

OCTOBER 2012

**MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD****Perimeter Fences**

Over the past several months, the Board of Directors has met with a group of concerned homeowners during its regular monthly meetings to discuss the poor condition of the fences lining W. Airport Boulevard, Burney Road, Florence Road, and Mason Road. If you have been unable to attend the monthly meetings, we are providing you a summary of the concerns, issues, and action plan that will be taken. We want our residents and homeowners to be informed and aware of the issues that affect our community.

***In short, why has the Association not replaced the fences?*** Per the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restriction, any wall or fence erected on a Lot shall pass ownership with title to the Lot and it shall be the owner's responsibility to maintain wall or fence. Any wall or fence erected on Common Areas shall be maintained by the Association (Article 2, Section 14 - Walls and Fences). The Supplemental Declaration of Restrictions for Glen Laurel Section Four specifies the Association's responsibility for the fences of 17 homes located along the Burney Road perimeter. The Declaration does not specify any other fence lines to be within the common area or the responsibility of the Association. Except for the 17 homes specified in the Section Four Supplemental Declaration, ownership and responsibility for the remaining perimeter fence lines has historically been considered to be of the homeowner.

However, in the recent past, two residents have presented the Association surveys that show their respective fences to be in common area reserves. As permitted by the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restriction, the Association has taken ownership and maintenance of perimeter fences for those two homes. As for the remaining 107 homes located along the W. Airport, Burney Road, Florence Road, and Mason Road perimeter, which exclude the 17 already maintained by the Association, there is now uncertainty as to whether the fence lines are located on private property or common area reserves.

In consulting with the Association's legal counsel, Mr. Roy Hailey of Butler|Hailey, the Board of Directors was advised that there are common area reserves around the W. Airport, Burney Road, Florence Road, and Mason Road perimeter. Given that two residents have provided evidence that their fences lie within the common area reserves, there is a possibility that more fences are in the common area reserve. However, in order for the Association to legally spend general or special assessment funds to replace and maintain the perimeter fences, the Association must know if the fences are within the common area reserves. To avoid unnecessary litigation (due to the Board using Association assessments to maintain perimeter fences located on owners' lots that the Declaration specifically provides are the owners' responsibility), the Association was advised to conduct its due diligence and locate the boundaries of the common area reserves and fences of the remaining perimeter lots. The results of which due diligence would establish, once and for all, the legal responsibility for the maintenance the perimeter fences in question.

Since discovery of the common area reserves, the Association has obtained copies of  
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**Board Meeting Location Change**

Please note: the monthly Board Meetings will now be held at the Sugar Land First United Methodist Church in room 608 (431 Eldridge Road, Sugar Land, TX 77478)

## SCHOOL NEWS

### Kempner High School

Web site:

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

Phone #: 281-634-2300

### **Kempner Athletic Booster Club (KABC)**

The Kempner Athletic Booster Club encourages and welcomes the membership and support of all Kempner athletes' family and friends. General meetings will be held on the 1st Monday of each month with the exception of open house and school holidays. Your comments and suggestions are welcomed. For more information, visit the Kempner campus website at [fortbendisd.com](http://fortbendisd.com) and click the Resources tab for the membership form.

### **Parent Volunteers**

Parent volunteers play an integral part at Kempner High School. From answering phones to serving teacher breakfast to organizing the Shared Dreams program. Mission Statement: To fully support with our time and talent the students, faculty and staff of I.H. Kempner High School in accordance with the Fort Bend ISD guidelines for Volunteers in Public Schools. For more information about being a parent volunteer, contact the school at 281-634-2300.

### Sugar Land Middle School

Web site:

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

Phone #: 281-634-3080

### **Special Education Early Childhood Screenings**

Please see the information below for the Special Education Early  
*(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 \* Presidents Day \* Memorial Day \* Flag Day \* Independence Day \* Labor Day

Please call 281.543.2151 for questions or concerns during the flag season  
This will serve as your receipt...fold and tear here.

-----  
YES!

