

Commonwealth Comments

New web address: www.commonwealthcivic.com

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Have a Happy and Safe Memorial Day Holiday!

the write

idea !

Commonwealth Comments,
3909 St. Michaels Ct.
Sugar Land, Texas 77479
Tel: 281-265-4556
email:
newsletter@commonwealthcivic.com

**13th Annual
July 4th
Parade and Picnic**

*Volunteers needed
Call Tom for more
information*

281-265-1734

Planning is underway for the 13th Annual July 4th celebration at the Knightsbridge Clubhouse.

Join us for the **Red, White, and Blue** Parade, hot dogs with the fixins', at the Clubhouse around 10:45 a.m.

Routinely attended by over 500 residents, many volunteers are needed to make this event the success it has always been.

Food and Fun -- Bring your decorated bikes, strollers, wagons and join the parade. Every participant will be recognized.

After the parade, be sure to stick around for food from the grill and plenty of entertainment!

(Note: The Knightsbridge Pool does not open until noon on July 4th. The Briarwood Pool opens at 10 a.m.)

Civic Association Annual Meeting

The Commonwealth Civic Association Annual Meeting is scheduled at the Clubhouse Tuesday, May 20 at 7 p.m.

At the time of this writing, the three current board members had applied for the available positions: Tom Wooley, Paula Stansell and Zelma Loeb.

New Monuments Unveiled

You can't have missed it!!!!
The new monuments have been up for a few weeks.
The Association is currently landscaping and lighting the areas surrounding each of the monuments!

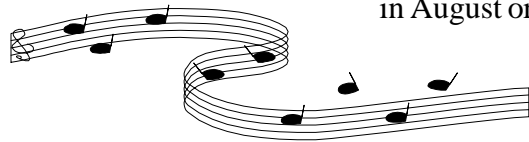


Community Awareness Corner

2nd Annual Teen Band Night a ROUSING Success

Once again, thanks to the enthusiastic leadership of Mary Westbrook and the assistance of Roseann Pisano and Virginia Mack, Commonwealth teens enjoyed several hours of live music, food, and fun at the Knightsbridge pool on March 29.

Mary arranged for Subway sandwiches, pizza, fruit, candy, sodas, and the entertainment of two local teen bands as well as a D.J.



Over **150** (very happy) students attended the event. This is double the number of teens who attended in the fall. The kids were well behaved and very appreciative of the event.

Thanks also to **Need name of lady** and Sue Hauenstein who assisted as chaperones.

Mary is already planning a back-to-school band night in August or September.

Volunteers are needed for the July 4th Parade and Picnic!!!

FYI.....

ECO Resources periodically cleans out the inner pool bay at the pump station. While the bay is 4 - 6 inches deep and normally has water standing in it, during extended periods of drought it may dry up. Since the entire drainage system for The Commonwealth empties into this pump station, every piece of trash and every particle of floating sediment will end up in the pool bay. It is important that we realize that every piece of trash and/or fluid that we dump into the storm drain on the streets, as well as each piece of trash blowing into our waterways, **WILL** end up at the pump station and could lead to serious problems!

Commonwealth Alert

In an effort to be proactive in keeping our residents abreast of events that directly impact our community, The Commonwealth Civic Association maintains a web page, updated by residents Paula and Charles Stansell, and overseen by the Association. (You can visit the web page at www.commonwealthcivic.com). In order to be even more effective, the Association has initiated a Commonwealth *e-mail Alert* available to all residents who wish to sign up.

It is important to note that the Association will **NOT** be sharing these email addresses with any commercial ventures and **NO ADVERTISING** (or jokes!!!) will be forwarded. This email network is **STRICTLY** for alerting/providing information for our residents regarding matters that the Association feels is important to the daily lives of Commonwealth residents.

