



November 2020

Volume 42 Issue 11

Garden Oaks Gazette

The newsletter of the Garden Oaks Civic Club

Constable Program

Terry Jeanes, Program Chair

Let's Get This Campaign Rolling For 2021

First, **Let's Give a Big Thank You** to Jane Ann Roberts who has stepped up to assist in the Constable Supporter Sign department. We will be working together to get updated on sign replacement and new signs as the 2021 supporter dues roll in. Again, thank you to Dian Austin and Sandy Altman for the installations of the past several years.

Let's Understand We Now Start Over – Our Constable Thermometers start with low levels at the beginning of the new 2021 campaign and will be well below the \$85000 in individual contributions from the previous 2020 campaign.

Let's Make it Simpler – A new single Constable and Civic Club Dues Form has been designed and streamlined for Constable Supporter dues along with Civic Club dues and other contributions. See the form in this *Gazette*.

Let's Understand Some Important Points – The Constable Program is a program supported by volunteer payments. We need support of as many households as possible. Fully paid supporter dues are \$250 for the year. Volunteer contributions are **more important** than ever because in previous years we held the big Garden Oaks Wine Walk fundraiser in October, but due to Covid concerns, this year's event was cancelled. You can pay monthly or in one installment at gardenoaks.org.

There is **no mandatory fee** collected. Our Constable Patrol is paid for entirely by residents on a volunteer contribution basis, but we need more support.

Let's thank the 330 contributors for the 2020 campaign from the final list. This was up from 315 from 2019 but we still need more. **Let's get 2021 to break the 400 mark!**

Pay your dues today. Why wait until you become a crime victim before contributing?

Become a Constable Program Supporter: gardenoaks.org

Constable Dispatch: 713-755-7628

Sign up for Precinct One Crime Alerts: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/crime-alerts/>

Vacation Watch: <http://pct1constable.net/sign-up/vacation-watch/>

If you are interested in assisting with some alternate smaller scale fundraising options for the Constable Program, please email Constable@gardenoaks.org.

Garden Oaks Civic Club Meeting

Meeting date change: the November General Civic Club meeting will be held virtually via Zoom on November 17, 2020 at 7 pm. Note the date change, from the usual first Tuesday. We want everyone to have plenty of time to vote! See you a couple of weeks later.

Zoom info:

meeting ID 853 8370 1841;
passcode 505892

November's guest speaker will be Heather Cook, Assistant City Attorney for the City of Houston and Liaison Attorney for Council District C, to speak about the City's enforcement of deed restrictions.

Constable Statistics September 2020

Data are provided monthly for the contract with the Harris County Precinct One Constable deputy who patrols Garden Oaks. The number of responses is shown for each category.

Our deputies are following CDC guidelines and social distancing on the street as well as in the office. The deputies are equipped with PPE so you may see them wearing masks. They need to avoid exposure and then a forced 14-day quarantine. Please help keep our deputies safe.

Accident Minor – 2

Alarm – 3

Animal Humane – 1

Check Park/School/Business/Church – 9

Contract Check – 53

Follow Up – 1

Information Call – 8

Meet the Citizen – 7

Open Door/Window – 1

Property Found Lost – 1

Solicitors – 1

Suspicious Person/Vehicle – 19

Theft Other – 1

Traffic Stop – 1

Vacation Watch – 10

Welfare Check – 2

Writ – 2

Civic Club Officers

President – Tonya Knauth 713 396 0876
986 Gardenia president@gardenoaks.org

Vice President – Kevin David 713 686 5903
826 Azalea vicepresident@gardenoaks.org

Treasurer – Jeff Martin 713 825 1768
710 West 39th treasurer@gardenoaks.org

Secretary – Adam Pryor 281 682 0061
1554 Sue Barnett secretary@gardenoaks.org

Committee Chairs

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beautification@gardenoaks.org

Citizen Patrol – Mark Saranie 713 724 1271
235 West 33rd gocop@gardenoaks.org

Constable Program – Terry Jeanes 281 236 8033
922 West 41st constable@gardenoaks.org

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The Garden Oaks *Gazette* is the official publication of the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is published monthly. The submission deadline to the editor is 11:59 PM of the 15th of each month for publication the next month unless otherwise noted.

