



COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

OLDE OAKS COMMUNITY IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION

LOOKING FOR BOARD MEMBERS

The month of February is fast approaching. February is the month when the Olde Oaks/Waterford Park Community Improvement Association (OOCIA) holds the annual members meeting. The annual members meeting is held each year on the second Wednesday in February. One of the main purposes of this meeting is for the Association members to select new Board members through a vote. The number of Board positions up for election is outlined in the By-Laws which govern the Board. Our By-Laws state that two Directors shall be elected in each odd calendar year and three Directors shall be elected in each even calendar year.” With the calendar rolling over to 2021, the **February 10, 2021** member meeting will see the election of two Board members.

For the community members to be able to select and vote for Directors there must be residents willing to step up and be a part of the community as Board members. An OOCIA Board member supports the community by ensuring the annual budget is sufficient to maintain the community without being burdensome on the residents. A Board member interacts with the Association management company,

ensuring the community standards are adhered to and annual dues are collected in a timely manner. Board members attend monthly meetings and conduct business between sessions as required.

Are you ready to step up and give back to the community which you felt was the right place to purchase your home and raise your family? If so, please visit OOCIA.org. Once there navigate to the home page where there is a form for you to download and fill out your candidate bio information. Once completed, your biography should be sent to Pam@Crest-Management.com. If you prefer you may

contact Pam at 281-579-0761 to receive a candidate questionnaire form, which you may then return to her.

Time is of the essence. Candidate biographies should be submitted at the earliest possible time, by **December 9**, for publication in the January newsletter; however submit no later than **December 30** for publication in the February newsletter. Please be sure to submit a small head shot photo to add with your bio. For best results the photo should be sent as a separate JPG file rather than being embedded in the text.

Submitted by Charles “Chuck” Gaimari



**NO HOA MEETING
IN DECEMBER**

NO BOOK CLUB MEETING

DATES TO REMEMBER

Newsletter Deadline – December 9

First Day of Hanukkah – December 11

First Day of Winter – December 21

Christmas – December 25

New Year’s Eve – December 31

celebrate
Christmas
with Kinsmen

Christmas Eve Candlelight Services
Livestreaming AND In-Person with RSVP

- 2 p.m. - Family Worship
- 4 p.m. - Contemporary Worship
- 6 p.m. - Santa Misa en español
- 8 and 10 p.m. - Traditional Worship



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Wishing all my neighbors and friends a Safe and Joyous Holiday Season. Merry Christmas!

During this time of uncertainty in our country and community, let us stay mindful of the safety and health of those around us while still giving thanks to everyone and everything!

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kinsmenlutheran.org

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For information on this and other neighborhood publications, please call

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WREATHS ACROSS AMERICA – HOUSTON

Wreaths Across America – Houston places wreaths on the headstones of our nation's fallen heroes at the Houston National Cemetery every year. Donations are needed to buy the wreaths. Each wreath costs \$15 and \$5 of that can be designated to a charity of your choice (many choose Camp Hope to receive the \$5 to care for veterans in need). This year, due to COVID-19, several things have changed. There will be no ceremony or patriotic parade through the cemetery. Special request day is **December 18** and a drive-through wreath laying will be on **December 19**. For more information, check out their website at www.waa.houston.com, call 281-540-9444 or email info@waahouston.org.

JOY OF GARDENING – WINTERIZING

Howdy neighbors, it's time to winterize your yard and garden! Below are steps you can take to prepare. Remember, have fun and stay hydrated!

