



The Country Place

MAY • JUNE 2020

Chronicle

A Deed Restricted Community

THE OFFICIAL *Newsletter* OF COUNTRY PLACE

from the **PRESIDENT**

I am so very proud of our neighborhood! Personally, when I was sick and unable to leave the house, so many people pitched in to help me... from dropping off a meal to grabbing items I needed when I couldn't leave myself. And... not just me as their HOA president.... Neighbors posted on Facebook almost daily asking if anyone needs help, needs a meal, needs a particular item, needs shopping – just INCREDIBLE neighbors.

Other things out neighborhood has done:

Thanking Front Line Workers:



Due to donations made by homeowners, our neighborhood raised well over \$1,500 to help feed and thank front-line workers dealing with

COVID. Using small businesses for the food, we delivered meals to:

District 1 Sherriff's Office, Moffitt Cancer Center ICU staff, VA Hospital staff, St. Joseph's North staff, and employees at our local Publix on Ehrlich.



We aren't talking about a *few* meals here... take just Publix on Ehrlich for example – we had SIXTY (60) pizza's delivered. Our neighborhood is AMAZING!

Al Fresco Saturdays:



Where neighbors, tired of eating indoors alone all week, put a table in their driveway and enjoy dinner in their respective driveways from 6-8 pm. Other neighbors join in and are able to talk to one another from the distance.

Food Trucks:



Neighbors, on their own, called food truck vendors in order to keep small businesses busy AND help neighbors who were tired of cooking or having food delivery. This worked for social distancing as people would order ahead and the vendor would text when the order was ready, then go home to eat. Upcoming vendors include:

The Bacon Boss, Flan Factory, Renegade burger, The Pineapple Shack, Disco

Donuts, Mr. C's Grilled Cheese, Got Lobstah?, Craving Donuts, St. Pete Taco Lady, Waffle-licious, Coco's Latin Cuisine, Smokin Bowls, Funnel Vision

Spread JOY not GERMS



In addition to the sidewalk chalk that many neighborhoods are doing, a neighbor decided to 'spread joy not germs' but having their kids decorate the sidewalk. Neighbors when walking by were encouraged to take a pinwheel home with them to help them remember to spread JOY.

Bear Hunts



Parents walking their children through the neighborhood to get a little exercise needed some fun to keep the little ones engaged. Neighbors of Country Place stepped up and created a Bear Hunt. Neighbors would post their street name only and parents would walk the kids down that street where the kids would 'go on a bear hunt' looking for bears that neighbors had put out for the little ones.

Again, I am so proud to serve as your president. Thank you to each and every person who has made this pandemic a little less scary in their own way – thank you!

Tina Rhodes

President, Country Place HOA

BENSON FAMILY
ARGO Properties
 Real Estate Management & Sales

High Sale Price	\$333,000.00
Low Sale Price	\$205,000.00
Average Sale Price	\$278,064.00
Average Price per sqft	\$147.72
Average Days on Market	33
Homes Sold	14
Pending	9
Currently on the Market	4



What Stands Out

This is normally the section that we discuss significant changes or fluctuations in our local market. However, this month it seems a little inappropriate to discuss business when so many are hurting or recovering. So, instead I'll highlight what I love about Country Place. Once again our community has come together during a pressing time of need. From grabbing groceries for a sick or elderly neighbor, helping us all find the elusive roll of toilet paper, or supporting local businesses that are struggling. Our Country Place community always shows up to help each other out. As our family has grown, we have discussed upgrading to a larger home several times, but we always come back to how much we love our neighbors. So, during an extremely difficult time for all, I want to thank you all for being such amazing neighbors. This article is written about a month in advance. So, by the time this newsletter reaches you we will be on the back end of this. Although, this has been difficult at best I hope and believe that we will come out of this stronger and more appreciative of what we have.

(Data was comprised from CP homes sold over the last 90 days ending on 4/6/20)

BONUS: Many people that are able have asked where they can help financially. Therefore, below you will find the information about the Central Florida Red Cross and a variety of ways to give. Remember, the Red Cross has been the first line of defense in virtually every disaster or challenge that we face. That includes the fight against Covid-19.

Donate by Text

Text REDCROSS to 90999 to give \$10 to American Red Cross Disaster Relief.