Publication of any article or letter does not imply endorsement by the Garden Oaks Civic Club and is solely the opinion of the author.

NOTICE OF INTENT TO VOTE ON AMENDMENT TO THE BYLAWS OF GARDEN OAKS CIVIC CLUB, INC.

Note that at the general meeting on December 1, 2020, a motion will be made and a vote taken on the following proposed amendment to the Bylaws of the organization, in order to add explicit authority for virtual meetings, as follows:

3.11 Virtual Meetings. In the event of an Emergency Declaration by the Harris County Judge, Texas Governor or President of the United States, or where the Board has determined it is not safe for the members to meet in person, an online, virtual meeting will be considered a valid meeting. In the event such a situation occurs, the GOCC can continue all the functions necessary via online, virtual meeting. In order to be considered a valid, online, virtual meeting—members must be able to see and/or hear one another for discussion and voting purposes.

[For the complete current Garden Oaks Civic Club bylaws, see gardenoaks.org]

Save the Date for Santa & Mrs. Claus

They will visit Garden Oaks 2020 Style at Gazebo Park or a possible altered plan.

Wednesday, December 9, 6-7:30 pm and Thursday, December 10, 6-7:30 pm

Stay tuned to social media for more updates.

Anyone wishing to join elves Terry Jeanes, Georgia Lister, and Jim & Sally McDaniel prepare Gazebo Park for Santa's arrival, please join us Sunday, November 22, at 10 am.

For more information contact elves Terry Jeanes (terry@terryjeanes.com) or Georgia Lister (gvlister@yahoo.com).



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Beautification

Pam Parks

As we go to print, the Beautification activity reached peak for the year. In the first half of October, both the Berm (W 30th & Durham) and Garden Oaks Boulevard Esplanade are showing the results of very productive work days. Volunteers from all over Garden Oaks and Shepherd Forest turned out. Special thanks to the Garden Club who shifted their Friendship Park work day over to Garden Oaks Boulevard.



← Berm
Garden Oaks Blvd ↓



Saturday October 17 saw work parties at Rose Garden (W 34th & Lawrence), W 43rd & Apollo Esplanade, and the kick-off weekend for Ava Kirkpatrick's Girl Scout Gold Award Project at Gazebo Park. By the time you are reading this, the Gold Award Project will have been completed over the weekend of October 24 and 25. Six workdays in four weeks! Whew!

If you are thinking that this level of activity is probably not sustainable, you are right. Taking on so much in such a short amount of time came about partly by chance, but mostly because of volunteers stepping up to address "deferred maintenance" and the demands of our Houston climate. Fall is the season here for planting and pruning larger plants, and when it is so much more fun to work. The winter months will see a much more modest level of work in our parks with most focused on the odd numbered months to take advantage of Solid Waste - green waste pickup dates on the third Thursdays.

We are still seeking volunteers to assist with planning work in several of our parks. Reach us at beautification@gardenoaks.org.



Girl Scout Gold Award Project at Gazebo Park



Rose Garden Entrance



W 43rd & Apollo Esplanade

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Children and Unprecedented Times

*Lindsey Pollock, Ed.D., Principal,
Garden Oaks Montessori*

You gain strength, courage and confidence by every experience in which you really stop to look fear in the face. – Eleanor Roosevelt

Over the past months, we have all heard the words, “These are unprecedented times.” While we are facing challenges and circumstances that we have never dreamed of, as adults we have developed coping skills and support networks. Children, on the other hand, are experiencing incredible events including the pandemic, racial tensions, riots, and televised violence that have all horrified the nation. It is critical that adults thoughtfully respond to childrens’ fears during these times, writes Erika Christakis in a September article in Exchange Reflections. The National Council on the Developing Child explains, “For young children who perceive the world as a threatening place, a wide range of conditions

can trigger anxious behaviors that then impair their ability to learn and to interact socially with others.” The results can include difficulty focusing, fidgeting, becoming clingy, and refusing to leave home or wanting to stay with parents at all times. Children may also have difficulty sleeping or eating. What can we do to help?

