Sugar Mill Connections

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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 2nd Tuesday 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.

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.





Sugar Mill Annual Fourth of July Parade:

Put on your red, white and blue decorate those bikes, wagons, strollers, kids and pets it's time for the annual Sugar Mill Fourth of July Parade! **Tuesday, July 4, 2017: Participants line up 10:15 a.m. at Sugar Mill Elementary School parking lot.** Sirens sound 10:30 a.m. as we are escorted by Sugar Land's police and fire departments down Jess Pirtle to Oak Knoll to Drakewood and ending at Sugar Mill Park on Drakewood at Hidden Lake at the back end of the Forest of Sugar Mill. Dress cool, comfortably and patriotic, and wear sneakers. All participants will receive a popsicle and water compliments of Sugar Mill. There will be **train rides, a balloon maker** and a few other surprises once we reach the park! Roller skates/blades, skateboards, bikes and pets are welcome. Motorized vehicles are not allowed. Call Crystal McKeon - 713-591-0203 for more info.

Most ID theft victims don't need a police report

by Seena Gressin, Attorney, Federal Trade Commission

When it comes to reporting and recovering from identity theft, we're simplifying the process by eliminating the need for a police report in most cases. When you report an identity theft using www.IdentityTheft.gov, you'll answer some questions about what happened. Those answers will then be used to create the tools you need to begin your recovery, including:

- a personal recovery plan
- pre-filled letters to send to merchants, banks, and others affected by the identity theft, and
- an "Identity Theft Report," which is your official statement about the crime.

In most cases, you can use this report in place of a police report to clear your account and credit records of transactions that resulted from the identity theft. That's because with IdentityTheft.gov, you're reporting the crime to the Federal Trade Commission, a federal law enforcement agency. Just like when you file a police report, you're subject to criminal penalties if you don't tell the truth. By reducing the need for police reports, IdentityTheft.gov helps you get started on your recovery quickly, and helps free local police to focus on public safety. Still, contact the police to report identity theft if:

- you know the identity thief, or have other information that could help a police investigation
- an identity thief used your name in a traffic stop or any encounter with police, or

• a creditor, debt collector, or someone else affected by the identity theft insists that you produce a police report.

Gotta love that library! Now that the kiddos are home for the summer and you are looking for ways to entertain them, don't forget about your local Sugar Land library. Go to - http://www.fortbend.lib.tx.us/branches/sl.html to check out their monthly calendar! You can do so *Continued on page 2*

much more than just checking out books to read. You can learn to type, learn how to use software, or how to use a computer! You can also go there to print, scan or fax documents for a tiny fee! If you really have a lot of time and patience, you could research your family's history using their online genealogy database! If you need something to entertain the kiddo's, you can take them to the library for Story Time or Toddler Time!

Railroad Update: Sugar Mill, along with other nearby Homeowners Associations have been actively communicating their railroad concerns to the City of Sugar Land. The City staff continues to meet and share our concerns (bumpy crossings, ghost trains and other malfunctions, etc.) with Union Pacific Railroad (UPRR) on a regular basis and have recently met with the Chairman, President and CEO of UPRR to discuss our concerns and UPRR's lack of attention to these concerns. The City is limited in what they can do within UPRR's Right-of-Way, but they are pushing and working with them. There is a call in number that UPRR has for people to report issues when they occur 1-888-877-7267. These issues are logged by UPRR and are used by them to better understand where they are having issues. Keep the pressure on! Complaining about it on Nextdoor may make you feel better, but only our local residents see the post. Everyone assumes the "other guy" will call or write, so why should I bother? You need to call and/or write because not enough people are doing so! Complain beyond social media and be part of the solution!! Here are some ideas for who you can contact:

City Engineer at: cityengineer@sugarlandtx.gov Mayor Joe Zimmerman, P.O. Box 110, Sugar Land, TX 77487-0110 Governor Greg Abbott, https://gov.texas.gov/contact/ Union Pacific: 24125 Old Aldine Westfield Rd, Spring, TX 77373, and 1400 Douglas Street, STOP 0910, Omaha, NE 68179-0910 Federal Railroad Administration - 4100 International Plaza, Suite 450, Fort Worth, Texas 76109 Union Pacific – Report Rough or Damaged Crossings (800) 848-8715 KHOU 11 Investigates: (713) 521-HELP, or KHOU-TV, 1945 Allen Pkwy, Houston, TX 77019 KPRC Click 2 Houston: 713-223-8477, or KPRC TV, PO Box 2222 Houston, TX 77027 KRIV Fox 26: (713) 479-2801, KRIV TV, 4261 Southwest Fwy, Houston, TX 77027 ABC 13: 713-669-1313, KTRK TV, 3310 Bissonnet St, Houston, TX 77005



Take the pooch for a playdate! Don't forget about taking your dog for a swim, a sniff, and some human loving at the Pawm Springs Dog Park. It's an awesome City park with shade structures, trees, and doggy swimming pond! Separate fenced areas for under 25 lbs and another for the larger dogs. Just make sure your pup is neutered, friendly, and is up-to-date on his shots! Take 59 south to University Blvd, take a left at University, and it's about a mile up on the right.

