

Commonwealth Comments

A newsletter for residents of The Commonwealth:
Bridgewater, Commonwealth Estates, Commonwealth Park, Oxford, Sutton Forest,
Sutton Park and Sweetwater XII

May/June 2018

www.commonwealthcivic.com

The Commonwealth Board of Directors

Dave Bristow
President
281-980-3150

CIW

David Cao
Treasurer
281-701-8070

CIW

Steve O'Hara
Secretary
281-265-4485

CIW

Courtney Hochhalter
Member
281-410-1171

CIW

Raj Walawalkar
Appointed 2018

Crest Management Service

Heather Esteban
Property Manager
281-579-0761

Board Meetings are held at the Clubhouse at 6 p.m. on the fourth Thursday of each month. Please verify in the event the date must be rescheduled.

Modifications and Deed Restrictions Committee Meetings are held at the Clubhouse on the third Tuesday of each month - 7 p.m.

HOA BOARD ELECTIONS

2 Civic Association Board member positions are up for election this year. Crest Management sent notifications before the Annual Meeting so that candidates may place their names on the ballot.

It is also possible to be nominated (or nominate yourself), from the floor on the night of the meeting.

Our Annual Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, May 15, 2018.

Bob Beskow, one of our HOA Board members took an out of state job and Raj Walawalkar was appointed by the board to fill out the remainder of his term.

If you have any questions about the election process or wish to have your name on the ballot, please contact:

Heather Esteban, CMCA, AMS
Community Manager

Crest Management Company, 17171 Park Row, Suite 310, Houston, Texas 77084

2018 POOL SEASON

Pool tags are required for entry to either of The Commonwealth pools. They will be issued to any homeowner that is in good standing with the Association. To obtain pool tags, go to www.crest-management.com and complete the pool registration form on the home page. Pool tags will be mailed to residents upon receipt and verification of the request form. Registration and pick up of pool tags in person at Crest Management's office will incur a \$20 Charge.

Pool tags will be checked by management personnel when entering the pool facility. If a tag is not in the resident's possession or cannot be verified, residents and/or others may be asked to leave the facility. With the exception of community pool parties, only residents with a valid pool tag will be allowed into the pool area. Each pool tag allows 2 guests. A Pool Tag Application form will be posted on our website once Crest has it ready (www.commonwealthcivic.com).



The pool schedule is posted at:
www.commonwealthcivic.com



Commonwealth Community Garage Sale

Fatima Haq did a wonderful job on our Spring Garage Sale! Anyone interested in organizing a fall/winter Garage Sale, can shoot an email to news@commonwealthcivic.com. Let's get a date on the calendar!

Activity Directory

If you don't see an activity group that appeals to you, start one!
The Association supports approved groups.

BLOCK CAPTAINS

We are always looking for Block Captains for our Neighborhood Watch Program. Contact Leigh Mattson at:

Leigh@mattsonrealtor.com or
Sue at news@commonwealthcivic.com

Commonwealth Chinese Club - CCC

Uniting Chinese-speaking families, promoting community news, events and spirit, engaging non-English speakers in community activities and mingling at social/informative events. If interested, contact Darcy at: 847-800-2889 or email her at: danli2013@gmail.com.

Commonwealth Social Club

Until recently, The Commonwealth had an active adult Social Club. Singles were welcome.

The group regularly scheduled evenings of fun at various restaurants around the area and occasionally meet in each others' homes for chit chat or board games, etc.

If you are interested in reviving this group, contact Dave at dgbristow@windstream.net.

Mommy and Me Play Group

Blanca plans wonderful, fun activities for our youngest residents (and their moms.) This is a great time to join other neighborhood moms and their small children for play dates at one of the area parks, or in each other's homes.

Contact Blanca Barron at blancabarron00@yahoo.com or give her a call for more information: 713-885-7664.

To learn about working with the Association to start a group; anything from a book club to a bridge group, to a cooking class, contact Virginia and let her know of your interest. The Association will help publicize your group and attempt to help you grow. VirginiaMack@ftbendhomes.com or 281-207-5200.

Golf

Men's Golf Group

The Commonwealth Men's Golf Group always accepts players for last minute pairings on various golf courses in the area. If you want to be added to the list, contact Greg at gregmack@gmail.com.

