



# Canyon Call

The official newsletter of the Sunset Canyon Land Owners Association • Sep 2018

[www.sunsetcanyon.org](http://www.sunsetcanyon.org)



The Canyon Call is your newsletter. We want to hear from you!  
Email tips, stories, articles, recipes, or whatever else you'd like to share to Peggy at [newsletter@sunsetcanyon.org](mailto:newsletter@sunsetcanyon.org)

## SCLA President's Update

Dear Sunset Canyon Land Owners:

The Oak Meadow connection of Sunset Canyon to Headwaters issue is still not settled. Gary Botkin was the initial SCLA representative to the City/County/Developer working group and did a good job laying out the problems with the initial draft of the Road Connectivity Agreement and making the SCLA position known to the various government groups involved. Gary resigned as representative at the July board meeting. Paul Wiljanen was appointed to succeed Gary. The Board thanks Gary for his help with a very contentious issue.

As most things go involving government entities and committees, the Oak Meadows issue is taking longer to resolve than anticipated when the committee was set up at the March City Council meeting. Elsewhere in this newsletter is an update supplied by Paul on the issue.

The two lawsuits the SCLA was involved in have been settled between the parties involved in the lawsuits. The SCLA and the law firm representing it are still resolving some billing issues between them but the lawsuits themselves are settled. When the lawsuits' billing issues are resolved, a complete accounting of all costs, start to finish, will be provided the membership.

The lawsuit involving the right of the SCLA to maintain the two SUNSET CANYON entry signs has been resolved in our favor. As part of the settlement we recovered most of our costs, \$10,500 from the defendant. We are currently waiting on a final bill from the law firm and the

return of the unused portion of the retainer we advanced at the start of the lawsuit.

The deed restriction violation lawsuit did not reach a conclusion that either party wanted. The suit has been settled with each party agreeing to bear its own costs. The following statement is taken verbatim from the signed settlement agreement:

"Although there was considerable disagreement between the Parties regarding their claims and defenses, the Parties desired to resolve the Lawsuit in order to extinguish the time, expense and uncertainty of litigation. The Parties therefore agreed to settle all of the issues in dispute between them."

The SCLA Board has reviewed the legal services billed in this lawsuit and will shortly discuss them in detail with the law firm. More than half of the billed services remain unpaid. The membership will be provided a complete accounting when the billed fee issue is settled.

Steve Gallun  
President SCLA

## Appeal to Sunset Canyon Residents

If you are not already a member of the SCLA, please consider joining. Dues are only \$35 per year! Everyone in Sunset Canyon benefits from the work that the SCLA does. For example, the SCLA currently is working to insure that Oak Meadow Drive is not unilaterally connected to the Headwaters Development without considering the impact on current Sunset Canyon residents' quality of life and the impact of increased traffic on roads built 30 plus years ago.

By joining, you are not committing to anything or subjecting yourself to any rules or regulations that do not already apply. Please go to the website, [www.sunsetcanyon.org](http://www.sunsetcanyon.org), and download the form to join.

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## **NATIONAL NIGHT OUT 2018**

National Night Out (NNO) events will be held on Tuesday, October 2, 2018. Most of the block parties will be from 6:00-9:00 PM, but this can vary. Some individual families are having parties and some parties consist of several neighbors that go together to have a party. Parties are both simple and elaborate. Meals are served at some parties, and others have pot luck meals. Some homes have ice cream parties, and others serve hot dogs and dessert.

This is a great way to meet your new neighbors or to renew old friendships. Parties are usually held by streets or sections of streets. The usual number of families invited could be from 10 to 30 or more. Representatives from the Hays County Sheriff's Department, the Fire Department, and the EMS Personnel usually make the rounds and visit several parties.

Sunset Canyon always has a great turnout for NNO. Plan to attend. If you get an invitation, please, reply with a yes and attend your neighbor's party. You will be glad you did. This is a nationwide event and it is planned to make you aware of local neighborhood programs. Help keep Sunset Canyon a great and safe place for our families to live.

We have 12 NNO parties so far this year. Please, let me know if you would like to host a party or help with one.

