

# Legendary Oaks Property Owners Association

52097 U.S. 290, Hempstead, Texas 77445 — [LegendaryOaksPOA@gmail.com](mailto:LegendaryOaksPOA@gmail.com)



Many thanks to our residents who have been “caught” working hard and showing personal pride in keeping our neighborhood beautiful. The board has seen residents pulling weeds, fixing and maintaining the fountain, spraying weeds in the curbs, planting new plants, putting out mulch, watering in non-irrigation common areas, picking up limbs that have fallen, maintaining the gate, edging lots under receivership, and mowing and weeding the front entrance.

Reminder: The Street and Drainage Maintenance Fees are due **August 1<sup>st</sup>!** Thanks to members that have already paid. A note from our treasurer: Before the POA was formed five years ago, we had a Legendary Oaks Garden Club in place to pay for the water and electricity at the front entrance. As new treasurer, I have discovered the Zelle payments are still in the garden club’s name, Legendary Oaks Garden Club! Not to worry, the funds are going into the Legendary Oaks Property Owners Association bank account. I am working with banking staff to get this resolved!

Jackie Hillman LOPOA Treasurer



**HAPPY**  
*4th of July*  
**2023**



**HOT! HOT! HOT!**

It was **HOT**, but some of us came out to say, Hi all y’all!

Happy  
**4th of July**

**The City Of Hempstead**  
WILL BE SPONSORING  
THE ANNUAL FIREWORKS BY  
**MR. B. FIREWORKS**  
AT THE HEMPSTEAD CITY PARK  
250 BLASINGAME RD.  
**TUESDAY, JULY 4, 2023 AT DUSK**  
IT IS ILLEGAL TO POP FIREWORKS WITHIN THE CITY LIMITS!!!

Join us for the Parade of Cars  
at the 33rd Annual

**WATERMELON FESTIVAL**  
**Saturday July 15th, 2023**

**8:00 am:** Cars will stage at Tegeler Chevrolet (old Lawrence Marshall)  
850 Bus. 6 and 290 - Hempstead, Tx 77445

**8:30am:** Depart to lead the Watermelon Festival Parade  
(NO STOPS AND STARTS)

**9:00 am - Till:** Cars Will Be on Display in Protected Area  
50/50 Pot - Must Be Present To Win

**Trophies and 50/50 Pot will be awarded at 1:00pm**  
(SHADED SEATING AREA ALONG SIDEWALK)

Trophies will be Awarded For: Best Engine, Best Paint, People's Choice, Best in Show,  
Best Truck, Most Original, Best Low Rider, Best Traditional/Rat Rod, Judges Award of Merit,  
People's Choice Award and 10 Top Ten Places.

For more information contact: Dallas Doyle at 713-724-0057 or 936-900-2150  
email: d417doyle@gmail.com

**WATERMELON FESTIVAL**  
*Hempstead, Texas*  
**July 14-15, 2023**

Kids Cook-off Tournament • Parade • BBQ Cook-off  
(Champions Tournament) • Quilt Show • Car Show  
• Cornhole Tournament • Live Bands • Auction  
• Watermelon Games • Street Dance • Carnival • Vendors

**Live Entertainment**

The Brown Sugar Band  
Friday 7PM

The Emotions  
Saturday 7PM

Bout To Get Western  
Saturday 12PM

**FREE ADMISSION**

Check out the website for information.  
[www.HempsteadWatermelonFestival.com](http://www.HempsteadWatermelonFestival.com)

**Hockley Community Center July Special Events**  
28515 Old Washington Road, Hockley  
713-274-3220

**SENIOR BUS TRIP TO GONZALES**  
**Tuesday, July 12, 7:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.**

Join us on a trip to the Lakes and Prairies region. In the middle of the city, where the Texas revolution started, sits the Gonzales County Jail Museum. Now a museum, see the rebuilt gallows, sit in a cell, and see the jailers' quarters. Sign-up for this trip starts June 1. The cost is \$3 payable by check made out to Hockley Senior Citizens, due at sign-up.



**SIGN-UP FOR THE AUGUST SENIOR BUS TRIP**  
**Monday, July 3, at 8 a.m.**

Sign-up is on a first-come, first-served basis. Transportation is provided for individuals 50 and older through Harris County Precinct 4. Buses will pick up and drop off participants at the center.

Trip Destination: San Felipe de Austin State Historic Site, \$10 Admission  
When: Thursday, Aug. 10  
What Time: Bus departs at 10 a.m.  
Lunch is on your own at Prasek's Family Smokehouse.

# History of Fireworks



Many historians believe that fireworks originally were developed in the second century B.C. in ancient Liuyang, China. It is believed that the first natural "firecrackers" were bamboo stalks that when thrown in a fire, would explode with a bang because of the overheating of the hollow air pockets in the bamboo. The Chinese believed these natural "firecrackers" would ward off evil spirits.

Sometime during the period 600-900 AD, legend has it that a Chinese alchemist mixed potassium nitrate, sulfur and charcoal to produce a black, flaky powder – the first "gunpowder". This powder was poured into hollowed out bamboo sticks (and later stiff paper tubes) forming the first man made fireworks.

Fireworks made their way to Europe in the 13th century and by the 15<sup>th</sup> century they were widely used for religious festivals and public entertainment. The Italians were the first Europeans to manufacture fireworks and European rulers were especially fond of the use of fireworks to "enchant their subjects and illuminate their castles on important occasions."



Early U.S. settlers brought their love of fireworks with them to the New World and fireworks were part of the very first Independence Day – a tradition that continues every 4th of July when we celebrate as John Adams had hoped "with pomp, parade....bonfires and illuminations from one end of this continent to the other." Americans' spirit of celebration continued to grow and in the late 18<sup>th</sup> century, politicians used displays to attract crowds to their speeches.

While July 4<sup>th</sup> is still the "big day", Americans continue to use fireworks year-round to celebrate at festivals, special events, and sporting traditions such as the Olympics and Super Bowl.

Fireworks entertainment generates dollars as well as smiles. *Thunder Over Louisville* is one of the country's largest fireworks displays and an economic study conducted by the Derby Festival determined that Thunder generates more than \$56 million for the local economy.



But more than anything else, when you think of the fireworks, you think of the Fourth of July and the celebration of our country's Independence. Fireworks have been with Americans since our nation's beginning and that is why the APA will continue its work to *Preserve and Promote an American Tradition!*