

JANUARY 2012

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

We would like to wish our residents a healthy, bright, joyous, and prosperous New Year and hope that everyone had a wonderful holiday season!!

As the holidays have come and gone, we want to remind our residents that all exterior holiday decorations are to be removed by January 31, 2012. Deed restriction violation notices will be sent to those who have not complied after that date. Your cooperation is greatly appreciated!

With a number of improvements made in the last couple of years, the Board's focus this year is to maintain our assets and improve our neighborhood's overall aesthetics and appeal. In addition, our community website will be revamped to be more informative and up-to-date. Volunteers are needed for several initiatives including neighborhood beautification (Yard of the Month, Holiday Decorating), newsletter, and community activities. Please take the time to get involved and make a difference. As always, our residents are invited to the Board Meetings, which are held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:00PM at MASC Austin Properties located at 13726 Florence Road.

Also, if you have not done so already, your annual assessments are due by January 31, 2012 and become delinquent on February 1, 2012. Any fees unpaid on February 1st will incur late charges and other penalty fees until paid in full. If you have questions or concerns, please contact Terri Salter with MASC Austin Properties at 713.776.1771 or [tsalter@mascapi.com](mailto:tsalter@mascapi.com).

### Holiday Decorating Contest Winners

As holiday greetings and spirit filled the air, our residents' creativity and enthusiasm lit up our neighborhood for the annual holiday decorating contest. Once again, it was difficult to select only a few winners as everyone did a fantastic job! Nevertheless, the following were chosen to be the best of the best:

Best Children's Theme	14206 Valley Bend
Best Use of Lights	13702 Charterhouse Way
Best Winter Wonderland	14122 Beckett Wood
Most Creative	13819 Blue Vista
Most Holiday Spirit	14014 Sea Myrtle
Most Traditional	2015 Avana Glen

Please see all the pictures of the winners on page 2 of the newsletter. Our winners received \$50 gift cards to Home Depot. Again, thanks to all of our residents for their efforts and we look forward to the holiday spectacle you have in store for us next year.

Glen Laurel HOA Board of Directors

*"A hero is someone who has given his or her life to something bigger than oneself"*

*- Joseph Campbell*

### HOME TOWN HERO

The Board of Directors is asking residents to submit articles spotlighting interesting members of our community. If you know of a person that is currently or has in the past had an interesting story, career, or military service please submit to Austin Properties for review and a possible article in the new Glen Laurel Connections.

Please submit your articles to Austin Properties by the 15th of each month, for the article to appear in the following month's newsletter. If you have any questions, please contact Austin Properties at: (713) 776-1771.



## SCHOOL NEWS

### Kempner High School

Web site:

<http://www.fortbendis.com/campus/khs/default.cfm>

Phone #:281-634-2300

### **Spring Open House**

Please join the community on Tuesday, January 24 from 6:30-8:00 p.m. Kempner will hold its annual Spring Open House. Informational sessions regarding online course selection, PSAT/Advance Placement, and high school graduation requirements will be held in addition to a course and elective fair in the commons. Also invited are current 8th grade parents and students who will attend KHS next year. Concessions and Kempner spirit gear will be sold.

### **Kempner Football Team holds Bicycle Drive for District Children**

Dozens of children in Fort Bend ISD schools will receive new bicycles and scooters thanks to the generous efforts of the Kempner High School football team. Kempner's football players and coaches conducted a two-week donation drive last month to benefit children of FBISD families who have been identified by District social workers as needing holiday assistance. Thanks to the support of Kempner students and staff, the team collected enough funds to purchase 12 bicycles, 15 scooters and several bicycle helmets.

### **2012 graduation schedule**

Graduation for Kempner High graduates will occur on Friday, June 1st, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at the Toyota Center.

*(continued on page 4)*

# HOLIDAY DECORATING CONTEST WINNERS!



Best Childrens Theme  
14206 Valley Bend



Best Use of Lights  
13702 Charterhouse Way



Most Creative  
13819 Blue Vista



Best Winter Wonderland  
14122 Beckett Wood



Most Holiday Spirit  
14014 Sea Myrtle



Most Traditional  
2015 Avana Glen

### **TRASH REMINDER**

Reminder! The new poly carts delivered by the City of Sugar Land must be stored behind the fence or in the garage so that they are not visible to the public.



### **FINANCIAL INFORMATION**

As of 11/30/11 99.03% collected with \$134,306.20 total assets.

### **TOP 4 DEED RESTRICTIONS:**

1. Mildew
2. Lawn maintenance
3. Inoperable vehicles
4. Miscellaneous items stored in public view

# VALENTINE'S NIGHT ON THE SQUARE



February 11th from 7-9pm at the Sugar Land Town Square. Dance the night away while enjoying live musical performances. Also, enjoy performances

by the Fred Astaire Dance Studio instructors. Take advantage of their expertise to freshen-up your moves on the dance floor!

## Need Legal Help?

Starting your own company?  
Creating a will or trust?  
Disputing your custody rights?  
Filing for divorce?