Donate Online

<https://www.redcross.org/donate/donation.html/>

Donate by Mail or Phone

Please make your check or money order payable to the "American Red Cross" and mail to: 3310 W. Main St., Tampa, FL 33607

(All data is courtesy of Realtor Multiple Listing Service. Opinions included are not meant to be taken as facts, but are the professional opinion of the below agent. If you are working with a Realtor, please disregard any advertisements. All requests for business are meant solely for those not currently represented. Joe Benson is both a resident of Country Place and a licensed Real Estate agent).



Joe Benson
 Benson Family Realty
 813-324-1384
joebenson@bensonfamilyrealty.com
www.bensonfamilyrealty.com





COUNTRY PLACE
Homeowners Board Of Directors

PRESIDENT
Tina Rhodes

VICE PRESIDENT
Patrick Schafer

SECRETARY
Kim Haag

TREASURER
Paul Van Steenberg

DIRECTOR
Ellia Silwiak

COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION MANAGER
Greenacre Properties, Inc.

Mike Spall
4131 Gunn Highway
Tampa, FL 33618
ph: 813-936-4154
mspall@greenacre.com

IKare Publishing is not responsible for content and as editor reserves the right to edit articles for content, length, grammar, and readability.

COUNTRY PLACE
Special Maintenance District

The Country Place Special Maintenance District was created and purposed to manage and maintain the common areas and property of Country Place. This includes all areas of ingress and egress to our community. Signage, landscaping, mowing, mulching and other misc. maintenance functions are overseen by this Board.

TRUSTEE
Chuck Urbinek

TRUSTEE
Wayne Swift

TRUSTEE
Open

PRESIDENT
Darrel Spacone

VICE PRESIDENT
Open

SECRETARY
Keith Colini

TREASURER
Chris Rhodes

Meetings: 2nd Monday of each month
Meeting time: 7:00 PM - 8:30 PM
Meeting location: Northdale Recreation Center,
15550 Spring Pine Drive, Tampa, 33624
Contact information: PO Box 340218,
Tampa, FL 33694
countryplacesmd@gmail.com

Can't wait for the next newsletter? Visit our website at <http://www.countryplace.org> for events, newsletters (current and past), board meeting minutes, photos, and so much more.

From the Manager:

Getting To Know Your Neighbors Creates Community

In our fast-paced, stress-filled world we often don't create the opportunities that we need in order to get to know our neighbors. In days past, good neighbor relations were the staple of every strong community. Being able to share life's experiences, both good and bad, with those who live so close to us was once considered one of life's greatest blessings.

These days it is the exception rather than the rule to take the time to create strong relationships with the people we share our community with...and we are each the poorer because of it. Each one of us has a story to tell, a hand to lend, a laugh to share, and friendship to give. What keeps us from extending so much of ourselves to the families that live around our own may be those same things that prevent us from experiencing many of the great blessings of our parents or of our youth: A changing world that focuses more on the individual than the family and the need to remain isolated in order to feel "safe and secure."

Someone once said, "If you always do the things you did, you'll always get the things you got." If we want to grow as a community then we have to risk breaking free from the bonds of isolation that are so easily created by and for us. We must reach out to our neighbors and let them know that they matter and that we care. If we do that, even in the most seemingly insignificant of ways - like a wave as we pass on the street - then we are moving toward a better community and a better way to live.

We must reach out to our neighbors and let them know that they matter and that we care.

Just because our culture has pushed us away from ourselves doesn't mean it is right, it just means that we have to work that much harder in order to reconnect with one another and create a better environment in which to live. I know all of our lives have changed drastically because of the pandemic. Many homeowners are reaching out to others in many different ways. The situation itself has forced some of us to break outside of our comfort zone and reach out to neighbors who need help. But there is always a little more we can each do - there may be a neighbor who's alone and in isolation, or a neighbor who doesn't speak English... what small change can you make to be that neighbor to create community in your neighborhood?

Reminder: All annual assessments are due JULY 1st. The board has been unable to meet to approve the budget as of yet, but please put a note on your calendar that \$125.00 - payable to Country Place - is due to Greenacre, on 7/1/20.

Thank you!



Find your Center.

LEARN ABOUT OUR CLASSES & WORKSHOPS

"Copper Leaf" by Leslie Hendersen

ENTERTAINMENT • COMMUNITY EVENTS • CLASSES & WORKSHOPS • GALLERY

**SUMMER
CAMPS**
June 1-August 7
AT CARROLLWOOD CULTURAL CENTER

CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER

Camps for Ages 4-13 • Free Early and After Care



CARROLLWOOD
CULTURAL CENTER
4537 Lowell Rd., Tampa, FL 33618

(813) 922-8167
CarrollwoodCenter.org

NOT A VACATION

We are truly living in unprecedented times.

