

SPRING TRAILS

THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF THE SPRING TRAILS COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

VOL 2

ISSUE 11

★ ★ ★ 2020 ANNUAL MEETING OF THE MEMBERS AND ELECTION ★ ★ ★

Mark your calendars – November 12th
@ 6:30 pm! Don't miss the Spring Trails

2020 Annual Meeting of the Members at
Cardinal Park! First order of business
will be the Board of Directors election.

Immediately following collection of
ballots, the program will begin with
updates on the community's finances
and initiatives, recognition of
community volunteers, and finally the
results of the election will be announced.

Don't miss out on the excitement!
Registration/Check-in starts at 5:30 pm.
See you there!



Adjust the clocks.
Daylight Saving Time
ends at 2:00 a.m.
November 1st

2020 HOA Election Meet the Candidates

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Who ya gonna call?

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JERRY RUESCHHOFF

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MUD 94/*Gulf Utility Services (water and sewer)* ... 281-355-1312

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Precinct 3 Commissioner James Noack 936-539-7817

Sheriff Rand Henderson 936-760-5871

Constable Ryan Gable 281-364-4211

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HOA Updates

Board of Directors Changes

Director Anthony Domingo resigned from the Board of Directors effective August 19th. Anthony was elected November 2019 and served as Board Secretary. His experience and perspective proved invaluable during a year filled with unexpected challenges. On behalf of Spring Trails the Board extends a sincere thank you to Anthony for his dedication and service to our community.

National Night Out 2020



Over 400 people came out to Cardinal Park October 6th to celebrate National Night Out. National Night Out is an annual campaign promoting police-community partnerships and neighborhood camaraderie. It was a beautiful and fun-filled evening at Cardinal Park. Kids enjoyed meeting and visiting with deputies from Montgomery County Precinct 3 Constable's Office as well as firefighters from the South Montgomery County Fire Department. Spring Trails resident and bicycle enthusiast Taylor Evans and his family demonstrated bicycle safety and riding skills. And last but certainly not least, Chick-Fil-A and Kona Ice served up delicious dinners and sweet icy treats to guests.

A heartfelt thank you to local deputies and firefighters, ChickFil-A, Kona Ice and the Evans family for supporting Spring Trails and contributing to another successful Spring Trails event.

Wildflower Seeding Season

The Beautification Committee is at it again.

Last Fall, the Beautification Committee initiated a wildflower project intended to incorporate natural color and low maintenance landscaping along high visibility areas not suitable for reforestation. A trial site was identified across from the Cypress Park village tucked in a small alcove surrounded by trees. A seed mix of Texas native wildflowers was chosen and with the help of resident volunteers sewn throughout the area. And exactly as planned, with a little encouragement from Mother Nature, a variety of wildflowers bloomed throughout the spring and summer months.

Unfortunately, just throwing out a few seeds one season won't produce the desired results. Natural wildflower fields evolve over many years, adapting to environmental conditions, plants, animals and microorganisms.

So on October 3rd, resident volunteers of the Beautification Committee and Board of Directors joined project leader Marcia Rueschhoff to oversee last year's trial site as well as introduce wildflower seeds to areas along Turtle Creek. By this coming March, Spring Trails should expect to see an abundance of wildflowers sprouting and accenting the greenspace along the walking trail.

Thank you Beautification Committee for another job well done.



Pictured left to right: Jerry and Marcia Rueschhoff, Mathew Sr. and Mathew Jr. Romero, Roger Olsen, James Schwartz, Stanley and Michael Ruggerio, Fernando and Lillian Guirola and children, and Kim Holzwarth and children. Not pictured: Jackie Robinson and Leanne Kessler.

Meet the Candidates

November 12th members of the Spring Trails Community Association will elect two candidates to serve on the Association's Board of Directors for 3-year terms. Below, listed in alphabetical order, are brief introductions to the three candidates for this year's election. Full biographies and Candidate Questionnaires are available on the Spring Trails website, under Residents, News & Announcements.



Jeff Anderson

What qualities or aspects of Spring Trails do you feel make the community unique and attractive to residents and potential home buyers?