*Don't do it alone. Let me help you with these and other legal issues.*



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Sugar Land, TX 77478



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Mediator,  
Arbitrator

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## SCHOOL NEWS

### Sugar Land Middle School

Web site:

<http://www.fortbendisd.com/campuses/slms/default.cfm>

Phone #: 281-634-3080

### Girls Basketball Schedule

Game 6 Wednesday, 1/18/2012

Game 7 Monday, 1/23/2012

### Sugar Mill Elementary

Web site:

<http://www.fortbendisd.com/campuses/sme/default.cfm>

Phone #: 281-634-4440

### Celebrating birthdays at Sugar Mill Elementary

On your child's birthday, their name is announced and they receive a birthday pencil and good wishes from the principal. While parents may bring store-bought cookies or cupcakes, these must be eaten in the carpeted classroom during instructional time, so please be cautious about brightly dyed frosting. The school asks that you also be sensitive to the varied food allergies that many of your child's classmates may have. The school does not deliver party invitations, treats, flowers, balloons, or gifts.

### Barrington Place Elementary

Web site:

<http://www.fortbendisd.com/campuses/bpe/about.cfm>

Phone #: 281-634-4040

*(continued on page 6)*

## WINTER LAWN TIPS:

Even in the cold season, there are still things you can do to maintain your winter lawn. Of course, winter lawn care is nowhere near as extensive as what's required in the summer, but there are certain tasks that will ensure a healthy lawn come spring. Basically, winter lawn maintenance entails establishing optimal conditions for your lawn to green up and start growing when the weather warms. If it's the end of the season and you're wondering how to proceed, here are some great winter lawn tips to get you started.



- **Remove debris.** Get rid of any large piles of leaves, twigs, and other debris that may have collected on your lawn. When left to slowly rot over the course of the winter, these elements can actually suffocate the lawn, invite pests, and contribute to mold and other diseases as well.
- **Give it a good mow.** By early winter, your grass will most likely have gone dormant with the advent of cold temperatures. Before the colder temperatures hit, give your lawn one last good mow, slightly lowering your cutting height from what you've been using all summer. Grass that's left too long invites all kinds of problems come spring, as it can trap moisture, leaves the lawn vulnerable to diseases, and can even end up smothering itself. However, take care not to go too short, as scalping can kill a lawn and exposed crowns can perish in extreme conditions.
- **Apply a final fertilization.** This is an important winter lawn tip, as proper fertilization can set the stage for earlier greening come spring. Since lawns are dormant over the cold season, the nutrients will not be used immediately, but will rather be stored in the root system, ready to use once the weather begins to warm.
- **Get rid of weeds.** Weed seeds will happily overwinter and reappear stronger than ever come spring. By eradicating weeds ahead of time, you reduce any springtime competition for water and nutrients, resulting in an overall healthier lawn.
- **Water one last time.** This is good to do in conjunction with your final fertilizer application. The extra water will activate the fertilizer and help it to settle in the soil.
- **Break things up.** Dethatching and aerating in late fall help break up compacted soil. This allows fertilizer nutrients, sunlight, and air to better infiltrate the soil to prepare your lawn for winter.
- **Keep off the grass!** Even though your winter lawn is dormant, that doesn't mean it's a good idea to park your car there. Also avoid, if you can, the development of any heavily worn footpaths. Either of these scenarios will result in compaction and the grass in those areas will be much slower to recover.

Caring for a winter lawn primarily consists of taking preventative measures to ensure a healthy turf come spring. By taking these steps, you can help establish a lawn that's better able to endure the harsh conditions that winter so often brings.

# GOAL SETTING: 4 GOLDEN RULES

If you are like most people, you are making your new year's resolutions about now. Goal setting is a process that starts with careful consideration of what you want to achieve, and ends with a lot of hard work to actually do it. In between there are some very well defined steps that transcend the specifics of each goal. Knowing these steps will allow you to formulate goals that you can accomplish.

Here are our Four Golden Rules of Goal Setting:

## Rule #1: Set Goals that Motivate You

When you set goals for yourself, it is important that they motivate you: this means making sure that they are important to you, and that there is value in achieving them. If you have little interest in the outcome, or they are irrelevant given the larger picture, then the chances of you putting in the work to make them happen are slim. Motivation is key to achieving goals.

## Rule #2: Set SMART Goals

You have probably heard of "SMART goals" already. But do you always apply the rule? The simple fact is that for goals to be powerful, they should be designed to be SMART. There are many variations of what SMART stands for, but the essence is this – goals should be:

Specific  
Measurable  
Attainable

Relevant  
Time Bound

## Rule #3: Set Goals in Writing

The physical act of writing down a goal makes it real and tangible. You have no excuse for forgetting about it. As you write, use the word "will" instead of "would like to" or "might". For example, "I will reduce my expenses by 10% this year", not "I would like to reduce my expenses by 10% this year." The first goal statement has power and you can "see" yourself reducing expenses, the second lacks passion and gives you an excuse if you get sidetracked.

## Rule #4: Stick With It!

Remember, goal setting is an ongoing activity not just a means to an end. Build in reminders to keep yourself on track, and make regular time-slots available to review your goals. Your end destination may remain quite similar over the long term, but the action plan you set for yourself along the way can change significantly. Make sure the relevance, value, and necessity remain high.

