# Sugar Mill Connections 29

# 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 608 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:

### Passing of Board Member Hank Ochel

It is with great sadness that we report the passing of HOA Board member Hank Ochel. Hank was the treasurer of the Board prior to his passing. He is survived by his wife of almost 12 years, CeAnne, his four sons and his three stepchildren. He was a graduate of the United States Naval Academy and a veteran of Vietnam and the Bay of Pigs during the Cuban missile crisis. Hank was a long time resident of Sugar Mill and will be missed by all who had the privilege to know him.

### **HOA Dues**

HOA dues for 2015 have been set at \$740. Invoices for the dues were sent to all homeowners in December of 2014. Payment may be made by check or electronically via the Austin Properties website The annual assessment is due on or before the first day of January 2015, and is determined delinquent if not received by January 31, 2015. All past due accounts will be assessed interest, along with a \$10.00 per month collection fee after January 31, 2015 until paid in full. Payments can be made online from your checking or savings account. Please visit www.mascapi.com for more details.

### **Annual Meeting**

The Sugar Mill HOA annual meeting is scheduled for Wednesday April 1, 2015 at 7:00 P.M. It will be held in the Great Hall at the First United Methodist Church located at 413 Eldridge Rd. This meeting is a great opportunity for all residents to learn more about the operation of the HOA and to provide feedback to the Board concerning the future of the Association. Please mark your calendars for this meeting.

### **Board Opening**

There is an opening for an additional Board member for the HOA. The Board typically meets on the third Monday of each month (except December) at 7:00 P.M. If you are interested in serving on the Board, please contact Bill Cure (Board President) at bill.cure@gmail.com.

### Landscape Committee Meeting Dates

The scheduled meeting dates for the Landscape Committee are: 3/2, 4/13, 5/11, 6/8, 7/13, 8/10, 9/14 and 10/12. The committee meets at 7:00p in room 608 of the Sugar Land First Methodist Church. **Please note the room change to room 608**.

The Board would like to take this opportunity to wish everyone a safe and prosperous new year.

Thanks,

Sugar Mill's Board of Directors

# Christmas Light Up The Lake Winner!



Armando & Alina Solorzano at 14015 Ragus Lake Drive



The prize goes to Armando & Alina Solorzano at 14015 Ragus Lake Drive. They will receive a \$25 Home Depot Gift Certificate donated by Vicki Haislup, Weichert, Realtors-Wayne Murray Properties. The Lake Committee would like to thank all the homeowners that participated and decorated their backyards so festive for the holidays. The annual Christmas boat parade was a big success and the lake was ablaze with lights!

# New Architectural Modifications Request Form:

Please note, there's a new, revised Architectural Modifications Request Form posted on our website. The new form can be found on our website at: www.sugarmillhoa.net (in the Documents section, click on the link labeled Architectural Control).

Please complete and submit the Architectural Modification Form (found on the website) to the committee for its review at the next meeting. The Architectural Control Committee meets on the <u>SECOND TUESDAY</u> of each month, at <u>7:00 P.M.</u> at the <u>FIRST UNITED METHODIST CHURCH, (THE EDUCATION CENTER) 431</u> <u>ELDRIDGE, ROOM 608.</u> Or you may return it to the address stated at the bottom of the form or the fax number and it will be placed on the agenda. You will be notified of the Committees' decision by mail or you may call the Management office, at 713-776-1771 to be informed by phone.



Submission of this application does not include any separate requirements that the owner may have with respect to obtaining any necessary permits from the City, County, or State, and that any such requirement(s) should be independently investigated by the owner prior to commencing any construction or undertaking to make the improvement that may be approved.

# Marion's Fishing Corner

### THINKING "OUTSIDE THE BOX"

Every fisherman has his (or her) favorite lures and fishing methods, but sometimes it pays to break out of your comfort zone and try something different. Like myself, most fishermen are object oriented and much prefer to cast to visible targets. This usually means fishing shallow water areas and casting to bulkheads, boat docks, shaded areas, and any tree limbs that have fallen into the water. This is normally a very reliable approach, but not always. When your favorite areas just aren't producing, remember that fish don't always relate to cover. What looks "bassy" to you may not be nearly as appealing to the fish. If you've spent a couple of hours fishing shallow cover areas with little success, try backing off and fishing more open water areas instead. The fish may be more attracted to a depth change, an isolated limb or rock, or a school of baitfish. This seems to occur more often during the cold weather months.

This is also a great time to experiment with different baits than you normally use. I tend to shy away from certain baits that I just do not feel comfortable using. But the best way to gain confidence in a certain lure or fishing technique is to eliminate the temptation to resort to your usual fishing methods. If you really want to learn to fish a jig, for example, leave all your tackle behind except for one baitcasting outfit and a



couple of jigs/trailers, and head for the lake. Trust me, you'll eventually catch fish on these lures, and a couple of quality fish will give you the confidence boost you need to permanently incorporate them into your fishing arsenal.

So using this cold-water period to experiment and try unfamiliar baits and unfamiliar fishing techniques just might serve you well when warmer conditions do return. For me, it sure beats sitting at home and watching TV...

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.

# Fort Bend Education Foundation's Annual Gala

If you want to enjoy an elegant masquerade ball while supporting Fort Bend ISD students, teachers and schools then plan to attend The Fort Bend Education Foundation's 22nd Annual Gala. Themed "Moonlight Masquerade in Venice," the event will take place on Saturday, February 28 at the Sugar Land Marriott Town Square. Join the fun for una bella notte, as the Foundation celebrates 22 memorable years at their annual gala.