On the evening of March 17, I had to do something that I never thought I would have to do: stop all programming at the Carrollwood Cultural Center. In the past, the Center temporarily stopped operation as a precautionary measure to prepare for inclement weather, or as part of our annual holiday break in December. But this was different. This was going to be longer than a few days or a week. We were going to be dark for a couple of weeks - perhaps longer.



The Center is not alone. The week before closing, many other non-profit arts and culture organizations in the area began their weeks

optimistically cautious - adopting new procedures for keeping patrons, volunteers, and staff safe - all in hopes of salvaging their current season of programs. However, before the week ended, most had canceled or postponed all scheduled performances and special events, sent their employees home and closed their doors for the next few weeks.

The Center was one of the last large arts-based non-profit organizations in the area to close, partly because of the 2020 Florida primary elections on March 17 (we are a voting center). When I sat down with the finance committee of my board of directors on March 16 to discuss the situation, the question was not *should* we close, but how long will it take us to recover the financial loss of such an unplanned, substantial interruption to our operations.

The public health emergency caused cultural organizations to cancel (or postpone) all live programming immediately, which also meant losing out on all short-term opportunities for earned revenue. Depending on how long arts groups have to stay closed, the impact could be crippling.

Take the Center, for example; The Center is a financially successful organization, reporting positive end-of-year financials for eight of its 12 years when it opened amidst The Great Recession. When the Center closed, we were in our third week of a six-week class session. Since we are refunding our patrons for the remaining three weeks, our once profitable session will result in a financial loss. Since our rental program had to cease, we will lose out on income from at least four significant events, not to mention the smaller meeting groups that frequently convene at the Center. Money from ticket sales will also be refunded as our entire entertainment line-up gets reworked. TITANIC: The Musical, a show that was expected to bring in more than fifteen thousand dollars, has already incurred significant expenses for copyrights, props, costumes, set construction, and marketing. The show will need to be postponed and performed for fewer days, resulting in less potential income - and that is the best-case scenario. April is typically one of our strongest months financially as parents register their children for summer camp. However, we anticipate many families may need to pull back on their child's summer plans depending on how this crisis affects their household budgets. Finally, as a non-profit organization, we depend on donor support and grants to thrive.

COVID-19 and its effect on the economy are devastatingly unpredictable.

This is all the result of being forced to close for only two weeks.

March 18 was our first dark day since the pandemic. I woke up before sunrise and went to the Center. I've gone in early before, but this time was different. No one would be joining me. The Center's staff, board of directors, members, volunteers, and patrons along with help from Hillsborough County, built this organization into a healthy, thriving community arts center. She - as are the people who made her - is an extension of my family. Another child that I have cared for and watched grow. Walking those halls, in the dark, was eerie - similar to when I walked them before we officially opened in 2008. However, it was also different because *now I know how successful this organization is and will be*. I've seen thousands of people walk through our doors. I've talked with patrons who are now friends about the importance of this organization in their lives. I know the community loves, supports, and will continue to root for her.

After the restrictions lift and we try to return to normal - or at least adapt to a new normal - please remember your small and mid-size businesses and organizations. Local non-profits, family-owned businesses, and churches rely on your patronage and donations. As the community struggles to cope with COVID-19, we should remember how much that same community helps us all to cope with life - in good times as well as not-so-good times.

See you back at the Center,
Paul Berg

Executive Director, Carrollwood Cultural Center

thank you!

Please join us in saying to the wonderful local companies that are the **advertisers** who support **your** community newsletter. Without the support of these advertisers the newsletter would not be able to be published free to **your** community. Please contact them when you are in need of a service they offer, they care about **your** community!

In addition, if you would like to be entered in a drawing to **win \$25.00**, once an advertiser in this newsletter is used, please send an email to Ikarepublishing@gmail.com and tell us the company you used, your full name, address and phone number. Upon verifying the information, we will select a winning name at random each month.

Help us by supporting the newsletter and keeping the communication in **your** COMMUNITY STRONG!



WHO TO CALL



This is normally the section that we would use to point out one neighbor that goes above and beyond to make Country Place a great neighborhood to live in. However, while this month there are several deserving winners there are too many to mention by name and I don't know all of these

names even if we did have the space. So, I made a list and we'll cover as many as I can think of. This is in no way all-encompassing and I'm bound to leave someone out. If I left you out, please know that we still appreciate you and are grateful for what you do. So, to the following, we raise a glass, say a prayer and rest a little easier knowing that you have our backs.