If you are interested in being added to this list, please send an email to: commonwealth@Stansellweb.com

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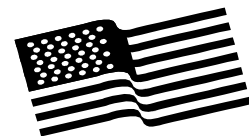


Stars & Stripes Across Commonwealth

If you've lived anywhere in The Commonwealth for the past few years, you had to have noticed the sea of Red, White, and Blue flags waving in the breeze of so many neighborhood yards on special occasions. The credit for this incredible show of patriotism goes to Boy Scout Troop 294. The 3' x 5' flag, mounted on a 10' pole in the front yards of over 400 Commonwealth homes is a fundraising project for the troop.

Flags magically appear in yards early in the morning of four major holidays. They disappear just as quietly as the sun goes down. Designated flag days are: Memorial Day, Flag Day, Independence Day, and Labor Day. The proceeds are used to purchase troop equipment and fund troop summer activities.

To subscribe, you may download the application form on line (www.commonwealthcivic.com) and mail it, along with your \$25.00 check, to: BSA Troop 294, C/O Chris Wasden, 41 Inverrary Lane, Sugar Land, Texas 77479 or call and a form can be provided for you (281-313-1477).



What is that Noise, Noise, Noise?

Ron Frerich, one of our Levee District Board Members, apologizes to those who have been disturbed by the diesel engine noise that has plagued some residents for the past several weeks. The dry scenario installation of bag walls doubles the length of wall that can be worked on and saves money.

Our LID district is spending about \$225,000 to bag Commonwealth waterways in order to prevent future erosion. The waterway along Commonwealth Blvd. will be completed this year and repairs will be made to the area around the Knightsbridge fountains.

Last year the LID tackled the area in Commonwealth Park. The next area to be addressed is the lake area in Commonwealth Estates. The fully completed task will take about two-three years. All work areas will be left in good condition. They will be seeded and the ruts will be filled in.

One area of concern that was discovered too late to be included in this budget cycle is the brick wall in the Knightsbridge fountain area. That wall will be repaired or replaced next year.

Association Nuts & Bolts

*Deed Restrictions/Modifications/Architectural
Changes corner*

It is the responsibility of the homeowner who intends to make an exterior modification to first submit a modification application and have it approved before the work begins. This protects the homeowner from potential expensive re-work to meet the civic association guidelines. In addition, the homeowner is required to apply for, and meet, all city building requirements. Modification Application forms are available from Crest Management or from our web page, www.commonwealthcivic.com.

Considering having a pool installed?

If you are considering having a pool installed, please CUT AND SAVE the following information. The MDR committee has put together this information to assist anyone submitting an application for a pool.. This is provided in an effort to reduce the number of applications that are returned for lack of information. **Please note changes and additions.**

1. Obtain application from Crest Management (or www.commonwealth-civic.com)
2. Fill out application **completely** and return to Crest Management.
3. Attach a copy of your plan with the pool and deck location and dimensions indicated.
4. Indicate on plat: site access and all drain lines as well as location of all pool equipment.
5. Backwash and drain lines must drain to the street.
6. Blueprint of pool must indicate schedule 40 PVC used for all drain lines.
7. Pool and deck must be at least 5 feet from side and rear lot lines and should not encroach on any easements.
8. Pool and deck must be within building setback lines.
9. See 9.0 in your Architectural Control Guidelines for more details.

A deposit, if needed, must be received by Crest Management before authorization for building can be given.

Found: Youth's Blue helmet found at Briarwood playground in April. If your child's helmet is missing, contact Terry at 281-265-5021

Sugar Land Youth Advisory Council

Want to make a difference? Meet new friends? Learn something new?

The City of Sugar Land's Youth Advisory Council, a new group for kids from 10 to 14 years of age, will discuss ideas for improving the city's parks and recreation program.

The group will meet on the third Tuesday of each month at the Sugar Land Community Center (226 Matlage Way) from 6:30 p.m. - 7:30 p.m.

For more information, call Recreation Coordinator Amber Higginbotham at 281-275-2885.

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Community-Wide Garage Sale

It's that time of year when the Spring Cleaning Bug has pretty much done his (her?) damage to homes in the Houston area. Now we're left wondering what to do with all those "treasures" we've emptied from our drawers and closets.

