The Official Neighborhood Publication for June, 2020 - www.oakcreekvillage.org

Inside June

- Mercer Father's Day Specialty Plant Sale
- Family Summer Camps
- Texas Whippoorwil





POOL HOURS

Tues. - Fri. 1:30-8: 30 Sat. & Sun. 11:00-8:30

Recreation Report

Playground installation will begin Wednesday, 5/13 and will take about a week. Gates into pool all need to be self-closing. I have had 2 people try to fix them, but they have not been able to make the necessary adjustment. I will continue looking for someone who can fix them.

Sweetwater Pools sent an email stating they will not be able to provide lifeguards due to the Red Cross suspending all training. They can advise on how to open the pool for Swim at Your Own Risk (SAYOR) and provide gate attendants only. I would

like the board to consider hiring our Red Crossed Certified guards directly.

Pool pass requests should be emailed to ocvrecreation@yahoo.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.

Letter from the Board

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

I was going to write about mowing lawns and not driving fast. Then I realized what our Recreation Director, Elizabeth Davis, has done. Her report elsewhere in this newsletter only gives a hint. I don't believe there is another neighborhood pool that is open full-time WITH lifeguards in the area. In addition, in case you haven't looked, we have beautiful, new, top-of-the-line playground equipment to go with our pool and our recently-refurbished and improved park and parking area, courtesy of Nick Fava and our own Bammel Utility District. I thank her and I hope lots of you will also. Nextdoor, OCV only, might be a good place to do that. Let's try to have a good summer and pray this virus stuff goes away.

P.S. The city of Houston did NOT pay for our playground equipment. We are not part of the city of Houston.

OCV HOA BOD Meeting Minutes

May 12, 2020

The meeting was called to order at approximately 7:45 by President Sharon Kuester. Members present were Sharon Kuester, Jon Whisler, Elizabeth Davis, Lloyd Bratton and George Arreguin. Residents present were Lisa and Thomas Stauber. Since there had been no April meeting due to the virus, the minutes of the March meeting were read and approved. The Staubers were informed that their deed restriction request would be taken up in executive session at the conclusion of the meeting. Elizabeth reported for Recreation that we were having many problems trying to open the pool due to the virus and the county inspector. She also stated that the new playground equipment would be installed starting the next day, Wednesday, May 13.The thanked her for all her hard work on behalf of Oak Creek Village.

cont.on page 4

OCV Executive Board

President, Sharon Kuestergranny.s@att.net	281	444-1532
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 Marks346	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	2 910-7525
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 June 15!

OCV Community Association Board of Directors Meeting Reminder Tuesday, June 9th 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 an 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

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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

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 advertisments, 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

April 1-31	Total	Malloy	Schnur	Segovia	Other
Total	276	97	67	51	61
ANIMALAGGRESSIVE	1	0	1	0	0
CONTRACT CHECK	192	41	56	47	48
CRIMINAL MISCHIEF	1	0	1	0	0
DISTURBANCE FAMILY	3	0	0	1	2
DISTURBANCE LOUD NOISE	8	1	0	2	5
DISTURBANCE OTHER	3	1	1	0	1
DOA	1	0	0	1	0
FRAUDULENT USE ID	1	0	1	0	0
INFORMATION CALL	2	1	1	0	0
MEET THE CITIZEN	9	7	0	0	2
MUD BUILDING CHECK	29	29	0	0	0
STRANDED MOTOR VEHICLE	1	0	0	0	1
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	4	4	0	0	0
TELEPHONE HARRASSMENT	1	0	0	0	1
THEFT OTHER	1	0	0	0	1
TRAFFIC INITIATIVE	10	10	0	0	0
TRAFFIC STOP	5	0	5	0	0
VEHICLE ABANDONED	1	1	0	0	0
VEHICLE STICKERED	2	2	0	0	0
VEHICLE SUSPICIOUS	1	0	1	0	0

Minutes from page 1

Next, Lloyd presented the Security report and stated that our biggest problem is loud parties late at night at residents' homes. The Board approved his report and then heard the Treasurer's report from Jon Whisler and approved that. There was some discussion of what we should do about several seemingly abandoned properties, and the meeting adjourned at approximately 9: 00.

Respectfully submitted, Sharon Kuester, acting secretary.



TEEN JOB SEEKERS

*CPR Certified **B**=Babysitting, **P**=Pet sitting, **Y**=Yard Work, **H**=House Sitting S=Pool Help

<u>Name</u>	<u>Age</u>	<u>Jobs</u>	<u>Phone</u>
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	Р	832-253-7816

Please email your work information to publish1@copperhead farms.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.

OCV Community Association May 12, 2020 Treasurer Report

Financial Report -

Balance Sheet

The March 31,2020 balance sheet shows \$591,354 in the bank.

Statement of Revenue & Expense

For March 2020, revenue was above budget by \$1,843 primarily due to higher than budgeted Security receipts income. Expenses were above budget by (\$71,907) was mainly due to higher than budgeted major repairs expense.

Transaction report

We had our normal operating expenses in the month of March along with the initial payment on the playground project and replacement.

