

Commonwealth Comments

A newsletter for the residents of The Commonwealth:
Bridgewater, Commonwealth Estates, Commonwealth Park, Oxford, Sutton Forest, Sutton Park and Sweetwater XII

May-June, 2011

The Commonwealth Civic Association Annual Meeting

Please mark your calendar immediately for the annual HOA meeting
Tuesday, May 17
7 p.m.

The Commonwealth Clubhouse
4330 Knightsbridge Blvd.

As residents of The Commonwealth, we share common concerns and goals for our community.
Attend this meeting to hear our Board of Directors share their vision for the future.
Get your questions answered and express your concerns about issues that require attention.

By now, residents should have received official notification of this meeting and
a ballot to vote on the board positions that are up.
If you have not yet returned your proxy, you may vote at the meeting.

Representatives from Crest and our L.I.D. will be present in attendance
and the budget will be presented.

4th of July Parade & Picnic

Join your Commonwealth friends &
neighbors for our

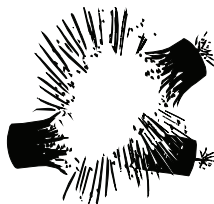
Annual Parade & Picnic

10:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.
parade begins at 11
line up at 10:45

After the parade, stick around for
the best burgers in Sugar Land.

Watch for information
on local fireworks
displays in the Sugar
Land papers.

Fun for the entire family



Your family's fun and safety are our top priority.

Unfortunately, a successful event of this
size depends on the assistance of
numerous volunteers.

We need a minimum of 50 people to help
with the parade, food preparation,
entertainment and logistics.

**If we do not get enough volunteers,
we will be forced to cancel this event.
Help us maintain our 20 year tradition,
call Crest Management at
281-579-0761
and volunteer to help!**

The pools will be open!



**Commonwealth
Civic Association
Board of Directors**

Steve O'Hara
President
281-265-4485

Virginia Mack
Vice President
281-207-5200

Jay Clancy
Secretary/Treasurer
713-775-2102

Tom Wooley
Director
281-265-1734

Dave Kinzelman
Director
281-980-8416

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

www.commonwealthcivic.com

**The function of this newsletter
is to inform homeowners of
issues, activities, and events
which may affect our property
values and quality of life.**

*The Commonwealth Civic
Association does not investigate,
qualify, or certify this
newsletter's advertisers.*

*The business of each advertiser is
independent of the Association.*

Association Information

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

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

Clubhouse Rentals
Cindy O'Hara
281-265-4485

Pool Rentals
Greater Houston Pool
Management
713-771-POOL

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

Applications must be
received in Crest
Management's 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.

Newsletter
Sue Hauenstein
281-265-4556
newsletter@
commonwealthcivic.com

USEFUL PHONE NUMBERS

Crest Management	281-579-0761
Police (Non-Emergency)	281-275-2020
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
Please relay pole #	
Police & Fire Emergency	9-1-1

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 or email: newsletter@commonwealthcivic.com

Nancy's Listings



ACTIVE

27 Thetford
\$549,900
Tropical Resort Backyard
and Updates Galore!



PENDING

4918 Cambridge
Great waterfront location



SOLD

4119 Amersham Way
Oxford

SELLERS...
Come home when the Realtors leave, not when their scheduled time expires!
No more driving around with the kids and dogs.
Offering sellers new technology. One of the MANY benefits of marketing your home with Nancy.

Nancy Benevides



713-203-9975
nancybenevides@yahoo.com



**Congratulations Nancy's Commonwealth
Curb Appeal Home Winner!**

May 2011

Stephen & Aimee Schultheis



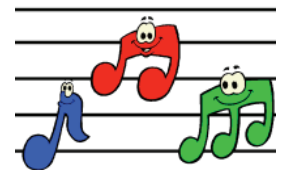
4802 Burbury St

Nancy started a new program, every other month she will pick a curb appeal home based on her thoughts as a Realtor. The home in her opinion stands out amongst the neighbors as great curb appeal. Winners will receive a dinner gift card, Owners time to plant those May Flowers!

Please don't disappoint the kids!!

