Sugar Mill 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.

NEW! Landscape Committee Meetings are held the second Monday of each month in room 600 at 7:00PM.

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:

"Why Am I Receiving Letters From The Homeowners Association?"

Sugar Mill is what is commonly referred to as a "Deed Restricted Community". Each of the ten sections of Sugar Mill has Declarations of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions specific to each individual section. These Declarations were put in place by the original developer of Sugar Mill as each section was developed. When a home in Sugar Mill is purchased, the individual(s) purchasing the home sign legal documents stating that they will abide by the Declarations put in place by the developer. Homeowners are responsible for ensuring that renters of their home abide by the Declarations.

During the past 30 years, the Board has issued Guidelines to supplement the Declarations. These Guidelines are filed with the Fort Bend County Office of Public Records of Real Property. For example, the Board issued a Guideline for display of flags due to recent changes in state laws.

The Declarations and Guidelines are enforced by the Board in order to preserve Sugar Mill's property values and keep our community a safe, comfortable, and attractive place in which to live. We are not trying to "pick on" homeowners when violation notices are sent. Fortunately, most violations are corrected after the first violation notice is sent. Our most frequent violations involve improper storage of trashcans (they should not be stored in any area visible from the street) and leaving yard waste on the curb for pick-up prior to Sunday evening after 7 PM.



MASC Austin Properties (Sugar Mill's management company) conducts routine inspections of Sugar Mill. If violations of the Declarations or Guidelines are found, a notice will be sent to the homeowner asking them to correct the violation. If the violation is not corrected, the homeowner will receive a certified letter from the HOA requesting immediate action to correct the violation. Violations that are still left uncorrected are then turned over to the HOA's attorney and the homeowner may face legal action to force correction of the violation. Attorney costs and legal fees are added to the homeowner's account.

Homeowners should also note that the Declarations and Guidelines are different for some sections of Sugar Mill. For example, permanent basketball goals are allowed in sections 1,2,3 and 8 only. If your home is not in one of these sections, then you are not allowed to have a permanent basketball goal. Temporary basketball goals are not permitted in any section.

Homeowners should remember that any exterior modification to their home requires prior approval of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). This includes such activities as (but not limited to) putting on a new roof, painting the exterior of your home, adding a deck or swimming pool, putting up a new fence, and modifying landscaping. Getting approval from the ACC prior to starting work ensures that the work done will be in compliance with the Declarations and Guidelines and will prevent additional homeowner expense to correct possible violations due to unapproved work. (continued on page 2)

From The Board (continued):

Copies of the Declarations, Guidelines and ACC submittal form can be accessed via the Sugar Mill website www.sugarmillhoa.net via the Documents section. Please take some time to review the information specific to your section of Sugar Mill.

Remember that the Declarations and Guidelines are in place to make Sugar Mill a better place to live for all residents. The Board asks for your cooperation in correcting any violations after you are notified.



Thanks,

Sugar Mill's Board of Directors

Did You Know?

Bulky Waste pick up day in Sugar Mill has been changed to the



First Tuesday of the month. The garbage/recycling/green waste pickup days remain the same.

National Night Out!

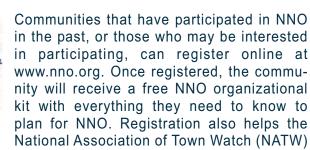
The Summer is in full swing and families, while trying to stay cool, are determined to make it the best one yet. For many, this means days at the pool, backyard BBQs and neighborhood block parties to celebrate the season. It also means the annual National Night Out, a national tradition of bringing the community

together in an effort to raise awareness and create safer neighborhoods, is just around the corner.

The Annual National Night Out will be held on October7th. Across the state, homeowners associations will join together with their local police and fire departments, businesses, neighborhood organizations and civic groups to heighten crime prevention awareness and to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are organized and fighting back.

The first NNO event took place in 1984 with only 400 communities participating across the nation. Today's NNO activities have expanded to include more than 37 million people and 15,000 communities. Neighbors celebrate with block parties, cookouts and visits from local police and fire departments. Having An NNO event shows that the neighborhood is active, involved and working together to create a safe and engaging community experience, not for just one night, but year round.

It's a wonderful opportunity for communities nationwide to promote police and community partnerships, crime prevention, and neighborhood camaraderie. While the one night is certainly not an answer to crime, drugs and violence, National Night Out represents the kind of spirit, energy and determination to help make neighborhoods a safer place year round. The night celebrates safety and crime prevention successes and works to expand and strengthen programs for the next 364 days.



organize and communicate with participat-

ing communities and their NNO coordinators.

NATW is a nonprofit membership organization. They are dedicated to the development/promotion of organized crime prevention activities and to the groups and the individuals participating in local crime watch. For more details, visit www.natw.org.