The Board of Directors for the Civic Association has agreed to sponsor another Community-Wide Garage Sale, if someone from the community is willing to organize it. This event does NOT require a great deal of time or energy. Basic duties include making a list of residents who are interested in being included on the hand-out and arranging publicity for the event.

If you think you'd like to take on this volunteer opportunity, please call Tom at 281-265-1734.

The deed restrictions for
The Commonwealth do **NOT**
prohibit garage sales, **HOW-**
EVER, garage sale signs are
NOT permitted!

Please **DO NOT** post garage sale
signs around the community
when you host a garage sale.

May Elections

Over 500 Commonwealth voters took advantage of the opportunity to vote at the Clubhouse on Saturday, May 3.

There were three races inviting our input. Michael Schiff, City Councilman for District 4 was returned to office for a two year term. Michael is a Sweetwater resident and was appointed to the position last year. We look forward to receiving regular updates from him for future newsletters.

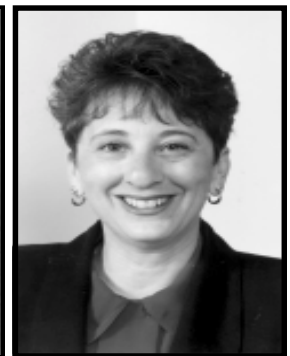
Incumbents Sue Hauenstein and Bruce Bain were handily returned to the Fort Bend ISD Board of Trustees for another three year term. Sue is a twelve year Commonwealth resident and many of you may remember Bruce Bain from our years at Austin Parkway Elementary School. Bruce is now a resident of Sienna Plantation.

All three elected officials have proven to be readily accessible and responsive. You may reach them at the following numbers:

Bruce Bain	281-778-8988	bbain@fortbend.k12.tx.us
Sue Hauenstein	281-265-4556	shauenstein@fortbend.k12.tx.us
Michael Schiff	713-599-1731/281-980-4371	michaelschiff@hotmail.com



Michael Schiff



Sue Hauenstein

*"Thanks to all who took the time to
vote."*

If you are interested in serving as an election official in Commonwealth, email Paula at commonwealth@stansellweb.com



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Commonwealth Pools are now open!!!!

We invite you to enjoy both of The Commonwealth pools during our pool season.

Be sure to read the pool rules and be sure that your children and/or guests understand and abide by our rules.

Pool hours were listed on page 10 in the last issue of Commonwealth Comments. If you did not save that newsletter, you may access the pool hours on-line at: www.commonwealthcivic.com.

Pool tags are required. Further information may be obtained from Crest Management at 281-579-0761 or on-line.

Both pools will be open on Monday, September 01 from 10 a.m. until 8 p.m.

September Hours: The Briarwood pool will be open from 10 a.m. - 8 p.m. on Saturday, September 6 and from noon until 8 p.m. on Sunday, September 7. The Knightsbridge pool will be open from noon until 8 p.m. on Saturday, September 13 and Sunday, September 14. Both pools will then close until next summer!

Pool hours are posted, however, due to outside forces (including weather), the hours/days MAY change.

Safari's Pressure Wash

**DRIVEWAY, PATIO, POOL'S DECK
REMOVE MILDEW
CLEAN GUTTERS - BRICK WALL**

P.O. BOX 764
STAFFORD, TEXAS 77477

281-261-6862 HO.
832-758-1266 CELL

If you have a child in need of swim lessons, contact a lifeguard at either of our pools. They can provide you with information on swim lessons offered by our pool company, Avant Garde Aquatics.

Lookin' Good: Did you notice how nice the pool areas are looking? The Association had the areas pressure washed just before the pools opened!!!!

You still have an opportunity to participate in the City of Sugar Land's Sunday Concert Series at Oyster Creek Park - 5 p.m.

May 25 - **Two Tons of Steel** (influenced by Elvis, Buddy Holly, Chris Isaac and Johnny Cash)

June 1 - **Django Walker** (from Austin)

There is no admission fee to the concerts and the First Colony Lion's Club will sell refreshments.

