

Wednesday, the 28th

Did I get a surprise this afternoon! Met our new next-door-neighbors—the Mitchells. Of all things, he works at the Shell Research Center with Bob. They're actually officed across the hall from one another . . . and he's a tennis nut too! Good thing Cabildo Center (Mission Bend's recreation center) made plenty of provisions for



Thursday, the 29th

Well, I must say that congratulations are in order. Last night, my team won the Alief/Mission Bend women's volleyball championship. And guess who their gallant leader was? Me. The Klutz. This time, I really outdid myself, Jan. Right after the game, the girls voted me to be next year's captain again. Bob was so proud of me. And to think, I was once chosen as "Most Likely to Always Be Unconquered Of Fairfield High". They should see me now!



ambitious backlanders. I have a feeling that Bob and Stuart will keep those laykold courts occupied all summer, day and night. Anyway, thought I'd have the Mitchells over for barbeque tomorrow night . . . maybe we'll eat on the patio if the weather holds out. Did I mention that they have a son Sally's age? They're both attending Alief schools. Incidentally, that's another reason we're so excited about being out here. The school system is known statewide for its excellence. What a relief to know that Sally finally enjoys her



houses for our builder, and I worked with her before we moved in. Choosing and matching fabrics is marvelous fun. I'm fategning indecision, but really I just like to look!

What's wrong with me? I haven't even told you about our house. Start with "gorgeous" and concentrate on an artium in the middle of a two-story contemporary palace. If I exaggerate,



it's only because I'm blinded by infatuation. It's THE house, Jan. I'm enclosing some pictures so you'll know I'm not just dreaming. It was about the 600th house to go up at Mission Bend in one year! Proof that the area is huge and getting better all the time. It's incredibly planned with areas set aside for more parks, rec centers, shops, and offices. The building stipulations are rigid which makes it great for protecting the land value. Would you believe we found it while driving



around one afternoon, looking for a mailbox? As soon as we saw the development, we turned down

Bellaire Boulevard to find out what the deal was. And when we saw the house, that was it. Did I tell you

that Bob has started jogging every morning? Faithfully. He uses the jogging trail beside the lake, and he's already up to five miles a day! The colder the weather, the better he likes it. I never have understood men. Anyway, he doesn't even have to get up earlier since he's only three minutes away from the office . . . in heavy traffic. Poor guy really has it rough.



Friday, the 30th  
Someday, I'll mail this letter. But there's so much to tell you. My decorator came over today to help me put things "together". She does the

Sunday, the 2nd

I haven't been up this early in ages. But I had to get some cookies in the oven. We're taking Sally on a picnic in the park right after Church, and I want everything to be perfect since it's her birthday. She invited little David Mitchell to go along. I guess she's growing up, Jan.

Well, one more thing. I know it's our turn to visit you and Phil this summer, but how about considering a trip to Houston, instead. After all, we have so much room, and a trip to Mission Bend just might be enough to convince you two that the grass really is greener below the Mason-Dixon line! We could forget how long we've been out of school, and ride bikes again. You'd love it, Jan. Talk it over with Phil and let us know. If I haven't heard from you in a week, I'll call and bug you. I still believe in friendly persuasion.

Write soon with plenty of details. By the way, Bob thinks he's the original Ben Cartwright since we moved out here, just because we've got a new dog and two tomato plants in the kitchen window. So be prepared! Can't wait to see you again. Our best to Phil and Jamie.

Barbara

## The Total Planned Community

For years, the 2200 acre parcel of land encompassing the Westheimer/Highway 6 area was known as the Josey Ranch. As Southwest Houston boomed almost overnight, followed closely by the same urgent growth of the Northwest, the Josey land continued to yield its fertile crops and support the cattle that had grazed there for as long as anyone could remember.

That tract of land, purchased in 1971 by Houston First Savings, is known today as Mission Bend, the total planned community. It can also be known as yours.

Now resplendent with contemporary/traditional architectural lines, enhanced by the subtle blending of Spanish/French overtones, the project is making its mark with prospective home-



buyers from Sugar Land, Alief, and the four corners of Houston.

The land, though acquired in 1971, underwent a 5-year face lift, which involved extensive, overall land planning, engineering, and market studies, resulting in the master plan for Mission Bend.

In 1976, when the land was ready to receive housing, sections of the land were sold to developers, while specific portions were retained by Houston First for the construction of Executive Custom Homes and Patio Homes. In the \$60,000 to \$100,000 range, these homes are making the old "selling like hotcakes" line once again apropos.

High-vaulted ceilings, atriums, and clean, sharp contemporary lines are visibly contrasted along each neatly curbed street with a mixture of traditional/New Orleans style homes, all custom designed and built by the most reputable builders Houston has to offer.

Astir with swinging tennis racquets, early morning joggers, and bicyclers absorbing the clean, fresh air, Mission Bend offers itself. A neighborhood to be enjoyed. To be lived in. To be home.

That's Mission Bend. The overwhelming appeal of Mission Bend centers for most families around three advantages: Location, school districts, and the concept of a planned community.

Affording proximity to major shopping areas, such as Woodlake, Town & Country, Memorial, Dairy Ashford, Westwood, Bellaire, and the Galleria, Mission Bend is centrally situated within easy access of major thoroughfares, namely Westheimer, the 610 Loop, Southwest Freeway and Katy Freeway.

Another highlight of the area is the Alief Independent School District, considered second to none in the state. A Mission Bend elementary school is planned for August of 1979, and a middle school is projected at some future point, both of which will fall under the auspices of the AISD. Equally as reputable are the schools of Fort Bend County, in which a sizeable portion of Mission Bend youngsters will be enrolled. For many, the available school system serves as the final catalyst in the decision to move west to Mission Bend.

A total planned community, it's important to know that Houston First is working from an extensive and somewhat stringent master plan. Commercial business ventures are working closely with Houston First to insure that the planned community concept is being protected by means of planning and architectural controls.



The Alief Volunteer Fire Department holds jurisdiction over both Harris and Fort Bend residents. Two municipal utility districts have already been formed and are now functioning, with two more planned for the future. These districts provide for the residents sewage treatment, storm drainage, and an approved fresh water supply. These self-governing bodies are state and self-regulating and are supported by means of ad valorem taxes. The Mission Bend Master Plan calls for completion in approximately five years. Altamira and Mission Leona, two more Houston First Executive Custom residential subdivisions are to be opened next Spring near Highway 6. They could be opening for you. To be your home.