

SYDNEY HARBOUR

News For The Residents at Sydney Harbour

June 2014 Volume 2, Issue 6



A special thank you goes out to our Neighborhood Bunny and all the wonderful volunteers who help make Breakfast with the Easter Bunny a great success each year. We love our volunteers.

TRASH PICK UP

At the May 6th Board of Directors meeting there was some confusion on what time our Deed Restrictions say we can put our trash & recycle out on Sunday and Wednesday nights. The confusion came from an article in the “blue” newsletter we all receive. This “blue” newsletter is not the official Sydney Harbour newsletter. The official Sydney Harbour newsletter is what you are reading this in. It’s published by PEEL, Inc.

Now, here’s what our Declaration of Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions (i.e., Deed Restrictions) say about putting trash & recycle out.

- “Trash containers shall not be placed at the curb prior to 6:00 pm on the day before scheduled trash pickup and must be removed from the curb and stored out of sight by no later than midnight the day of the scheduled trash pickup.”

SYDNEY HARBOUR

YARD OF THE MONTH



The **Yard of the Month for May** has been awarded to **17923 Double Bay Road**. Congratulations!! Thank you for helping to make us proud to live in Sydney Harbour.

Board of Directors NOMINATING COMMITTEE

Sydney Harbour By-Laws require the Board of Directors to establish a Nominating Committee to nominate Director candidates for vacant Director positions. This Committee does not currently exist and the Board is keen to establish it promptly. The By-Laws provide that the Nominating Committee be appointed by the President of the Board of Directors and be comprised of one Board member and at least two others. The Board would like to see representation on the Committee from throughout Sydney Harbour. If you have a candidate for the Nominating Committee, please send your suggested name (including their street) to Sterling at janine@sterlingasi.com by July 1, 2014.

SYDNEY HARBOUR SELECTS NEW LANDSCAPING CONTRACTOR

High Tech Lawn Services has started work as the landscaping contractor for Sydney Harbour common areas during May. High Tech was low bidder in a competitive bidding process in early 2014 against two other local contractors. High Tech replaces Silver Sands Services who has been the past landscape contractor for several years. Key advantages for High Tech are 1) low bid, 2) repairs to aging irrigation system at cost, 3) office location across the street at 17622 Huffmeister Road

and 4) familiarity with Sydney Harbour. Jackie Warren, chair of the Landscaping Committee said "We're pleased to have High Tech as our Landscaping Contractor to maintain Sydney Harbour to our standards." The contract is for one year for a fixed fee of \$56,181.75 plus irrigation repair labor and materials (at cost). The contract scope includes full lawn care and maintenance of all trees and flower beds. The cost is about equal to last year.

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Want to keep up with what's happening in Sydney Harbour?

- Sign-up for e-mail notices. Send your name, address & e-mail to sydneyharbour2009@yahoo.com
- Also, go to the website at www.sydneyharbourhoa.org to register so you can keep up with what's happening in your neighborhood.
- Send your name & address to www.sterlingasi.com or servicedesk@sterlingasi.com to begin receiving the Sydney Harbour newsletter.
- By signing up in these locations, we can cut down on the amount spent on postage to notify you of what's going on where you live and use the money for more fun things.



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SYDNEY HARBOUR

MARK YOUR CALENDAR



ADULT LUAU

**Saturday, August 23rd
7:30-10:30 P.M.**



Elisha Roberts Chapter

The wonderful ladies of the Elisha Roberts Chapter, NSDAR, extend an invitation to any female, 18 years or older, who can prove direct lineal descent from someone who either fought in or provided aid during the American Revolution. We are a family oriented group of ladies who promote patriotism, education and historic preservation. Our motto is God, Home and Country. If this sounds like you, please come and join us for a meeting. We meet the third Thursday of each month, September through May. Our next meeting will be on September 18, 2014 at 7:00 p.m.

For more information, please contact the chapter Regent, Melinda Sims at melinda@mazzaroth.net. We look forward to meeting you.

LANDSCAPE COMMITTEE

Water, water everywhere and not a drop to drink! Hopefully that will not come to pass in Sydney Harbour. Summer, of course, is the season that we use the most water on our turf and landscaping but with some smart water saving strategies we can have a beautiful yard and conserve a precious natural resource as well.

Turf grasses are not only in the yard to beautify our homes, but it also serves several other important functions. It stabilizes soil and dust, cools land and buildings and creates safe recreational areas for our families to enjoy. These are other reasons to use our water resources wisely.

