

SPRING GROVE VILLAGE

JANUARY 2021



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

BY GARY ROBBINS,
SGV COMMUNITY COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Hello Good Neighbors,

As we wrap up this most unusual year of 2020, we have lots to be grateful for.

Though, 2021 still holds a lot of stress as we work through this pandemic. Here are a couple things we are thankful for. First, Annie Hilson, our Council Treasurer, retires after serving us well for more than 5 years on our board. Annie, we wish you well. Also, we have a dedicated Council board serving all of us in 2021. Welcome to Dave Wesenberg joining the board and serving as our new Treasurer.

Hope you will join us for our January Virtual Council meeting on 1/12. We have 3 speakers lined up that you will want to hear from: Brennan Grayson on upgrade ideas for Salway Park, Mill Creek Alliance on plans for an extended Mill Creek trail, and Ray Anderson to speak about dog warden services.

Hope this message finds you all safe and managing your way through this pandemic. As you know, the virus is rampaging throughout the state. The City's tracking is showing that Spring Grove Village had a sum of 59 cases reported so far.

After taking December off with no newsletter and no meeting, we look forward to seeing you all in January. Hoping you are finding support from family, friends, and close neighbors. And wishing you a safe and joyous holiday and a prosperous new year.

Gary Robbins, President Spring Grove Village Community Council

January Community Council Mtg

Tuesday January 12
7PM

Use this link to join a Zoom video conference from your computer:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83951523377>

or from your smartphone using this meeting ID:
839 5152 3377

Or join us via audio direct from your phone: 312-626-6799.

Special Guests:

Brennan Grayson,
Salway Park Upgrades
Chris Carr,
Mill Creek Alliance
Ray Anderson,
Dog Warden Services

SGV COMMUNITY COUNCIL REPORT

BY LIZ VIRGO

COMMUNITY
COUNCIL SECRETARY

Eleven community members and guest speakers gathered virtually for our November Community Council meeting. After everyone briefly introduced themselves, we heard a presentation by Raeya and Lauren from Mill Creek Alliance; Lauren is a student and engagement specialist working specifically in our neighborhood.

A portion of Mill Creek runs through our neighborhood alongside I-75. Vegetation and wildlife in Mill Creek has improved dramatically over the years.



Drawing by Jeff Drew, extracted from Citybeat.com article

It was formerly one of the most polluted and endangered bodies of water in the country, which had a negative impact on the Ohio River and other rivers connected to the Ohio. However, the Mill Creek Alliance has been cleaning up this waterway over the years.

The Alliance conducts data collection to help analyze the health of the environment. Monitoring from 2019 showed that E. coli levels are too high for regular physical contact such as swimming, but are low enough for recreational use such as canoeing and data collection. It is mostly just important not to ingest the water. The E. coli levels are well within compliance of EPA standards. Large storm events especially cause sewage overflow into Mill Creek, raising contributing to E. coli levels. We have a combined sewage overflow system in Cincinnati which has not been updated since the 1800s. Advocacy around updating the sewage system could help solve this problem in the long-run.

Volunteers are welcome to help the Alliance! This would be a great opportunity for anyone who is interested in testing water quality or getting hands-on experience. The director of education is really good at teaching anyone how to use the necessary technology and the Alliance has many events in our area. Our community members are especially welcome to attend. Collaborative events between the Alliance and our neighborhood would also be welcomed, and our environmental working group could be a great partner in this work.

After the presentation from the Mill Creek Alliance, we held Community Council Board Elections. All who volunteered were elected unanimously and the Board later determined their positions at a meeting on November 17th. Our 2021 Board will include 5 community members who have all served in the past. Gary Robbins (President), Jerry Carrico (Vice President), Liz Virgo (Secretary), Phil Murphy (Trustee), and David Wesenberg (Treasurer). Dave is returning to the Community Council after about 8 years. He has previously served the neighborhood on the Boards of both the Development Corporation and the Community Council. Before we closed the meeting, a neighbor shared concerns about large concert parties with alcohol that appear to be happening on Kings Run on the Mullen Property. Noise from these parties drifts to neighbors nearby and this may not be an appropriate use of the property according to the zoning laws. After this concern was shared, we concluded our Community Council Meeting. This was the last Community Council Meeting for the year as we typically skip December's meeting. We look forward to seeing neighbors in Community Council Meetings in January!

VILLAGE VOICES

We Need To Be Like The 101st Airborne At The Battle of Bastogne By Jerry Carrico

On December 16, 1944, the Germans launched a massive surprise attack in the Ardennes Forest known as the Battle of the Bulge. During this offensive, the 101st Airborne Division (the Screaming Eagles) were hastily deployed to reinforce the defenders of Bastogne, Belgium.

Despite being outnumbered 5 to 1, cut off from any aid and short of supplies, Brigadier General Anthony McAuliffe refused to surrender the key city where 7 major roads vital to the German advance intersected. This was a pivotal battle that helped repulse the German advance.

