



Canyon Call

The official newsletter of the Sunset Canyon Land Owners Association • Mar 2021

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 scla.news@sunsetcanyon.org



UPDATE FROM 2021 ANNUAL MEETING MINUTES SUNSET CANYON LAND OWNERS ASSOCIATION

The SCLA had its annual membership meeting on January 25, 2021. This year we had 2 guest speakers: Ron Hood, Hays County Constable Precinct 4 and Lieutenant Clint Pulpan, Hays County Sheriff's Department. Walt Smith, County Commission Precinct 4 was scheduled to speak but was unable to attend due to illness.

Constable Hood gave an overview of his office which is primarily to work the civil side of the law but they also write tickets, make arrests, work investigations just like the criminal-side of policing. Other functions his office provides are:

- If you are going out-of-town, notify the constable's office to schedule a close patrol to check your home making sure it remains locked and there is no suspicious activity.
- They will do home security surveys checking your outdoor lighting, locks, tree trimming, etc to ensure your home is secure.
- Provide fingerprint service.
- They will help to retrieve keys from locked cars during office hours (6am-6pm).

Our neighborhood is one of the safest in the county. He gave credit to our Citizens Patrol Program led by Paul Wiljanen. This program has logged 311 hours of service, 458 patrols and 4,863 miles driven. This patrol serves as their eyes and ears for our community and the flashing lights/signage serves as a deterrent. The biggest problem this past year was car burglaries primarily with people leaving cars unlocked with valuables inside. The best deterrent is to lock your cars and have adequate lighting/motion detection lights.

The traffic continues to increase on Highway 290. At present, there are 88,000 to 100,000 vehicles on 290 per week which increases to 112K-114K during holidays. There are currently 2 traffic officers on patrol

which serves as a deterrent for speeding. In April, a 3rd officer will be added.

Ron also recommended joining the constable's email list to receive timely neighborhood info such as crime reports, road closing, explanation for high patrol activity, etc. You can join by contact Ron at: 512-858-7605 or ron.hood@co.hays.tx.us.

Lt. Pulpan has been with the Sheriff's department for 14 years in patrol and criminal investigation (Detective). He provided an update on crime stats for our neighborhood: no assaults, 7 thefts, 7 car burglaries, 4 criminal misdemeanors, 4 trespassing, 1 burglary habitation, and 1 burglary building. He reminded us that it is important that every crime is reported. When you file a report, it will go through several steps: 1) report is approved; 2) determination is made if we have a crime and if it is in their jurisdiction; 3) a detective follows up and 4) if not leads, won't get signed out (ex. Car broken into and no evidence, no video, no prints). You should not worry about calling the Sheriff's office. They are available 24-7 and encourage us to call.

There is a Sheriff's app available which provides:

- Alerts (road closure, bridge out, active search)
- Lists contact info
- Most wanted list

There is also a Sheriff's Academy (7-8 weeks, 4 hours a week, 1 night a week). This is open to residents and is an excellent program.

This is the link to the Hays County Sheriff's website: <https://hayscountytexas.com/law-enforcement/sheriff/>. On this page you will find more information on:

- 2021 Citizens Academy
- Registering for the County's Emergency Notification System
- How to download the Hays County Sheriff's app

The regular business meeting of the SCLA began at 7:29pm Highlights are:

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- Approved minutes of last year's annual meeting
- Approved budget for 2021
- Officers were elected for 2021
 - President Open
 - Randy Foster Vice President
 - Joan Thomas Treasurer
 - Alan Kleymeyer Secretary
 - Peggy Grambo At Large
 - Sarah Wigfield At Large
 - Austin Wilkes At Large
 - Lynn Dawson At Large
 - Paul Wiljanen At Large

If you have any questions, please email the board at scla.board@sunsetcanyon.org.

Patriots Hall of Dripping Springs (PHDS)

The two local veteran's organizations in Dripping Springs, the VFW Post 2933 and the American Legion Post 290, have not had a permanent meeting place of their own for over 25 years. They have held their monthly meetings in donated space in one of the local schools, the old Burke Foundation School Building, the old Volunteer Fire Hall, and the old High School and Administration building. They have been actively searching for a small piece of property to build a post home. Sometimes veteran business is discussed at a local cafe where the veterans meet for breakfast each morning.

