

JULY 2011

MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD

Happy Independence Day!

July 4, 1776 is the day America adopted the Declaration of Independence, declaring independence from the Kingdom of Great Britain and setting forth on a path that created our great nation. Today, 235 years later American's commemorate this day with fireworks, parades, barbecues, picnics and various other events celebrating the history, government and traditions of the United States.



Along with the celebration of America we hope that all Americans take the time to honor those who are in our Armed Forces who are currently serving or have severed this county and its citizens. Our service men and woman are proudly defending the rights and freedoms we have as citizens of this nation. Additionally we hope that you recognize those in your community that are serving you such as your state and local police force and your community fire departments.

With the addition of the new tables and shaded area at the pool and the new tables, BBQ pits and trash receptacles at the park we hope that our community's residents get out and enjoy the enhancement that have been made to our neighborhood amenities. Please keep in mind that it has been very HOT lately and relief does not seem to be in sight so be sure to take precautions to prevent overheating during the hot summer months.

Basic summer heat safety tips for everyone:

- √ Dress lightly and where light colored clothing
- √ Drink plenty of water and other fluids
- √ During the hottest hours of the day, stay inside the air-conditioning. Hottest hours of the day are typically from mid-morning to mid-afternoon
- √ If you exercise outside, move your routine to early morning or late evening
- √ **NEVER** ever leave anyone in the car while you run to do a quick errand. Not a child, not a pet, not anyone. It's NEVER safe. Cars can become overheated quickly and when overheated they become like ovens. People can succumb to heat exposure and die very quickly in a hot car.

Know the signs of heat exposure:

- √ Clammy skin
- √ Loss of color in skin
- √ Headache
- √ Sweating
- √ Dry mouth

The signs of major heat exposure, also known as heat stroke, include:

- √ Confusion
- √ High body temperatures - (over 103 degrees F)
- √ Seizures
- √ The person has stopped sweating
- √ Hot dry skin
- √ Fainting or total loss of consciousness
- √ Weak pulse
- √ Poor breathing - if you can't hear breathing it can indicate a problem

If you see any of the above exposure signs get the person out of the heat immediately and take them to the nearest hospital or call 911. Heat stroke always requires medical attention. Stay safe this summer!

Remember our homeowners are always welcome to join us at the monthly meetings and we need committee volunteers! Please take the time to invest in your community.

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.

This month's featured hero is Officer Eric Babnew of the Sugar Land Police Department. Thank you Officer Babnew for your service, you are truly a Home Town Hero!

Officer Babnew's story can be found on page 5.

Basic Tips for St. Augustine Lawn Care

St. Augustine is a favorite grass in warm climates where the soil is sandy or alkaline. It will survive periodic droughts, but if you want it to look picture perfect, you will probably need to provide extra water when dry spells last longer than a week. St. Augustine responds dramatically to being properly fed. Fertilize it right, and your St. Augustine will "knit" itself into a tight turf that naturally resists weeds. A fertilizer that contains iron will insure a maximum green color.

You can have a beautiful St. Augustine lawn by following an easy Step-by-Step Program. Together with proper mowing and watering, these measures will help St. Augustine grow and healthy.

Maintaining St. Augustine:

Step 1: Apply in late winter or early spring

Lime (only if needed to raise pH)

Step 2: Apply in late spring or early summer

Lawn Fertilizer
Insect Control, if needed

Step 3: Apply in late summer

Lawn Fertilizer
Insect Control, if needed

Step 4: Apply in early fall

Winterizer or Winter Conditioner
Lawn Fertilizer for St. Augustine

Restoring St. Augustine:

Step 1: Apply in late winter or early spring

St. Augustine Weed and Feed

(continued on page 4)

FLAGS OF FREEDOM

"Flags of Freedom" is a fund raising project for Boy Scout Troop 1116 that provides the Scouting experience for boys in Sugar Land.



Troop 1116 provides local boys scouting and leadership development through the many activities and skills learned and practiced by its Scouts. These activities, in which the boys go hiking and camping, conduct service projects, complete rank advancement requirements and serve as junior leaders combine to make the Scouting process complete. However, many boys are unable to participate in all these activities due to cost. "Flags of Freedom" is an opportunity for the boys to earn money toward campouts, high adventure camps, and to help offset the cost of equipment and uniforms. This program not only will allow the boys to earn money for their activities, but it helps teach them responsibility and the value of money while providing a patriotic service to the community.

For an annual fee of \$30 per flag, members of Troop 1116 and their parents will display a 3' x 5' American flag in your yard six days this subscription year beginning with Veterans Day. Dates are:

Veterans Day 2011 * Presidents Day 2012 * Memorial Day 2012 * Flag Day 2012 * Independence Day 2012 * Labor Day 2012

Please call 281-242-4315 for questions or concerns during the flag season.

