

HIGHLAND HAVEN NEWS

<https://highlandhaventx.com/>

Edition: January 2025

Sponsor – Highland Haven Property Owners

PROPERTY OWNERS' ASSOCIATION

Johnny Farris, Secretary

- ❖ All property owners in Highland Haven are automatically members of the Association and the Board welcomes and encourages your participation in all regular meetings. If you have ever wondered how the POA functions, how it is funded, or how decisions are made, this is a great opportunity to learn and engage.

The biannual meeting was held Saturday, February 8th. This year's meeting included highlights and accomplishments of 2024 and plans for 2025:

- Financials
- Parks and grounds upkeep
- Management of rental spaces, and
- Use of, and enhancements to, the Community Center.

The Director Place 3 position has not been filled. Please contact a board member if you are interested or would like to nominate someone. The duties of this position are defined here: [Oct8 Bylaws FINAL.pdf](#)

- ❖ **Great news for uncovered storage renters!** The Highland Haven water system upgrade is complete, and trailers can soon be returned to their previous locations. Unfortunately, the POA did lose some space because of the water system expansion and contingencies will have to be developed for some items. Stay tuned for more information!
- ❖ **New signage!** You might notice new signs at the entrances to the rental storage areas. Unauthorized use of both covered and uncovered storage areas has been an issue for several years and the Board has necessarily taken action to address this. Unauthorized use of rental spaces deprives the POA of important revenue and can cause hardship for legitimate renters who are unable to use the space(s) they pay for. Going forward, the rental areas will be more closely monitored, and if unauthorized vehicles or trailers are found, and if the owners of those vehicles cannot be located, the vehicles are subject to being towed. If towed, the owner will be responsible for the towing and storage fees assessed by the towing company.
- ❖ **More news about Rental Spaces!** All POA storage spaces are full and there are currently thirty neighbors on the waiting list. Please be mindful that storage spaces are of varying sizes and not all vehicles will be appropriate for a given space. Therefore, when space does become available, it might not meet your storage needs. Next month's newsletter will feature additional information about storage and storage contracts.

NO COMMUNITY POTLUCK IN FEBRUARY

CITY OF HIGHLAND HAVEN

Olan Kelley, Mayor

mayor@highlandhaventx.com

City Hall Changes

- Our **City Secretary, Lezley Baum**, submitted her resignation on November 21, 2024, her last day in the office was January 23, 2025. Lezley has committed 5 years of dedicated service to Highland Haven. Lezley is resigning to spend more time with her family and travel. Lezley retired from the City of Hobbs New Mexico after serving there for 30+ years before moving to Highland Haven. Lezley is a great asset for our community and will be missed at City Hall. She is not leaving Highland Haven and has indicated her willingness to provide consultation when she is in town.
- Upon receiving Lezley's resignation, the Board of Alderman approved advertising for the City Secretary position. We were very fortunate to receive an application from a very qualified applicant, Sarah Collard.
- The interview panel recommended hiring Sarah to the Board of Alderman and the Board approved hiring her effective February 15. Sarah's first day in the office will be February 18.

Municipal Elections

- Elections are scheduled for May and candidate filing continues through February 14.
- Three alderman positions are scheduled for election. The incumbents are **Aldermen Bruce Robertson, Lynn Smith and Terry Smith**.
- Candidate filing packets are available at City Hall.

Texas Legislature Update

- It is important that our community closely monitors city related bills that have been filed. Please take time to review the TML Legislative Update and read the synopsis of these bills. The Board of Alderman will review such bills at their BOA meetings. The community is encouraged to attend and participate in these discussions. Once the Legislature approves a bill it becomes law, and the City of Highland Haven will be required to comply with these laws. To learn more about legislative issues that may directly affect the city, please visit: <https://highlandhaventx.com/legislative-issues/>
- **Residents are encouraged to send letters/email to our State representatives and senators letting them know your opinions on proposed bills.**

Water System

- **Good News!! Our 2024 water conservation efforts paid off and we kept the volume of water pumped from our aquifer below the mandatory reduction restriction!**
- **Bad News! We have received insufficient rain to improve area aquifers. On December 20, 2024, the Central Texas Groundwater Conservation District voted to continue the 15% MANDATORY Drought Water Reductions for all exempt and non-exempt water wells. The MANDATORY reductions are effective January 1 through December 31, 2025. <https://www.centraltexasgcd.org/drought-status/>**
- **The City of Highland Haven groundwater permit is reduced from 82-acre feet to 69-acre feet; therefore, all Highland Haven water customers are required to continue their efforts to reduce water use.**

Landscape Planning

- This is the time of the year to start landscape planning. Property owners and residents should plan for continuing drought conditions. 70% of all residential water use is for watering landscaping. Review watering requirements for any new or replacement lawns and landscaping. Consider using plants and trees native to our area. Research water requirements as you plan for new landscaping plants. Check out these resources.
 - o <https://travis-tx.tamu.edu/about-2/horticulture/basic-landscape-design/lawns-in-the-home-landscape/>

