

SUMMER 2013

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

IN THIS EDITION

NOTICE Board Meetings

Glen Laurel's monthly Board Meetings will now generally be held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Woodbridge Club House.

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THANK YOU!

Once again we would like to thank all of the residents of Glen Laurel who participated in the fence vote and who support the movement to better our community with the new fence project. We had some obstacles to overcome, but with all of you joining together and recognizing the overall benefit the new fence will be for all the residents of Glen Laurel, the vote was passed. So thank you again!

The Burney Road construction resulted in broken sprinklers and pipes along Burney Road, the front entrances and the medians along W. Airport and resulted in the loss of some of our plants and trees. We continue to work with the City to get reimbursed for the losses and will have to re-landscape the front entrances. The new plants should be going in around the middle of July.

With the road improvements, landscaping improvements and the new fences we are looking forward to the improved appearance of W. Airport neighborhood as those projects are completed.

W.Airport Fence Update

The Glen Laurel Board is continuing to work with the City of Sugar Land to respond to their many requests for additional documentation so that they can vote to approve on the \$100,000 in 4B funding for the W. Airport fence. To date, the HOA has collected about 70% of the funds from residents. The City is continuing to ask for regular updates on the amount of the special assessment collected so if you have not yet made your payment please turn that in before the final due date of July 30, 2013. As stated previously, the City of Sugar Land donation of \$100,000 is dependent on the residents in Glen laurel funding their share

of the project. The permits and engineering reports are being worked on now and fence construction is scheduled to begin in late July or early August.

Declaration Updates

By now most everyone has heard about the difficult financial problems our HOA faces with the lack of a reserve [savings] fund. In February of this year, the HOA Board commissioned a reserve study to be conducted by Kipon Inc. According to their recommendations, the HOA should have \$450,000 dollars in reserve funds. Currently we have nothing.

To alleviate this problem, the Board is recommending that the yearly assessment be raised from the current \$425 to \$525. The increase will be used to build our reserve funds over a five to seven year period.

While it is difficult to compare one neighborhood to another because of varying amenities, Glen Laurel homeowners pay on average \$150 to \$350 less a year for assessments, than the surrounding neighborhoods. To make the problem worse, the assessment has not been raised since the neighborhood was built approximately 12 years ago.

The HOA Board has gone to great lengths to save money wherever we can, but even those savings will not be enough to replenish the reserve funds to the level they need to be in a timely manner. This increase is absolutely necessary to maintain the financial health of our community.

Regards,

Glen Laurel
Board of Directors

COMMUNITY NEWS

Fort Bend Education Foundation Back To School Scramble

Plan now to play in the 14th annual Fort Bend Education Foundation's Back to School Scramble golf tournament set for Monday August 26, 2013 at Sweetwater Country Club. Schlumberger is presenting the Back to School Scramble chaired by Claude Leatherwood and Rod Nelson.

Registration and Information

The Back to School Scramble promises to offer a fun day, great prizes and array of complimentary, high end items. Foursome teams are \$1,000.00 and individual entries are \$275.00. Your entry fee includes lunch, golf and cart, beverages, reception after the tournament and special gifts. We also have a variety of sponsorship opportunities.

Special Gifts and Fun Galore!

As enjoyed in years past, participants will enjoy the area's best all-around tournament experience. Each golfer will receive:

- Golf apparel
- Lunch provided by Chick-fil-A and plenty of on-course snacks and beverages
- Hosted reception, dinner and raffle
- And much more!

Reception Dinner and Raffle

After an extraordinary day of golf, everyone will have time to enjoy dinner and an awards ceremony.

(continued on page 4)

LANDSCAPING AND BURNEY ROAD CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Landscaping update

Several months ago, the Burney Road MUD began mowing the three detention ponds and the dry detention pond off of Mason Road. While we are grateful that the Burney Road MUD has stepped up and began mowing their property, the use of two landscapers in the sub-division has caused some uneven mowing.



This is due to the MUD landscapers mowing on a ten day schedule and the HOA landscapers mowing every week. The two companies have attempted to time their mowing to be more in line with each other, but there will still be times where one area is mowed several days before or after the other.

We ask for your patience as we move forward with this and please remember, the HOA is saving \$55,000 a year by not mowing the detention lakes.

Burney Road construction

By the time this newsletter reaches you, the construction on Burney Road will have been completed. While we all welcome the widening of Burney Road, the construction left the sprinkler system on the west side of the sub-division in disrepair.