It’s tempting to brush away a child’s fears with a reassuring, “don’t worry as nothing will ever happen here” or “that’s silly - you know I’m here to protect you”. But it is important to give children the space to express their fears fully and completely without interruption. While the comforting words are well-intentioned, we must help the child build a sense of security and empowerment to cope with the worries that occupy them.

When children share that they are feeling worried or overwhelmed, stop what you are doing and focus on the child. It is best if you have a pen and paper to capture the words and ideas of the child. This is important as you can use this information to measure progress on these concerns and to create a plan of action. Write down the ideas first. When working with children, I will continue to ask, “what else is bothering you?” and write down each

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response until the child runs out of concerns. This helps children empty their minds of the worries that have consumed their thoughts. By seeing the list on paper, they can see that these worries are finite and that together you can share the understanding of what the child is feeling and start working on an action plan.

Creating the plan of action includes listing the people who the child knows will help them if they have a problem. This list could include neighbors, relatives, teachers, first responders, and physicians, depending on the child's worries. Another part of the plan could include strategies to handle stress on a personal level such as having a gratitude journal, eating healthy, getting enough rest and exercise, and thinking positive thoughts.

As we enter the holiday season, children may become overwhelmed by changes in routines, travel, and meeting new people. By using these strategies, we can create systems in our homes and strengthen family relationships to alleviate stress and focus on the positive things in our lives.

Get Online!

The following online locations are where your Garden Oaks neighbors gather. Please note that none of these are official groups and are not moderated nor controlled by any of the Garden Oaks organizations you know and love, though sometimes they will post announcements in order to reach neighborhood residents.

<http://nextdoor.com> (requires registration and verification of address. You will be added to Garden Oaks when verified)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/564126170368309/> (you will be asked for your address to join)

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/35914307130/>



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Information for Zoned to Garden Oaks Montessori Families and HISD Magnet Application Information for 2021-2022 School Year

Stephanie Dubroff-Acosta, Parent Engagement Representative, Garden Oaks Montessori

Choosing Schools

HISD School Choice Fairs for all Magnet programs will be virtual via Microsoft Teams this year, 9 am - 12 noon.

HISD School Choice Fairs are online at <https://www.houstonisd.org/site/default.aspx?PageID=182880>

- October 17
- October 31

All magnet schools are represented at each fair. This is a great way to explore schools when deciding which would be a good fit for your child and determining which you would like to tour.

Tours

ALL HISD magnet schools will have Virtual tours via Microsoft Teams each Thursday, September 24 - November 5.

Garden Oaks Montessori Tour is at 9am each Thursday, online at <https://tinyurl.com/y52qp6rd>

- Elementary and K-8 school virtual tours are at 9:00 am
- Middle & High School virtual tours are at 1:00 pm

Applications – available online at [hisdchoice.com](https://www.hisdchoice.com)

K-12 PHASES

- **Phase 1 (September 19, 2020 – November 6, 2020)**
All qualified applications submitted during Phase I will be entered either in a lottery or will be eligible for auditions at secondary fine arts programs. Rankings can be changed up to Nov 6.
- **Phase 2 (November 7, 2020 – February 26, 2021)**
All qualified *in-district* applicants will be considered on a space-available and will be placed on the offered list after Phase II closes. (These applications are not part of the lottery)
- **Phase 3 (February 27, 2020 - Onward)**
All qualified applicants who are currently NOT in HISD or out of district will be considered on a space-available and first-come-first-served basis. Tuition is required for OOD students accepted at SUS and Specialty Schools.

PreKindergarten - all PK seats are by lottery ONLY. There is no zone for PK.

- September 19, 2020 – April 30, 2021 - Qualified in-district, TEA Eligible applications and tuition-based applications received will be entered into the lottery.
- Rankings can be changed up to April 30.
- Notification day for all applications is May 20. Applications received after this date will be offered only by space available and in order of submission.
- All PK applications must include the birth certificate in the uploaded documents.
- If you qualify for the non-tuition PK program, you must upload requested documentation into the program no later than May 5, 2021. (Note, this is after the deadline of submission!)
- Tuition-based applications will be considered after June 3, 2021.

Considering your zoned school - Garden Oaks Montessori

The school zone for Garden Oaks Montessori is K-5.

