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May newsletter only sent via email.



Re: eNews | Spring Grove Village, 5/7/20

Hello Good Neighbors,

Again, our Community Council meeting as well as our newsletter for May have been cancelled (see below for information about joining us for a virtual open house). Some good news – the City will begin yard waste collection this week (for SGV, that is Thursday, May 7, and every other week thereafter). Bulk and tire pickups will not be available until June 1.

You may have lots of questions about when and how this horrible pandemic will end and what things might look like when this lock-down is lifted. Labor leaders along with national, state, regional, county, and city elected officials are hosting a valuable panel discussion addressing how best to “Reopen America.” At the heart of this discussion is “Safety First: Working People’s Plan for Reopening

Our Economy." Thought some of you might be interested. It will be held this Friday, May 8 at 11:00 am. Follow this link for more information:
<https://conta.cc/2YOPJgn>

It's spring time in the neighborhood (though it seems we are back in winter every other day)! And everything is growing. Good to see so many folks getting outside to work in their yards. Grass is growing fast and may be a challenge to keep up. Watch out for a neighbor that might need some help. With this Coronavirus, all of us are challenged in some way to deal with change and in many cases stress. Let us use this time to remember to be neighborly. Be mindful of those around us. Increase our outreach, if just to check in. Consider what excess we might have to offer someone else in need.

We hope to see you all again soon. Stay safe.

Gary Robbins, President
Spring Grove Village Community Council
513-702-7029

Virtual Community Council Open House

Though we are not planning to host any in-person community gatherings, we still want to provide an opportunity to hear from you. In lieu of our in-person council meeting on Tuesday, May 12 at 7:00pm, we will again host a virtual open house for any who would like to participate. [Use this link to join a Zoom video conference from your computer or smartphone.](#) You may need to input the following information:

- Meeting ID: 880 6048 5661
- Password: 484771

If you have questions, comments, or feedback, please call 513-542-1750 or email springgrovevillage@gmail.com.



Cincinnati Zoo's Plant for Pollinators Challenge

by Gary Robbins, Community Council
President

We were hoping to host our May Council meeting at one of our greenhouses and have a guest speaker from the Zoo to update us on their Pollinator Challenge. Some of you may remember their visit last year. Our neighborhood has lots of flowers and other plants that depend greatly on pollinators. Some of you have registered your gardens at the Zoo's [Plant for Pollinator Challenge website](#). The challenge continues this season and we hope you will consider learning more about pollinator plants and add some to your yard or gardens. Check out [this great 4-minute video](#) featuring Christina from the Zoo telling you about pollinator planting. And [here is another video](#) hosted by Steve Foltz, Director of Horticulture, giving a spring walking tour through the many flower gardens blooming now at the Zoo – you'll like this!



Winton Place Youth Center Updates

by Jamieson Williams, WPYC Executive Director

WPYC is hosting silent auction items on our Facebook page! We are using this as a temporary measure in order to keep WPYC viable after the COVID-19 pandemic passes through. Our Facebook (and all social media accounts) can be found as WPYouthCenter. For more information and updates, you can visit www.wpyouthcenter.org.



The Grand Raffle will now be drawn on May 18. The prizes are \$500 Kroger Gift Card, \$400 Amazon Gift Card, \$250 Marathon Gas Card, & \$250 Findlay Market Gift Card. Tickets can be purchased on our website, from board members, or via mail, if you prefer. Tickets bought virtually

will be filled out by WPYC staff and volunteers. 1 ticket for \$1, 6 tickets for \$5, and 15 tickets for \$10.

As of right now, WPYC is hoping to still host our summer program though it's possible this may change. If you would like to help provide scholarships for our families, please let us know by contacting info@wpyouthcenter.org or calling 513-681-8004 (calls will be returned when staff return).



Any donations to the Winton Place Youth Center would be highly appreciated and we want to thank the Spring Grove Village community for helping support us for the last 35 years. Donations can be made via our website or checks mailed to the Youth Center.

COVID-19: The Path Forward

by Jerry Carrico, Community Council Vice President

The Surgeon General said that Easter Week would be our Pearl Harbor moment. I believe he nailed it. New York has now suffered more deaths from COVID-19 than it suffered from the Spanish flu during all of 1918, the year of the last pandemic. The number of unemployed now nearly equals that of the Great Depression.



These are staggering numbers. It is a Pearl Harbor moment indeed. It is also important to remember that Pearl Harbor did not end World War II for us; it only ignited it. We have a long battle ahead; but unlike Pearl Harbor, this enemy is unseen and as sneaky as the Viet Cong.

The one bright spot is that this has galvanized our resolve just like Pearl Harbor did for the generations of that time. There have been amazing acts of courage and sacrifice as front line workers have volunteered to serve in hot zones. And let's not forget the essential workers who have worked to keep some sense of normalcy during these times. There has been an incredible sense of solidarity

as neighbor has reached out to help neighbor and stressed food pantries have seen record donations. These acts of kindness have been everywhere.

We will get through this. We will do it just like the generations before us who weathered the Great Depression and World War II: by taking the long view to recovery and watching each other's backs in the meantime. For the generations alive today, this will be our defining challenge. There will be losses: jobs, nest eggs, and loved ones. Let us not be defined by the hardships but by our responses to them. Like Red Green says, "I'm pulling for you. We are all in this together."

SGV Community Garden: A Safe, Healthy Hobby for Spring, Summer and Fall!

by Nannie Oliver, Garden Coordinator &
Andrea Farmer, Garden Secretary

The weather has turned the corner into springtime, and the SGV Garden has beds available for \$25 each! Beginning and experienced gardeners are ALL welcome! Please call Garden Coordinator Nannie Oliver at 513-542-8440 and she can help you select garden beds of your very own!



Although we will probably be having fewer group volunteer days this year, gardeners are welcome to work on their plots whenever they wish, and Nannie and Andrea will be available all season to answer any gardening questions. While we do have tools available to garden members, if you have your own, we suggest you bring them to ensure everyone's safety this year. If you don't have your own tools, you are welcome to use the SGV garden tools, but please wear gloves, clean tool handles with sanitizer after using them, and be sure to sanitize any common surfaces, such as the water pump, gate, and padlocks before and after using.

The garden soil in the beds is excellent, and it has been amended for the past 3 years with rich, fluffy leaf compost. Hoses will be hooked up to the water pump in May so you can water in your seeds and plants. If you would like some flower seeds to get you started, please contact Andrea Farmer at andreastephaniefarmer@gmail.com and as long as supplies last, she can send you some free marigold, coneflower, angel's trumpet, and velvet/cockscorn celosia seeds in the mail--all can be planted outdoors once the soil temperatures are 70 degrees or higher, usually in early to mid-May.

Happy Gardening, Everyone!

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