Volunteers Needed for Back To School Teen Party

Be the KOOL mom and dad this fall.
Help The Commonwealth HOA plan and execute the best
BACK TO SCHOOL TEEN PARTY ever.



Past parties have featured local teen bands, swimming and lots of food!

There are generally two parties -
one for the middle school aged kids (early in the evening)
and another for the high school aged kids

The event is held at our Clubhouse
but CANNOT happen if parents do not step forward to
help organize and supervise the celebration.

Hey, the lazy days of summer will be over and it's back to work for our kids - Don't
you think they deserve a GREAT send off?

To volunteer, please contact Virginia @ 281-207-5200



TODAY'S VISION

THE ONE TO SEE®

Thomas P. Arnold, O.D.
Melissa C. Moeller, O.D.
and Associates

Therapeutic & Pediatric Optometrists

Mon.-Fri. 10:00 am - 6:00 pm; Saturday 9:00 am - 5:00 pm
15337 Southwest Freeway
(Williams Trace @ Hwy 59)
Sugar Land, TX 77478
2020sugarland.com



Dr. Tom Arnold



Dr. Melissa Moeller



281-242-2020

Avoid Co\$tlly Modifications Mis-steps

Guidelines are subject to review and change and are to be used only as a reference in submitting an application. In order to avoid costly violations, make sure that your updates or additions will comply with the most updated Guidelines.

It is imperative that all exterior modifications be submitted to the Modifications and Deed Restrictions Committee for approval prior to the onset of work.

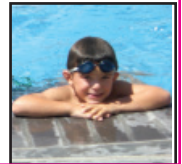
Projects such as replacement of a roof, windows, doors, siding and fences, as well as exterior paint and pool construction require approval from the HOA.

Please don't waste your time and money. Submit your paperwork to the MDR Committee.

(If you require clarification on the Covenants and Restrictions, or about the application filing and approval/response process, please ask/ inquire first.)

Briarwood pool modifications and repairs will be completed before the pool opens this month. Be sure to stop by and admire our changes!!!!

The splashpad will be a welcome addition for our youngest residents!



Concerts In The Park

Pack a picnic and come out to enjoy the sounds of spring with the City of Sugar Land's annual "Concerts in the Park" series. Free concerts will be held every Sunday through May 22, from 5-7 p.m. at Oyster Creek Park, 4033 Highway 6 South, with the exception of the final concert that will be held at Eldridge Park, 2511 Eldridge Road, on May 22.

Children's games and activities. Face painting, balloon sculpting, strolling magic, a caricature artist and moonwalks will also be available every Sunday. First Colony Lion's Club will sell refreshments during each concert.

For more information, contact the Parks and Recreation department at (281) 275-2885 or visit www.sugarlandtx.gov.

A couple of months ago, 7 vacuum breakers were stolen from HOA property. Three one night. Four another night. Thieves are cutting the white PV's pipes on both sides of the breaker and taking the whole section. Repairs will cost well over \$500 each. If you have any knowledge of this crime, please notify the Sugar Land Police Dept.

If you notice ANY suspicious activity, be sure to call the Sugar Land Police Department (281-275-2020).

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

281-265-4177
Henry Delclos, D.D.S.
PEDIATRIC DENTIST
2225 Williams Trace Blvd. Ste. 106

The Commonwealth Clubhouse has recently experienced a minor facelift.

As always, our Clubhouse is a wonderful venue for celebrations. Whether its a birthday party, bridal shower, graduation party or other fun event, you can call Cindy O'Hara at 281-265-4485 for rates and availability.



For many years now, The Commonwealth has hosted the Commonwealth Piranhas Swim Team (www.commonwealthpiranhas.com)

An entire generation of children has enjoyed this wonderful opportunity to improve upon their swimming abilities, practice good sportsmanship and have summer fun with dozens of other local youngsters.

Swim team is a great way to offer your child daily exercise and lifelong memories.

The Piranhas opened registration last month. If your child is interested in a place on this team, contact: tselindh@comcast.net or slopez66@comcast.net.

PLEASE NOTE: The swim team is a fun volunteer organization. Parents of swimmers must participate in order for the team to be successful.

