



Re: eNews | Spring Grove Village, 4/3/20

Hello Good Neighbors,

I hope you are all doing well during this difficult time in history. Take care of yourselves and your neighbors.

Unfortunately, our April Community Council meeting as well as our April Newsletter have been cancelled. And, sad to say, our Clean-up Day and BLITZ Week with dumpsters were cancelled also!

The City has announced that due to staffing cut-backs during this shutdown, no bulk pick-ups nor tire pick-ups will be available until June. Likewise, yard waste collection will be deferred until June.

WPYC Updates

The Winton Place Youth Center could use your help. As you may have already heard, their big spring Dinner and Silent Auction, scheduled for April 18th, is postponed. This is their major

fundraiser for the year. They are, however, still hosting a Grand Raffle with major prizes. Please consider helping out by buying raffle tickets. Chances are \$1 each, 6 for \$5. THE BEST DEAL IS A PAGE OF 15 CHANCES FOR \$10. If anyone is looking for tickets or ways to support WPYC, please visit www.wpyouthcenter.org.

SGV Community Garden Updates

Our Community Garden Committee reports that garden beds are ready and available! Beds are \$25 each to rent. Contact Nannie Oliver to make your reservation, 513-542-8440.

Support Local Business

Big News! **80 Acres Farms** is introducing **direct-to-customer curbside produce pickup** at their Este 4535 Este Avenue location! 80 Acres representative Rebecca Haders says, "We want to support our community with local, fresh and nutritious foods in this time of need. We offer two different bundle options with our favorite products, available for touch-less curbside pickups on Friday's from 4-6 pm and Sunday's from 12-2 pm. We have made it super easy to order on our online app: <https://shop.80acresfarms.com/>. Customers arrive at the farm during their pickup time, then text us their confirmation number and we will bring the order right to them. We are proud to serve our community and hope that this online service will broaden the accessibility of our products to more of our neighbors."



Our Kroger store on Kenard Avenue is quite busy with lots of indoor foot traffic. You may find the thought of shopping there to be too risky during this time of social distancing. Please consider using ClickList—their free curbside pick-up service. You place your itemized order on line or via their smart phone app. When it's ready, they bring it to your car. Many folks are using this convenient service for the first time. Please note there is about a 3-day waiting list, so plan head. Don't hesitate to call the store at 513-681-7650 with questions.

Many area businesses are feeling the stress. For them, it might involve loss of business or the strain of managing their businesses in a way that allows them to do so safely. For some, it will mean tough decisions like shutdowns and layoffs. How can we be helpful? Many are still open but only via curbside takeout. Some could handle online business. But maybe they could use a card that says we're thinking of them. Think of those businesses here that you know and consider how you might be able to reach out. **These are our neighbors and very important to the livelihood of our neighborhood. Many, like our greenhouses, have been in business here for generations.**

2020 Census & Election

In the midst of all the health-related shutdown, the government is still trying to complete the 2020 Census. You should have received a postcard or an actual form to fill out and mail in. Completing it online really only takes 10-minutes. Census workers will have to visit the homes of people who don't respond online. **Save the risk of a home visit and respond to the census survey now.**

Also, in the midst of this pandemic, **the State of Ohio is working to complete the 2020 Primary Election.** Hopefully most of you have already voted early. For those who still need to vote, the Ohio General Assembly has extended the vote-by-mail deadline through April 28. You can request your absentee ballot by calling the Board of Elections at 513- 632-7000 or by going to: <https://votehamiltoncountyohio.gov/> to print your vote-by-mail ballot request. [We understand that these forms are also available at Kroger stores.]



When your actual ballot arrives, it must be filled out and signed and can be dropped off at the Board of Elections by 4/28 OR mailed with a postmark no later than 4/27. Don't wait until the last minute! This election is very important to us—for more than determining a presidential candidate. In Hamilton County, there are a number of hotly competitive local races, plus a very important transportation sales tax levy (Issue 7) that will be decided by the people who vote. **Make sure your voice is heard!**

Some Good News Stories

Waterfields, one of our local hydroponics companies, had extra salad greens on hand. Laura Kristal, owner of Sally's Kitchen on the corner of N. Edgewood & E. Epworth, has for the past two Saturdays offered those greens to neighbors for free. If you, or someone you know, has such an offer to put out for neighbors, please let us know.

Someone dumped a load of tires on the sidewalk last week. This presented a problem since the City is not available to help at this time with tire pickup. Left in place this would just attract further dumping. **Thank you to a kind and generous neighbor,** we temporarily moved the tires and stored them behind her shed until a later pickup can be arranged.

I received a call from a neighbor asking if I knew anyone who needed help during this shutdown. She works from home but is generously willing, after hours, to help any neighbor who might be afraid or unable to get out to the store for food or medicine. **If you are in need of such assistance or if you are also willing to volunteer,** please call our neighborhood hotline, 513-542-1750, or email to springgrovevillage@gmail.com. Nextdoor might also be a good place for neighbors to communicate about this.

One quality of our community, identified through our SGV 2.0 Neighborhood Plan, is that folks here in Spring Grove Village are caring and welcoming. I recall hearing from newcomers, on more than one occasion, that “neighbors here actually talk with each other.” That is always a heartwarming testimony to who we are. 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.

You are getting this eNews because you have shared your email permission with us along the way. Sadly, many other neighbors only get this news when they receive our paper newsletter. Please consider passing this electronic edition along to your circle of neighbors and encourage them to sign up for our email list. (They will get it sooner, electronically and in color!)

And, since this stay-at-home order may be in effect for some indeterminate amount of time, we’re going to experiment with virtual online meeting technology – just in case we see a need to do this in the future. If you would like to participate in this practice session, join in on Tuesday, 4/7, at 7pm. Use this link to join the Zoom video conference from your computer: <https://us04web.zoom.us/j/297781523> or from your smartphone using this meeting ID: 297 781 523. Questions, comments, suggestions or feedback, call 542-1750 or email springgrovevillage@gmail.com.

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

Gary Robbins, President
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