

Commonwealth Comments

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

November/December, 2017

www.commonwealthcivic.com

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281-265-4485

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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.

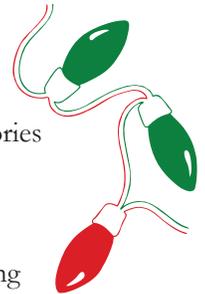
HOLIDAY LIGHTS CONTEST

Commonwealth is hosting a Holiday Lights Contest!

Judging will take place on Saturday, December 16th. The following three categories will have one winner each:

- 1) Most Dazeling
- 2) Most Creative
- 3) Best Theme

The winner of each category will receive a **\$250 Amazon gift card** and bragging rights throughout the neighborhood!!!



We have received several inquiries about the next Commonwealth Community Garage Sale. The Commonwealth Civic Association supports two garage sales per year. All we need is a resident volunteer to schedule and organize the sale. The Association will pay for advertising costs. If you are interested taking this on, please shoot an email to: news@commonwealthcivic.com

The Special Events Committee, meets the third Friday of the month in the Clubhouse at 8:15 a.m. There's plenty of coffee!

We invite all residents to join us in planning our end of year holiday event and also in January to help us plan events for 2018.

Hurricane Harvey

We are ecstatic to report that The Commonwealth survived Hurricane Harvey relatively unscathed. Our levee system worked as designed and our FCLID2 Board Members worked hard to ensure that we had 24/7 coverage during the most severe period of the storm. We were certainly **much** luckier than many of our neighbors.

Harvey tested the limits of The Commonwealth and certainly, beyond. Our LID Board has analyzed our success and made note of the challenges we will face in the future. We appreciate their efforts on behalf of all Commonwealth residents. And we thank them for their service.

We would also like to take a moment to thank all of the residents who provided meals and encouragement to the technicians who truly risked life and limb by remaining at their post during the hurricane. We can definitely be proud of our community!

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

The Social Club has a great time during* its' monthly outings. This adults only group is for empty nesters (couples and singles) interested in meeting others who share a passion for ball games, nights on the town, card games, dinner parties, theatre, travel wine tastings, Super Bowl Watching parties or a few hours of quiet conversation.

Contact Virginia at: virginiamack@ftbendhomes.com
for more information and to get on the email list.

Mommy and Me Play Group

Blanca has wonderful activities planned and the kids have a great time, as do 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.

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 Virginia Mack at 281-207-5200 if interested.

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

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.

REMINDER -- Please put trash cans (and recycling bins) at the curb ONLY on the mornings of trash pick up days. 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
832-499-3936
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.

Take A Bite Out of Crime

In a recent conversation with Sugar Land PD, we were informed that the rate of residential burglaries and burglary of motor vehicles are down in the City of Sugar Land.

The top locations for burglaries of motor vehicles are fitness centers and hotels. Restaurants and movie theaters can also be included. The rationale is that when the driver enters one of these facilities, he/she will be inside for a good length of time. That gives the perpetrator a reasonable period to break into your vehicle and take whatever is in sight.

Don't misunderstand, professional thieves can break into and steal from a car or truck in as little as 10 seconds!

Remember to take the following precautions:

- Remove all portable contents from plain sight. Do not leave ANYTHING in view. Take your cell phone, computer, purse, etc. with you. Even that bag of dirty laundry in the back seat can be a target. Wrongdoers do not know what's in the bag. As far as they are concerned, it could be an item of value.
- If it's not something you wish to take with you, HIDE the item. Lock it in the trunk, or place it under the seat.
HINT: Do this before you leave home, you never know when you're being watched.
- Lock your car. Even if you only plan to be away from it for a few minutes, LOCK it. Many officers will also suggest that you lock your vehicle even inside your own garage.

At Home.....

- Always keep your doors locked.
- Get to know your neighbors and know which vehicles belong to them.
- Report any suspicious activity.
- If someone comes to your door when you are home alone, do NOT ignore them but do NOT open the door. Speak to them through the door. That way, they know someone is in the house (and they will have no idea you are alone!)