National Night Out will be Tuesday, October 7, 2014. We would encourage residents to have a block party get out, meet your neighbors and get to know one another!

Marion's Fishing Corner



When choosing sunglasses for your next fishing outing, consider this:

With the peek of the summer upon us and the midday sun at it's brightest, eye

protection should be as important to us as is skin protection. Simple precautions taken now can help prevent major problems later. Of course, ultraviolet (UV) protection is utmost in importance. UV radiation from the sun can damage not only the skin of your eyelid, but also the cornea, lens, and other parts of the eye. UV exposure also contributes to the development of certain types of cataracts and possible eye muscle degeneration.

When choosing sunglasses, be sure to look for UV-protection details on the product labels. Choose sunglasses that block 99 to 100% of both UVA and UVB rays. Avoid sunglasses that neglect to offer details about their UV protection. And be aware that the color and degree of darkness of the lenses have nothing to do with the sunglasses ability to block UV rays. Also, it is wise to choose wraparound sunglasses or close-fitting sunglasses with wide lenses that protect your eyes from every angle. Standard prescription eyeglasses in the U.S. are treated to provide UV protection while retaining a clear, non-tinted appearance. Some contact lenses also offer UV protection, but should be worn in combination with sunglasses to maximize protection.

Of course, UV protection isn't the only consideration when it comes to selecting quality sunglasses. In addition, please consider these other features:

Blue-blocking lenses. These can make distant objects easier to see, especially in hazy conditions. They are popular with boaters and hunters. Lenses that block all blue light are tinted amber.

Polarized lenses. These lenses reduce reflective glare, such as sunlight that bounces off water. These lenses are suitable for fishing as well as driving.

Polycarbonate lenses. These lenses offer impact protection. In my opinion, this can be a major advantage (several times I've had the hook and lead sinker fly back at my face while missing a fish on the hookset).

So please consider these sun glass characteristics as the summer goes on. Remember the old saying: An ounce of prevention......

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 24 years.

Applications For SL Mayor's Youth Advisory Council Open

Applications for the 2014 Mayor's Youth Advisory Council (MYAC) are now available at https://volunteer.sugarlandtx.gov. Interested students should submit completed applications by Sept. 30 at 5 p.m.

The council empowers youth to become active community members by providing students with an overview of opportunities to impact the future of Sugar Land through local government public service. Students share the newly gained knowledge to influence the community and make a difference in the City.

As part of MYAC, students tour City facilities, participate in a forum and mock City Council meeting, work with other Sugar Land students and make a lasting impact on the City's future. Now in its tenth year, MYAC needs motivated and passionate Sugar Land youth to learn more about their community and serve as young ambassadors. Last year's students appreciated the friendships made and how they were the voice of the youth of Sugar Land. For more information or questions, email myac@sugarlandtx.gov or call (281) 275-2329.

Brazos River Canoe Launch Opens

The City of Sugar Land opened its first public canoe launch at U.S. Highway 59 and the Brazos River turnaround.

The canoe launch is part of a larger initiative led by Fort Bend Green to designate the Brazos River within Fort Bend County as a Texas Parks and Wildlife official paddling trail. Several launches are already in place along the river, both upstream and downstream of the new launch, in Simonton, Sienna Plantation and Brazos Bend State Park.

Sugar Land's canoe launch offers parking for both vehicles and trailers with a short walk down to the Brazos River. A kiosk featuring a map of available launch sites, safety information, paddling etiquette and laws is posted onsite.

The Brazos River Paddling Trail is intended for more experienced paddlers, as launch sites are located as far as 20 miles apart; however, less challenging waterways in Sugar Land are available for paddling, such as the 25-acre lake at Sugar Land Memorial Park.

A boat race between Stephen F. Austin State Park and Brazos Bend State Park is in the planning stages for spring 2015. This race will be over 100 miles and will take advantage of the launch sites along the Brazos River. For more information on the new launch, visit: sugarlandtx.gov/parks or call

(281) 275-2885.

Clark Family Receives Yard of the Month For August!

The Sugar Mill Yard of the Month was awarded to Randy & Venie Clark at 1214 Morning Mist.

It's hot! Even with all the high temperatures the Clark's yard looks so cool & well manicured. With shade trees covering most of the front yard providing shade for all their shrubs & drawing your eyes to the colorful caladiums, welcoming you to their front entry.

The Clarks received a \$25.00 gift certificate to Caldwell Nursery.

Happy Gardening & I'll see you around the block, Cheryl Swanson



Hurricane Season: Be Prepared!