- <https://travis-tx.tamu.edu/about-2/horticulture/ornamental-plants/trees-and-tree-care/>
- Take time to consider placement of trees. before planting. Plan to avoid future problems when the tree is fully grown. Below are some resources to consider before planting trees and shrubs.
 - Backbone Nursery
 - <https://backbonevalleynursery.com/tree-planting-instructions/>
 - Pedernales Electric
 - <https://www.pec.coop/reliability/vegetation-maintenance/planting-guidelines/>
 - Highland Haven
 - <https://cdn.townweb.com/highlandhaventx.com/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/ORDINANCE-37-210803-REV-6-1.pdf>
- Contact Pedernales Electric Cooperative if you have limbs that could fall and damage powerlines.
 - <https://www.pec.coop/safety/yard/#:~:text=Tree%20Trimming&text=If%20you%20see%20trees%20growing,to%20safely%20clear%20the%20vegetation.>
- Please check and make sure your tree limbs are trimmed back to provide a minimum clearance of 15' above streets to accommodate emergency vehicles, trash trucks and RV's.

Board of Alderman

- The next February Board of Alderman meeting is scheduled February 19th at the community center. Meetings begin at 7 p.m.
- BOA meetings are open to the public. Residents and property owners are encouraged to attend.
- BOA meetings are scheduled for the 1st and 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Community Center.

Planning and Zoning Commission

- Next regular meeting is 6pm, February 13.
- Residents and property owners are encouraged to attend.
- P&Z meetings are held in the Community Center.

Solid Waste Service

- Highland Haven Trash and Recycling Schedule can be found at
 - <https://highlandhaventx.com/waste-services/>

Building Permits

- If you have questions regarding the permitting process or whether your project requires a permit, contact us at buildingpermits@highlandhaventx.com or (830) 265-4366 office or (210)710-8739.
- Tom Weaver is our Building Permit Official and can help you with the permit.

Visit out our website!

- Visit the website and subscribe to receive emails and texts when items are posted to the website. <https://highlandhaventx.com/>
- **You can subscribe to receive emergency alerts from the City via text, email or both.**
 - <https://highlandhaventx.com/subscribe-to-updates/>
- We encourage you to use our website to find information about our Board of Alderman and Planning & Zoning meetings; water and solid waste services (including pay online options), agendas, forms, permits, community activities, news, notices **AND MORE!**

Emergency Preparedness / FEMA Hazard Mitigation Plans

- Below are links to information to help you prepare for an emergency.
 - <https://texasready.gov/build-a-kit/disaster-supply-checklist.html>
 - <https://www.ready.gov/kit>
 - <https://www.weather.gov/owlie/emergencysupplieskit>
 - <https://www.fema.gov/blog/10-items-include-your-emergency-kit>

- **It is never too early to sign up** for emergency early warning notices. You can now click on this link and sign up for the following. <https://highlandhaventx.com/emergency-resources/>
 - **Warn Central Texas**
 - **LCRA Floodgate Operations Notification Service (FONS)**
 - **LCRA Flood Operations Report**
 - **LCRA Hydromet**

HIGHLAND HAVEN LADIES CLUB

Pat Koehn, President

The next Ladies Club meeting will be on March 12 at 1pm. **Sherry Hume, Laura Higgins, and Pam Hines** will be the hostesses.

Thanks to all who helped during the busy Christmas holiday season. The Ladies Club decorated and undecorated the Community Center and the bridge into Highland Haven. A committee of volunteers judged Christmas decorations throughout our community and placed signs in the winning yards. Ladies set up and cleaned up after our wonderful Christmas dinner.

Our ladies fulfill many jobs that benefit our community. To name a few ... they organize the Lending Library located on the southside of the community center, they put up and take down American flags for patriotic days, aluminum can recycling and delivery to the Marble Falls Recycling Center is managed by one lady, an annual audit of our financial records is done by ladies and the making and organizing of name tags for residents to wear during potluck meals and while working at the annual rummage sale are all done by lady volunteers with help from spouses and friends. Thank you All!

Annual Rummage & Bake Sale Sponsored by Highland Haven Ladies Club

For those residents new to our community, the sale is a huge event which draws shoppers from surrounding areas. This is an All-Hands-On Deck event! Not only are donations needed, but the success of the event depends on the many volunteers needed to setup and also work during the actual sale. Helpers (ladies & men) are still needed to work during setup week. Show up and help, even if it's only for an hour.

Set up begins Sunday, February 23, at 1 PM. (Yikes, only 2 weeks away!!!) Strong muscles are needed on this day and some weak ones to help with a few light tasks. Organizing & pricing donated items continues Monday, Feb 24th through Thursday, Feb 27th.

