



# NEWSCASTER

A publication of  
Spring Shadows Civic Association, Inc.

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[www.springshadows.org](http://www.springshadows.org)

**ISSUE 287**  
**PUBLISHED BI-MONTHLY**

**JUNE 2020**



## **ASSOCIATION INFORMATION**

- Executive Committee Meetings Mondays: June 1, July 6, 6:45 pm
- BOD Meetings Mondays: June 15, July 20, 6:45 pm
- ACC Meetings Wednesdays: June 24, July 22, 6:45 pm
- Garbage pickup: Fridays
- Recycling Fridays: June 5, 19, July 3, 17, 31
- Large Trash, Junk pickup Friday: June 26
- Tree Waste pickup Friday: July 24
- General meeting: Tuesday October 13, 7:00 pm

### June

Sunday, June 14, Flag Day  
Friday, June 19, Juneteenth  
Saturday, June 20, Start of Summer  
Sunday, June 21 Father's Day

### July

Saturday July 4, Independence Day  
Tuesday July 7, World Chocolate Day  
July is  
National Parks Month &  
National Picnics Month

### **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 1<sup>st</sup> of February, April, June, August, October and December. It can be viewed online at [www.springshadows.org](http://www.springshadows.org) by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month prior to delivery.

### **Office Information**

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**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](mailto: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](mailto:San-lyn@hotmail.com).

\* Clubs have no affiliation with the Association

## ATTENTION PLEASE

There will not be a Spring Shadows Festival this year.

**AUTHORIZED SPRING SHADOWS  
CIVIC ASSOCIATION  
ONLINE SITES**

[www.springshadows.org](http://www.springshadows.org)  
on Facebook **LIKE**

Spring Shadows Civic Association

Check the website often for current updates

## WORDS FROM THE PRESIDENT

Howdy Neighbors!

While I wish I could see the future, unfortunately I do not have that power. I do, however, have hope that as you read this in early June, the effects of the COVID-19 pandemic have lessened and life for you has returned to something resembling a pre-pandemic normal. My heartfelt thanks goes out to the first responders, nurses, doctors, medical researchers, and other critical service providers on the frontline in this fight. I know we have several of these warriors in our neighborhood and I want them to know that we are all wishing and praying for their health, safety, and success.

My thanks also go out to those of us that tried to brighten the dismal times that we all went through. Red ribbons on trees, teddy bears in windows, and chalk drawings on streets, fences, and driveways helped show our love for our fellow neighbor.

The SSCA office remained operational throughout the shutdown to ensure that real estate transactions and construction activities could continue and our wonderful staff worked diligently to ensure that other operations of the Association continued. Constables continue to patrol our neighborhood, maintenance of thoroughfare medians continues, mosquito control began on schedule, and construction applications continue to be reviewed and approved by our volunteers on the ACDR committee.

As we move forward, we must all remain diligent in securing our own safety and the health of those around us. Due to the unknown spread of the disease and out of concern for our neighbors, the Executive Committee and I agreed to cancel the Spring General Meeting. However, by the time you read this, all Committee Reports should be available for review on the SSCA website. A separate page for the 2020 Spring General Meeting will be evident on the front page of the website. If you do not have access to the internet, please contact the Association office to receive a paper copy of these reports.

Efforts are underway to conduct the 2020 Fall General Meeting in a safe manner, including the election of SSCA Directors.

In this issue of the Newscaster, you will find several items of note. One is a list of currently available COVID-19 resources. Please note that these are also available on the SSCA website and are subject to change. Additionally, you will find updates from Patrol & Safety, Health & Mosquito, Branding, and other committees.

I have one request for all of you. As life returns to a “new normal”, please continue to support our community by supporting the local small businesses in and around our neighborhood. They and their employees, while not necessarily members of our great Association, are vital pieces in what makes Spring Shadows a great place to live. Stay safe, wash your hands, and remember that you are not alone. You are a member of the Spring Shadows Civic Association.

Sincerely,  
Carl Thompson, President

## ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE

Greetings to the wonderful neighbors here in Spring Shadows. I hope and pray that everyone is doing the best they can under these trying times. I do miss having friends and family gatherings but I am taking pleasure seeing many more of my neighbors out and about getting outside time on walks and bike rides. Keep in mind that everyone is dealing with this new normal and be kind to each other. Give a wave and say hello as they pass by. This might just be the thing they needed to make it through another day.