By clearly defining exactly what you want, your odds of success are considerably improved. By following the Four Golden Rules of Goal Setting you can set goals with confidence and enjoy the satisfaction that comes along with knowing you achieved what you set out to do.

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

MASC Austin Properties Inc.  
13726 Florence Road  
Sugar Land, TX 77498  
713-776-1771  
713-776-1777 (fax)

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### EATING WELL

The New England Journal of Medicine has identified 5 foods as responsible for the most weight gain over a 20-year period. They are: potato chips, other potatoes (ex. fries), sugar-sweetened beverages, unprocessed meats and processed meats.

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Fort Bend Education Foundation Gala

Ah, those golden years of Hollywood! Where the men were the picture of poise and panache and the women were sleek and sultry. The Fort Bend Education Foundation is pleased to present the 19th annual Education Foundation Gala entitled "Lights, Camera, Action!" This elegant and glamorous gala will be held on February 25, 2012, at the Sugar Land Marriott Hotel. For more information, visit the Foundation online at: [www.fortbendisd.com/foundation](http://www.fortbendisd.com/foundation)

### Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

A Called Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort Bend Independent School District will be held February 13th, 2012, beginning at 6:00 PM in the Administration Building at 16431 Lexington Blvd., Sugar Land, Texas

### Middle School Academy Applications

Applications for FBISD's middle school academies are now available. Applications should be completed and submitted electronically by the February 24, 2012 deadline. For more details, visit: [www.fortbendisd.com](http://www.fortbendisd.com)

**Fort Bend Education 9th Annual Education Expedition**  
Schlumberger presents the 9th Annual Education Expedition benefitting the Fort Bend Education Foundation. The event will be held on Saturday, March 24, 2012 in Missouri City. For more details, visit the Foundation online at: [www.fortbendisd.com/foundation](http://www.fortbendisd.com/foundation)

## BEWARE OF INTERNET SCAMS

By Vijay Kane.

Recently, I received an email from a relative saying the following: he had to make a sudden business trip to London. His wallet and passport were stolen and he needs about \$2,500 immediately. The money should be sent by Western Union to his business partner who will collect it at a Western Union location in London. He will pay me back as soon as he returns to the U.S.

This appeared to be a scam. I called my relative on the phone. He told me that his email had been hijacked and all friends and family in his email contact list had received that same email. One person actually sent some money without verifying.

Several elderly people have received emails similar to the following: You are the lucky winner of a U.S \$1 million lottery. These funds are available in U.K. In order to make the proceeds available to you in the U.S, a clearance certificate has to be obtained. Please send a fee of US \$95 by Western Union to Mr. MIKE OFO Republic of Benin. Other names used were NWAFOR ONYEBUCHI and JAMES NWABUNWANNE. In some cases, they give a physical address and a phone number in the U.K. Upon further email communication, they provided bank details to send money by wire transfer. All of these are well known scams. If you ever receive such emails, please search these names on Google to see a list of links that describe these scams. The website [www.ic3.gov](http://www.ic3.gov) has

information about Internet Crime Prevention Tips and Schemes. It also has links to several other websites.



The following recommendations will help protect from identity theft: 1) Shred your documents before recycling, 2) Make your passwords long, complicated, and impossible to guess, 3) Change your passwords frequently, 4) Do not open an email from an unknown source, 5) Monitor your credit scores with the 3 credit rating agencies.

On another subject, it is time to get ready for IRA and ROTH IRA contributions. It is also time to review the holdings in 401k, IRA, ROTH IRA plans, and rebalance portfolios.

Due to the extreme volatility and uncertainty of the stock market, consider financial products that offer guarantee of principal.

For any questions or clarification you can call VIJAY KANE, M.S., FINANCIAL ADVISOR AND EDUCATOR at (281) 240-2666, 10 A.M. to 9 P.M. any day.



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### DID YOU KNOW?

Are you eating enough vegetables and fruits? According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Healthy People report, we should eat at least two fruit servings and three or more vegetables per day. The CDC found that only a third of the population eats enough fruit and vegetables a day. Make 2012 your year to eat better!

She was your college roommate. She was your maid of honor.  
*She could be your first friend with breast cancer.*



STATE-OF-THE-ART BREAST CANCER DIAGNOSTICS:

- ☞ Digital Mammography
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- ☞ Breast MRI
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- ☞ Ultrasound Biopsy
- ☞ Stereotactic Biopsy

*A special thank you to the Fort Bend Junior Service League members who are the faces of our Women's Health Campaign.*

Reminding a friend to schedule a mammogram could save her life. According to The National Cancer Institute, the most effective ways to detect breast cancer early are getting a high-quality screening mammogram and having a clinical breast exam on a regular basis.

You can rest assured that at the Breast Center at Methodist Sugar Land Hospital you and your friend will receive the high-quality mammogram you need. It is the only full-service center of its kind in Fort Bend County that women can rely on for dedicated breast radiology expertise, state-of-the-art technology and compassionate care.

Call 281-242-PINK (7465) to schedule a mammogram at Methodist Sugar Land Hospital.

**Methodist** Methodist  
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