YES!

I would like to participate in the Troop 1116 "Flags of Freedom" program for a yearly fee of \$30. Troop 1116 agrees to place the American flag at the residence shown below on each of the 6 specified flag display holidays. It is my responsibility to advise Troop 1116 of any sprinkler, plumbing and electrical service locations. It will also be my responsibility to ensure that the flag sleeve does not rise above ground level where it may damage any equipment.

Subscription Deadline: Oct 3rd, 2011.

NUMBER OF FLAGS REQUESTED: _____
NAME: _____
EMAIL: _____ (for flag renewal use only)
AMOUNT ENCLOSED: _____
STREET ADDRESS: _____
CITY: _____ ZIP CODE: _____
HOME PHONE #: _____
CELL PHONE #: _____
SIGNATURE: _____

√ **Note: Checks are payable to Boy Scout Troop 1116.**

√ **Mail to: Boy Scout Troop 1116, 12814 Waybridge St., Sugar Land, TX 77478**

TRASH REMINDER

Reminder! Please do not put your trash out before 6:00 PM on the night before the regularly scheduled pickup day. Trash on your curb does not enhance the curb appeal of your house or our neighborhood.



FINANCIAL INFORMATION

As of 05/31/11 98.51% collected with \$261,779.64 total assets.

TOP 4 DEED RESTRICTIONS:

1. Lawn Maintenance
2. Mildew
3. Weed flower beds
4. Miscellaneous items stored in public view

NEW WASTE PROGRAM

The City of Sugar Land is implementing a new solid waste and recycling program on December 5. Households in Sugar Land will receive automated garbage collection twice per week, automated recycling collection once per week, green waste collection once per week, bulky waste collection once per month and an on-call collection service. Also new for every household will be a 95-gallon garbage cart and a 65-gallon recycling cart, though different cart sizes may be requested online by July 20. The available cart sizes are on display at City Hall, Public Works and the Senior Center until July 20.

Sugar Land residents will be receiving a service guide and post card in the mail. The Solid Waste Services Guide provides general information regarding the enhanced programs including a frequently asked questions section. The post card details the cart sizes, cart selection process, and deadline for requests which is July 20.

If a resident does not receive the Solid Waste Services Guide, additional copies are available at the Public Works office and City Hall. Residents can also access the guide and other program information by visiting the City website www.sugarlandtx.gov and clicking on the "Enhanced Garbage and Recycling Program" link at the top of the page. The direct link to the page is:
http://www.sugarlandtx.gov/public_works/solid_waste_recycling/enhancedgarbagerecycling.asp

If you have any questions regarding the new solid waste

program or the cart selection process, you can contact the City of Sugar Land's Public Works/Solid Waste and Recycling department at 281-275-2450.

Thank you to City of Sugar Land Environmental Manager, Dawn Steph, for providing this information.

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GLEN LAUREL MARKET INFORMATION

As per mid June 2011, Glen Laurel has a current home inventory of 7 homes and 1 home with an option to buy. There was 1 sale of a 1-story home in June bringing the total sales in Glen Laurel to 4 homes for the year. The average price per square foot for these sold homes, excluding the foreclosure, is currently \$75.50, showing a considerable price drop compared to the same period in 2010.

If you have questions about how to handle your planned home sale and you need detailed information and an honest opinion, please do not hesitate to contact me.



Call Jutta - 281-799-0410

Jutta Miskow, Realtor GRI CNE ASP
 Remax Elite
 281-799-0410
 Fax: 281-271-8147
 Email: JuttaMiskow@Earthlink.net

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LAWN CARE

Step 2: Apply in late spring or early spring

Lawn Fertilizer for St. Augustine
Insect Control, if needed

Step 3: Apply in late summer Lawn Fertilizer

Insect Control, if needed

Step 4: Apply in fall

St. Augustine Weed and Feed
Winterizer or Winter Conditioner
Lime (only if needed to raise pH)

✓ Always use a fertilizer spreader to spread lawn care products evenly.

✓ Never mow too close. Close cutting weakens the grass and invites weeds. At the peak of summer raise the mowing height to 3 inches.

✓ Choose a lawn fertilizer that contains iron. Sandy soils often run short of this nutrient which helps St. Augustine maintain a dark green color.

✓ If more than a 1/2-inch layer of thatch is present (thatch is dead stems and debris that accumulate at the soil's surface), thin and clean your St. Augustine with a rake in spring, just as new growth begins.

✓ Water an established lawn for about a half an hour on sprinklers twice a week during dry periods. Watering should be done on an as-needed basis during rainy months, when it shows signs of wilting (grass blades fold, turn bluish-green or don't recover from foot traffic). Water about 1/2 to 3/4 inch each time.

✓ Provide extra water when dry spells last longer than a week
(continued on page 6)

POOL SEASON IS IN FULL SWING!

