

Commonwealth Comments

A newsletter for the residents of The Commonwealth:

Bridgewater, Commonwealth Estates, Commonwealth Park, Oxford, Sutton Forest, Sutton Park and Sweetwater XII

November/December, 2007

www.commonwealthcivic.com

Sugar Land Memorial Park at Brazos River Park

The city of Sugar Land has informed us that Sugar Land Memorial Park at Brazos River Park (corner of Commonwealth Blvd. and University Blvd.) will celebrate its grand opening during the Veteran's Day Weekend on Saturday, November 10.

Some of the activities to be included in the festivities are: canoeing on the lake, rock wall climbing, interactive educational activities and hands on learning opportunities. The main stage will feature live entertainment throughout the day. Dusk will see hot air balloons glowing to accent the sunset, followed by a veteran's procession - a ceremony recognizing and honoring men and women who have served their country. At the conclusion of the festivities, there will be a 20 minute fireworks display!

Admission and all activities are free.



Election Day

Please note that the Commonwealth Clubhouse is the voting location for Precinct 4129 on

**Tuesday, November 6
7 a.m. - 7 p.m.**

On the ballot will be the FBISD Bond election
(www.fortbendisd.com)

and

16 constitutional amendments.

(You can see samples of the amendment language at:
www.co.fort-bend.tx.us.)

Your vote affects not only governance and tax rates, but our quality of life. Please do not pass up your opportunity to express your preferences on election day. Every vote DOES count!

NOTE- Not only is YOUR individual vote important to the democratic process; the County has recently discussed cutting back on voting locations. If we continue to vote in large numbers it will help keep our voting location right here in our neighborhood.

PLEASE VOTE on November 6!

Website Has Latest Information

Thanks to residents Paula and Charles Stansell, our community website, is continually updated with valuable information for your use. Here is just a sampling of what is available:

- Latest and past newsletters
- Guidelines for home improvements
- Links to area schools, cities and churches
- E-mail Alert information
- Pool hours
- Clubhouse information
- Useful phone numbers
- Plus much more!!!!
- Application for home modifications
- Voting information
- Information on area events

www.commonwealthcivic.com

Please use this resource in the future and add it to your "favorites".

Commonwealth Civic Association Board of Directors

Tom Wooley
President
281-265-1734

Conrith Davis
Vice President
832-326-6202

Virginia Mack
Secretary
281-207-5200

Steve O'Hara
Director
281-265-4485

Mark Thompson
Director
281-313-4337

Board Meetings are held on the fourth Thursday of each month at 6 p.m. in the Clubhouse.

Your Association Information



Modifications & Deed Restrictions Committee
meets the third Tuesday of each month
- 7:30 p.m. at the Clubhouse

Applications must be received in the Crest Management office on or before the 2nd Tuesday of each month to be considered at the monthly meeting. For more information contact Crest Management Service at 281-579-0761.

Landscape Committee
meets once a month.
Contact Steve O'Hara at 281-265-4485
for the next meeting date and time.



Tennis Committee
Conrith Davis
713-443-9069

Commonwealth Alert

Be sure to sign up for our Email Alert system. This is a service of The Commonwealth Civic Association in conjunction with residents Paula and Charles Stansell, who oversee the Association's web page:
www.commonwealthcivic.com

NOTE: The Association will NOT be sharing these email addresses with any commercial venture and NO ADVERTISING (or jokes!) will be forwarded to residents. This email network is STRICTLY for alerting/providing information regarding timely matters that the Association feels are important to our residents.

You may sign up by sending an email to: commonwealth@stansellweb.com- please include your name and contact information.



Welcome Committee
Gwen Dahlin
713-304-1048

Pool Rentals
Crest Management
281-570761



L.I.D. Representative
Ron Frerich
281-265-0137



Clubhouse Rentals
Cindy O'Hara
281-265-4485

IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

Crest Management	281-579-0761
Police (Non-Emergency)	281-275-2500
Animal Control	281-275-2596
Fire Department	281-491-0852
Water & Street	281-275-2750
Trash Collection	281-275-2772
Recycling Coordinator	281-275-2770
Street Lights (Centrepoint)	713-207-2222
Newsletter	281-265-4556
Police & Fire Emergency	9-1-1

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

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. Mail to **Commonwealth Comments**, 3909 St. Michaels Ct., Sugar Land, Texas 77479 and include a check for full payment. Ad rates begin at \$65.00 per issue.

