# Glen Laurel



### FALL 2013

### **Message From The Board**

### IN THIS EDITION

#### <u>\*NOTICE\*</u> Board Meetings

Glen Laurel's monthly Board Meetings will now generally be held on the 1st Wednesday of the month at 7:00pm at the Woodbridge Club House.

Message From The Board Page 1

**Glen Laurel Power Up Program** Page 2

Progress Made In Glen Laurel Pages 2, 4, & 6

Glen Laurel Cookie Exchange Page 3

**Glen Laurel Holiday Decorating Contest** Page 5

Holiday Safety Tips Pages 2, 4, 6



Picture of the new fountain we are trying to purchase for the Imperial Canyon Lake

As the year comes to a close we would like to recap some of the progress we have made in Glen Laurel to improve the appearance of the community. While we still have more work to do to address some areas still in need of repair, we want to

share with you some of the photos we have taken over the last year. We hope you enjoy these pictures of some of the progress made. Please see the photos and commentary on pages 2,4 & 6.

We also wanted to remind everyone that we have some key items on the agenda for the annual meeting on November 6. Those items are the vote for the \$525 increase and the quorum requirement for the construction loan for the Burney Road fence. Please note that if the \$525 does not pass there will not be adequate funds to continue to make repairs to the community and specifically there will not be a construction loan for Burney Road fences. Also Mason fences will not be able to be replaced until 2015.

#### FAQ on Dues Increase

There is a vote underway for increasing the annual dues to \$525. We are providing this FAQ to help explain why the increase is needed and what will happen if the increase does not pass.

Why is there a vote to increase the annual dues?

There has not been an annual increase since Glen Laurel was built in 1998. The \$425 amount is no longer sufficient for the support and maintenance of Glen Laurel and the Reserve at Glen Laurel. Over the last several years the HOA has been operating at a financial loss and there is no longer any reserve funds available to maintain the community.

What was the rate of inflation between 1998 and 2013?

The inflation increases between 1998 and 2013 is estimated to be 43.08%. If we adjusted the \$425 dues set in 1998 for inflation we would be paying \$607 today. Source:

http://inflationdata.com/Inflation/Inflation\_Calcu lators/Cumulative\_Inflation\_Calculator.aspx

What will happen if the dues do not increase?

There will not be enough funds to maintain Glen Laurel and Glen Laurel at the Reserve. This means that there will not be sufficient funds to cover operating costs for the property and to pay for anything that breaks or needs repair. The items that will be impacted are:

•Operation of the swimming pool

•Repair and replace Fountains at the lakes •Replacement of fences on Burney Road which are a code enforcement violation in current condition

•Landscaping and flowers at the entrances of Glen Laurel and Reserve at Glen Laurel •Irrigation pipes and sprinklers

What do other HOA's in the area charge for annual dues?

The other HOA's in the area are charging the following amounts: Woodbridge \$525, Sugar Mill \$625.

#### Happy Holidays

The Board would like to wish everyone a safe and happy holiday season.

Glen Laurel Board of Directors



### COMMUNITY NEWS

#### Glen Laurel's Power Up Program

Residents - Would you like to see a completed walking trail around the lake, additional landscaping beautification projects, a nicer clubhouse where we can actually have inside neighborhood events or eventually our very own tennis courts right here in Glen Laurel??

Sounds like an impossible wish list, right? Well, this can all be possible with the help of every one of you. The great thing is it doesn't require writing a check, fundraising, or going door to door....it just requires one thing going to the following website: www.glenlaurelhoa.streampowerup.biz and switching your electric provider to Stream Energy.

Each resident that enrolls under Glen Laurel's Power Up program will be helping to contribute thousands of \$'s to our Reserves every single month. We have over 700 homes in our neighborhood and every last resident pays a light bill to some company right now. Why not switch to Stream Energy and take advantage of their incredibly low rates and help make those items on Glen Laurel's wish list a reality at the same time!

It is important to know that anyone can participate in this program, you do not have to be a Glen Laurel resident. For more information call Jennifer at 281-732-9375 and let me help you get signed up today.

