#### March / April 2019 No. 85



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## THE FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT AND SECURITY ARM OF THE U.S. POSTAL SERVICE

#### PROTECTING YOURSELF FROM MAILBOX VANDALISM

Rural area mailboxes are vulnerable to vandalism because they are usually isolated, located on public thoroughfares, and frequently not visible to the box owners from their homes. City residential mailboxes are vandalized to a lesser degree.

Mailboxes are considered federal property, and federal law (Title 18, United States Code, Section 1705), makes it a crime to vandalize them (or to injure, deface or destroy any mail deposited in them). Violators can be fined up to \$250,000, or imprisoned for up to three years, for each act of vandalism.

Postal Inspectors recommend these actions to protect your mailbox and any mail that may be inside it:

- Immediately report theft, tampering, or destruction of mail or mailboxes to your Postmaster. Or to report it to the Postal Inspectors online, or call 1-877-876-2455 (press 5).
- Obtain Label 33 from the Postal Inspection Service and affix it to your mailbox. The sticker warns that willful damage to mailboxes and theft of mail are crimes.
- Keep your mailbox in good repair, and make sure it's properly installed. This may help prevent theft of the mailbox itself.

If you have information on mailbox vandalism, call the Postal Inspection Service to report it. Your cooperation helps apprehend violators. You may provide your information or complaints to your local postmaster or <u>your</u> <u>nearest Postal Inspector</u>.

https://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/radDocs/tipvandl.htm

#### **MANAGER'S UPDATE**

#### Social Media

If you have a question pertaining to something having to do with the Homeowner's Association, please call our office or send us an e-mail as opposed to asking it on social media. Sometimes the answer you get may not be the correct one, especially having to do with Architectural Guidelines. If you have a concern of any kind, you may call the manager (281) 462-4128 and she will be happy to discuss it with you to the best of her ability. Please note that we are not permitted to discuss any property or account with you other than your property.

Since we no longer have the electronic signs, we are trying to place up-coming events on both Nextdoor Newport and Newport Residents. We will also be updating our website newportpoa.com/ news/updates weekly and encourage you to visit our page.

Our newsletter is published bi-monthly and is available on our website. If you would like to have the newsletter mailed to your home, please call our office Ext. 10 to be placed on a mailing list.

#### **Communication**

The most common complaint is that phones are not answered when you call. Our office has three incoming lines. There are two team members working the front office. They, in addition to various other duties, assist homeowners coming into the office and answer the general numbers. If your call goes to voicemail, please leave a message. We check our messages several times a day and our policy is to return the call no later than 24 hours (week-end exception). Following is a list of extensions for specific matters:

> Accounting / Assessments – Teresa, Ext. 13 Architectural Control / Stables & Storage – Michelle, Ext. 14 Deed Restrictions – Courtney, Ext. 16 Spanish Speaking – Maria, Ext. 17 General Inquiries– Cindy, Ext. 10 Manager – Carol, Ext. 11



#### **ELECTION RESULTS FROM JANUARY 10, 2019**

There was a total of 583 votes cast, comprised of the following:

Absentee ballots for quorum only representing 284 votes 1 Absentee ballot counted for quorum only due to incorrect signature – 1 vote Ballots used for quorum only – no signature or date – 2 votes Absentee Ballots representing 256 votes Ballots representing 40 votes

#### CANDIDATE RESULTS

Jerry Cossey – 171 votes – One -year term Tommy Craft – 205 votes – Three-year term Gerald Kelley – 232 votes - Three-year term

#### **ELECTION OF OFFICERS**

Dan Webb – President Kim Davila – Vice President Jerry Cossey – Secretary Nancy Gaudet – Treasurer

#### **APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE CHAIRS AND CO-CHAIRS**

<u>Architectural Control Committee</u> Nancy Gaudet – Chair / Eileen Fashoro – Co-Chair

<u>Deed Restriction Committee</u> Kim Davila - Chair / Jerry Cossey - Co-Chair

> Fitness Center and Pool Tommy Craft – Chair

Lake/River, Storage and Stables Dan Webb – Chair / Gerald Kelley – Co-Chair

> <u>Security</u> Dan Webb – Chair

#### **MONTHLY ASSESSMENTS**

Monthly assessments remain \$50 for 2019. Assessments are due on the <u>first</u> day of each month. Assessments not received prior to the first day of the following month in which they are due, will be charged a late fee of \$5 plus interest at the rate of 6% per annum. Accounts that are four months delinquent will be charged a monthly collection fee in the amount of \$15 per month for every month thereafter. Amenity access will be revoked until the account is brought current.

If you currently have a delinquent balance on your account, you have the option of setting up a payment plan with the Association. Once a payment plan is in place, all future late fees and collection fees will be waived during the plan provided payments are made timely.

