

Countryside Valley Homeowner Association

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March / April 2021

The Prez says, "Continue to stay safe and healthy during this lingering COVID pandemic." On behalf of the Countryside Valley HOA Board of Directors, I would like to wish you and your family a welcome to Spring and happy Easter. This is one of a series of bimonthly newsletters to help keep you up-to-date on important information regarding our neighborhood and community. We hope you find it useful. If you are new to our neighborhood, welcome. Let us know you are here so we can say hello.

Neighborhood Walk: The Board will be conducting its annual neighborhood walk on the weekend of March 20 and 21. We will be carefully surveying the current conditions of all homes and properties. Areas include, but are not limited to: roof tile, windows/coverings, stucco, paint, gates, hoses, vegetation (including dead vegetation), yards (weeds, leaves, trash), driveways, porches, trash and recycling bin placement, and walls. Letters will then be sent to all homeowners with the Board's findings and the deadlines to take care of the concerns. We should all take the time to assess the current condition of our homes and properties to address those areas in advance.

Get Caught: In the past, the Board has designated a day each year to drive around the neighborhood to reward residents outside doing some kind of yardwork or home improvement. We will do it again this year on Sunday, March 13, between 7:00 – 11:00 a.m. This is the week before the neighborhood walk and a good opportunity to get some things done around the house and enjoy some coffee, juice, donuts, and bagels from the Board.

Street Striping: Last year, the speed bumps, curbs, pedestrian crossing, and a few other places were striped following the sealing of the roads. Clearly, they are in need of a make-over. So, Speedy Striping will be here on Friday, March 19, to do the work. Please make sure there are no vehicles or trash cans on the street.

New Street Signs: The current green street signs have been hanging there for 30 years, so the Board has decided to have them replaced. However, instead of the current green, the Board voted to have the new signs be terra cotta. We also plan to paint the signposts. Hopefully, they will offer a fresh new look for our street corners.

April Showers Bring...Weeds: As we head into the warm, rainy season, we should all pay close attention to our yards and the encroachment of weeds. It is much easier to **keep up with them on a regular basis** rather than waiting for a field of them to grow and having to pull them all at once.

Rocky Road: One of the things that comes with decorative rock in our front yards is rocks that make it to the street. This is due to various reasons, but the bottom line is that they should be returned to their rightful place in the yard. Rocks are not friendly to roads. They cause damage to them when vehicles drive over them. If you see rocks along the curb or on the street in front of your home, please take the time to put them back in the yard. Thank you.

Walls Along Drainage Areas: Many of us have walls that run along water drainage areas, including 5 inside Countryside Valley and one long one on the west side of our neighborhood. We are responsible for trimming back any and all vegetation that happens to grow over and into those drainage areas. This allows our landscaper to access them to clean them out and it provides for a more aesthetic looking area. Please keep all trees, bushes, oleanders, and other forms of vegetation that hang in drainage areas trimmed back. Thanks.

Home Improvement Recommendations: Many homeowners have researched and hired various local companies do expensive home improvements such as new roofs, new windows, re-piping, and house paint. We often get calls asking who we can recommend, and I can only speak for myself and the work I have had done. So, if you have had some kind of home improvement and can recommend that company to others, let us know. We will keep that information on file and share it with those who ask. It will not be a Board endorsement of that company, rather a positive review from a homeowner. The Board is not requesting poor reviews from residents.

Bookkeeper and Board Appointment: Our good friend and longtime Board treasurer, Leo Race, will be moving away sometime in the near future. With that comes a couple of decisions: hiring a bookkeeper to manage the financial affairs of the association; and appointing a resident to replace him as treasurer. As you probably know, this has been a volunteer Board for many, many years and it has conducted all of the business affairs itself up until this point. This has saved tens of thousands of dollars that would have gone to a management company.

However, the current Board feels this position should now be in the hands of a qualified, experienced bookkeeper. The cost has not yet been determined for this position, but the Board will make sure it is one that will work with the budget. We are not looking to hire an entire management company. One of the Board members will be assigned the position of "Treasurer" and be the liaison between the Board and the bookkeeper.

So, if you are interested in serving on the Countryside Valley HOA Board, please contact us via email. We will interview all those interested in volunteering as a member-at-large through the October annual meeting. Then, if no other homeowners are interested in a Board position, the appointed member would serve another year.

The Board is not saying goodbye to Leo just yet. He and his wife have not scheduled a specific date of departure, but it is the Board's responsibility to make these decisions before he leaves. There are not enough kind words to say about Leo and

the hours, days, weeks, and years he has dedicated to skillfully and honestly maintaining the financial affairs of this association. When he moves, it will be a huge loss to Countryside Valley.