Not only did the actual construction damage the irrigation pipes, the entire sprinkler system along the esplanade on West Airport from Burney Road to Holly Glade had to be shut down during construction, which was why there were no flowers planted in those areas. This lack of water caused several bushes to die along with a mature Oak tree.

In June the irrigation system was turned back on and extensive damage was discovered. Repairs have been completed and we are working with the City of Sugar Land to be reimbursed for the irrigation repairs and the loss of the vegetation.

GLEN LAUREL BOARD MEETING SCHEDULE FOR 2013

The 2013 Monthly Board Meetings are generally held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7pm at the Woodbridge Club House.

The remaining meeting dates for 2013 are:

- August 7, 2013
- September 4, 2013
- October 2, 2013
- November 6, 2013 *Annual meeting
- December 4, 2013



Also, you can view the minutes from past meetings at www.glenlaurel.net.

CITY IRRIGATION ZONE SCHEDULES

Residents, businesses, and homeowners associations (HOAs) are begin asked by the City of Sugar Land to cut back on all outdoor water usage to help spread and balance peak water demands. Voluntary compliance will help ensure an adequate water supply and pressure for the entire city's needs, including fire protection. Glen Laurel's irrigation days are on Wednesdays and Sundays. Please see additional details in the box on the right. Your cooperation is appreciated!

SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Please check the Glen Laurel website to get important information and sign up to provide your email address if you would like to have alerts emailed to you.



Visit www.glenlaurel.net and click on the tab labeled "Email Sign-Up" to receive the notifications. Signing up for email notifications will also allow you to access the Resident Only section of the website.

SUGAR LAND
Conserves Water

Voluntary
Twice-a-Week
Irrigation Schedule

Glen Laurel

Wednesday & Sunday

- Water only Wednesday or Sunday
- Water only when soil is dry
- Water only between 7 pm & 10 am.
- "Cycle and Soak" :
 - Water for 5 minutes
 - Wait an hour
 - Water again for 5 minutes
 - Repeat until soil is moist

For more information on the City of Sugar Land's watering schedule visit:
<http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/irrigationschedule>

City of Sugar Land
Water Utilities
281-275-2450

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- * We use environmentally preferable cleaning products. Your home will be seriously clean and healthy.
- * We work hard to make you happy. Every clean comes with a 24-hour, 100% satisfaction guarantee.

"I want to express my appreciation and satisfaction for the work and results of my house cleaning. The team did a fantastic job and I was really pleased with the deep cleaning and appearance of our home. I would be glad to recommend this service to my friends and family."
— Tim

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832-626-5611

FREE DOG TRAINING OFFERED

Is your dog a little hard to handle, or overly enthusiastic? Fort Bend County Libraries' Mamie George Branch Library, 320 Dulles Avenue in Stafford, will present a special program, "Dog Training 101," on Monday, August 26, beginning at 6:00 pm. Dog trainer Kate Guynn will provide tips on basic canine care and on training methods using the positive-rewards method.



Guynn will provide an overview of the practice of using rewards to train dogs to behave appropriately. She will show how the positive-reward dog-training technique can be used to address behavioral problems like chewing and jumping and for other issues such as potty training and heeling. Learn how these techniques can also be used to teach a dog to sit and lie down upon command.

This instructional program is free and open to the public. For more information, please call the branch library at 281-238-2880.

COMMUNITY UPDATES

Sponsorship Opportunities

There are many levels of participation and business sponsorships at this premier event. Promote your business and have fun doing it at this great event.

For information about the Back to School Scramble call or email Carol Evans at (281) 634-1111, carol.evans@fortbendisd.com. The entry deadline for sign production and player entries is August 16, 2013.

Season tickets for Kempner High School games go on sale in August

Season football tickets for Kempner High School will be issued in the form of a pass for each seat. The pass will be retained by the purchaser for the season and will be good at all Home and Visitor games for that school. As before, the season pass will entitle you to your assigned seat at HOME games.

When you are a VISITOR, the pass will act as GENERAL ADMISSION to the game, with no assigned seating. After season ticket sales are over, the remaining chair back seats will be available on a "first come, first served" basis. All tickets sold during the football season will be GENERAL ADMISSION tickets. Tickets sold at the stadium will cost \$8.00 each. For the 2013 Football season, parking will be free of charge.

