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**Austin Park Residents,
Welcome to the
First Colony Community Association
E-Newsletter**

FCCA Board of Directors



2015 FCCA Board of Directors:

Rick Conley - President
Sandy Denton - Vice-President
Hillary Goldstein - Secretary
Noel Mascarenhas- Treasurer
Chris Goodrich
Eleanor Blain
Phyllis Murray

Board e-mail: board@firstcolony.org

Board Meetings are scheduled for the 4th Thursday of the month starting at 5:00 pm. FCCA members are invited to speak to the Board regarding any matters related to Association business. During all regularly scheduled Board Meetings, membership input is set at 5:30 pm. Any member wishing to speak must sign in and will be allotted a maximum of three minutes to speak. Members must be present and signed in no later than 5:30 pm.

Board Meeting - Wednesday, October 21, 2015
Note: Board meeting on different day this month

Vote to Make a Difference



[Number](#)

[Office Hours](#)

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You should be receiving your ballot in the mail for the annual election for the Board of Directors and Neighborhood Representatives. There are two (2) Board of Director positions available for terms beginning in January 2016. Directors serve a three year term.

This year's slate of Board of Director candidates include:

Mary Favre, Alta (Bitsy) Hancock and Sean Hartig. Information on the Board of Director candidates was in the October newsletter but if you missed it you can visit the website at www.firstcolony.org under "Elections" for information and pictures on the candidates.

Each separate neighborhood may have up to three (3) elected Neighborhood Representatives. They are elected annually by the property owners in their neighborhoods and serve a one-year term.

The entire voting tabulation will be done by an election services company, Election Trust. As a member you will have the opportunity to vote for two (2) of the three (3) Board candidates on the ballot.

You have two options:

- 1). Fill out your ballot by hand and mail it to Election Trust in the pre-paid, pre-addressed envelope or
- 2). Fill out your ballot via computer, following the instructions enclosed with your ballot. Election Trust has a toll-free telephone and an email voter "help desk" support system if you need assistance.

Please note the appropriate deadline: all ballots, whether mailed or on-line, must be received by Election Trust by 5:00 pm on November 19, 2015. If you do not receive your FCCA election ballot in the mail please contact Election Trust at help@electiontrust.com or call the help desk at 1-866-429-9481.

The election results will be announced at the First Colony Community Association (FCCA) Annual Meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2015. The meeting will take place at Hampton Inn & Suites located at 4909 Hwy 6, Missouri City at 7:00 pm. Refreshments will be served. Try your luck at some door prizes!

Recreation Programs Register Now!

First Colony residents enjoy an active lifestyle with many choices of leisure opportunities. FCCA enjoys offering the members many classes and programs. To register call 281-634-9555.

Yoga/Meditation: Designed for Stress Relief

A 60 minutes of warm, slow moving, stress relieving class, perfect for the end of a hectic work week day. Designed for those who want to slow it down, come back to the SELF or "Home" in subtle body practice. The class incorporates breath, meditation, slow movement and restorative postures. All levels welcome!"



Days: Monday & Wednesday
Session: October 26 - December 9 (no class Thanksgiving week)
Location: Heritage Colony Clubhouse
Time: 7:30 pm - 8:30 pm
Instructor: Maya Mehta

Each session is \$70. Discount of \$10.00 for each additional member of the family. Cancer patients and Veterans are \$45.00 per session
For information e-mail yogabymaya@yahoo.com or call 281-494-6292. **To register call 281-634-9555**

Spanish Club for Kids

Your children will learn Spanish in a natural manner through play, games, music, and conversation. Children learn to communicate through dialogues, phrases, expressions and, drills that they can use with friends, other people



and family "EN ESPAÑOL". Let them learn a second language the fun, natural way!