Special Events

Katy Weimer (aggiekaty@hotmail.com) and Lacie McClanahan (laciemcc@aol.com) have some great Special Events ideas for the year ahead. If you are interested in helping these ladies organize and oversee future events, please let them know.

Tennis

Men's Tennis

If you are interested in playing tennis with other Commonwealth residents, this group is for you. BUT.... the group needs a leader! Please contact Dave Bristow if interested. dgbristow@windstream.net

Women's Tennis

If you are interested in playing tennis with other Commonwealth women, call Jean at 713-385-4097.

The Commonwealth Clubhouse is available for rent, at reasonable rates, by members in good standing with the Association.

Call Crest Management for more information.
281-579-0761

REMINDER -- Please put trash cans (and recycling bins) at the curb on the morning of trash pick up days but no earlier than 6 p.m. on the day prior to pick up. This also applies to lawn debris. If your landscape company habitually leaves grass and tree cuttings in front of your home each week, ask them to start taking it with them.

They should be happy to accommodate you.

The HOA will pursue this offense - it does frustrate your neighbors.

Newsletter - Sue Hauenstein
832-449-3936
news@commonwealthcivic.com

*You can place a business card sized ad for \$75.00 per issue.
No long term commitment. Give us a call!*

If you are not receiving regular emails from The Commonwealth Civic Association, you are NOT on our Email Alert distribution list. This can be remedied by simply sending an email to: news@commonwealthcivic.com. Add your name and tell us which neighborhood you live in and we will add you to the list. Get important news quickly with our Email Alert system. We do NOT share your email address with any outside sources.



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Located at the southwest corner of Highway 6 and Sienna Parkway in Sienna Plantation Village. Near HEB.

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ADVANCING HEALTH

The Commonwealth & FBISD

We want to start by thanking the amazing residents of The Commonwealth for stepping up and speaking out when the first signs of a possible district rezoning once again raised its' ugly head. We are proud of the fact that our community leans proactive rather than reactive.

Our HOA board has been vocal about maintaining our property values, in lock-step with parents who want to keep our children in neighborhood schools.

Board members met with a small group of the parents and talked a about a group strategy, resulting in a meeting of all Commonwealth residents. The mission of this meeting was to separate fact from fiction and be on the same page moving forward.

Since some contentious neighborhood groups vocally promote a “take them, not us” mindset, our community leaders opted to take another route. Commonwealth parents attended meetings without giving in to the temptation of matching t-shirts and signs. They gathered data and facts, they talked in depth with others and formulated a strategy of civility and dialogue. Many campuses are overcrowded. Some are under utilized. Others require renovation.

To be clear, the recent FBISD meetings were **NOT** aimed at a rezoning. The meetings were publicized as a Facilities Study. Many campuses are overcrowded. Some are under utilized.

A huge thank you to all who were able to attend (and get into) our neighborhood called meeting this week. We know that the line curled out of the entrance.

HOA Board President Dave Bristow and board members Courtney Hochhalter and David Cao presented facts and data relating to the school district facilities study, as they exist today.

It was reiterated by both the HOA and our wonderful team of involved parents that, contrary to what you may hear, there has been no official district statement regarding changes at Commonwealth Elementary. Commonsense tells us that we are safely ensconced in the elementary school. We will, however, be closely watching the movement of the school district plan.

Continue reading on page 6


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Susan M. Delclos, DMD, MDS, PA
 ORTHODONTIST 281-261-2504
 2869 Dulles Avenue (at Cartwright)



Henry Delclos, D.D.S.
 PEDIATRIC DENTIST 281-265-4177
 2225 Williams Trace Blvd., Ste. 106

Don't forget to submit a Modifications Application and wait for an approval letter PRIOR to starting any modification projects in your yard or to the outside of your home. Call Heather Esteban or Monica Hamm at Crest Management (281-579-0761), if you have any questions or need an application. It is very expensive to put the wrong color roof on your home and then have to replace it!

If your fence is in need of repair, please take a few moments to read through our deed restrictions and undertake repair and replace before the HOA is forced to ask you to do so.