Email one of the addresses above for more details.

Safari's Pressure Wash
281-261-6862 or 832-758-6862

30% off	Driveways, Patios,
Spring	Pool Decks
Cleaning	Remove Mildew
with this ad	Clean Gutters-Brick Walls
<i>Valid thru 6/30/11</i>	Neighborhood References Available

Bee Help(ful)



There are many bee trees in our area and each bee colony produces swarms to establish new hives. Inevitably, some will move into neighborhood homes resulting in a very costly problem for the homeowners.

Last spring, a beekeeper placed two honey bee traps in common areas of our neighborhood at no cost to the Association. They are regularly checked for bees. When bees move in, the beekeeper is called and he removes them safely from the area. Last spring, five swarms moved into the traps and were safely removed from our neighborhood.

Recently, a resident put up two traps for this year's swarm season. Within days, someone had removed one of them. Because of the loss to the beekeeper, he cannot continue to put up traps that will be stolen. His willingness to help has been undermined.

If the person who removed the bee trap will return it (or call Jeff at 281 615-5346), we can prevent a huge health (allergic reactions) and safety problem for ourselves and our neighbors. Thank you for your cooperation.



Commitment.Service.Results

CURRENT LISTINGS:



4819 Whitby Circle
4 bed / 2.5 bath
pool, spa & 3 car garage
\$325,000



3719 Stocksbridge Drive
4 bed / 2.5 bath
Open Kitchen concept w/
granite countertops & more!
\$299,000



3739 Stocksbridge Drive
4 bed / 3.5 bath
Huge game room upstairs &
study, no back neighbors!
\$349,900

Commonwealth Resident & Specialist!

14905 Southwest Freeway

Sugar Land, TX 77478

Office Direct: **281-207-5200**

VirginiaMack@ftbendhomes.com

www.FtBendHomes.com

*This is the time to list your home for the summer!
I can save you money when you buy a home as well.
I have 20+ years in Real Estate in Sugar Land and 16+ years as the
Top Listing Agent for The Commonwealth.
Call or email me today for a free market analysis.*

Recently Sold:

42 Hessenford St.
4 Bed/ 3.5 Bath—**\$350,000**

38 Bradford Circle
4 Bed/ 2.5 Bath - **\$265,000**

4718 Dunleigh Ct.
4 Bed/ 3.5 Bath—**\$350,000**

3814 St. Michaels Ct.
4 Bed/ 2.5 Bath - **\$345,000**

Virginia Mack Realtor, ABR, CBR, CRS, GRI

The Commonwealth Communications Committee has recently been studying options to improve our Commonwealth Website.

The committee recently took a look at 5 vendors for web design.

To become active on the Communication Committee, or to learn more, please contact Virginia Mack at 281-207-5200.



Our Empty Nesters group is active and growing. The group is going strong and having great fun. If you are an empty nester (married or single), and want to meet others with whom to share dinner, parties, events and more, be sure to check out this group.

They meet monthly. Information is placed on the marquee in front of the Knightsbridge Clubhouse. If the time and place of the next get-together is decided in a timely fashion, we will also print it in this newsletter.

You can get more information by contacting the current organizer, Virginia Mack, at 281-207-5200 or email: viriniamack@ftbendhomes.com.

A HUGE thank you to Laurie Meredith who organized this year's Community Garage Sale. As you know, garage sale signs are not permitted in The Commonwealth. For this one day each year, our HOA seeks a volunteer, pays for the advertising and draws bargain seekers to our community. Laurie hosted a very successful event this year with well over 30 Commonwealth homes participating in the sale. We look forward to next year's event. THANK YOU LAURIE!!!! We all appreciate your efforts on our behalf.

Impact A Hero 5K Run

The 7th Annual Impact A Hero 5K Run/Walk/Wheel will take place on Saturday, June 4th 7:30 a.m. (1k kids run at 8:30 a.m. - awards for all kids 10 and under who participate in the 1K).

The run will take place at Mercer Stadium, 16403 Lexington Blvd, Sugar Land.