With many of us having extra time at home, I am seeing many more folks out working in their yards. The spring flowers and greening is looking very nice. However, it will soon be summer and our constant 90+ days will be upon us with a vengeance. Stay cool and hydrated and protect yourself from the sun.

Your ACC remains busy reviewing applications and getting back to homeowners with prompt approvals, or, if necessary, rejections. The office is still open daily and Liz is doing a great job taking and processing applications and getting them to the committee. Applications can be dropped off at the office, via the mail slot for distancing purposes. Or, they can be completed using the editable PDF form and emailed to the office. This form is available on our website.

I would like everyone to please remember that it is a requirement in our deed restrictions to fill out an architectural control application whenever you are doing exterior changes to your house. These include painting, roofs, siding, additions, and fence repair and replacement. Having a review of your project will keep you from having to redo a project because of a violation. There are two important things I want to point out that will save a lot of time and money. First, our deed restrictions require our fences to be constructed with either cedar or redwood pickets. A rot board can be added and can be of cedar, redwood, or treated pine. The overall height of the fence can be up to 7 feet. The other issue is roofing material. The association requires asphalt shingles to be of a dimensional architectural style. The lesser expensive 3-tab shingles are not approved for use within Spring Shadows. You can view the AC application form on our website and it includes a list of approved manufacturer lines and colors.

I would like to thank everyone on our ACC for the time they put in monitoring our neighborhood. We can always use more help on this committee. If you feel that helping keep our neighborhood standards high, please call or email Liz at the office to let us know you would like to help.

Wishing you and your family safety and wellness,

David W. Jurgens

## **PATROL & SAFETY COMMITTEE**

Joe Canales, Lynda Cooms, Rob Cooms, David Durham, Jerry Gilcrease,  
Ben Gillis, and Tom Pizzo

### **PATROL & SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT**

We hope that everyone is safe and well during these trying times.

As always we want to remind you to keep an eye out for suspicious activity around you. **“IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING”**. That is our motto. We want to remind you that the Harris County Precinct 5 Constables are almost always present (due to our contract with Harris County) in Spring Shadows and are available to respond to or discuss your concerns. Usually, they can respond in minutes. Should you see something or experience a problem, please call their dispatch immediately and identify yourself as a Spring Shadows Resident. **The Pct. 5 Constable Dispatch number is: 281-463-6666.**

Should you experience a security incident, and decide to call HPD, we would also appreciate it if you would follow up by calling the Constables, asking them to speak with you, and passing on the HPD Incident Report number to them. That way, the Constables can be aware of information that might not otherwise be shared by the agencies. Remember that the Constable Deputies are duly constituted law enforcement officers. They have the ability to make “real” arrests (just like HPD and the Sheriff’s Department), can issue citations, and issue traffic tickets. And they are armed. The Patrol & Safety Committee is working at getting more Constable Patrol signs posted throughout Spring Shadows to make it known that they are patrolling Spring Shadows.

For life-threatening matters, we recommend that you call **911** first. For law enforcement matters, Houston Police Department officers will respond (not the Constables). If possible, should you need 911 for law enforcement, it would be best to also call the Constables, after you call 911.

Due to the COVID-19 outbreak, there are a greater number of people at home. From a security perspective, it means that there are more of us at home and able to look out for our neighbors. **“IF YOU SEE SOMETHING, SAY SOMETHING”**.

As of this writing (at the end of April), security matters appear to be relatively similar to prior years. One thing Spring Shadows has experienced, as has the rest of Spring Branch area, is an increase in thefts from motor vehicles, notably tire rim thefts during the early hours of the morning. Please take whatever precautions you can. Additionally, some residents are still failing to lock their vehicle’s doors at night and items are being stolen. We urge you to lock your vehicles’ doors when you are not present.