If you are considering GOMM for your K-5th grade child, please submit the online application. Although your application will be in the lottery, *this will reserve your seat for the upcoming school year.*

There is no zone for PK in HISD.

If your child will be either 3 or 4 by September 1, 2021, and you are considering GOMM, you must complete the online application. (Please choose "Magnet/Vanguard", not "PK enrollment" for our program.)

All PK applicants who submit the application prior to April 30, 2021 will be notified of application status via USPS mail, email, and viewable online May 20, 2021 (offered or wait-listed).

For more information please refer to www.houstonisd.org/magnet.

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**2021 COMBINED CIVIC CLUB AND CONSTABLE DUES STATEMENT
(January – December)**

Civic Club membership is open to all residents. While membership is voluntary, you must be a paid member to be eligible to vote on civic club matters. Constable Dues are also voluntary and help pay for our Precinct One Constable Deputy on patrol.

Civic Club:

\$ _____ **Basic Membership \$40** (\$20 for seniors 65+)

\$ _____ **Community Household Membership \$100**

Constable Program:

\$ _____ **Annual Constable Supporter (\$250, w/yard signage)**

\$ _____ **Additional Constable Program contribution**

Other:

\$ _____ **Contribution to Beautification** (maintain area green spaces)

\$ _____ **Contribution to Garden Club** (maintain Friendship Park, Section 1)

\$ _____ **TOTAL**

Please mail this completed form along with your check payable to:
Garden Oaks Civic Club, P.O. Box 10273, Houston, TX 77206

- OR -

Pay online at gardenoaks.org and get e-mail confirmation of payment.

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Heard Under the Oak Tree

Terry Jeanes

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Congratulations on joining our community. We look forward to seeing you at a Civic Club meeting soon.

962 Althea	902 West 42nd	419 West 30th
1551 Sue Barnett	927 Lamonte	714 West 39th
3110 Lawrence	236 West 30th	710 West 42nd
512 West 34th	702 West 41st	863 Lamonte
726 Sue Barnett	935 Lamonte	535 West 32nd
714 Garden Oaks Blvd		

Happy Birthday

Gina Pecoraro 4 th	Deborah Seghers 4 th
Mike Maltbie 5 th	Frank C 7 th
Angela Winston 7 th	Anthony Neiser 10 th
Julia Kramp 13 th	Sheila Briones 14 th
Emma M 14 th	Dianne Murata 18 th
Susan Saranie 19 th	Hannah M 20 th
Kit Schoenfield 23 rd	Lucy Mc 25 th
Cheryl Cohorn 28 th	Megan Salch 29 th

Happy Anniversary

Bob and Debbie Driver 4th
Hal Bowman and Georgia Lister 11th
Keith and Susan Kostelecky 13th

Congratulations to Cameron Carlin for being accepted into the George Washington University Graduate Program for Sport Philanthropy, and earning a scholarship as well!

Out and About

Caroline Stender enjoyed a girls' getaway in Rockport. **Leslie Ryan and Carl Waters** relaxed in Pagosa Springs. **The Odinets** enjoyed some time in the country. **Paul and Vicki Singer** spent a wonderful week at Majestic Dude Ranch near Mancos, CO, and a week in the Durango, Ouray, Silverton area.

Tina Sabuco and Shelley Arnold have been enjoying Tina's 60th Birthday Heartland Happening Road Trip including a jaunt through Arkansas, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, and Wisconsin. They saw all the sights and united with friends all along the way.





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Garden Oaks kids of all ages enjoyed the LEGO Truck that visited near the Garden Oaks Spark Park. Everyone received a free mini build kit and had a photo opportunity. The connection was made with the promo company when they found Garden Oaks via Santa and the Gazebo Park thru elf **Terry Jeanes**. Terry also connected the LEGO Truck team to Timbergrove, Oak Forest, the Heights, and other areas. A much needed ray of Bright Yellow LEGO Truck Sunshine brought smiles to lots of faces.

Special thoughts of comfort to our neighbors who recently lost someone dear to them, including **Mark and Laura Patterson**, in the loss of Mark's father.