Day: Monday
Time: 4:45 pm - 5:30 pm Ages: 3 - 5
5:30 pm - 6:15 pm Grades: 1 - 8
Location: Heritage Colony Clubhouse
Session: On-going monthly class
Instructor: Adriana Gutierrez
Fee: \$64.00/month or \$16.00/class

Youth Tennis Lessons

Classes offered weekday afternoons, evenings and Saturday mornings. The tennis schedule can be accessed at www.firstcolony.org. For more information call Jack Foster at 281-450-4187 or email jmtennis@windstream.net.



Mr. John's Art Class

For registration information call John Rodak 832-466-5807 English, 832-466-5239 Chinese



Day: **Wednesday**
Time: 4:30 pm - 6:00 pm
Location: Aquatic Center
Session: November 4 - December 16

Day: **Saturday**
Time: 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm
Location: Aquatic Center
Session: November 7 - December 19

Fort Bend Fencing Academy

Instruction in basic fencing through advanced tactical techniques. Instruction includes footwork, blade work, and bouting strategies.



Days: Tuesday & Thursday

Times: 5:00 - 7:00 pm; Beginners
Ages: 7 and up
Location: Aquatic Center
Instructor: Manuel Rodriguez
Fee: \$120.00/month for twice a week class
\$ 85.00/month for once a week class

Awakened Yoga Stand UP Paddle Board

Classes are held on Saturdays and Sundays at the First Colony Aquatic Center Lake. For the full schedule, visit website at www.awakenedyogastudio.com/AYSUP OR SUP@awakenedyogastudio.com. Space is limited. You must pre-register online or in studio to reserve your spot.

Adult Strength and Performance Class

Functional Strength and Conditioning class that will accommodate the needs of a triathlete, swimmer, or individual wanting to gain fitness and strength.

The class is circuit based class so it is a great fit for you no matter what your age or level of fitness. From someone trying to lose a significant amount of weight, to a very competitive triathlete, this class will help you meet your goals. If you are dropping-in, you must register prior to each class. Mature Teens are allowed, must be approved ahead of time.

Days: Tuesday and Thursday
Session: Runs monthly
Location: Aquatic Center Classroom
Time: 5:30-6:20 am
Registration Fee: \$10 one time annually
Cost: \$13/class drop-in rate, \$80/monthly (non-refundable)
Instructor: Markell Lyng
To register email coachmarkell@swimfcst.com

Adult Strength & Conditioning

Designed to work all body parts in all planes of motion. This class is for adults looking to get fit, stay healthy, or take their fitness and sports to a higher level.

Days: Monday & Wednesday

Session: Runs monthly
Location: Aquatic Center Classroom
Time: 9:45 am - 10:45 am
Registration: \$10 one time annually
Cost: \$17/class drop-in rate, \$99 monthly (non-refundable)
Instructor: Markell Lyng
To register email coachmarkell@swimfcst.com

Adult Tennis Lessons: The tennis schedule can be accessed at www.firstcolony.org. For more information call Jack Foster at 281-450-4187 or email jmtennis@windstream.net.



To see complete list of classes and descriptions visit www.firstcolony.org under Parks & Recreation.

For questions or to register call 281-634-9555.

**STAND UP PADDLE BOARDING (SUP)
NOW AT THE FIRST COLONY
AQUATIC CENTER LAKE**

Learn the basics with the Intro to SUP class on Tuesdays at 6:15PM. Cost is \$30 a class and includes board, paddle and pfd. Class is limited to 6 students. Call First Colony Community Association at 281-634-9555 to register.



Paddle Board Rentals

Rent a paddle board by the hour on Saturdays at the lake from 1pm-6pm. Rental rate is \$25 per hour or \$40 for 2 hours. Rental includes board, paddle and pfd. No reservation necessary, just stop by and give it a try!