Tickets will be sold at the FBISD Athletic Office in Wheeler Field (continued on page 6)

GLEN LAUREL'S STREAM ENERGY POWER UP! FUNDRAISER



We have a new fundraising opportunity we would like to offer to the community that will help raise funds for some needed park improvements in the GL community. We are pleased to offer Stream Energy's unique Power Up! Program. For each customer that signs up for Stream Energy as their electric provider under this program there is a rebate of \$5 per month that would go to the Glen Laurel HOA. The Power Up! Program is an excellent fundraising campaign because everybody uses energy already, and the monthly commissions we would receive from Stream Energy are paid monthly for the duration of your relationship with Stream Energy. There is no extra out-of-pocket cost for you, and we (Glen Laurel residents) benefit on an ongoing basis every single month.

The funds raised thru this opportunity would be used for the Glen Laurel HOA to provide some additional amenities to the neighborhood that residents have requested such as a 1/3 mile walking path around the lake, adding additional trees and landscaping through the community and other projects. There is no extra out-of-pocket cost for you, and we (Glen Laurel residents) benefit on an ongoing basis every single month. Please keep in mind, if you are already an existing Stream Energy customer, you cannot re-enroll under this program. You can however refer others (mother, sister, brother, co-worker) to Stream under this rebate program and the rebate would go to the Glen Laurel HOA.

To sign-up, please visit our website (www.glenlaurel.net) and click on the tab labeled "Power Up! Program". Once on the Power Up! page, click on the "Sign Up" button located on the banner at the top of the page.

Thanks for your participation!

WANT TO BE IN THE KNOW ABOUT FUTURE FORT BEND COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECTS?

The Central Fort Bend Chamber Alliance will hold it's 2013 Fort Bend Regional Infrastructure Conference. The conference, which is scheduled for Sept. 12 at the Rosenberg Civic Center, is a comprehensive resource for forecasts, technical information and updates regarding developing projects in Fort Bend County. Attendees will receive first-hand information from some of the area's most respected authorities on water, transportation, public-private partnerships, and economic forecasting throughout the region.



The breakfast keynote is Fort Bend County Judge Robert Hebert, who will give an overview of current and future infrastructure projects that will affect local taxpayers, free-trade, highway financing and ethics. For more information about the conference or to sponsor, contact Shannan Stavinoha at [sstavinoha@cfbca.org](mailto:ssstavinoha@cfbca.org) or 281.342.5464.

HOW TO HAVE THE BEST LAWN IN THE NEIGHBORHOOD

Lawns can seem difficult to keep healthy in our urban environments, with our hot, drought-prone summers and our alkaline, easily compacted heavy clay soils. But there are some simple ways in which you can boost your lawn's health and avoid the problems with diseases and pests that are so common in our area.



1. Give your lawn a great soil and it will vastly improve its overall health. Lawns need 4"-6" of well drained, organic-rich soil for the roots to be able to access oxygen, moisture and nutrients. Compacted clay soils do not have good air flow, and can prevent water from soaking down to the roots, or conversely can hold moisture at the roots for too long once it does finally soak in. Organic matter in the soil breaks up those hard, compacted clay lumps and allows air and water to flow through the soil, while also feeding beneficial microorganisms.

Before you seed or sod turfgrass, till compost or a good garden soil into the native soil. You will be able to feel the difference right away. If you already have a lawn and need to amend the soil under it, apply compost annually as a thin top dressing and let the grass grow up through it.

2. Choose the right turfgrass for your yard. Each of the four turfgrasses that grow well in our area have widely different growing needs, so they are not interchangeable. If you have a lot of shade, you will need St. Augustine; if you have a combination of sun and shade then Zoysia will better fit your needs. If you have full sun you can grow bermuda grass or buffalograss, which are both drought tolerant, but only bermudagrass will tolerate a lot of walking on it. If you want a low-mown grass, go with bermudagrass, if you want a grass that needs no maintenance once established, try buffalograss. If you have the right grass in the right spot, you will have a lawn that thrives, but if you try to grow grass in conditions it does not like, then it will always look stressed.