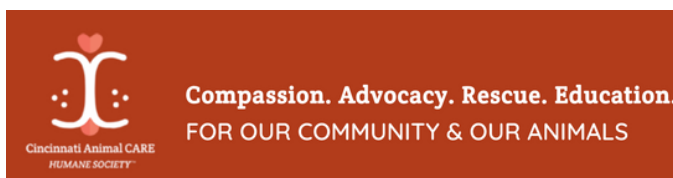
We are facing a fierce battle of our own today. Our enemy is COVID-19. It is incredibly brutal. As of the writing of this article, it is killing more Americans each day than we lost on D-Day. You see, General McAuliffe knew that Patton's Third Army was on its way and it was essential that they hold on until the reinforcements arrived. Despite being tired and aggravated, we are in the same spot. We know that vaccines are on the way, but they are not here yet. In the meantime, we need to keep up our guard and follow the guidelines established by the CDC. Remember—the vaccine will not help you if you aren't around to get it.

BY GARY ROBBINS

SGV COMMUNITY COUNCIL
PRESIDENT

CINCINNATI ANIMAL CARE

This past year, Cincinnati Animal Care replaced the SPCA for dog warden services in Hamilton County. Ray Anderson, Media and Community Relations Manager, will share about CAC's many services: pet adoption, lost & found, stray animal care, and much more. Learn more: www.CincinnatiAnimalCare.org. Questions about dog or cat care, dog etiquette, or requirements in the City? Contact CAC at 541-7387.



BY ANDREA FARMER

SGV GARDEN SECRETARY

SGV COMMUNITY GARDEN

Hello, SGV Gardeners! So, today I'm making lists of things to keep myself from screaming with boredom this winter. Of course, dreaming of next year's garden is always at the top of the list, but these FREE Civic Garden Center Zoom meetings are going to be a godsend. All classes are FREE and open to ANYONE with any level of experience—especially beginners! They will be taught by people with decades of garden experience!

Dec. 16 - Holiday Harvest Cooking Class

Jan. 6 & 27 Garden Planning

Feb. 3 - Beginning Organic Vegetable Gardening

Feb. 24 - Seed Starting

March 3 - Soil Health

March 31 - Garden Bed Preparation

April 7 - Starting Spring Crops

May 5 & 26 - Weed and Pest Management

June 2 - Irrigation

July 7 - Fall Crop Planning

July 14 - Cover Crops

August 4 - Harvesting

Sept. 3 - Season Extension

October 6 - Garden Clean-Up/Date

TBD - Seed Saving

Isn't this an amazing list!?! To get Zoom links to any of these classes, please visit the Civic Garden Center Website: <https://www.civiggardencenter.org/> and click on the **EVENTS** tab and select **CALENDAR** for registration links. Until then, happy garden dreams to you all, dear neighbors. Stay safe, stay healthy, and we'll be back in the garden in no time!

BY CHRIS CARR

MILL CREEK ALLIANCE

MILL CREEK TRAIL EXTENSION

One day we will see the Mill Creek trail extend along the Mill Creek all the way to the Ohio River. Plans are underway to extend the trail that currently runs behind Salway Park on Spring Grove Ave. The Mill Creek Alliance is heading up a project to extend the trail north along the creek. This is a significant investment in our community adding more attention to the Mill Creek running through our neighborhood and creating fun options for walking, biking, and hiking. At our January Council meeting, we will hear from Chris Carr with the Mill Creek Alliance and learn about details. This is exciting - you don't want to miss this!

BY BRENNAN GRAYSON

SGV NEIGHBOR

SALWAY PARK UPGRADES



My name is Brennan Grayson. I am a parent in the neighborhood with two kids who love playing soccer. Our kids have played in the Northside Soccer Club where I have also coached. Has anyone else noticed that the small goals at Salway Park have collapsed and are a hazard? Who would like to join me in working on getting some new goals? If so, send me an email at brennan.grayson@gmail.com or call me at 513-377-5693. There's so much we can do as a neighborhood to be good hosts to the families and other sports fans that use the park. New goals could be just the beginning.

NEIGHBORHOOD SUPPORT PROGRAM (NSP)

BY GARY ROBBINS

NSP MANAGER

The neighborhood receives operating funds from the City each year called the Neighborhood Support Program (NSP) funds. This past year we were offered \$6,078. For 2021, this amount will be \$7,987. The below table shows how we used this money last year and how the Council Board suggests we use it in 2021. We're looking to increase community engagement. At our January Council meeting, we will look for your thoughts on how our community can best use these funds. Maybe you have suggestions. Maybe you would like to have your project funded.

NSP	2020		2021	
	Oct - Oct		Jan - Jun	
	Proposed	Actual	Proposed	Actual
Communications	2500	1640	2500	
Beautification	1800	2921	2000	
Board Development	350	350	350	
Community Engagement	200	120	1000	
WPYC Support	1000	1000	2000	
Quality of Life	228	50	137	
Total:	6078	6081	7987	



SGV CONTACTS

2021 SGV Community Council Board

- Gary Robbins, President** 513-702-7029
- Jerry Carrico, Vice President** 513-207-7821
- Liz Virgo, Secretary** 513-814-2914
- Dave Wesenberg, Treasurer** 513-325-3611
- Phil Murphy, Trustee** 513-364-3383

SGV Hotline:
Call/Text 513-542-1750

SGV Community Garden
Nannie Oliver 513-542-8440

Winton Place Youth Center

Allison Todd, Executive Director 513-681-8004
Nannie Oliver 513-542-8440

Cincinnati Police District 5

513-569-8500 • Non-Emergency 513-765-1212
Melissa Cummins (Neighborhood Officer)
513-569-8595 • Melissa.cummin@cincinnati-oh.gov

Fire Engine Co. 38 Fire House 513-352-2338

City of Cincinnati Customer Service 513-591-6000

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