

Spring Branch Civic Association

P.O. Box 430574, Houston TX 77243-0574

September 2021 Newsletter

Spring Branch Civic Association

Website: www.springbranchcivic.com

Email: sbcivicassn@gmail.com

Facebook: Spring Branch Civic Association

UPCOMING SBCA EVENTS:

- Sunday, October 10th, 3-5 pm, Fall Social at Lazy Oaks Beer Garden, 10158 Long Point Rd. The first 50 SBCA residents will receive two drink tickets. Lazy Oaks has a lovely shaded outdoor space plus beer, a full bar and FOOD! It is kid & dog friendly. For more info about Lazy Oaks, go to their website -- <https://www.lazyoaksbeergarden.com/>.
- Sunday, December 5th, 3-5 pm, SBCA Annual Holiday Open House at the home of SBCA President Caroline Horsley & husband Steve, 9917 Larston. SBCA will furnish beverages and light bites. You are welcome to contribute something to eat or drink. Join us to celebrate the season with your neighbors.

NATIONAL NIGHT OUT: This is a national event and scheduled in Houston for Tuesday, October 5th. It is designed to be an opportunity for communities to come together with law enforcement and elected officials. It's an outdoor event and we decided a couple of years ago to pass on NNO in favor of a fall social which will be on Oct. 10th. See details above. If anybody wants to host a NNO block party for their neighbors on Oct. 5th, send an email to sbcivicassn@gmail.com and we can help notify HPD and District A and can also help by furnishing water & ice.

SIDEWALK SUMMIT: At Large Council Members David Robinson and Sallie Alcorn will host a virtual Houston Sidewalk Summit on September 21, 2021, at 5:00 P.M. The Summit will bring together decision-makers and stakeholders for a candid discussion of current sidewalk regulations, municipal policies, and critical investments being made in Houston. New ideas for addressing the city's sidewalk challenges and improving the overall pedestrian experience will also be discussed. To register, go to www.bit.ly/sidewalks/hou.

ANIMAL SHELTERS: Animal shelters in our area have been at capacity and now even more so with the influx of rescues from Hurricane Ida in Louisiana. There are so

many cats and dogs that need a home. If you are contemplating adding a pet to your family, please consider adopting an animal in need. The City of Houston shelter is known as BARC and you should visit the website for more information – <http://www.houstontx.gov/barc/>. There is also a need for foster families – people who take care of a dog or a cat until it is adopted. Search for animal shelters in our area and the website for each shelter will have information about adoption, donations, and volunteer opportunities.

YARD OF THE MONTH: Congratulations to homeowners at 1309 Bullock and 1322 Oak Tree who are the recipients of Yard of the Month for September! Other addresses that have earned the award in recent months are: 1306 Springrock Ln, 9730 Tappenbeck, 9713 Pine Lake and 9765 Oak Point. Check 'em out!

SPEED HUMPS ON TAPPENBECK: The section of Tappenbeck east of Bunker Hill (street numbers 9702-9762) is getting speed humps. Hopefully it will slow down or even discourage some of the cut through traffic on that street!

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES AT WOODVIEW

ELEMENTARY: Woodview always appreciates anyone willing to participate in their mentor program or to volunteer in some other capacity which could involve reading to a class once a week or shelving books in the library. Also, the school accepts book donations appropriate for elementary school students. Woodview would also welcome sponsors for teacher development events which are scheduled for Oct. 8th, Jan. 3rd and Feb. 21st. If you are interested in exploring how you can contribute, contact Laura Vargas Cantu, Student Support Specialist. Her office number is 713-251-7847 or you may send her an email -- Laura.Vargas@springbranchisd.com.

OAK TREE PARK: Volunteers work regularly on our park at 1441 Oak Tree which SBCA adopted from the City of



Houston earlier in the year. We meet at 8 AM on the 2nd Tuesday and the 4th Saturday of every month and spend a couple of hours at the most. Come when you can and do what you can. Or, you could donate a mow. Either mow it yourself or pay your lawn guy to mow it or donate \$60 to SBCA. Send an email to sbciviccassn@gmail.com if you are interested in donating a mow. When we get some cooler weather, we will schedule a social in the park.

