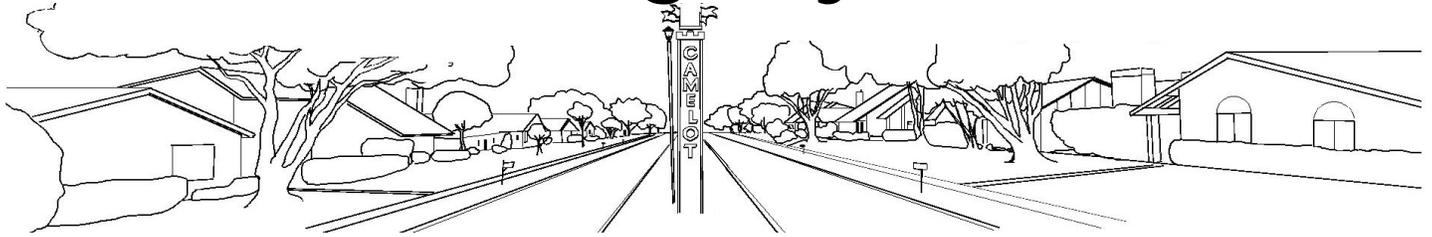


The Knightly News



Monthly Newsletter of the Camelot Neighborhood Association, Inc.

MAY 2021

Sign dedication ceremony marks COVID-19 pandemic and CNA 40th Anniversary

By Reba Collins, Beautification Committee Chair



CNA PRESIDENT JOE THOMAS PRESIDED.



MAYOR SCOTT LEMAY AND DISTRICT 7 COUNCIL MEMBER DYLAN HEDRICK



PASTOR GREG OFFERED A PRAYER.

On Saturday, April 10, 2021, CNA held an outdoor ceremony on King Arthur Drive to dedicate our new commemorative sign, honoring COVID-19 victims, first responders and other essential workers. The custom boulder sign also marks CNA's 40th anniversary in 2020 and memorializes our community's response to the pandemic in a special way. The outdoor setting includes a new shade tree and bench and offers a contemplative space for residents to acknowledge losses and sacrifices during the pandemic. CNA President Joe Thomas presided at the event. Garland Mayor Scott LeMay presented a special proclamation for our association's 40th anniversary and spoke of his love of our neighborhood. Dylan Hedrick, District 7 City Council Member, thanked us for our commitment to the community. A heartfelt prayer of remembrance was offered by Pastor Greg Oppenhuis from Big Springs Baptist Church. Honored guests included Garland NPOs and Garland Fire Station 6 firefighters and EMS paramedics. We drew local TV coverage from NBC5 and from the Garland Media Relations Department, who posted a video of the ceremony highlights on the city Facebook page. That video can also be viewed on our Facebook page.

How people respond to adversity says a lot about their character. We wanted a



BECKY THURMOND WITH NPOS DAWSON & KUENZLE



GARLAND FIREFIGHTERS WITH BRENDA & BECKY



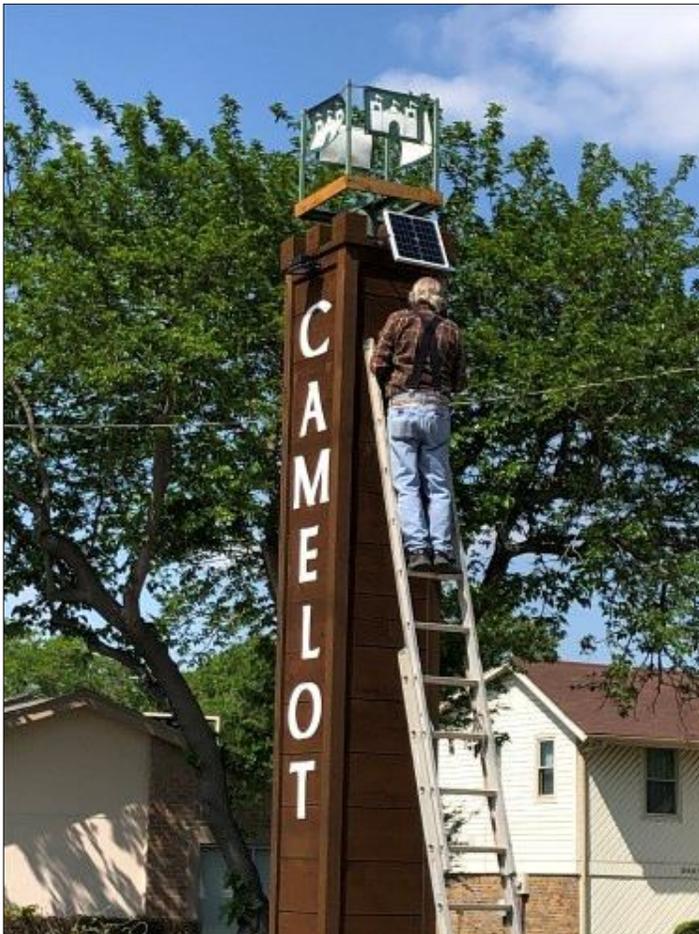
CNA BOARD AND MAYOR LEMAY

celebratory 40th anniversary as an organization in 2020, but then the COVID-19 virus landed on our front door, not just in our neighborhood but throughout the world. The pandemic shut down any idea we had for public festivities to mark our forty years of service to the neighborhood. Everything we were planning was canceled — no picnic, no big party. So our Board of Directors pivoted to service projects, including two drive-through food drives to benefit the growing number of food insecure people in our community. In our early virtual 2020 monthly meetings, we talked about how we could mark our 40th year and at the same time recognize the essential workers among us and the historic times in which we were living. The Board realized the community needed a lasting memorial, and everyone contributed ideas and time to the initiative. Thanks to the City's Office of Neighborhood Vitality Matching Grant Program, we were able to fund this project, beginning in late 2020. When you drive on King Arthur Drive now, we hope you take a moment to reflect on the times we all are living through together.

Memorial boulder being installed by Boulder Designs



The memorial project included lighting the Camelot tower. Paul Janek, who built the tower, installed the lighting for us. Come by and see the tower at night!



Camelot ~ 2020 Garland Neighborhood of the Year