Car key & FOB batteries – when is the last time you changed the battery in your car key? If you're like me – never! But my key battery went dead, and I had to go from store to store to find a new one. Be smarter than I was – have a spare on hand, and also change the battery every year or two before it dies!

We need your ideas! The Sugar Mill Board of Directors, along with our Landscape, Architectural Control, Pool, and Lake Committees strive to help keep Sugar Mill a place we can all be proud of. We are always interested in hearing your ideas for community activities, common ground and amenity updates, newsletter ideas, or whatever might be on your mind! We all live here, and whatever ideas you may have that may help foster a community of respect, friendship, camaraderie and stronger homeowner values ... we are listening! All ideas will be thoroughly researched for risk mitigation, legal compliance, and monetary feasibility. Please advise Terri Salter via email at tsalter@mascapi.com, if you have an idea that you wish to have considered! Please do not post on Nextdoor, since Terri does not have an account.

7th Street Pool – some of the new shade structures have been installed at the 7th Street Pool and look awesome. They will provide much needed shade to the baby pool and lounging areas. One of the larger shade structures was the wrong size and has been reordered. It is due to be installed in July. Sorry for the delay!!

Volunteers Needed – If you have a little spare time to volunteer at one of our pool parties, it would be greatly appreciated! We did not have nearly enough volunteers for the Lake Center Splash Day, and if we don't have adequate volunteers for upcoming events, we will need to cancel them. Help put a smile on a child's face! Hang balloons, cook hot dogs, make snow cones, or help setup or clean up for one of our parties! sugarmillpool@gmail.com

Hands Free Only Cell Phone Policy goes into effect June 20th, along with stiff fines for violators!

Trash or Recycle Bin Questions: All customer service is handled by Republic Services (713) 726-7307. They can assist with missed pickup, cart questions or repairs, additional pickups, household hazardous waste and E-waste disposal, bulk cardboard recycling, and more! Do you want a different size cart? Residents have the option of a 35, 65, or 95 gallon cart for garbage or recycling. To request a different size cart - contact them! If your cart lid or wheels are broken – give them a call for free repairs! Warning: you will remain on hold for a while, unfortunately.

Guide to Walking and Biking in Sugar Land

With the warmer temperatures upon us, there is no excuse for not getting outside and exercising your weary muscles! If you want to ride your bike or go for a walk but are unsure of the safest and most convenient routes, Google Maps is a fantastic resource. Follow these steps:

- 1. Visit https://www.google.com/maps/
- 2. To the right of Search Google Maps, click on the blue right turn arrow symbol next to the magnifying glass
- 3. Select the walking icon or the biking icon
- 4. Enter where you are coming from and where you are going to

5. Click on "Get Directions" and it will give you the suggested routes (click on Details), as well as show you the suggested route in a map format. On a mobile device you can enter the address you are coming from and select either "walking" or "bicycling". In addition to Google Maps, the City of Sugar Land website is also a terrific resource for the best biking and walking paths and will also let you know what new paths are under construction! Visit http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/index.aspx?NID=1265

Pool Party Reminders (2017 Pool ID Cards required for entry, max 6 guests per household):

Splash Day – 7th Street Pool June 3rd from 3-6pm Join us for pizza and fun season opening events! Pool Tags will be validated here!

Dunkin' and Donut Day – Lake Center Pool

June 5 @ 9am Join us for donuts, juice, a swim, and a fun way to meet your neighbors.

Movie Night – Lake Center

July 14 @ 8pm Come see a great family friendly movie with popcorn, snacks, and glow sticks!

Dunkin' and Donut Days - Lake Center Pool

July 21@ 9am Join us for donuts, juice, a swim, and a fun way to meet your neighbors.

Movie Night – 7th Street Pool

August 18 @ 8pm Come see a great family friendly movie with popcorn, snacks, and glow sticks!

End of Year Party – 7th Street Pool

Sept. 3 @ 1pm - Come play in the pool and celebrate the end of the 7th Street Pool season!

End of Year Party – Lake Center Pool

Sept. 4 @ 11am Celebrate the end of summer with snow cones. New pool hours start in Sept.

Hours of Operation:

Lake Center:	9am-8pm	Mon, Wed, Fri, Sat, Sun
7th Street:	9am-8pm	Tues, Thurs, Sat, Sun
Sept Hours @ Lake Ctr	4pm-8pm	Tues - Fri, 9am-8pm Sat & Sun

Guest Policy:6 guests per household with a valid pool ID cardPrivate pool parties:Joanna Figueroa at JFigueroa@mascapi.comPool tag registration:Veronica Navarrete VNavarrete@mascapi.comQuestions/concerns:For either pool email sugarmillpool@gmail.com



Yard Of The Month Winners!



April 2017 "Yard of the Month" Paul & Keri Schmidt 402 Abbott Circle

Paul and Keri have lived in Sugar Mill for 17 years. There is lots of shade in this beautifully designed yard by Keri. And to make this yard seem even cooler, now that it is getting so hot outside, Paul & Keri's son installed a nice fountain.



