



NEWSCASTER

A publication of
Spring Shadows Civic Association, Inc.

10355 CENTREPARK DRIVE, SUITE 220
HOUSTON, TEXAS 77043

TEL. 713-460-1718

FAX 713-460-2399

PCT. 5 CONSTABLE 281-463-6666

www.springshadows.org

ISSUE 295
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OCTOBER 2021



ASSOCIATION INFORMATION

- Executive Committee MeetingsMondays, Oct.4, Nov 1, 6:45 pm
- BOD Meetings:..... Mondays, General Mtg., Oct.12, Nov. 15, 6:45 pm
- ACC Meetings: Wednesdays, Oct.27, Nov.17, 6:45 pm
- Garbage pickup:..... Every Friday
- Recycling: Fridays, Oct.8,22, Nov.5,19
- Large Trash, Junk Pickup:..... Friday, Oct. 22
- Tree Waste Pickup..... Saturday, Nov. 27
- General Meeting:.....Tuesday, Oct. 12, 2021
via Zoom, contact office for details about how to connect to Zoom

OCTOBER

Fri. Oct.1 International Coffee Day

Mon. Oct.11 Columbus Day

Sun. Oct. 31 Halloween

NOVEMBER

Sun. Nov. 7 Day Light Saving Time ends

Thurs. Nov.11 Veterans Day/
Armistice Day

Thurs. Nov. 25 Thanksgiving

Important Phone Numbers

Pct. 5 Constable 281-463-6666

Graffiti Removal 311 (713-837-0311)

Emergency 911

Houston Police (Non Emer) 713-884-3131

Houston Fire (Admin) 832-394-6700

SBISD Police 713-984-9805

Amy Peck Council Member District A
832-393-3010

BARC (Roaming Dogs) 713-229-7342

Contact information correct at time of printing.

Online Newscaster

The Newscaster is delivered to members' homes by the 1st of February, April, June, August, October and December. It can be viewed online at www.springshadows.org by the 15th of the month prior to delivery.

Office Information

10355 Centrepark Drive, Suite 220

Houston, Texas 77043

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Fax 713 460 2399

www.springshadows.org

email: office@springshadows.org

Office hours Mon. – Fri. 8:30 AM – 3:00 PM

INFORMATION POSTED IN THE NEWSCASTER IS FOR INFORMATIONAL PURPOSES ONLY AND IS NOT ENDORSED BY SPRING SHADOWS CIVIC ASSOCIATION UNLESS SPECIFICALLY STATED OTHERWISE. SPRING SHADOWS CIVIC ASSOCIATION WILL NOT BE HELD RESPONSIBLE FOR DECISIONS MADE BASED ON INFORMATION PROVIDED IN THIS PUBLICATION.

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SPRING SHADOWS AREA CLUBS *

Spring Shadows Moms Club meets the first Thursday of each month at 7:15 pm. Please contact our leadership team at ssmomsclub@gmail.com for more information.

Spring Shadows Book Club meets the second Monday of every month at 6:30 pm for dinner and discussion. For more information, contact: Sandy Lynch at San-lyn@hotmail.com.

*** Clubs have no affiliation with the Association**

THE FOLLOWING SECTIONS
NEED DIRECTORS

5B, 7B, 11A, 17D, 18B

Contact Liz at 713-460-1718 for further information.

13th Annual Arts & Crafts Charity Bazaar
2525 N. Gessner Rd.. Houston ,TX 77080
Saturday October 16,
10:00 AM—4:00 PM
John Knox Presbyterian Church
Vendors may sign up online at
www.johnknoxhouston.org

**AUTHORIZED SPRING SHADOWS
CIVIC ASSOCIATION
ONLINE SITES**

www.springshadows.org
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Spring Shadows Civic Association
Check the website often for current updates

WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

“What is the essence of life? To serve others and to do good.” - Aristotle

I understand that your time is limited and your focus split by the numerous requirements of your job, your family, and daily life. However, this association could not function without the work put in by numerous dedicated volunteers. As we approach a new year, I ask that you consider joining these volunteers and help continue to make our neighborhood a great place to live.

