

THE COMMONWEALTH



✦ **BIKE PARADE** ✦ **FREE FOOD** ✦  
✦ **FUN TIMES** ✦

**BRING THE FAMILY FOR OUR  
ANNUAL BIKE PARADE AND STAY  
FOR WATER SLIDES, KIDS  
ACTIVITIES & MORE**

**KNIGHTSBRIDGE CLUBHOUSE | 4330 KNIGHTSBRIDGE BLVD**

**BIKE DECORATING 9:30AM | PARADE LINE-UP 10:15 | PARADE AT 10:30AM  
HAMBURGERS, HOT DOGS AND YUMMY'S ICE CREAM**

# Commonwealth Comments

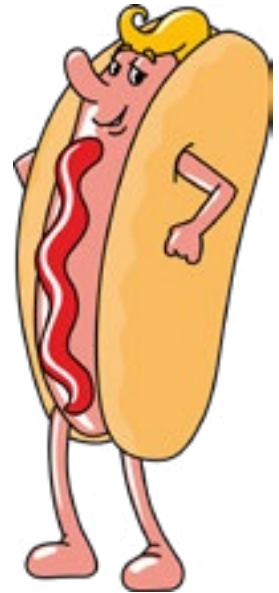
**July/August 2025**

You don't want to miss our most successful annual event!  
Lots of fun for the entire family.  
Food, fun, and friendship.

Parade Lineup @ 9:30 A.M.  
Parade Starts at 10:30 A.M.

Hamburgers and Hot Dogs will be on the grill.  
And, of course, the pool is open.

Don't forget your CAMERA!



**NOTE!!!!!!**

## COMMUNITY NOTIFICATION

The Briarwood Tennis Courts  
will be closed as of

**Monday, June 30**

for a period of **60 to 90 days** for  
construction of new court  
surface and LED lighting.

**Knightsbridge courts** will remain  
open for several more weeks.  
When construction starts there,  
they will be closed for a  
similar period of **60 to 90 days**.



Serve it, Smash it, Win it,  
Love it.



# Civic Association News

## Commonwealth Pool Season - 2025 - Remaining Hours

### Knightsbridge Pool -

**Closed for maintenance every Tuesday.**

Hours for July through August 10

Monday through Saturday - 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.  
Sundays - Noon until 8 P.M.

August 11 through October 26

### **Opened Weekends ONLY**

Saturdays - 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.  
Sundays - noon through 8 P.M.

### Briarwood Pool Hours

**Closed Mondays for maintenance**

Hours for July through August 10

Tuesdays through Saturdays - Noon - 9 P.M.  
Sundays - Noon until 8 P.M.

August 11 through September 1

### **Opened Weekends ONLY**

Saturdays - 10 A.M. - 8 P.M.  
Sundays - noon through 8 P.M.  
LABOR DAY - 10 A.M. - 8 P.M. (September 1)

**You must have pool tags to enter the pool area.**

www.crest-management.com. Click request a pool tag/access device. Pool tags will then be MAILED to residents in good standing with the Association. (If you pick them up at Crest, you must pay a \$20 expedited fee.)

Pool hours ARE subject to change based on staffing.

Questions? Contact Julien at 281-945-4663



**[www.CommonwealthCivic.com](http://www.CommonwealthCivic.com)**

If you live in The Commonwealth and received this newsletter from a friend or neighbor, shoot an email to:

**[news@commonwealthciic.com](mailto:news@commonwealthciic.com)**

and we will add you to our Email distribution list!



**Include your name, physical address and your email address.**

**Crest  
Management**

As OUR community partner, Crest Management Company is continually working to provide the tools we need to live and play in our community. Crest has introduced us to their latest and greatest feature, **Email Opt-In**, separate from The Commonwealth Email Distribution List.

Residents will receive official communication, assessment statements, and EMR and deed restriction letters, by email rather than mail, saving the association printing and postage costs.

Update your settings today by logging in and clicking the User icon next to your name. Check the box next to Email Opt-In and click Update Email Choices.

Not registered yet? Head over to [www.crest-management.com](http://www.crest-management.com) and click Homeowner Login. Select Not Registered.