May 2017 "Yard of the Month" Harriet & John Wolda 1259 Spinnaker Way

John and Harriet have lived in Sugar Mill for 25 years. They have a lovely shaded front yard with caladiums and begonias. They love their neighbors and the subdivision. They were thrilled to receive this award for Yard of the Month, which they so deserve. Both of these couples always have well-maintained yards and add so much to the Sugar Mill subdivision!

As a thank you both couples received a \$25.00 gift certificate to the Caldwell Nursery.

Marion's Fishing Corner

Heating up and slowing down.....

Lake water temps are steadily rising, and are hovering around the 80 degree mark at this time. The deepest water is a couple of degrees cooler, but several more days of warm weather will equalize even those areas of the lake. With the springtime spawning season all done, the fish are quickly settling in to their summertime habits. This means that the most active feeding periods are early in the morning and late in the evening. By contrast, midday fishing will be tough all summer, unless unusually cloudy conditions exist. Low light conditions are always a plus during hot weather.

So how does all this relate to lure selection? Actually, I think that it simplifies things. During the low light periods that I mentioned before, Fast moving topwater baits and shallow crankbaits are the high percentage choices. During the heat of the day and bright sunshine conditions, I always want to slow way down and work various soft plastic worms and craws through any brush or limbs I can find on the bottom. Shade pockets along deeper bulkheads are key areas for this slow presentation also. Remember that bass are not normally chasing baitfish during the peak sunshine hours of the day, so several casts to the same likely looking spot may be necessary to coax a fish into committing to take your bait.

The current fishing patterns will generally hold steady for the next few months. Fish habits are normally the most predictable during the summer. So if you don't mind the heat, just take along plenty of cool water to drink and get set to enjoy some Texas summertime bass fishing!

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.*

Important Numbers

Sugar Mill's Board of Directors:			City Dispatch	281-275-2525	
Name	Position	Contact #	Email Address	Police (Non-Emergency) Fire Department	281-275-2020 281-275-2873
Bill Cure	President	281-491-9536	bill.cure@gmail.com	Police Department City Hall	281-275-2500 281-275-2700
Robert Sheffield	Vice-President	281-242-0453	rsheffield81@comcast.net	Sugar Land Library Sugar Land Post Office	281-277-8934 800-275-8777
Harry Schippers	Asst. Secretary	281-242-2398	Harryschippers@windstream.net	Police (Emergency) Sherriff's Department	911 281-341-4700
CeAnne Ochel	Treasurer	281-565-0611	ceanneochel@gmail.com	Crime Stoppers Kempner High School	281-342-8477 281-634-2300
Suzie Bacon	Secretary	281-733-9848	suzie77046@yahoo.com	Sugar Land Middle Schoo Sugar Mill Elementary	1 281-634-3080 281-634-4440
MASC Austin Properties, Inc.Terri Salter945 Eldridge RoadProperty ManagerSugar Land, Texas 77478713-776-1771 / TSalter@mascapi.com		Fort Bend ISD Animal Control Ask City	281-634-1000 281-275-2364 281-275-2489		



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/



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



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9430 Oberrender Rd., Needville,TX 77461 www.needvillehorseriding.com 301-646-3200 / needvillehorse@gmail.com





Aquatico is proud to be offering swim lessons at Sugar Mill Lake Center!!



during the summer season!

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little one how to swim

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I sold my listing on Millpond in Sugar Mill in 17 days! We're entering the Spring Market. Call me for the least hassle, the most \$\$ for your home, and fast results.





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

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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



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

ROI IS KING

Every smart homeowner knows that major-or even minor-remodeling projects should be undertaken with one eye on design and the other on the ROI. You want to be comfortable with whatever return on investment you receive for upgrading your home because, unfortunately, many upgrades won't entirely recoup their cost upon sale. But the use you get out of the home with the upgrade might still make the construction worthwhile, regardless of the ultimate selling price. Here's the top 10 remodeling projects that provide the best return on investment nationally.

RANKING	PROJECT	COST RECOUPED	AVERAGE JOB COST	RESALE VALUE
10	Add a family room	69.3 percent	\$89,566	\$62,055
9	Finish the basement (cost estimate includes bar area, main room and bathroom)	70 percent	\$71,175	\$49,768
8	Add a two-story addition (cost estimate includes adding a family room, bedroom and bathroom)	71.1 percent	\$176,108	\$125,222
7	Add a wood deck loost estimate includes built-in bench and planter)	71.5 percent	\$10,707	\$7.652
6	Replace the siding	76.4 percent	\$14,518	\$11,093
5	Replace the garage door	76.9 percent	\$1,749	\$1,345
4	Complete a minor kitchen remodel loost estimate includes new cabinet fronts and hardware, new energy-efficient appliances. laminate countertops, mid-priced sink and faucet, dingy floor replacement and wall paint)	80.2 percent	\$20,830	\$16.699
3	Install a manufactured stone veneer (instead of vinyl- siding)	89.4 percent	\$7,851	\$7,019
2	Replace your entry door with a steel door	90.7 percent	\$1,413	\$1,282
5.3	Add fiberglass attic insulation	107.7 percent	\$1,343	\$1,446

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