It's now October, which means the election for our Board of Directors is approaching and I thank all who have committed to represent their neighbors as a director on the SSCA Board. You should have now received a ballot in the mail. In this issue of the Newscaster, you will find information about the General Meeting, which will again be conducted virtually via Zoom.

I urge you to complete the ballot and return it to the SSCA office as early as possible. In-person balloting will not occur, so you must mail your ballot or drop it off. Instructions for returning your ballot will be provided to you. Each ballot will count towards the quorum at the meeting. Therefore your household must return its ballot, so the election yields a quorum, and its results are valid.

“Alone we can do so little; together we can do so much.” - Helen Keller

Remember that you are not alone. You are a member of the Spring Shadows Civic Association. Thank you.

Sincerely,
Carl Thompson, Executive Vice President

ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

As we continue our transition into fall, our landscapes continue to move into dormancy which means our deciduous trees are dropping leaves and needles are being shed by our numerous pine trees. Often times, leaves or other debris make their way onto the street and accumulate in piles. These piles affect the flow of rainwater towards the street drain or can be carried into the drain itself causing street flooding. I would encourage everyone to periodically check the curb in front of their homes for any potential accumulations that could block the flow of rainwater during a storm. Another thing to check for is pine needles accumulating on your roof. These pine needles can eventually make their way down into your gutters causing them to clog or even damage them.

At the time of this writing, Hurricane Ida made landfall on the coast of Louisiana. Watching the news and seeing images online of the flooding and damage caused by the storm brought up some very familiar feelings experienced during Hurricane Harvey 4 years ago. Please continue to keep those impacted by Ida in your thoughts and prayers. That being said, we are still very much in hurricane season here in Houston and I would stress that everybody keep adequate supplies of non-perishable food, bottled water, flashlights, batteries, and paper products etc. on hand, as well as keep keeping your gas tanks full. We have all seen how chaotic the grocery stores can get as everybody scrambles to make last-minute preparations for a potential storm.

On a similar note, I want to encourage everyone to walk their properties to check for any loose fencing, gutters, siding, shingles, or anything that could otherwise be taken by high wind speeds and turned into a projectile in high winds during a storm. If anything needs to be repaired or replaced, please submit an Architectural Control Application to the office for review by the ACC. Most applications reach a decision within 7 days, often sooner.

I also wanted to take a moment to update the neighborhood on some changes that have been made to our ACC. As some of you may know already, a law went into effect on September 1st that prohibits board members, their spouses, or anyone residing in the same residence as a board member from serving on the ACC. As such, the committee has had to forfeit a few members who are currently serving on the board. The Spring Shadows ACC is fortunate to still have many great non-board member volunteers who will continue to ensure quick turnaround times on your applications. We are still always open to volunteers, so if you are interested in serving on the committee and are not married to or reside with a current board member, please contact the SSCA office.

Daniel J. Kucera

PATROL & SAFETY COMMITTEE

School. As you know, school has started. This is just a reminder to watch out for our kids if you are out driving around. PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU OBEY ALL SCHOOL ZONES, SCHOOL BUS LIGHTS AND STOP SIGNS! Especially be mindful of children darting out from around a school bus or other vehicles that are stopped for a school bus.

Gas Stations Skimmers. Are you aware that Houston has been a hotspot for gas station credit card skimmers? A skimmer is a device that will read the data off your credit card allowing it to be used by others. You won't be able to see the skimmer since it is hidden inside a gas pump. HPD advises that if the gas station card reader is vertical, there is much less likelihood that a skimmer exists.

Medicare Scam Calls. There have been telephone calls from people claiming to work for Medicare wanting to update your information. Medicare does not call people directly. It is a scam. Do not give them any information. If you have any questions, call Medicare directly at: 1-800-MEDICARE.

