

# The Oak Creek Village

Community News

The Official Neighborhood Publication for May, 2020 - [www.oakcreekvillage.org](http://www.oakcreekvillage.org)

## Inside May

- Mother's Day Plant Sale
- Is that a Frog or a Toad?
- Support Small Business!



*Happy Mother's Day!*

## Election and Other News

The election for the Board of Directors was a success, (Whew!) with 73 total ballots. Both George and Elizabeth were elected. There were also 3 write-in votes for Lisa Stauber. Thank you, thank you to all of you who voted but I hope we do better next year. I took all the comments people wrote on Nextdoor seriously, and we will go about implementing the pertinent ones asap. We are in the process of redoing the entrances, but we must be careful stewards of the Villages money. If you are interested in knowing more about how a subdivision in Harris County (NOT in the city) works, all that info is on the website. Also, we'd like to have more residents at the Board meetings. Try to come once in a while. I think (I hope) we've solved the problem of not having a quorum for our meetings, and I also hope this virus goes away. Since I have COPD, it's been a bit of a problem for me and several of our Board members who also feel they are among the targeted.

In another-but-related vein, Christie Gutierrez has resigned from the Board. This means that, once again, we do not have a full Board. Maybe some, or one, of you who told me the Village is run-down would like to help to get it run back up. Hmmmmmm?

For the moment, I am handling deed restrictions.

Although I won't "see you around the neighborhood" until we get a Covid19 vaccine, my phone and e-mail are virus-free and/or I can wave at you through the glass in my storm door.

Sharon Kuester, President

## OCV Heroes

Probably the most important part of the election was the people who helped. Bill Taylor, of course, continues to be indispensable. I don't know what I'd do without him. Barbara Frisbie, Jack Hannigan, Bob VonEschen, Lloyd Bratton, Marty Serighelli, Sam Elliott, and some more I can't remember right now all helped by bravely facing the virus to collect votes from their neighbors. Thank you from the bottom of my jaded heart.

## The Surprising Effect of COVID-19

"Right now I'm in a state of mind...I want to be here [...] all the time..." or so go the song lyrics to Ariana Grande's "no tears left to cry" released in 2018 by Republic Records. Yes, I can't help but agree with the lyrics of this song: something strange has happened as a result of all of the panic, hysteria, and necessary paranoia stemming from the Coronavirus pandemic, and it's taken the form of peace. The last time this happened we were talking about swine flu...or was it avian malaise...and long before that, SARS and MERS. A virus loosely related to the SARS virus should sound bone chilling, indeed. To date, the numbers are staggering, as we surpass 2,000,000 infected, and the U.S. competes in the horrifying war of lives lost. Let's not minimize the gargantuan nature of this struggle, nor those of us whose loved ones are affected or possibly working on the front lines in medical facilities or testing centers country and world-wide. Let's just sit back and look at this from a "glass neither half empty, nor half full" perspective:

Here in OCV, those of us who watch, or read, the news religiously are practically up to our chins in the bad news. But there is something good to be counted. For some, it means getting out of the house—for others, it means getting right back in it. In the past few weeks, being self-quarantined at home, I have seen a great number of locals taking part in what I call the *dolce far niente*, the sweetness of doing nothing, or next to it. People I barely see on a daily basis are out on walks, hikes, and jogs with one another, and, bearing in mind social distancing, greeting one another with warmth. This is what I mean about "something strange" happening. It seems that as a result of all the negative messages from the media about the current state of the world, we are all remembering what matters most in times of great distress: family, togetherness, and community. Because the truth is that we are all in this thing together. If many of us die, none of us is any stronger for it. So without going on a soapbox (pun intended) about hand washing and staying

*continued on page 3*

## OCV Executive Board

President, Sharon Kuester.....	281 444-1532
granny.s@att.net	
Treasurer, Jon Whisler.....	832 249-1342
Maintenance, Darrel Johnson.....	317 250-1920
Recreation, Elizabeth Davis.....	832 410-5733
OCVRecreation@yahoo.com	
Secretary, Ooma Lakshmanan.....	281 444-5687
Security, Lloyd Bratton.....	832 217-4522
Deed Restrictions, Christi Gutierrez.....	832 654-0162
Chritidgutz@yahoo.com	

## Committee Numbers

Clubhouse Rental, Sam Elliott.....	281 236-7979
Information Officer, Sharon Kuester.....	281 444-1532
Newsletter Publisher, Allison Marks.....	346 336-8122
Publish1@copperheadfarms.net	