To highlight an event, celebration or other tidbit, please submit information no later than the 13th of the month to Terry Jeanes at terry@terryjeanes.com.

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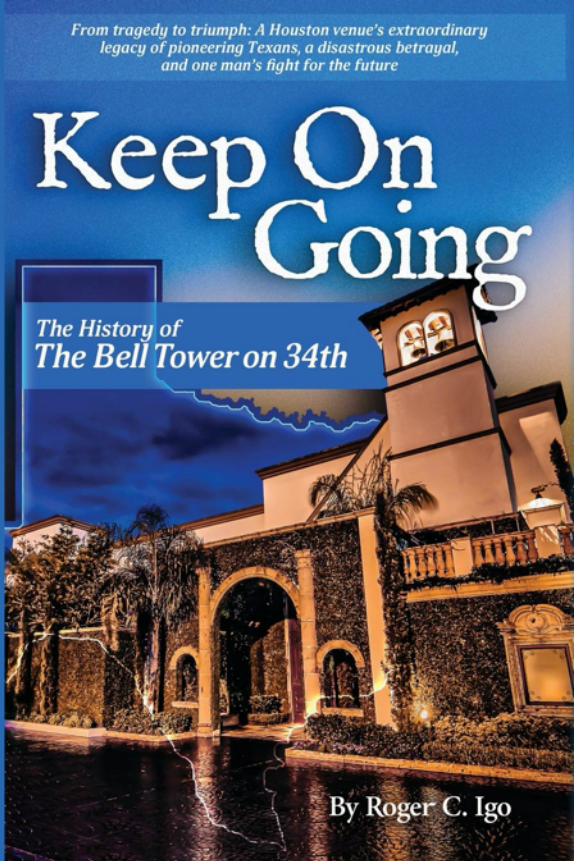


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From tragedy to triumph: A Houston venue's extraordinary legacy of pioneering Texans, a disastrous betrayal, and one man's fight for the future

Keep On Going

The History of The Bell Tower on 34th



By Roger C. Igo



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Healthy Spin on a Classic Comfort Dessert

Erin Thole, CNHP

Fall is upon us, and many are eager to start baking those fall comfort food favorites. Here is my healthy rendition of the classic apple pie, tested on the pickiest family members young, old, and everywhere in between. (Makes 2 pies).

Crust:

Bob's Red Mill Gluten Free Pie Crust made per the directions on the package.

Or for a completely grain free option:

5 cups raw walnuts
2 tsp baking soda
1/2 tsp Himalayan salt
4 Tablespoons melted coconut oil

Blend the walnuts, baking soda and salt in a food processor. Pulse in the coconut oil until well combined.

Place the pie crust into 2 oiled nine-inch pie pans.

Filling:

4 apples
10 dates
1 Tablespoon cinnamon
1/2 tsp nutmeg
1 tsp allspice
1 Tablespoon arrow root
1 cup coconut sugar
2 Tablespoons melted coconut oil or avocado oil
2 Tablespoons HEB freshly juiced apple, lemon & ginger juice blend. (Find in the produce section of HEB stores that make their own freshly squeezed juices.)

Slice the apples in your food processor, dice up the dates into small pieces, and mix all ingredients with your clean hands in a large mixing bowl.

Spread the filling into the pie crusts and bake at 375 degrees for 35 minutes.

Erin Thole, CNHP has been working in Functional Medicine for over 12 years. To learn more and request a free consultation: www.erinthole.com or thole.erin@gmail.com.

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Mickey Morales

I love Houston in the springtime. I love Houston in the fall. I love Houston in the winter when it drizzles. I loathe Houston in the summer when it sizzles. Wait, what? I love Houston. Why, oh why do I love Houston? Because it's cool sometimes. That about sums up my love/hate affair with my adopted hometown. I was born down the road apiece in Galveston. That's right folks I'm B.O.I. (born on the island for the non-locals). One day when I was about three years old, my folks brought me here to Houston. And I've been here ever since, with the exception of a decade of wanderings in the high deserts of New Mexico along with a few unfortunate years in the DFW Metroplex.

