Glen Laurel

Connections

IN THIS **EDITION**

NOTICE **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.

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MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

FALL 2014

At the September meeting of the Burney Road MUD, the City of Sugar Land presented the MUD Board with a proposal regarding ownership of the three lakes in Glen Laurel. However, before we go into the details of the City's proposal, there are several important facts that need to be clarified.

• The Burney Road MUD is scheduled to dissolve on or about the year 2026. This date is tied to the amount of debt the MUD district carries. So in other words, if the MUD does not incur another dollar in debt, it will be dissolved in 2026 and the City of Sugar Land will assume ownership of the MUD District's infrastructure.

• The Burney Road MUD will have to pay for the repair of the Glen Laurel Lakes by issuing bonds, which in effect will raise the amount of debt the MUD District currently has.

The City of Sugar Land has purposed that they will allow the MUD District to dissolve in 2026 despite the additional debt the MUD district will incur by repairing the Glen Laurel lakes *IF Glen Laurel HOA will assume ownership of the three lakes.*

Glen Laurel HOA was not part of the negotiation between the City and the MUD Board and no one from the HOA Board was consulted about this proposal prior to its announcement at the September MUD Board meeting.

The Burney Road MUD tabled the motion to accept or reject the City's proposal until after the November elections and also delayed any actions on choosing a remedy to repair the lakes in Glen Laurel. The MUD Board did suggest that several workshops be conducted between the City, Burney Road MUD and Glen Laurel HOA to discuss the City's offer.

There are numerous implications to be considered if the HOA is to assume ownership of the three lakes in Glen Laurel. The most important is how the lakes are going to be repaired. There are currently two proposals on the table for repairing the lakes; the first is a concrete shelf and the second is a concrete bulkhead. The engineering firm hired by the MUD Board told the MUD Directors that the bulkhead would have lower, long term maintenance cost to the HOA than the concrete shelf. Although the current MUD tax would be eliminated under the City's plan, Glen Laurel's annual HOA dues would have to be increased to pay for the maintenance of the lakes, which would include any erosion issues, repairs to the bulk head [if that option is selected to repair the lakes], mowing and watering.

The HOA Board will continue to keep the community informed on developments and progress related to this issue and welcomes any comments you might have.

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

Thanks,

Glen Laurel Board of Directors



WINTER LAWN TIPS

Care of your lawn in the fall is as important as in spring and summer. Regular care is the key to an attractive and healthy lawn through the fall and winter months. Here are few things you can do to help your lawn survive the winter and recover vigorously in the spring.

Fertilization: Fall fertilization is the key to prolonging fall color and promoting early spring recovery of the lawn. It helps produce a dense turf that resists winter weeds. Fertilizer used in the fall should be higher in nitrogen and potassium and lower in phosphorus. Grasses fertilized this way have shown greater survival during winter months than those fertilized with high phosphorous. Use a 3-1-2 ratio formula or buy a "winterize" product of your choice, allowing for good coverage. The "slow release" will feed the lawn and with continued regular watering, produce a hardy root stock to survive the winter.

Watering: When your lawn goes dormant during winter months, it is important to remember the grass is living and needs moisture for survival. During the winter, if it doesn't rain for several weeks, then the lawn should be irrigated. Irrigation before a hard freeze is helpful in reducing freeze injury to the grass. It takes much colder air temperatures to lower the temperature of a moist soil than that of a dry soil.

This is also the time to put out the pre-emergent chemicals to control unwanted weeds and grasses. First, identify the type of weed you need to control. Check with your (continued on page 4)

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? Does your family like to drive around neighborhoods during the Holidays and admire all the beautiful lights? Well, why not drive around Glen Laurel and vote on the best decorated homes. Yes, the residents will be voting this year!

Please vote on the following categories:

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

You may submit all entries via email to john@glenlaurel.net.

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

HOLIDAY CASH BACK PROMOTION

It's the perfect chance to earn some extra cash for Glen Laurel! For every two customers that sign up for the Glen Laurel Power Up program, the Glen Laurel HOA will receive \$100. Enrollment must be from November 15 -December 31 and must be for term customers, not month to month customers. Remember, if you have friends or relatives in GA, PA, NJ, MD or NY, they can sign up as well and help support our neighborhood. Check out Stream Energy's great rates and get signed up today. Let's continue to make positive changes in the neighborhood with the money that we earn!

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. Thanks, Jennifer Fuchs





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.



HOUSTON METHODIST DEPARTMENT OF SURGERY WELCOMES DR. MICHAEL YAAKOVIAN



Dr. Timothy Oppermann and Dr. Ashish Saharia are pleased to welcome Dr. Michael Yaakovian to Houston Methodist Department of Surgery at Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital. Dr. Yaakovian is board certified in surgery with a focus on offering the latest and most advanced surgical procedures to minimize patient discomfort and enhance healing.