## Emergency

Emergency, Police, Medical, Fire.....	911
Ambulance.....	281 440-4300
Animal Control, 612 Canino Road.....	281 999-3191
Crimestoppers.....	713 222-8477
Crisis Hotline.....	713 527-9864
Harris County Public Health.....	713 439-6000
Poison Control, poisoncenter.org.....	800 222-2222
Sheriff, Harris County.....	713 221-6000
Water & Sewage (24 hour Emergency).....	281 376-8802
Harris County Environmental Public Department	
- (report neglected swimming pool).....	713 274-6300

## Helpful Numbers

OCV Accountant, TXMGMT.....	832 910-7525
Vacation Watch/Cypresswood Annex.....	281 376-2997
Forms (713 221-6000)	
Post Office -Cornerstone.....	281 444-1355
Gas, Centerpoint.....	713 659-2111
Trash, Texas Pride Disposal.....	281 342-8178
Telephone, AT&T.....	800 246-8464
Water & Sewage, Bammel Utility District.....	281 376-8802

## OCV Garden Club Board

President, Anita Cook.....	281 440-1093
Treasurer, Kathy Colbert.....	281 583-0652
Directory, Carol Barziza.....	832 298-8351
Telephone Comm. Mary Quinn.....	662 312-8150
Telephone Comm. Georgette Popeney.....	281 444-3497

**The deadline for the next issue of the OCV Community News is May 15!**

## OCV Community Association Board of Directors Meeting Reminder

**Tuesday, May 12th at 8:00pm**



Residents are reminded that the Oak Creek Village Community Association Board of Directors normally meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7:30pm. As always, all residents are invited and encouraged to attend. Anyone wishing to present ideas to the Board should call a Board member prior to the meeting so we may allot time for you on the agenda.

Please Notice This **How To Reach Us**  
(Financial Matters Only)  
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P.O. Box 9184 • The Woodlands, TX 77387  
Service@TXMGMT.com, www.txmgmt.com  
To pay your maintenance assessment on line,  
go to <https://txmgmt.cincwebaxis.com/>

**Visit Us On The Web**  
**[www.OakCreekVillage.org](http://www.OakCreekVillage.org)**

## Recycling Tuesday is your only recycling day!



PLEASE NO – Styrofoam, Windows, Ceramics, Mirrors, Soiled Pizza Boxes, Coat Hangers, Light Bulbs, Paper Towels, Soiled Paper, Soiled Facial Tissue.

For a complete list of acceptable recycle items please visit  
[Http://www.oakcreekvillage.org/trash.html](http://www.oakcreekvillage.org/trash.html)

**Call 811 before you dig - Be Safe. It's free. It's the law.**

- **Call 811 before you dig.**
- **Give two working days' notice before digging. (48 hours)**
- **Utility companies will mark the location of underground utility lines.**

Remember, you are responsible for marking your private lines such as invisible pet fences, sprinkler systems, yard lights and gas grill lines.

**Attention OCV Residents.** Non-commercial advertisements, classified ads and notices can be placed free of charge. Club information, birthdays and other important non-profit events are also welcomed! Letters to the editor are also accepted and published with your name. *Thank you.*

To report a streetlight out go to Centerpoint (713 207-2222)  
**Energy.com - (Get the 6 digit number off the pole)**



## Oak Creek Village Contract

HCSO - SHERIFF Ed Gonzalez

www.sheriff.hctx.net

Captain J. Coons, District 1 Patrol

March 1-31-20

	Total	Blendermann	Malloy	Segovia	Other
<b>Total</b>	<b>273</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>95</b>	<b>43</b>	<b>119</b>
ALARM LOCAL	6	0	1	1	4
ASSAULT	1	0	0	0	1
CHILD CUSTODY DISP.	1	0	0	0	1
CONTRACT CHECK	164	15	43	39	67
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	2	0	1	0	1
DISCHARGE FIREARMS	1	0	0	0	1
DISTURBANCE FAMILY	1	0	0	0	1
DISTURBANCE LOUD NOISE	13	0	2	1	10
DISTURBANCE OTHER	2	0	1	0	1
DOA	1	0	0	1	0
DOMESTIC PREVENT	1	0	0	0	1
FOLLOW UP	2	0	2	0	0
MEET THE CITIZEN	11	0	4	0	7
MUD BUILDING CHECK	45	0	24	0	21
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	2	0	2	0	0
THREAT OTHER	1	0	1	0	0
TRAFFIC INITIATIVE	7	0	7	0	0
TRAFFIC STOP	2	1	1	0	0
VEHICLE STICKERED	5	0	5	0	0
VEHICLE SUSPICIOUS	2	0	1	1	0
WELFARE CHECK	3	0	0	0	3

