

# NEWPORT NEWS

“Working Toward A Positive Future”

Published and Distributed by  
Newport Property Owner's Association

## ANNUAL MEETING

JANUARY 9, 2020 -- 7:00 PM  
STONEBRIDGE GOLF CLUB

At our Annual Meeting on January 9, 2020, two full term director positions will be available and one director position for one year of an unexpired term. The following candidates have submitted applications to run for these positions:

RAYMOND BELL  
MIKE DUKE  
BECCA SHARP

Bios for each candidate shown on pages 2 and 3. Ballots were mailed on December 27, 2019. The ballots include instructions for voting. If you choose, you may vote at the Annual Meeting.

## NPOA AMENITY CARD

Your 2019 Amenity Card expired on December 31, 2019, however, there is a grace period until March 31, 2020. Please make arrangements to come to the management office to renew your card(s) during that period. To renew your card for 2020 if you can bring your current card with you, it will help us to speed up the process. The cost of the card will remain the same for 2020 - \$25 for the first card and \$5 for each additional card.

*The NPOAN and/or volunteers assume no responsibility for the contents within this publication and shall not be held responsible under any circumstances for any incidental or consequential damages, losses, etc. The viewpoint expressed in the newsletter are those of the writer only and are not necessarily approved or endorsed by the NPOAN, HCMS and/or volunteers.*

## **RAYMOND BELL – NEWPORT RESIDENT SINCE AUGUST 2017**

**Professional background:** Worked at Houston Community College since 2007 in various positions. Main title was Asset Management Supervisor for inventory control. Also held the position of Warehouse Supervisor and Special Projects Coordinator for HCC in Doha, Qatar. I have an MNA from LeTourneau University and an undergraduate degree from Lamar University.

**Community Organizations you have belonged to as well as any past accomplishments:** Member - American Legion; Volunteer for the Paralyzed Veterans of America – Texas Chapter; Member - Crosby United Methodist Church.

**Why would you like to be a Director of the New Property Owners Association of Newport?** I have a strong background in Asset Management, Operations and Maintenance Support. With this experience, I look for ways to improve while balancing cost factors. As a public servant at a college level education, I feel I can bring the community a new perspective in providing services to Newport while keeping a tight budget. Priorities should be promoting community safety and increase community participation. Asset Management oversight of Newport should be an accountability priority.

## **MIKE DUKE – NEWPORT RESIDENT SINCE FEBRUARY 2017**

**Professional background:** PhD in Geology, California Institute of Technology, 1963. NASA Senior Executive, Johnson Space Center, retired 1996; Research Professor, Colorado School of Mines, 2000-2005; Managed organizations of professionals and technical staff of up to 100 people; contributed to NASA advanced planning activities, 1985-1995; Organized new research programs and organizations; Currently Co-Owner of Connections Coffee Shop, Crosby.

**Community Organizations you have belonged to as well as any past accomplishments:** Boy Scout Scoutmaster; Clear Creek Basin Authority Member (Elected); Knights of Columbus.

**Why would you like to be a Director of the New Property Owners Association of Newport?** Strong interest and capability in advanced planning. Newport (and general Crosby area) are experiencing major growth spurt, which I strongly support. We need to maintain our infrastructure and property values as this occurs. I would like to help maintain the interest of residents to work cooperatively with the NPOA Board to improve our community and make it outstandingly attractive to both old and potential new residents.

## **BECCA SHARP – NEWPORT RESIDENT SINCE 2003**

**Professional background:** I am employed as a Customs Regulatory Specialist with Siemens Corporation. My responsibilities are to manage Siemens 9 Customs House Brokers who are responsible for clearing thousands of International shipments whether by air, sea or truck through US Customs & Border Protection and to ensure they are Compliant with US Customs Regulations. Any delay to these clearances can result in liquidated damages and/or loss of Business.

**Community Organizations you have belonged to as well as any past accomplishments:** Certified Customs Specialist; Volunteer for numerous organizations: Star of Hope, Baytown Boat Club, Food Bank, Toys for Tots; Trainer/Power User within my department in several areas; Event Coordination; Benefit Coordinator

**Why would you like to be a Director of the New Property Owners Association of Newport?** As a resident of Newport for the past 16 years, I have seen many changes in the community and neighborhood. While some of these changes have made a positive impact on our neighborhood, I believe that now is definitely a time for change. We need to focus on bringing the community together, providing a safe and clean place for our children and re-establishing Newport as “THE” Crosby neighborhood to live in. Both of my children graduated from Crosby High School, so I now have time to invest in the growth and improvement of our neighborhood. If the opportunity to become a Board member comes to fruition, I feel I will be an asset and can devote as much of my time as needed.