Together, the physicians of Houston Methodist Department of Surgery provide patients in Fort Bend and surrounding areas with personalized, compassionate care for a broad range of general surgery needs, including digestive surgery and surgical oncology — all supported by the technology, resources and staff of Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital.

TO SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT, CALL 281.275.0860.

Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital Campus Medical Office Building Three 16605 Southwest Freeway, Suite 450 Sugar Land, TX 77479 • 281.275.0860



methodistsugarlanddocs.com

COMMUNITY NEWS (CONTINUED)

nurseryman for his recommendation. Brown Patch and Take-All Root Rot are two fairly common fungal diseases that affect St Augustine grasses. Both could become active once the severe, intense stress your lawn has endured due to the terrible summer heat gives way to milder, wetter weather.

Now may also be a good time to start planning for landscape enhancements you want to make next season. Sure, remodeling the kitchen helps. But, dollar for dollar, you can sometimes get more green from a green lawn than you do from those inside projects. Landscaping could be the easiest way to enhance, add value and be pleasing to look at. You can begin to enhance the lawn and landscape for your home by deciding what you want to see. Lawn, shrubs, trees, flowers, flower beds, rock, back yard patio with plants, pool, the sky is the limit!

PICKING UP AFTER PETS

It doesn't take much to remember that we have pets in our community. Besides being unsightly and smelly, animal waste can be hazardous to the health of our children who play in the community and other pets. It is important to remember to immediately clean up after your pet. By taking a few simple steps to clean up after your pet, you can contribute not only to the beautification of our community, but also towards the elimination of one of the most irritating nuisances in a neighborhood. Thank you for your cooperation!

BURNEY ROAD FENCE UPDATE

The HOA Board has been informed by Aber Fence Company that they have finally received a permit from the City of Sugar Land to start construction of the Burney Road wall. Aber advised they are still running behind and construction should begin in several more weeks, weather permitting. Please continue to check the web site for updates.



While Aber Fence Co. is in our neighborhood installing the Burney Rd fence, they will offer special discounts to Glen Laurel residents who wish to replace their wood fences. Just like the HOA fences' most homeowner's fences are in dire need of replacement. Cedar fences are only designed to last approximately 10 years and most in the neighborhood are closer to 15 years old.

If your fence is leaning, sagging or just needs replacement, please consider taking advantage of this offer from Aber. Homeowners who replaced their wood fences during the West Airport phase stated they could not beat the price Aber offered.

The HOA is not financially benefiting from this offer in any way, but the replacement of the old, dilapidated wood fences can only improve the overall look of our neighborhood.

Please contact Steve Garza with Aber fence at steveg@aberfence.com for details.

We will continue to update the progress of the project on the website as information becomes available.



CITY STREET REHAB PROGRAM

As the City continues with its ongoing Street and Sidewalk Rehabilitation program the City is trying to increase their methods of communication with residents as to when repairs will begin in their neighborhood.



Going forward the City will be placing signs approx. 4' x 6' at the entrance of the subdivision approximately 2 weeks prior to the anticipated start date for the street/sidewalk repairs. They plan to spend approx. 2 weeks working in most neighborhoods. Once work commences in the neighborhood the signs will be removed and placed at the next neighborhood on the repair schedule.

During the repair period residents are asked not to park on the street and to keep streets and sidewalks clear to allow work to progress smoothly.

All dates are estimates at this time. You can also watch the City of Sugar Land Facebook page at https://www.facebook.com/SugarLand.TX for updates.

Dates and work order listed are anticipated - watch for signs for specifics.

Riverbend South	start 10/27					
Colony Oaks neighborhood begins	approximately	2	weeks	after	the	previous
Austin Park (select) neighborhood begins	approximately	2	weeks	after	the	previous
Hall Lake neighborhood begins	approximately	2	weeks	after	the	previous
Glen Laurel neighborhood begins	approximately	2	weeks	after	the	previous
Eldridge Lake neighborhood begins	approximately	2	weeks	after	the	previous

If you have any questions please feel free to contact the City's Public Works at 281-275-2450 at any time.

GLEN LAUREL 2015 BUDGET

Did you know that the 2015 budget for Glen Laurel has been posted to the website? To view the budget, access the Resident Only of the website. Online section at: www.glenlaurel.net.



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

911
281-275-2700
281-275-2710
281-275-2851
281-275-2500
281-275-2525
281-275-2450
281-275-2370
281-275-2750
281-275-2364
281-341-3710
281-342-8477
281-232-4334
281-342-6414
281-634-1000
281-341-4700
281-342-7300
281-341-8670
281-277-0911
281-725-5000
281-274-7000
281-342-2811
281-274-6600

Misc:

Poison Control 800-764-7661 Sugar Land Library 281-277-8934 Sugar Land Post Office 800-275-8777 **Recycling Center** 281-342-5226

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 John Clarke john@glenlaurel.net

Vice President Lvdia Rosenthal lydia@glenlaurel.net

Secretary/Treasurer Pat Tyree pat@glenlaurel.net

Community Manger Ry Reid ry@sterlingasi.com

HOME SAFETY TIPS

This is one area of homeowner associations that nobody truly enjoys talking about, but it is nevertheless vital, and needs to be discussed every now and then simply to remind residents of how important it is. One of the most fundamental functions of a community is to help protect the property of its residents—and that means seeing to some basic security measures. Of course, we don't like to consider the possibility that our community could ever be unsafe, but the simple truth is that sometimes unexpected things happen, and it's good to take precautions and be prepared.