The Block Captain Program has worked in our neighborhood for decades! Even if you don't have an "official" captain, it would behoove you to have someone collect contact information for each home on the block. That way you can stay in touch and it gives you a way to get in touch with neighbors in the event of an emergency. (And you never know when a hurricane might come through!)



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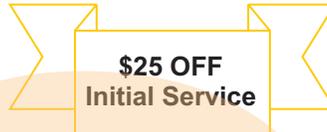
281-342-6969

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- Insect Control
- Fungus Control



Gary Gillen



Cannot be combined with other offers.

TPC Lic #58

Family Owned and Operated Since 1963

Did You Know?

The Sugar Land Fire Department will conduct a FREE smoke alarm check for city residents. Just visit the city's website: www.sugarlandtx.gov and go to Fire/EMS.

While you are at it, you can also schedule a fire and safety inspection. Consider doing this. It could save your life!

Citizens' Fire Academy- Hands-On Education

Fire fighting has become a highly advanced science. In truth, there is much, much more to the Sugar Land Fire - EMS Department ("SLFE") than fighting fires. Like training for terrorism events, emergency medical care, and providing smoke alarms for our citizens in need.

The Citizens Fire Academy has a limited enrollment. You'll put on protective fire fighting gear, learn about fire strategy and tactics, and practice the basics of life saving.

- Article continues on page 4 -



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-Sugar Land Citizens' Fire Academy continued-

Applications for this program will be accepted through December 31. Class will begin on January 4 and runs through March 8, 2018. The classes begin at 6:30 p.m. and run through 9:30 p.m.. They include 2 Saturdays in the field.

*The only requirements are that you must commit to attending this ten-week program, you must be at least 18-years-old and either live or work in Sugar Land or within the City's Extra Territorial Jurisdiction.

The program is run by the SL Fire-EMS Department. Applications are downloadable on www.sugarlandtx.gov or you can call the City and ask to speak to someone about enrolling. (281-275-2700).

Neighborhood Night Out

The Civic Association Board was very happy to see neighborhood get-togethers for National Night Out, but we'd love to see **MORE** of them.

There is no rule that you can **ONLY** plan to gather on National Night Out. Residents are encouraged to really get to know one another and visit on a regular basis.

The entire neighborhood benefits if our residents know who lives here and which vehicles "belong" to a home. We want you to know how to reach your neighbors should you notice any suspicious activity on your street.

Please consider having some sort of informal "getting to know you" gathering at your home this holiday season.

And, While We're Talking CITY.....

If you are interested in following city activities, you can go on-line at www.sugarlandtx.gov, and look for City Council Meeting Agendas. You will find the agendas and videos of previous meetings also.



If you are on Facebook, please join our Commonwealth HDA 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



Coco and Cookies With Santa Save The Date!

Saturday, December 02
10 a.m. - noon
At the Clubhouse



Fun, Food and Family - Coco, Coffee and Cookie Decorating
Photos with Santa



WE WISH ALL OF OUR RESIDENTS A
HAPPY AND SAFE HOLIDAY SEASON

Merry Christmas

Happy Chanukah



Happy Diwali

Happy Kwanzaa



Here We Go Again

We apologize that this message must be repeated so often, but apparently we have residents who are still not "picking up" after their dogs.

Based on the number of complaints we receive, this is a much bigger problem than one would imagine. Even our dog lovers resent finding other people's dog excrement on their yards. And no one wants their child stepping in it!

It appears that there are multiple, inconsiderate dog owners in the neighborhood.

Be a considerate neighbor, PLEASE carry some sort of bag to clean up after your dog when you take him/her/them for a walk. The rest of the community will be thankful.



FENCES

Fences are a huge bone of contention with some residents in our community. All homeowners are responsible for maintaining, repairing and replacing their damaged fences. Most of us take that responsibility seriously and do take the necessary steps when our fences begin to look run down.

