

# Commonwealth Comments

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

September/October 2019

[www.commonwealthcivic.com](http://www.commonwealthcivic.com)

## The Commonwealth Board of Directors

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Email: [News@CommonwealthCivic.com](mailto:News@CommonwealthCivic.com)

## Crest Management Service

**Heather Esteban**  
Property Manager  
281-579-0761

*(After Hours Emergency #  
713-935-7331)*

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.

## CW's Annual Parade & Picnic

Once again, we thank the residents of The Commonwealth for their contributions of time and effort to making our annual July 4th Parade & Picnic a success. Hundreds of residents showed up to enjoy food, fun and friends at the Clubhouse, park and pool on the 4th.

Please let our Association Board know how much we appreciate their financial support of community events. Bringing our residents together on a regular basis helps us keep the friendly, welcoming reputation we have in Sugar Land.

If you are willing and able to assist us in planning and executing community events, please reach out to Sumita at [news@commonwealthcivic.com](mailto:news@commonwealthcivic.com).

## Commonwealth Enhancement Committee

It's still not too late to become involved in our Enhancement Committee. The work of this committee is crucial to the future of our community. This committee provides much coveted input into the direction our neighborhood should grow. They will discuss and prioritize projects that will increase both our quality of life AND our property values.

Which amenities need improvement and bring the best return for residents? What do we need to add to our community that will bring our neighbors together and enhance our "wowness"? Are the projects cost effective? The time to bring up your concerns is before decisions are made.

The Committee will break into smaller teams to research what each project involves, determine a reasonable time line and estimated financial cost to the community. Under the leadership of Director Courtney Hochhalter these recommendations will then be brought to the Board.

We strongly encourage you to become involved in these decisions. If you have some ideas of your own and are interested in contributing time to this endeavor, we encourage you to become engaged by reaching out to Heather at Crest (281-579-0761) for the next meeting date where your input and suggestions will be welcomed.

If you will be making improvements to the outside of your home this fall, please do not forget to submit your MDR application

**BEFORE** beginning the work. Unapproved changes can be costly to the homeowner. For timely approval, applications should be in the office of Crest Management on or before the 2nd Tuesday of each month.

Questions? Reach out to Crest at 281-579-0761.



# Activity Directory

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

<b>Commonwealth Chinese Club - CCC</b> Darcy at: 847-800-2889 or email her at: danli2013@gmail.com.	Uniting Chinese-speaking families, promoting community news, events and spirit, engaging non-English speakers in community activities and mingling at social/informative events.
<b>Commonwealth Social Club</b> news@commonwealthcivic.com	A group in need of a leader. Enjoy adult only nights out at various restaurants, game nights and socials in each other's homes.
<b>Mommy and Me Play Group</b> Blanca Barron blancabarron00@yahoo.com	For our youngest residents. Join other neighborhood moms and their small children for play dates at one of the area parks, or in each other's homes. Get on the notification email list.
<b>Men's Golf Group</b> Greg Mack gregmack@gmail.com	The guys are always looking for players for last minute pairings on various golf courses in the area.
<b>Special Events/Activities</b> news@commonwealthcivic.com	Our residents LOVE participating in fun activities. If you are interested in helping organize and oversee future community events, please let us know.
<b>Tennis: Men's</b> Dave Bristow dgbristow@windstream.net	If you are interested in playing tennis with other Commonwealth residents, this group is for you. BUT.....the group needs a leader! Let us know if you're interested.
<b>Tennis: Women's</b> Jean Konrady 713-385-4097	Ladies time on the court! Play tennis with other Commonwealth women.
<b>Yoga &amp; Guided Meditation</b> Varsha zestandzen1@gmail.com	Varsha offers free yoga classes in our Clubhouse every Tuesday at 9 a.m. Please bring your yoga mat and a towel. Feel free to drop in and enjoy!

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 Dave Bristow and let him know of your interest. The Association will help publicize your group and attempt to help you grow. dgbristow@windstream.net.



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.

The Commonwealth 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

## 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>	
<b>POLICE &amp; FIRE EMERGENCY</b>	<b>9-1-1</b>

The Commonwealth Civic Association does not investigate, qualify, or certify this newsletter's advertisers.  
The business of each advertiser is independent of the Association.

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## Kitchen & Bathroom Remodeling

12705 S. Kirkwood in Stafford

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**281.494.9200**

If you notice errant sprinklers in our common areas,  
please report them to Crest Management.

281-579-0761

Watering the street does not help keep our grass and plants alive!  
And it doesn't keep our budget in hand either.



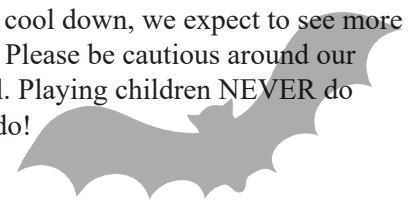
### Questions regarding the City of Sugar Land?