### COVID from page 1

home (about which all of us should have gotten the memo on at this point), I'd like to take this moment to say I'm proud to be a resident of Oak Creek Village. I'm proud to see the way family, and physical and mental health have taken priority for everyone. I'm proud of my fellow residents in the area who have offered to risk their own well-being by offering to run errands for the most vulnerable among us (one of whom is me...please be in touch if

you need groceries delivered!) I'm proud to be a Texan, and an American and citizen of the world: and we will make it through this...together!

Erika Haines (Zuckero), M.A.L.S.

## OCV Community Association

April 14, 2020

### Treasurer Report

Financial Report –

#### Balance Sheet

The February 29, 2020 balance sheet shows \$695,971 in the bank.

#### Statement of Revenue & Expense

For February 2020, revenue was above budget by \$2,358 primarily due to higher than budgeted Security receipts income. Expenses were above budget by (\$30,509) was mainly due to higher than budgeted major repairs expense.

#### Transaction report

We had our normal operating expenses in the month of February along with the final payment on the club house parking lot repair project and expansion.

#### Additional Notes:

Our 2020 Maintenance Fee of \$320 was approved at the November 2019 meeting and statements were mailed out the beginning of December 2019 and were due by the end of January 2020 to avoid penalties and interest being added to your account. You can call the accountant to find out how much more you owe on your account at 832-910-7525.

Our 2020 Security Fee being collected on the water bill in the amount of \$30.00 was approved at the November 2019 meeting and was sent to Bammel UD to be applied to the March 2020 bill and future bills going forward.

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## TEEN JOB SEEKERS

\*CPR Certified

B=Babysitting, P=Pet sitting, Y=Yard Work,

H=House Sitting S=Pool Help

Name	Age	Jobs	Phone
Dominique B.*	18	B+H+P	281-455-7397
Michelle P.	14	B+P	715-821-2280
Annette M.	16	B+H+P	281-455-7397
Keith	17	P	832-253-7816

Please email your work information to [publish1@copperheadfarms.net](mailto:publish1@copperheadfarms.net). Include your name, address, age, phone number, choice of work along with any special training, CPR etc. OCV residents only, 18 and under! **Parents: It is up to you to verify credentials for any services listed.**

**Oak Creek Village  
Recreation Report 04/2020**

Olympic Pools have completed the work on our pool. The pool was drained and power washed to remove cyanuric acid residue. They also replaced all drain covers to meet County Health Department requirements.

Olympic also power washed the pool deck.

NWAL has cancelled all summer swim league, so there will be no swim team this year. We are working with Coach Marrs and AAU in order to provide swim practices this summer, and hopefully a learn to swim program, once the pool is open. Our hope is to keep kids active, engaged and learning to swim this summer despite the cancellation of summer swim league. I would like permission from the board to offer our pool for AAU swim practice with Coach Marrs from 7:30 am – 11:30 am weekday mornings in June and July. These morning hours would have been our normal team practice times during summer league season.

Due to the current restrictions our lifeguard company has been unable to hold training classes. As soon as restrictions are lifted, and lifeguards are able to complete the required training, they will let me know when they will be able to begin staffing our pool.

I will begin issuing pool passes after our next board meeting. Pool pass requests should be emailed to [ocvrecreation@yahoo.com](mailto:ocvrecreation@yahoo.com).

com

**Subject Line:** 2020 Pool Passes

**Include the following information:** Name, address, phone number and number of people residing in the home.

When the passes are ready for pick-up, residents will receive an email with instructions and important pool information.

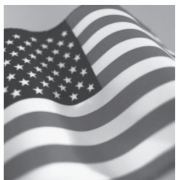
Keys for the tennis courts can also be requested by sending an email request. Tennis keys cost \$8 and payment can be made when keys are picked-up.

**What is the Best Definition of “Immunity”?**

The state of being resistant to infection/reinfection by a pathogen. They say, “we’ve got two months before we could be going through this all again... UGH! What does that mean? It means we better get our ducks in a row and build up our immune system. What to do?