Constable Patrol. How many of you have seen our Constable Deputies patrolling Spring Shadows? Most of you won't, unless you call them about a problem. Remember that Spring Shadows has almost 2000 homes. Each deputy averages some 60-70 miles per shift in driving through Spring Shadows. In order to see a deputy driving by your house, you would have to devote your time, during one of their shifts, to doing nothing but looking out your front window to see the deputy drive by your house. Data shows that we have a very low crime rate within Spring Shadows compared to the surrounding area. This is the real indicator that the Constables are doing a good job and are a great deterrent to crime.

Please also know that our Constables are fully licensed law enforcement officers and can issue traffic citations.

Additional Duties of Deputies. Besides patrolling Spring Shadows, the deputies also are performing other duties within Spring Shadows. There is always paperwork associated with their duties while parked inside Spring Shadows. They are also serving warrants, performing Vacation Watches (see form on SSCA website), performing Silver Watches (checking in on older people within Spring Shadows, and other things). For example, recently, they searched for a runaway teen in Spring Shadows, who was found. They also searched for, and found, an elderly man with dementia who lives in Spring Shadows and had wandered away from home. So, even if you don't see our deputies as often as you would like, nevertheless they are performing valuable services within Spring Shadows.

Continued on page 7

Traffic Control. In addition to our patrol deputies, and supporting them, Pct. 5 has a traffic control unit which comes out to Spring Shadows and concentrates on speed enforcement. Additionally, through our relationships with the Houston Police Department, HPD also deploys traffic enforcement units to Spring Shadows. We know speeding takes place, particularly on Kempwood between Gessner and the Sam Houston Toll Road. These traffic enforcement officers are concentrating on Kempwood and other main streets within Spring Shadows. These measures allow our deputies to primarily focus on patrolling Spring Shadows. We provide both Pct. 5 and HPD with the data from our electronic speed devices.

Thefts From Cars & Trucks. As an additional reminder, please lock your cars at night, especially if they are in your driveway or in the street. Please don't leave valuable items in plain sight. And please, if you own a pickup truck, don't leave things in the truck bed.

"IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING!" Nothing replaces our looking out for our neighbors. While the Constables can't be everywhere at once, they are almost always in Spring Shadows and can quickly respond to any suspicious activity. This is how we can best catch people doing bad things in Spring Shadows. So, again, IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING. Please call the Pct. 5 Dispatch at (281) 463-6666 and identify yourself as a Spring Shadows resident. Burglars have been arrested as a direct result of calls from residents.

THANK YOU

There are many individuals in the Spring Shadows Civic Association who should be thanked regularly but are not. So, here's a thank you to all of you.

First, Sharon and Liz for keeping the office organized and on top of things. They answer the phones and deal with whatever questions you may have. Those questions range from asking for help with a payment plan, how to get your garbage can replaced or the angry "...how come I can't get pink shutters?" They answer emails, deal with walk-ins and do all the necessary office procedures. They know where to get the answers to your questions. Plus they do it cheerfully even when dealing with irate individuals.

Then there are the Executive Committee members and the Board of Directors, all of whom are volunteers. They work their day jobs and put in extra hours as unpaid volunteers to ensure the Spring Shadows Civic Association maintains the quality that keeps us one of the best HOA's (Home Owners Associations) and one of the largest in Texas.

And then there are our committee members. Again all are volunteers and are giving hours to help Spring Shadows maintain the quality we as homeowners enjoy. Yard of the Month, Architectural Control, Community/Government Relations, Patrol and Safety & Beautification are just some of the committees.

So thank you to each of you who volunteered to be a member of the Board of Directors and to all of you who volunteer on committees. ***You may not always be noted but you are always appreciated.***

Election Information Instructions

Per Article IV, Section 6 of the Spring Shadows Amended Restrictions, the owners of a Lot may cast two (2) votes for each Director Position in the section in which the lot is located. No one candidate may receive more than a total of two (2) votes.

Go to the Ballot: Locate the section in which the lot owner(s) reside. Cast the Lot's two (2) votes for each Director Position. (If more than one person or entity owns the lot, the two votes are exercised as the owner determine among themselves.)
For example: Position A – cast two (2), Position C – Cast two (2) votes; Position E - cast two (2) votes.