Sale times are **ONLY** Friday, February 28 from 8 to 4 and Saturday, March 1 from 8 to 2. Friday morning is our busiest time, and people usually begin arriving at 7 am to look over outside items. If you can come early that day, let **Sherry Moore** know. Your help is greatly appreciated.

Pick up time for remaining items (those items not sold) will begin at 3:00 after the Rummage Sale closes on Saturday. We will try and get as much cleaned up as possible on Saturday after the sale, but help will still be needed on Sunday, beginning at 1pm, to put things away in storage areas.

Please consider volunteering to assist during setup week and/or during actual sale days. Feel free to call or text **Sherry Moore** if you have any questions or concerns or if you're willing to volunteer for a section.

Let's make this our best rummage sale ever! **Sherry Moore (512-554-4994)**

Annual Highland Haven Rummage & Bake Sale

Sponsored by our wonderful Ladies Club

Friday, February 28th ~ 8:00 – 4:00

Saturday, March 1st ~ 8:00 – 2:00

Our **Annual Rummage & Bake Sale** is just around the corner, and your donations are needed. Just about anything/everything will be accepted! **Donations of** gently used clothing, purses, books, furniture, exercise equipment, baby items, kitchen utensils, dishes, linens, tools, pictures, fishing and yard equipment, water skis, coffee pots, toasters, pots and pans, plants, and much more are greatly appreciated –The only **items not accepted** are old TV's, computer equipment, monitors, refrigerators, mattresses or sofa beds. Contact **Sherry Moore**, chairperson if you need additional information.

The Bake Sale also needs donations of cakes, pies, cookies, candies, brownies, bread, etc. All residents are welcome to bring baked goods for our sale. Contact **Stacey Leal** regarding bake sale questions.

Also, any spare plastic bags will be greatly appreciated. Drop them off any time during setup week.

Important Dates & Times:

Table setup

Help is needed for setup ... **Sunday February 23rd @ 1:00**

Organize & price all items

Monday/24th – Thursday/27th @ 8 AM to 4 PM

Lots of muscles and any help will be appreciated. Men & women of all ages can help. Come join us for an hour or for as long as you can any time during setup week. This is a perfect time to get to know your neighbors and have fun too!

Rummage Sale donations accepted

Monday/24th – Wednesday/26th ... 8am-3pm AND Thursday/27th ... 8am-12noon

Baked Good donations accepted

Thursday/ 27th or Friday morning/ 28th


Rummage Sale Workers are needed

Saturday, March 1st @ 8:00 – 2:00

NOTE: Contact Brenda Weems to arrange pick up of large items.

CITY OF HIGHLAND HAVEN

February 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					<i>Circuit Class</i> 11:45 – 12:45	1
2	3 <i>Quilting 10 am</i> <i>Bridge lessons</i> 3:00pm ~ <i>Bridge 6:30 pm</i>	4 <i>Silver Sneakers</i> 11:45 – 12:45 BOA meeting 7:00 pm	5	6 <i>Trash & Recycle</i>	7 <i>Circuit Class</i> 11:45 – 12:45	8 HHPOA Biannual Mtg 9:30am
9	10 <i>Bridge 6:30 pm</i>	11 <i>Silver Sneakers</i> 11:45 – 12:45	12	13 P&Z meeting 6:00 pm <i>Trash</i>	14 <i>Circuit Class</i> 11:45 – 12:45 <i>Candidate Filing</i> <i>Deadline</i> Valentine's Day 	15
16	17 Presidents' Day <i>Quilting 10 am</i> <i>Bridge 6:30 pm</i>	18 <i>Silver Sneakers</i> 11:45 – 12:45 BOA meeting 7:00 pm	19 Bingo 1pm Game Night 7pm	20 <i>Trash & Recycle</i>	21 <i>Circuit Class</i> 11:45 – 12:45 <i>Newsletter article</i> <i>deadline</i>	22
23 Rummage Sale Room Setup 1:00pm	24	25 NO Potluck	26	27 <i>Trash</i>	28	March 1
<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 60%;"> Rummage Sale Organizing/Pricing: 8:00 - 4:00 Mon/Feb 24th – Thurs/Feb 27th Donations accepted: 8:00 – 3:00 Feb 24th - 26th AND 8:00 - 12:00 Thurs/Feb 27th Bake Sale donations accepted: 12-3 Thurs/Feb 27th AND 8-noon Fri/Feb 28th </div> <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: 35%; text-align: center;"> Rummage Sale Friday, Feb 28th 8am-4pm Saturday, March 1st 8am-2pm </div> </div>						

Send newsletter articles & photos to highlandhavennews@gmail.com

If you would like to receive the newsletter, send your name, email & Highland Haven address to the email address above.