# Sugar Land Info

[WWW.SUGARLANDTX.GOV](http://WWW.SUGARLANDTX.GOV)

Incorporated in 1959

**Mayor of Sugar Land:**

*Carol McCutcheon*

**City Councilmember for District 4 (Commonwealth):**

Rick Miller

**At-Large Sugar Land Councilmembers:**

Jim Vonderhaar and Robert Boettcher

Sugar Land now has its' first female Mayor. Carol McCutcheon, our former District 4 Councilmember won her race for Mayor in a runoff with former councilmember William Ferguson.

Congratulations Mayor McCutcheon and a huge thank you to all candidates who were on the ballot. Democracy needs you.

Additionally, we welcome Rick Miller as our new District 4 City Councilmember and Jim Vonderhaar and Robert Boettcher who each won their At Large District races.

Sugar Land City Council now has a multitude of new faces and we hope you will take the time to meet each of them.

## Sugar Land, Early Settlers

Sugar Land's roots extend back to the first 300 settlers who came to Texas in the 1820's with Stephen F. Austin, the "Father of Texas." The northern territory of Mexico, Austin negotiated a grant with the Mexican government to bring 300 colonists to settle a large area of land between the San Antonio and Brazos Rivers. Heads of families were offered grants of 4,605 acres at a cost of about 12 ½ cents an acre.

Centuries before this area of southeast Texas was settled, water cut through the land creating a large river that stretched from the northern plains of Texas, coursing 840 miles to the Gulf of Mexico. In the 1500's, Spanish gold hunters exploring the area named the river Los Brazos del Dios-the arms of God. It is known today as the Brazos River. One of those early explorers, Cabeza de Vaca, described in his journal their exploration of the prairie land and waterways that included present day Oyster Creek. Grass grew waist high in the red, alluvial soil, enriched from centuries of floods and as deep as twenty feet in some areas. Beyond the river's edge, the soil turned to heavy black clay. Prehistoric animals roamed this region, their ancient remains uncovered centuries later in the riverbed.

Buffalo roamed the area, leaving their distinctive mark on the earth as if just freshly plowed. Deer, wolves, buzzards, owls and numerous small game such as the prairie chicken were abundant. Colonists brought horses, cattle, oxen and dogs, and planted corn, sweet potatoes, pumpkins, potatoes and other vegetables along with sugar cane and cotton. In the fall, sleds piled with cotton were pulled to the river, placed on flatboats and sent to market in Houston or Galveston. Daily survival dominated their lives, but despite the hardships, the colony flourished.

Stephen F. Austin's first colony was bordered on the north by the Old San Antonio Road which stretched between San Antonio and Nacogdoches, on the east by the Trinity River, on the south by the Gulf of Mexico and on the west by the Lavaca River. For his personal homestead, Austin chose five leagues approximately centered between Richmond, the Imperial refinery and present day Eldridge Road, an extremely fertile area of the Brazos River and Oyster Creek watersheds. Modern day Sugar Land was within that prime real estate that Austin chose for himself.



4

Article taken from the City of Sugar Land  
website - City History  
More to come.....

## Red, White and Boom

Set for July 4 at Constellation Field

Constellation Field is set to host Red, White and Boom presented by NMDP, an Independence Day celebration on July 4 from 6 p.m. to 10 p.m.

Red, White and Boom, previously hosted by the City of Sugar Land, relocated to Constellation Field in 2025, providing a setting in the premier family-friendly venue in the city. City of Sugar Land residents can claim up to four free tickets with a special emailed access code starting Thursday, May 29, while supplies last. Unique codes will only be sent to residents with e-mails on file for utility bills. To sign up for e-bill to receive your code visit [www.sugarlandtx.gov/eBilling](http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/eBilling). Tickets for the general public can be purchased for \$14 each here, beginning Thursday, May 29.

All amenities at Constellation Field will be open throughout the evening, including concession stands throughout Constellation Field, the playgrounds in center field, the Splash Pad in right-center field, MoonShot Alley and more.

There will be live music presented by Bud Light, inflatables will be set up on the field, and there will also be face painting stations throughout the ballpark. The night will end with a Texas-sized fireworks show to celebrate July 4th.