Cast your first vote under the “Vote One” column. You may vote for all Director Positions in your Section (A, C and E) under the “Vote 1” column.

Cast your second vote under the “Vote 2” column. You may vote for all Director Positions in your Section (A, C and E) as applicable under the “Vote 2” column.

At least one owner of the Property must sign the ballot for the ballot to be counted.

Print your name(s), property address and Spring Shadows **account number** (found above the address on the Newscaster) on the ballot. If the Association cannot determine your name by signature alone and you do not include printed name, property address and Spring Shadows' Account number, your vote will not be counted.

The candidate receiving the most votes for each Director Position will be elected to the board, each for a two year term.

When your ballot is completed make sure it is signed and return it by mail to Spring Shadows Office, 10355 Centrepark Dr., Houston TX 77043. Or by **Fax 713.460.2399**. Or scan and email to **office@springshadows.org** **no later than 5:00 pm on October 12, 2021** **Your Ballot may not be counted if it is not received by this deadline.**

A ballot is also available on SSCA website at www.springshadows.org

WELCOME OUR NEW NEIGHBORS

2518 Moss Hill	07/06/2021	2911 Stetson	07/30/2021
9735 Colleen	07/07/2021	2714 Manila	08/03/2021
2111 Elmgate	07/07/2021	2819 Stetson	08/03/2021
2750 Quincannon	07/08/2021	9927 Vogue	08/05/2021
2911 Kismet	07/16/2021	2811 Manila	08/06/2021
2914 Durban	07/20/2021	3003 Shadowdale	08/06/2021
2415 Lexford	07/20/2021	9735 Philmont	08/13/2021
9818 Moorberry	07/21/2021	2506 Parana	08/13/2021
9819 Canoga	07/22/2021	9527 Moorberry	08/16/2021
3031 Riata	07/23/2021	2526 Parana	08/18/2021
2627 Pine Village	07/27/2021	2711 Triway	08/23/2021
2531 Anniston	07/28/2021	3011 Bernadette	08/31/2021
2723 Stetson	07/29/2021		

CLEAN THE STORM DRAINS

Please remember to regularly clean out any storm inlets and gutters in your neighborhood to keep tree debris and grass clippings from entering the storm sewers and clogging it up and causing flooding. In addition, if you have your yard and landscaping maintained by a commercial crew, please remind them to also keep the drains free of debris by bagging or removing it from your yard.

COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE

City and county services continue to be slow to respond to requests. SSCA is continuing to work with Council Member Amy Peck's office and Harris County Precinct 4 on moving various projects forward.

The Neuens Road project between Blalock and Gessner currently under construction is progressing westerly from Blalock Rd. towards Witte and Gessner Roads. During construction a minimum of one-way traffic will be maintained except for occasional short term full closures with proper detours in place. New concrete curb and gutter pavement and drainage infrastructure is almost completed between Blalock and Witte. New pavement and infrastructure is currently under construction between Witte and Gessner on Neuens. Completion of the entire project is expected in January 2023 barring any unforeseen circumstances

The Spring Shadows South drainage and paving project which includes the Campbell Woods Subdivision hopefully will begin shortly after completion of the Neuens Road project. Procuring funding from the City of Houston is the next step in this process. Council Members Peck and Alcorn are also working with Representative Crenshaw and Senator Cruz in an attempt to get some federal funding for this project.

The Spring Shadows North (Westray) project needs more detention. Harris County Flood Control and Houston Public Works staff are working together to combine their collected data and will develop a Design Concept Report. They are looking into new detention needs and strategies and ways to work with both agency's needs. Houston Public Works is meeting with CenterPoint to determine what portions of their easement might be used for detention. They will keep us updated on progress. Once these are completed this project should be able to move forward to obtain funding. Hopefully we will have more good news to share soon.