Kayak Fun on Brooks Lake



There is still time to have fun on Brooks Lake by checking-out a kayak at the Oyster Creek Boathouse. The boathouse is open Saturdays and Sundays through October 25th. Hours of operations are:

- Saturdays: 10 am - 7 pm
- Sundays: 1 pm - 6 pm

You must be 21 years of age or older to check-out a kayak. Rowers under 21 must be accompanied by an adult. There is no cost to check-out a kayak for First Colony Community Association (FCCA) members. You must have a current FCCA pool tag as proof of residency. Pool tags are available to members at the FCCA office located at 4350 Austin Parkway, Sugar Land. Office hours are Monday - Friday from 8 am - 5 pm

You will need to show proof of residency to receive a pool tag by providing your driver's license or a current utility bill. At kayak check-out you will be required to leave a driver's license and sign a liability form. Non-residents may check-out a kayak by purchasing a pass at the FCCA office. One use pass is \$10.00 per person. Reservations are not accepted, as kayaks are checked out on a first come, first served basis. Kayaking experience is not necessary (though it is a good idea to have a general knowledge of rowing). In addition, life preservers are provided to all participants. Don't forget to bring along sun block and drinking water.

The boathouse is located at 15910 Creekbend Dr. Sugar Land. Check out the website at www.firstcolony.org under Parks and Recreation to see all the details including a kayak trail map of the area, liability form, and Kayak 101. For more information call (281) 634-9555.



Free Flu Shots Benefit Santa's Exchange

With fall around the corner and the holiday season not far behind, Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital is

once again offering Fort Bend residents the opportunity to "give a gift and beat the flu."

Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital, in collaboration with the Exchange Club of Sugar Land, Fort Bend Exchange Club, Rotary Club of Sugar Land, Rotary Club of Fort Bend and Toys for Tots Fort Bend, is offering free flu shots on Saturday, October 24th to community members who participate in Santa's Gift Exchange. If you would like to participate in this community event, please bring an unwrapped, new toy or clothing item to the main lobby of Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital from 8 a.m. to noon in exchange for a free flu shot. The toys and clothing will benefit local children in the Fort Bend area.

The flu vaccine is formulated to provide protection against three different flu viruses - H1N1, H3N2 and influenza B. Houston Methodist Sugar Land Hospital will be distributing a limited supply of the influenza vaccine to persons age 18 and over with no history of egg and/or latex allergy. If you are pregnant, please visit your OB/GYN or primary care physician to have your vaccine administered. For more information please call 281-274-7972.



12th Annual Dragon Boat Regatta

Dragon Boat Paddlers and enthusiasts from the far corners of the world are coming to Sugarland this October to celebrate and participate in the 12th Annual Gulf Coast International Dragon Boat Regatta. This is a colorful and spectacular event that will feature 40 + teams competing in the time honored sport of Dragon Boat Racing.

Every Year in October, Brooks Lake at 1 Fluor Daniel Dr. in Sugarland, is transformed into a Festive Cultural Center hosting land side entertainment, children's zone, culturally diverse food options, vendor areas, and of course Dragon Boat racing on the lake. This year's event will be held October 24-25 from 8:30am - 4:00 pm on and around Brooks Lake.

National and International Teams will be on hand to promote the

tradition of dragon boating. Corporate, community, youth, breast cancer survivor, and competitive teams will paddle the waters in the fastest growing water sport. This free family event has come to be known as one of the largest multicultural and team-building activities in Fort Bend County - bringing over 5,000 visitors.

The weekend activities offer an opportunity for an increased awareness of Asian and Asian American culture with viewing and hands-on activities. Dragon Boats featuring 20 paddlers, a drummer, and a steersperson will be gliding along the lake paddling in unison towards the finish line. On land, the general public will be able to experience multi-cultural performances by noted performers and performance troops, enjoy the children's activities, sample culturally diverse food choices, view the water activities and enjoy the interactive entertainment.

Bring your neighbors, friends, and family to this once a year FREE Sugarland event.

Halloween Town

The fun and frights of Halloween Town will return to Sugar Land Town Square located at 15958 City Walk on Sunday, October 25th from 4 p.m. to 8 p.m.



