

The Oak Creek Village

Community News

The Official Neighborhood Publication for December, 2019 - www.oakcreekvillage.org

Inside December

- Keeping Your Tree Fresh
- The Wildlife Drummers
- Seasonal Events



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Before you dash off to another fabulous "black Friday" sale, I'd like to wish everyone Peace and Good Will, not just during this season, but for the whole year, and even your whole life. Wouldn't that be great? But, whether you are Christian, Muslim, or Jewish, it's all the same God we are worshipping, and even if you are of another faith, or none at all, how can anyone be against peace and goodwill?

As Tiny Tim said, "God bless us, everyone!"

Sharon Kuester

OCV HOA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes Nov. 12th 2019

Meeting was called to order by President Sharon Kuester at 7.40 p.m.

Board members present were Darrel



Breakfast with Santa

Saturday, December 21 - 9:30-11:30
At the Clubhouse
I'll be waiting for all the good boys and girls!

Johnson, Lloyd Bratton, Elizabeth Davis, Jon Whisler, and Sharon. Residents attending were Nick Fava, Robert Van Eschen, Betty Gorman, Bryan Pershall, and Phillip Kordisch.

The minutes of the October meeting was read by Sharon and approved.

Maintenance: Nothing to report. Discussed about the swamp-like condition next to Wells Middle School and our park. Decided to wait til spring to maybe contact the School District if we need their help.

Nick Fava discussed resurfacing the parking area around the club house with asphalt instead of concrete, saying asphalt would be \$20,000 less. No decision was made.

The deed restrictions report was read by Sharon, a few requests for new fences and a shed. It was approved.

Security report was read and approved. Our deputies are doing a great job of writing tickets to people who are going over our posted 20 mph speed limit.

Recreational report was discussed and approved. Elizabeth is looking into play equipment for the park and also for a pool company that has life guards.

Treasury report was read and approved. Jon asked if we wanted to go with our neighbors, Olde Oaks, and the new neighborhood on a new 5 year contract with Texas Pride Disposal, We decided that we will stick to our existing contract as we still have 3 years left on it.

One of the resident wanted to find out if his request for a fence and shed to be

continued on page 4

OCV Executive Board

Vice 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, *Sharon Kuester*..... 281 444-1532
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 December 15!*

OCV Community Association Board of Directors Meeting Reminder Tuesday, December 10 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. The September change is due to Labor Day. 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**
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To pay your maintenance assessment on line,
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Visit Us On The Web
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

OCV Community Association
November 12, 2019
Treasurer Report

Financial Report –

Balance Sheet

The September 30, 2019 balance sheet shows \$651,396 in the bank.

Statement of Revenue & Expense

For September 2019, revenue was above budget by \$1,494 primarily due to timing of the Security fee income. Expenses were below budget by \$5,086 was mainly due to timing of pool contract and maintenance expenses.

Transaction report

We had our normal operating expenses in the month of September.

Additional Notes:

I am making a motion to accept a 1.59% increase to the annual Maintenance Fee bringing the amount to \$320 for 2020. Motion was seconded and approved at the meeting

I am also making a motion to accept a 1.69% increase to the security fee in 2020 that is being charged by Bammel UD on our behalf which will increase the fee from \$29.50 to \$30.00 (1.69% increase). This change will start in February 2020 to coincide with our annual contract renewal. Motion was seconded and approved at the meeting.

Our 2020 Maintenance Fee will be mailed out at the beginning of December and will be due in the amount of \$320 by the first business day in January which is January 2nd this year. If it is not paid by January 31st there will be fees and interest added to it until paid.

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Calls for Service October 2019	Banks	Malloy	Segovia	Other	Grand Total
Total	364	84	78	41	567
ACCIDENT FSGI	1	0	0	0	1
ALARM LOCAL	0	0	0	3	3
BURG MOTOR VEHICLE	0	1	0	0	1
CHECK PARK	0	2	6	0	8
CONTRACT CHECK	353	30	71	3	457
CREDIT CARD ABUSE	1	0	0	0	1
DISTURBANCE LOUD NOISE	0	0	0	2	2
DISTURBANCE OTHER	0	1	0	1	2
FOLLOW UP	2	0	0	0	2
INFORMATION CALL	1	0	0	0	1
MEET THE CITIZEN	1	5	0	1	7
MENTAL HEALTH	0	0	0	1	1
MISSING PERSON	0	1	0	0	1
MUD BUILDING CHECK	0	1	0	0	1
NUISANCE ABATEMENT	0	1	0	0	1
RACING ON HIGHWAY	0	0	0	1	1
SEX OFFENDER VERIFICATION	0	1	0	0	1
SUSPICIOUS PERSON	1	0	0	2	3
TRAFFIC INITIATIVE	0	26	0	0	26
TRAFFIC STOP	4	4	0	0	8
VACATION WATCH	0	6	0	24	30
VEHICLE SPEEDING	0	0	0	1	1
VEHICLE STICKERED	0	5	0	0	5
VEHICLE SUSPICIOUS	0	0	1	1	2
WELFARE CHECK	0	0	0	1	1



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. 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.**

installed was approved. They asked him to call Christi.

