# Connections

### Meetings

Meetings are held at: Sugar Land First United Methodist Church 431 Eldridge Road Sugar Land, TX 77478.

Architectural Control Committee Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in Room 608 at 7:00PM.

Lake Committee Meetings are held the second Tuesday of each month in room 600 at 6:30PM.

Board of Directors Meetings are held the third Monday of each month in room 600, (unless otherwise noted) at 7:00PM.

HOA Annual Meeting is held the last Tuesday in March of each year.

For more information, please contact Terri Salter at MASC Austin Properties, Inc. at: (713) 776-1771 or tsalter@mascapi.com.



# From The Board:

There was so much in our May newsletter that this one will be a bit briefer.

During the flood of April 27 the office building of our management company (MASC Austin Properties) was damaged beyond repair. They have temporarily moved their offices to 957 Eldridge Road, in the Sugar Mill Center where McDonalds and Panda Garden are located. Telephone and fax numbers along with office hours will remain the same. We wish them the best as they construct a new building!

Pool tag registration scheduled for May 28th & 30th and June 4th & June 6th from 5 pm - 7 pm will be relocated to the temporary office.

Please be aware that bags containing grass clippings are still being left by the curb by lawn services that manicure yards on Thursday –Saturday. Remember all grass clippings need to be carried away by the lawn service or placed in a fenced area to be placed on the curb no earlier than 7 pm on Sunday evening. It is not only against deed restrictions/guidelines but unsightly when company comes calling on the weekend. Please be considerate of your neighbors and ask your lawn service to work with you on keeping those unsightly bags from ruining the look of your beautiful lawn.

Now is the time to prepare for Hurricane Season and other local emergencies like the flood that hit our area at the end of April. With the college kids home and kids out of school everyone in the family needs to know the emergency plan. The City of Sugar Land has an excellent Emergency Preparation Guide on their website: www.sugarlandtx.gov The website has been completely redone – please check it out!

Informal survey – if you read this newsletter, text "I do" to 713-628-6991

Who is the polar opposite of the Energizer Bunny? Bill Cure – thanks for 28 years of service to Sugar Mill! He always shows up and never beats his own drum!

Thanks also to our Landscape Committee and Papershell/A Garden Gallery for our Yard of the Month.



# Sugar Mill's Annual Fourth of July Parade!

Put on your red, white and blue... decorate those bikes, wagons and strollers because it's time for the annual Sugar Mill Fourth of July Parade!

On Saturday, July 4th, 2013 participants will line up at 10:00a.m. in the Sugar Mill Elementary School parking lot. Sirens will sound at 10:15 a.m. as we are escorted by Sugar Land's police and fire departments down Jess Pirtle to Oak Knoll to Drakewood and on to Sugar Mill Park.

Dress cool and bring water to drink. All participants will receive a popsicle compliments of Sugar Mill Homeowner's Association. Roller skates/blades, skateboards and pets are also welcome. Motorized vehicles are not allowed.

Call Kim Baley at 832-207-4597 for more information.

Thanks,

Sugar Mill's Board of Directors

### 2013 Pool Schedule

### 7TH STREET POOL

May	weekends:	25th	and	<b>26th</b>
_				

Saturday 11:00 am- 7:00 pm Sunday 2:00 pm- 7:00 pm

### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Saturday	5/25/2013	11:00 am - 7:00 pm
Sunday	5/26/2013	2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Monday	5/27/2013	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### 06/01/2013-06/02/2013

Saturday 11:00 am - 8:00 pm Sunday 2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

#### 06/07/2013 - 08/25/2013

MONDAYS	CLOSED
TUESDAYS	CLOSED
Wednesdays	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Thursdays	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Fridays	1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Saturdays	11:00 am - 7:00 pm
Sundays	2:00 pm - 7:00 pm

#### FOURTH OF JULY

Thursday 07/04/13 12:00 pm – 8:00 pm

### LABOR DAY WEEKEND

Saturday	8/31/2013	11:00 am - 7:00 pm
Sunday	9/01/2013	2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
Monday	9/02/2013	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### LAKE CENTER POOL