"The design of our community which keeps major traffic flow to main streets only. Beautiful landscaping and upkeep of common areas and homeowners' yards. Good amenities and attention to community events."

What do you consider to be the community's current or greatest challenge(s)?

"Due to my security training, I see that our closeness to the Hardy Toll Road and the new Grand Parkway allows for quick escape for thieves. Spring Trails could use more advanced security cameras to catch information the Police can use to track these criminals".

What changes or improvements would you like to see explored or considered for the community?

"I would like to see the old "ST Sales Office" torn down and a larger one built which allow for better utilization by the community."

What if any experience do you have serving on a Board of Directors?

"Worked for several years as a security consultant to the Spring Trails board of Directors. Helped to maintain the access control database and issues access cards as requested thru the ST systems.

Developed a design for a better camera system to help fight the increased crime in the community."



Leanne Kessler

What qualities or aspects of Spring Trails do you feel make the community unique and attractive to residents and potential home buyers?

"The abundance of natural and improved green spaces, mature trees and use of natural barrier to conceal residential lots is clearly unique to most communities outside of The Woodlands. The new and proposed amenities will position Spring Trails more competitively with neighboring communities."

What do you consider to be the community's current or greatest challenge(s)?

"Lack of surveillance at common areas, aging infrastructure and a significant number of rental properties."

What changes or improvements would you like to see explored or considered for the community?

"Construction of a true community center, splash pad, updated landscaping, dedicated bike paths/trails."

What if any experience do you have serving on a Board of Directors?

"I was appointed to the Spring Trails Board of Directors March 2018 and have served as Vice-President and President for the majority of the term."



Jerry Rueschhoff

What qualities or aspects of Spring Trails do you feel make the community unique and attractive to residents and potential home buyers?

"The wooded, natural environment gives Spring Trails a distinct feel and a sense of solitude that is missing in other developments."

What do you consider to be the community's current or greatest challenge(s)?

"Keeping Spring Trails current, viable and attractive to new home owners by upgrading amenities, ensuring continued reforestation, managing changes in a maturing neighborhood."

What changes or improvements would you like to see explored or considered for the community?

"Enhanced community engagement and bonding.


Better use of Cardinal Park, ie a pavilion for outdoor events, a splash pad in the pool area to appeal to younger families, and a formal community center."

What if any experience do you have serving on a Board of Directors?

"Since moving to Spring Trails in 2014, I have regularly attended both monthly (sic) Spring Trails Community Association and the Municipal Utility District 94 meetings. I had never lived in a community represented by either entity, so I invested my time in becoming familiar with their operation and responsibilities.

I was appointed to the STCA board in December 2018. Due to my familiarization with the MUD 94, I was requested to informally represent STCA at MUD 94 meetings with the goal of building a relationship that benefited the residents of Spring Trails.

Since July 2020, I have also functioned as the Vice President of the Board."



VOTING OPTIONS

2020 HOA Board of Directors Election Voting Options

1. Online – Register at <https://springtrails.ivotehoa.com/accountSignup.php>. Enter the unique registration code mailed to each member of the Association and select up to 2 candidates listed on the online ballot. Online voting ends November 12, 2020, 5:00 pm CST.
2. Mail or Email – Complete the ballot mailed to your address and mail it to Spring Trails C/O Inframark Management Services, 2002 W. Grand Parkway N., Suite 100, Katy, TX 77449. OR email the completed ballot to khara.mathews@inframark.com.
3. In Person – Attend the 2020 Annual Meeting, November 12th at Cardinal Park and cast your vote in person.

Mark Your Calendars!

November 1st – Daylight Saving Time ends at 2:00 am

November 3rd – General Election

November 3rd – MUD 94 Board meeting

November 4th – Recycle Pickup

November 11th – Veterans Day

November 12th – Annual Meeting and HOA Election

November 13th – Heavy Trash Day

November 18th – Recycle Pickup

November 23-27 – Conroe ISD Thanksgiving Holiday

November 26th – Thanksgiving

December 1st – MUD 94 Board meeting

December 2nd – Recycle Pickup

December 10th – HOA Board Meeting

December 13th – Heavy Trash Day

December 21-January 5th – Conroe ISD Winter Holiday



How Does Your Garden Grow?

