



# From the Desk of the Mayor

April 2017

Carl A. Joiner

*City of Kemah*



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Spring is one of my favorite times of year. Isn't it great to see everything start to green up? It seems like a time of renewal. I believe our City is also having a renewal. We have a lot of exciting projects for this year, our fiscal year 2016/2017 is in great shape and we have no debt!

Our capital improvement projects for the year are going well. Paving on Cien and Meadow has been an inconvenience for our residents, but the project is moving along and should be completed soon. Thanks to everyone for their patience! Construction on the Visitors Center Restrooms and City Parking Lot / Park will begin soon. This work is due to be completed in June which will make the improvements available for residents and visitors this summer.

In our City Council meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup>, the Council approved the road right-of-way to several parcels of land to the west side of Hwy 146. I have included a site plan drawing to show the locations of these new right-of-ways. These future roadways will greatly enhance the accessibility into and out of our City in addition to a future traffic light at Bel Road and 146. I want to sincerely thank the land owners for their generous donations of land to the City. These donations amount to about \$2.5 million dollars. The Gordy Family Trust which includes the late Ralph Gordy, his widow Ann Gordy, son Glen Gordy, wife Nancy Vachule, daughter Janice Gordy Alexander, and her husband David Alexander are responsible for an important portion of this important right-of-way. Please thank them if you see them. That same night Council approved an agreement with GBT Realty Company. They will soon start on a development on a new shopping center to the west

of Wal-Mart. This will be a great asset to our City and bring new stores for our citizens. We want to thank them also for a generous donation of another important right-of way.

Team Kemah has some new members and some existing members have been promoted into new positions. I would like to report that Municipal Court Administrator Melissa Chilcote has been asked to serve as our new City Secretary. Our existing secretary resigned in February. Melissa was recommended by our City Administrator and City Council selected her by a unanimous vote. Municipal Court Clerk Margaret Vargas has been promoted to fill Melissa's previous position.

We also now have new members Jacob Bigger and Steve McGough on the Kemah Community Development Corporation. Councilman Kyle Burks was elected to serve as the City Council representative to that board. They join members Shawna Reid, president, Kelley Dawson, Doug Meisinger, and Les Hart. All of them are an important part of our "Team Kemah".

City Council and the Emergency Services Board have recently approved an interlocal agreement to hire Brent Hahn to serve as Kemah's very first full time Fire Chief / Fire Marshall. Chief Hahn has been serving as a part-time Fire Chief of the Kemah Volunteer Fire Department for 6 years and the City has been outsourcing the Fire Marshall duties. He will take the helm on April 7<sup>th</sup> and as Chief, will oversee the 2 dozen certified firefighters, all firefighter recruitment and serve as a liaison between the Fire Department and the City of Kemah.

**Brent Hahn**  
Fire Chief/Fire Marshall



**Future Expansion of Bel Road**  
and addition of a traffic light



**Future Shopping Center**



# From the Desk of the Mayor

I would like to announce that Kemah will not be having any Mayor or City Council elections this May. My current position as Mayor ends this May along with Councilwomen Wanda Zimmer and Robin Collins. All three of us filed for re-election and were unopposed as of the filing date cut off in February. We are excited to report that we will serve the City of Kemah for two more years and our City will not have to go through an election. This will be a cost savings to the City. There are however two important bond elections in May. WCID #12 is having an election for water and sewer improvements and Clear Creek ISD is having an election for facility improvements. Please educate yourself on the facts and get out and exercise your right to vote in these elections.

This last January, our First Lady Colene Joiner and I had the honor of escorting Nancy Gonzalez our Miss Texas USA 2017 and Miss Kemah 2016 to Washington D.C. She was asked to speak at the Texas Delegation Sponsors Dinner and the Black Tie and Boots Inaugural Gala. She wore her "Team Kemah button on her Miss Texas sash to all of the events! We are so fortunate to have her representing our City and our State. She will compete for the title of Miss USA soon.

March 1<sup>st</sup>, Councilman Kyle Burks and I went to Austin for Galveston County Day at the Capital. This was organized by Galveston County Economic Partnership. Kyle and I joined the League City Regional Chamber President Steve Paterson's team to meet with area Senators and Representatives to discuss regional issues. League City Mayor Pat Hallisey and Councilman Larry Millican were also on the team.

Recently, Kemah was host to several groups. Colene and I were asked to welcome these visitors to our City. The Kemah Chapter of the Lions Club International was asked by the Governor of District 2S4 Malki Gore to host the District's quarterly cabinet meeting in our City the last

weekend of January. They had a huge turnout for the weekend event. The Kemah Lions Club group meets the first Wednesday of the month at the Flying Dutchman. Call Bill Kerber for more information (713) 875-3469. In February, Kemah Citizen Shelia Thorne was the convention coordinator for the Texas Garden Club District IV meeting in Kemah. Over 23 counties in this district were represented. All of these visitors spent the weekend enjoying our City and its hospitality.

## **COMMUNITY OUTREACH**

Since my last newsletter, we have had our neighborhood community outreach initiative "Chat with the Mayor" in 5 of our 6 distinctive neighborhoods in Kemah. We want to allow citizens the opportunity to meet with me, city staff, and our Police Community Liaison Officer.

Kemah is unique because we have 6 distinctive neighborhoods with different needs and concerns. I have included a map of our 6 distinct areas of Kemah in this newsletter.

I want to thank our Super Neighborhood Volunteers for arranging these meetings.

