

Updates, events, and more.



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## Calendar

Sept. 4 – Labor Day

Sept. 10 – Grandparents Day

Sept. 14 – Annual Briarcreek  
Business Meeting

Sept. 17 – Constitution Day

Sept. 19 – Talk Like A  
Pirate Day 

Sept. 22 – FALL Begins!

Sept. 28 – National Good  
Neighbor Day



see page 2, Neighborhood News for more info

## NEIGHBORHOOD DUES: WHY DO WE NEED THEM?

by Tara Noah

September begins the new fiscal year for our Neighborhood Association and that means it's time again to pay our neighborhood dues, which was voted to increase to \$75 this year during our 2016 annual business meeting. You may be wondering, "Where does that money go?" Put simply, the dues are used as operating costs for the neighborhood, as well as for special enhancement projects which are voted on and approved. Operating costs include lawn services, utilities, our neighborhood website, as well as other such neighborhood upkeep expenditures: this fiscal year, for example, we've needed a sprinkler system repair, replaced a dead controller, fixed underground electrical wiring at the Rockwell entrance that had rotted over time, and installed new spotlights to illuminate the entrance signs at night. As well as general operating costs, our Neighborhood Association has enhanced our neighborhood, and thereby our property values, through projects such as the perimeter wall, decorative street lamps, and the beautiful landscaping along Rockwell. Unfortunately, because our dues are so small compared to most other neighborhoods, many of these projects have needed extra funding, some of which is consistently donated by neighbors each year through a small increase in the amount of dues they pay all the way up to a large contribution to the neighborhood. And for those extra donations, we want to say a big THANK YOU!

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The Neighborhood Association board members, which are unpaid positions, have worked tirelessly on the upkeep and enhancement of our neighborhood. President Susie Brown explained about the Rockwell landscaping project, saying that it “was a big project that required working closely with the plethora of utility companies that have underground lines there and told us we couldn’t do it. But our Association was persistent. We met with each entity and changed our plans to accommodate and get approval from all utilities. And Rockwell looks marvelous!” It really does! Additionally, our Association regularly meets with City officials and is active with the Neighborhood Alliance. Briarcreek has won many awards including, Best Neighborhood Project for their multiple-years-worth of work to get bike lanes added to Britton Road (which many will remember was very nearly converted last minute to a 4-lane, but remained as planned through even more hard work). Our neighborhood has also won the Best Neighborhood award from OG&E for being the instrumental neighborhood organizer for the Lake District.

I think I speak for all of us when I say that I am thankful for all the work our Neighborhood Association does and has done to keep our neighborhood a beautiful place to live, as well as maintaining, and in some cases even increasing, our property values. I love that our neighborhood is surrounded by a uniform perimeter wall, rather than a hodgepodge of mixed fencing, and stays mowed and landscaped. My family truly loves living in Briarcreek, but it is easy to see that we would not love it nearly as much without our diligent Neighborhood Association.



## NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Congratulations to the August Yard-of-the-Month winners:  
1<sup>st</sup> place: Fred and Kitty Cox, 6905 NW 100<sup>th</sup> St.  
Runner-up: Theresa and Daniel Gentry, 6809 Newman Dr.  
\*\*Thank you Wanda Reynolds, BNA Landscape Committee chair, as well as Camille and LaDawn for scouring the neighborhood to choose this month’s winners!

Our Annual Briarcreek Business Meeting will take place on Thursday, September 14<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 pm and will be held at Susie and Gary Brown’s home, 7008 Basswood Canyon Rd.

After Labor Day be on the lookout for brightly colored rocks around our neighborhood IN SAFE SPACES! My son and I have decorated a few medium-sized rocks using the melted crayon technique and will be “hiding” them around the neighborhood in areas such as near the Briarcreek Dr bridge, around the base of neighborhood street signs, and other common areas. We may even be able to get special permission to “hide” them among neighbors’ rock beds near the curb so kids will not have to enter the beds to hide OR find rocks. Please do not trespass into yards to hunt for rocks and make this clear to your children! If you find a rock, it’s yours to keep! But please keep the fun going by “hiding” another colorful rock, decorated in a waterproof/resistant manner of your choosing – acrylic/outdoor paint, modge podge, etc. Many other neighborhoods enjoy this activity. Happy hunting!!