Indeed, break-ins and theft can occur in any neighborhood; that's not meant to be alarmist,

it's simply reality. The good news is that adequately preparing for it can go a long way toward keeping the community safe and secure.

Some homeowners are make using of online crime mapping websites to help increase their awareness of crime in their communities. Crime mapping helps the public get a better idea of the crime activity in their area so they can make more informed decisions about how to stay safe.

BAIR Analytics's offers a public crime map, RAIDS Online (raidsonline.com), that compiles crime data and other information from law enforcement agencies to make it easier for the public to stay informed about crime. Data in RAIDS Online is provided directly from each law enforcement agency.

Also, just following some basic security tips can help keep your home safe:

- Leave exterior lights on to ward off burglars. You can defray the long-term cost of this by investing in some energyefficient CFL bulbs, or better yet, some automatic timers.
- Buy some plug-in timers for a few interior lights—especially, say, lamps in the front room or near the front door.
- Install a peephole in your door.
- Make sure exterior doors are reinforced with long screws and strike plates.
- Keep your windows covered when you can, in order to prevent potential thieves from "inventorying" your home.

Naturally, these things do not guarantee security—nothing could—but they will go a long way. Discuss these tips with your neighbors, and, if possible, try to hold some regular neighborhood awareness events. This sends a message that you and your neighbors take crime—and its prevention—very seriously.

CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Building a deck? Planting a tree? 811 is the new number you should call before you begin any digging project.

A federally-mandated national "Call Before You Dig" number, 811 was created to help protect you from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on digging projects. People digging often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked due to concerns about project delays, costs and previous calls about other projects. These assumptions can be life-threatening.

Make a call for every digging job – even small projects like planting trees or shrubs. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

A recent study revealed that nearly half of homeowners who plan to dig this year won't call 811 to learn the approximate locations of buried gas, electric, communications, water and sewer lines before digging, putting their safety and the safety of others at risk. According to data collected by CGA, when an individual makes a call to 811 before digging, damage occurs less than 1 percent of the time.

So, before you dig, call 811. More details online at: www.call811.com.

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Does persistent or frequent pain impact your quality of life — day by day, minute by minute — until you just can't cope? Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital's experienced Neuroscience team is ready to lead your recovery.



Headache Center

We are committed to providing advanced, personalized care to help chronic headache patients get back to a life without pain. Receive expedited access to our world-class team of headache specialists. They will provide coordinated and comprehensive care starting with an accurate diagnosis and a unique treatment plan to help alleviate and prevent chronic headaches.



Spine Center

We are dedicated to providing a comprehensive range of treatments and expedited services so you can stop enduring pain. Our world-class team of spine specialists and physical therapists will guide you through a customized treatment plan tailored to your specific needs. Our goal is to diagnose and treat the source of your neck and back pain once and for all.



houstonmethodist.org/sugarland

Expedited appointments available: Headache Center 281.276.8999 headachecenter@houstonmethodist.org

Spine Center 281.313.BACK (2225) spinecenter@houstonmethodist.org



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BASIC EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS:

•Learn about your community's emergency plans, warning signals, evacuation routes, and locations of emergency shelters.

•Plan and practice a flood evacuation route with your family. Ask an out-of-state relative or friend to be the "family contact" in case your family is separated during an emergency. Make sure everyone in your family knows the name, address, and phone number of this contact person.

•Post emergency phone numbers at every phone.

•Inform local authorities about any special needs, i.e., elderly or bedridden people, or anyone with a disability.

•Buy a fire extinguisher and make sure your family knows where it is and how to use it.

You should stock your home with supplies that may be needed during the emergency period. At a minimum, these supplies should include:

•Several clean containers for water, large enough for a 3-5

day supply of water (about five gallons for each person).

•A 3-5 day supply of non-perishable food and a nonelectric can opener.

•A first aid kit and manual and prescription medicines and special medical needs.

•A battery-powered radio, flashlights, and extra batteries.

•Sleeping bags or extra blankets.

•Water-purifying supplies, such as chlorine or iodine tablets or unscented, ordinary household chlorine bleach.

•Baby food and/or prepared formula, diapers, and other baby supplies.

•Disposable cleaning cloths, such as "baby wipes" for the whole family to use in case bathing facilities are not available.

Be ready for an emergency. Be prepared.

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