I would like to participate in the Troop 1116 "Flags of Freedom" program for a yearly fee of \$30 (per flag). 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: October 24th.**

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, 910 Mill Run Dr. Sugar Land, TX 77498

### **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 8/31/2012, 98.35% collected with \$170,369.79 in total assets.

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

1. Lawn Maintenance
2. Mildew
3. Miscellaneous Items
4. Tree debris

# CRIME PREVENTION-THINK LIKE A BURGLAR

Burglars look for occupancy cues like outdoor lights burning 24 hours a day. Use an inexpensive light timer when you are away and ask a neighbor to keep the front of your home clean of papers.



## 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.*



*Legal representation when it matters most...*

Your Glen Laurel Neighbor

**281-271-8595**

www.MeeksLawFirmLLC.com  
245 Commerce Green Blvd. Ste. 110  
Sugar Land, TX 77478



**Damon Meeks**  
Attorney,  
Mediator,  
Arbitrator

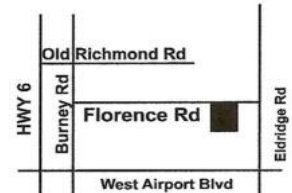
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**POWER WASHING**

- Is Your Home **GREEN** with Algae?
- Is Your Driveway, Patio or Pool Deck **BLACK** with Mildew?
- Have You Gotten One of **THOSE** Letters from Your HOA?
- Have the Spider Pods and Mud Dobbers Taken Over **YOUR** Home?

**281-277-4013**

## SCHOOL NEWS

Childhood Screenings. The screenings will be held at a central location for the 12-13 school year.

2012-2013 FBISD Special Education Early Childhood Screening Location / Dates  
\* You must have an appointment. Please call 281-634-1145.  
\* Necesitas una cita. Llamar a 281-634-1152.

Colony Meadows Elementary  
4510 Sweetwater Blvd.  
Sugar Land, 77479

8:30 AM – 1:00 PM  
\*By appointment only

November 8, 2012  
December 13, 2012  
January 10, 2013  
February 14, 2013  
March 21, 2013  
April 11, 2013  
May 9, 2013  
June 13 \*\* Summer Screening Session \*\* June 13

### Sugar Mill Elementary

Web site:  
<http://www.fortbendisd.com/campuses/sme/default.cfm>  
Phone #: 281-634-4440

### Barrington Place Elementary

Web site:  
<http://www.fortbendisd.com/campuses/bpe/about.cfm>  
Phone #: 281-634-4040

### **Absences and Tardies**

Parents please send a written note with your child when they return to school. This must be done within TWO school days of the student's return or the absence will be "unexcused". Absence notes must include the  
*(continued on page 6)*

## MESSAGE FROM THE BOARD (CONTINUED)

the Glen Laurel subdivision plats to locate the perimeter fence lines. Unfortunately, the plats do not depict any fence lines. As an alternative, the Association has moved forward in obtaining surveys to locate the common area reserve boundaries.

Once the survey is complete, fence lines that are determined to be within common area reserves will be the Association's responsibility. In the event that the perimeter fences in question are located on private property, the Association plans to have an Amendment to the Declaration prepared for approval by the members of the Association, which will allow for the Association to maintain perimeter fences on private property. If the amendment passes, the Association will also need to obtain an easement from the homeowner to allow the Association to enter their private property to erect and maintain a fence.

With regards to funding of the repair and replacement of the common area fences, the Association does not have the funds set aside to cover the cost of fence repairs and replacement, except for the 17 fence lines previously mentioned. Once the ownership and responsibility is determined, the Association will obtain cost estimates and seek the approval and collection of a Special Assessment from the community to cover the costs.

As frustrating as it has been for many, we need everyone's cooperation as we work to get the deferred fence maintenance issue resolved and the community's appearance back in shape.

### **Annual Assessment Amendment and Annual Meeting**

As noted in the last month's newsletter, our annual assessment have been set at \$425 per annum for five years and the amount of funds collected is reaching a point where it will no longer cover the community's normal operating expenses. At this year's Annual Meeting, the Board of Directors will put up for vote in front of the Members of the Association an amendment to the Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restriction to remove the cap on the Maximum General Assessment of \$425 per annum and reset the annual assessment at \$475 per annum with annual increases of up to 10% from the prior year's annual assessment.