1. Kathy Blakey--Oak Crest
2. Lynn Bridge--Cottonwood
3. Debbie Dredla--Foothills
4. Lauren Paine--Canyon View

5. Pam Massman--Canyonwood
6. Paul Wiljanen--Oak Meadow
7. Carol Peringer--Canyon Bend
8. Sharlene Edmonds--Windmill
9. Kristen Romley Girton--Roy Creek
10. Beth McConnell--Canyonwood
11. DeDe Jasinski--Bending Oak
12. Kari Haymond--Canyonwood

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO HOST A NNO PARTY THIS YEAR, PLEASE, CONTACT

Sandy Hale at [skhale902@verizon.net](mailto:skhale902@verizon.net) or 512-858-5637

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### **Gary's Corner – Tips from Our Infrastructure Committee Chair**

#### **Infrastructure**

In order to make our streets and roads safer in Sunset Canyon we have some work to do, at least some of us do. If you have a residential lot in Sunset Canyon that is on a corner this message is for you. Please go out to your corner and look closely to see if you need to trim bushes or trees that are right on the corner.

It is very difficult for drivers to see around the corner on many lots in our subdivision. When cars stop at a stop sign the drivers, in many cases, must creep out slowly to see around the corner. Many cars actually have to get the front of their cars out in the intersection before they can see what is coming from the cross street. This is a dangerous situation for everyone. It is dangerous for drivers but also for walkers, joggers, and bike riders.

If you own one of these lots please go and look at your corner. If you have trouble seeing around it then you know that others have trouble also. Take a few minutes and trim back the limbs from trees and from lower bushes that obstruct the

view. This is just the neighborly thing to do and it helps everyone.

Make this an item to do now that we will be getting into some cooler weather soon. Be a great neighbor in a great neighborhood. We thank you very much for helping us out!!

### **Grass Cutting/Deer Collisions**

As we finally start getting some much needed rainfall in the area you will begin to see a miracle in Sunset Canyon. All the dead grass (and weeds) will start to grow again. The King Ranch Bluestem (KR Bluestem) grass will shoot up very quickly with the rain and some cooler weather. It can grow several inches almost overnight.

The other things that you will observe shortly (if you are a newcomer and not aware) is that the large population of deer in our area will start into the rutting season soon. This occurs about mid to late October and in early November. When the bucks start chasing the does, and they run across the streets and roads in Sunset Canyon, there will be many opportunities for you to have a collision and AMM (In Sunset Canyon) will be looking for your business.

The high grass along the roads and the many deer in our neighborhood make for a very dangerous situation for drivers.

Please cut the high grass on your lots and on any vacant lots if you can. Trim back at least 10-12 feet from the roadway and keep it trimmed. It really helps drivers see deer on the sides of the roads. This might help prevent some of the car/deer collisions that we have in our neighborhood.

### **Parking on Streets**

One thing that seems to be occurring more often these days on the streets of Sunset Canyon is the

parking of vehicles in the roadways. This occurs many times with contractor vehicles, landscapers, moving vans, motorhomes, and trailers.

On the more heavily traveled roads such as Sunset Canyon Dr., both North and South, and on Canyonwood Dr. in Section V this causes some very dangerous problems with traffic. The traffic is already heavy and the roads are fairly narrow. The placement of rock mailboxes also add to the problem.

If you have contractors, workers, or visitors at your home please remind them to try and get their vehicles completely off of the roadway, if possible. Use of the driveways to park is a great idea if they can do so. Just remember that it affects all of the drivers in Sunset Canyon that use these roads on a daily basis. Be courteous and try to help all of us out.

