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The Newsletter of the *Arrowhead Homeowners' Association, Inc.*

VOL. 46 NO. 1 Spring 2022

SPRING YARD SALE

THE ARROWHEAD NEIGHBORHOOD SPRING YARD SALE IS SCHEDULED FOR SATURDAY, MAY 9. THIS EVENT WILL BE ADVERTISED ON LINE AND IN THE NEWSPAPER. THE NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALES ALWAYS BRINGS A BIG TURNOUT. IT IS NOT TOO EARLY TO DIG OUT THOSE ITEMS YOU NO LONGER USE OR NEED. PLAN NOW TO PARTICIPATE, EITHER AS A VENDOR OR A CUSTOMER.

IMPORTANT MEETING

Arrowhead Homeowners Association will hold a meeting to discuss some traffic safety issues in our neighborhood that is of concern to all residents. Ed Grimes, our City Councilor will speak at the meeting, and a Traffic Engineer from the city will present some options to help reduce speeding on our streets. Afterwards, a general membership meeting will be held. All are invited to attend, but only members will be allowed to vote. The place & time are below.

Date: 3/28/22 at 6:30

**Place: Lakeview Baptist Church
9225 Atlanta Highway**

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY

For many years our members have complained about speeding cars in our neighborhood. This problem is particularly serious on the long straight stretches of Seminole, Arrowhead, and Tensaw. In the past meetings with the MPD Traffic Enforcement Division have led to increased patrols on a temporary basis, but soon after the patrols were discontinued, speeds once again increased. This is a serious problem, especially since there are no sidewalks and people walk and ride bikes on the street. Also, the lack of street lights makes it dangerous for people walking after dark.

In an effort to come up with a permanent solution, Arrowhead Homeowners' Association wrote the City Traffic Engineers. After extensive contacts, the city agreed to do a traffic study of the neighborhood. The results of the study were not surprising, but nevertheless very concerning. The speed limit throughout the neighborhood is 25, but the average speed on some stretches was close to 10 mph over the limit – with many far exceeding that. Even more concerning, there were a number of cars clocked at 50 mph, double the speed limit. One car was even clocked at 60 mph! It is safe to drive this speed on the open highway, but clearly in a residential neighborhood this flagrantly disregards the safety of both pedestrians and other motorists using our streets.

The City Engineers proposed a couple of methods to help reduce speed in the neighborhood. We plan to present these options at the summer membership meeting and hope to have some representatives of the city present to explain the options and how they might work and at what cost. Your opinion on the matter is vital, and we hope you will attend this meeting to learn and voice your thoughts. Please watch the HOA website (Arrowheadhomes.org) for the date, time and place of the meeting.

WEB SITE REDESIGN

Our new Webmaster, Godfrey Vaughn has been busy and done an update and redesign on the HOA website. Please take a few minutes to check it out at Arrowheadhomes.org. I think you will appreciate Godfrey's hard work when you see the results. Godfrey's expertise in this area has been a tremendous benefit to our organization and the Arrowhead neighborhood. Many realtors and potential home buyers look at the HOA websites before choosing a neighborhood to live in. Godfrey has certainly enhanced ours.

CAMELLIA CARE

One of the most attractive flowering shrubs is the camellia. Although we associate this shrub with the South (It is the state flower of Alabama.) it was originally from Japan, hence the scientific name 'camellia Japonica'. It is closely related to the tea plant (camellia sinensis). The sasanqua (camellia sasanqua) is another close relative. Some camellias planted by my mother 60 years ago are still thriving today.

It grows well in slightly acid soil (pH 5.5 – 6.5) and requires some fertilizer, best applied in March. Yellow leaves can indicate lack of acid. An application of sulfur can remedy this problem. If yellowing occurs around the edges of the leaves, it can indicate a magnesium deficiency. This can be remedied by a small application of Epsom salts. It does well in partial to full shade, but can be grown in full sun. If possible, it should have some protection from the wind, as this can cause leaf scalding. It will thrive in soil that is rich in organic matter and drains well. When you plant a camellia from a container, you should cut off the buds the first year, so it can concentrate its energy on establishing a healthy root system. If you buy a camellia in a container, it is best to buy it while blooming, so you can see its true color.

Once a camellia is established, it requires little care. After it has completed blooming, if needed, it can be pruned. (Dead or damaged branches should be pruned as soon as noticed) A light application of an acid-based fertilizer can be applied at this time but is not essential in rich soil. If scale becomes a problem, dormant oil can be sprayed on the leaves in late winter or early spring. Fungus can be a problem but can be prevented by planting in well-drained soil and cleaning up leaf litter underneath the shrub.

KEEPING GUTTERS CLEAR

Soon spring rains will be coming. Please check the gutters and storm drains in the street in front of your house. With every heavy rain it seems we have street flooding. Keeping leaves and grass clippings out of the gutters and keeping the storm drains clear will largely prevent this problem. If you have a lawn service, please ask them not to pile grass clippings, leaves, and other litter in the gutter. If it rains before the city can pick it up, it will end up clogging the drains.

<p>We wish to thank those who care enough about their community to join the association and help financially support the upkeep on the entrances and street signs. This helps maintain the property values and makes the community safer. Please consider joining and helping support your neighborhood. For less than \$8.00 a month you will be protecting the value of your property and help making the community more livable for everyone.</p>	<p>Annual Dues are \$95. You can pay on our website or by mail. Make checks payable to Arrowhead Homeowners Association. Mail to PO Box 241353, Montgomery, Al. 36124-1353. If you wish to donate additional funds to the Association, any amount will be greatly appreciated. Thank you for your support.</p>	<p>2022 MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION ARROWHEAD HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION</p> <p>NAME: _____ SPOUSE: _____ TITLE(S) _____ TEL # _____ ADDRESS: _____ E-MAIL ADDRESS: _____</p>
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