In your proxy for the 2012 Annual Meeting, you will have the option to approve or not approve the amendment. We need your help in keeping our community running! In addition, there are two positions on the Board of Directors that are up for election. If you are interested in being a candidate for election to the Board of Directors, please contact Terri Salter at [tsalter@mascapi.com](mailto:tsalter@mascapi.com) to get your name on the proxy ballot.

The Annual Meeting is scheduled for November 8, 2012 at 7:00PM at the Sugar Land First United Methodist Church. All residents are encouraged to attend. If you are unable to attend, please fill out and submit your proxy prior to the meeting. Your proxy is your vote and your voice. Make it count.

Thank you,

Glen Laurel Board of Directors

# SUGAR MILL ELEMENTARY SPARKLER FAIR

Come join us for our annual Sugar Mill Elementary Sparkler Fair October 27th, from 10am-2pm! Enjoy games, crafts, auctions and tons of family friendly fun. All of the best carnival foods, including funnel cakes, pizza and assorted sweets. Expect a good time at our opening costume parade, inflatables and so much more. We'll see you there at 13707 Jess Pirtle Sugar Land TX 77498. Thanks in advance for your very appreciated support! Sugar Mill Elementary & PTA - sugarmillpta@gmail.com.

## HALLOWEEN SAFETY

Kids love Halloween! They get to dress up and get free candy! What a perfect holiday! Here are some tips to keep kids safe on Halloween:



### For parents and children

- Children under 12 should trick-or-treat and cross streets with an adult.
- Always walk on sidewalks or paths. If there are no sidewalks, walk facing traffic as far to the left as possible.
- Cross the street at corners, using traffic signals and crosswalks. Parents should remind children to watch for cars that are turning or backing up.
- Look left, right and left again when crossing and keep looking as you cross. Walk, don't run, across the street.

### For drivers

- Slow down and be especially alert in residential neighborhoods. Children are excited on Halloween and may move in unpredictable ways.
- Anticipate heavy pedestrian traffic and turn your headlights on earlier in the day so you can spot children from greater distances.
- Remember that costumes can limit children's visibility and they may not be able to see your vehicle.
- Reduce any distractions inside your car so you can concentrate on the road and your surroundings.

### Costumes

- Decorate costumes and bags with reflective tape or stickers and choose light colored costumes to improve visibility.
- Choose face paint and make-up instead of masks, which can obstruct a child's vision. Look for non-toxic designations when choosing Halloween makeup.
- Have kids carry glow sticks or flashlights in order to see better, as well as to be seen by drivers.

Happy Halloween!

## 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)

GL Homeowners Association  
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cindy@glenlaurel.net

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Property Manger  
Terri Salter  
tsalter@mascapi.com

## SCHOOL NEWS

date of the absence, the reason, the parent's signature, and contact phone number. Email notes are acceptable.

Tardies- Student learning begins promptly at 8:10 a.m. Your child is tardy if he/she is not IN their CLASSROOM at 8:10 a.m.

### Education Foundation - International Festival

Mark your calendars for "iFest Live 2012", International Festival & Vendor Fair scheduled for Saturday, November 3 2012 from 10:00am-2:00pm. iFest Live 2012, benefiting the Fort Bend Education Foundation, is an event that celebrates the tremendous diversity of cultures in our school district and county by highlighting its many unique traditions, arts, and foods as well as increases awareness for the Foundation and its mission!

The festival will offer a feast for the senses as booths from different countries display their cultural traditions, dress, food and crafts. During this international event, guests will be entertained by talented artists and students from FBISD as well as from a host of regional dance and music schools.

Elementary age children receive a "Passport"- with at least six different country stamps on their passport they receive a free international goodie bag at the end (limited to the first 1000).

There will also be an opportunity to explore a variety of international treasures while shopping for unique cultural items from around the world.