Parking is \$5 per vehicle (card only). Lot A, B and C will be available



## City of Sugar Land Approves \$12.5M Reinvestment to Modernize Town Square

The Sugar Land Development Corporation (SLDC) and the Sugar Land 4B Corporation (SL4B) approved three five-year performance agreements to support office revitalization within Sugar Land Town Square (SLTS). Approved on May 20, the agreements reinforce the City's commitment to strategic reinvestment in one of its most notable and economically significant destinations. This effort supports the continued evolution of Town Square—making it more attractive to businesses, residents and visitors.

The agreements include a total investment of \$12.5 million to support significant tenant and office improvements to two key commercial buildings: Building B and Building H.

**Building B** – Located at 15958 City Walk, this building will undergo a modernization of shared amenities, including innovative communal office spaces designed to meet the needs of today's flexible and collaborative work environments. Enhancements will also include upgraded landscaping and streetscapes along City Walk Boulevard to elevate overall experience for tenants and visitors.

**Building H** – Located at 2150 Town Square Place, planned improvements include renovations to the building's entry, lobby and signage, along with updates to the garden area and new furniture, fixtures and equipment (FF&E) to elevate the tenant and visitor experience.

**Office Tenant Improvements** – Property-wide upgrades aimed at attracting and retaining high-quality tenants will be implemented.

These improvements were identified in September by the project's operator and property management firm, Rebees, as a part of a broader repositioning strategy and vision for the district.

# City of Sugar Land Acquires Imperial Historic District

This purchase marks a pivotal milestone for the City's redevelopment efforts

Last month, the city of Sugar Land announced that it has officially acquired the Imperial Historic District, home of the former Imperial Sugar site and the iconic 100-year-old Char House. This acquisition is pivotal in the City's ongoing efforts to preserve and revitalize its namesake.

The purchase of the approximately 40-acre site represents a monumental moment—the first time in history the city has owned the property. This crucial step removes long-standing barriers that have hindered redevelopment efforts by private developers over the past 20 years since the property has been vacant. Public ownership allows the City to take the lead in shaping and ensuring the long-term success of the beloved site.

With this project, they hope to create a place that past and future generations are proud of for many years to come.

In the coming months, the City of Sugar Land will secure the property to prevent further deterioration and begin preservation planning for the Char House.

**The City anticipates selecting a private development partner by the first quarter of 2026, following a period of community engagement to help shape priorities that will guide negotiations on a Master Development Agreement.**

## **Financial Facts:**

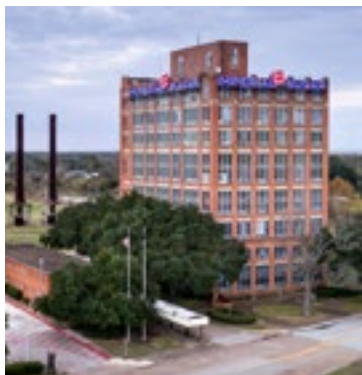
On February 18, 2025, the Sugar Land City Council approved up to \$50 million to acquire the site.

In addition to the land acquisition, the funds support:

- † Restoration of historic structures within the Imperial Historic District
- † Capital improvements to the City's utility system, streets and drainage infrastructure related to the Imperial Historic District
- † Professional services associated with these projects
- † Imperial Sugar, one of the longest-operating businesses in Texas, has been a cornerstone of Sugar Land's identity, shaping both the city's past and present. Founded by Samuel, Nathaniel and Matthew Williams along the banks of Oyster Creek, the company and its legacy have left a lasting mark on Texas history. The Imperial Historic District was once a hub of employment, housing and community for many Sugar Land residents, and its revitalization ensures that this rich history is honored for generations to come.

More information about the project will be made available as planning efforts progress.

For updates, visit [www.sugarlandtx.gov/imperialhistoricdistrict](http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/imperialhistoricdistrict).



*Credit City of Sugar Land website.*

Article taken from the City of Sugar Land  
website - City History  
More to come.....

# Fort Bend County Info



Shooting off fireworks remains illegal in the City of Sugar Land (yes, in Commonwealth also), however, the County has added one addition to the calendar with regards to the selling of fireworks in unincorporated areas of the County.