May weekends: 25th and 26th	
Saturday	12:00 pm- 9:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm- 8:00 pm

#### MEMORIAL DAY WEEKEND

Saturday	5/25/2013	12:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Sunday	5/26/2013	1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Monday	5/27/2013	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### 06/01/2013-06/02/2012

Saturday	12:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Sunday	1:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### 06/07/2013 - 08/25/2013

Mondays	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Tuesday	12:00 pm – 8:00 pm
WEDNESDAY	CLOSED
THURSDAY	CLOSED
Fridays	12:00 pm - 8:30 pm
Saturdays	12:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Sundays	1:00 pm - 8:00 pm

#### FOURTH OF JULY

Thursday 07/04/13 12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

### **LABOR DAY WEEKEND**

Saturday	8/31/2013	12:00 pm - 9:00 pm
Sunday	9/01/2013	1:00 pm - 8:00 pm
Monday	9/02/2013	12:00 pm - 8:00 pm

PLEASE NOTE: TWO LIFEGUARDS WILL BE ON DUTY AT ALL TIMES POOLS ARE SCHEDULED TO BE OPEN

### Yard of the Month!



Congratulations to Armando and Cindy Alvarez at 634 Seventh St. for having received Yard of the Month for May 2013. The Alvarez yard has been chosen as the

first recipient for the new Yard of the Month program in Sugar Mill started by Cheryl Swanson.

It's nice to show appreciation to those homeowners who take care of their yards. And the Alvarez family have gone that extra mile. In the short time they have lived in Sugar Mill they have completely transformed their yard. Their yard is always beautiful, manicured and well maintained. You never know what will be

blooming in the Alvarez yard---colorful flowers are changed for every season. It just makes one feel good to drive by their house.

The Alvarez family have received a Yard of the Month sign and a \$25 gift certificate from Papershell: A Garden Gallery along with recognition in the Sugar Mill Connections Newsletter.

Armando owns a landscaping business (V.F. Landscape, Inc.) with his brother, who lives next door, and his father. So you might want to give them a call if you'd like to make some changes in your own yard.

If you want to suggest a garden for Yard of the Month, please e-mail me at jnsclsone@windstream.net or call 281.242.1773. I'll be seeing you around the block.

Happy Gardening! Cheryl Swanson

# Marion's Fishing Corner

#### BASS AND THE BAROMETER

Have you ever really thought about the barometric pressure reading that the local weatherman reports each night? Most people probably don't pay much attention to it, but anyone who is serious about fishing certainly should. Exactly what is barometric pressure? Well, in simple terms, it is a measurement of the weight of the air above a surface. This includes the water surface of our area lakes.

Gamefish, such as the largemouth bass, are certainly affected by different levels of barometric pressure. For instance, under cloudy, rainy conditions with low pressure, bass are normally in a chasing mode and will cruise their area looking for an easy meal. Fast moving artificial baits such as crankbaits, spinnerbaits, and vibrating jigs usually draw the most attention during these times.

Clear, bluebird skies indicate high barometric pressure conditions. Under high pressure, bass will be far less active. I have read articles that suggest high pressure actually affects a fish's sense of balance. A bass will normally bury up in a brush pile and wait for a change in conditions. These fish are not actively feeding, but they usually will react to a slow moving plastic worm or jig that slithers through their area. Slow, methodical retrieves are most effective during these times.

So the next time you plan a fishing trip, it might be a good idea to check the barometer before heading out. It just might give you another clue as to the activity level of the fish.

Remember to catch and release, because a bass is too valuable of a resource to catch just once.

Good Luck, Marion

Article written by Marion Raska who has lived in Sugar Mill and fished on Misty Lake for over 18 years.