3. Mow your lawn at the right height to avoid stressing it out. St. Augustine is a shade grass, and so in order to get enough light to photosynthesize it needs to have long, wide blades that are kept cut at about 3.5" in height. That means you let it grow to 4" and cut it back to 3.5". If it is cut too short it cannot make its own food and will stress out, making more runners and fewer blades. Zoysia japonica varieties prefer to be *(continued on page 6)*

FENCE STAIN IS NOW APPROVED FOR INTERIOR LOTS IN GLEN LAUREL

The GL Board has received several inquiries from residents wanting to stain their wood fences on homeowner property. We are pleased to announce that the **Architectural Control - Modifications Committee has approved HOME DEPOT BEHR Wood Stain in Redwood Natural Tone SC-122** for all homeowner exterior wood fences within Glen Laurel and The Reserve as well as for Mason and Florence. All residents within Glen Laurel are encouraged to use this approved stain to preserve the life of your wood fence.

IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergencies	911
City Hall	281-275-2700
Councilman/Mayor	281-275-2710
Fire Department	281-275-2851
Fire Dept. Non-emergency	281-275-2500
Police Department	281-275-2525
Public Works/Street Lights	281-275-2450
Ordinance/City Code	281-275-2370
Sugar Land Animal Control	281-275-2750
Animal Control Alternate	281-275-2364
Auto Registration	281-341-3710
Crime Stoppers	281-342-8477
Driver's License	281-232-4334
Health Department	281-342-6414
Fort Bend ISD	281-634-1000
Sheriff's Department	281-341-4700
Social Services	281-342-7300
Voter Registration	281-341-8670

Hospitals:

24HR Emergency Center	281-277-0911
Memorial Herman S.L.	281-725-5000
Methodist Health Center	281-274-7000
Oak Bend Medical Center	281-342-2811
S.L. Medical Center	281-274-6600

Misc:

Poison Control	800-764-7661
Sugar Land Library	281-277-8934
Sugar Land Post Office	800-275-8777
Recycling Center	281-342-5226

Sterling ASI
Ry Reid, Community Manager
11201 Lake Woodbridge Dr.
Sugar Land, TX 77498
832-678-4500 x253

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COMMUNITY NEWS

House, 16403 Lexington Blvd.,
from 8:30 a.m. until 4:00 p.m.,
Mondays through Fridays.

August 5 through August 16, only 2012 season ticket holders may purchase the seats held in 2012. If you plan to be out of town during this time, your tickets can be purchased by mail. Please mail a check for the specified amount payable to Fort Bend I.S.D. and include a self addressed, stamped envelope to enable FBISD to return your tickets to you.

August 19 through August 29, all remaining tickets will go on sale to the general public on a "first come, first served" basis. Season Ticket Sales for all FBISD high schools will end on August 29 when the first game kicks off the 2013 Season.

Ticket options ARE NOT TO BE TRANSFERRED to another individual.

Season Ticket sales should be paid by CASH or CHECK ONLY – no debit or credit card transactions will be allowed.

We encourage you to take advantage of the savings (\$3.00 per game) and convenience (no waiting at the gate) that season tickets offer. Your support of the programs is greatly appreciated. For more information, please call FBISD's Athletics Department at 281-634-1900.

BEST LAWN (CONTINUED)

kept at a height of about 2.5". Bermudagrass likes to be kept mowed low, at about 1.5" depending on the variety. When bermudagrass is not mowed low frequently, it gets leggy and less dense. Buffalograss likes to be left alone or kept high at about 4". One sure way of killing St. Augustine is to grow it in full sun and mow it low. If you don't like the shaggy look of St. Augustine, it would be better to try a different turfgrass.



4. Train your grass roots to grow down deep into the soil by watering 1/2" once a week. If turfgrass is watered too frequently, and only a little at a time, the moisture stays in the upper one or two inches of soil and that is where the roots stay. But then in the heat of summer that top two inches of soil dries out very quickly, leaving the roots literally high and dry, even if you watered that day. By watering deeply and infrequently, you put moisture in the lower part of the soil profile, and when the upper few inches dry out over the course of the week, the roots grow deeper to access the moisture that is still there at the bottom. When the summer comes, the roots are happy and so are you. To test your irrigation system to check how long it takes to put 1/2" of water on the lawn, put out a straight-sided can marked on the inside at 1/2" up from the bottom, and time how long it takes for the water to reach the mark.

5. Aerate high traffic areas with hard compacted spots to allow more air flow. When we walk on the grass, we press down on the soil, squeezing out air pockets and compacting the clay. To help your grass roots get oxygen in areas that still get compacted, you can aerate the soil, which involves removing plugs of soil at intervals to create columns of air holes. If you top dress with compost immediately after aerating and water it in, the compost can filter down into the holes to amend the soil and still allow air flow. To aerate successfully, you need to remove soil rather than create holes with spikes that simply compact the sides of the holes even further. Using a hose-end attachment works great because the water easily digs the hole and fluffs up the surrounding soil at the same time.