Chip Timed early Registration - \$20 Kids 1K 10 and under - \$10 Race Day registration is 5K - \$30 Kids 10 and under - \$15

- > Cash prizes for Men's Open, Men's Master, Women's Open, and Women's Master
- > Food and drink for all registered runners after the race
- > Kids fun area and face painting
- > Coach Gary Kubiak to emcee the race awards

Receive a race packet and t-shirt for registering.

For more details or to register online, visit www.impactahero.org.

If you did not receive an email from The Commonwealth HOA in April, then you have not yet signed up for the Email Alert List

(or your email address has changed - if that's the case, please send an updated email address!)

You may sign up by simply sending an email, noting in which section of The Commonwealth you reside, to:

commonwealth@stansellweb.com

Note: We do not share email addresses with any outside parties. We do not send unrelated information or jokes. The purpose of the occasional email is strictly to keep residents advised and aware of issues and events that impact our quality of life.

Landscape Tips for Those Who Want to Enjoy the Summer

No one enjoys spending a lot of time in the sun pulling weeds, especially in the summer. Our landscape company, Native Land Design, offers the following tips for keeping weeds under control in your lawn and beds.

To reduce your reliance on chemical treatments to control weeds: 1) mow your lawn at the recommended height for your type of grass (St Augustine grass 2.5"-3", Common Bermuda <1", Hybrid Bermudas >1");

2) ensure adequate water for your type of grass - not too much, not too little. Either way you can encourage weeds and reduce turf growth. 3) Aeration and topdressing promote natural growth in the roots and stolons by opening up the root zone to water and oxygen, and providing organic nutrients through the topdressing.

Lastly, ensure you have the proper Turfgrass for the area you are trying to grow in. Common Bermuda has no tolerance for shade and will quickly thin out and die. For shady areas you may want to use St. Augustine.

Pre-Emergent Controls for Weeds: Broadleaf and Grassy weeds can be reduced through the use of pre-emergents.

Pre-emergents are chemicals used to create an invisible chemical shield over the soil. When a weed seed germinates it touches the chemical and dies prior to growing. Pre-emergents should be applied prior to weather conditions becoming conducive to the germination of grassy weeds. Pre-emergents are effective, depending on the type used, for 30-90 days. After that period, if an additional pre-emergent is not used, weeds will begin germinating.

Post Emergent Controls for Weeds: Post Emergent applications should be scheduled to be applied at a time when weather conditions are appropriate (read the label) as well as when weed visibility is at its highest. Broadleaf weeds are easily treated with 2-4D products that provide a high kill rate. Grassy weeds are more difficult and will require multiple applications due to the waxy surface of the leaf blade. Many post emergent chemicals can harm existing Turfgrasses so please use caution when applying and ensure, by reading the label, that the application is appropriate and mixed to the specs.

Upcoming City and School District Elections

Saturday, May 14th affords residents the chance to have a say in local governance. (There are city charter amendments on this ballot also.)

Please don't miss your opportunity to participate in the legislative process.

The winning candidates will be the people who help set our local tax rates and make decisions regarding the direction of both our city and our school district.

The Commonwealth sits in Sugar Land City Council District 4. We have been represented well for the past 8 years, however, our current Council Member, Michael Schiff is termed out and is not able to run again.

There are 3 candidates running in this position (in ballot order). **You may vote for one candidate in this race.**

Farha Ahmed - resident of Sweetwater- FarhaAhmed.com
 Harish Jajoo- resident of Commonwealth- HarishJajoo.com
 Frank Yonish-resident of Cypress Glen - FrankYonish.com

There are three positions on the ballot for Fort Bend ISD. Listed in ballot order. **You may vote for one candidate in each position:**

Position 1:
 Susan Hohnbaum (incumbent):
 susanhohnbaumcampaign.com.
 Wade Watassek: votewatassek.com

Position 4:
 Rodrigo Carreon (no website located)
 Daniel Menendez (incumbent): danielforbisd.com
 Bruce Albright: brucealbright.com
 Kevin P. Daniels: kevindaniels4fbisd.com

Position 5:
 Patsy Taylor: (no website located)
 Jonita Reynolds: jonitareynolds.com

Early voting: Monday, May 2- Tuesday, May 10

2011 Commonwealth Pool Season

Briarwood Pool Schedule

Please note the opening of the Briarwood pool may be delayed due to the construction of the splash pad.