The deed restrictions may be found on our website:
www.commonwealthcivic.com

Hog Wild

Feral hogs are entering and leaving The Commonwealth through open gates on the levee fences. It appears that some residents are propping the gates open, perhaps to let deer in and out. Unfortunately, that lets the feral hogs in, too. The hogs tear up the turf looking for food. They are also large and fast enough to pose a danger for you and your pets.

Repairing turf damage is not cheap. Please close the gates behind you and save us all the expense of fixing the damage.

Learn more on the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department feral hog page.



Modification and Deed Restriction Forms

The Commonwealth HOA has now transitioned to on-line MDR application forms. You may access the forms by visiting:
www.crest-management.com

Select Exterior Modification Request Form
 Enter and confirm your address
 Select your application

Follow the prompts and upload all requested items.

*Please ensure to submit all required documents and photos listed in the grey box.



If you notice errant sprinklers in our common areas, please contact Crest Management to report them. Sprinklers watering the street do not help keep our grass and plants alive! Sprinklers running continually, do not help our bottom line.

Your assistance is appreciated!



If you are on Facebook, please join our Commonwealth HOA Facebook page. We post frequently, sharing information that we feel is of interest to our residents.

One more way to stay connected!

Updated Regularly With Timely Info

Residents are invited to visit our weekly
YOGA AND MEDITATION CLASS IN SILENCE
 at the Commonwealth CLUBHOUSE every Tuesday morning from 9 a.m. (sharp) - 10:15 a.m. This class is led by a certified yoga instructor and health coach. Please arrive on time!

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Current Commonwealth Listings



Oxford
3914 Bratton St.
Wonderfully updated
No backyard neighbors
\$400,000



Commonwealth Park
47 Sterling St.
Pool & Over \$65K in
Updates
\$499,900



NEW LISTING
\$ 524,900

3909 St. Michaels Ct.
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pool/spa/rock waterfall

SOLD
4930 Hillswick Dr.
\$395,000
(multiple offers!)

SOLD
75 Bradford Circle
Sold in 3 days
(multiple offers)



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14905 Southwest Freeway,
Sugar Land 77478
VirginiaMack@ftbendhomes.com

Commonwealth Specialist



Virginia Mack, ABR, CBR, CRS, GRI
281-207-5200 Direct Line

www.FtBendHomes.com

Sugar Land and Tree Trimming

Most of us will be forever grateful that those first settlers of The Commonwealth (AND the developer), planted many beautiful trees for us to enjoy. Our HOA Boards have been diligent about maintaining and replacing those trees as needed.

The downside is that the City of Sugar Land requires homeowners and businesses to adhere to the city's Tree Trimming Ordinance, if public rights of way are affected.

Properly pruned trees ensure large vehicles such as fire trucks, ambulances and garbage trucks can safely navigate city streets with a clear view of traffic safety devices.

The Public Works Department inspects trees every three years for compliance to the Tree Trimming Ordinance.

Please check the City's website for details on the requirements: www.sugarlandtx.gov.

Our Civic Association highly recommends that when it's time for you to trim your trees, you find a qualified, experienced tree trimming expert. Ask your neighbors for recommendations. Our neighborhood trees are one of our most valuable assets!



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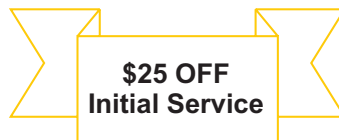
281-342-6969

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Gary Gillen



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#CommonwealthRocks - Facilities Study continues

It appears at this time, the major concerns center around the overcrowding at Fort Settlement MS and at Commonwealth Elementary.

We must keep in mind that this is **NOT** a rezoning (yet), it is simply a study of facilities throughout the district. We are told that the board will make some decisions soon, however, that can change at any time.

For those of you who are new, we have been through this at least a half dozen times before. These discussions are held every five years or so, due to growth in FBISD. We have managed to successfully work with the school district administration and intend to continue with that course of action.

That being said, the HOA needs your help. We must make sure that we attend all school board and related committee meetings so that if and when they start making decisions, we are prepared.

If you are interested in scheduling attendance at a meeting or two, please shoot an email to: news@commonwealthcivic.com and we will put you in touch with someone who can work with you on that.

Whether we end up with what we want or not, if we are prepared and work together - smartly- we will get to the other side stronger together.

