

# Cy-Fair's Chamber President

Written by Marlena Solomon   Photos by Marisa Hugonnett

New Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce President Mary Evans took the reins of the Chamber last spring and was immediately thrown into a whirlwind of absorbing information and activities. In addition to familiarizing herself with the policies and established work of the Chamber, she was becoming acquainted with the staff, and was quickly meeting members of the Chamber at the networking breakfasts, general membership luncheons and various ribbon cutting ceremonies around the Cy-Fair area.

Selected by the search committee from an overwhelming number of candidates, Evans brings more than 20 years of experience in marketing, public relations, and event planning from within the commercial real estate industry including regional shopping centers, office buildings, and land development. Her areas of focus include ongoing innovation in marketing planning/execution and creative strategy. Cy-Fair Magazine was fortunate Evans was able to take some time from her busy schedule to answer questions about her first months on the job, and the issues and future of Cy-Fair.

## **How has the transition been?**

After being with the Chamber now for four-plus months, I feel much more comfortable with my position and responsibilities, and I'm happy to report that after meeting so many new people initially, I'm finally remembering names and recognizing faces.

## **What is the biggest challenge Cy-Fair currently faces?**

There are many different issues with which the chamber is involved, all of which are related to our primary concern of economic growth. Mobility; however, is a critical issue. The congestion on US 290 and other major roads cannot be dismissed – it's only going to get worse because this is a prime area of town with one of the best school systems in the nation – people want to live here, it's that simple.

Mary Evans replaced Erin Al-Salman as president  
of the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce



Get to Know  
*Mary Evans*



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### What are your goals as president of the Chamber and how do you plan to implement them?

- Identify Cy-Fair's unique set of business assets to develop targeted initiatives to attract new business opportunities to our region.
- Build economic prosperity by positioning Cy-Fair as the premium place to live, work, and play. Pursue opportunities with companies looking to relocate into the greater Houston area.
- Lead/communicate business-focused public policy that fosters economic growth by engaging business leaders in policy development and establish solid working relationships with local, state, and federal policy committees.
- Demonstrate the value of the Cy-Fair Houston Chamber of Commerce to members and prospects to increase revenues. Promote better awareness of programs within the chamber that include business development, economic development, education, governmental affairs, mobility, and networking opportunities.

### What hopes do you have for Cy-Fair's future?

Building alliances with major business partners is paramount to continue to improve the quality of life in the Cy-Fair region. The chamber must serve as a hub for issues, gathering individuals with similar goals together to enhance the environment of our area. I am a facilitator who challenges a group, considers every detail, and then acts to harness in all the positive energy for the collective good. CFM

### Cy-Facts About the Chamber

**LOCATION**  
11734 Barker Cypress, Ste.  
#105, Cypress, TX 77433  
cyfairchamber.com

**NUMBER OF MEMBERS**  
700

**STAFF**  
**Mary Evans**  
President

**Paula Harvey**  
Membership

**Melissa Lombard**  
Business Development

**Jennifer Ellis**  
Bookkeeper

**Cindy Downey**  
Receptionist

**MEMBERSHIP COSTS**  
\$300-\$5000 annually  
(depending on level)

**MONTHLY ACTIVITIES**  
Ribbon Cuttings, General  
Membership Luncheon,  
After Hours Networking,  
Referrals Are Dynamic  
(RAD), and more