SSCA continues to actively pursue the installation of additional stop signs at the newly opened Kemp Forest/Rosefield intersection. We are very concerned with getting the new stop signs installed and bringing the intersection up to current ADA and city standards prior to meeting the guidelines so there is no compromise on the safety of our neighborhood residents and students. The City of Houston Public Works Department is still working on developing a few concepts to improve the mobility in the area and bring the intersection to ADA compliant levels while making it pedestrian and bicycle friendly. Once designs are complete Council Member Peck's office will coordinate a virtual meeting with the impacted community, SSCA, and the city.(014880)

Unfortunately, the request for a traffic signal at Kempwood and Rosefield is still on hold. SSCA will make a new request sometime during the fall of 2021 when traffic patterns have returned to normal.

Spring Shadows sections south of Hammerly have had new speed cushions installed to help slow traffic on our through streets.

The city has implemented a new online 311 reporting system. There were some initial glitches in the system which should be fixed by now. If you still have problems call the City 311 line to make a report.

The City of Houston Solid Waste department has also implemented a new online system called HTX Collects. It is available on Android and the App Store. It replaces the previous Rollout online system.

David Van Bergen

MOSQUITO AND HEALTH COMMITTEE

Despite the hard freeze of February, mosquitoes are out in full force. Unfortunately, according to Harris County's website, our area has tested positive for West Nile. This is a very serious disease and you should take precautions while outdoors for you and your family with mosquito repellent. Please regularly check your property and eliminate any and all standing water, maintain your swimming pools, fountains and bird baths. Be sure to regularly clear the drains in front of your homes so that when it rains, the water may flow freely out of our streets which will not only help with the mosquitos but also with street and possible home flooding.

Spring Shadows continues our two-part mosquito fight by targeting both the larval and adult stages. We have contracted with a pest control company who places dunks in the neighborhood's 206 storm drains to eliminate the larval stage and the second part targets the adult mosquitos with a weekly truck-based chemical fogging at night. Chemicals used and manner of spraying are in compliance with the formulas approved and suggested by the Harris County and City of Houston Board of Health.

If you are looking for ways to help in your yard, you might check with experts in your local home improvement or hardware stores. The following products have been recommended by our neighbors:

Dunks-Placed in standing water to interrupt the mosquito life cycle;

Traps-Attracts and kills mosquitos and other flying insects without chemicals; and

Spartan Eradicators-Water solution designed to attract and kill mosquitos.

You may also choose to hire a pest control service.

The recent news regarding COVID-19 is still a great concern. Vaccines are now readily available. You should contact your doctor or pharmacy regarding your health needs. Please continue to follow updates by the CDC (<https://www.cdc.gov>) and/or by the Harris County Public Health website (<https://publichealth.harriscountytexas.gov>) or on local news stations regarding other ways to protect yourself and your family. In closure, please take an active part in maintaining your family's health and, please eliminate any and all standing water on your property. Thank you.

Debbie Dill

Neighbors Night Out Tuesday October 5

If you are interested in hosting a gathering in your neighborhood contact Liz at the office 713-460-1718. She has information regarding how to get involved and how to set up your gathering plus information about signs, sign up sheets and information about how to ensure everyone in your section is involved. We urge all participants to practice social distancing during Neighbor's Night Out and take all measures possible to limit and prevent the spread of COVID-19 in our neighborhood. While the SSCA has provided our partners in law enforcement a list of homeowners participating in Neighbor's Night Out, the Association does not endorse, urge, or suggest neighbors gather for Neighbor's Night Out.



POLICE-COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

PLEASE PICK UP AND CARRY AWAY YOUR PET WASTE

Owning a dog means you have taken on several responsibilities. One of these responsibilities is to cleanup after your pet if it they use the sidewalk or a lawn as their bathroom while on your walk. It is inconsiderate to leave a mess. It is unsanitary. And it is damaging to the lawns.

The association works to keep our property values up. Do your share and pick up after your pet so the lawns don't become brown-spotted.