SBCA COMMUNICATIONS: SBCA communicates via our newsletter (2 or 3 times a year) plus, and more often, by email, NextDoor, Facebook and our website – www.springbranchcivic.com. If you want to join NextDoor (it is a free website that connects neighbors & neighborhoods) or if you want to receive SBCA emails, let us know via email to sbciviccassn@gmail.com.

DEED RESTRICTIONS: Residents should be aware of deed restrictions which are in place for all homes within SBCA. If everyone at least keeps an eye out for their subdivision, we can keep deed restriction violations to a minimum and maintain the integrity of the restrictions. Go to our website -- www.springbranchcivic.com – for a copy of the deed restrictions. Deed restrictions are also recorded in Harris County Deed Records. The City of Houston Legal Dept. enforces some of the covenants, such as minimum lot size, building setback, and usage (such as residential only). Click on the following link for more information about City Legal and this process – <https://www.houstontx.gov/legal/deed.html>. Residents should be proactive about deed restrictions. Please familiarize yourself with your restrictions.

CITY ORDINANCES: There are also City of Houston Ordinances which we should be aware of such as an overgrown yard, heavy trash at curb before allowed, junk cars, etc. Violations of a City ordinance should be reported to 3-1-1 by phone or email or online. There is a 311 app now! This neighborhood is the responsibility of all residents and we need the help of all residents to protect our investment.

CITY OF HOUSTON TRASH PICK UP & RECYCLING: Heavy trash pick up for our neighborhood is on the 4th Wednesday of every month. Junk waste is picked up on "even" numbered months. Tree waste is picked up on "odd" numbered months. If you put out junk waste on an odd month, the City will not pick it up! **SEPTEMBER IS A TREE WASTE ONLY MONTH!!** Recycling (green bin) is picked up every other Friday. Also, every Friday, the City picks up "yard waste" which could be bags of leaves (only in City approved compostable plastic bags) and small bundled limbs. More information about heavy trash and

recycling is on the solid waste page of the City's website: <http://houstontx.gov/solidwaste/>.

PLACEMENT OF TRASH & RECYCLE BINS: The garbage & recycle trucks are equipped with automatic "arms" that pick up the bins to dump the contents into the back of the truck. If your bins are placed too closely together, there is not room for the "arms." You can find Curbside Collection Guidelines on the City's Solid Waste web page (houstontx.gov/solidwaste) under Department Rules & Regulations. Basically though, the bins should be at the curb (NOT in the street) with the handle facing the house, and with at least 3 feet of space all the way around each bin.

SBCA BOARD MEMBERS:

At our Spring Social, Board Members were elected for one year terms & then the Board voted on Officers: Caroline Horsley, Pres; Craig Adams, VP; Jonathan St. Romain, Sec.; Cyd Dillahunty, Treas.; Charmaine Bixler. Helga Nagy has since joined the board. **NOTE:** We currently have six board members & by-laws provide for a nine-person board! If you are interested in participating, please send an email to sbciviccassn@gmail.com.

SBCA MEMBERSHIP – ANNUAL DUES ONLY \$20

There is a PayPal button on our website (www.springbranchcivic.com) where you can pay your dues via a PayPal account or with a credit card. Or you can mail a check to SBCA at PO Box 430574, Houston, TX 77243-0574. Please join SBCA to support our efforts to provide venues for neighbors to meet, to help maintain Oak Tree Park, and to produce our newsletter.

IMPORTANT CONTACTS:

HPD Northwest Substation - (832)394-5500
District A Office (CM Amy Peck) - (832) 393-3010
State Senator - John Whitmire - (713)864-8701
State Representative – Lacey Hull - (512) 463-0727

Printing provided by SBCA Board President, Caroline Horsley, who is also a realtor. If you use her services, please mention this newsletter. Thank you, Caroline!!

***Caroline Horsley, Realtor
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Spring Branch Area Specialist
#runningrealtor
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