## NOTABLE NEIGHBORS

by Tara Noah

Tyler and Hillary Glaze of Basswood Canyon Road have an interesting history with Briarcreek. Hillary’s aunt and uncle were longtime Briarcreek residents, having lived in the Glaze’s current home for over 15 years. Three years ago when they decided to move to Tulsa to be closer to their grandchildren, Tyler and Hillary purchased the home to make it their own, which was an even more inviting prospect for them given that most of their extended family live in the neighborhoods surrounding Briarcreek!

Although the couple stays busy chasing their 3 lovely children (Cora – 5, Camden – 3, and Sadie – 6 months), Tyler finds time to roast coffee, exercise, read, and play guitar while Hillary enjoys working out, reading, and hosting people in their home. The Glaze family loves living in Briarcreek and is looking forward to getting to know their neighbors and being more involved in the neighborhood

*Tyler is an optometrist at The Eye Care Center just north of Memorial and May, and Hillary is a yoga instructor. Cora started Kindergarten at The Academy of Classical Christian Studies, and Camden attends Mother’s Day Out at the SonLight Preschool at Metropolitan Baptist Church. The family attends Our Lord’s Community Church.*

# RECIPE-OF-THE-MONTH

## Zucchini “Parmesan”

*taken from allrecipes.com*

### INGREDIENTS

- |                                 |                                  |
|---------------------------------|----------------------------------|
| 2 large zucchini, thinly sliced | 2 cloves garlic, minced          |
| 2 tablespoons olive oil         | 16 oz spaghetti sauce of choice  |
| 1 large onion, diced            | 1 cup shredded mozzarella cheese |

### DIRECTIONS

1. Preheat oven to 325 degrees F.
2. In a large pot boil the zucchini until tender; drain. Meanwhile, in a medium frying pan heat the olive oil over medium heat and saute the onion and garlic until the onion is tender.
3. Combine the zucchini, onion and garlic in a 9x12 inch casserole dish, and mix well. Pour the spaghetti sauce over the mixture and stir well. Top with mozzarella cheese (use more or less depending on your preference).
4. Bake in preheated oven for about 20 minutes, or until heated through and cheese is bubbly.
5. Serve over spaghetti!

An alternative, healthier twist on Eggplant Parmesan, made with a squash you may already grow. Feel free to substitute the zucchini with eggplant or yellow squash! We tried the recipe, and it was a big hit with my husband who is already a zucchini-lover. (We used 2 cups of Italian 5 Cheese blend instead of mozzarella.)

### Tara’s 10 Minute Spaghetti Sauce

#### INGREDIENTS

- |                            |                         |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|
| 3 – 8 oz cans tomato sauce | ½ tsp garlic powder     |
| 2 Tbsp. dried minced onion | 1/8 tsp. dried marjoram |
| ¾ tsp. dried oregano       | salt & pepper to taste  |
| ½ tsp. dried basil         |                         |

#### DIRECTIONS

1. Combine all ingredients in a sauce pan. Bring to a boil, then let simmer for 10 minutes.
2. Serve with your favorite pasta dish!



## SEPTEMBER GARDENING

- ❖ Plant seeds of mixed greens for your Fall and Winter salads early in the month. Sow spinach now to overwinter under mulch for a spring harvest.
- ❖ Dig up garden herbs, such as parsley, rosemary, chives, thyme, and marjoram and place in pots now for growing indoors this winter. Herbs can also be harvested and dried or frozen for winter use.
- ❖ Pinch off any young tomatoes that are too small to ripen. This will channel energy into ripening the remaining full-size fruits.
- ❖ Set out pansies in a spot that will receive full sun all winter.
- ❖ Plant spring bulbs (except tulips) as soon as they are available. (Tulips should be kept in a cool, dark place and planted in late October.)
- ❖ Start getting houseplants ready for winter indoors: prune back and check for pests, treating if necessary. Houseplants should be brought indoors at least one month before the heat is turned on.
- ❖ Peonies and other spring-blooming perennials can be divided now. Add peat moss or compost to enrich the soil before replanting.
- ❖ Over-seed AND fertilize shade-grass lawns. Shade-grass lawns are best fertilized in Fall with up to 3 applications between now and December. Seedbeds should be raked, dethatched or core-aerified, fertilized, and seeded. Keep newly planted lawn areas moist, but not wet. Newly seeded lawns should not be cut until they are at least 2 or 3 inches tall.
- ❖ Plant trees.