

Meetings

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

This Month the
Architectural Control
Committee Meeting will be
Wednesday, February
15th held in Room 608 at
7:00PM.

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

Landscape Committee
Meetings are held the
second Monday of each
month in room 608 at
7:00PM.

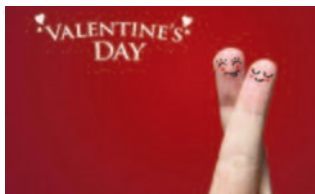
Pool Committee Meetings
are held the second
Tuesday of each month in
room 600 at
7:30PM.

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

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

From The Board:

Happy Valentine's Day!!



Our Annual Sugar Mill Homeowner's Meeting will be on Tuesday, March 28th at 7pm. It will be held in the Great Hall at the Sugar Land First United Methodist Church located at 431 Eldridge Road @ Seventh Street. Two, 3-year term positions are open for election. Suzie Bacon and Harry Schippers (incumbents), are both re-running for election. If you are interested in running for a position, please submit your request in writing, providing your name, address, phone # and email address, to Terri Salter at tsalter@mascapi.com, Fax (713) 776-1771, or mail to Sugar Mill HOA c/o MASCAP, 945 Eldridge Road, Sugar Land, TX 77478.

Swimming Pool Fencing: The City of Sugar Land requires that a fence or some other type of barrier at least 48 inches in height from the ground, be placed around all swimming pools and spas. All gates and doors attaching to that fence must be self-closing and self-latching.

Take Your Cell Phone For A Walk! When you are walking around the neighborhood, be sure to take your cell phone with you. It could come in handy if you see suspicious activity. Never hesitate to call the Police non-emergency number, 281-275-2020, to report anything you feel just doesn't look normal. In addition to having the police non-emergency number preprogrammed into your phone, you may also want to include Animal Control (281) 275-2364 in case you see an animal roaming, or Austin Properties (713) 776-1771, in case you see something that is in need of repair, and of course, preprogram your favorite pizza location, because with all that walking you're doing, you've certainly earned yourself some cheesy carbs!!



Lawn Bags & Green Waste: Please tell your lawn guys not to leave any green waste at the curb prior to Monday. It looks unsightly and violates our deed restrictions. Fortunately, most folks are being considerate about this issue!

ACC Meeting Date Change: The February ACC Meeting has been changed to Wednesday, February 15th @ 7pm in Room 608.

Pavillion Rentals: Are you looking for an inexpensive location to throw a party? The City of Sugar Land accepts reservations for various City-owned locations. To view the full list, visit <http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/index.aspx?NID=567>.

City Park Rules: All city parks are open to the public each day from sunrise to sunset. It is unlawful for a person to do any of the following in a City-owned park, unless you have a special use permit issued by the City:

- Camp or sleep overnight;
- Abandon an animal;
- Bathe in, swim in, or pollute the water of a fountain or body of water;

From The Board (continued)

- Operate or park a motorized vehicle in an area not specifically designated for such;
- Park a vehicle within a park when the park is closed;
- Place or erect an unattended display;
- Consume or possess an alcoholic beverage in an open container.

The railroad crossing at Wood Street will be permanently closing by mid-February. The section of South Stadium Drive (formally called University Blvd) north of 90 will open to Nalco at the same time. The remainder of the road across Oyster Creek to the ballpark should be finished by the end of 2017. Kempner Street will be realigned north of the existing connection to tie into Main Street via a roundabout between the railroad tracks and the bridge into the Hill. Wood Street will tie into Kempner Street to access Main Street for travel across the railroad tracks onto U.S. Highway 90A. This is all part of the Imperial development.

Yahoo customer service scam: Need to contact Yahoo customer care? There are a few ways to do so, but Yahoo warns that the phone is NOT an option. Any phone number you may come across in an internet search, claiming to connect you with Yahoo customer care, is fake-fake-fake!! Consumers have reported calling these fake customer care numbers and were offered “Yahoo customer care services” for a fee. Yahoo customer support is always free, and they will never ask to remotely connect to your computer, like the scammers will.

Scam Alerts: If you would like to sign up for free Scam Alerts through the U.S. National Fraud Prevention Department, please visit <https://www.ftc.gov/> and click on Get Scam Alerts. Easy Peazy and it will help keep you abreast of the latest scams so you can react properly!!

Basketball Goals: Before you decide to purchase a basketball goal, please remember that portable basketball goals are never permitted within Sugar Mill. If you wish to install a permanent basketball goal, please visit our website at www.sugarmillhoa.net, click on Documents and then Architectural Control to complete and submit the necessary form for review by our ACC Committee.