At least 90% of residents who have automated sprinkler systems water too often and 43% of that water runs off into the storm drains. Here are some water savings strategies that may help you conserve water this summer.

- Complete your watering cycle by 4 a.m. each day to eliminate as much evaporation as possible.
- Reduce your irrigation schedule by 2 minutes. That will save 80 gallons of water daily,
- Use a broom to sweep sidewalks and driveways instead of the water hose. The savings is about 22 gallons each time you clean.
- Replace high water use landscape with low water use landscape and use native plants whenever possible. This will save you about 40 gallons a day.

Water wisely!

The Landscape Committee would like to congratulate 17923 Double Bay Drive for Yard of the Month for May. Thank you for keeping Sydney Harbour beautiful.

The Landscape Committee wishes you and your family a happy, safe and healthy summer.



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New Duck Sighting

Contributed by Diane Taylor

We are accustomed to seeing mallards, Muscovy ducks and domesticated ducks in our lakes. A new breed has landed in Sydney Harbour lakes. The Black-bellied Whistling-Duck is a boisterous duck with a brilliant pink bill and an unusual, long-legged silhouette. In places like Texas and Louisiana, watch for noisy flocks of these ducks dropping into fields and ponds. Listen for them, too—these ducks really do have a whistle for their call. Common south of the U.S., Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks occur in several southern states and are expanding northward.



These ducks are easy to identify. Dark overall with a chestnut breast and black belly are set off by a bright-pink bill and legs, grayish face, and broad white wing stripe. Their bills and legs really stand out against the landscape.

Black-bellied Whistling-Ducks roam edges of shallow ponds, golf courses, city parks, and schoolyards. They also frequent agricultural fields, particularly flooded rice fields. They seem to readily adopt human-altered habitats, and this has helped them move north into the southern U.S. in recent decades.

Ducks are natural foragers and should not be fed by humans.

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SYDNEY HARBOUR

Houston Business & Professional Women (BPW)



Business women seeking to network with other professional women are invited join the Northwest Houston Business & Professional Women (BPW). We are HIP – Healthy. Inspiring. Powerful. Join us for lunch on May 22 at Northgate Country

Club, 17110 Northgate Forest Dr, Houston, Tx 77068. Deb Evans, President at Franchise Foundry will speak on "Using Social Media to Position Yourself and Your Business". Register by May 19 at <http://nwhoustonbpw.com/>.

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EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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 Pct 4 Main Dispatch Number 281.376.3472
 Animal Control (Emergency) 281.999.3191
 Poison Control 800.764.7661
 Cy-Fair Volunteer Fire Department 713.466.6161
 Emergency 911

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You can choose your electric provider
 Water and Sewer-Eagle Management 281.374.8989
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 Gas-CenterPoint Energy 713-.659.2111
 Telephone- AT&T 800.464.7928
You can choose your telephone provider
 Cable-Comcast 713.895.2539
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PUBLIC SERVICES

United States Postal Service 281.373.9125
 16635 Spring Cypress Road
 Metro Park and Ride 713.635.4000

MEDICAL FACILITIES

Methodist Hospital-Willowbrook 281.477.1000
 Cy-Fair Medical Center 281.890.4285
 Memorial Herman Hospital 281.392.1111
 North Cypress Medical Center 281.894.0003

COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

Cy-Fair ISD Administration 281-897-4000
 10300 Jones Road
 Farney Elementary School 281-373-2850
 14425 Barker Cypress
 Goodson Middle School 281-373-2350
 17333 Huffmeister
 Cy-Woods High School 281-213-1727
 16825 Spring Cypress Road

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

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STERLING ASI PERSONNEL

Roxanne Martinez Association Manager
 832.678.4500, roxanne@sterlingasi.com

Janine Cruz Administrative Assistant
 832-678-4500 ext. 205, janine@sterlingasi.com
Contact for any concerns or general questions for the association regarding violations, deed restrictions, ACC applications, interest in joining a committee, clubhouse/pool rentals and any other questions regarding the property.

Susan Marshall Account Representative
 832-678-4500 ext. 215, susan@sterlingasi.com
Any accounting related questions, a payoff quote or a transfer fee, or just want to know information regarding homeowner's accounts

Angela Villegas Pool Card Administrator/Customer Service
 832.678.4500 ext. 224, angela@sterlingasi.com
Contact for homeowner's needing a pool card for access to the pool area.

Along with Janine, Susan and Angela, we have 6 customer service representatives that are familiar with the Association and area readily available to assist homeowners.

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