- Clean out all the weeds. Start with your garden beds. Let perennials such as pentas, periwinkles, coneflowers, hosta and lilies die back or go dormant. (A perennial is plant that may go dormant or die back but returns in the spring or summer, sometimes for many years). Surround them with mulch and put a stake next to them so you don't accidentally dig them up or plant over them. They will come back in the spring!
- Mulch around your veggies and herbs. Mulching adds organic matter to the soil, deters weeds, insulates and protects the plants, and prevents plants from growing prematurely before winter is over. Talk about a money saver, pine needles make a fantastic mulch! I knocked on neighbor's door and asked if I could rake his lawn for pine needles. His first reaction was shock; now he bags them for me and I share my veggies with him. Live near a senior or invalid? What a great act of kindness it would be to rake their lawn and leave some mulch for them!
- Plant your bulbs. Check the kind of soil used for bulbs. Many like a sandier soil because they don't like their feet wet – bulbs don't like to be in standing water. The Internet is a great resource for planting and soil guides.
- Plant your winter flowers. Before planting, lightly turn your soil and mix with compost and fertilizer. Pansies, cyclamen and snapdragons can be planted right now. They may have bit of trouble in the dead of winter so mulch really well after planting and keep them watered to prevent hard freezing.
- Move tender plants indoors. Many potted plants are vulnerable in the winter. Pull plumerias out of their containers, remove the leaves and store in a plastic bag inside. Most other potted plants can be wrapped before a freeze or moved to your garage or indoors. Bushes like hibiscus and hamelia can be wrapped before freezes. Continue to water them and make sure they get light. Open your garage door a few times a week in the winter to allow light in.
- Compost and fertilize your yard. Weed your yard first and fill in any grass gaps with plugs, then add compost and fertilizer if you haven't already done so. If your soil is really packed down, now is the time to aerate.

By Eleese Lester-Baier © 11.7.2020

The *Olde Oaks Community Newsletter* is published monthly for the residents of Olde Oaks and Waterford Park in partnership with Champions Printing & Publishing, Inc.

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JANUARY NEWSLETTER DEADLINE IS DECEMBER 9

Editor: Tanya Pilant | Send information and questions to occiaeditor@gmail.com

OOCIA MANAGEMENT COMPANY

Crest Management Company, AAMC
281-579-0761 | Fax 281-579-7062
(for deed restrictions, neighborhood
management and property improvements)

www.crest-management.com
pam@crest-management.com

OLDE OAKS CIA 2020 BOARD

Charles "Chuck" Gaimari, President
cgaimari.oocia.board@gmail.com

Randy Darland, Vice President
rdarlandoociaboard@gmail.com

Deborah Plance, Treasurer
deborahplance.oocia.board@gmail.com

MJ Shannon, Secretary
mjshannonooociaboard@gmail.com

Debbie Aiello, Deputy Patrol Coordinator
debbieoociaboard@gmail.com

MUNICIPAL UTILITY DISTRICTS (MUD)

Manhole/Sewer Backup | 713-983-3602

MUD #20

www.edpwater.com/your_district.html

Billing, Service & Emergencies
832-467-1599

Board Meetings:

First Tuesday of month, 11:30 a.m.
10000 Memorial Drive, Suite 260
713-951-0800

MUD #44

[www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/
harris-county-mud-44](http://www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/harris-county-mud-44)

Billing, Service & Emergencies
281-376-8802

Board Meetings:

Second Tuesday of month, 4 p.m.
(Call before to confirm),
15705 N. Greenfield Drive

Bammel Utility District Office
281-376-8802

[www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/
bammel-utility-district](http://www.wdmtexas.com/districts-served/bammel-utility-district)

Board Meetings:

Second Monday of month, 7 p.m.
3906 Gladeridge (clubhouse)

CLASSIFIED ADS: Don't forget that the classifieds are free to all Olde Oaks residents. Use this section to buy and sell personal items. All we ask is that no adult-owned business ads be turned in, such as real estate, in-home operated businesses or fee-based services. If you'd like to advertise your adult-owned business and support our newsletter, call Champions Printing & Publishing, Inc. at 281-583-7661. The editor retains exclusive right to accept or reject any classified deemed unfit. Your classified will run for one month. If you want to run it for a longer period of time, please resubmit your ad by the newsletter deadline for each month you'd like it to appear.



TIPS TO WINTERIZE YOUR HOME

Protect your pipes and faucets. Locate any pipes on outer walls. The pipes can be wrapped with heat tape and the faucets wrapped with insulated materials to prevent breakage.

Disconnect hoses from outside faucets and put them in the garage or a storage shed.

Heating system – It's a good idea to schedule a yearly HVAC inspection to hopefully prevent emergency visits. Change your air filters regularly to maximize furnace life and efficiency.

Have your chimney, flue and fireplace inspected by a professional before building the first fire of the season. If necessary, have your chimney cleaned to remove any soot buildup and ensure safety. Make sure the chimney is clear of any nests from birds, squirrels or other small animals. You can get a bird chimney cap to keep birds and squirrels from making nests in the chimney. Check the damper to make sure it opens and closes fully, and that it can be locked in the open or closed position. Check the chimney draft to make sure the chimney will draw up the fire and smoke properly. You can buy a chimney balloon for use when the chimney is not in active use to keep drafts out and heat in.