All little witches, superheroes, princesses and other creative characters are invited to bring their families, friends and pets for this evening of friendly surprises.

Festive Halloween characters will roam Town Square inviting children to participate in several activity stations and attractions provided by local organizations and businesses. The atmosphere provides a safe and exciting way to celebrate this exciting holiday. Admission is free to the community. Just remember, no blood or gruesome horror elements, as Halloween Town is for friendly ghosts and frights.

A free shuttle service will run from Mercer Stadium, 16403 Lexington Blvd., to Sugar Land Town Square from 3:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. Limited parking will also be available in Town Square.

Costume Contest

Kids, toddlers, and pets alike-come dressed up in your favorite festive Halloween Town costume. Don't forget to enter the Costume Contest! Winners in each category will receive a Spooktacular Prize Pack.

Category	Registration Time	Contest Time
PETS	4:00 PM	4:30 PM
3 YRS OLD or UNDER	4:30 PM	5:00 PM
4-7 YRS OLD	5:00 PM	5:30 PM
8-11 YRS OLD	5:30 PM	6:00 PM
12 YRS or OLDER	6:00 PM	6:30 PM
GROUP	6:30 PM	7:00 PM

Categories are limited. For more information on entry form please contact the City of Sugar Land Parks and Recreation Department at 281-275-2885



Missouri City Tricks & Treats in the Park

Tricks & Treats in the Park is on Saturday, October 24th from

5 - 7 pm at Buffalo Run Park located at 1122 Buffalo Run Blvd in Missouri City. This family friendly event invites young ones to come dressed in Halloween costumes and participate along the FREE Tricks & Treats Trail. Children are encouraged to bring their own containers to collect goodies but bags will be provided at the Parks & Recreation booth - on a first come, first serve basis. Activities for children will include hay rides, a petting zoo, moonwalks, a pumpkin patch, photo station, games and more!

MATCHING FUNDS PROJECTS AWARDED



Congratulations to the three (3) neighborhoods who will be receiving funds through the First Colony Community Association (FCCA) Matching Funds Program. Neighborhoods that have created a neighborhood fund are eligible to submit a matching funds request to FCCA each year. Funds awarded can be used for neighborhood projects specified through an application process. The Association allocates a certain dollar amount each year to assist neighborhoods with these projects. Neighborhood Representatives may submit applications for the program annually. Neighborhoods are only able to receive matching funds every three (3) years.

Lake Pointe- Creekbend:	Installation of flood lights at entrance
Riverbend South:	Additional brick fence along entrance
Sweetbriar:	Installation of lighting, flagpoles and flags at 2 entrances

Annual Optimist Fun Run/Walk

The 33rd Annual Fort Bend Optimist Club of Sugar Land's Fun Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, November 1st starting at 8:30 AM for the 5K Run and 8:40 AM for the 2 Mile walk at Memorial Park in Sugar Land! Proceeds from the Fun Run fund our Scholarship Program and Youth Projects for our Fort Bend youth. The donation is \$25 per runner/walker before 10/25/2015 and \$30 after 10/25/15. T-shirts will be provided to all entrants and trophies will be given to age group winners (runners only).

Come in Costume as we will be awarding prizes for the Scariest and Best Group Costumes!

You can sign up on line and pay by credit card or print out an application and pay by check. To register online or to print out a hard copy of the registration form click on the following

link <http://fboptimist.org/2015-registration/> .

Free Paper Shredding Event



The holidays are approaching and what better way to start off the season then by getting rid of all your clutter.

First Colony Community Association is hosting a FREE paper shredding on Monday, November 9th from 1 - 4 pm. Items accepted are all paper, file folders, hanging files, notepads and envelopes. There is no need to remove staples, paperclips, fasteners or rubber bands. Your items will be shredded by PROShred Security on-site. We will accept hard drives and CDs/DVDs but they will not be shredded on-site.

