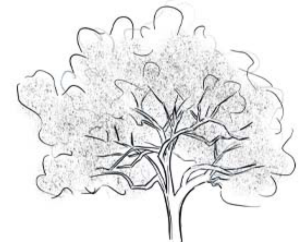




Gardens of Oak Hollow

A SMALL COMMUNITY WITH A BIG HEART

Neighborly News



Number 075

28 November 2023

Community Project

At the November meeting of the Garden Gals, we discussed pulling together a Community project. It was decided to sponsor a "Sock Drive". All contributions should be in before Thursday December 14th to allow time to transport and catalogue before Christmas.



Why a Sock Drive?

The "Sock Drive" project (socks and gently used clothing) was suggested to provide some assistance to people in our city who currently live with no roof over their heads. Food for the belly, hot shower and clean clothes, a place to go and belong are just some of the services Corazon Ministries (<https://corazonsa.org>) offers. The numbers are amazing. From January to September, 153 individuals were placed in housing. 6400 showers were provided. 21, 963 hot meals have been served. Job loss, enormous health challenges, and other life events all contribute to people's struggle.

The "Sock Drive" project was suggested by Edie DeVilbiss, who serves as a Corazon Board Member, and volunteered to spear-head the project. She will ensure our donations are delivered before Dec. 25.

How Will it Work?

OPTION 1: Next time you are out shopping, pick up one or more pairs of new socks (all sizes are welcome). In addition to the socks, any gently used clothing would also be welcomed. Drop off for Edie at 12543 Enfield Park, text or call 318-497-0187.

OPTION 2: Don't feel like shopping in stores? To facilitate ease in shopping, Edie created an Amazon gift list. Click on this link and you'll see selections at different prices. You are not confined to this list, but it is an easy to buy socks and have them delivered.

Early Success!!!

The sock drive is underway!

Donations are pouring in! So far we've collected 42 pairs of new socks, and numerous clothing items. It's exciting to see the stack grow.

Estate of Ray Kirsch Sale



9am to 4pm

Friday and Saturday

December 1 and 2

Miracle on 34th Street

In the last Neighborly News, I included a reference to the 1947 film **Miracle on 34th Street**. Having just written about the two Thanksgiving Parades, Macy's and Gimble's, I decided to re-watch the old movie.



Miracle on 34th Street was charming as ever. However, this time I picked up on many references to the competition between Macy and Gimble. It was fun all the way around.

What is your favorite Christmas movie?

December Green Glow



Have you located your Green Bulb yet?

Next Friday is December 1st!

During the whole month of December we transform our neighborhood into a GREEN winter wonderland by changing the white light in our front yard light to GREEN! Let's all be ready to enjoy this unique December tradition! What a charming and beautiful sight!

Even though Christmas takes place in the middle of winter, green is everywhere. From our Christmas trees to the Holiday Wreaths

hanging from our doors, green is often the most prominent color of Christmas.

Evergreen plants are an obvious choice for winter decoration, because they never lose their color. Pine trees, holly, ivy, and mistletoe are classic holiday plants.

Evergreens had special meaning to ancient peoples because they stayed vibrant through the darkest days of winter and helped them think ahead to the rebirth of the earth in the spring. Just like we do today, these civilizations would hang evergreen boughs over the doors and windows during the colder months.

In the dead of winter the Romans would give each other evergreen plants or branches as a sign of good luck. The Germans took this practice to another level and brought trees into their homes and decorated them with fruits and nuts.

Evergreen plants like holly and mistletoe are used at Christmastime to represent Christ's life and eternal nature. In pagan times, they were a powerful reminder that nature keeps growing, even through the cold times.

Was December the 10th Month?



Did you know the names of the last four calendar months have remained constant since the Roman calendar:

- SEPTEMBER - The 7th month of the year - from Latin, **septem** 'seven'

- OCTOBER - The 8th month of the year - from Latin, **octo** 'eight'
- NOVEMBER - The 9th month of the year - from Latin, **novem** 'nine'
- DECEMBER - The 10th month of the year - from Latin, **decem** 'ten'

While the names stayed the same, September to December are now the 9th, 10th, 11th, and 12th months in our modern-day Gregorian calendar (as it was in the preceding Julian calendar).

In Roman times, the calendar only had ten months and began with March! It may be that the period at the end of the year (c 61 days) was simply un-named and undivided, or it may be that two un-named months existed. The reason for the strange anonymity of this period is probably because it was wintertime. The main purpose of a calendar at this time would have been to chart the changes of the agricultural seasons and the major festivals of Rome; wintertime was a period of effective stagnation in farming, war, and religion, so there was no need for a name.

The month of December originally consisted of 30 days. After January and February were added to the calendar (around 700 BCE), December was shortened to 29 days. Then, two days were added to December in the subsequent Julian calendar, making it 31 days long.

Save The Date



6PM, Thursday, December 21

Hostess: Mary Lou Lybecker
1821 Shoal Run

Come and join us for a festive evening to enjoy the Holiday Season together.

A good time will be had by all.