Unsolicited Tip of the Day: Start working on those holiday pounds you may have packed on because our awesome Sugar Mill pools will be open before you know it! May is just 3 months awayspiral slide. . . . water volleyball friendly neighbors . . . Yes, please ☺!!

The Lake Committee would like to thank all the homeowners that decorated their backyards for the holiday season. They were absolutely beautiful this year, and were so appreciative of the level of participation. Unfortunately, the night of the boat parade was the coldest night of the year, and only 4 boats braved the bone-chilling, uncomfortable weather. No one took pictures because we did not want to extend our journey, but we would like to give a special shout out to the many homes on Ragus Lake that went all out, as well as 1106, 1214 & 1219 Morning Mist, 1119 Mariner, and 1211 Misty Lake. They sure made the boat parade worthwhile, and brought smiles to everyone throughout the holidays!!

Thank you.
Sugar Mill HOA
Board of Directors

Call Before You Dig - You'll Be Glad You Did!

Building a deck? Planting a tree? 811 is the new number you should call before you begin any digging project.

A federally-mandated national "Call Before You Dig" number, 811 was created to help protect you from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on digging projects. People digging often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked due to concerns about project delays, costs and previous calls about other projects. These assumptions can be life-threatening. Make a call for every digging job – even small projects like planting trees or shrubs. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

A recent study revealed that nearly half of homeowners who plan to dig this year won't call 811 to learn the approximate locations of buried gas, electric, communications, water and sewer lines before digging, putting their safety and the safety of others at risk. According to data collected by CGA, when an individual makes a call to 811 before digging, damage occurs less than 1 percent of the time. So, before you dig, call 811. More details online at: www.call811.com.

Marion's Fishing Corner

Quality, not quantity.....

I'd like to tell you about an on-the-water experience I've had recently. The day was sunny but cold, water temps were in the low 50's, and water clarity was off-color at best. I fished slowly and deliberately for close to 5 hours, targeting bulkheads, deeper brushpiles, and secluded areas under moored boats along the banks. The total number of fish caught during that 5 hour trip? One. That's right, one fish in 5 hours of serious fishing. But guess what? That one bass weighed well over 9 pounds and was the largest bass I've caught in a long, long time.

And that is par for the course when it comes to wintertime fishing in Texas. Anglers need to have a different mindset when faced with cold, off-color water. Realize that your satisfied with very few bites during the day, but know that one of those bites could be the fish of a lifetime. Normally, it seems that the smaller fish are more lethargic under these conditions, and don't willingly feed. But larger fish require more food to maintain body mass, and will often inhale a well-placed plastic lizard or craw that invades their area. Warming trends during the winter can change this pattern of course, but when cold conditions prevail, it is usually a big fish or nothing.

So if you fish during the cold winter months, have the notion that you are looking for quality fish. Save your quantity expectations for warm or hot weather. Slow down and fish a good spot thoroughly, making several casts to the same area. Remember that a fish really needs to be coaxed into biting this time of year, and it just takes time. It can be very well worth the wait.

Remember to catch and release, because a bass is far 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.



Kickin' Cancer's Butt!

Team API Crushed It in 2015!

And we are going back this year to **CRUSH** it again!

We all know that there's strength in numbers, so it's with great strength that we'll work and walk toward putting an end to the suffering caused by breast cancer. We each have our reasons for participating - - whether it's a personal fight with breast cancer, the struggle or loss of a loved one, or a deep commitment to the cause.



We've each made a big commitment. We'll spend the next few months training to prepare for a walk of up to a marathon and a half. Each team member is required to raise at least \$1,800 in donations. But because we're in this together, we know that, with your help, we can do it.

Please support **Team API**

<http://info.avon39.org/goto/TeamAPI>

If you'd prefer to write a check, just contact one of us and we'll send you the form and information.

Please check our team page frequently to see how we're doing, and thanks in advance for your support!

Shirley, Angela, Carrie, Micki, Rachel & Tiffany

THIS 39 IS FOR YOU!

Vicki Phifer Espey Phyliss Burton

Dorothy Thompson Juanita Tucke

We would also like to ask all survivors and families of those that have lost the battle to please contact us so that we may add your name to our **THIS 39 IS FOR YOU!** list.

MASC Austin Properties, Inc.

Yard Of The Month Winners! Congratulations!!