**NO WINNER LAST ISSUE
\$100.00 is the prize this issue!**

Your six digit account number is the top line of your address label. The number is included in one of the articles in this issue. When you find your number, contact the office by letter or email. Give us your name, your account number, the article in which you found it and a check will be in your mail box soon. Prizes must be claimed within 45 days and unclaimed prizes roll over into the next issue. The numbers are randomly picked by SSCA's CPA firm. Association dues are not used to fund the prize.

Yard Of the Month September 2021

**Area 1
2627 Moss Hill**

**Area 2
2827 Stetson**

**Area 3
3002 Quincannon**

**Area 4
9622 Philmont**

**Area 5
2118 Elmgate**

HILLEND AHL LIBRARY

The Hillendahl Library building is open again.

Monday	Noon - 7 pm
Tuesday	Noon - 5 pm
Wednesday	9 am - 5 pm
Thursday	Noon - 5 pm
Friday	9 am - 5 pm
Saturday	9 am - 5 pm

832 393 1940

They have a donation box for used glasses. Donate your old prescriptions to help others see.

NOTICE TO ALL MEMBERS

Please let the office know your email* address so you can be included on important Association news. The office needs only **ONE (1) good email address per family.**

Email your name and street address to the Association at **office@springshadows.org**

If you are currently receiving group emails from the Association, then you're already in the system and do not need to take further action.

Thank you.

*email address will be used for Association business only



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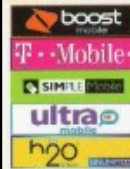


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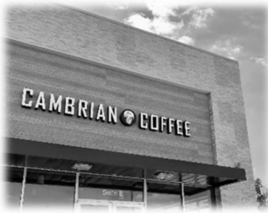
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NOTE TO ADVERTISERS

The next issue of the SSCA Civic Association Newscaster will be December 2021. Please advise the Association office if you plan to discontinue or change your ad for the new year no later than October 29, 2021. The price is \$50.00 per issue and there are six (6) issues per year. Your support by advertising in the Newscaster is greatly appreciated.

Advertising Policy for Spring Shadows Civic Association

Approved by the Board of Directors on May 15, 2017

It has been suggested that the Civic Association establish an advertising policy that will allow more community businesses to advertise in the Newscaster. A policy would establish a fixed number of advertising spaces and allow those businesses currently advertising, and those who would advertise if space was available, an equal opportunity to submit camera ready advertisements together with payment, by January 1, 2018, for the initial 2019 Newscaster, and following editions.

The Newscaster is a bi-monthly publication of the Spring Shadows Civic Association, Inc. presenting information about the subdivision and the neighborhood to the residents of the Spring Shadows Subdivision. Spring Shadows has 1,966 homes comprising the membership of the Association. The Newscaster is published in February, April, June, August, October, and December of each year.

Beginning January 1, 2018, the Newscaster will make available approximately 40 advertising spaces for local businesses to advertise their goods and services to residents and homeowners. Each advertising space will be the same size, 1/8th page (approximately business card size, each measuring 3.5" x 2" (including border or background).

An advertisement may be purchased and placed issue-by-issue, or six issues may be purchased in January, at a cost of \$50.00 per issue. All advertisements will be placed in the Newscaster on a space available basis, in the order received. Advertisements must be submitted to the Association's office in a camera-ready format and must be paid for in advance. Advertisements, together with payment, must be received in the Association's office by the following deadlines:

December 1st for the following year's February Newscaster

February 1st for the April Newscaster

April 1st the June Newscaster

June 1st for the August Newscaster

August 1st for the October Newscaster; and

October 1st for the December Newscaster.

Advertising rates for the next calendar year are determined by the Association each October.

The Association reserves the right to refuse advertising if, in its sole discretion, the Association finds that the advertisement is not in the best interest of the residents. Advertisers must comply with any applicable laws or regulations regarding their advertisements. The Association is not liable for the content of any advertisement and does not endorse nor assume any responsibility or liability for an advertiser's product or service.

NEIGHBORS NIGHT OUT TUESDAY OCTOBER 5
GENERAL MEETING TUESDAY OCTOBER 12
ELECTION OCTOBER 12