1. Get enough sleep – Not enough sleep can increase your chances of getting sick. Adults need 7-8 hours and kids even more! Teens 8-10 and children up to 14 to help them grow and stay healthy!

2. Eat more whole plant-based foods – Several whole plant-based foods contain antioxidants, fiber, lots of vitamin C and



**Boy Scout Troop 1659–Friends of Whitney Lodge  
FLAGS OVER THE COMMUNITY 2020**

We will display a flag in front of your house  
on the following dates:

**Presidents' Day  
February 17, 2020**

**Memorial Day  
May 25, 2020**

**Flag Day  
June 14, 2020**

**Independence Day  
July 4, 2020**

**Veterans Day  
November 11, 2020**

Troop 1659 will provide you with an outdoor flag and pole, installing a flat device in your yard that will not interfere with yard maintenance.

If you would like to support the local neighborhood Scout Troop, please complete the form to the right and mail with a check for

**\$35 payable to BSA Troop 1659 to**

**Troop 1659, 714 Oak West Dr., Houston TX 77073.**

**Orders due by May 20, 2020.**

If you have any questions, please email Peter Hernandez  
[hernandezpl@msn.com](mailto:hernandezpl@msn.com).

If you would like to pay by credit card (\$1 fee), please contact  
Stacey McPherson at 281-541-2054

If we missed you or did not pick up our flag, please contact Stacey at the above number, and we will get someone out to take care of you!

Customer Name

Phone Number

Address

Subdivision

Email Address



other vitamins and minerals, that all work together to build your immune system making it strong enough to fight off harmful disease.

3. Know your healthy fats and eat them in moderation - Healthy fats avocado, almonds, olive oil and salmon, are just a few fats that help boost your body's immune response to pathogens by decreasing inflammation. It's important to know, chronic inflammation can suppress your immune system.

4. Eat fermented foods or take a good probiotic - Fermented foods are rich in beneficial bacteria called probiotics, which populate your digestive tract. Your gut has to be healthy for your immune system to work top notch.

5. Eat less sugar - Too many sugars and refined carbs contribute to overweight and obesity and obesity increases your risk of getting sick. Things to know, 4 grams of sugar equal one teaspoon. To lose weight keep at 6 teaspoons per day for women, 9 teaspoons for men. Fruit is a sugar and it needs to be counted accordingly. Big misconception... it's a "healthy sugar." Need more facts call me!

6. Exercise - Even a single session of moderate exercise can boost your health especially people with compromised immune system. Moderate exercise can help reduce inflammation and help your immune cells regenerate regularly.

7. Drink your water - Hydration doesn't necessarily protect you from germs and viruses, but preventing dehydration is important to your overall health. Becoming dehydrated can cause headaches and reduce your physical performance, focus, mood,

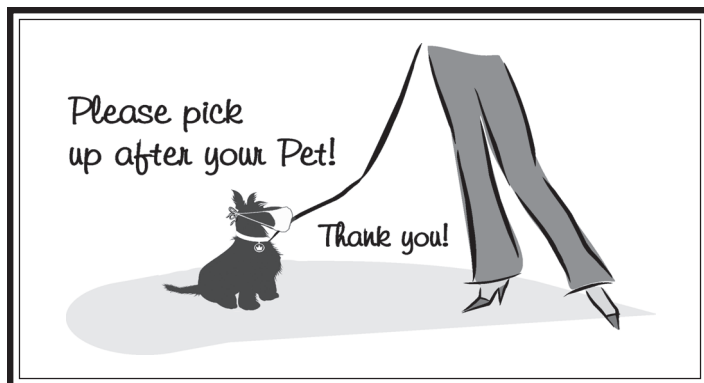
digestion, heart and kidney function. These complications can increase your susceptibility to illness.

8. Reduce your stress-Try meditation, spending time talking with your friends, journaling, yoga, painting, a relaxing walk and just taking a moment for YOU!