Spring Shadows  
Market Information for April 2020

Active Listings on 04/27/2020 26

12 months ending April 27, **2020**:

Number of Homes Sold	84
Average days on the market	73
Highest Priced Home	\$498,000
Average Sales Price/SqF	\$161.28
Average Sales Price	\$359,563

Prior year - 12 months ending April 27, **2019**:

Number of Homes Sold	109
Average days on the market	50
Highest Priced Home	\$544,000
Average Sales Price/SqFt	\$151.40
Average Sales Price	\$364,215

**CORONAVIRUS SHOWS LITTLE MEASURABLE EFFECT ON HOUSTON'S MARCH HOME SALES**

*Strong sales momentum through mid-March helps offset COVID-19's market impact later in the month*

**HOUSTON — (April 8, 2020) —** As COVID-19 ravages the physical and business health of the nation, its impact on the Houston real estate market only began to set in during the last week of March, and therefore caused little disruption to the month's overall performance. The full effect of the pandemic is expected to become more apparent when the April housing numbers are tallied.

Single-family homes priced between \$500,000 and \$750,000 led the way in March sales, followed by homes in the \$250,000 to \$500,000 range. Leases of single-family homes were also up for the month.

"What's about to happen to Houston real estate reminds me of Hurricane Harvey in that we are bracing for impact, but don't yet know what the full extent on the market will be," said HAR Chairman John Nugent. "There are consumers out there for whom finding a home is critical, however, HAR has urged all Realtor members to conduct as much business as possible online, using technology such as virtual open houses, virtual tours and electronic signature documents, in the interest of protecting everyone's health."

Broken out by housing segment, February sales performed as follows:

\$100,000 – \$149,999: decreased 17.7 percent

\$150,000 – \$249,999: increased 9.4 percent

\$250,000 – \$499,999: increased 13.2 percent

\$500,000 – \$749,999: increased 17.5 percent

HAR also breaks out sales figures for existing single-family homes. Existing home sales totaled 5,888 in March, up 6.3 percent compared to the same month last year. The average sales price increased 4.8 percent to \$300,164 while the median sales price rose 4.9 percent to \$236,000.. Information obtained from HAR MLS, is believed to be accurate but is not guaranteed. This should not be considered an opinion of value.

Prepared by:

**ARLENE NOVICK,**  
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Keller Williams Realty Metropolitan  
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713-898-0818

# EXTERNAL BRANDING COMMITTEE

Ken Arnold, Arlene Novick, Ben Gillis, Allison Melnar, Dave Durham, Rob Cooms, Carolyn Clay, Geri Powell



Spring Shadows



## Education

**Public Schools** – the highly regarded Spring Branch Independent School district (SBISD)

### Early Learning Centers

SBISD offers exemplary full-day Pre-Kindergarten programs.

### Elementary Schools

- Terrace, achieving high teacher retention rates, with many teachers and staff living nearby
- Spring Shadows, offering a social and emotional learning program based on horseback riding
- Pine Shadows, offering a program where both Spanish and English speakers achieve bilingual capability

### Middle and High Schools

Spring Shadows' zoned Middle Schools include Spring Oaks, Spring Woods, and Northbrook; high schools include Spring Woods and Northbrook. Additional SBISD options include specialty schools for advanced studies as well as charter programs such as Cornerstone Academy, Westchester (international studies), YES Prep, and KIPP Courage.

**Schools serving Spring Shadows account for 5 out of the 6 total SBISD Principals of the Year honored between 2018 and 2020:**

SBISD Primary and Secondary Principals of the Year		
2020	2019	2018
Terrace Elementary Spring Woods High School	Northbrook High School	Pine Shadows Elementary Northbrook Middle School

### Private Schools

Some private schools near Spring Shadows:

- Houston Christian High School, a prestigious faith-based institution
- The Monarch School and Institute, for students with neurological differences
- The Arbor School, for children with developmental delays



Suburban living in the city

The **Neighborhood Guide** includes information regarding Education, Health & Wellness, Shopping, Parks and more. It will be distributed to local realtors.



## Spring Shadows



## Health and Wellness

Hospitals, emergency centers, urgent care facilities, parks, and fitness centers near Spring Shadows support all aspects of residents' health and wellness.