6. Fertilize lightly, and only when the grass needs it. In our climate and soils, heavy applications of high nitrogen fertilizer can do damage to turfgrass, by attracting insect pests that feed on the lawn, by burning the lawn with high levels of mineral salts, and by forcing a heavy flush of growth that can lead to fungal diseases.

Weed and feed type products can stress some turfgrasses, especially St. Augustine, and can damage tree roots. Young trees can especially be harmed by the broadleaf herbicides in some weed and feed products. Mature tree roots extend far beyond the drip line of the tree, and so if you have a tree anywhere in the yard, its roots will be affected by what you apply to the lawn. Besides, the time to apply pre-emergent herbicides to kill weeds here is in late winter, while the time to fertilize is not until we are well into spring, so the two should not be applied at the same time in a single product—one will always go to waste.

Leaving grass clippings on the lawn when you mow is the best way to fertilize during the growing season. The leaf blades contain all the nutrients the grass needs, and the clippings filter quickly out of sight to the soil surface, where they can decompose and return the nutrients to the roots.

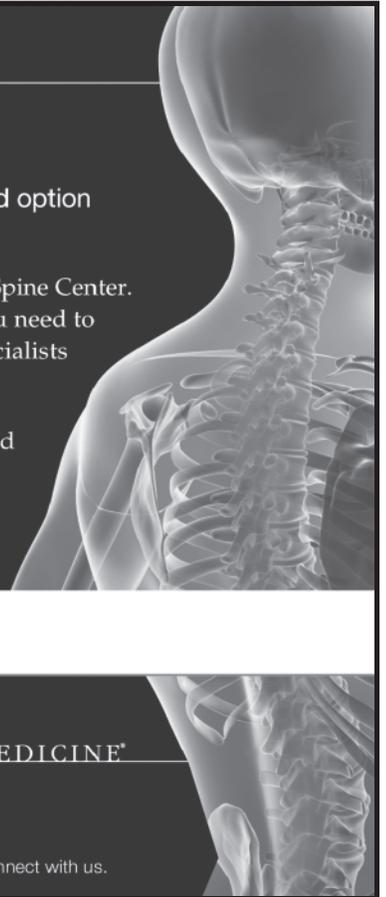
Following these simple steps will help keep your lawn healthy throughout the year. By Susan Decker, Travis County Master Gardner.

BACK PAIN? NECK PAIN?

The Spine Center at Methodist Sugar Land Hospital is the comprehensive, coordinated option for you in Fort Bend County.

For back and neck pain, there's only one premier choice — Methodist Sugar Land Hospital's Spine Center. Whether you've had pain for just a few days or several long years, you'll find everything you need to diagnose and treat your condition in a convenient location, with access to premier spine specialists and a complete range of treatment options.

Getting started is easy. We will guide you through a customized treatment plan, with expedited access to world-class neurologists, neurosurgeons, orthopedic spine surgeons and interventional pain specialists. Plus, physical therapy, occupational/hand therapy, and the most advanced imaging and surgical technologies in the world are available on-site.



Stop enduring pain. Call or email today and begin your personal treatment plan. **281-313-BACK (2225) or SpineCenter@tmhs.org.**

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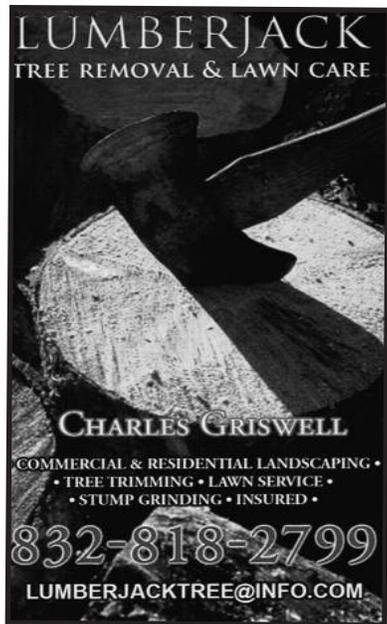
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Sugar Land Middle School Needs Volunteers

The Sugar Land Middle School desperately needs volunteers for PTA for the school year. These volunteers are needed to host Career Day, do concession sales at volley ball, and various other volunteer positions are open. There are officer positions open next year as well. Please contact the Sugar Land Middle School if you would like to volunteer some of your time.

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