A resident wanted to know about a car being parked for over 4-6 weeks and never moved. The Security Director said that can be taken care of.

Under New Business:

The Board approved an increase of 1.6% or \$5.00 to our HOA dues for the next year. We paid \$315 for 2019 and it will be now \$320.

The Board discussed maybe installing solar lights around our 2 newly- installed sign boards at our subdivision entrances.

As there was no other new business to discuss the meeting adjourned at 8.58 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Ooma Lakshmanan, Secretary

OCV HOA Board of Directors Meeting Minutes September 19, 2019

The meeting was called to order at 7:40 p. m. by Vice President Sharon Kuester. Directors present were Sharon, Jon Whisler, Lloyd Bratton, and Christie Gutierrez. Residents present were Nick Fava and George Arreguin. Sharon read the minutes of the August meeting which were approved as written.

Nick Fava gave us an update on the drainage/park project (both are humming along) and asked why our Security had not responded to his neighbor's alarm going off while they were out of town. Lloyd told him, and us, that if you have an alarm system installed, you must (not optional) get a permit from the county. Since the neighbor had not done this, the Sheriff's Department was not notified. We all agreed that I would put a reminder in the newsletter about this, and Lloyd gave his report, in which he commented on speeding being down because Officer Price is a ticket-writing demon. His report was approved, as was the Treasurer's report.

Christie read her Deed Restrictions report and commented that our meeting with Mr. Gainer, our lawyer, had cleared up a few things about which we had not all been on the same page. It was agreed that I would contact Olde Oaks to finalize an arrangement for them to use our clubhouse for their meetings permanently. The meeting then adjourned at 8:45.

Respectfully submitted,
Sharon Kuester, Secretary

Mercer Botanic Gardens December 2019 Program Schedule

*Holiday in the Gardens, A Winter Wonder
Garden, and More!*

With leadership from Commissioner R. Jack Cagle, Mercer Botanic Gardens is a Harris County Precinct 4 Parks facility one mile north of FM 1960 at 22306 Aldine Westfield Road in Humble, 77338. To register, seek additional information or request special assistance for any of the following programs, contact Mercer at 713-274-4160 or mercerbogardens@hcp4.net. Visit Mercer online at www.hcp4.net/parks/mercer.

Lunch Bunch: A Winter Wonder Garden. *Wednesday, Dec. 11, starts at noon.* Winter gardens are colorful and structurally intriguing. Learn which plants add life to a winter garden and the proper care for these plants. Enjoy a garden tour focusing on winter flowering and fruiting plants at Mercer. Participants should bring a lunch and dress for the weather. Lunch Bunch is a free program offered at Mercer's East Side Gardens and is recommended for participants 12 and older. Registration is required.

Christmas Bird Count. Saturday, Dec. 14, 8 a.m. to 10 a.m. Meet up for an early morning bird count along the Spring and Cypress Creek greenways. Participants should meet in the Cypress parking lot of Mercer's West Side Arboretum at 8 a.m. The count continues north to experience Pundt Park and a variety of other parks along the Spring Creek Greenway. Feeder watchers are also encouraged to participate. Collected data will be reported to the Audubon Society. Bring your binoculars, field guide, and bird identification book. For more information, contact compiler Claire Moore at cdmoore3i@gmail.com.

Holiday in the Gardens. *Saturday, Dec. 14, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.* Celebrate the holiday season with music, food, shopping, crafts, and more! This free, family-oriented event offers a holiday market, festive children's crafts, live music, and food trucks. Find the perfect gift for someone special at the holiday market with a myriad of local vendors. Say hello to Santa and Mrs. Claus as they visit the gardens from noon to 2 p.m. Tap your toes to musical melodies from local musicians and choirs, including The Houkelele Strummers and Houston Grand Opera. Satisfy your hunger – visit The Mercer Café, Super Pizza, Mingo's Latin Kitchen, and Simply Sweet Kettle Corn. Then take a leisurely stroll along the garden paths to take in the beauty of the winter landscape.



The Wildlife Drummers By Cheryl Conley



Is it a red-headed woodpecker or a red-bellied woodpecker? One would think that the names are self-explanatory, right? One has a red head and one has a red belly. Both birds have red feathers on their heads so you might hear people tell you they saw a red-headed wood-



pecker when in fact it was a red-bellied woodpecker that they saw. A red-bellied woodpecker was named for an area on the lower front that is actually a light pinkish-rosy color—not really red. The top and back of the male's head is red. Females lack the red crown but do have a red patch on the nape of the neck. Red-headed woodpeckers have a solid red head, neck and the top of the breast.

