



Spring Branch Oaks Civic Association



Vol. 29 Issue 2

www.springbranchoaks.com

May-August 2020

BOARD MEETS IN MARCH

The Spring Branch Oaks Board held its quarterly meeting on Tuesday, March 10.

The proposal by a neighbor to stream the Board meetings was discussed, but it was decided that we are not a large enough organization to support the cost.

The process of updating our deed restrictions was discussed. Tony Masoth will take over

this project and get legal advice on what the Texas legislature has mandated. Some topics that need to be included in the new Deed Restrictions are:

- A nominal means of raising dues
- Address the issue of short-term use, such as for a bed-and-breakfast
- Means of enforcing residents paying dues

Sheree Speck and Linda Cover will both rotate

off the Board at the end of this year. We will elect new board member to replace them at the October meeting. Would you like to serve?

The next Board meeting will be held on Tuesday, June 9. If you would like to attend one of the board meetings, just contact Mike Lewis. (If our quarantine orders are still in place, the meeting will be held via Zoom.)

CONGRATULATIONS TO THESE WINNERS OF THE YARD-OF-THE-MONTH CONTEST!

It's great to see the weather getting warmer again and folks out working in their yards! Here are the winners of this spring's Yard-of-the-Month contest:

April

9369 Livernois—Gerald & Patricia Fowler
9305 Walterville—Patrick & Yvonne Hall

May

9317 Greensward—Brenda Butcher
9318 Walterville—Daniel & Kendra Glaser

Two yards will be selected each month through September for this award.



Upcoming Meetings

General Membership and Board meetings are held at St. Christopher's Episcopal Church in Latham Hall, 1656 Blalock Road, beginning at 6:30 p.m. They are open to all residents. There is only one General Membership meeting now, but Board meetings are held quarterly.

General Membership Meeting

July 14 Available for Block Parties, etc.

October 20

Board of Directors Meetings

June 9
September 8

National Night Out -
Tuesday, October 6
6:00-7:30 p.m.

Held at the park on Campbell Road and Spring Branch Drive.

VICTORY GARDEN: IT IS TIME TO PLANT AND GROW WHAT YOU EAT

The following is excerpted from Cornelius Nursery's web page. Good advice!

"FEEL THE STRESS OF THE DAY, THE STRAIN FROM YOUR COMPUTER SCREEN, AND THE NOISY WORLD MELT AWAY IN YOUR SPECIAL OASIS RIGHT IN YOUR BACK YARD."



Ideas from the past can help us cope with stresses today.

Victory Gardens were created to relieve tensions during a time when essentials were in high demand. They produced a solution and built a more positive and sustainable life for the people of our nation.

First, to grow in our future, we must learn from our past. During World War I, a food crisis hit the world, and America formed a plan to help. The National War Garden Commission set forth the mission to the American people to "Sow the Seeds of Victory".

During World War II, this concept re-emerged. Families on the American home front worked together to do their part and began their harvest. Gardens were "cropping up" everywhere from back yards, empty lots, and city roof tops. It is said that over 20 million Victory Gardens were planted during this time.

Why should you "Dig for Victory"? Setting up your family for success starts with a sustainable life. Devising a plan to promote wellness, purpose, and a

sense of security begins in your garden.

Reconnecting with nature is essential to bettering your overall well being. Feeling the cool earth in your hands or the lush grass between your toes can make you feel more centered and level-headed. Take the time to soak up your surroundings by allowing yourself to feel the warm sun and listen to nature's symphony of birds chirping and leaves swaying in the wind. Feel the stress of the day, the strain from your computer screen, and the noisy world melt away in your special oasis right in your back yard. Embrace the meditative beauty and allow it to soothe your soul while you discover the possibilities of your outdoor space.

Choose easy to grow vegetables like tomatoes, beans, peas, corn, squash, okra, cucumbers, peppers, and herbs. Consider interspersing vegetable rows with herbs for an extra flavorful garden. Explore the "Thriller, Spiller, Filler" method in designing your garden or when planting in containers. Plant tall vegetables on the north side of your garden to avoid overshadowing for the rest of your plants.

Limited space? Set up a container garden display. Display a various selection of fantastic pottery and make your vegetable garden a fashion statement as well as commodity...Or, try planting herbs indoors!

The great thing about growing your own fresh herbs is that they are ready to go immediately after planting, and you can mix and match flavors to create different themes. Some of the best herbs to grow indoors are mint, thyme, oregano, parsley, and rosemary because they can tolerate indoor conditions fairly well and are readily available as young plants. Other great options are basil, cilantro, sage, and more! The key ingredient for your planting success is natural light and a sunny location in your home.

Let's do our part and start planting for positivity, for wellness, for sustainability, and for each other. During times like these, taking control is essential for our well being as we focus on working towards a positive goal. With the help and gift of nature, we can get through this

To read more, just go to the website: <https://www.calloways.com/blog/>.

NEWS FROM AMY PECK

The following is excerpted from Amy Peck's post on Thursday, April 28:

Tomorrow's City Council agenda includes an item to add a fee to start leasing garbage and recycling containers. This will be an extra \$.57 per container (\$1.14 per household) per month. I am voting against this item. We do have a serious budget problem next fiscal year due to COVID-19, and we do have a problem with consistent and reliable trash pick-up. I just do not believe that a new fee is the right solution to fix these problems...

As I have said time and again, I want to see a Sunset Review Program implemented at the City to systematically and thoroughly audit every department and program at the

City and include input from stakeholders and citizens.

We must cut this bureaucracy now more than ever, but especially before we go to the homeowners and taxpayers with more fees.... Obviously, there are programs, like Solid Waste, that could not be dissolved entirely, but we would be able to see what changes we could implement to make sure they are running efficiently and effectively.

I know that the City is going to be in one of the worst financial situations that we have ever been in as we come on the other side of the Coronavirus crisis, but so are the citizens. That is critical. This is not the time for this kind of measure, and I am voting no.



Join our group on
Facebook:
SpringBranchOaksneighbors



We are sorry that the monthly Ladies' Coffee can't meet now, but we hope to resume just as soon as the "shelter in place" order is lifted.

TRASH COLLECTION SCHEDULE



Friday, May 8	Recycle
Friday, May 22	Recycle
Thursday, May 28	Tree trash
Friday, June 5	Recycle
Friday, June 19	Recycle
Thursday, June 25	Junk trash
Friday, July 3	Recycle
Friday, July 17	Recycle
Thursday, July 23	Tree trash
Friday, July 31	Recycle
Friday, August 14	Recycle
Thursday, August 27	Junk trash
Friday, August 28	Recycle



For reminders on your phone, get the **Rollout!** App. It is available for download in the **iTunes** and **Android** app stores.



City ordinance requires a 3-foot space between trash cans, to allow for easier pick-up.

Trash cans should be stored OUT OF SIGHT of the street. Many of our residents leave their trash cans in front of their fences. This is against our deed restrictions.

SBOCA Board of Directors for 2020

Michael Lewis, Sr.	President	mslewis.lu@gmail.com	832-265-6429
Sheree Speck	Vice-President	shereespeck@speckinsurance.com	713-385-0290
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