The pool season opened up with Memorial Day and has been going strong since. We are pleased to say that the improvements in the pool area are completed and have added value to our neighborhood amenity. This summer we have seen the attendance numbers at the pool increase and as a Board, we are pleased.

It seems that with the increase in attendance, we have had a few bumps to overcome. Unfortunately, this season we have been at capacity several times and have had to turn patrons away. This is not done for malicious reasons. It is done for the safety of everyone including those who may have been turned away. The regular number of life guards is two per day. The Red Cross guidelines for ratio of life guards and patrons is 25 to 1, so if the pool attendance reaches 51 then we are over capacity and must not allow any further patrons into the pool area. Please note that if you are a parent who is not swimming you still are counted in this ratio. Why you ask, because if you were to slip, fall and hit your head and end up in the pool you would still need to be rescued. We will be adding a third guard during our peak hours to address this situation.



The Board would like to touch on a few issues we have seen since the season began. When you go to the pool to swim, please

keep in mind that you must have the proper swim attire to get into the pool; no street clothing should be worn in the pool. The problem with wearing street clothing in the pool is that the dyes and fibers from the clothing get into the water and in turn get into the pools filtration system and pumps. This can damage the filtration system as it is pumped through the system. If it is absolutely necessary for you to wear clothing then please make sure it is in the same fabric as a swimsuit is made of.

We are please that patrons of the pool are recognizing that they can bring in drinks and

food for themselves and their families while they are at the pool. However, please remember that for SAFETY reasons, NO GLASS containers are allowed. Also please ensure that you clean up after yourself and your family, this includes not only on the tables, but also on the chairs and ground, around you. If food is left on the ground it draws ants and other bugs to the area, which is a potential for you, your family or other patrons of the pool to be bit by the bugs.

We see that many of our pool goers are bringing toys and we want to let you know that there are a few items that will not



be allowed in the pool area. No footballs, tennis balls, baseballs or other hard items are allowed. These items create an environment in which someone can get seriously hurt; therefore, we do not want them in the pool area at all. Additionally, we do not want any water guns or cannons at the pool. They may be fun for the children using them but they are not fun for the adults and other children that are in the spray path or "accidently" hit with one of them, so please, leave them at home.

Children of the age of 11 may be at the pool by themselves provided that they pass a swim test. Once they pass this test, it is kept on record and they will not have to repeat it the next time they come. Children age 10 and under must be at the pool accompanied by an adult, that is someone age 18 and over, this is for the child's safety.

Our life guards are employed to make sure that you are safe while enjoying your time at the pool. They are also employed to enforce the rules for everyone, no one is above the rules and they are applied to everyone. If you have an issue in regards to the pool area you can contact our HOA property manager, Terri Salter, at Austin Properties.

Have a wonderful summer and enjoy the pool!

HOME TOWN HERO: CRIME PREVENTION OFFICER ERIC BABNEW



Officer Eric Babnew is the current Beat 1 crime prevention officer for the Sugar Land Police Department. Beat 1 includes our neighborhood and

the surrounding communities. Officer Babnew is a regular attendee of our monthly HOA meetings and keeps us up to date about what type of crime, if any, is going on in our area.

Officer Babnew started his law enforcement career with the City of Southside Place as a police dispatcher in 1986. In 1988, he attended the basic police academy at the University of Houston Class 65. After graduating from the Police Academy, he worked for the HISD Police Department and the City of Southside Place before

being hired by the City of Sugar Land Police Department in January of 1993.

Since he has been employed with the City of Sugar Land, Officer Babnew has worked in the Patrol Division with specialized assignments in the Traffic Division, SWAT Team and as a Field Training Officer. Officer Babnew currently serves as a Crisis Negotiator with the East Fort Bend Regional SWAT Team.

If you have questions, comments or concerns about your neighborhood, you may reach Officer Babnew by calling 281-275-2578 or email at beat1@sugarlandtx.gov.

The Board of Directors appreciates Officer Babnew's service to our community and our city and his time and efforts in keeping us informed.

WHERE IS THE STOCK MARKET GOING?

By Vijay Kane

The STANDARD & POOR'S 500 INDEX (S&P 500) represents the average stock price of 500 stocks in the U.S.A. The following are the dates and values of the S&P 500: 1) 12/30/1994: 459, 2) 3/24/2000: 1527, 3) 10/9/2002: 776, 4) 10/9/2007: 1565, 5) 3/9/2009: 676, 6) 4/29/2011: 1363, 7) 6/10/2011: 1270. The S&P 500 has been a giant roller coaster.

Where is the Stock Market heading? If you can predict and invest in the stock market correctly, you can make a fat profit. If your timing is wrong, you can lose a lot of your hard earned money. Investing in the stock market was a very rewarding experience for most investors during the decade of the 90's. The decade 2000-2009, however, was

a rough ride. For an overwhelming majority of investors, it has been a frustrating and painful experience. It is often called the 'LOST DECADE'.