Please read through the information at [SugarLandTx.gov](http://SugarLandTx.gov).

This site will tell you exactly what 3-1-1 can help you with.

(i.e. broken sidewalks, trash service and recycling,  
even Animal Services info).

As the weather begins to cool down, we expect to see more children playing outside. Please be cautious around our park areas and the school. Playing children NEVER do what we expect them to do!



We know the kids just headed back to school,  
but we are already looking forward to our  
Annual Holiday Party  
to be held in December.



Look for details in the November/December newsletter!



Read about the  
Piranhas' 2019 Season  
on Page 6!



### Quality Landscape Lighting

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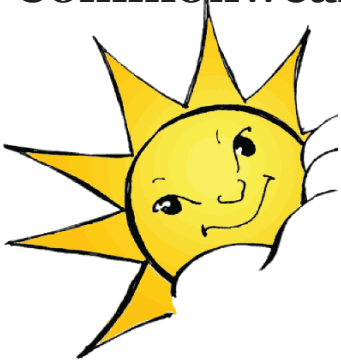
It's a fact!

There is another election coming up.

There will be no elected official positions on the ballot for Sugar Land, however, we expect several bond proposals and constitutional amendments on there. Please become informed before you go into the polls.

It cannot be confirmed at this point, but we do expect that our Clubhouse will be an early voting AND election day polling location. This will be confirmed via our Email Alerts, closer to the date in November!

# Commonwealth Pool Hours



We have pool rules for a reason. All attendees must abide by the posted rules.

Disregard for our rules may result in removal from the pool area and loss of pool tags.

You must have 2019 pool tags in order to use the Commonwealth pools. You must be in good standing with the Association in order to get those tags!

## Knightsbridge Pool Hours

AUGUST 12th - OCTOBER 27th (Weekends only)

Saturday 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

LABOR DAY 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

The Briarwood Pool is closed for the season.

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3710 Stocksbridge Dr.



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4610 Warwick Ct.

## The Census is Coming!!!!

Every 10 years, the federal government conducts a population count of everyone in the United States. Data from the census provides the basis for distributing more than \$675 billion (yes BILLION) in federal funds annually to communities across the country to support vital programs. This impacts housing, education, transportation, employment, health care AND public policy.

Equally important to us is the fact that this information also determines the boundaries of congressional and state legislative districts to accurately determine the number of seats each state has in the U.S. House of Representatives.

Responding to the census is not only your civic duty, it also impacts the way we live and education of our children.

- ~The next census will take place in March of 2020.
- ~It will take you a short time to complete.
- ~The questions reflect the # of people living in your home.
- ~They do NOT ask for personal info (banking info, social security #, political affiliation, etc.)
- ~Your information will be kept completely confidential.

We will follow up with additional information. If you'd like more info now, visit: [www.2020census.gov](http://www.2020census.gov).

*Sugar Land's Boutique Brokerage*



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List Price	\$465,000
3% Comm	\$13,950
B&A Comm	\$6,975
<b>Savings of \$6,975!</b>	

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4919 Keneshaw St

List Price	\$598,700
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B&A Comm	\$8,980
<b>Savings of \$8,980!</b>	

ACTIVE



4403 Heatherwilde

List Price	\$475,000
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<b>Savings of \$7,125!</b>	

## Hurricane Tips From the Landscape Pros

When most people think about preparing their property for hurricane season, they start with securing shutters, fueling their generators, and stocking non-perishable food items, and filling gallons of water. Weeks before you have all your batteries, flashlights and radios ready, it's important to prepare your landscape for hurricane season.

Landscape preparation begins when selecting and planting your landscape and continues through the life of the property, with proper maintenance. Here are some tips to create a hurricane-ready landscape:

**Proper Locations of Trees in the Landscape** - When planting trees in your landscape, it's important to plant larger trees away from buildings, homes, power lines and other structures, to avoid damage by trees and branches. One solution would be to plant smaller trees or shrubs around such areas. Small tree options can include Crape Myrtles and Holly. Shrub options can include Knockout Roses, Lantana and Viburnum.

**Regular Pruning & Maintenance** - While regular pruning is important to ensure the health of a plant, it is also important to eliminate any items that can possibly become flying

debris during a hurricane, such as decaying branches. Also, by shaping a plant properly through pruning, it can help the tree or plant become more wind resistant.

**Use of Wind Resistant Plants & Trees** - Based on extensive hurricane research, a list of wind-resistant trees was created. Trees that are most resistant to hurricane force winds include Magnolias, Hollies and Oaks.