You are invited to be part of an elegant masquerade ball dedicated to raising funds for the students, teachers and schools of Fort Bend ISD as you are transported to the moonlit canals of Venice.

In their effort to distribute as much funding as possible to the teachers and students, the Foundation is seeking underwriters to cover the major expenses.

There are a variety of gala underwriting opportunities, including table sponsorships.

For further inquiries, please contact carol.evans@fortbendisd.com.

### Public Invited to Fun, Free Event Focusing on Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math

Fort Bend ISD to host Share Fair Nation on February 7, 2015. The event will feature hundreds of interactive educational activities for students, families and the community and will take place at Fort Bend ISD's Ridge Point High School Saturday, Feb. 7, from 9:00 a.m. until 4:00 p.m. Share Fair Nation is focused on STEM (science. technology. engineering, mathematics) activities and will feature two distinct components: Classroom Intensives. which are free professional development classes for teachers, and STEMosphere, a free, hands-on, brains-on expo for students, their families and the public. As many as 300 teachers and hundreds of their students are expected to be on hand, as well as local companies, non-profit organizations and Fort Bend ISD clubs - all sharing fun and highly interactive STEM activities designed to help the community explore, invent and experiment. Among the more than 30 STEM-inspired activities available include a forensic science lab where the public can examine evidence and try to solve a "crime," a lab where participants can build and race robots, and a local student showcase of computer coding projects. For more information. visit: www.fortbendisd.com.

# Yard of the Month Winners For December 2014 & January 2015! Congratulations Winners!

### Winners for December 2014: 812 Wood Bridge Circle

We moved to Sugar Mill two years ago and our yard was pretty bare. The flower beds were completely covered with weeds & leaves. I decided to start from scratch. I gutted everything and planted all new everything; we love our yard now! We spend lots of time out there and it's nice to see that all of our efforts have paid off! We love our neighborhood and are very excited to have "Yard of the Month!

### The Falkenhagens

The Falkenhagens designed their own landscape & if you love ginger plants you need to see this yard! Happy Gardening & I'll see you around the block, Cheryl Swanson



### Winners for January 2015: 519 Parkview Ct.

We are honored to receive the Yard of the Month award. Owning a corner lot requires much effort and planning. In recent years, relying on both Greenlight and Maddox Landscaping to help plan and maintain our interest of a well groomed yard and freeing our time for fun and relaxation. Thanks for the recognition!

### The Stanfields

Robert and Rose Stanfield have been residents of the Sugar Mill subdivision, since 1993. Happy Gardening & I'll see you around the block, Cheryl Swanson



# A Big "Thank You"

I just want to thank the Falkenhagens & the Stanfield families for taking such pride in their yards. It's people like you that make it a better place for all of us in Sugar Mill.

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

# Important Numbers

## Sugar Mill's Board of Directors:

Name	Position	Contact #	Email Address
Bill Cure	President	281-491-9536	bill.cure@gmail.com
<b>Robert Sheffield</b>	Vice-President	281-242-0453	rsheffield81@comcast.net
Debra Blesener	Secretary	281-242-7384	debrablesener@gmail.com
Jared Maxson	Asst. Secretary	832-622-3461	jaredmaxson@hotmail.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

MASC Austin Properties, Inc. 945 Eldridge Road Sugar Land, Texas 77498

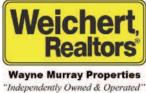
Terri Salter Property Manager 713-776-1771 / TSalter@mascapi.com



**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.

# <section-header>A DOUBLE DOG DARE YOU<br/>TO CALL VICK.Image: Construction of the constr







**719 Burney Road** ists. The City of Sugar Land has this property zoned for residential use. The property also comes with a 1,465 square foot 3 bedroom,1.5 baths and a separate guest quarters with a kitchen and a full bath.

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# Merry MINISTRIES

Join us and bring a friend!

Tuesday evenings 6:30 PM and Wednesday mornings 9:30AM In the Sanctuary of First United Methodist Church, 431 Eldridge Rd. For more information or to sign up: Merryministries.com or call (281) 491-6041



### AD PRICING

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### MARTHA'S TIPS AND TRENDS TO HELP MAXIMIZE HOME BUYING AND SELLING



### 2015 Looking for a few ways to freshen up your home's interior design for the New Year? Check out these ideas from home furnishings retailer BoConcept New York and Cheryl Hucks Interior Design.

HOMES BY DESIGN FOR

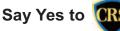
Get the Blues – Blue is the color of the year, and while cooler tones have been popular for several years, shades of blue will be more prominent in home design in warmer and bolder shades. To update your home décor, add a sofa or accent pieces in midnight blue or indigo.

**Heavy Metal** – Add a little sparkle to your home décor by adding a few metallic elements, such as a brass floor lamp, silver picture frame or throw pillows with copper stripes. **Natural Elements** – Using natural materials adds more space and depth within your living space. Furniture made of natural wood, especially in lighter shades, creates an open, airy atmosphere. Try mixing wood pieces with other natural materials.

Tone on Tone – Create a contemporary toneon-tone look by layering one color with vary-ing shades and textures of the same color. Despite using different textures and saturation levels, designers at BoConcept say the overall appearance will be soft, calm and sophisticâfed.

Make a Statement – Some designers say using large prints and floral fabrics for accent furniture pieces can make a bold statement and Be/Max Southwest give a room a creative focal point.

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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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