MAY 7th - June 2nd (Weekends Only)
 Saturdays 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 Sundays 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 MEMORIAL DAY 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

POOL OPENS FOR DAILY USE ON JUNE 3rd

JUNE 3rd - AUGUST 21st

Mondays 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 Tuesdays CLOSED
 Wednesdays - Saturdays 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 Sundays 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.

AUGUST 22nd - SEPTEMBER 5th (Weekends only)

Saturdays 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.
 Sundays 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 LABOR DAY 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Knightsbridge Pool Schedule

MAY 7th - June 2nd (Weekends Only)
 Saturdays & Sundays 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 MEMORIAL DAY 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

POOL OPENS FOR DAILY USE ON JUNE 3rd

JUNE 3rd - AUGUST 21st

Mondays CLOSED
 Tuesdays - Saturdays 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 Sundays 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 July 4th 12 p.m. - 9 p.m.
 July 5th CLOSED

AUGUST 22nd - SEPTEMBER 11th (Weekends only)

Saturday & Sunday 12 p.m. - 8 p.m.
 LABOR DAY 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.

Thanksgiving
is a day when we pause
to give thanks for
the things we have.



Memorial Day
is a day when we pause
to give thanks to the
people who fought for
the things we have.



The Commonwealth has several womens' tennis groups at various levels of play.

If you are interested in joining one of these existing groups, or forming a new group, let Virginia know (281-207-5200) and she will put you in touch with the correct contact.
virginiamack@ftbendhomes.com

The Commonwealth Men's Tennis Group is active and accepting members, however, the group is in need of an organizer. Contact Sue at: hsh001@windstream.net for more information.

The Commonwealth Men's Golf Group is still accepting players for last minute pairings on various golf courses in the area.

If you would like to be added to the list, send an email to Greg at: greg.mack@tic.toshiba.com

Ladies - if golf is your thing, Deborah is also organizing a Women's Golf group. Give her a call at 281-313-4328 or shoot an email to: debmir@earthlink.net

Memorial Day is
Monday, May 30th.

Be sure to thank a
service member!

Last day of the semester for FBISD
students is:

Thursday, June 2.

Children are much more visible
during the summer.
Please drive carefully!

**Pool Tags
Are Required
At Both
Commonwealth
Pools. The pools are
open for the holiday.**

If you do not yet have your pool tags, you may simply visit: www.commonwealthcivic.com and download the form which may be either mailed or faxed to Crest Management. All information is available on our website.

Play Ball.....

If you're excited about the arrival of minor league baseball in Fort Bend County, you need to mark your calendar for Saturday, May 14 from 10 am to 4pm, when the Sugar Land Skeeters host the Inaugural Skeeters Fan Fest at Fluor Enterprises located at 1 Fluor Daniel Drive and State Highway 6 in Sugar Land. Admission and parking are free.

Meet Brooks Robinson, Larry Dierker, Art Howe and Shane Reynolds, as well as Pete Incaviglia. An "Indoor Baseball Carnival", Exhibits, Skill Challenges & more. Great Fun for the Entire Family!

www.SugarLandSkeeters.com

Crest Management Service
P.O. Box 219320
Houston, TX 77218-9320

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SUGAR LAND TEXAS
PERMIT NO.29

**MAY ANNUAL MEETING DATE INCLUDED
FOURTH OF JULY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!
ELECTION DAY INFORMATION**

The Commonwealth Women's Club

Join your Commonwealth friends and neighbors for a monthly evening out.
We will be breaking for the summer so be sure to join us for our end of year party.



*Wednesday, May 25
4811 Burbury St.
at the home of Debbie Marks*



We will let you know about our September Social as soon as the details are finalized!

Get togethers are generally held on the 4th Wednesday of each month, however, we do attempt to accommodate the special needs of each hostess so, there may be an occasional date change.

You may receive more information by contacting Kelly Otero (theoteros@mac.com),
Patty Ward (pward2@earthlink.net) or the hostess listed above.