Two members of the NPOA Board of Directors have retired their positions. Both have served our community above and beyond and their presence will be missed.

### **DAN WEBB**

Dan joined the board in 2014. He immediately took over chairing the lake and river, followed by heading up our security program and taking on the job of President for the past three years. Being a jack of all trades, he has been a great asset to us from putting file cabinets together to meeting with contractors on our bigger projects. We will really miss Dan and his vast knowledge.

### **JERRY COSSEY**

Jerry joined the board in 2019 to fill the remainder of a vacant term. Prior to joining the board, he served on our Deed Restriction Committee for three years. Jerry is moving out of state to be closer to his grandchildren.

Special thanks to both of you.

## **NEW RATE FOR 2020—\$55 PER MONTH**

### **WHY ARE ASSESSMENTS INCREASING BY \$5.00 PER MONTH?**

At the Board meeting held on October 23, 2019, the Board of Directors voted to increase the monthly assessments by \$5.00 per month. The reason for the increase is due largely to the deficiency created by operation of the golf course.

When the Board voted to purchase the golf course in 2015, the primary reason was to protect the property values of every property owner in Newport. In 2012 the Board had an assessment prepared by an appraisal company to assess how the property values would be affected if the golf course were to close. At that time, it was determined that property values could decrease as much as twenty percent. Over the past several months the directors have had several discussions with area realtors to ask the same question again. Their responses were the same, using the closing of the golf course in Atascocita as an example. Property values in that community plummeted when their golf course closed and are just now recouping since the golf course has reopened.

Hind sight is always 20/20 and looking back you can always see what you should have done differently. The NPOA budget provides for \$400,000 for operating supplement to the golf course and for 2018 it exceeded that number by \$477,000. In late 2018 the Board hired a management company who made promises of marketing and staying within the allocated budget for 2019. Again, the budget was exceeded by over \$200,000 at which time the Board stepped in before it could get further out of control.

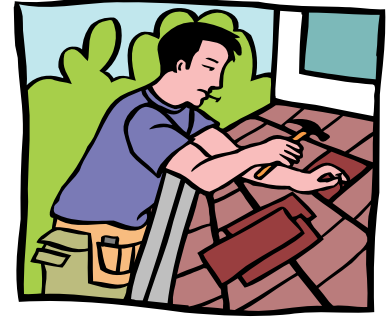
Everyone in Newport will have a different opinion regarding the golf course. Most who don't play golf will ask why they should support it. The answer is that having the golf course protects all property values regardless of their location to the golf course.

Golfers and those who liked the Thursday night dinners (approximately 30 regulars) will be disappointed in our having to make hard decisions of cutting back on food and beverage services.

In addition to the deficiency created by prior operation of the golf course, it is necessary to replace the bulkhead at the lake this year and additional capital is required to complete that task. The lake and river amenities are the highest used amenity in Newport.

Please know that your Board is making these decisions for the best interest of every owner in Newport.

## ARCHITECTURAL CONTROL



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

- Painting (color paint chip must be submitted)
- Roofing (must have at least 25 year shingles)
- 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 (available online)

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

ACC Guidelines are available on our website.

[www.newportpoa.com](http://www.newportpoa.com)

[Click on Documents](#)

[Click on Resident Documents](#)

## TRASH PICK-UP

Heavy trash days are the second  
collection of the week

Frontier Waste Solutions  
at 936-258-9035

or

Newport MUD at 281-  
324-9803



PLEASE STORE  
TRASH CANS OUT OF  
PUBLIC VIEW

*except on trash days*

**Service Days:**

## UPCOMING 2020 COMMUNITY EVENTS

### APRIL

**Spring Garage Sale  
Spring Celebration**

### JUNE

**Summer Celebration**

### OCTOBER

**Fall Garage Sale  
Fall Celebration**

### DECEMBER

**Winter Celebration**

## **PROPERTY TAXES**

### **HOMESTEAD YOUR PROPERTY AND SAVE**

If you owned your property on or before January 1, 2020 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, 2020. 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](http://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 2020 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 2019 in an arms' length transaction and the appraised value is higher than the purchase price, you should be able to have the appraised value reduced to the purchase price. You will need, however, to file the protest.

\* \* \* \* \*

## **OUTDOOR WORK HOURS**

### **Daylight to Dusk**

For outdoor work performed by builders and builder's contractors,  
work hours are from daylight to dusk.