Both red-bellied and red-headed woodpeckers are year-round residents in our area with the red-bellied being the most common. They eat insects, acorns, other types of nuts, berries, fruit, seeds, and will also eat sap from trees, mice, and nestlings (baby birds). They like to store food in cracks and crevices of trees.

Woodpeckers like to use their beaks to “drum” on hollow limbs, utility poles, gutters or the siding of your house. This “drumming” is used to attract and communicate with potential mates, to communicate a food source to its mate or can be a call for help at the nest. They can drum up to twenty times a second.

The red-bellied female will lay up to five eggs. One egg is laid each day. Babies are fed by both parents for up to four weeks. Once they fledge, Mom and Dad will continue to look after them for another six or more weeks. The red-headed female will lay between four and seven eggs. Both parents feed the babies. What's unique about the red-bellies is that they can have two broods in the same season. They may still be caring for their fledglings while attempting to have their second brood.

Some interesting facts about woodpeckers are:

- Woodpeckers have stiff feathers near the nostrils that prevent small pieces of wood from getting into the nostril.
- They have extremely sharp claws for hanging on trees. There are four toes on each foot and the arrangement of the toes is called “zygodactyl.” The first and fourth toes are pointed backwards, the second and third face forward.
- The tail of the woodpecker has spikes that dig into tree trunks and helps to keep the bird anchored.
- Woodpeckers have extraordinarily long tongues. There is a

barb at the tip for catching insects and grubs.

Texas Wildlife Rehabilitation Coalition (TWRC) is celebrating 40 years serving the greater Houston area. Thank you to all of our supporters and those that care about wildlife as much as we do. If you have questions or would like to volunteer, call 713.468.8972.

Keeping Your Real Christmas Tree Fresh

Clean water and plenty of it is the only essential ingredient for maintaining tree freshness. -MCU



Keeping your real Christmas tree fresh throughout the holiday season involves giving it proper care from the time you purchase it until it is disposed of. Before you set up your tree, make a fresh, straight cut across the base of the tree, removing a half-inch or more from the bottom. Why do we want to make a fresh cut? After the tree is harvested, resin begins to collect in the tree's ducts, sealing off water-conducting tissue. Making a fresh cut removes the blocked resin and allows water to move into the trunk and eventually evaporating (transpire) from the foliage.

Cut Christmas trees absorb a surprising amount of water, particularly during the first week. A tree with a 2-inch diameter trunk may initially use 2 quarts of water per day; a tree with a 4-inch diameter trunk may use more than 1 gallon per day.

next page



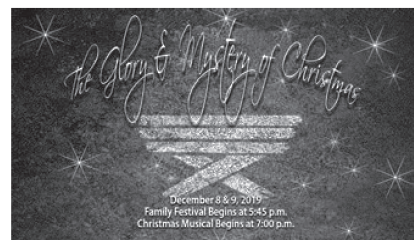
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SPRING BAPTIST CHRISTMAS CELEBRATION
At Our Spring Campus – December 8 & 9
The Family Festival Begins at 5:45 p.m.

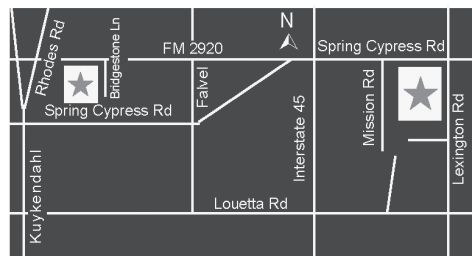
There will be all kinds of crafts and activities available for families to enjoy under the BIG TOP!

The Glory & Mystery of Christmas
Begins at 7:00 p.m.

Celebrate Jesus' birth with music presented by our Celebration Choir & Orchestra!

9:00 & 10:30 a.m. <small>Spring Campus</small> Modern Worship/Life Groups at 9:00 a.m. Blended Worship/Life Groups at 10:30 a.m.	9:45 & 11:15 a.m. <small>Klein Campus</small> Bible Study at 9:45 a.m. Worship at 11:15 a.m.
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tree from page 5

The water capacity listed on a stand's label or box can be misleading. Usually, they list the capacity of the reservoir when the stand is empty, but you also need to allow for the amount of water that will be displaced when the tree trunk is put in the stand. Unfortunately, many high-end decorative or antique-looking stands do not hold much water, so be sure to look at these carefully.