To set up a payment plan, please contact Teresa in the management office at tplatt@newportpoa.com or (281) 462-4199, Ext. 13.

#### **ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL**

All improvements to the exterior of your home are subject to Architectural Review. Please make sure to submit a Home Improvement Request Form for all exterior improvements, including without limitation:



- Painting (color paint chip must be submitted)
- Roofing (must have at least 25 year shingle)
- Fences (new or replacement in whole or part must include plot plan
- showing location of fence)
- Driveway (must include plot plan showing location of driveway and materials being used)
- Sheds please consult Architectural Control Guidelines

If you have any questions regarding what is required to make exterior alterations to your home, please contact Michelle at mparisher@newportpoa.com or call (281) 462-4199 Ext. 14.

For a copy of ACC Guidelines, please go to our website www.newportpoa.com, click on Documents, go to Resident Documents and scroll down to to ACC Guidelines.

The HIR Form is available in the Management Office and online.

#### **VACATION WATCH PROGRAM**

A <u>Vacation Watch</u> is a service provided by the Harris County Sheriff's Office for citizens residing in the unincorporated areas of Harris County.

Citizens may request a <u>Vacation Watch</u> by going to the following link and completing the online form. <u>https://www.harriscountyso.org/Programs/</u> programs\_VacationWatch.aspx



#### **DAYLIGHT SAVINGS TIME**

Begins at 2 a.m. Sunday, March 10th (thru November 3rd)

Set your clock forward one hour

RETHA HILL, Owner

#### **ERRANDS-R-US**

832-435-9716

"BUSY? WE CAN HELP!"

Pharmacy Pick-Up Grocery Shopping Dog Vet Duties House Cleaning



WE ACCEPT	d's House Leveling	
	Home Improvement, L.L.C.	
Paul Bellard Cell:832-629-1717 Office: 281-324-0442	We level slabs - Block & Beam - Pier & Beam B bellardfoundations.com foundationman09@gmail.com Toll Free: 800-493-4926	

#### **ON STREET PARKING**

We are getting reports of on-street parking from your neighbors. Parking in your driveway and garage is not only less disruptive to your neighbors, but it creates a safe neighborhood and helps prevent car thefts.

Here are a few parking tips to live by:



- Use your driveway and garage.
- Do not block mailboxes. If mailbox is blocked, the U.S. Postal Service will NOT DELIVER MAIL.
- Be sure to park in a way that you are not blocking sight or traffic. Park in front of your own home and have your guests to the same. Please do not punish your neighbors terb egderdlla by blocking their home and spaces for their visitor parking.
- Be sure the vehicle you are parking on the street is a regular day-to-day use vehicle. It must move on a daily basis like going to and from work or school.



PLEASE BE A COURTEOUS NEIGHBOR. IF YOU CAN, PARK IN THE GARAGE OR IN THE DRIVEWAY.



#### **NEWPORT'S AMENITIES**

Our community has many amenities available to its residents:

Fitness Center, Swimming Pool and Tennis Courts

Walking Trails along Gum Gulley Park with Splash Pad located on Port O'Call Pocket Parks on South Diamondhead and Flying Bridge (Walking Trails and Parks are operated by Newport MUD)



Access to Lake Houston Boat dock available at lake and river areas ( boat launch permits required ) Picnic areas Camping permitted at River



Stables with riding arena Boat and RV Storage 20, 30 and 40 foot covered storage (for prices contact Michelle at 281-462-4199, Ext. 14)

#### **TRASH PICK UP**

#### Collection dates are Monday and Thursday from 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. YARD WASTE will be collected on Monday. HEAVY/BULKY WASTE will be collected on the 1st and 3rd Thursday of the month.

Please properly contain waste in either bundles, bags and/or receptacles not exceeding forty (40) pounds in weight. Heavy trash consists of furniture, appliances and yard waste bundles not exceeding four (4) feet in length, eight (8) inches in diameter or fifty (50) pounds in weight. If



disposing of refrigerators, all Freon must be drained by a licensed technician prior to collection. Garbage not properly contained or refused will be yellow tagged and noted with a refusal reason.

Aggressive Waste Disposal observes the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Independence Day, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If a service day falls on a holiday, trash collection will resume the next regularly scheduled pickup day.

If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Aggressive Waste at 713-631-1900. You may also visit their website at www.aggressivewaste.com.

PLEASE STORE TRASH CANS OUT OF PUBLIC VIEW EXCEPT ON TRASH DAYS

#### AMENITY CARD

(Pool ... Fitness Center ... Lake & River ... Resident Golf Rates)

The Amenity Card is your pool pass and i.d. to use all amenities in Newport. Your Amenity Card will list everyone living in your household. You may also list on the card the name(s) of caregiver(s) watching over your children during the summer who will be taking them to the pool or one of our other amenities.

