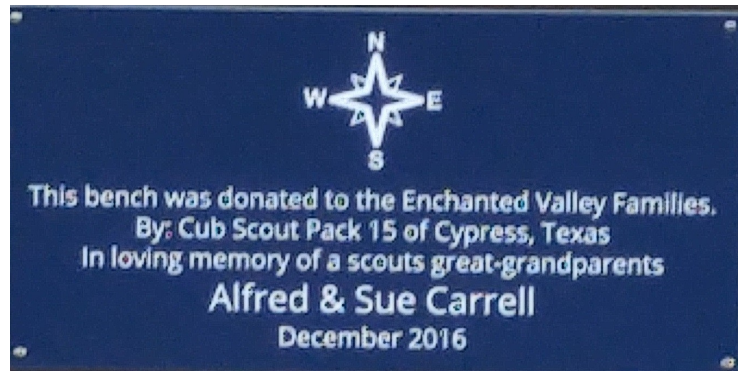
*Gardening ideas begin anew next
month—
for now,*

Laura's Landscape

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Scouting Around Enchanted Valley

The Scouts presented Enchanted Valley with a park bench commemorating the great-grandparents of Scout Kodie Ognoskie in a presentation at the neighborhood park on December 10th. Accepting the bench on behalf of Enchanted Valley was Laura Loving, Chairman of the Beautification Committee.



In January we will be doing our annual food drive thru Enchanted Valley & Enchanted Valley Estates with our Door Hangers going out **January 28th** and FOOD pickup on **February 4th** as part of our Super-Bowl fight against hunger with Scouting for Food!!

Followed by our Biggest Scout Fund Raising Event of the year to help support our Scouts & Pack 15 Our Scout Coupon Books go on sale **February 1st** for \$10.00.

Scouts of Pack 15

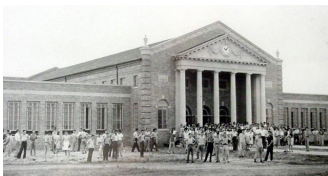
Cypress, Texas

Settlers had been streaming into north Harris County after the Civil War, as Barbara Payne points out in North Houston Rich History, the bonanza caused by Humble Oil's gusher at Moonshine Hill in 1904 welcomed an era of unprecedented growth for Cypress. Social life, however, did not keep pace with the hectic city life of Houston. Nor were residents of Cypress eager to make more than a trip a week to the far-off city. Social activities mainly centered around school-related functions, sporting events, weiner roasts and hayrides since most families still had livestock to tend to. Most did not travel far from home but visited local establishments like Houston Hot Well Sanitarium and Hotel, now Hot Wells Shooting Range, for the benefits of the hot mineral baths. It also offered an Olympic-size pool with a high-diving board and several lower diving boards. If entertainment that was not so strenuous was more to a visitor's liking, the Hotel offered dancing in a large hall or bingo, conveniently located on the premises. Tin Hall, originally the Cypress Gun and Rifle Club, offered similar entertainment and children could join their parents on Saturday nights and one Sunday a month, but were restricted to the side of the Hall where alcohol was not served.

Another favorite place for north Houston residents in the 30's and 40's was the ice cream parlor operated by Clark Henry, owner of the F & M Jersey Ranch (a Jersey cattle ranch and dairy.) Located within the boundaries of present day Jersey Village, this was a popular destination for many years for the Cypress community where customers enjoyed 5-cent ice cream cones and 10-cent malts.

The numerous small and one-room school houses that peppered the Cypress and Fairbanks areas no longer met the needs of the burgeoning growth of north Houston caused by the oil boom. By the early 1900's seven of these schools were incorporated into the Cypress school system. Others were incorporated into the Fairbanks school system. These school systems, however, were limited to first through eighth grades. This resulted in Fairbanks students attending high school at HISD's Reagan High School, and students from Cypress and Spring Branch systems attending Addicks High School. Don't try to find Addicks ISD—it no longer exists. By 1939, Fairbanks High School students no longer attended Reagan High School, but were enrolled at Rural High School No. 5, where Lamkin Elementary now stands. That same year residents of the area voted to create the Cypress-Fairbanks Consolidated School District. By 1942 the newly constructed Cypress-Fairbanks High School was lauded by the Houston Chronicle as "one of the most modern-equipped and largest school buildings in Harris County."