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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Keep YOUR Yard from being a Mosquito Breeding Ground?

Mosquitoes irritate, annoy, and can be harmful to your health. They also transmit heartworm in dogs. To control mosquitoes effectively around the home, it helps to know their life cycle.

Mosquito **eggs** may be laid individually or in clusters on the surface of water or individually in dry locations that are subject to periodic flooding. Some mosquito eggs can remain dormant in dry conditions for many months.

Mosquito **larvae** (often called wigglers) live in the water. Most of them feed on microscopic plants, animals and organic debris suspended in the water.

Mosquito **pupae** do not feed. They spend most of their time at the water surface and tend to move only when disturbed.

Adult mosquitoes live on land and are winged. Both males and females feed on nectar, plant juices and other sources of liquid carbohydrates. Females of most species require a blood meal before they produce eggs. Adult mosquitoes typically live for about a week to a month, but can vary, depending on environmental factors. Some spend the winter as mated females that may live up to 6 months or more.

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Call Today For All of Your Air Conditioning Service, Repair, Air Quality and Replacement Needs Some seldom travel more than 200 yards from the breeding sites; others can travel for more than a mile. This travel ability can create problems in management. If the source of the mosquito problem is far from your home, you may not be able to control them without cooperation from other individuals or group.

Let's **ALL** cooperate as a neighborhood to help control these little beasts.

Here is a helpful checklist as you survey your yard:

- Pick up, empty, and haul away all trash or unused items in the yard.
- Avoid having open water areas or containers around the house such as buckets; cans and bottles that collect and hold rainwater; puddles; open water tanks; rain barrels; damaged water pipes; tires; urns; flower pot saucers; yard toys; sandbox; wagons; forts; swing set seats, etc. that might breed mosquitoes. Drill holes in the bottom of tire swings.
- Fill tree holes or depressions with sand or mortar.
- Empty or change water in pet dishes, bird baths, horse troughs, etc. every couple of days.
- Keep roof gutters and downspouts clean and clear. For underground drains that may hold water, pour some vegetable oil to coat the top of the water in the drain to prevent mosquitoes from laying eggs and to smother any larvae in the pipe.
- Address unused swimming pools, pool covers, water gardens, ornamental fountains and yard art items.



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- Empty your plastic wading pool weekly and store it indoors when not in use.
- Trim vegetation away from the house, mow high lawns, rake excess grass clippings and piles of leaves that will stay moist, hold water, and provide resting sites.
- Avoid accumulation of decaying material in and around the yard.
- <u>Sweep and remove</u> accumulated debris at the storm drains near your home. Please, <u>ONLY water</u> goes down the storm drains.
- Fix or fill any low spots in the yard that retain water.
- Repair leaking pipes, faucets, and leaking irrigation systems.
- Drain and dry out tarps, patio covers, patio cushions.



Fun Flower Fact, from Mercer

The Juliet rose is the most expensive rose ever created. Famed rose breeder David Austin spent about \$5 million and 15 years perfecting this rose before introducing it in 2006 at the Chelsea Flower Show. Although it doesn't cost millions to own, the

flowers of this apricot beauty still command a high price in wedding bouquets or cut flower arrangements.

The Mercer Society offers a variety of David Austin roses. Look for them at the next plant sale on June 13.

Mercer Botanic Gardens June 2020 Calendar

Father's Day Plant Sale, Summer Camp, Family Nights, and More!

Lunch Bunch: Local Impacts of Climate Change, Wednesday, June 10, at noon - Climate change is an important topic for gardeners of all interests, whether you enjoy tending a bountiful vegetable garden, a wildlife-friendly native garden, or an inviting shade garden. Join Hans VanBrackle, a volunteer with Citizens' Climate Lobby and a liaison for Texas' 2nd Congressional District, 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 and older. Participants should bring a lunch and dress for the weather. Space is limited, and registration is required. To register, call 713-274-4160.

The Mercer Society Father's Day Specialty Plant Sale, Saturday, June 13, from 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. (or until sold out)

Next page



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- Dads love plants too! Join Mercer at the Father's Day Specialty Plant Sale to browse a wide variety of Mercer Grown plants, including butterfly host and nectar plants, stunning tropical gingers, elegant shade lovers, and Gulf Coast natives. Mercer Grown plants are cultivated at Mercer's Horticultural 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, anonprofit 501(c)(3) organization that supports MBG.

Outdoor Adventures Summer Camp – Birds of a Feather Tuesday, June 16, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Ready for a day of feathered fun? Hit the trails for a bird hike, identify birds by how they look and sound, and share your findings on a citizen science program Observe the natural habitats of birds, search for evidence of birds, investigate owl pellets, and more! Summer camp is for children 6 to 11. Space is limited, and registration is required. Volunteer opportunities are available! For more information or to register, call 713-274-4160.