## U.S. PRESIDENTS & THE DOW

By Vijay Kane

The Dow Jones Industrial Average (DJIA) is the most popular and widely quoted Stock Market Index. Its value is based on the stock price of 30 leading U.S. companies. It has a direct relation with the value of our 401k and other retirement plan accounts.

I have conducted a study of the values of the DJIA since 1929. I have prepared a chart that shows the percentage change in the value of the DJIA during each presidential term of the last 14 American presidents (Hoover to Obama). Since the chart is too big to fit in this article, I will attempt to provide a summary here. Here are a few noteworthy facts: 1) The best growth of DJIA was in the first term of President Roosevelt (245 %). 2) The worst loss of DJIA occurred during President Hoover's term (83%). 3) After World War II, four presidents had two full 4-year terms. The results for the 8 year durations are: Eisenhower, 120% gain; Reagan, 135% gain; Clinton, 229% gain; Bush 43, loss of 26%. 4) During each term of Reagan, Bush 41, and Clinton, DJIA experienced a positive growth. During this twenty year period (Jan 1981 to Jan 2001), the DJIA grew from 950 to 10678 (more than ten times). This is a cumulative growth of 1,023%. 5) During the first term of Bush 43, DJIA lost 2%, and in the second term it lost 24%. 6) During the first 3 year and 8

months of Obama (1-20-09 to 9-20-12) the DJIA has a gain of 71%.



We have to be very careful in drawing conclusions from this data. Stock market and DJIA are influenced by a combination of several factors. Presidents may or may not have any relation with these factors. The DJIA is now within 5% of the previous high of 14164 on Oct 9, 2007. Some leading economists are predicting the possibility of a recession in 2013. As we get close to the looming fiscal cliff, there is a lot of anxiety about the near term future of the economy and the stock market.

I have also prepared charts for the S&P 500 Index. If anyone is interested in receiving a copy of the full chart, please email me at [vjkane2@yahoo.com](mailto:vjkane2@yahoo.com).

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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[www.carrielamrealtor.com](http://www.carrielamrealtor.com)  
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Sugar Land, Texas 77478

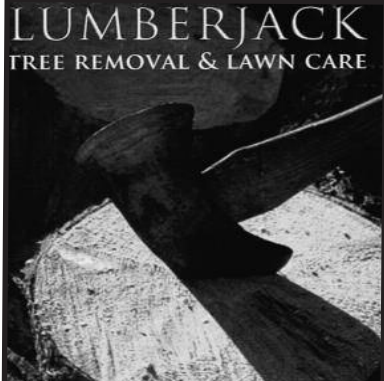
 

heritagetexas.com

### Quotable Quote:

*"All our dreams can come true - if we have the courage to pursue them." -Walt Disney*

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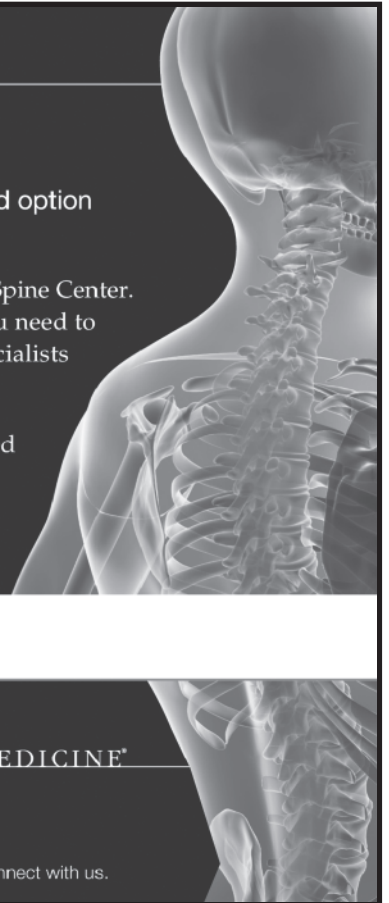
**832-818-2799**  
[LUMBERJACKTREE@INFO.COM](mailto:LUMBERJACKTREE@INFO.COM)

# 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.**

**Methodist** Methodist  
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Spine Center

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