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### **Oak Meadow-Headwaters Connector**

UPDATE TO INCREASING OUR NEIGHBORHOOD TRAFFIC 300%

Connecting Sunset Canyon to Headwater's via Oak Meadow Dr. could increase our neighborhood traffic 300%. If you haven't already, please send an email stating your opposition to ever permanently opening the proposed Emergency Access Only Gate in the future. The second meeting of the Road Committee to discuss proposals is eminent. YOUR VOICE MAKES A DIFFERENCE... ***MANY*** VOICES CAN MAKE ***THE*** DIFFERENCE! Send your email to committee members; County Commissioner [ray.whisenant@co.hays.tx.us](mailto:ray.whisenant@co.hays.tx.us), City of Dripping Springs Deputy Administrator [gfaught@cityofdrippingsprings.com](mailto:gfaught@cityofdrippingsprings.com), Kindal Tate of Sunset Canyon [thetexasitais@gmail.com](mailto:thetexasitais@gmail.com), Paul Wiljanen of SCLA [paulwilj99@gmail.com](mailto:paulwilj99@gmail.com)

Paul Wiljanen, SCLA Rep

Update from Sunset Canyon Rep:

There has only been the initial meeting. We have asked the city multiple times regarding the follow up meeting for the roadway agreement committee and have not received a date or even a tentative date.

Headwaters is clearing land for Phase 2 and are reviewing section 1 of phase 4 that does not include any connecting roads to Sunset Canyon.

The city states that Headwaters does have the right to advertise and hold a wedding expo event at their pavilion and to offer weddings at the three locations within Headwaters.

Residents of Sunset Canyon are encouraged to email both our county commissioner Ray Whisenant and the city's Deputy Administrator Ginger Faught. Their email addresses are listed above. Paul and I request copies be sent to us also, so that we may take the emails as print outs to the next meeting.

Paul and I are always available to answer questions.  
Thank You,  
Kindal

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### **Results of 2018 Special Vote by Mail:**

Ballots were mailed to the 299 members of SCLA who were current on their dues as of August 10, 2018. This ballot was to request approval to increase the budgeted amount on the Directors and Officers Liability Insurance and to approve updates to the SCLA By-Laws.

A total of 120 returned ballots were counted and certified on September 10<sup>th</sup>.

The proposed increase to the budget for D&O Liability insurance passed with 108 YES votes to 12 NO votes.

The proposed updates to the By-Laws passed with 106 YES votes to 13 NO votes and 1 abstain. The updated SCLA By-Laws will be available on our website by September 30<sup>th</sup>.

The board would like to thank everyone who returned their ballots. We encourage everyone to join the SCLA by paying their \$35 dues each year which allows you to participate in all voting.

Joan Thomas, Treasurer

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### **BOARD MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors meets at 7:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall of the Sunset Canyon Baptist Church usually on the **first Monday of each month**. Any changes to the monthly meeting dates will be posted on our website [sunsetcanyon.org](http://sunsetcanyon.org). All residents are welcome to attend. If you have any issue to bring before the Board, please let the President know at least three working days prior to the meeting.

### **CALENDAR OF EVENTS**

Oct 2, 2018 National Night Out  
Oct 8, 2018 Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC  
Nov 5, 2018 Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC  
Dec 3, 2018 Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC

### **WELCOME COMMITTEE**

Are you a new resident of our wonderful Sunset Canyon subdivision? If you are, we want to welcome you and your family with a gift and a welcome packet of information.

Please, call **Sandy Hale - Welcome Committee Chair** at 512-858-5637 or [skhale902@verizon.net](mailto:skhale902@verizon.net).

**Association Information**  
**SUNSET CANYON LANDOWNER'S ASSOCIATION**  
P.O. Box 588 – Dripping Springs, TX 78620  
[www.SunsetCanyon.org](http://www.SunsetCanyon.org)

**Officers:**

**President**.....Steve Gallun 512-970-4763  
[president@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:president@SunsetCanyon.org)  
**Vice President**..... Randy Foster (512) 858-4038  
[vp@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:vp@SunsetCanyon.org)  
**Secretary**..... Margaret Danz  
[secretary@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:secretary@SunsetCanyon.org)  
**Treasurer**..... Joan Thomas (512) 632-5118  
[treasurer@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:treasurer@SunsetCanyon.org)

**Directors**

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**At-Large**.....Sarah Wigfield (760) 889-4212  
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**At-Large**..... Peggy Grambo (512)970-0695  
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**At-Large**.....Lynn Dawson (512) 858-0961  
[atLargeD@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:atLargeD@SunsetCanyon.org)  
**At-Large**..... Tammy Reed (512) 810-3134  
[AtLargeE@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:AtLargeE@SunsetCanyon.org)

