

# GMBAC Community News

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## GMBAC and Local Businesses Meet

The GMBAC held its very first Mission Bend Business Forum Saturday, October 12, 2013 at Rosemary's Garden on Bellaire Ave.

The purpose of the forum was to establish a relationship and partnership so we can collaborate and band together to think of ways to rebuild, rebrand, and revitalize the business areas surrounding our neighborhoods.

Our presentation focused on joining forces to connect the community and create a more appealing, safe, and economically desirable environment that will encourage both homeowners and investors to spend their dollars in Mission Bend.

Business attendees were receptive of GMBAC's five-year plan, our vision

to improve the commercial properties in our area and expressed interest in banding together to create a Mission Bend Business District or Chamber of Commerce.

They were also receptive of our Mission Bend Beautification Initiative, and our Adopt-a-Road program.

Overall, it was a very positive experience.

Our next scheduled meeting will be held in January with potential speakers from the Houston West Chamber of Commerce and the Houston-based Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC).

If you know of any businesses that would like to get involved please have them contact the GMBAC.

### Our Mission

The mission of the Greater Mission Bend Area Council is to empower residents, businesses and organizations of the Greater Mission Bend Area by collectively addressing our common issues and concerns.

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## WD-40 – Amazing Product

WD-40 isn't just for squeaky door hinges. Here's a list of uses:

Help remove ring stuck on your finger.

Removes chewing gum from hair.

Kills roaches on contact.

Remove black scuff marks off of hard-surfaced floors.

Clean toilet bowl of gunk and lime.

Loosen a zipper.

Clean dried glue.

Remove marker and crayon marks (if used on fabric test first)

Remove stuck spark plugs.

Untangle fishing lines.

*“Not what we say  
about our blessings, but  
how we use them, is the  
true measure of our  
thanksgiving.”*

— W.T. Purkiser

## Thanksgiving Holiday – November 28

Thanksgiving, or Thanksgiving Day, is a holiday celebrated in the United States on the fourth Thursday in November. It has been an annual tradition since 1863, when, during the Civil War, President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national day of "Thanksgiving and Praise to our beneficent Father who dwelleth in the Heavens", to be

celebrated on Thursday, November 26th. As a federal and popular holiday in the U.S., Thanksgiving is one of the major holidays of the year. Together with Christmas and New Year, Thanksgiving is a part of the broader holiday season.

The event that Americans commonly call the "First Thanksgiving" was celebrated by the Pilgrims

after their first harvest in the New World in 1621. This feast lasted three days, and was attended by about 53 Pilgrims and 90 American Indians. The New England colonists were accustomed to regularly celebrating "thanksgivings"—days of prayer thanking God for blessings such as military victory or the end of a drought.

Source: Wikipedia

## Thanksgiving Day Parade

The 64<sup>th</sup> Annual Thanksgiving Day Parade is set for November 28, 2013.

This year's parade pays tribute to Houston by showcasing the city's finest - from fashion, food and heroes; to culture, sports and talent; adding a much needed makeover to this 64-year tradition. Gates open at 7:00am; Parade starts 9:00am in downtown Houston. Easy

access parking is available along the route. Metro buses will be running on holiday schedule.

If you would like to volunteer to help with the parade please visit the following website.

<http://houstontx.gov/thanksgivingparade/index.html>

What a great way to start your Thanksgiving Day

with family and friends.

Sponsors: Houston Arts Alliance, Central Houston, Downtown District, GOYA, Houston Ballet, KHOU, Houston Chronicle, Wells Fargo, TUTS, Salvation Army, McDonalds, Radio Disney, Majic 102, Jack in the Box.

## Ina Garten's Foolproof Thanksgiving

### What You Will Learn

"The most successful holiday events are the ones where the hostess is having a good time." -Ina Garten.

Get ready for a Thanksgiving meal of enjoyable entertaining. Learn time-saving and prepare-ahead tips, with techniques and recipes from the Barefoot

Contessa herself. In this guide to a successful, festive feast, you'll learn delicious, deeply satisfying "foolproof" recipes as part of a sure-to-impress Thanksgiving meal.

\*Class Bonus: All students will receive a copy of Ina Garten's latest book, Barefoot Contessa Foolproof: Recipes You Can Trust.

Classes taught by Sur la Table chefs. Ina Garten will not be in attendance.

Sur La Table - Sugar Land Town Square - 2210 Lone Star Drive, Sugar Land, Texas 77479

\$95.00 per person.