9. Take your vitamins- Get top notch vitamins and not loaded with sugar. Don't trust the labels saying they are "the best." Learn what to look for, there are over 160 different names for sugar and I bet there is some in your vitamins and you think are doing you good. I mean, why do you need sugar in your vitamins anyway? Build your immune system by giving it the right stuff make sure your getting in your A, B, C, D and Zinc. We have been studying this for 5 years, you have any questions call me we love to help. - [www.texaslastdiet.com](http://www.texaslastdiet.com)

**Mercer Botanic Gardens**  
**22306 Aldine Westfield Road**  
**Humble, Texas 77338, 713 274-4160**  
**[mercerbottanicgardens@hcp4.net](mailto:mercerbottanicgardens@hcp4.net)**

**The Mercer Society Mother's Day Specialty Plant Sale**  
**Saturday, May 9, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or until sold out)**  
 - Celebrate Mother's Day by picking out the perfect plant gift for mom! There will be a wide variety of Mercer-grown plants including butterfly host plants such as native milkweeds, stunning tropical gingers, elegant shade lovers, and Gulf Coast natives. Mercer-grown plants are cultivated at Mercer's Horti-  
*Next page*



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**YOU'RE INVITED**

We will continue our online Sunday services at 10:00 a.m. for the coming weeks, and we hope you will join us online at [facebook.com/springbaptist](https://springbaptist.org) or <https://springbaptist.org>

Watch our website at [springbaptist.org](https://springbaptist.org) for future announcements regarding relaunching our in-house worship services.

Live Interactive Prayer Service  
 Wednesdays at 6:00 p.m. at [facebook.com/springbaptist](https://facebook.com/springbaptist).

**Spring Campus**  
 633 E Louetta Rd  
 Spring, TX 77373  
[springbaptist.org](http://springbaptist.org)

**Klein Campus**  
 21825 Bridgestone Ln  
 Spring, TX 77388  
[springbaptistklein.org](http://springbaptistklein.org)

**9:00 & 10:30 a.m.** SPRING CAMPUS  
 Modern Worship/Life Groups at 9:00 a.m.  
 Blended Worship/Life Groups at 10:30 a.m.

**9:45 & 11:15 a.m.** KLEIN CAMPUS  
 Bible Study at 9:45 a.m.  
 Worship at 11:15 a.m.

**ONE CHURCH TWO LOCATIONS**

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cultural Propagation Center greenhouses. Attendees are encouraged to bring their own wagons to transport purchases from the sale site to their vehicle. This sale is sponsored by The Mercer Society, a nonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that supports Mercer Botanic Gardens, working to enable the organization to fulfill its mission "to improve quality of life and inspire greater appreciation of the essential value and beauty of the plant world."

**Lunch Bunch: Local Impacts of Climate Change, Wednesday, May 13, at noon** - •Whether you enjoy tending to a bountiful vegetable garden, a wildlife-friendly native garden, or an inviting shade garden, gardeners are sure to take notice of how climate change affects their plants. From longer growing seasons, to higher temperatures, to increased pest populations, this is an important topic for gardeners and nature enthusiasts alike. Join Citizens' Climate Lobby (CCL) volunteer and liaison for Texas' Second Congressional District, Hans F. VanBrackle, as he discusses the impacts, challenges, and causes of climate change. CCL is a grassroots, nonpartisan, nonprofit advocacy organization focusing on national policies to address climate change. Lunch Bunch is a free program offered at Mercer's East Side Gardens and is recommended for those 12 or older. Participants should bring a lunch and dress for the weather. Registration is required. For more information or to register, call 713-274-4160.

**Bird Survey, Thursday, May 28, from 8 to 10 a.m.** - Long-time birder, Paul Gregg, and Mercer staff member, Christy Jones, lead the Mercer bird survey on the 4th Thursday of each month. All skill levels welcome. Wear comfortable walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing as Mercer's 1.7-mile survey loop is primarily crushed asphalt trails. 12 and older only. Meet in front of the Visitor Center at Mercer's East Side. Bring binoculars, a bird identification guide, water, and insect repellent. For more information, please contact Christy Jones at [ncjones@hcp4.net](mailto:ncjones@hcp4.net).

### Mangum-Howell Center's May 2020 Calendar

**Fun4Kids Summer Program Registration, Friday, May 1, at 8 a.m.** - Children of all ages are welcome to attend free, fun-filled activities at Mangum-Howell Center every Thursday from

June 11 through July 30 at 1 p.m. Registration is required for all programs. A parent or adult must accompany children under the age of 18. Light refreshments are served at each program. Please arrive 20 minutes prior to each program's start time. Call 281-591-7830 to register. For more information, visit [www.hcp4.net/mhc](http://www.hcp4.net/mhc).