**Planting in Groups or Masses** - Finally, when possible, plant trees within groups to increase wind resistance. The trees act as a buffer to each other. The tree grouping also helps protect other nearby plants found in your landscape.

The next time you plan to update your property's landscape, keep these tips in mind for a proactive approach to a hurricane-ready landscape.

Submitted by Native Land Design  
[www.nativelanddesign.com](http://www.nativelanddesign.com)





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**Our Commonwealth Listings**

**Referred by Virginia Mack**

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## October Community Garage Sale

Thanks once again to Fatima Haq for stepping up to organize our 2019 Fall Community Garage Sale! The inquiries have already begun, so we expect a great deal of participation from our residents this year.

The Garage Sale will take place on

**Saturday, October 19**

**from 8 am., until noon.**

Grab your cauldron, clean out the cobwebs, find your most frightful offerings and turn your attic, closets and garage into more organized spaces.

We expect to find some hauntingly GREAT deals!

RSVP to get on the map of homes to be given out at the Clubhouse on the morning of the

**fataymah@gmail.com**



It will be **WICKED!**



## Swim Like A Fish - A Piranha!

The Commonwealth Piranhas Swim Team had an unprecedented winning season this summer under the leadership of Head Coach Linda Miller and an accomplished junior coaching team of team of high school swimmers Claudine Rodriguez, Rex Fick, Rachel Wright, Jayden Ramkissoon, and Emily Nguyen.

The Piranhas swam their way to an undefeated record in Division 3 of the Southwest Houston Recreation Swim League (SHRSL), and for the first time defeated their out-of-division opponents in Division 2. The Piranhas went on to win the season-end Meet of Champions Division 3 trophy for the 10 & under age group, and finished the meet with the highest overall score for the combined 10 and under and 11 & up age groups. Sixteen Piranhas swimmers and 7 relay teams qualified and competed at the SHRSL All Star meet. Two swimmers, Grace Fox and Rachel Wright, were awarded High Points Overall Winners at All Stars.

Congratulations to this nearly 200-swimmers-strong Commonwealth Piranhas Swim Team! Registration for 2020 will take place in the Spring!

Thank you Jean Konrady & Constance Lagrone for the info!

## Fort Bend County Libraries

Did you know that our Fort Bend County Library System branches offer all sorts of classes throughout the year? Most of these classes have no cost and are open to anyone interested.

We are fortunate enough to have two libraries very near to us (First Colony and U of H Sugar Land) and the others are not that far away.

Take a look at their website and you can see the amazing variety of classes they offer for all ages. Click on Events and check the library you are interested in visiting.

[www.fortbend.lib.tx.us](http://www.fortbend.lib.tx.us)

**The libraries offer lots of children's programs!**

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## Commonwealth Alert List

At this point we have fewer than 800 current email addresses on our list. In a perfect world, The Commonwealth HOA would already have a complete list of ALL resident email addresses. (A huge thank you to those residents who have been responding to our request for home addresses to add to our list. We appreciate you!)

We started this list after a hurricane hit the Houston area leaving Sugar Land without electricity for days. It was dangerously hot. The City of Sugar Land was handing out water to residents in need, however, there was no way for us to organize and get that information to our residents by walking door to door. Those with generators were able to connect with the internet so we opted to begin a list that would connect our residents in times of urgency.

To those NOT on our distribution list, please know:

- ~ We do NOT share our email addresses.
- ~ We try very hard not to overwhelm you with emails. In fact, we attempt to send out only information we feel is beneficial to our residents. For example, emails are sent in response to traffic or weather advisories. If there is a possibility of torrential rain or flooding, we let you know. If there is a Civic Association event, we give advance notice, a reminder and a last minute notification. We also attempt to share opportunities for city and county government involvement (i.e. committees, boards, classes, etc.)

Please consider adding your email address to our list and joining our Facebook page. We believe that we provide information you will be happy to receive. Shoot us an email with your home address.

[news@commonwealthcivic.com](mailto:news@commonwealthcivic.com).

**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.**

**The HOA will pursue this offense - they should be happy to accommodate you.**

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

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

Newsletter, Website and Facebook - Sue Hauenstein, the write idea - [news@commonwealthcivic.com](mailto:news@commonwealthcivic.com)

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## The Commonwealth Women's Club

### Fall KickOff!

Join us as we kick off our 2019-2020 season.

Celebrate the end of summer  
(and, hopefully, the heat that comes with it)



See old friends and  
meet new ones!



7 p.m.  
Tuesday, September 17  
at the home of  
Amanda Pappenfort,  
11 Hessenford Street



Save The Date  
Tuesday, October 8

To receive full details and an invite, get on our email list. Shoot an email to  
Monica Clancy: [monicaclancy@strategicascent.com](mailto:monicaclancy@strategicascent.com)