While at one of my now weekly working vacations at the farm, I was musing on the rewrite of the aforementioned song and Farmer Cathy's infrastructure project while sweating profusely. I was questioning why on earth I was placed in this inferno. The weather guys on TV had promised a cool front, and I was reminded of what our longtime customer Mike told me this past Sunday — that it's the third cool front this time of year that makes a difference. But alas, it's November when each cold front really means a break from our more than temperate

climate conditions and lots of turkey and dressing (that would be known as stuffing to folks born north of the Mason Dixon line).

It also means pumpkin recycling time. Don't be kicking those gourds to the curb. Please bring them to us and we'll make good use of them. The hens really relish them. The arrival of pumpkins also means baby goats at the market, which may come early this year if the double wide bodies I witnessed this past week are any indication. Cast-off pumpkins also equate to super yummy soups and stews, some of which are vegan and gluten free for those seeking such fare.

And it appears we've settled into a small, yet carefully cultivated crew of vendors offering most everything you need for the pantry and fridge. We have everything from a great cup of fresh brew from 109 Coffee to a delicious pastry to pair with that from Cake and Bacon, free range eggs and the first of the fall veggies from Farmer Cathy. And we have special treats from the rotating booths of Lene Sue Baggett and Elvira Ayala, along with prepared foods from both Manish's Quick N Easy Indian foods and myself, of course. Unfortunately, a local meat vendor still eludes us, but I will continue to persevere to find one.

As always, "Come early, come often, and bring on those pumpkins."



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Understanding Basic Air Conditioning Terminology

Mitch Weigand

When purchasing an HVAC (heating, ventilation, and air conditioning) system, cost is one of the biggest concerns. Finding the right system can be intimidating with the industry jargon, acronyms, and rating systems. For most rating systems, the higher the number, the higher the energy efficiency, and the higher the lifespan of the system.

AFUE (Annual Fuel Utilization Efficiency) - AFUE is a measure of a gas furnace's efficiency in converting fuel to energy. The higher the AFUE, the greater the furnace's energy efficiency.

BTU (British Thermal Unit) - BTU represents the amount of heat that is required to raise or lower the temperature of one pound of water by one degree Fahrenheit. Most ACs are measured using BTUs. For example, 12,000 BTUs equals one ton; 24,000 BTUs equal two tons, etc.

SEER (Seasonal Energy Efficiency Ratio) - SEER is calculated

by dividing the amount of cooling supplied by an A/C system with the electricity consumed by the system under specific seasonal conditions.

SEER ratings are determined in a laboratory where specific indoor and outdoor conditions are determined by the Department of Energy. Because A/C systems are evaluated using the same conditions, they can be compared by SEER ratings. The higher the number, the better the efficiency. 14 SEER is the lowest rating while 20 SEER is the highest rating.

Higher SEER ratings are usually achieved using the latest technology in the equipment. You may pay more, but you get increased efficiency and lower electricity bills in return.

Most A/C systems installed prior to 2006 have a 10 SEER rating or less. Installing a new 14 SEER system with its superior technology can save you 28% on your electricity bill, while a 15 SEER can save you 38%, and a 16 SEER can save you 47%. A 20 SEER system can save you a whopping 68%!

Ton - A unit of measurement used for determining cooling capacity. One ton is the equivalent of 12,000 BTUs per hour. A 2,000 square-foot house typically requires a five-ton system.

Mitch Weigand is the owner of Air Wise™ and a Garden Oaks homeowner for over 25 years.

Garden Oak homeowner for over 25 years



Air Wise owner Mitch Weigand

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NOVEMBER 2020

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1 Daylight Savings Time End	2	3 Election Day	4	5	6	7 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
8	9	10	11 Veterans Day	12	13	14 Diwali Garden Club Workday 9 am Friendship Park Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
15 Gazette Article Deadline	16	17 Civic Club Meeting 7 pm Online via Zoom	18	19	20	21 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
22 Prep for Santa 10 am Gazebo Park	23	24	25	26 Thanksgiving	27	28 Farm Stand 9 am - 1 pm 949 Wakefield
29	30	That's what learning is, after all; not whether we lose the game, but how we lose and how we've changed because of it, and what we take away from it that we never had before, to apply to other games. Losing, in a curious way is winning. — Richard Bach				



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