- Doug McMurray and deSha Norwood for Bayview Acres
- LuAnn Lathrop and Jill Macomber for Kemah Village
- Pepper Coffey, Tomi Kendrick and Ginny Anderson for Old Kemah
- Dan Rybicki ( with help from wife Ciria) and JoAnn Blackledge for South Kemah
- Thea Lockett and Isaac Saldana for Kemah Oaks

We will be meeting with the West Kemah neighborhood in the near future. Super Neighborhood Volunteers Chris Doyle and Wali Muhammad will be working on this meeting. You should be hearing from them soon..

## Miss Texas with Congressman Randy Weber and the Mayor



## South Kemah Neighborhood Meeting



## Coffee with the Cops



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## POLICE DEPARTMENT NEWS

City Council recently approved a pay raise for all our officers. Interim Police Administrator Chris Reed recommended this raise to keep Kemah's salaries in line with other cities and to retain our fine officers. He was also able to make cost savings within the department budget so there would be no cost increase to the City.

The Kemah Peace Officer Association recently entered the Santa Fe Police Officers Association Cook off on March 10-12. We are proud to report that they placed 7<sup>th</sup> out of 37 other teams in the brisket competition! The City needs to plan an event with a dinner of brisket so they can show off their talent! On March 17<sup>th</sup>, the department hosted a "Coffee with the Cops" at City Hall. Besides interaction with our officers, citizens were given a tour of the Police Department and City Hall. Check their webpage for their next event. March was also busy for PD because they ran the DWI enforcement campaign which ran from March 4<sup>th</sup> and ended on March 21<sup>st</sup>. This campaign helped keep our citizens and visitors safe during the very busy Spring Break weeks. A recent activity was a joint project with the Kemah PD and the Kemah Boardwalk to take part in a community service project to help one of Kemah's own citizens! This project will continue to display to all what "Team Kemah" is all about!

## KEMAH CITIZENS POLICE ACADEMY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

A new Citizens Police Academy class began in January with 22 citizens participating. This is one of the largest classes that they have had. Everyone seems to be enjoying the class.

The big project for the Alumni Association for the year is the "Cops and Crawfish" event coming up on Saturday, April 22<sup>nd</sup> from 11:00 to 2:00 p.m., at the Kemah Community Center. This is a fundraising event sponsored by the KCPAA for the Kemah Police Department. The funds raised go to help the officers buy equipment that is not in the PD budget. Please join us on the 22<sup>nd</sup> for a family day to meet our Kemah police officers and enjoy a lunch of barbecue or crawfish.

## KEMAH KRONIES

The Kronies have a wonderful potluck luncheon every month at the Community Center. The February luncheon had approximately 26 people attend. Also each month

they choose a restaurant to celebrate members birthdays. The February luncheon was at Hoagie Ranch and the March luncheon was held at The Flying Dutchman. For more information about the club, contact Lee Streater at (281) 538-1048. They always welcome new members.

## NEIGHBOR NEWS

Kyle and Stephanie Burks just got back from a trip to Disneyland with their children.

Dorothy Norman and Jan Butler have both been hospitalized but are on the mend.

(We are always looking for neighbor news. Please let us know news that we can add )

## NEW NEIGHBORS

Please welcome our new neighbors Josh Ingram, Shiyin Harkrider, Kenisha Aldridge, and Frank Guzzardo.

## TEAM KEMAH



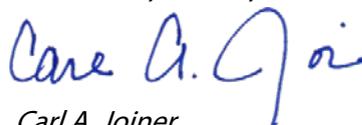
Your "Team Kemah" includes the City Staff, Wendy Ellis, Melissa Chilcote, Nick Haby, Jimmy Thompson, Ana Arevalo, Shelly Crider, Carlene Neeley, Margaret Vargas, Public Works, Kemah Police Department, Kemah Fire Department, WCID #12, Kemah Community Development Corporation, Kemah City Council and me as Mayor. We are here to serve you!

Let's continue to work together to keep Kemah a great place to live, work and play!

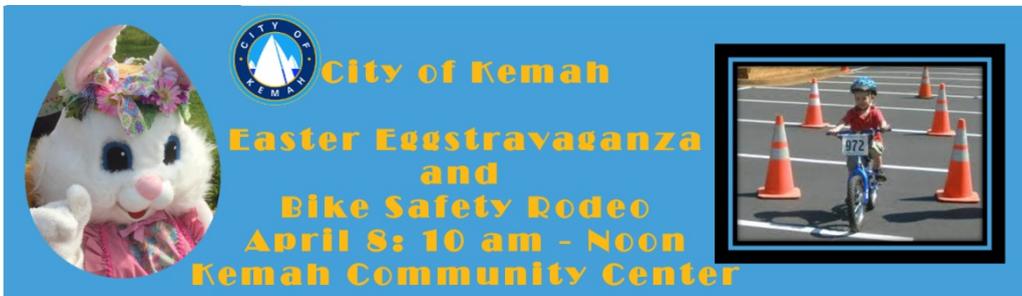
*Feel free to email me with questions and/or concerns:  
mayorjoiner@kemah-tx.com*



*Thanks again for the opportunity to serve as your Mayor!*



*Carl A. Joiner  
Mayor, City of Kemah*



## ANNOUNCEMENT

In an effort to declutter and beautify our City, the Kemah City Council has recently adopted a new sign ordinance. We will no longer allow bandit signs, oversized signs and non-permitted signs. The Police Department has been instructed to remove all signs that violate this ordinance. Please read our ordinance so you can meet the new guidelines.

The Sign Ordinance (#1139) and other recently approved Ordinances can be viewed at

<http://kemah-tx.gov/235/Ordinance-Revision-Proposals>

**OR** contact City Hall to get a printed copy.



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**1401 Hwy 146**  
**Kemah, TX 77565-3002**

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