With more than 25 years of trusted mobile paper shredding experience and rigorous commitment to ISO 9001 and NAID AAA quality standards, PROSHRED has pioneered one of the most effective systems for document destruction and on-site shredding services.

The truck will be at the FCCA parking lot located at 4350 Austin Parkway, Sugar Land.

New Tree Planting Update

Trees are an important and treasured part of First Colony; however, they have been over-planted and the selective removal of certain trees will result in better health, appearance, and longevity of the remaining trees.

With the removal of the Bradford Pear trees earlier this year, it was determined that more than one species of tree should be considered. Diversity of trees, for the purpose of disease resistance as well as aesthetics, is needed in First Colony. Each landscape reserve area

will be considered separately when determining the replacement tree type. Trees species were selected based on hardiness in our area and seasonal interest. Some trees that we will be using are Mexican White Oak, Drummond Red Maple, Mexican Plum, Sierra Red Oak, Redbud, Chinese Pistache, Creole Queen Elm Tree, Highbeam Overcup Oak and Crapemyrtles.

Planting should commence again this month in areas where there is no construction.

Fort Bend Votes Anywhere!



This November 3rd, Fort Bend County will be changing the way we vote on Election Day.

Voters will now be able to cast a ballot at any of 78 Vote Centers. In the past they could only vote at one assigned polling location. About one third of the Election Day polling places are new, so voters are encouraged to visit the Fort Bend Election website, www.fortbendvotes.org in order to find a convenient voting location.

Voters will still be able to cast a ballot during the Early Voting period of October 19-17 at any of 17 sites.

[Click here](#) for Fort Bend Early Voting Schedule.

[Click here](#) for Vote Center Locations.

Political Signs

Below is a list of the guideline regulations regarding time and placement of political signs. You may also find the information in our new Property Improvement Procedures & Guideline Manual available on our website www.firstcolony.org under the Compliance tab.

- Only one sign per candidate or ballot item may be placed in the homeowner's yard. Signs cannot be placed on the right of way or common area property.
- A sign may be installed a maximum of four (4) feet above ground level.
- The sign may be no greater than six (6) square feet.
- Sign may be installed 90 days prior to the election date.

- Signs are to be removed within 10 days following the election.

Turf & Tree - Site 2 - Sweetwater Blvd.

During the week of September 28, 2015, FCCA started work on its second tree removal and turf restoration project along Sweetwater Blvd., adjacent to the Crescents on the Green neighborhood. After the success of the first tree and turf project last year along Edgewater Blvd, FCCA received several requests from Crescents on the Green residents to help resolve tree and turf issues in their area. Because of overplanting, the neighborhood was experiencing some serious tree root intrusion issues along with the inability to grow grass because of the tree canopy.

During their August 27, 2015 meeting the FCCA Board of Directors reviewed the proposed plan and indicated their support to move forward with the project and directed staff to get competitive bids, and develop a project schedule. The Board formally approved the tree and turf project during their September 17, 2015 meeting. The 2015 FCCA budget included funding for this type of project and no additional allocation was necessary to cover the actual project costs. Work began during the week of September 28, 2015 and is scheduled to be completed in early November, barring any weather delays.

The project involved the removal of 40 trees along Sweetwater Blvd, repair of the existing irrigation system and sodding the area. Also, the project calls for the contractor to remove the trees and split them into firewood. Once the fire wood is split it will be staged in the Austin Park Pool parking lot for FCCA members to pick up as they wish at no charge. FCCA will announce on our website when the fire wood is available. If you have any questions about this project please contact David Pella, FCCA Landscape and Operations Manager, at 281-634-9566.



Residential Compliance Inspection Schedule

First Colony Community Association (FCCA) strives to provide quality service while encouraging residents to take pride in their home. Deed restriction enforcement helps to maintain property value and to improve the overall appearance of the community. Inspections are done on a quarterly basis but may vary due to vacation and holiday schedules. If you have any questions for your inspector, please call 281-634-9500.