Zelle: Back in the day, we all paid bills by cash or check. Now, we pay for many things online. Paypal was one of the first online services to allow consumers to pay for goods and services. However, it charges a small fee for its service. Now, banks offer Zelle to pay bills without a service charge. The Board encourages the use of Zelle when paying monthly CVHOA dues of \$31. Our organization name is info@cvhoa.net.

Secret Valentine: In the past several newsletters, the Board has encouraged those who read the newsletter to email us and let us know that they read the newsletter. A name is drawn for a Lowe's gift card. Last month's winner was Matt on Ferber Ct. Congrats to Matt.

Exterior Changes: Remember that any plans to change the exterior of homes must first get written approval from the Board. This includes, but is not limited to: exterior paint (color options found in the Dunn Edwards Color Ark for CV), solar panels, sheds, roof replacement, new windows, gates, new vegetation, additions to block walls, and decorative rock. Removal of vegetation does not require Board approval. *Solar panels are allowed in Countryside Valley as long as they are placed on the existing tile. If they cannot be, contact the Board to discuss installation options before the panels are installed.

Zoom Meetings: Due to the Covid-19 Pandemic, the Board will hold its monthly meetings via Zoom until otherwise notified. If you wish to attend the monthly Zoom meetings, leave a voicemail or send an email stating your name, address, and any specific issue, concern, or question you may have. The Board will reply with the Zoom ID and Password in order for you to be invited into the meeting. The next 2 meetings will be Monday, March 1, and Monday, April 5, at 7:00 p.m.

Tables & Chairs: The Board purchased 6 tables and 24 chairs for residents to use for events at their homes. Requests will be approved on a first come, first served basis. Make requests by voicemail or email.

Contact Info: The CVHOA has a new voicemail number, website, and email address. They are:

Voicemail: 520-408-5043
Email: info@cvhoa.net
Website: www.cvhoa.net

Street Sweeping: Our streets are professionally swept the 2nd Friday of every other month. The next scheduled sweep is <u>Friday</u>, <u>April 9</u>. Please help by keeping cars and trash receptacles off the street. Thank you.

Hidden Easter Egg: If you read this newsletter, let us know. You will be qualified to win a Lowe's gift card.

Positive Parking: The Board has observed that most residents have been respectful of the "no parking on the street" rule in Countryside Valley. This has allowed for a nicer looking and safer place for kids to play and residents to walk. So, thank you for your efforts with this. Please continue to park in garages and driveways.

Palm Trees: Owners with palm trees, remember to continue to have the palms trimmed on a regular basis.

Just a reminder of the **Top 10 things to remember** as homeowners/residents of Countryside Valley:

- 1. **Monthly Dues (\$31)** are to be paid by the first of each month. A \$10 late fee may be assessed if dues are received more than 30 days late.
- 2. Maintain the backyard on a regular basis including, but not limited to: weeds, overgrown or dead vegetation, condition of porches and window coverings, and trash.
- 3. Place trash and recycling bins in the garage or back yard on non-pick-up days. Hiding bins behind front yard pillars is not acceptable.
- 4. Park vehicles in garage or driveway. Each home has four parking spaces available.

 Parking 3 vehicles across a driveway, parking in the yard, and parking in the street is prohibited.
- 5. The speed limit in Countryside Valley is 15 MPH. <u>Please drive safely kids at play.</u> Remotes to the gate can be purchased from Alltech Gate Systems (747-4441).
- 6. **Keep up with vegetation**. Pull weeds, trim trees and bushes, and cut down dead vegetation. This includes vegetation that hangs over the street, sidewalk, and walls.
- 7. **Maintain the exterior of the home.** Repair/replace broken gates and fascia, fill holes in stucco, paint chipped and worn wood and stucco, keep driveway oil free, replace broken or missing tile, and hang that hose.
- 8. Be responsible pet owners. Bring barking dogs inside and pick up unwanted dog droppings in the back yard. Be respectful of a neighbor's right to peace and quiet.
- 9. Cover windows with actual window coverings, not towels, sheets, aluminum foil, etc. Please replace broken blinds and screens.
- 10. Architectural Changes: Any changes to the exterior of the home, including landscaping, paint, additions, sheds, etc., must have Board approval in writing prior to the work being done.

Well, there it is. The neighborhood looks great. Let's keep up the good work to ensure we have a neighborhood proud to be called our home. Remember to "Get Caught" on Sunday, March 13 between 7:00-11:00 a.m.

Respectfully,

Todd Autenreith

Todd Autenreith - President CVHOA