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

Newsletter email address: newsletter@commonwealthcivic.com

Commonwealth Women's Club

If you haven't attended one of our functions, you don't know what you are missing. This group of women enjoy each other's company, loves to have a good time and would love to have you join them.

CHAMPAGNE KICK OFF



HAT NIGHT



Note to members: The Women's Club is very pleased to announce that our President Valinda Weibel, and her husband, Walter, will not be leaving Commonwealth as previously expected. We're glad they are staying!

Don't miss out on our next two get togethers!

Wednesday, November 14 - 7 p.m.

Holiday Recipe Exchange

Come exchange your favorite recipes for the holidays.

Hostess: Susan Chaluh
4310 St. Michaels Ct.
281-980-3290

Wednesday, December 12 - 7 p.m.

Gift Exchange

Talk about stealing!!! Our ladies hold nothing back when they want that special ornament or gift of the evening. One of the most fun events we do.

Hostess: Nancy Benevides
14 Wickham
713-203-9975

Our calendar is set months in advance. We try to honor these dates, however, we must be considerate of any unexpected changes that our hostesses might have. Please call to verify dates.

City of Sugar Land Tree Lighting

5th Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony
Thursday, November 29
5-8 p.m.
Sugar Land Town Square

Performances by local choirs, family activities,
and photos with Santa Claus

FREE INVESTMENT REVIEWS

Jim Hanks
Investment Representative
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Sugar Land, Texas 77478
281-980-6610

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Playground Safety Tips for Kids To Have More Fun

Your Knightsbridge and Briarwood playground areas are great places for the children in our community to have fun. But they need to have fun without getting hurt. Listed below are some basic rules to remember:

Getting Ready to Play on the Playgrounds

- * During the summer months, have the children wear sunscreen so their skin won't get burned. Remember that sun makes metal very hot. A hot slide can burn your child's skin.
- * Kids should wear shoes that keep their feet safe. **Don't go barefoot.** If you do, your foot could get a splinter or a cut.
- * Play only on dry equipment. Kids could slip and fall on wet equipment.

Slides

- * Kids should always go down the slide one at a time. Have your child wait until the child in front is on the ground and has moved away from the slide.
- * Always slide sitting down facing forward. NEVER slide down headfirst!
- * Move away from the slide bottom as soon as you reach the ground.
- * Do not climb over any guardrails. Guardrails are there to protect you.



Climbing

- * Climb stairs or step slowly
- * Hold onto the handrails.
- * Avoid climbing or sliding on equipment support poles or beams.

Swinging

- * Always swing sitting down.
- * Swing with only one person per swing.
- * Wait until the swing stops before you get off.
- * Be very careful when you walk in front of moving swings. You do not want to get hit accidentally!
- * Only one person at a time should ride a spring rocker. Rock sitting down.
- * Enjoy your playgrounds. If you have any ideas to improve our playground....please let us know.



*This article submitted by Conrith Davis,
HOA Director*

The Commonwealth Civic Association wishes to express a HUGE THANK YOU to
Lisa Dooley
for organizing the Annual Community Garage Sale which was held October 20.
18 homes participated in the event.

Crenshaw Landscapes

Create a Backyard Hideaway

Landscape Design and Installation

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Water Features

Swimming Pool Design

281-564-4665

www.crenshawlandscapes.com



By the time you blink, the holiday season will be upon us. If you are thinking about hosting a holiday get-together this season, don't forget that our Clubhouse is available to residents in good standing with the Association. To check availability, contact Cindy at 281-265-4485.

Rental Rates
\$200.00 for the first four hours and \$25.00 per additional hour.
(This includes set up and clean up time)

Home for the Holidays

Seasons Greetings!
Best wishes for a Happy Holiday & a Healthy New Year!
We are fortunate enough to call Commonwealth our home for the holidays.

*I live here,
 I love it here,
 I sell here!*

RE/MAX Southwest
 Cell: 713-203-9975
 nancybenevides@yahoo.com
 www.asknancyb.com

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Levee Update

The construction start date to raise the Southwest corner of our levee has been delayed. Coordinating the excavation of fill dirt took longer than expected. We now have a letter of agreement signed by Sugar Land city officials and the Levee District that will allow us access to "free" fill dirt from the future Sugar Land City park located off of University Blvd. at U.S. 59.

Our contractor will be using his excavators to load his dump trucks with the fill dirt. In exchange, the citizens of Sugar Land will get a recreational pond/lake at this future city park.

There was also a delay in receiving plan and permit approval from the City because of the late arrival of the letter of agreement.