Sprinkler system – As a general rule, you should winterize your system at least a week before the first freeze is expected. Your grass will survive without regular watering during that time, as the plants are already preparing for the dry winter season. Prepare your sprinkler system for winter by draining the lines and shutting down the water supply to the system. If water is trapped in the supply lines to the backflow preventer, the water could freeze and cause the pipes to split or burst. Leave the controller plugged in since the small amount of heat it gives off will prevent condensation from building up inside the device.

Caulk your doors and windows to keep out cold air, moisture and bugs.

Adding insulation to your attic is one of the easiest ways to increase your home's energy efficiency.

Ceiling fans. Reverse your ceiling fan in the winter. Your fan should run at a low speed in a clockwise direction.

Protect windows from heat loss. For those with single pane windows, to help keep chilly air from leaking in through window cracks, swap out the lightweight summer curtains with thermal lined curtains or drapes. They'll help keep your home warm and lower your heating bill. Open your drapes to let the sunlight in and for windows that don't get direct sunlight, keep the curtains or drapes closed to keep the cold air out and the warm air in.

Protect your plants. You may need to bring inside plants and flowering trees that are cold intolerant or cover them before a really cold freeze.

Protect your pets. Bring pets inside or provide an outdoor shelter. If it's too cold/hot for you, then assume it is also uncomfortable for them.

YARDS OF THE MONTH FOR NOVEMBER

Congratulations

TO OUR NOVEMBER WINNERS!

We appreciate everyone's efforts to
keep our neighborhood beautiful!

Pictures are courtesy of Ryan and Royale Jockers.



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and look forward to singing for you again soon!

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ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL COMMITTEE REMINDER

Each homeowner who plans any improvements to the exterior of the home or elsewhere on the property must obtain **written approval** from the Architectural Control Committee (ACC) prior to beginning work on the modification. Completion of work without prior approval could lead to a requirement to remove and restore the property to its original condition.

Remember: The goal of the ACC is to serve both you and the community by determining that your finished improvement will comply with the deed restrictions, architectural standards and guidelines and enhance the value of your property.

To seek approval the owner must complete an application form and submit it to the ACC. The committee has 30 days to review the application and render a decision, so please plan accordingly. *The 30-day period begins on the date that a complete application has been received including all required documentation, not on the date the original application is signed by the owner.* All work must be completed within 90 days of the approval or a new approval request will be required.

ACC approval is required for any changes or additions, including but not limited to items such as:

- A swimming pool
- Addition of or modification to fencing
- Painting of the exterior of the home, trim, or front door (even if using the same color)
- Replacement of windows
- Addition of a gazebo, fountain, or large play equipment
- Addition of a garage, storage shed, garden house, outdoor kitchen or other structure
- Roof replacement, if a different type or color of shingle will be used

Architectural Control Guidelines and a link to submit applications online may be found at oocia.org/architectural-control-1.

PREPARE YOUR HEART FOR CHRISTMAS AT KINSMEN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Kinsmen Lutheran Church will offer events throughout the month of December designed to prepare your heart for Christmas. Whether gathering online or in person, in English or Spanish, all events are free and the community is warmly invited to join in.

Worship services on weekends in December will focus on the theme of “Comfort and Joy,” focusing on God’s hope, peace, light, joy, comfort and love. Midweek worship services will be held during Advent on Wednesdays at 7 p.m. Midweek services on **December 2 and 9** will center around Holden Evening Prayer, a contemplative, music-filled service, while children lead a joyful presentation on **December 16**.

Sagrada Familia, the Spanish-speaking ministry of Kinsmen, will offer worship services in Spanish at 12:30 p.m. on **Sunday, December 13** to celebrate Our Lady of Guadalupe, and outdoors at 6:30 p.m. **Saturday, December 19** to celebrate Las Posadas.

The final Wednesday Advent service on **December 23** will be a special “Longest Night” worship service for those who are grieving or do not feel joy this season. The service begins at 7 p.m. and includes Holy Communion.

“This has been a hard year, and even our Christmas celebrations may be different in terms of gathering with family and friends,” said the Reverend Dr. Beth Warpmaeker, senior pastor of Kinsmen. “But the greatest gift of all time is one that never changes. Out of his great love for us, God sent Jesus. And through this tiny baby, the vast love of God was poured out for all of us in a way that transformed everything forever.”