Outdoor Adventures Family Nights, Micro-Mercer, Wednesday, June 17, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Explore the mysterious, tiny plant world at Mercer Botanic Gardens! Use hand lenses and microscopes to view the tiniest of plants found in the gardens. Observe plant cells, thin roots, pollen, seeds, and more. Then transfer your observations as scientific drawings into a keepsake journal. This is a free, family-friendly, drop-in event. No registration required, so bring your friends and neighbors to share the fun. Volunteer opportunities are available. For more information, call 713-274-4160.

Hawk Talk, Saturday, June 20, from 10 a.m. to noon - Meet Cathie Coudert, the education coordinator of Friends of Texas Wildlife, and her animal ambassador, Fred, the red-tailed hawk, at this exciting, family-friendly experience. Learn about the organization's mission to care for injured, displaced, and orphaned area wildlife during this informative and interactive program that includes a multimedia presentation, hands-on activities, and crafts. Space is limited, and registration is required. For more information or to register, call 713-274-4160.

Outdoor Adventures Summer Camp – Creature Feature Tuesday, June 23, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Investigate creatures that scamper, skitter, slither, and shuffle in the gardens.

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Search for evidence of animals while investigating the natural habitats of insects, amphibians, reptiles, and mammals. Learn animal identification and tracking techniques. Summer camp is for children 6 to 11. Space is limited, and registration is required. Volunteer opportunities are available! For more information or to register, call 713-274-4160.

Outdoor Adventures Family Nights – Geocaching, Wednesday, June 24, from 4 p.m. to 6:30 p.m. - Gather your family and your hiking shoes. It's time for some geocaching fun at Mercer Botanic Gardens. Hike and explore the trails of Mercer's West Side Arboretum as you hunt for geocaches hidden among the natural environment. Meet at the Post Oak Pavilion at Mercer's West Side Arboretum. This is a free, family-friendly, drop-in event. To allow for proper geocaching time, the last hunt starts at 6 p.m. Volunteer opportunities are available. For more information, call 713-274-4160.

Mercer Botanic Gardens Bird Survey, Thursday, June 25, from 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. - Longtime birder, Paul Gregg, and Mercer staff member, Christy Jones, lead the Mercer bird survey on the fourth Thursday of each month. Birders of all skill levels are welcome. Wear comfortable walking shoes and weather-appropriate clothing, as Mercer's 1.7-mile survey loop is primarily crushed asphalt trails. Must be 12 or older. 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, contact Christy Jones at ncjones@hcp4.net.

Outdoor Adventures Summer Camp – Hike 'N Hunt, Tuesday, June 30, from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m. - Calling all land pirates! Let's go hunt for hidden treasures cached throughout the gardens by learning to geocache – a technique of navigating by hiking to a specific location of GPS coordinates. All you need is your favorite pair of walking shoes, refillable water bottle, and a sense of adventure. Summer camp is for children 6 to 11. Space is limited, and registration is required. Volunteer opportunities are available. Call for more information or to register.

With leadership from Commissioner R. Jack Cagle, Jesse H. Jones Park & Nature Center is a Harris County Precinct 4 facility at 20634 Kenswick Drive in Humble. For more information about the park or any of the activities and programs offered, please call 281-446-8588 or visit www.hcp4.net/jones.



springkleinesi@comcast.net

springkleinelectrical.com



A Bird That Says Its Name By Cheryl Conley

A few years ago, when I took my dog out for her last potty of the night, I heard the most beautiful bird singing. Just a few seconds later, another bird responded with the same beautiful song. I had no idea what species it was but after some research I learned it was a whippoorwill. The whippoorwill actually got its name because of its song—three syllables with emphasis on the first and last syllables.

Whippoorwills are nocturnal. They feed exclusively on insects and start foraging 30 minutes after sunset and continue until it's too dark to see. They continue their foraging at first light and stop just before sunrise. If the moon is bright, they may hunt all night. They have large mouths and can swallow insects up to 2 inches long.

The most interesting fact about the whippoorwill is that they don't build a nest. The female will lay her eggs on the ground and cover with dead leaves or debris. Often times she'll find a spot on the north or northeast side of a shrub or plant so she's shaded during the heat of the day. Mom is responsible for incubating the eggs during the day and both Mom and Dad

share the duty at night. Amazingly, whippoorwills time their breeding patterns to coincide with the lunar cycles so that the eggs hatch when there is at least a half moon. It is believed that the extra light helps in caring for her young. Within 24 hours of hatching, the baby birds instinctively move apart. The parents will also push the



babies to keep them apart. It is thought that this is done to make it harder for predators to see them. The male stands guard over the nest and will hiss and spread his wings if he thinks there is a predator nearby. Another tactic used to protect the young is he will fake an injury away from the babies to draw attention away from them. While he draws the predator away from the young, the babies scatter and freeze.

At about 8 days, the down-covered babies molt and the female leaves them in the care of the male. If conditions are right, the female will often find a spot nearby and lay 2 more eggs.

TWRC Wildlife Center cares for injured, orphaned and displaced wildlife brought to us by the public. Due to the Corona Virus, we've had to alter our admission procedures. If you find an animal needing help, please call us. We will advise you on how to care for the animal until you can bring it to us: 713.468.8972



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