### FBISD's Annual Summer Orchestra Camp

Fort Bend ISD welcomes students who have completed grades 6-8 or have completed at least one year of musical training on an instrument to enroll in its annual middle school Orchestra Camp. The Orchestra Camp will be held from July 8-18 at Sartartia Middle School (8125 Homeward Way, Sugar Land, 77479), and will provide students with the opportunity to perform in large ensembles, as well as in small sectional rehearsals of like instruments, under the direction of various music teachers. Students will also receive instruction in sight-reading, basic theory, and rhythm study. The camp will conclude with a public concert at 7:00 pm on Thursday, July 18. The camp will be held from 7:30 am to 12:00 noon, Mondays through Thursdays. Registration will be taken by mail only. Camp fees are \$85 for Fort Bend ISD students and \$100 for out-of-district students. Registration forms are available online at www.fortbendisd.com/departments/academics/fine-arts/. For more details, call 281-634-1124.

## Online Mapping Activity Allows Participation in Drainage Update

Sugar Land, TX - Sugar Land citizens are encouraged to participate in an online mapping activity that will help guide an update to the City's Master Drainage Plan.

The activity allows citizens to identify locations of drainage-related issues such as street flooding, standing water or detention pond maintenance. Feedback will be used to help create an assessment of the City's drainage needs.

The Master Drainage Plan was last updated in 2007. The update is intended to address the following items:

Asset ownership and responsibilities of agencies with drainage responsibilities have changed and need to be updated.

Critical drainage projects have been completed or are underway.

Improved detention pond maintenance policies are necessary to ensure detention ponds are properly designed, constructed and maintained.

The plan will also identify capital improvements to address concerns.

Citizens may visit www.sugarlandtx.gov/drainage to participate in the mapping activity, learn more about the project, sign up for email updates and find out about scheduled public meetings.

## Hawaiian Evening Planned For Imperial Park Recreation Center

Sugar Land, TX - ALOHA, families! Every Sugar Land 'ohana (family) is invited to experience an authentic Hawaiian evening at the Imperial Park Recreation Center's Lolo Luau on June 1 from 5-8 p.m.

The evening will begin with refreshing tropical beverages and an Imu ceremony complete with conch shell sounds announcing the start of festivities. Guests may sit and relax while listening to island melodies and enjoying delicious native Hawaiian cuisine. The evening will end with an exciting show by Drums of the Pacific, a group of hula dancers who tell stories with native dance moves and warrior men who perform a dramatic fire and knife show.

Lolo Luau tickets are \$25 for recreation center members and \$40 for non-members. Each ticket will provide free admission for one child under 12. Tickets for additional children will cost \$5 each. Space is limited, so call today for tickets.

The Imperial Park Recreation Center, 234 Matlage Way, is located at next to Imperial Park and the T.E. Harman Center. For more information, call (281) 275-2885.

# Minimum Acceptable Standards For Gazebos or Patio Covers in Sugar Mill

Please read below for the minimum acceptable standards for gazebos or patio covers in Sugar Mill.

### Fabric Gazebo's:

- 1. Regardless of these guidelines, any Gazebo must be pre-approved by the Architectural Control Committee (ACC).
- 2. The frame of a Gazebo must be constructed of a sturdy metal and must be firmly secured with anchor bolts into the ground, a patio, or a deck. The frame must be a dark brown or black in color.
- 3. The canopy fabric portion of a Gazebo roof must be dark brown, dark gray, khaki or black in color so as to best match the facade of the home. It must be fade resistant, water repellent, and mildew resistant, and must be properly maintained so that it does not show any wear or tears. The canopy must be replaced or taken down when it is not in good condition. If the Gazebo has fabric sides, they should be tied back when not in use to prevent them from catching the wind and being blown away.
- 4. A Gazebo must not be any taller than 10 feet and may not be any wider or longer than 12 feet.

### Wood or Shingle Gazebo's or Patio Covers:

1. Recommended construction material is brick, treated wood or composite. Aluminum is acceptable only if it is anodized or otherwise coated to blend with the accepted color scheme of the neighbor;



- 2. Roof material must be composition shingle, wood, or composite - matching that of the residence:
- 3. Posts must be a minimum 4' x 4' nominal if wood or composite. Aluminum posts must be of equal strength. Post must be set a minimum of 18" in concrete or attached to a concrete slab by properly installed anchor bolts;
- 4. Exterior height shall not be greater than the eave height of the adjacent roof of the existing house, or a maximum height of 9'6" above grade, whichever is the lesser.
- 5. Finish, color, and construction design must be preapproved by the Architectural Control Committee, regardless of these guidelines.