This will now be changing. A ten acre tract of land, located in the old commercial section of Sunset Canyon South, just three miles east of Dripping Springs, has been purchased by a very generous donation from a local family and by many other very generous donations. What is going to be developed on this property is not just a VFW/American Legion Hall, but a whole new concept to serve Veterans and their families. It will be called Patriots Hall of Dripping Springs (PHDS). The plan is to construct a complex of three buildings. There will be a medium size meeting hall, a small chapel, and a large Patriots Hall building. Future plans include walking/jogging trails, a fitness area, a small fishing pond, and possibly a community garden

In addition to a place to have veterans meetings on a monthly basis, it can be used for larger gatherings as needed and may hold up to 200-250 guests for reunions, receptions, anniversaries, weddings, and other events for veterans and family members. Activities such as Yoga, Fitness, art/paintings may be scheduled. In addition a wellness clinic may be available. There is a library/reading area planned. The facility will have a kitchen area to serve catered meals for events. This is a whole new concept to serve our veterans and the intent is to attract more young vets and families. This plan may be used in other areas if it is successful.

There are three local ladies who got together and started working to get a place for our veterans. At first it was just a plan to build a small/medium sized hall for the vets to have their meetings and events. This has now developed into a bigger vision and we are on the way to something greater. These three ladies have spent countless hours working to make this a success and to get it done. The groundwork has been laid. The fundraisers and the hard work and effort of the ladies is now paying off. Numerous donations, both large and small, have been secured from many sources and from many local people and businesses. The work has started.

We hope to have the first building the Meeting Hall, constructed by Spring/Summer 2021. The other buildings will follow soon based on funds available.

REMINDER - PLEASE SUPPORT THE SCLA BY PAYING YOUR DUES

If you have not paid your dues and would still like to join the SCLA, please take a few minutes and drop a check in the mail or visit our website and you can make an online payment. It's only \$35 for the entire year.

The link to our website to make a payment is: <https://sunsetcanyon.org/payment>

Our mailing address can be found under the Association Information in this newsletter.

We hope you are enjoying the Sunset Canyon newsletter. We do have several administrative items that would be helpful to us and ensure you that receive your copy of the newsletter.

If any of the below apply to you, please email us at scla.treas@sunsetcanyon.org.

1. If you are happy accessing the newsletter online on our website and don't need us to mail you a copy.
2. If you are selling your home or changing your mailing address, please send us an update.

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 **second Monday of each month**. Any changes to the monthly meeting dates will be posted on our website sunsetcanyon.org. All residents are welcome to attend. If you have any issue to bring before the Board, please let the Board know at least three working days prior to the meeting.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Apr 12 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC

May 8 - Annual Bulk Pickup by WCI

May 10 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC

Jun 14 - Monthly Board Mtg 7PM at SCBC

(SCBC – Sunset Canyon Baptist Church)

ANNUAL BULK WASTE COLLECTION DAY

The next Annual Bulk Waste Collection Day will be the second Saturday of May - May 8, 2021. unless otherwise changed by mutual agreement of Waste Connections and the SCLA Board. Waste Connections will provide FREE curbside collection of bulk waste for residents who are currently contracted with Waste Connections for weekly trash collection service. Residents may each set out up to four cubic yards of bulky items. The material to be collected should be on the curb by 7am.

For a complete description of what articles will be collected and how to prepare them, please go to our website - www.sunsetcanyon.org/waste-management.



**Association Information
SUNSET CANYON LANDOWNER’S ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 588 – Dripping Springs, TX 78620

www.SunsetCanyon.org

PLEASE NOTE THE NEW EMAIL ADDRESSES

Officers:

President.....vacant

scla.pres@sunsetcanyon.org

Vice President..... Randy Foster (512) 858-4038

scla.vp@sunsetcanyon.org

Secretary.....Alan Kleymeyer

scla.sec@sunsetcanyon.org

Treasurer..... Joan Thomas (512) 632-5118

scla.treas@sunsetcanyon.org

Board Members:

At-Large..... Peggy Grambo (512)970-0695

scla.board.1@sunsetcanyon.org

At-Large.....Sarah Wigfield (760) 889-4212

scla.board.2@sunsetcanyon.org

At-Large..... VACANT

scla.board.3@sunsetcanyon.org

At-Large.....Lynn Dawson (512) 858-0961

scla.board.4@sunsetcanyon.org

At-Large Paul Wiljanen (361) 265-8161

scla.board.5@sunsetcanyon.org

Committee Chairs:

Infrastructure.....Gary Hale (512) 858-5637

scla.infrastructure@sunsetcanyon.org

Website/Newsletter...Peggy Grambo (512) 970-0695

scla.news@sunsetcanyon.org

Welcome Committee..Sandy Hale (512) 858-5637

scla.welcome@sunsetcanyon.org

Plan Review scla.plans@sunsetcanyon.org

To participate in community dialogue:

Join NextDoor SunsetCanyon

<https://nextdoor.com>

The board does not monitor or sponsor this group.

Maintenance After the Freeze

Our week of freezing temperatures has set back even our native plants. However, all is not lost! Use this guide to assess free damage in your landscape. Patience is key, as some plants might not show signs of new growth until May.