Please see the information below..

## Fort Bend County Commissioners Court Authorizes Fireworks Sales for Diwali Festival for the next Five Years

**FORT BEND COUNTY, TX** – Today, the Fort Bend County Commissioners Court approved an order permitting the sale of consumer fireworks to celebrate Diwali, the “Festival of Lights.” Under the approved order, retail fireworks permit holders may legally sell fireworks beginning **October 12, 2025**, through **midnight on October 22, 2025**, unless an earlier expiration is prompted by drought conditions as determined by the Texas A&M Forest Service.

**Following an amendment proposed by Commissioner Dexter L. McCoy**, the authorization permits the County to annually authorize Diwali fireworks sales **through December of 2030**. This will allow both residents and the county to be better prepared for Diwali celebrations and remove the need for families to store fireworks in their homes following the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Holiday.

“Fort Bend County is proud to support our diverse communities by allowing families to celebrate Diwali with this cherished cultural tradition,” said Commissioner McCoy. “This order reinforces our commitment to inclusion and cultural recognition.”

The action stems from House Bill 608, passed by the Texas Legislature in 2023, which empowers counties to extend fireworks sales for Diwali. Fort Bend County’s decision aligns with a growing acknowledgment across the Greater Houston region—including Harris and Waller counties—of Diwali’s importance to local Hindu, Sikh, Jain, and Buddhist communities.

### Key details of the Diwali fireworks order:

- **Sale Period for 2025:** October 12–22, 2025 (or until the Texas A&M Forest Service declares drought conditions).
- **Location:** Authorized only in *unincorporated areas* of Fort Bend County by permit-holding sellers.
- **Safety Restrictions:** Limitations on specific fireworks classes may apply if a countywide burn ban is in effect; all sales and use must comply with Fort Bend County Fire Marshal guidance on safe handling and discharge.

The County’s Fire Marshal will collaborate with retailers to ensure public safety through educational outreach and compliance checks. Residents are advised to follow guidelines on safe transportation, discharge, and disposal of fireworks, and to stay informed about any burn ban declarations during the sale period.





# WHO GIVES A HOOT?

No taller than a pint glass and about the size of a robin, they blend seamlessly with their surroundings thanks to masterful camouflage. Eastern screech owls are highly skilled hunters and are more often heard than seen, emerging at dusk to hunt throughout the night. They have a whistling call rather than an actual screech, which they use to communicate and defend territories under the cover of darkness.

Eastern screech owls can be found throughout the Eastern United States, generally east of the Rocky Mountains. Their primary habitat is wooded areas and they prefer trees with cavities for nesting and roosting. It may be a natural cavity or can even be one made previously by a woodpecker. Don't be surprised if you find one has moved into your squirrel box or a nesting box you've put up for another species. They've adapted well to populated areas and are happy to call home parks and residential areas with mature trees as long as the trees are suitable and there is a food source.

Screech owls are carnivores and their diet consists mainly of small mammals like mice, rats, squirrels, shrews and moles. They will also eat small birds, insects, lizards, frogs and toads, worms and spiders. Being nocturnal, they need exceptional night vision for hunting. Their eyes are very large relative to their body size and are fixed forward in their sockets. Many other birds have eyes on the sides of the head. Although owls can't move their eyes, they have very flexible necks and can turn their heads almost 360 degrees largely expanding their field of vision. Their vision is binocular, meaning they use both eyes together and see the same object simultaneously giving them a three-dimensional view and enhanced depth perception. It helps them track their prey and adjust their movements in flight.

They can be either gray or a reddish-brown and both male and female look identical so you won't be able to tell the difference between them. Females typically lay 3 to 5 eggs

that are laid at 2 to 3-day intervals and incubation lasts 26 days on average. Only about half of the eggs actually hatch. Interestingly, once the eggs are laid, the female will lose the feathers on her belly which is a hormonal response to egg laying. This bald patch is called a brooding patch and enhances the transfer of body heat to the eggs. The female leaves the nest twice, usually at dusk and again at dawn to stretch, preen and defecate. The male does all of the hunting and delivers the prey to the female. During incubation, it's interesting to watch the movements of the male. He will roost between 14 and 20 feet away. During the hatching process, he'll move closer to the nest, even as close as 6 feet. Once all the eggs have hatched, he'll move farther away again. He continues to deliver food to the family either in whole or headless and it's up to the female to tear it into small pieces for the babies.