**Texas Department of Family and Protective Services Presents: Becoming Foster or Adoptive Parents, Tuesday, May 19, from 6 p.m. to 8 p.m.** - Children never outgrow the need for parents. This need is particularly great during adolescent and the teen years. A representative with the Texas Department of Family and Protective Services will present information and updates, as well as address concerns and frequently asked questions for those interested in fostering or adopting a child. Children need parents, so please call 281-591-7830 or come by Mangum-Howell Center to sign up for this informative program.



### Is it a Frog or a Toad? By Cheryl Conley

Did you know there are 30 different species of frogs and toads in Texas? The problem I have, however, is telling the difference between a frog and a toad. Can you tell the difference?

First, let's explore the similarities. Both frogs and toads are members of the amphibian class. Both have short bodies, two hind legs, two front arms and a wide head. Both frogs and toads are carnivorous and eat worms, insects, slugs, spiders and small fish. Toads may also eat dog food left outside. They catch their prey with their long, sticky tongues. Females lay their eggs close to water or actually in the water and the males fertilize them.

Differences:

- If you look at the hind legs, you'll notice the frog has very long legs. They need longer legs because they hop more and higher than toads. Toads tend to crawl more. They can hop but they can't hop very high or very far.
- The frog spends most of its time in the water so it has

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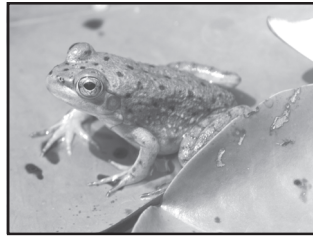
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Colorado Toad



Bull Frog

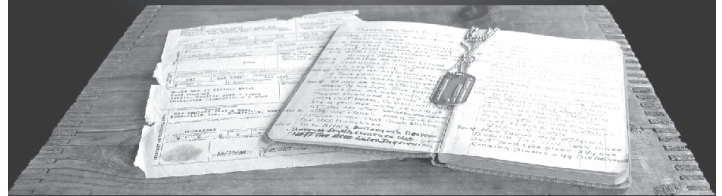
webbed back feet. Sometimes the front feet are webbed as well.

- Toads have a chubbier appearance than frogs.
- The skin of the frog is much smoother. A toad's skin will be bumpy and the bumps resemble warts.
- The coloring between frogs and toads is different. Frogs are a bright green or a yellow-olive in color. Toads are a dark green to an olive green in color. Make sure you don't rely solely on coloring when trying to identify an animal though because there are some brownish green and gray frogs.
- Frogs spend the majority of their time near water and rarely venture very far away from a water source.

During breeding season, frogs can be incredibly noisy. If you have security lights around your home, these lights will attract insects which will in turn

## Veterans Day

November 11, 2019

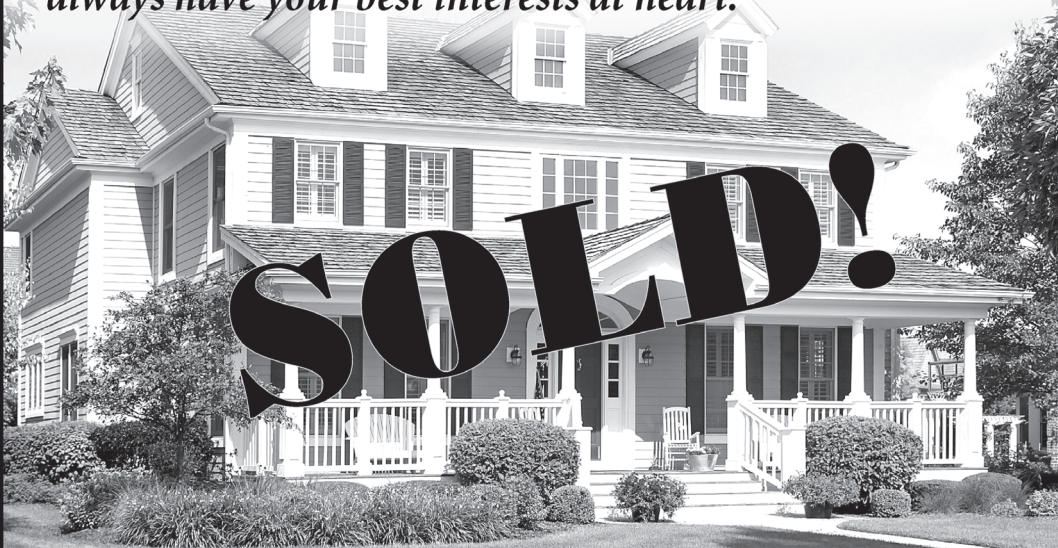


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