### Memorial City Medical Center

Located just three miles from Spring Shadows, Memorial Hermann Memorial City Medical Center repeatedly ranks in the top 5% of US hospitals, offering:

- More than 1,300 affiliated physicians representing 91 medical specialties
- 1,700 employees
- 444 licensed hospital beds

### Emergency Centers, Urgent Care Facilities, and Neighborhood EMTs

- With staffing and services comparable to those of hospital emergency rooms, area emergency centers include Sacred Heart Emergency Center and SignatureCare Emergency Center.
- Area urgent care facilities, suitable for minor conditions, include enTrust Immediate Care and Texas Children's Urgent Care.
- City of Houston Emergency Medical Technicians (EMTs) provide rapid response services from a command center in the heart of Spring Shadows.

### Parks and Green Spaces

Agnes Moffitt Park, Campbell Woods Park, the Emnora Lane Hike & Bike Trail, and many other area parks and green spaces provide opportunities for jogging, biking, swimming, and other healthy activities.

### Fitness Centers

Popular nearby centers for individual exercise, fitness training, and sports include:

- LA Fitness
- Planet Fitness
- Brenda and John Duncan YMCA



Suburban living in the city

**COMMUNITY AND GOVERNMENT COMMITTEE**  
**DAVID VAN BERGEN**

Spring Shadows Civic Association is continuing to coordinate closely with Council Member Amy Peck's office on several different projects that will affect Spring Shadows.

The Neuens Road project is fully funded and construction has begun on the detention basin and associated utilities at the corner of Neuens Road and Crestdale. This is the first part of the Spring Shadows South project which will eventually include paving and drainage improvements in Campbell Woods and Spring Shadows neighborhoods south of Buttermilk Creek. (008810)

The Spring Shadows North project is funded, however the City of Houston is still looking for additional detention needed for this project.

We have also worked with Harris County Flood Control to continue to keep Buttermilk Creek clear of debris, especially where Teague Road dead ends into the Buttermilk Creek right of way. The creek should be mowed during May as part of the regular HCFCD mowing schedule.

We have previously asked the City of Houston to reevaluate the intersection of Kempwood and Rosefield for installation of a traffic light due to increased accidents and traffic at this location due to the rise in traffic from new home construction in our area. Due to the Covid-19 furlough of many COH employees we have not had any movement on this issue.

The construction of underground utilities has begun for the Aldi grocery store on the old Pavillon site as well as for the Mister Car Wash. Spring Shadows Civic Association has been in contact with both concerning the need for sight and noise buffers on the East side of the site adjacent to Spring Shadows. Both have told us these will be installed during construction.

## MOSQUITO & HEALTH COMMITTEE REPORT

Debbie Dill

The 2020 Mosquito season, is upon us, and mosquitos carry various diseases. Spring Shadows has implemented a 2-part control program that targets mosquitos in both their larval and adult stages. We have contracted with a pest control service which began services in early April and will continue through October, with the option of extending the service another month if necessary. The first part is a larvicide control program which consists of dunks in the neighborhood's 206 storm drains and the second part targets the adult mosquitos with a weekly truck-based chemical fogging at night which covers the streets. If the weather does not permit the service, the provider will service our neighborhood the next time the provider has available.

You are responsible for your backyard protection. There are consumer products that may help which one find on the shelves of your local home improvement or hardware stores. Some that have been recommended by our neighbors are:

- Dunks—May be placed in standing water on your property to interrupt the mosquito life cycle
- Traps—Attracts and kills mosquitos and other flying insects without chemicals
- Spartan Eradicators—Water solution designed to attract and kill mosquitos.

You may also choose to hire a pest control service to combat mosquitos in your backyard. Some of the services they provide are automatic mister installation, backpack chemical fogging, and natural treatment options. I am not endorsing any particular service personally but these were also suggested by some of our neighbors.

Of course, there are steps each of us can take to prevent mosquitos in both our back and front yards. Please regularly inspect your property for standing water which mosquitos need to lay their eggs. Empty, scrub, turn over, cover or throw out items that hold water, such as tires, buckets, planters, planter saucers, toys, pools, birdbaths, flower pots or trash containers. Don't forget to check under hedges and foliage where rain water pools.

**Repel<sup>1</sup>:** Remember to use an Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) – registered insect repellent with one of the following active ingredients: DEET, Picardin, IR3535, oil of lemon eucalyptus or 2-undecanone.