There is an <u>annual</u> (January 1st through December 31st) \$25 fee per household for the Amenity Card. One Amenity Card may be shared by the entire household or you may elect to purchase up to four additional Amenity Cards at an additional fee of \$5 each.

If you have a boat, there is an additional <u>annual</u> \$25 launch fee.

To access the fitness center, there is a <u>one-time</u> fee of \$20 to purchase the key fob. [maximum of two key fobs per household at \$20 each ]

To access the lake and river, there is a <u>one-time</u> fee of \$30 to purchase the key. [ only one key per household ]

#### THE GRACE PERIOD FOR 2018 AMENITY CARDS WILL EXPIRE ON MARCH 31, 2019.

To obtain an Amenity Card, you will need to complete a Usage and Indemnification Agreement. This Agreement may be found on our website <u>newportpoa.com</u> under Resident Documents or you may stop by the management office (across from the pool) to get one. The management office will be open the following Saturdays to accommodate residents who are unable to come in during normal work hours:

Saturday, March 30th— 9:30 am – 2:00 pm Saturday, May 4th — 9:30 am – 2:00 pm

You may also complete the form and place it in our drop box along with your check in the amount of \$25.

For additional information, please contact the Management Office at 281-462-4199, Ext. 10.



#### LARGE YARD TREE DEBRIS PICK UP

Spring is just around the corner and we will all be cleaning up from winter.

Large yard tree debris pick up begins **MONDAY**, **MAY 6TH**.

We will pick up large limbs and trees that have been cut and placed at the curb.

Dead trees may be removed without consent of the Architectural Control Committee.

You will need ACC approval to remove any live trees from your property.

To schedule your pick up, please contact the management office at (281) 462-4199, Ext. 10.

#### ON OR BEFORE MAY 2ND

We will not pick up anything other than tree debris.



#### PROPERTY TAXES HOMESTEAD YOUR PROPERTY AND SAVE

If you owned your property on or before January 1, 2019 and you occupy your property, you are eligible to file for a homestead exemption. A homestead exemption provides an average savings of \$300 on your property taxes. Homestead exemptions must be filed no later than April 30, 2019. If you or your spouse will turn sixty-five (65) years of age any time this year you can file for an Over-65 Exemption. This exemption will freeze your school taxes from this year forward and give you a large savings on your county tax. Over-65 Exemptions may be filed any time during the year, however it is better to file them as early as possible. Veterans and other persons on disability may also qualify for exemptions. Form 11.13 is available online at www.hcad.org and we also have them available in the management office. If you have questions about the form or need assistance in completing the form, please stop by the management office and our manager will assist you.

#### \* \* \* \* \* \* \* \*

#### PROTESTING YOUR PROPERTY VALUE

In the next couple of months, you will receive a notice from Harris County Appraisal District setting forth the 2019 value of your property. If you feel the value is too high, you have the right to protest the value. This can be done by completing the form you receive in the mail and sending it to HCAD or following the instructions for filing a protest online. Again, you must own your home on January 1 of the tax year. If you purchased your home in 2018 in an arms' length transaction and the appraised value is higher than the purchase price, you should be able to have the value reduced to the purchase price. You will need, however, to file the protest.



We will begin writing deed restriction violations for landscape beds beginning March 15, 2018. If you get a letter and cannot correct the violation within ten (10) days, please call Courtney in our office at (281) 462-4199, Ext. 16 to get an extension and discuss the matter further.

tonebridge Newport

### HOURS OF OPERATION

#### GOLF PRO SHOP Daily | 7:00 am-6:00 pm

**GRILL** 16401 Country Club Drive • Crosby, TX 77532 281.328.3576

Monday-Wednesday & Sunday | 10:00 am—6:00 pm Thursday & Friday | 10:00 am—9:00 pm Saturday | 10:00 am—8:00 pm

HAPPY HOUR Monday-Wednesday	3:00 pm—6:00 pm			
CONNECT WITH US	a. 4/4 Steak Night			
<ul> <li>@stonebridgengc</li> <li>@stonebridgengc</li> <li>@stonebridgengc</li> <li>@stonebridgengc</li> <li>stonebridgenewport.com</li> </ul>	<ul> <li>b. 4/11 Surf &amp; Turf</li> <li>c. 4/18 Seafood Night</li> <li>d. 4/25 Pasta Night</li> <li>EVENTS</li> <li>a. Bingo 4/8</li> <li>b. Trivia 4/16</li> </ul>			
Text 'STONEBRIDGE' TO 24587	c. Poker 4/11 and 4/25			
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YOU'RE INVITED TO EASTER BRUNCH				
YOU'RE INVITED TO EASTER BRUNCH         SAVE THE DATE APRIL 21ST FROM 11:00 AM TO 2:00 PM         EASTER EGG HUNT AT 1:30 PM				
EASTER EGG HUNT AT 1	I:30 PM			
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## **Golf Course Information**