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## Important Numbers

### Sugar Mill's Board of Directors:

Name	Position	Contact #	Email Address
Bill Cure	President	281-491-9536	bill.cure@gmail.com
Robert Sheffield	Vice-President	281-242-0453	rsheffield81@comcast.net
Hank Ochel	Treasurer	214-293-4376	hank_ochel@me.com
Debra Blesener	Secretary	713-628-6991	debrablesener@gmail.com
Jared Maxson	Asst. Secretary	832-622-3461	jaredmaxson@hotmail.com

MASC Austin Properties, Inc. 13726 Florence Road Sugar Land, TX 77498 Terri Salter Property Manager 713-776-1771 / TSalter@mascapi.com

Sugar Land Dispatch	281-275-2525
Sugar Land Police	281-275-2020
Sugar Land Fire Dept	281-275-2851
Sugar Land City Hall	281-275-2700
Sugar Land Library	281-277-8934
Sugar Land Post Office	800-275-8777
Police, Fire, Ambulance	911
Sherriff's Department	281-341-4700
Crime Stoppers	281-342-8477
Kempner High School	281-634-2300
Sugar Land Middle School	281-634-3080
Sugar Mill Elementary	281-634-4440
Fort Bend ISD	281-634-1000
Animal Control	281-275-2596

### Calling All Used Band Instruments!

The Fort Bend ISD's Fine Arts
Department is accepting donations of
used band instruments from the public. Community members can drop
off their used band instruments at the
FBISD Administration Building
(16431 Lexington Blvd., Sugar Land,

77479) during regular business hours (8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.).

Former band members are encouraged to check their attics, closets and storage units for instruments to donate, which will help ensure cur-

rent students have the band equipment they need to be successful.

Donated instruments will assist students, who otherwise might not be able to afford a band instrument, a chance to participate in beginning band programs across the District.



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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.

Methodist Methodist

Sugar Land Hospital

**Spine Center** 

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Sugar Mill Community Association, Inc. c/o MASC Austin Properties, Inc. 13726 Florence Road
Sugar Land, TX 77498

# Merry MINISTRIES

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# MARTHA'S

# TIPS AND TRENDS TO HELP MAXIMIZE HOME BUYING AND SELLING

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#### Kitchen Lift

Are you ready for a kitchen upgrade but lacking an everything-but-the-kitchen-sink kind of budget? Plenty of low-cost improvements can revive a kitchen without the need to rip out cabinets

and rewire appliances. Consider these tips from This Old House and HGTV.

Color Splash: With a new coat of paint and some other accents, you might not even recognize your own kitchen. Make over dark wood or white cabinets with a cool hue, such as pale sage green, or create visual impact by painting a focal point, such as your island, a bold color. A tile backsplash, graphic prints

and new hardware are also inexpensive ways to add personality. Consider a new and easy-to-clean linoleum floor in a shade such as Red Amaranth.

See the Light: A kitchen needs light to be functional, of course, but oversized task lights can also improve the vibe and tie other details together. Track or recessed lighting can be pricey, so look for pendants that can go above a kitchen island and mirror the style of hardware on your faucet and cabinets. Try undercounter lighting, too.

Store More: Short on storage? Try hanging pot racks overhead. Position them close to the range and away from where you'd hit your head. Built-ins can be expensive, so look at your local hardware stores for pull-out storage kits and organizers to fit your current cabinetry.



Martha N. Lusk, CRS Re/Max Southwest (713) 826-2331

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### Did You Know?



June 14 is Flag Day. In 1916, President Woodrow Wilson established the national holiday to com-

memorate the adoption of the Stars and Stripes as the flag of the United States.

Do you know someone who is thinking of buying or selling a home? Please mention my name.

This newsletter is for informational purposes only and should not be substituted for legal or financial advice.

This newsletter is for informational purposes only and should not be substituted for legal or financial advic If you are currently working with another real estate agent or broker, it is not a solicitation for business.

Sugar Mill Specialist and Waterfront Specialist