Have you heard the expression: "It is not about timing the market. It is about time in the market." This is very true for the long term (last 25 to 30 years). However, this buy and hold strategy did not work during the 'Lost Decade'. The value of many stocks and growth mutual funds actually dropped during this decade. Dreams of a comfortable and worry-free retirement have evaporated for many seniors. People are more concerned about return OF
(continued on page 6)

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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YARD OF THE MONTH WINNERS!

Please join us in congratulating our June 2011 Yard of the Month Winners!

LAWN CARE

Common things to watch out for on St Augustine lawns:

Chinch Bugs

The bugs become active in the spring, as weather warms up, and become progressively more destructive the drier it gets. Symptoms of bug infestation include irregular areas of yellow and brown in sunny areas usually adjacent to sidewalks, driveways, curbs, or patios. Yellow and brown spots will also appear on leaf blades and stems.

Use a granular insecticide that can be applied with a fertilizer spreader, or a liquid that can be sprayed on the lawn. Granular insecticides, such as Diazinon or Kill-a-Bug II, offer a preventative method of control. Liquid sprays, such as Diazinon, Kill-a-Bug II, or Sevin, will kill the bugs on contact but not control them for long periods of time. Therefore, the use of both methods will give you the best results during heavy infestation.

Large dead circles

Brown patch fungus - Preventive applications of fungicides are most effective against these diseases.

Areas of dead grass that seem to have little remaining root system

White grub - treat with Diazinon

Mounds of soil

Ants - treat with Ant killers such as Amdro



Section I
2015 Avana Glen



Section II
14122 Laurelstone



Section III
14005 Imperial Canyon



Section IV
14202 Valley Bend



Section V
14110 Becket Wood



Section VI
2322 Cool Springs



Section VII
13818 Blue Vista



Section VIII
13806 Blue Vista



The Reserve
13719 Saxony

STOCK MARKET (continued)

their principal rather than return ON their principal. Many T.V. commercials of stock brokerages make stock investing look so easy. Making decent gains in the market takes enormous research, time consumption and of course, a lot of luck. Having entered the next decade, proceed with extreme caution. There are major headwinds against the market. The only safe investment options offering decent interest rates (2.5 to 3.25%) are CD annuities. They can be used for IRA,

ROTH IRA, SEP IRA and ROLLOVER IRA accounts. They are not yet available for 401K plans.

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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Sugar Land, Texas 77479
Mon - Fri | 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Rehab Services located in the Spine Center off Town Center Boulevard

Methodist Orthopaedic Specialists of Texas
1201 Brooks Street (and Hwy 6)
Sugar Land, Texas 77478
Mon - Thurs | 7:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
Fri | 7:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.

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Find more information online at: www.glenlaurel.net

KIDS CORNER:

Tribute to America

July 16th from 10:00am-6:00pm in downtown Rosenberg. Venture out for a family fun day in Rosenberg's Historic Downtown District featuring live musical entertainment by blues and jazz bands, The Sugarland Brass Company, and Touch of Brass. Participate in judging the Downtown Merchants homemade ice cream contest or fill your bellies at the hot dog eating contest. SWAT and K9 demonstrations will be held by the Rosenberg Police Department and the Fire Safety House will be on hand from the Rosenberg Fire Department. Don't forget to catch the performances by Mrs.



Turner's Music School students, the displays of beautiful artwork by the Art League of Fort Bend, and be sure to stop in and visit the downtown merchants for specials running throughout the day. For more information, please visit www.rosenbergevents.com.

Xplorations Summer Camp

Xplorations Summer Science Adventures are week-long, hands-on science summer camps featuring science

activities for children ages 6 - 12. Camps are held Monday - Friday from 10 am - 3 pm. For an additional weekly fee, care is available before camp begins each day, from 8 - 10 am, and after camp ends, from 3 - 5:30 pm. Xplorations Summer Camps will be held at the Houston Museum of Natural Science at Sugar Land the weeks of:

July 5-8

July 11-15

July 25-29

August 1-5

You may register for Xplorations summer camps by fax (713) 639-4681 or online at hmns.org. In order to register online you will need an HMNS User Account. You do not need to be a member to set up an account. Please call the Education Department at (713) 639-4625 or (713) 639-4651 with questions. For more information on all of the camp offerings please visit www.hmns.org.

Attention Campers and Parents!

The coolest way to beat the summer heat has come again! Sugar Land's annual Day Camps occur each week until August 15th. Camps include entertaining trips, imaginative arts and crafts, interactive educational classes, and recreational sports. To top it all off, you get a great chance to build long lasting friendships! For more information, visit www.sugarlandtx.gov.