On or about March 7<sup>th</sup> the maintenance staff will begin spraying the greens in order to have them ready for the start of our renovation project that will begin on March 19<sup>th</sup>. The greens will not show the effect of the spraying until the 11<sup>th</sup> or 12<sup>th</sup> so they will still be playable. We will be preparing Temporary Greens in the approach/fairway, short of the existing green to give our members and guests a good target to play towards. While these Temporary Greens will not be up to the conditions of what our your newly renovated greens will be, we trust that you will find them fun to play while you're out on the course seeing all the magic happen with your new greens under renovation. Be on the lookout for additional games being introduced like "Footgolf" and of course one of our favorite events to host, "Night Golf".

#### Resident Rates are \$25 w/cart 7 days a week

Note: You need to have a valid amenity card to receive the resident rate.

Amenity cards are available at the POA office.

\*\*\*Residents will *always* receive the lowest published rate\*\*\*



## FOOTGOLF



THE COURSE

FOOTGOLF IS A PRECISION SPORT, A COMBINATION OF THE POPULAR SPORTS OF SOCCER AND GOLF, BEING MORE CLOSELY RELATED TO GOLF. THE RULES LARGELY CORRESPOND TO THE RULES OF GOLF AND PLAYERS KICK A REGULATION #5 SOCCER BALL AT A GOLF COURSE FACILITY ON SHORTENED HOLES WITH 21-INCH DIAMETER CUPS IN AS FEW SHOTS AS POSSIBLE

#### THE GAME

FOOTGOLF IS PLAYED ON GOLF COURSES ONLY. IT IS NECESSARY TO HAVE THE GOLF COMPONENT TO MAINTAIN THE QUALITY OF THE COURSE. BUNKERS, HAZARDS AND GOLF COURSE PARTICULARITIES HELP TO IMPROVE THE GAME.

#### THE HISTORY

THE AMERICAN FOOTGOLF LEAGUE WAS FOUNDED IN 2011. THE GAME WAS INTERNATIONALLY PUBLICIZED, AND COUNTRIES WORLDWIDE STARTED COLLABORATING ON THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE GAME. FOOTGOLF HAS BEEN RECOGNIZED OR IS IN THE PROCESS OF BEING RECOGNIZED AS A SPORT IN MANY COUNTRIES.



# SUNDAY MARCH 24TH

COME OUT AND LEARN ABOUT "FOOTGOLF"

CALL TO SIGN UP 281.328.3576

**ALL AGES** 

**NO CHARGE** 

STONEBRIDGENEWPORT.COM





Trivia Challenge Free to Play!

(281) 328 - 3576 Drink and Appetizer Specials

## TEXAS HOLDXEM

## @ STONEBRIDGE 281-328-3576 ext 218

IMM





#### HOW TO REPORT A STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

Every street light in the community has an address and a five or six digit i.d. code on the pole (about eye level).

Write down the address and i.d. number and go to <u>www.centerpointenergy.com/outage</u> to file a report.

> If you do not have access to the internet, please call 713-207-2222.





#### **DATES TO REMEMBER**

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221-6000

March 2—Office Open [9:30 to 2:00] March 6—Office Closed [In-Service Work Day] March 30—Office Open [9:30 to 2:00]

April 3—Office Closed [In-Service Work Day] April 6—Community Garage Sale April 11—Quarterly Meeting In Community Room April 13 - Spring Celebration [11:00 to 2:00] April 19—Office Closed [Good Friday] May 4—Office Open

[9:30 to 2:00]



IMPORTANT NUMBERS

NPOA WEBSITE www.newportpoa.com Manager - Carol Jones (281) 462-4199 Ext. 11 cjones@newportpoa.com

Sheriff (non emergency)	713-221-6000		
Crosby Volunteer Fire Dept.	Emergency 911		
(non emergency/information	281-328-2300		
Crosby EMS	Emergency 911		
(non-emergency information)	281-328-6810		
Crosby Post Office	281-462-8429		
Crosby/Huffman Chamber	281-328-6984		
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191		
Harris County PCT 2 (trees in road; dead animals in road)	713-274-2300		
Newport MUD	281-324-9803		
Harris County Pollution Control	713-920-2831		
Harris County Attorney	713-755-5101		
Health Department – (Environmental)	713-439-6016		
Center Point Customer Service	713-207-2222		
Commissioner Adrian Garcia - Pct. 2	713-455-8104		
Aggressive Waste	713-631-1900		
Crosby Community Center	281-462-0543		
Senior Adult Program	281-893-3726		
Sweetwater Pools	281-988-8480		
Newport Golf Club	281-328-3576		
<b>Environmental Division of Public Health 713-439-6270</b> (To Report Abandoned Houses to Harris County)			