It takes between 24 and 32 days for the young ones to reach the fledgling stage. They may be on a branch or on the ground. They hop and flutter and work on their flying skills. They continue to be fed and protected by their parents for up to 10 weeks. During this time, they are learning to fly and to hunt. After 10 weeks, they are able to survive on their own.

As urban sprawl continues to wipe out our trees, suitable natural cavities can be scarce. You can provide a safe haven for these fascinating little birds by building a screech owl nesting box. Providing one is more than just a simple woodworking project; it's an impactful way to support local wildlife. If you're interested in building a nest box for eastern screech owls, here are a couple of reputable resources with detailed instructions and plans. I'm sure there are several more if you want to do a web search.

By Cheryl Conley  
Board of Directors  
Lake Creek Nature Preserve

## ADOPT, FOSTER or Volunteer



The City of Sugar Land and Fort Bend County each have an Animal Shelter. There are many ways you can be involved with either shelter.

When you adopt a shelter pet, you're not only giving them a new beginning, but you're also opening the door to incredible joy and fulfillment into your own life.

Stop by the shelters to see which pets are currently available for placement.  
Please verify times before you visit the shelters!





# Civic Association Board of Directors Information

## The Commonwealth Board of Directors

**President**  
Jim Levermann

**Vice President**  
David Bristow

**Treasurer**  
Jennifer Vance

**Secretary**  
Sarah McCoy

**Member At Large**  
Shawn Sidoti

## Board Member Liaisons

**Clubhouse, Pool and Swim Team –**  
Jennifer Vance

**Communications:** (newsletter, website, eblasts and marquee) –  
Sarah McCoy

**Community Events and Clubs –**  
Sarah McCoy

**Enhancement Committee –**

**Landscape** (including electrical, fountains and sprinklers) – Jim Levermann

**Modifications Committee –**  
Dave Bristow

**Playgrounds –** Jim Levermann

**Tennis Courts** (tennis leagues & tennis court reservation system)-  
Jim Levermann

To send an email  
to any board  
member, click  
the envelope.



**Board Meetings** are held at  
The Clubhouse at 6 p.m. on the  
fourth Thursday of each month.

For more information, contact  
**Heather at**  
[HeatherE@crest-management.com](mailto:HeatherE@crest-management.com) or 281-945-4630.

## Additional Regularly Scheduled Meetings

**Modifications and Deed Restrictions Committee**  
meets at the Clubhouse at 7 p.m.  
on the third Tuesday of the month.

For more information, contact  
[juliem@crest-management.com](mailto:juliem@crest-management.com) 281-945-4663

**The Landscape Committee**  
meets on an as-needed basis.  
Contact Crest Management for the next meeting time and date.

**First Colony LID #2**  
meets the FIRST Tuesday of each month at the  
Commonwealth Clubhouse starting at noon.  
[www.fclid2.com](http://www.fclid2.com)  
For more information, call Ron at 281-265-0137.

**CREST MANAGEMENT** Company, Contact Information  
P. O. Box 219320, Houston, TX. 77218  
[www.crest-management.com](http://www.crest-management.com)

**Property Manager**  
**Heather**  
**281-945-4630**  
**(After Hours Emergency**  
**713-935-7331)**  
[HeatherE@](mailto:HeatherE@crest-management.com)  
[crest-management.com](http://crest-management.com)

**Assistant Property Manager**  
**Julie**  
**281-945-4663**  
[juliem@crest-management.com](mailto:juliem@crest-management.com)

**Deed restriction and architectural**  
**matters; Clubhouse Scheduler/**  
**Tennis Reservations**

**Account Representative - Tammy**  
**281-945-4658 - [TammyA@Crest-Management.com](mailto:TammyA@Crest-Management.com)**

**For accounting matters such as account information,**  
**account balances and payment information**