## LOOSE PETS

Please remember your pet must:

- be on a leash no longer than six feet [6'] and
- led by a person capable of controlling the dog or cat at all times unless they are in a confined area such as a fenced area or enclosed run.

You can obtain a complete copy of Harris County Animal Regulations from our website at [newportpoa.com](http://newportpoa.com)

**Please protect your pet  
by obeying the leash  
law.**



## HOW TO REPORT A STREET LIGHT OUTAGE

Every street light in the community has a five or six digit identification code on the pole (about eye level).



To file a report, write down the number and go to

[www.centerpointenergy.com/outage](http://www.centerpointenergy.com/outage)

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

MANAGEMENT OFFICE

CLOSED FIRST WEDNESDAY

OF EACH MONTH

FOR IN-SERVICE WORK DAY

January 8th

February 5th

March 4th

**The NPOA staff attempts to answer each call as it comes in, however, if we are on another line or helping another resident at the front desk, we kindly ask that you leave your name, number and a brief message. We cannot return your call if we do not have your information.**

# LÔÔK

The name of a Newport Property Owner is scrambled somewhere in this edition. If you find your name, please call (281) 462-4199, Ext. 10 to claim your \$25 Wal-Mart gift card.



**REMINDER  
OUTDOOR CHRISTMAS LIGHTS  
AND DECORATIONS  
MUST BE REMOVED BY  
JANUARY 14, 2020**

**For Sale**  
**Century 21<sup>®</sup>**

**Life Changers, Inc.**



**281-328-2531**

**Each Office Is Independently Owned And Operated**

**DON COX**

## **IF YOU HAVE A DOG OR CAT PROBLEM**

**Harris County Public Health: (281) 999-3191**

**City of Houston Animal Control: (713) 837-0311**

**Houston S.P.C.A.: (713) 869-7722**

Harris County Animal Services does not handle wildlife issues. They handle problems with domestic animals, namely dogs and cats. If you have a complaint about a barking dog or a dangerous dog, or have any questions about lost pets, stray cats, pet adoptions, leash laws, etc., give the county a call. It is a free county service for domestic animal issues.

The county will not take care of the raccoon in your yard, the squirrels in your attic, your rat infestation, or anything like that. For wildlife help, please call 281-509-9653 or go to <http://www.houstonanimalcontrol.org>.





## *Creative Corner Child Development Center*

Outstanding Infant and Toddler Program

Preschool and Pre-K

*WE OFFER A HIGHLY ADVANCED CURRICULUM*

Exciting after school program

Fun and exciting summer program with Academic Enrichment to keep students prepared for the school year.

**YOU'VE TRIED THE REST, NOW COME SEE THE BEST!**

Contact us to schedule a tour:

HOURS: 6:30-6:30

PH: 281-462-7403 Email: [ccnewport@gmail.com](mailto:ccnewport@gmail.com)

119 S. Diamondhead Blvd. Crosby, TX.

Tour our website for more details: [www.CreativeCornerNewport.net](http://www.CreativeCornerNewport.net)



**A VERY SPECIAL THANK YOU  
TO THE CROSBY VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT,  
THE CVFD LADIES AUXILARY  
AND TO EVERYONE WHO PLACED A GIFT  
BENEATH THE CHRISTMAS TREE  
AT THE WINTER CELEBRATION.**

**YOUR GENEROSITY BLESSED  
SEVERAL FAMILIES THIS CHRISTMAS.**



# NEWPORT GARDEN CLUB



## WINNERS FOR THE 2019 FESTIVAL OF LIGHTS

1st Place	Ken & Bonnie Beth Newman	1966 Chart Drive
2nd Place	Rayna Vessels	2007 Sea Palms Court
3rd Place	Paul & Kim Smith	16611 West Kingscote Drive
4th Place	Jennifer Jones & Robert Moor	16102 Fairway Creek Circle
5th Place	Jeffrey & Megan Hensley	818 S. Chamfer Way
Finalist	Lynda Cook	818 Backstay Court

### JANUARY 3, 2020

**BUSINESS MEETING 10 a.m.**

**Stonebridge Golf Club in the NPOA Community Room**

### FEBRUARY 7, 2020

**BUSINESS MEETING 10 a.m.**

**Stonebridge Golf Club in the NPOA Community Room**

### FEBRUARY 21, 2020

***Community Project work day***

***The community Project will be providing yard maintenance to a needy homeowner.***

**All meetings and events are on our Facebook page —  
[www.facebook.com/newportgardenclubgroup](https://www.facebook.com/newportgardenclubgroup)  
or you may call or text**