All pre-construction requirements have now been met and construction should begin in November. The good news is completion of the project will be several months before any deadlines that F.E.M.A. has set. Construction is expected to be complete prior to December 31, 2007.

This update provided by Ron Frerich, L.I.D. Director



Susan M. Delclos, DMD, MDS, PA
 ORTHODONTIST
281-261-2504
 2869 Dulles Avenue (at Cartwright) **281-265-4177**

Henry Delclos, D.D.S.
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P.O. Box 764
 Stafford, Texas 77477

Neighborhood References Available

The Annual Back-To-School Coffee Was A Success

We would like to thank the Commonwealth Civic Association for the use of the clubhouse and the following residents for giving back to our community and providing refreshments:

Virginia Mack
Leigh Mattson
Cynthia Liska

ReMax Southwest
ReMax Heritage
Cynthia Liska Properties

Nancy Benevides
Leslie Robins
Sue Hauenstein

ReMax Southwest
Keller Williams

We very much appreciate your support!



Some of our long-time residents enjoying time with newcomers!

Tips For Taking Care Of Your Home Computer

It seems that most of us have become totally dependent on our home computers for everything these days; from communicating with friends and family via e-mail, IM and video chats, to storing pictures, music and videos, to researching recipes.....the list goes on!

This vital gadget, the home computer, can be moody, inconsistent, and often, frustratingly complicated to correct. Many people don't realize that computers use their hard drive, even if new programs are not being installed or files being created. This build-up of temporary files makes your system feel clogged up and run slow or behave strangely and in some cases stop working altogether. In most cases it is not a virus but a hard drive not big enough. Follow these tips for the optimal health of your computer and they will help you keep your machine running smoothly:

1. Power down your computer periodically.
2. If you use Windows, keep it up to date with the Windows updates.
3. Make sure your machine has an Antivirus and Malicious software removal programs running.
4. If you use MS Outlook for email, archive your old emails periodically.
5. Make sure you are only running the programs you need in your memory. Remove extraneous software programs.
6. When browsing the internet, do NOT respond to unknown pop-ups and other offers.
7. NEVER EVER open emails from unknown senders that have attachments.
8. Make sure your computer is behind a firewall. If you are not sure, turn on the Windows firewall.
9. Do not share your personal details on the internet, unless you are sure of the identity of the site where you are sharing the info.
10. Remember to back up your data from your computer regularly. It is recommended to keep at least one copy of the data outside of your home.

Many of these tasks require moderate to advanced computer skills. If you, or someone in your home, do not possess those computer skills or you are unsure of the various steps, it is a good idea to have a professional "tune" your computer every few months. Done improperly, your computer may become inoperable. Following some of these steps should ease the burden on your computer.

This article provided by Namita Asthana, Commonwealth resident and owner of Verum Solutions, a company focused at providing IT services and solutions to small businesses and home users.

Senior Corner

Stop by and visit YOUR Senior Center
200 Matlage Way
281-275-2893

SHARE YOUR HOLIDAYS FOOD DRIVE

Wednesday, December 5
8 a.m. - 7 p.m.

Sugar Land Community Center

Open your hearts -

Bring non-perishable foods/monetary donations to the
East Fort Bend Human Needs Ministry

Senior Softball
Mondays
9-11 a.m.

Come out to hit a few on Monday mornings at Imperial Park (hwy 6 & 90). Non competitive atmosphere and anyone can join in.

Holiday Gala
Thursday,
December 13
- noon

Join fellow seniors for dinner and fellowship at the 12th annual Gala. Dancing 1-3 p.m.

SL Senior Center
Celebrates its
1st Birthday-
Friday,
January 18
2 p.m.

Join the first birthday
celebration!



Learn more about the City of Sugar Land Parks and Recreation Departments senior services, including Leisure Classes (holiday decorating, fire safety, cell phone use), Group Adventures, movies, and much more! Call 281-275-2893 or email seniors@sugarlandtx.gov. Visit the web page: www.sugarlandtx.gov.

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Wishing you a holiday season filled with family and good friends!

The Virginia Mack Team

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NOTE

Children will shortly be out of school for the holiday breaks - Please drive with care.

Being late for school or work is no excuse for speeding through our residential streets.

If you have a teenage driver in your home, please reiterate our need for speed limits in the neighborhood and be sure you are a GREAT role model.



Namita Asthana
cell 281-773-0689
ph: 281-242-4186
namita@verumsolutions.com

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Upgrading Your Home

With the holidays quickly approaching and the weather cooling off, this is an excellent time to think about enhancing the approach to your home before you put up the holiday decorations; aside from the obvious, a nicely mowed lawn and well trimmed landscape.