Bring your picnic basket, a blanket/chairs and the family for an afternoon of fun!

Plans are underway for additional lighting to be added in the Commonwealth clubhouse area, as well as the Briarwood parking lot and the Regents Park entry area.

Susan Menapace Delclos, DMD, MDS, PA

Orthodontist

2869 Dulles Avenue (next to CiCi's Pizza)

281-267-2504

Henry Delclos, D.D.S.

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Neighborhood Alert!!!

While none of our residents relishes the thought of becoming involved in any criminal action, it is **IMPERATIVE** that each of us make every effort to be aware and to **REPORT IMMEDIATELY** any criminal or suspected criminal activity of which we are aware!

The criminal element is discovering the First Colony area and as an upscale community we **ARE** targets of unsavory acts.

We have recently had a few activities we feel you need to know about.

A resident mom shopping at one of the local grocery stores unthinkingly turned away from her shopping basket for "just a second" and her purse, which was sitting in the basket, **DISAPPEARED**. She lost everything!

Earlier this spring a resident was robbed in his driveway at gunpoint as a result of a **FOLLOW HOME** from his Houston business. Please be aware of what is going on around you **at all times!**

In February a van driving down Commonwealth Blvd. towards Austin Parkway was targeted by someone with a pellet gun in a backyard in the Pendleton/Trent area. The passenger side window was shattered. Fortunately, no one in the van was hurt, but the consequences of this "prank", aside from being expensive, could have been deadly. The driver was too shaken up to immediately contact the police, thus, the culprit got away. The police believe that this was not a stray shot.....the shooter was probably taking aim!

Our Neighborhood Watch program is a real safeguard to crime, however, if we see or **SUSPECT** criminal activity, we **MUST** take action. Criminal activity in progress should be reported to 9-1-1. If you have any non-emergency information or wish to speak with an officer, call 281-275-2500.

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Ken Rainey

Timely Landscape Tips

Ah springtime, glorious springtime! What a beautiful time of year. Our outdoor world has awakened and can be a source of enjoyment and comfort in the coming year. The benefits of a healthy landscape go beyond just an attractive yard. Lawns, trees and shrubs are crucial to the environment in many ways. They clean the air, provide habitat for a multitude of beneficial critters, keep temperatures down and provide us with wonderful scents, fruits, and nuts as well as flowers and comfort. Don't we owe our landscape a little help to do all this for us?

Lawns benefit from 3 to 4 fertilizations per year, adequate watering and regular mowing. If you have clover and other lawn weeds, use a good quality weed and feed analysis specific to your turf. Now is also a great time for shrub feeding, too. Azaleas have finished blooming so trim them back now and feed them with an Azalea fertilizer once every 30 days through July 15th.

Plant perennials and annuals now for summer color.

Good perennials include Rudbeckia, Verbena, ('Serenity' Verbena is fantastic), Salvia 'Greggari', Katy Ruellia, Plumbago, Sedum ('Dragon's Blood' Crimson is one of my favorites). There are so many good perennials. Annuals include Begonias, Portulaca, Salvia, Amaranthus, Impatiens (shade), caladiums and Coleus for sun or shade...the list goes on and on. Plant in good soil, feed with a good quality slow release fertilizer such as Slo-Kote or Osmocote, mulch and keep watered till established.

Check your irrigation system for any broken heads and proper head alignment. No point in watering the driveway. A good watering twice a week this time of year is plenty. In the hottest part of the summer, 3 times a week should be enough. By watering thoroughly but less frequently, you encourage deep roots which can withstand the summer months better.

There are many other elements that will enhance your outdoor world. Make your outdoor world an extension of your home with a patio, a shade structure or arbor, fragrant plants, a gas grill or even a 'Summer Kitchen'. This year, more than ever, our home is where we want to be. Enjoy our glorious spring.

*This article provided by Commonwealth resident, Britton Stein, owner of Crenshaw Landscapes (281-980-2733)
www.crenshawlandscapes.com*

www.commonwealthcivic.com

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newsletter@commonwealthcivic.com.