**ACE  
ELECTRIC**  
**281-328-1066**

24 HOUR SERVICE

*For All Your Electric Needs!*

DANNY & JOHNROSS LEATH  
OWNER 38 YEARS

LICENSED INSURED

2709 HWY 90 CROSBY, TEXAS



## IMPORTANT NUMBERS

### NPOA WEBSITE

[www.newportpoa.com](http://www.newportpoa.com)

Manager - Carol Jones

(281) 462-4128 Direct

[cjones@newportpoa.com](mailto:cjones@newportpoa.com)

**The Door Guys**

- Patio Doors
- French Doors
- Sliding Doors
- Custom Doors
- Front Doors
- Back Doors
- Storm Doors
- Pet Doors

**832-851-4754**

### BUY 1 SMOOTHIE GET 1 FREE

(2<sup>nd</sup> Smoothie must be of equal or lesser Value)

Some restrictions apply. Valid only at location below.

Excludes extras and enhancers. Not valid with kid's cups. Not valid on 32oz Smoothie Fridays.

Must clip this ad to redeem.

No photocopied or altered coupons will be honored.

Limit one per person. No cash value. Sales tax extra.



OFFER EXPIRES 3/31/2020

Crosby, TX  
105 Kennings Rd. Ste. 105-2A  
281-666-1266



Sheriff (non-emergency)	713-221-6000
Crosby Volunteer Fire Dept. (non-emergency information)	Emergency 911 281-328-2300
Crosby EMS (non-emergency information)	Emergency 911 281-328-6810
Crosby/Huffman Chamber	281-328-6984
Crosby Post Office	281-462-8429
Newport MUD	281-324-9803
Harris County Animal Control	281-999-3191
Harris County PCT 2 (trees in road; dead animals in road)	713-274-2300
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	713-455-8104
Frontier Waste Solutions	936-258-9035
Parks & Trails (Newport MUD)	281-324-9803
Crosby Community Center	281-462-0543
Senior Adult Program	281-893-3726
Newport Golf Club	281-328-3576
Sweetwater Pools	281-988-8480
Environmental Div. of Public Health (To Report Abandoned Houses to Harris County)	713-439-6270

DOES ADVERTISING WORK? *It Just Did!*

“NEWPORT NEWS”

Business Card Size \$25.00

Half Page \$100

Full Page \$200

**Payment must be received  
by the 10th to be placed  
in the next edition.**

... BE ALERT ...

**REPORT ANYTHING SUSPICIOUS**

**713-221-6000**



### Sign Up for Email or Text Message Alerts

The District respects your privacy. Your contact information will not be used for any purpose other than to communicate with you regarding District news and events.

**Text Alerts** If you would like to sign up to receive important news and updates from the District via text messages, you can send a text message to the number 474747 with the word NEWPORT and you will be registered.

**Email Alerts** If you would like to sign up to receive important news and updates from the District via email messages, you can go to <http://www.newportmudtx.org/alerts/> ... complete the form and you will be registered.

### ASSESSMENTS ARE DUE ON THE FIRST OF EVERY MONTH

Assessments, received after the last day of the month in which they are due, are subject to a monthly late fee of \$5.00 plus interest at the rate of 6% per annum. Payments more than four months late are subject to an additional collection fee of \$15.00 per month. For complete collection procedures, please visit our website at [www.newportpoa.com](http://www.newportpoa.com) and go to Resident Documents then Collection Procedures.

#### NEWPORT MANAGEMENT OFFICE

2102 Country Club Drive  
(across from the swimming pool)  
Hours 8:30—5:00 Mon to Fri  
(281) 462-4199  
[www.newportpoa.com](http://www.newportpoa.com)

#### M A N A G E R

Carol Jones  
[cjones@newportpoa.com](mailto:cjones@newportpoa.com)  
281.462.4128 Direct

#### S T A F F

Teresa, Ext. 13  
Michelle, Ext. 14  
Courtney, Ext. 16  
Maria, Ext. 17  
Cindy, Ext. 10

NPOA Dues & Accounting  
ACC, Horse Stalls, Storage Units  
Deed Restriction Violations  
Habla Español; Amenity Cards  
Customer Service

[tplatt@newportpoa.com](mailto:tplatt@newportpoa.com)  
[mparisher@newportpoa.com](mailto:mparisher@newportpoa.com)  
[cdurham@newportpoa.com](mailto:cdurham@newportpoa.com)  
[marenas@newportpoa.com](mailto:marenas@newportpoa.com)  
[cmoffitt@newportpoa.com](mailto:cmoffitt@newportpoa.com)