# PROGRESS MADE IN GLEN LAUREL

When we started at the beginning of the year, we were faced with the challenge of how to address the run down appearance of the community and fix the code enforcement issues to avoid fines from the City of Sugar Land. Unfortunately we also had to do these repairs with inadequate funds.



This is what we started with...



Now we have a new cement fence on W. Airport!

# GLEN LAUREL COOKIE EXCHANGE



What a better way to kick off the Holiday season and bring friends together than to have an oldfashioned neighborhood cookie exchange!

Bake up 2 dozen of your family's favorite holiday cookies and share them with others in a cheery, festive environment. Everyone leaves with a variety of goodies to stash away for Christmas entertaining - and perhaps a new recipe or two.

Please make a small label with the name of your cookie that can be displayed with it and notate if the cookie contains nuts. Also, it



would be nice to have small printed recipe cards for others to take home with them. So please bring them too!

We will have coffee available and hot cocoa for the kids.



Also, for each person that brings a non-perishable food item, you will receive a raffle ticket to be submitted for a drawing. All items will be donated to the Interfaith Food Pantry of Ft. Bend County.

When: December 8th @ 3:30 pm Where: Glen Laurel pool

# SIGN UP FOR EMAIL NOTIFICATIONS

Please check the Glen Laurel website to get important information and sign up to provide your email address if you would like to have alerts emailed to you.



Visit www.glenlaurel.net and click on the tab labeled "Email Sign-Up" to receive the notifications. Signing up for email notifications will also allow you to access the Resident Only section of the website.

# CHRISTMAS IN HISTORIC ROSENBERG

December 7th from 12:00p-8:00p in historic downtown Rosenberg.

Jump-start your holiday season the first Saturday in December by joining the community to explore Historic Downtown Rosenberg's eclectic mix of eateries, shops, art, and museums.



There is no admission for the event which runs from noon to 8 p.m. in Historic Downtown Rosenberg. Enjoy the sights and sounds of the season through the magnificent downtown merchants and attractions, food and craft vendors, pictures with Santa and Mrs. Claus, a children's carnival, seasonal entertainment and much more.

For more information on the event or for gift, craft or food vendor spaces, please visit: ci.rosenberg.tx.us or call 832.595.3525.

### HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

The holidays are an exciting time of year for kids, and to help ensure they have a safe holiday season, here are some tips from the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP).

#### Trees

When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant."

When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and when bent between your fingers, needles do not break. The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.

When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators or portable heaters. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

Cut a few inches off the trunk of your tree to expose the fresh wood. This allows for better water absorption and will help keep your tree from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.

Be sure to keep the stand filled with water, because heated rooms can dry live trees out rapidly.

#### Lights

Check all tree lights-even if you've just purchased them-before hanging them on your tree. Make sure all the bulbs work and that there are no frayed wires, broken sockets or loose connections.

Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.

# PROGRESS MADE IN GLEN LAUREL



New landscaping areas at the pool!



Need caption for this picture.

## GLEN LAUREL HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST!



As the Holidays draw closer and the weather cools down, people begin to decorate their homes and yards for the Christmas season. Are you one of those families that like to go all out decorating your home?

The Glen Laurel HOA Board will be driving through the neighborhood on the weekend of Dec. 14th - 16th after dark to judge all the decorated homes for the Holiday.

Homes will be judged in the following categories:

- 1. Best Traditional
- 2. Best Religious
- 3. Best Lights
- 4. Santa's Favorite
- 5. Best Doorway

Winners will be featured with a picture of their home on the Glen Laurel website, a sign placed in their yard and a will receive a \$25 Home Depot gift card. Good luck and Happy Holidays!!

### PHOTO ID REQUIRED FOR TEXAS VOTERS

Texas voters must show a photo ID to vote in elections in Texas, unless you are exempt.