If the tree has been cut within the last six to eight hours, it will not need to be re-cut; however, any longer than that then the end should be re-cut to improve water uptake. Check your tree stand at least daily. Don't let the water fall below the level of the trunk bottom. The key to keeping your tree fresh is to make sure the container holds enough water and refill it often.

One of the most common questions Michigan State University Extension educators receive concerning Christmas trees relates to the use of additives in the Christmas tree stand. TV or

Tomball German Festival & Christmas Market



6 p.m.-10 p.m. Friday Dec. 13
10 a.m.-10 p.m. Saturday, Dec. 14
10 a.m.-6 p.m. Sunday, Dec. 15

Live Music, 200+ Street Vendors/Ethnic & Festival Food, Beer, Wine, Petting Zoo, Street Performers, Souvenirs, Arts & Crafts, Antiques, Heritage Center. 201 S. Elm Street in Tomball.

Free admission and Free shuttle Parking. Family friendly.
Visit <https://www.tomballgermanfest.org> for more information.

Christmas Boat Parade

Hosted by the Kemah Boardwalk

Saturday, December 14, 2019 at 6:30 PM – 8:30 PM

Join us at Kemah Boardwalk for the sensational Christmas Boat Parade on December 14th, 2019 at 6:30pm. Hundreds of boats will be decked out for the holidays as they cruise along Galveston Bay. Come early for the best view! 215 Kipp Avenue, Kemah, Texas 77565 - To enter your boat in the parade visit clearlakearea.com

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Annual Christmas Open House and Candlelight Tour



On December 13 & 14 the Spring Creek County Historical Association hosts its annual Christmas Open House & Candlelight Tour from 6:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.

The entire museum complex is decorated for the Christmas holidays. All buildings will have a hostess. The church will have choirs and Santa will be greeting children and posing for pictures. Bring your camera! Be sure and visit the band in the barn as well as all eight historical buildings on the property.

Call 281 255-2148 for more information. Admission is free to the public. (Donations accepted) Children under 12 years old must be accompanied by an adult or designated supervisor. They are located at 510 N. Pine Street in Tomball.

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The Houston Rose Society



The topic for the Thursday, January 9, 2020, meeting of the Houston Rose Society will be "Extreme Bed Building." Mary Fulgham and Randy Keen will present the program. Mary is a Master Rosarian, past president of the HRS, editor of The Rosette and an avid rose hybridizer. Randy is a Consulting Rosarian and master rose bed builder! Together they grow over 400 roses in their Bellaire garden. January is the prime month to think about adding a new rose bed to your garden. Please join us to learn the best techniques to build a rose bed to help you grow beautiful roses! Please note the meeting will take place at the Cherie Flores Pavilion, 1500 Hermann Drive, Houston 77004. Come at 7:00 PM for refreshments. The meeting will begin at 7:30 PM. Free Admission, www.houstonrose.org.

The Society for the Advancement of Floral Design

The Society for the Advancement of Floral Design (SAFD) will hold its first meeting of 2020 on January 21st at Christ the Good Shepherd Church, located at 18511 Klein Church Rd. Spring, Tx 77379. We will be in the Parish Life Center, Social Hall. Refreshments will be served at 6:30 pm, the meeting to start promptly at 7pm. Our presenters this month are the extremely talented Nicola Parker and Alex Torres, both are AIFD Certified Florists. If you have an interest in flowers and the art of designing, then this is the meeting for you! Presentation is free for members and \$10 for non-members.

Island of Lights - Nighttime Kites!

Come to the Main Entrance at dark o'clock and enjoy the lit up kites of the Surfside Flyers Kite Club! This event is fun for all ages! Kid friendly FB-Visit Surfside Beach.

Planting Event Aims to Increase Plant Diversity Along Spring Creek Greenway

Volunteers To Plant More Than 70 Plant and Tree Varieties

Harris County Precinct 4 invites the public to help improve plant diversity along the Spring Creek Greenway by helping plant native trees and plants on Saturday, Jan. 18, at Dennis Johnston Park, 709 Riley Fuzzel Road in Spring.

Trees not only provide food and shelter for wildlife, but they also help prevent soil erosion and reduce urban heat and noise pollution. Volunteers will plant 41 varieties of native plants and 32 varieties of seeds along the greenway. Participants should bring a shovel, work gloves, and a refillable water bottle.

"This planting event is noteworthy because of the sheer diversity of native vegetation we will bring to the greenway," said Laura Medick, an arborist with Harris County Precinct 4. "We will plant several varieties of trees and shrubs, along with milkweed, grasses, and wildflowers. I'm excited to see what thrives."

The event begins at 9 a.m. and is open to those 8 and up. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Dress for the weather & wear closed-toe shoes. To register, visit www.hcp4.net/tap/events.

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and a Sparkly New Year!**



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