As the big day arrives, celebrate Christmas Eve with Kinsmen! Christmas Eve candlelight services will take place on **Thursday, December 24** online, or at limited capacity in-person worship services. Services will include a child-focused family service at 2 p.m., contemporary worship at 4 p.m., Spanish language at 6 p.m., and festival worship with organ at 8 and 10 p.m. Holy Communion will be offered at each service.

To reserve your place for an in-person experience on Christmas Eve, complete the RSVP form at www.kinsmenlutheran.org. To experience the services online, visit www.kinsmenlutheran.org and follow the link to the congregation’s livestream services on YouTube.

Located at 12100 Champion Forest Drive in Houston, Kinsmen Lutheran Church is a congregation that strives to be rooted in faith and relevant to life. For more information, please visit www.KinsmenLutheran.org or call 281-444-3126.

ZOO LIGHTS

'Tis the season for your favorite holiday tradition! Through January 10

'Tis the season for Houston’s favorite holiday event! We’re here to make your year a little brighter as you take in the sights and sounds of the holiday season. Stroll through a 125-footlong, Infinity Tunnel of Light, see dragons come to life in the 4-D Enchanted Forest presented by King & Spalding LLP, and experience “snow” in Texas! You can also take a socially distanced photo with Santa as he prepares for the holidays in his workshop and more! For more information, visit www.houstonzoo.org/events/zoolights.



Due to precautions related to COVID-19, some events and activities may be curtailed, postponed, or canceled. Please refer to provided contact information before making plans.

PEARL FINCHER MUSEUM OF FINE ARTS SCHOOL OF ART



The new School of Art at the Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts will offer its second session of classes beginning January 11. Classes will be offered for ages 8-10, 11-13, and adults. For more information or to register visit www.pearlmfa.org/schoolofart.

Registration for the next session of classes at the new Pearl Fincher Museum of Fine Arts School of Art is now underway, with classes set to begin **January 11**.

The School of Art offers curriculum-based art instruction taught by some of Houston's finest professional art educators. In a small group setting, students are provided unique opportunities to enhance their creative expression and technical skills, within an atmosphere where the artistic spirit is nurtured and creativity is allowed to flourish.

The early spring session runs from **January 11** through **March 6**. Classes will be offered for ages 8-10, 11-13, and adults, with subjects including ceramics, watercolor, mixed media, drawing, and acrylic painting.

For more information or to register, visit www.pearlmfa.org/schoolofart or contact Karri Clark, School of Art Coordinator, at karripfmfa@gmail.com.

EMERGENCY NUMBERS

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 Nonemergency Sheriff | 713-221-6000
 Fire Department – Klein Volunteer
 281-251-0101
 Animal Control | 281-999-3191
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Social distancing with a good read!

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During this busy time of year,
it's important to remember the
most significant things in life . . .

Family, Faith & Friends.

Wishing you and your family many
simple pleasures this holiday season.

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AN EMERGENCY IS ALWAYS AN EMERGENCY.
We can see you safely.

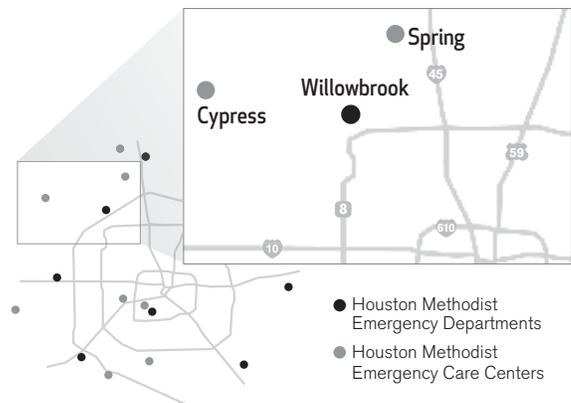


If you need emergency care, don't ignore your symptoms.

If you are experiencing concerning symptoms that require immediate medical attention, don't let your worry about the coronavirus keep you from heading to the emergency room right away — especially if you are at risk for heart attack or stroke.

At Houston Methodist Emergency Care Centers and Emergency Departments, we are taking every necessary precaution to keep you safe, including:

- Isolating suspected coronavirus patients
- Screening visitors before entering our clinics
- Increasing levels of cleaning in our facilities
- Requiring masks and ensuring social distancing in waiting rooms — if you forget your mask, we can provide one, if needed



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