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Upcoming Meetings

Landscape Committee Meeting

Meets once a month. Call Steve O'Hara at 281-265-4485 for the next meeting date and time.

Modifications Committee Meeting

Third Tuesday of each month - 7:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse

Modifications to be considered at the monthly meeting must be received by Crest on or before the 2nd Monday of each month.

Board Meeting

Fourth Thursday of each month - 6 p.m. at the Clubhouse

CAT Meeting

Third Thursday of February, March, June, October & November
7:00 p.m.
at the Clubhouse

Memorial Day is May 26
Flag Day is June 14
Father's Day is June 15

www.commonwealthcivic.com

The Commonwealth Civic Association does not investigate, qualify, or certify this newsletter's advertisers. The business of each advertiser is independent of the Association.

Please do not throw trash or debris over your fence on to the levee or the common areas. This request applies not only to grass and lawn clippings, but also to trash that damages lawnmowers. This practice is costly to the Association (that would be US), as well as hazardous to both our residents and to our landscape workers.

Revisions to the Architectural Guidelines have been made and added to our web page: www.commonwealthcivic.com. We will be including excerpts in future newsletters, however, if possible, you may wish to access the web site for the most recent information.

Attention Advertisers!!!

This newsletter is published in January, March, May, July, September and November. The deadline for each issue is the first day of the previous month. Ads and payment must be received by that date. All Ads must be mailed to **Commonwealth Comments, 3909 St. Michaels Ct., Sugar Land, Texas 77479** and must include a check for full payment. Ad rates begin at \$55.00 per issue.

If you have any questions, call Sue at 281-265-4556.

Special Interest Groups

The Commonwealth Women's Club

The Commonwealth Women's Club is open to all women residing in The Commonwealth. The club's purpose is to stimulate civic, philanthropic, educational, and cultural interest in the community, as well as foster a cordial welcome to new residents. Volunteer outreach is available to those who are interested. If you are interested in this group, or would like more information, please contact Susan at 281-980-3290 or Donna at 281-265-7108.

Hispanic Club

If you speak Spanish and are interested in joining this informal group, contact Lucy at 281-265-2610, for information, date and location.

Moms in Touch

Moms in Touch is a group of mothers who meet for one hour each week to pray for their children and the school they attend. If you are interested in joining us, please contact: Kathy Galvan (Commonwealth Elementary) 281-565-7696; Louisa Chiasson (Clements High School) 281-565-6849; Mary Marwil (Elkins High School) at 281-265-0877 or Kathie Waldheim (Fort Settlement Middle School) at 281-265-2739.

If information about your group is incorrect or outdated, please advise Sue at 281-265-4556

If you are interested in publicizing a Commonwealth-based special interest group, give us a call.

www.commonwealthcivic.com

Crest Management Service

16360 Park Ten Place,
Suite 310,
Houston, Texas 77084

Carolyn Bonds, Senior Manager
281-579-0761
281-579-7062 (fax)



Don't forget
Father's Day!!!!

Postmaster: Dated Material!
Please deliver to current resident as soon as possible

Association Board of Directors

Tom Wooley
281-265-1734
President

Zelma Loeb
281-980-7741
Vice President

Paula Stansell
Treasurer
281-579-0761

Jim McGregor
281-980-1661
Director

Steve O'Hara
281-265-4485
Director

Association Information

Clubhouse & Pool Rentals
Crest Management 281-579-0761

Neighborhood Watch
Nancy Castellvi 281-265-2769

Welcome Committee
Maura Ritchie 281-980-6347
Roseann Pisano

Landscape Committee
Steve O'Hara 281-265-4485

Modifications & Deed Restrictions
Dan Lumpkin 281-265-6709

Tennis Committee
Cindy Facker 281-207-5129

L.I.D. Representative
Mike Homeyer 281-980-3794

Newsletter email address:
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Deadline for next
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June 1, 2003

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