November 15<sup>th</sup> - 6:30 to 8:30 pm

## Fort Bend Mobility Bond Election

The citizens of Fort Bend County will vote on a \$184.9 Million Mobility Bond Referendum placed on the November 5th election ballot. If passed, the authorization will provide the funding for a total of 64 mobility projects throughout Fort Bend County. The \$184.9 Million in county funds will be leveraged with funds from state, local and private partners to provide

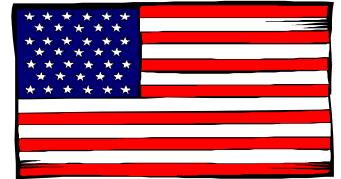
a total project funding of \$384.3 Million.

With an annual average population increase exceeding 22,000 each year since 2000, Fort Bend County continues to be one of the fastest growing counties in the nation. Excellent schools, affordable living and quality of life encourage this growth to continue at impressive rates. This

rapid growth demands continuous review of mobility needs throughout the county to provide adequate capacity to allow traffic to flow smoothly and minimize the risk of future 'gridlock' on county roadways.

Proposed projects:

<http://www.fortbendcounty.tx.gov/index.aspx?page=1282>



## Photo ID Required to Vote in Texas

Texas Secretary of State John Steen today announced that photo identification will now be required when voting in Texas elections. His announcement follows a decision Tuesday by the U.S. Supreme Court that cleared the way for photo ID requirements in Texas, originally passed by the Texas Legislature in 2011, to take effect.

"My office is committed to making sure Texans have all the information they need to vote, including what forms of identification they need now that photo ID requirements are in effect," said Secretary Steen.

A voter will be required to show one of the following forms of photo identification at the polling location before the voter will be permitted to cast a

vote:

- Texas driver license issued by the Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS)
- Texas concealed handgun license issued by DPS
- Texas personal identification card issued by DPS
- Texas Election Identification Certificate issued by DPS
- United States military identification card containing the person's photograph
- United States citizenship certificate containing the person's photograph
- United States passport

With the exception of the U.S. citizenship certificate, the identification must be current or have expired no

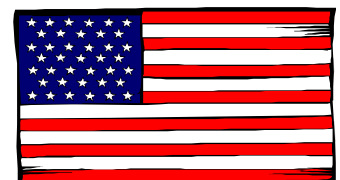
more than 60 days before being presented at the polling place.

The new requirement does not change the process for voting by mail.

Election identification certificates are now available only for voters who do not already have a required form of photo identification. There is no fee for the certificate. Information on how to obtain an election identification certificate can be found at [www.dps.texas.gov](http://www.dps.texas.gov). You may also contact DPS by telephone at (512) 424-2600.

To review frequently asked questions and answers, visit [www.votetexas.gov](http://www.votetexas.gov)

*The future of this republic is in the hands of the American voter.  
- Eisenhower,  
Dwight D.*



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GMBAC working for you!



**We're on the Web!**  
**GMBAC.com**

## Important Numbers

Harris County Sheriff	713-775-6044
Fort Bend County Sheriff	281-342-3411
Harris County CAD	713-957-7800
Fort Bend CAD	281-344-8623
Alief ISD	281-498-8110
Fort Bend ISD	281-634-1000
Report Graffiti – Harris County	713-759-9454
Report Graffiti – Fort Bend	fortbendcountytx.gov
Emergency	911
Non-Emergency – Harris County	311
Non-Emergency – Fort Bend	fortbendcountytx.gov

## Water Conservation

Water conservation is very important to us now and in the future. Here are a few facts:

Most people in North America use 50 to 70 gallons of water indoors each day and about the same amount outdoors, depending on the season.

Indoors, 3/4 of all water is used in the bathroom

In the average home, the toilet accounts for 28% of water use.

Running a sprinkler for two hours can use up to 500 gallons.

As much as 150 gallons of water can be saved when washing a car by turning the hose off between rinses.

Washing a sidewalk or driveway with a hose uses about 50 gallons of water every 5 minutes.

We cannot make water! Please consider the following to conserve water and your money too.

Check faucets and pipes for leaks.

Check toilet for leaks.

Install water saving shower heads.

Insulate water pipes.

Take shorter showers.

Use dishwasher and washer for only full loads.

When washing dishes by hand do not leave water running.

Don't let faucet run when cleaning vegetables.

Put a layer of mulch around plants and trees.

Plant drought resistant lawns, shrubs and plants.

Water early in the day if possible, and do not water when it's windy.

Don't let the water run when washing your car.

Also if you are in a public place please report if you see a leaky faucet to the management.

Please be responsible, it is up to each individual to take responsibility for our future.