Remember:

*Just because you read it on the internet,
doesn't make it true!
Be sure to go to a trusted source for FACTS!*

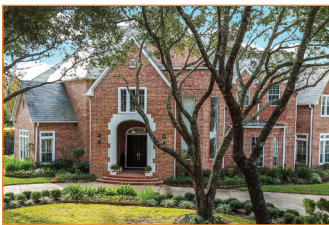
Please remember that homeowners are responsible for maintaining all fences that can be seen from any passing street. Repair or replace before the HOA gets involved.

The Terri Kurkjian Team

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TerriKurkjian@me.com



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Association Information

Landscape Committee (meets as needed)
 Contact Crest Management
 for the next meeting time and date.

Clubhouse Rentals
 Crest Management 281-579-0761

Pool Rentals
 A-Beautiful Pools 281-376-6510

First Colony LID #2 meets
the FIRST Tuesday of each month
 at the Commonwealth Clubhouse starting at noon.
www.fclid2.com

For more information, call Ron at 281-265-0137.

Crest Management Company
 281-579-0761

Useful Phone Numbers

Police (Non-Emergency)	281-275-2020
Animal Control	281-275-2596
Fire Department	281-491-0852
Water & Streets	281-275-2750
Trash Collection	281-275-2772
Public Works	281-275-2450
Street Lights (Centerpoint)	713-207-2222
<i>when calling about street lights, relay pole #.</i>	
POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY	9-1-1



Always needed-
 always appreciated!

To be considered at the monthly meeting, MDR applications must be received in Crest Management's office, on or before, the 2nd Tuesday of each month. For more information, contact Crest Management at 281-579-0761.

Newsletter, Website and Facebook:
 Sue Hauenstein news@commonwealthcivic.com

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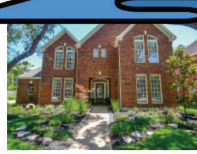
Sold Listings 2017



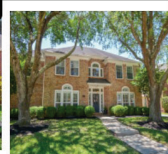
FOR SALE
3926 Bratton
 \$389,800



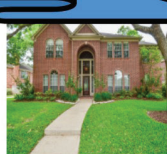
4211 Canterbury
 \$498,900



19 Coventry Ct
 \$475,000



5334 Avondale
 \$480,000



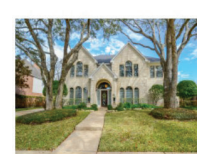
4903 Keneshaw
 \$524,000



31 Burwick
 \$615,000



3811 St Michaels
 \$449,000



4819 Burbury
 \$544,800



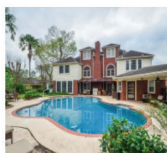
5006 Berkshire
 \$435,000



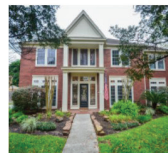
4823 Keneshaw
 \$549,000



4619 S Hampton
 \$615,000



63 Sterling
 \$649,800



4310 Saint Michaels
 \$889,000



10 Seaton Ct
 \$449,000



4722 Yorkshire
 \$479,800

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Our Annual July 4th Parade and Picnic

Our 2018 July 4th event is just around the corner. It takes a LOT of volunteers to ensure a safe and successful event. Please start thinking about how you wish to participate. We need assistance with set up, parade route safety, children's events, food prep, and service and clean up. Board member David Cao oversees this annual event.

If you are willing to commit to help either before, during or after the parade and picnic, please shoot an email to: news@commonwealthcivic.com.

As you can imagine, with well over 500 participants each year, we need help with food prep in the days prior to the event.

We also need adults stationed along the parade route, to help protect those in our parade (don't forget to decorate your bikes and strollers). We want to be sure that traffic doesn't get anywhere near them! We also need cooks for the hot dogs and hamburgers! And, of course, volunteers are needed for clean up.

The pool will be open during the event but you may wish to bring chairs and/or blankets for the playground area, as the pool area is usually pretty crowded during our event.

Bring your camera, you won't want to miss those spectacular photo opportunities!

The Commonwealth Women's Club

The Commonwealth Women's Club
takes a hiatus during the summer months.

We begin meeting again in the fall. Watch the newsletter for details.

To receive details about each month's event, be sure to get on the email distribution list. Contact Monica at Monicaclancy@clancylearning.com or call 713-775-4236 (cell).