**Committee Chairs**

**Infrastructure**.....Gary Hale (512) 858-5637  
[infrastructure@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:infrastructure@SunsetCanyon.org)  
**Website/Newsletter**...Peggy Grambo (512) 970-0695  
[web@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:web@SunsetCanyon.org)  
**Welcome Committee**.....Sandy Hale (512) 858-5637  
[welcomes@SunsetCanyon.org](mailto:welcomes@SunsetCanyon.org)

*To participate in community dialogue:  
sign up for the Google forum by visiting  
[www.sunsetcanyon.org/google](http://www.sunsetcanyon.org/google).*

*Or Join NextDoor SunsetCanyon <https://nextdoor.com>  
The board does not monitor or sponsor these groups.*



**Local Items of Interest**

**School Bus Safety Tips for Motorists**

Most of the children who lose their lives in bus-related crashes are pedestrians four to seven years old who are hit by the bus or by motorists illegally passing a stopped school bus. To help prevent such tragedies, it is helpful to know the proper laws and procedures for sharing the road safely with school buses:

- It is illegal to pass a school bus that is stopped to load or unload children.
- School buses use yellow flashing lights to alert motorists that they are preparing to stop to load or unload children. Red flashing lights and an extended stop sign arm signals to motorists that the bus is stopped and children are getting on or off the bus.
- **Traffic in both directions must stop on undivided roadways when students are entering or exiting a school bus (This includes Highway 290).**
- The area 10 feet around a school bus is where children are in the most danger of being hit. Motorists should stop their cars far enough from the bus to allow children the necessary space to safely enter and exit the bus.
- Be alert. Children are unpredictable. Children walking to or from their bus are usually very comfortable with their surroundings. This makes them more likely to take risks, ignore hazards or fail to look both ways when crossing the street.
- Never pass a school bus on the right. It is illegal and could have tragic consequences.

**No-kill animal shelter to open in Dripping Springs this October**

**PAWS of Central Texas** plans to open its second location at 2965 FM 165 South, Dripping Springs. PAWS Hill Country Shelter will be a no-kill animal shelter, offering full vaccinations and microchipping. 512-268-1611. [www.pawsshelter.org](http://www.pawsshelter.org)

**Local Websites of Interest:**

Ever wonder what is going on in the community? Try [communityimpact.com](http://communityimpact.com) and [austinculturemap.com](http://austinculturemap.com).

**Neighborhood POKER GAME** Come join the fun and play Texas Hold'em with Sunset Canyon neighbors. All you need to know is when to hold'em and when to fold'em. We play on a regular basis so let me know if you want to be put on the email invite list. Limited seating. For details, call/text Paul at [734.645.6614](tel:734.645.6614) or email [paulwilj99@gmail.com](mailto:paulwilj99@gmail.com).

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### **SCLA Needs your Help!**

#### **SCLA Needs Officers and Directors for 2019**

The SCLA has four officers and five directors/members at large that are elected by the membership at the annual meeting in January. Officers and directors serve one year terms. Two of the current officers and four of the directors have indicated that they will stand for reelection. The current president, secretary, and one director have indicated that they will be unable to serve next year. If you are interested in serving as an officer or a director, please submit your name and the position you are interested in to the SCLA Board as soon as possible ([board@sunsetcanyon.org](mailto:board@sunsetcanyon.org)). You are encouraged to submit your name for any position of interest. Officers and directors form the Board which meets for about one hour once a month. Please note that the SCLA has D&O insurance to protect board members from lawsuits.

#### **SCLA Newsletter and Website**

If you have a high school student who is looking for a community activity for their college application please contact Peggy Grambo at 512-970-0695 or email [newsletter@sunsetcanyon.org](mailto:newsletter@sunsetcanyon.org). The newsletter is published quarterly and the website is updated as needed. Fresh ideas are always appreciated.



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Dripping Springs, TX  
78620

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