- To the teachers that have gone out of their way to create virtual material for students at our local schools.
- To the moms and dads that are suddenly tutoring math while answering an important business call and making lunch all at the same time.
- To the healthcare workers that put their life and family at risk to save ours.
- To the mail carrier that still hasn't missed a day and gives us a small window to the outside world.
- To the first responders who ignore all danger to make sure we are safe.
- To the grocery store, drug store and other essential employees that keep our homes stocked and the power on.
- To the healthy college student that sits at home making sure they don't spread the virus even though they are likely safe.
- To all of you that grabbed some TP, brought some food or picked something up for a neighbor that was either sick or at risk. You are more appreciated then you will ever know.

Again, please don't be offended if I left you out. There are so many of you right now. We could all tell a million stories of how our neighbors have had each other's back. Whoever you are, from the bottom of all our hearts, thank you for everything you do.

To report a street light outage: <https://secure.tampaelectric.com/tampaelectricsecure/forms/residential/streetlightout/>

To report speeding and traffic issues: <http://www.hcso.tampa.fl.us/getdoc/aba59046-1e3a-4edb-a2d0-a77b8f51220e/Contact.aspx>

To report potholes, damaged or missing street signs, lifting/trip-hazards with sidewalks, or other street/sidewalk issues: <https://service.hillsboroughcounty.org/311/roads-sidewalks/>

To report or follow up on a violation:
Phone: 813-600-1100 Email: mspall@greenacre.com
To request FHP presence for a general day/time/area:
Phone: 813-600-1100 Email: mspall@greenacre.com

Report an issue with the entrances managed by the special maintenance district: darrel.spacone@donordatadone.com

To request FHP presence for a general day/time/area:
Phone: 813-600-1100 Email: mspall@greenacre.com

SPRING SPECIALS!

Free WiFi Thermostat with all replacement units!

FREE SECOND OPINIONS!

FREE Air Quality Assessment for your home or business! No purchase necessary!

Protect your immune system from different viruses



**60 months
0%
interest
financing!***

*subject to credit approval and credit limit

**Free UV light with
new 15 SEER
A/C System!**

**This system helps kill
viruses. Get more info at
www.airmasters.net.**

**Up to
\$1500**

Trade-In Allowance
on old unit with purchase of
new unit.

**Up to \$900 in
Utility Rebates
Up to 12 years
Parts & Labor**

**\$59.00
Tune-up Special**

Reg. \$99.00



**Subject to credit approval and credit limit. See store for details.*



**Good Credit or Bad Credit, 99% Approval Rate!
Call TODAY! 888-326-4530**

Offer Expires 05/31/2020

Air Masters
of Tampa Bay, Inc. Since 1983
Air Conditioning & Heating

Family owned & operated since 1983

Home Advisors | Google Guaranteed Contractor
Angie's List Contractor

Hablamos Español.

Expert ER Care

Now in Westchase



Full Service ER Now Open

When an emergency happens, you want to know you've got a team you can trust. Our new 24-hour ER offers the same level of emergency care found at our hospital, to help you get back to your life and back to feeling whole.

Learn more at YourWestchaseER.com

 In case of a medical emergency, call 911.



AdventHealth Westchase ER
10977 Sheldon Road | Tampa, FL 33626


AdventHealth
Westchase ER

A hospital department of AdventHealth Carrollwood



SCHEDULE A FREE DONATION PICKUP

1-800-SA-TRUCK

www.satruck.org

Please Donate Your Gently-Used Items.

DOING THE MOST GOOD



Your Country Place AC Guy

MOSLEY

Heating & Air

FOR ALL YOUR A/C NEEDS

813-230-3742

SE HABLA
ESPAÑOL

CHECK OUT OUR REVIEWS!

facebook.com/MosleyHeatingandAir

- RESIDENTIAL & COMMERCIAL
- EMERGENCY SERVICE
- AC MAINTENANCE & REPAIR
- SYSTEM REPLACEMENT
- AIR DUCT CLEANING
- DRYER VENT CLEANING
- OVER 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

LICENSED & INSURED • #CAC1819353



Earth Friendly
Lawn Service

Spring Time is
New Fence Time!

We install: Wood & Gate
Chain Link Fence & Gate

WOMAN VETERAN OWNED BUSINESS

Phone: 813-255-4301 (Ron) okay to leave a message

Mention this ad and get 20% off services!

Locally Owned, Licensed, Workers Comp and Liability Coverage