**December 2016 "Yard of the Month"
Mark & Kay Lowik at 14306 Ragus Lake Dr.**



When driving north on Burney you can't help but notice the yard to your right at the corner of Burney & Ragus Lake Dr., it is always well manicured & beautifully decorated for different holidays like Christmas & Easter. This home belongs to Mark & Kay Lowik for the last 29 years and they both have lived in Sugar Land for a total of 64 years. I hope that everyone in the Sugar Mill subdivision had a chance to see this yard sometime during the Christmas holidays. Mark & Kay have made the majority of the holiday decorations themselves. Although this is a lot of work to put them up and take them down, they get enjoyment seeing neighbors and others enjoying the lights and displays.

**January 2016 "Yard of the Month"
Robbie Phelps at 1010 Mill Valley Dr.**



Robbie has lived in Sugar Mill for 27 years and always takes good care of her yard. She feels we should all do our part to keep the neighborhood looking nice for all. Robbie received Yard of the Month right before the two day freeze so she lost a lot of plants like we all did & hopefully most of what we all lost will come back by Spring. Winter is always a hard time to maintain a beautiful yard.

As a thank-you gift, both winners received a \$25.00 gift certificate from the Caldwell Nursery in Rosenberg.

Happy gardening & I'll see you "around the block".-Cheryl Swanson

**THANK
YOU**

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 |
| Harry Schippers | Asst. Secretary | 281-242-2398 | Harryschippers@windstream.net |
| CeAnne Ochel | Treasurer | 281-565-0611 | ceanneochel@gmail.com |
| Suzie Bacon | Secretary | 281-733-9848 | suzie77046@yahoo.com |

| | |
|--------------------------|--------------|
| City Dispatch | 281-275-2525 |
| Police (Non-Emergency) | 281-275-2020 |
| Fire Department | 281-275-2873 |
| Police Department | 281-275-2500 |
| City Hall | 281-275-2700 |
| Sugar Land Library | 281-277-8934 |
| Sugar Land Post Office | 800-275-8777 |
| Police (Emergency) | 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 | 281-275-2364 |
| Ask City | 281-275-2489 |

MASC Austin Properties, Inc.
945 Eldridge Road
Sugar Land, Texas 77478

Terri Salter
Property Manager
713-776-1771 / TSalter@mascapi.com



Our Deed Restrictions and Guidelines Are Online

Get a copy of our deed restrictions and guidelines on the Sugar Mill HOA website at:
<http://www.sugarmillhoa.net/>

DOGGONE IT CALL VICKI



If you are Buying or Selling in Sugar Mill
Call Vicki Haisup at 281-844-0093 or
send email to vickih@waynemurray.net.



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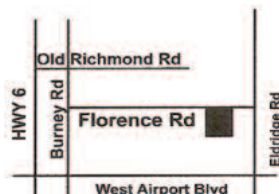
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(281)-578-POOL (7665)

swimlessons@aquatiko-pools.com



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- Have You Gotten One of **THOSE** Letters from Your HOA?
- Have the Spider Pods and Mud Dobbers Taken Over **YOUR** Home?

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LENORA "SISSIE" GOFF REALTOR

Happy Holidays!

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Sugar Mill Community Association, Inc.
c/o MASC Austin Properties, Inc.
945 Eldridge Rd.
Sugar Land, TX 77478

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Gadget Gift Guide

Ring, the video doorbell-

The doorbell rings: Is it just a package drop off? A friendly neighbor? Or the dreaded solicitor? Now you can find out without getting off the couch. With the Ring Wi-Fi enabled doorbell, you can see a video feed of who is at your door from your phone, and even speak to visitors. Plus, it's triggered by motion detection, so you can see what's going on even if the doorbell doesn't ring. For a small optional fee, you can record what you missed and store it in the cloud. **Lucy, the sunlight bender-**Nothing beats natural sunlight, especially during the short days of winter. Lucy is a robotic, mirrored ball that you place

inside your home, and it reflects natural sunlight into the room. A self-adjusting smart motor inside follows the sun as it moves throughout the sky, so you don't have to worry about resetting the device throughout the day. The new device, offered by Italian-based company Solenica, is available on Indiegogo. **Click & Grow seed starter kits-**Everyone loves having fresh herbs when they cook, but not everyone loves growing those herbs. Click & Grow's Smart Herb Garden takes all the guesswork out of gardening and allows anyone to grow fresh herbs, fruits and flowers year-round from anywhere in their home. The kit comes with basil seeds ready to go, and all the owner needs to do is plug it in, fill the tank and the garden takes care of itself.



Martha N. Lusk, CRS, ASP
Re/Max Southwest
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mlusk@windstream.net
Sugar Mill resident for 26 years.

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Wishing you and your family a safe and joy filled holiday!

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.

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