It could be argued that civilization had secured a foothold in the Cypress area: up-to-date schools with matching curriculum, a booming



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industrial base, convenient routes in and out of the area, entertainment and recreation venues for any taste. Commerce developed along the railroad lines leading out of Houston and right in the path of the Cypress area. Along with commerce came a need for housing.

According to the West Houston Archives, Cypress developed from a small railroad stop, as with many other towns like Barker and Clodine, but ended up becoming one of the most popular suburban settlements in West Houston during the early 21st century. Taken directly from the Archives is a description of the rise and decline of early Cypress; that is, pre-Highway 290:









The center of Cypress, known as Cypress Top, was merely a post office in the early 1850's, but soon became a major railroad stop on the way to Houston when the Houston and Texas Central Railroad extended its tracks to Cypress Top. The town featured many of the typical structures consistent with late 1800's towns. Two hotels, a livery stable, a grist mill, and a general store. In 1897, E.F. Juergen settled in Cypress, and became the postmaster of Cypress the following year. In 1905, he married Mary Zahn, and the couple remained in Cypress for the rest of their lives. They owned a home, the general store, the Juergen Dance Hall, and also operated the post office until 1930.

The Humble Service Station, which appears to have been built during the 1950's, based on the architectural styling, was operated by E.F. Juergen's son Clarence until his death in 1984. Clarence's nephew, Gene Zaboroski took over the service station, which operated until 2002.

Though the area surrounding downtown Cypress had begun to develop residential communities during the late 1970's and early 80's, the center of town had begun to show its age. The main lanes of the US 290 freeway had not reached Cypress yet, and travelers heading between Houston, Waller, and Austin still had to pass through historic downtown Cypress. By 1997, the new main lanes of the freeway had come, but they bypassed Cypress several blocks to the north, leaving Cypress Top to become a virtual ghost town. The Juergen Dance Hall was still operating (in it's original location about a hundred yards back), but the other structures had fallen into disrepair.

Change was in the wind, though, and Cypress was directly in its path.



			January 2017				
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	
1	2 Student Holiday	3	4 	5	6	7 	
8	9 HOA Mtg. 7pm	10 Water Board 7:15 pm	11 	12	13	14 	
15	16 Student Holiday	17	18 	19	20	21 	
22.	23	24	25 	26	27	28  Scout Pack 15—Food Drive Starts	
29	30	31					
Notes: Watch for Food Drive Door Hangers from our Cub Scouts starting January 28th. Pick Up will be February 4th.							



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www.enchantedvalley.org and read it online.

Got an idea for news story? Someone on your street you want to spotlight? Something going on that is newsworthy?

Contact the Communications Coordinator at (832) 484-3681.

Funny Historical Truths

Thresh Hold

The wealthy had slate floors that would get slippery in the winter when wet, so they spread thresh (straw) on floor to help keep their footing. As the winter wore on, they adding more thresh until when you opened the door it would all start slipping outside. A piece of wood was placed in the entranceway, **hence the saying a 'thresh hold.'**

Carrying a Bouquet When Getting Married

Most people got married in June because they took their yearly bath in May, and still smelled pretty good by June. However, they were starting to smell, so brides carried a bouquet of flowers to hide the body odor, **hence the custom today of carrying a bouquet when getting married.**

It's Raining Cats and Dogs

Houses had thatched roofs-thick straw-piled high, with no wood underneath. It was the only place for animals to get warm, so all the cats and other small animals (mice, bugs) lived in the roof. When it rained it became slippery and sometimes the animals would slip and off the roof, **hence the saying 'It's raining cats and dogs.'**