Our first step is to remove things that are black, mushy, or obviously broken. Prune the plant back to healthy growth (using the scratch test to determine) with clean pruners as soon as possible, or remove it entirely if it cannot be salvaged. These trimmings are safe to compost.

Especially if you took the proper precautions, our native and adapted trees and shrubs have a good changes of bouncing back. In the case of fruit trees (non-citrus) it may take as long as May for them to leaf out again, so it's important to give the tree a chance to recover. Use the scratch test on the branches to determine what is dead and may be pruned.

Citrus trees are more or less cold-tolerant, depending on the variety. Most citrus trees have been grafted onto a rootstock, so if your tree comes back below the graft, it won't be the same variety as when you purchased the tree, and likely will not produce desirable fruit. These trees should be replaced.

Extra notes & exceptions

Tender houseplants and tropicals — Boston ferns, fiddle leaf figs, plumeria, etc. — that were accidentally left exposed are unlikely to recover.

As a rule of thumb **DO NOT prune oaks between Feb 1 and July 1** to prevent the spread of oak wilt. This rule still applies, and these trees should just be given time to bounce back. If you must prune branches that pose a hazard, use a pruning sealer after each cut.

Some rosemary varieties are more cold-hardy than others. Tuscan Blue, Barbeque, and Huntington Carpet are all for zones 8-10 and will have suffered more damage than varieties like Arp, Hill Hardy, or Blue Spires which can grow in Zone 6. Wait a couple of weeks to assess damage. If only the tips were hit, you could shear the plant back and it can recover. However if the damage is deeper into the plant, it may need to be replaced. Rosemary rarely pushes new growth through its tough, woody old growth stems, and a mature plant will struggle to recover from extensive damage.

Esperanza, or Yellow Bells, forms woody stems, but should be cut all the way to the ground whether or not we have a freeze. If the plant was sufficiently protected it may still return from the roots.

The same rules apply to container plants, but their chances of survival will not be as great as plants in the ground. If the roots froze solid, the plant may not recover.

Remember liquid seaweed is a great tonic for plants. It helps plants recover from a wide range of stresses, including cold damage, transplant shock, heat stress and more! Give your plants a dose to help them bounce back sooner!

For the complete article (including helpful illustrations) see the **Texas Natural Gardener website** tngaustin.com/maintenance-after-the-freeze/





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After a months long development process, **Dripping Springs** ISD’s Administrative Attendance Zone Committee on March 29 made a recommendation to the board of trustees for adjusted elementary school attendance zones. New zones are necessitated by the impending completion of the district’s fifth elementary school, Cypress Springs Elementary School. Trustees will take a final vote on the matter at a special meeting April 12.

The option recommended by the committee—referred to as **Option E** during the development process—involves a zoning configuration that sends all students in the district’s southwestern region to Walnut Springs Elementary School as opposed to alternatives that would shift many of those students to Cypress Springs

Nicaraguan coffee producer **EDG Coffee** will have a ribbon-cutting and grand opening March 30 for a new coffee trailer at 12024 W. Hwy 290, Austin. The company specializes in ethically sourced beans grown by farmers who are paid above the national minimum wage, according to trailer manager Chelsie Griffith. EDG also sells coffee online and through a home subscription service. www.edgcoffee.com

A new permanent food trailer, **Brucie**, opened March 19 at the joint C.L. Butaud and Wine for the People Tasting Room, located at 12345 Pauls Valley Road, Dripping Springs. The new food truck serves dishes by owner and chef Barclay Stratton, including a brunch and dinner menu and shareable items, such as cheese and meat plates. The tasting room opened Dec. 9 and offers wine by the glass and bottle. www.brucieatx.com

H-E-B announced in the fall of 2019 it would move its Oak Hill store about 1 mile to the west, close its current location and open a new 90,000-square foot store due to the impending Texas Department of Transportation project to widen Hwy. 290.

According to representatives from H-E-B, that new store is set to open in August at 7901 W. Hwy. 290, Austin, at the intersection with FM 1826. The existing store in the Center of the Hills shopping center at 7010 SH 71, Austin, will close when the new location opens.

Coming soon—**Food trucks at the Hub** (1000 Sunset Canyon Drive South)

When it comes to *Selling your Home* wouldn't it be nice to know your *Realtor* cares about Sunset Canyon as much as you do? Well, my wife and I along with our newborn daughter live here and could not be Happier. I feel a Buyer moving into Sunset Canyon would be delighted to know the Listing Agent not only lives here but just moved-in, at the beginning of 2020 and likely for a lot of identical reasons. I have also set records multiple times in multiple areas for the *Highest Price Per Sqft Sold* (available upon request). This is due to a couple of unique skillsets that I'd be happy to share.



Please feel free to call me anytime.

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