There are, however, some residents who simply don't notice (or choose not to care) that the fences surrounding their homes are in need of care/replacement. It is the responsibility of our Management Company to notify those residents who are out of compliance and ask them to step up.

Crest does regularly send letters to those homeowners. These letters (which cost us money) are then followed up with attorney letters (costing us even MORE money) and can eventually end up in a law suit, costing EVERYONE money.

This should not happen. When we purchased our homes, we signed a copy of the deed restrictions agreeing to follow the community's standards. No Commonwealth neighborhood is held to a higher standard than the others.

It is incumbent upon all residents to do their part in maintaining our beautiful community. It DOES impact the value of **your** home AND your neighbors' homes.

Voted Sugar Land's Best Realtor, Nancy Benevides



- ❖ Top Commonwealth Listing Realtor
- ❖ Nancy's homes sell for more per sq ft on average than any others sold in Commonwealth!
- ❖ Houston Association Ranked by ALL previous clients 4.97 out of 5 Stars!
- ❖ Top 25 Residential Real Estate Team -*Houston Bus Journal*
- ❖ 5 Star Realtor TX Monthly Magazine-5 years in a row!

713-203-9975

44+ Million SOLD in 2016



4618 S Hampton
\$489,000



3811 St Michaels
\$449,000

Sold Listings 2017



4211 Canterbury
\$498,900



19 Coventry Ct
\$475,000



5334 Avondale
\$480,000



4903 Keneshaw
\$524,000



31 Burwick
\$615,000



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

Street Parking

Please keep in mind that, while we all understand that any family may have multiple vehicles at their residence, (three children might result in five cars for one family) parking on the street is discouraged.

Vehicles parked on the street can cause valid concerns during times of emergency. If there are vehicles parked on both sides of the street, a fire truck or ambulance may have difficulty getting to their destination(s).

If you park across from a mailbox and someone stops to retrieve mail, passage becomes a challenge.

We strongly encourage you to use your driveway to park your vehicles at all times and show some courtesy to your neighbors.

If you are leaving town for any part of the holidays, be sure to let a trusted neighbor know of your plans. Leave them your contact information, in case of an emergency. Ask someone to walk/drive by and pick up any newspapers, circulars, packages, etc. on your property. Be safe!



It's time to decorate our neighborhoods for the upcoming holiday season. We will be looking for volunteers to help us put them up and take them down shortly. Details will be shared as soon as firmed up.

Watch your Email Alerts for our request!

The Commonwealth HOA is greatly appreciative of those residents who step up and fill committee positions. We know how lucky we are to have those who fill our leadership positions. We still need volunteers to help run the men and women's golf club, the men's tennis club, social club and the welcome committee. If you are interested in filling one of these volunteer jobs, let David Bristow know. You can shoot him an email at dgbristow@windstream.net.

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



Association Information

Landscape Committee (meets as needed)
 Contact Steve O'Hara 281-265-4485
 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

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.

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 (Centrepoint)	713-207-2222
<i>when calling about street lights, relay pole #.</i>	
POLICE & FIRE EMERGENCY	9-1-1



Always needed-
 always appreciated!

Newsletter, Website and Facebook:

Sue Hauenstein news@commonwealthcivic.com

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 Give me a call.**

Commonwealth Specialist



Happy Holidays to All

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



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The Commonwealth Women's Club

The **Commonwealth Women's Club** is open to all Commonwealth women. The group meets monthly during the school year. Some of these women have been meeting for decades and some have only recently joined the club. Members would love to have you join them for the 2017-2018 season.

Make some new friends or reconnect with old ones and enjoy a relaxing evening with the ladies!

*Friendsgiving -
Meet Your Avalon Friends*

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 15
7 P.M.

AT THE AVALON HOME OF
SUSAN CHALUH

5 ST. GEORGE CT., THE WATERS OF AVALON



Our Annual

What a Girl Wants Gift Exchange

Wednesday, December 13
7 p.m.

at the home of
Kelly Otero
15 Leigh Ct.

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).