

Subject: BEHA Update

20 September 2011

Good morning neighbors! Linda and I have only lived in Texas for three years and certainly have been blessed with family and friends. What we weren't ready for is these incredibly hot summers. Wow! Fortunately we were able to escape for part of the summer to Ruidoso, New Mexico where we enjoyed cool hikes, golf, horse racing, and even learned a fun new game called pickle ball. It is with great hope that all of you had a pleasant summer and you are in good health.

As my term is quickly running out I want to share with you a few thoughts I have and ask for your help on a few things. Foremost, my family and I have been blessed these past two years. We live in a beautiful neighborhood with beautiful neighbors. It is amazing in time of need how many stand up and help each other out. I also learned that there is a lot of concern and interest in our neighborhood about maintaining its park like beauty. I met a couple of you through phone calls about poorly kept yards, missing cats, parking of cars, sprinkler systems, garage sales and barking dogs. Each time I addressed those issues they were handled with a whole lot of respect, civility, and understanding. I could go on about many things, but suffice to say it has been a blessing.

As I move forward I send you my heartfelt thanks and ask you to give serious thought about volunteering on a committee or serving on the board. I will talk more about that in a bit. We need you and please remember the blessing comes in the service, not the result.

1. Finance Report-We have **\$13,584.40** in the BEHA Account. We have 3 families that still owe 2011 HOA dues. All three families have been notified by certified mail. One of the homes is vacant and the other two are involved in legal situations. We have only our neighborhood picnic and monthly utility and service bills remaining for the remainder of the year.

2. Neighborhood Picnic- We had to scrub the original date of 24 September for several reasons. Mostly we had to postpone because of peoples availability to help out. The board would love to have the picnic on the 24th of October at the same location we did last year.

Last year we had approximately 130 people attend. We enjoyed German food and music, along with a few games, a whole lot of visiting and the kids were able to enjoy the jump house and a good all fashion face paint. All in all we had a very nice day.

We need a few volunteers to form a small group to help organize the event. I would love for those of you who helped last year to once again share your

expertise. The plan is for a simple all American BBQ. So if you can volunteer please email me your name and phone number. It will be fun. My email address is jpmac08@yahoo.com

Even if you are unable to help out please respond back to me the number that will be joining us from your family so we can determine how many neighbors to plan for. Please email your response by September 30th.



4. BEHA Web page. Rita Hanson our designer has moved to New Orleans. We need some local expertise to help maintain our web page. The site is up and running. However, continual updates, improvements and maintenance will always be needed. Some of your high school children might be perfect volunteers. But we do need help. Please consider serving. Send me an email if you would like to serve. Jpmac08@yahoo.com

5. Neighborhood information.

Wildlife continues to be a bother in our neighborhood. Some of you, including me, have lost family pets to some sort of predator; likely a fox was the culprit as one or more have been seen. So beware!

One of our neighbors had raccoons take up residence in his attic. Apparently as in the All-State insurance mayhem commercials. Their stay proved costly. Make sure your access areas are protected from varmints; your attic is a perfect home for squirrels, raccoons and mice.

Vacant lots. Remember if you leave us and are moving it is the responsibility of the owner to reasonably maintain their lots. This past year we have had a few issues with overgrown yards and green swimming pools. The BOARD will attempt to reach you or your realtor to remedy the situation. If we are unable to reach an agreement the matter will be turned over to the City of Keller for action. Please be considerate.

A call for help. My time is up as a member of the BEHA board. It is also the end of a term for Duane. Another member may also be leaving. The BEHA needs your ideas and energy. I know many of my neighbors are creative, others are incredibly hard working and some of you are great thinkers. A few of you are wonderful activists and our home owners association needs all of that. Please consider serving so that we continue to be a great neighborhood.

Blessings
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Interesting Facts About The Lone Star State

The population of Texas is 24 million, not including the 16 million cattle.

70% of the population of Texas lives within 200 miles of Austin.

Texas possesses three of the Top Ten most populous cities in the U.S. - Houston, Dallas and San Antonio.

Texas' most populous county and third most populous in the United States is Harris county in southeast Texas with 3.4 million residents. The least populated county in Texas and the United States is Loving county with only 67 residents.

Texas has 215 cities with a population of 10,000 or more.

The Dallas-Fort Worth area has more residents - 6.9 million - than 39 U.S. states. For example, Colorado has about 5.0 million residents. (as of February, 2011)

Texas includes 267,339 square miles, or 7.4% of the nation's total area.

El Paso, Texas is closer to Needles, California (516 miles) than it is to Dallas, Texas (571 miles).

Texas' largest county is Brewster with 6,208 square miles. Connecticut (5,544 Sq Mi), Delaware (2,489 Sq Mi) and Rhode Island (1,545 Sq Mi) can fit inside this county.

The King Ranch itself near Corpus Christi is larger than the state of Rhode Island, includes 50,000 head of cattle and more than 2,000 miles of fence.

Texas possesses 23,292 farms with 1,000 acres or more for a total of 132 million acres, or 80% of the state land area.

Texas has 90 mountains a mile or more high, with Guadalupe Peak in West Texas at 8,751 feet being the tallest.

Almost 10% of Texas is covered by forest which includes four national and five state forests.

Average yearly rainfall totals in West Texas are less than 8 inches while in East Texas totals exceed 56 inches. Texas climate statistics, Texas and U.S. weather extremes.

The average January temperature for Amarillo is 36.7 degrees while in Brownsville the average is 61.4. On March 27, 1984, the temperature in Brownsville was 106 degrees while Amarillo reported snow and 35 degrees.