Contributed by Roger Olsen

Planting a Tree

Fall is a terrific time to plant trees all across Texas. In fact, Texas State Arbor Day is Nov. 6, 2020. So if you're thinking of planting a tree in your yard, here are a few tips to get you started.

First, take time to go to the Texas A&M University (TAMU) website at <https://tfsweb.tamu.edu/arborday/plantingsteps/>. This website offers an easy tree selector guide as well as a video on how to plant and care for your new tree.

Second, choose a location in your yard that will give the tree plenty of room to spread out and not lift nearby concrete structures with its roots. Asking a tree nursery to plant a tree for you will give you assurance the tree is planted correctly. They can also provide larger, more mature trees if you're interested in seeing your new tree as a more mature plant.

Third, once you've decided on the species (choose Texas natives) and location, remember to submit an Application for Approval to Modify Home or Property (better known as an ARC Request) so you can be assured you're not planting over a storm or sanitary sewer. If you plant over a sewer and the tree interferes with drainage of storm water or sewage later on, you will lose the tree when excavation occurs. Expensive!!!

The BEST time to plant new trees in Texas is November through the end of February. You will find that caring for your tree for the first 2 years will take some effort if it is to survive and thrive. Keeping the deep soil around the roots moist but not waterlogged is important. And depending on the size of the tree, it may need to be staked to ensure it remains upright until its roots "grab" the surrounding soil. Planting and staking are best done by an arborist who knows how to do it correctly. But if you want to do it yourself, follow the TAMU video and guidance closely to ensure you give your new tree the best chance of survival.

Communications

Thank you to this month's Newsletter Contributors: Roger Olsen. Residents interested in submitting stories or articles for inclusion in the newsletter can do so online at <https://peelinc.com/index.php/submit-an-article/>. Articles are due by the 10th day of the preceding month.

November 11, 2020

VETERAN'S DAY

Veterans Day is a celebration to honor America's veterans for their patriotism, love of country, and willingness to serve for the common good. Spring Trails is blessed to be home to many generations of veterans. Take time this Veterans Day to express and show your gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

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Welcome to Spring Trails!

New to Spring Trails? Welcome! You've probably already figured out how unique Spring Trails is. Stay up-to-date on community news by registering with the Spring Trails website at www.springtrails.com. There you can review the Community's governing documents, preview and RSVP to upcoming community events, contact property management and the Board of Directors, request amenity access, sign up for text and email announcements, read about community initiatives, and much more.

Welcome to Spring Trails, the Forest of Possibilities.

Be part of the conversation

When casting your vote this year, homeowners will have an opportunity to provide valuable input on issues impacting the community. Included on the 2020 election ballot is an opinion poll consisting of five questions. The results of the poll will help identify policy issues to review as well as offer insight into the views of the community during Committee and Board discussions. It's easy and only takes a couple minutes! Vote in person, online, or by mail-in absentee ballot.

Vote online or mail-in ballot October 13th through November 10th, OR in person November 12th.



Visit Spring Trails' Facebook page to learn of upcoming events and meetings, updates on community developments, activities and projects, invitations to volunteer, and general fun facts and photos. Search @springtrails and join the Spring Trails Facebook community.



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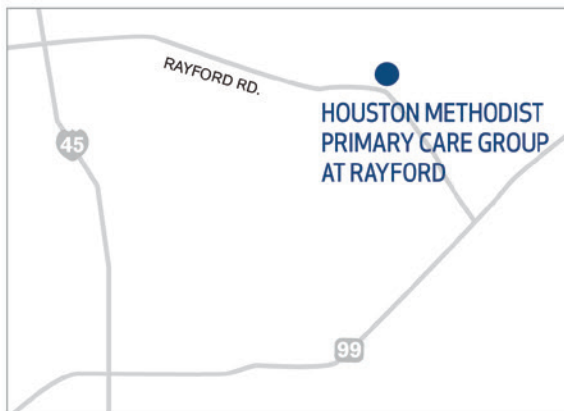


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