If you do not have any of the following acceptable forms of ID, you may now apply for an Election Identification Certificate (EIC) at no charge. However, if you already have any of the following forms of ID, you are not eligible for an EIC:

• Texas driver license—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting

• Texas personal identification card—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting

• Texas concealed handgun license—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting

• U.S. passport book or card—unexpired or expired no longer than 60 days at the time of voting

• U.S. Military identification with photo—unexpired or expired less than 60 days at the time of voting

• U.S. Citizenship Certificate or Certificate of Naturalization with photo

There are exemptions. For more information on exemptions, please visit: www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/electionID.htm.

To apply for an EIC, visit a driver license office and complete an Application for Texas Election Certificate. The application can also be found online at:

www.dps.texas.gov/DriverLicense/electionID.htm.

### IMPORTANT NUMBERS

Emergencies	911
City Hall	281-275-2700
Councilman/Mayor	281-275-2710
Fire Department	281-275-2851
Fire Dept. Non-emergency	281-275-2500
Police Department	281-275-2525
Public Works/Street Lights	281-275-2450
Ordinance/City Code	281-275-2370
Sugar Land Animal Control	281-275-2750
Animal Control Alternate	281-275-2364
Auto Registration	281-341-3710
Crime Stoppers	281-342-8477
Driver's License	281-232-4334
Health Department	281-342-6414
Fort Bend ISD	281-634-1000
Sheriff's Department	281-341-4700
Social Services	281-342-7300
Voter Registration	281-341-8670

#### Hospitals:

24HR Emergency Center	281-277-0911
Memorial Herman S.L.	281-725-5000
Methodist Health Center	281-274-7000
Oak Bend Medical Center	281-342-2811
S.L. Medical Center	281-274-6600

#### Misc:

Poison Control800-764-7661Sugar Land Library281-277-8934Sugar Land Post Office800-275-8777Recycling Center281-342-5226

Sterling ASI Ry Reid, Community Manager 11201 Lake Woodbridge Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77498 832-678-4500 x253

GL Homeowners Association Board of Directors

> President Debra Johnson debra@glenlaurel.net

Vice President Jennifer Fuchs jennifer@glenlaurel.net

Secretary/Treasurer John Clarke john@glenlaurel.net

Community Manger Ry Reid ry@sterlingasi.com

### HOLIDAY SAFETY TIPS

#### (continued...)

Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use. To hold lights in place, string them through hooks or insulated staples, not nails or tacks. Never pull or tug lights to remove them.

Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with ground fault circuit interrupters to avoid potential shocks.

Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.

#### Decorations

Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals.

Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not be knocked over.

In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable. Keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to prevent them from swallowing or inhaling small pieces. Avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a young child to eat them.

Wear gloves to avoid eye and skin irritation while decorating with spun glass "angel hair." Follow container directions carefully to avoid lung irritation while decorating with artificial snow sprays.

Keep these tips in mind and have a safe and enjoyable holiday season!

# PROGRESS MADE IN GLEN LAUREL



This is the Burney fence which is still in need of repair!



New fence on Florence 8ft.

# BACK PAIN? NECK PAIN?

The Spine Center at Methodist Sugar Land Hospital is the comprehensive, coordinated option for you in Fort Bend County.

For back and neck pain, there's only one premier choice — Methodist Sugar Land Hospital's Spine Center. Whether you've had pain for just a few days or several long years, you'll find everything you need to diagnose and treat your condition in a convenient location, with access to premier spine specialists and a complete range of treatment options.

Getting started is easy. We will guide you through a customized treatment plan, with expedited access to world-class neurologists, neurosurgeons, orthopedic spine surgeons and interventional pain specialists. Plus, physical therapy, occupational/hand therapy, and the most advanced imaging and surgical technologies in the world are available on-site.

Stop enduring pain. Call or email today and begin your personal treatment plan. 281-313-BACK (2225) or SpineCenter@tmhs.org.

#### Metholist Methodist

Sugar Land Hospital" Spine Center

16655 Southwest Freeway • Sugar Land, Texas 77479 281-313-BACK (2225) • MethodistSugarLand.com







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