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A Note from Ann:

I hope this finds everyone safe and dry. We really dodged a bullet with Hurricane Harvey! Had it not of jogged east at the last minute we would be experiencing what Houston is. Smithville and our Eastern County did experience heavy rains and flooding with some road wash outs as well, but for the most part I think we were very lucky. If you need assistance we have provided contacts for you below. Also information if you'd like to help both monetarily and volunteer your time.

Damage from Harvey:

Here's some information from the State if you had damage (in addition to the FEMA info below): <http://www.tdi.texas.gov/takefive/home-damaged.html>

Mission U-Too:

A local Christian non-profit organization that provides weekly hot meals in small towns across Central Texas, as well as disaster relief services in times of need. <https://missionutoo.org>.

Bastrop County Long Term Recovery Team:

is dedicated to helping those who are uninsured or underinsured from natural and man-made disasters in Bastrop County. Tropical Storm Harvey left many with flooded and wind damaged homes. Donations can be made online at www.bcltrt.org.

City of La Grange:

The City of La Grange is organizing a volunteer cleanup effort. La Grange Main Street Manager Stacey Norris is coordinating the effort. People can call (979) 968-3017 to place their name on the list of volunteers. Norris said gift cards are a great way to help flood victims right now. Gift cards can be dropped off at the La Grange Visitors Center in Casino Hall, 254 N. Jefferson ST., La Grange TX.

All of us at Van Zandt properties would like to extend our sincerest condolences to any and all who were affected by the hurricane and flooding, and also our deepest gratitude for all those who have donated and assisted in the clean up.

Furthermore, as you can see from the stats below, our home values are still on the rise as well as home sales. We've slowed a bit, but still on the rise!

We are also welcoming a new agent, Maria Torres, an exciting addition to our team! We hope you'll make the ribbon cutting and mixer tomorrow starting at 3:00. Drop by when you can, I'm sure we'll still be here after work hours.

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Ribbon Cutting Announcement



Ribbon Cutting Open House

Time: 3-5pm, Sept. 6th
Where: 711 Chestnut

We will be hosting a ribbon cutting and open house to celebrate the grand opening of our new location. Come enjoy drinks and appetizers, while getting a chance to meet our team of Realtors and check out our new office in downtown Bastrop. We hope to see you there!

Welcoming a New Agent to Our Team

Van Zandt Properties is proud to announce an exciting new addition to our real estate family



Maria Torres
(512) 203-6607
bastrophomesmt@gmail.com
711 Chestnut St.
Bastrop, TX 78602

Hurricane Harvey - Message from the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce

As we send this, our prayer is that you and your loved ones are safe after Hurricane Harvey. The State of Texas has received unprecedented flooding following this storm. As Bastrop County begins the clean-up and recovery process there are some important steps that must be taken to ensure we get assistance from FEMA and the SBA (Small Business Administration).

If you sustained damaged to your business and/or personal property, it is vital that you take the time to fill out a [Damage Assessment Intake Form](#) and return it to the Bastrop Chamber of Commerce by emailing info@bastropchamber.com. Bastrop County must have business and/or personal property damage numbers to insure we get the assistance from FEMA and SBA that we need for recovery.

A Bastrop County Hotline has been set up at 512.303.4300 to report damage as well. Besides reporting damage, you can let them know what your clean-up needs are, become a volunteer or make donations to Bastrop County Long Term Recovery Team. Thank you in advance for filling out this information. Also, please share this email with friends and neighbors who may not be members of the Chamber. The more information we have the better our recovery efforts will be.

Meanwhile, continue to check on your loved ones and neighbors. That is what makes our county and state a great place to live, play and work!

Bastrop Area Monthly Statistics

Below are the current statistics for the Bastrop Area. The average home sale price for August was \$216,426, which is up +0.7% from the previous year. The average home sale price for 2017, so far, is \$212,422 which is up +8.2% from 2016.



Around Town

Upcoming Events

September 9th - YMCA Burning Pine Run

The Bastrop YMCA supports Bastrop State Park while working to provide opportunities for families to get healthy and strong! Those who take part in the Burning Pine Run help those who would not otherwise be able to participate because of financial limitations. At the same time, participants are helping to provide funding for new trees to replace those lost! Your participation is giving the park new life! For more information, [click here](#).

September 23rd - Bastrop River Rally

Help "Keep Bastrop County Beautiful" at the Bastrop River Rally on September 23 at the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) grounds and Fisherman's Park. Among the activities will be a river clean-up, 5K and 1K Fun Runs, an Environmental Expo, Music on the Colorado and fun at Neighbor's Kitchen and Yard. For more information, [click here](#).

Inspect for Success

Whether you're buying or selling a home, home inspections are a key part of closing any deal. The overview serves as a top to bottom inspection of the home – from structure to plumbing and electrical – to ensure safety and peace of mind for new homeowners. According to the American Society of Home Inspectors, home inspections can range from \$350 to \$500 depending on geographical location, and are typically the responsibility of the homebuyer, although it's not uncommon for sellers to conduct them.



Anything that is readily accessible and clearly visible can be a part of the inspection, which can take from two to four hours. Buyers should always tag along on home inspections to see firsthand what the inspector notices and identifies as potential cause for concern. This is especially helpful in making sense of the inspector's final summary report, which will note anything in the home that might need fixing or that could lead to big issues down the line, such as a cracked foundation, faulty wiring, defective heating and cooling systems, or the presence of mold or water stains.

While it is not included in a normal home inspection, many experts recommend spending the extra money to conduct both termite and radon inspections before deciding whether to buy. Buyers shouldn't be nervous to use the findings as bargaining chips during negotiations. Oftentimes, sellers will repair problems or lower the home price based on issues the inspection discovers.