- Reapply insect repellent every few hours, depending on product and strength you choose.
- If you are also using sunscreen, apply sunscreen first and insect repellent second.
- Do not use insect repellent on babies younger than 2 months of age. Do not use products containing oil of lemon eucalyptus (OLE) or para-menthane-diol (PMD) on children under 3 years of age.
- Use as directed on product label and follow cautionary and warning instructions on the label.

Take care, be well and have a safe summer/year!

1 Prevention and repellent information copied from the CDC's "Mosquito Bite Prevention" brochu\_us.pdf)

## HELPFUL COVID-19 RESOURCES

The following is a list of resources available regarding the current spread of COVID-19:

Centers for Disease Control: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>

Harris County Public Health: <http://www.hcphtx.org/Resources/2019-Novel-Coronavirus>

Houston Health Department COVID-19 call center: 832-393-4220

Houston Health Department COVID-19 news: <https://houstonemergency.org/covid19>

Any Houstonian, regardless of symptoms, may receive one free COVID-19 test at City of Houston **drive-thru testing sites**. Call **832-393-4220** for access code and directions to nearest site.

Harris County/Houston COVID-19 Tracking Information: <https://harriscounty.maps.arcgis.com/apps/opsdashboard/index.html#/c0de71f8ea484b85bb5efcb7c07c6914>

Daily Habits to Protect Yourself and Others: [https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html?deliveryName=USCDC\\_2067-DM26911](https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/prevention.html?deliveryName=USCDC_2067-DM26911)

Information regarding IRS Economic Impact Payments: <https://www.fdic.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments/index.html>

Spring Branch ISD COVID-19 Information: <https://www.springbranchisd.com/news/covid-19-resources>

Everyday preventative actions can help limit the spread!

Wash your hands regularly for 20 seconds. Stay home if you are sick or in an at-risk category. Cover your face with a mask in public. Avoid touching your face, eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands. Minimize contact with others, especially those in the at-risk community.

You are what makes Spring Shadows a great place to live.

Stay healthy!

**Hidden Number**

**\$75.00 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.

April

- Area 1 2527 Moss Hill
- Area 2 2714 Quincannon
- Area 3 2907 Manila
- Area 4 9618 Lawngate
- Area 5 2211 Rosefield

May

- Area 1 2606 Teague
- Area 2 2614 Shadowdale
- Area 3 3018 Durban
- Area 4 9639 Collen
- Area 5 2102 Eaglerock

**NO DUMPING ALLOWED**

It has come to the Association's attention that some residents and or yard crews are dumping yard waste in the Harris County Flood Control ditches and rights-of-way.

**DO NOT** use the ditches or rights-of-way for any type of waste dumping. Instead, please use the City of Houston approved yard waste bags for all yard debris.

Also, remember, **DO NOT** dump or blow any kind of waste into the street drains.

Consider using the City of Houston Adopt-A-Drain program. Learn more about this program at [www.HoustonAdoptaDrain.org](http://www.HoustonAdoptaDrain.org).

**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 **[sscaoffice@yahoo.com](mailto:sscaoffice@yahoo.com)**.

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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Spring Shadows Resident.

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Accredited by BBB and Angie's List Member  
Received Angie's Super Service Award in  
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### NOTE TO ADVERTISERS

The next issue of the Spring Shadows Civic Association Newscaster will be August 2020. Please advise the Association office if you plan to discontinue or change your ad for the new year no later than July 1, 2020. 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.

direct 713.898.0818

[a.novick@comcast.net](mailto:a.novick@comcast.net)

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Children's Lego Bible Study

[Stchrishouston.org](http://Stchrishouston.org) #heartofspringbranch



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**NOTE TO ADVERTISERS**

The next issue of the Spring Shadows Civic Association Newscaster will be August 2020. Please advise the Association office if you plan to discontinue or change your ad for the new year no later than July 1, 2020. 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.

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Owner

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## **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, 1/8<sup>th</sup> 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 1<sup>st</sup> for the following year's February Newscaster

February 1<sup>st</sup> for the April Newscaster

April 1<sup>st</sup> the June Newscaster

June 1<sup>st</sup> for the August Newscaster

August 1<sup>st</sup> for the October Newscaster; and

October 1<sup>st</sup> 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.

**THERE WILL NOT BE A SPRING SHADOWS FESTIVAL THIS YEAR**