Neighborhoods due for inspections in the upcoming month are:

November: Alcorn Bend, Colony Woods, Enclave at Cartwright, Hall Lake, Heritage Colony, Lakes of Austin Park, Lexington Colony, Plantation Creek, Plantation Settlement, Stephens Grant, Sweetwater Section 1 - 10, Sweetwater Estates, Sweetwater Court T/H, Travis Park, Villas of Sweetwater and Woodstream.

Note: Schedules vary due to weather, holidays or vacations.

An application must be submitted for approval prior to the commencement of any type of exterior change or construction on the property.



Indo-Americans Celebrate Diwali

The name Diwali signifies 'rows of lighted lamps'. Diwali is a five-day festival, beginning on the 15th day of the Hindu calendar month of Kartika (Ashwin). By the Gregorian calendar, Diwali falls in October or

November.

This year Indo-Americans will be celebrating Diwali starting on Wednesday, November 11th and will continue for 5 days until Sunday, November 15th.

The universal theme of celebration is happiness and hope. The festival is celebrated for five continuous days with family gatherings, glittering clay lamps, festive fireworks, strings of electric lights, flowers, sharing of sweets, and worship.

Diwali holiday lighting on the exterior of the home is allowed within the Association. It is limited to the period of Diwali. The FCCA guidelines for Holiday decorating states that decorations may be installed fourteen (14) days prior to the holiday and must be removed within five (5) days after the holiday is over.

Christmas Home Tour

The Christmas Home Tour is now less than 100 days away! A Fort Bend holiday tradition, the Tour offers guests the opportunity to view 5 private beautifully decorated homes in Fort Bend County while helping to raise much needed funds to support CAFB's programs serving abused and neglected children. Tour hours are 10 am until 4 pm on



December 11th and 12th with a candlelight tour on December 11th from 6 pm until 9 pm. One ticket allows entry into each of the homes once during the tour days. We'll be announcing the neighborhoods in the coming weeks, along with some exciting new changes for 2015! Watch our website at www.cafb.org for details. If you are interested in becoming a sponsor, volunteering, purchasing a ticket or having YOUR home featured on the Christmas Home Tour, please contact Lisa Moore at lmoore@cafb.org or go to <http://www.cafb.org.%20>

Proceeds from the Christmas Home Tour help Child Advocates of Fort Bend (CAFB) advocate for the needs of abused and neglected children in this community. Through its two programs, Court Appointed Special Advocates (CASA) and the Children's Advocacy Center (CAC), the agency touches the lives of more than 400 young victims each month.



After-hours Emergency Number

To provide further service to the Community, First Colony Community Association is now offering an after-hours emergency phone line to report any emergencies that occur during non-business hours. If you notice an emergency situation(that falls under the control of FCCA) when the FCCA office is not open, you can call or text (281) 705-3051 and leave a message explaining the emergency and a contact number where you can be reached if a follow up is needed. This after-hours line should not be used for police, fire or emergency medical needs.

The Office is open Monday - Friday from 8 am - 5 pm.

There is a drop box for after hour business such as payments, Property Improvement forms, etc.



FCCA Annual Meeting

Join your friends and neighbors at the First Colony Community Association (FCCA) Annual Meeting on Tuesday, December 1, 2015. The meeting will take place at Hampton Inn & Suites located at 4909 Hwy 6, Missouri City at 7:00 pm. Hear highlights from 2015 and a look ahead to 2016. Learn the results of the Board election. Socialize with the new and current Board members while enjoying a beautiful array of food and beverages. And try your luck at winning one of many door prizes. See you there!

FCCA
4350 Austin Parkway
Sugar Land, TX 77479
281-634-9500

First Colony Community Association is excited to bring you yet another way to receive current information on our community. If you would like to submit a news item, please email alicef@firstcolony.org.

Don't forget to click on **like us on Facebook**.

Alice Fish
First Colony Community Association