Hurricanes form over warm ocean waters, like those found in the Gulf of Mexico. The hurricane season starts June 1 and ends November 30. The peak threat for the Texas coast exists from August through September. Hurricanes can strike the Texas coast during every month of the hurricane season.

<u>Understanding The Terms</u> Hurricane Watch:

Hurricane conditions are possible within the specified coastal area.

Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane watch is issued 48 hours.

storm force, the hurricane watch is issued 48 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm force winds.

Hurricane Warning:

Hurricane conditions are expected in the specified area of the warning. Because hurricane preparedness activities become difficult once winds reach tropical storm force, the hurricane warning is issued 36 hours in advance of the anticipated onset of tropical storm force winds.

Tropical Storm Watches and Warnings:

Take these alerts seriously. Although Tropical Storms have lower wind speeds than hurricanes, They often

bring life-threatening flooding and dangerous winds. Take precautions.

A catastrophic hurricane making landfall along the Texas coast continues to be the greatest natural threat the State of Texas faces each year. The social and economic impacts can be tremendous as we all experienced with Hurricane Ike in 2008. Hurricanes can be powerful with devastating impacts from storm surge, high winds, tornadoes, and flooding from heavy rains. To reduce these potentially deadly effects, it is imperative to prepare for each type of hurricane hazard.

Advanced planning and preparation are essential to protecting property, reducing risk and ultimately saving lives. Taking the time to develop a family disaster plan, reviewing emergency preparations and checklists, making a disaster supply kit, and staying aware of current weather situations will improve your level of preparedness.

The National Weather Service publishes a Texas Hurricane Guide each year. The guide is designed to enable you to focus your activities before, during and after the storm, and to easily locate specific instructions. This guide presents a roadmap that lays out what you will need to have and need to do. Download the guide at: www.srh.noaa.gov.

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	281-242-7384	debrablesener@gmail.com
Jared Maxson	Asst. Secretary	832-622-3461	jaredmaxson@hotmail.com

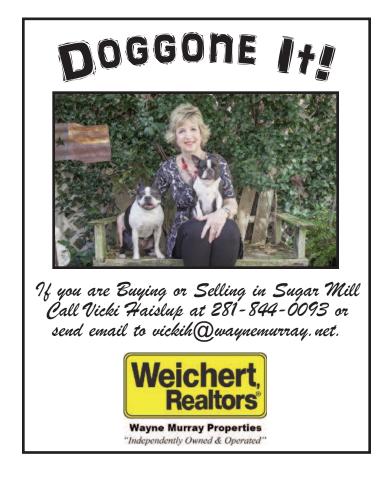
MASC Austin Properties, Inc. 945 Eldridge Road Sugar Land, Texas 77498 Terri Salter Property Manager 713-776-1771 / TSalter@mascapi.com

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911
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281-634-4440
281-634-1000
281-275-2596



Working Through Grief Classes Offered:

Sugar Land First United Methodist Church - Grief reaches many people, in all walks of life, and can be hindering. Join this intimate, confidential group to feel God's restoring touch and the healing you seek. This is a FREE 8-week class designed by the class facilitator, Jim Dawson. Jim is a certified grief counselor by the American Academy of Grief Counseling. The class will begin September 10 and is offered at two times – 10:00 a.m. or 7:00 p.m. Please register with Cindy Wenz at 281.634.8909 or cindy.wenz@sugarlandmethodist.org or call the church for more information at 281.491.6041.







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TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL 281.275.0860.

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MARTHA'S

TIPS AND TRENDS TO HELP MAXIMIZE HOME BUYING AND SELLING

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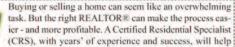
While cleaning may be one of the last things on your mind when you're out in the sun having fun this summer, that doesn't mean you can't still take

house and prepare yourself for fall. With the following tips from Organizedhome.com, you can make your summer more pleasant and ensure the transition to fall goes smoothly. Easy opening: You'll be opening and closing sliding doors in your home many times this summer, and if the tracks are dirty, they'll be more difficult to open. Using a degreasing all-purpose cleaner and a screwdriver covered with a rag, you can eliminate the grit. Simply spray the

cleaner into the track, let it sit for a few minutes, and then run the rag through the track to pick up the dirt. Stop the smell: When it's really hot outside, a garbage can's smell can get out of control. To neutralize this, clean the inside of your garbage can by rinsing it with a hose, spraying it with disinfectant and then repeating. Leave it upside down to dry and once you're done, use trash bags or liners to keep the inside of the can from retaining odor. Take advantage of the season: Maintenance and cleaning businesses — like carpet cleaners, gutter services and window washers — are slow in the summer, so look for discounts on these services. Summer is not as busy for the furnace business, so scheduling maintenance for your HVAC system is a great idea.

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

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Sugar Mill Specialist and Waterfront Specialist