There are little things (translate that as “inexpensive”) that you can do to augment your home.

-article continues-

Kitchen & Bath Remodeling!

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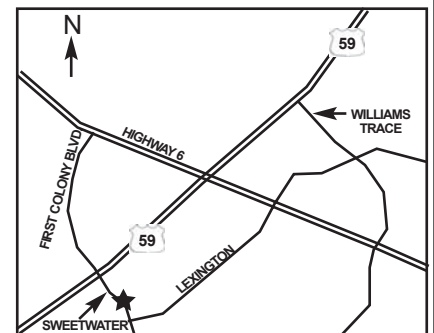
Located in the Kroger Shopping Center in Sugar Land

281. 980. 4040

www.HamresFloors.com



**Showroom Hours:
Monday - Saturday
10:00 am - 5:00 pm**



Thomas P. Arnold, O.D.
Melissa C. Moeller, O.D.
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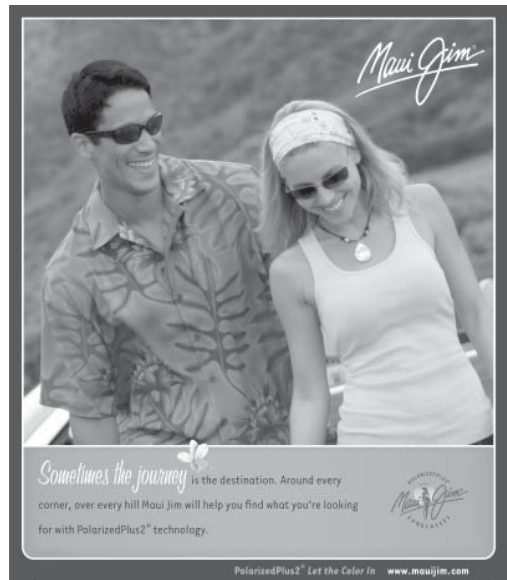
Therapeutic & Pediatric Optometrists

Mon.-Fri. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
 15309 Southwest Freeway
 (Williams Trace @ Hwy 59, next to Conn's)
 Sugar Land, TX 77478
 www.2020sugarland.com



TODAY'S VISION

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281-242-2020

-article continued from page 8-

home? If so, it's probably time to change the door knob and upgrade your lock! Does your front door need refinishing?

Ask your lawn care company about adding a little fall/winter color to your entryway. There are lots of choices available. If you are interested in doing it yourself, stop by one of the local nurseries and check out your options. Remember to keep it simple and easy to maintain.

A couple of other inexpensive fixerup projects:

You can replace the kitchen (or bathroom) faucet sets, add new cabinet door handles or update old lighting fixtures with brighter, more energy-efficient ones for less money than you might think.

Of course, the old standard, a fresh coat of paint or new wallpaper can completely change the look of a room.

If your tub and shower are looking dingy, consider re-grouting the tile and replacing any chipped tiles. Or better yet, if you have the cash, consider putting in a more modern tile. There are companies that will come in and refinish chips in your bathtub, shower or sink. They are not terribly expensive and look like new. A new toilet seat or updated sink can make a big difference in the way a bathroom looks.

It is often worthwhile to hire an electrician and plumber for a couple of hours to look over your electrical services, wrap or fix loose wires, fix any faulty outlets, and check for and fix any water leaks. Locating these problems early can save you big money later on.

Whatever you do to make your home more inviting this holiday season, we hope you enjoy the holidays with your family and friends.



Your Area Real Estate Expert

Leigh Mattson

Direct: 713-823-6843

leigh@mattsonrealtor.com

RE/MAX HERITAGE
 4675 Sweetwater Blvd.
 Sugar Land, TX 77479



Commonwealth
 Resident

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- . Job transfer/Relocation?
- . Call for any Real Estate needs

Thank you for your referrals!

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281-579-7062 (fax)

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Happy Holidays

Inside This Issue

Sugar Land Memorial Park Opens Election Day reminder Commonwealth Women's Club Update
Playground Safety
NEW! Senior Citizens' Activities Technology Article **NEW!**



Annual Holiday Open House

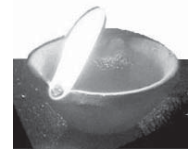
You're Invited!

Monday, December 17
6:30 - 8:00 p.m.

Celebrate the season with family, friends and neighbors.

Always a success! Always a great time for the entire family.

Be sure to bring your camera just in case a special visitor drops in!



*A Special
Holiday Tradition*