



COUNTRY VILLAGE



# THE COUNTRY VILLAGE

YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER

FALL 2022

# BRIEF

## From The Board

### Board

The Monthly meetings of the Board of Directors has been changed to the 3rd Tuesday of the month at 7:00 pm. Please join the meeting.

### Pool

With cooler weather rolling in, our pool season is now over. We hope everyone had the opportunity to enjoy our pool this summer. As you recall, the CV Pool was temporarily closed due to the national lifeguard shortage. As a result, the pool switched over to "swim at your own risk (SAYOR)" for the summer. In the process, we also found a great new pool company that has kept the pool water crystal blue since July.

Many neighbors have enjoyed activities like swim team and events like the Back to School Party at our community pool. We have received feedback that people enjoyed the longer pool hours each day. If you have additional feedback about the pool hours or SAYOR, please email your thoughts to Blanca at Crest Management ([blancag@crest-management.com](mailto:blancag@crest-management.com)).

Up next... Both pools will be replastered over the winter months starting in January, with the addition of 5 tile lane lines added to the main pool. CV residents can also swim throughout the year at the Heathlake pool through our joint use agreement. For more information on the Joint Use Agreement or to obtain a key card to Heathlake, please visit the Crest Portal or contact our property manager at [blancag@crest-management.com](mailto:blancag@crest-management.com).

### Architectural Control Committee

Remember to always obtain ACC approval before making changes to the exterior of your home, including any exterior painting, roofing, fence, or driveway replacement. The instructions and Exterior Modification Request application can be found on the Crest web site noted above. We currently have four committee members and would like to add additional member. If you are interested, please contact any Director for assistance.

(continued on page 2)

## BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President - Dean Barnes  
Vice President - Anna Heinzelmann  
Secretary - Kristofer Low  
Director - Scott Sevigny  
Treasurer - Amanda Hellman

*The "Contact Us" form at [www.countryvillagehoa.org](http://www.countryvillagehoa.org) – emails your message to all the Board members and the management company.*

## IMPORTANT NUMBERS/INFORMATION

**Management Company:** (281) 579-0761  
Crest Management Company, Community Manager – Blanca G,  
([blancag@Crest-Management.com](mailto:blancag@Crest-Management.com))  
17171 Park Row, Suite 310, Houston, Tx. 77084

**Trash Company:** 713-787-9790  
Trash Company: V.F. Waste Services [www.vfwasteservices.com](http://www.vfwasteservices.com).  
Trash days are Monday and Thursday. Heavy trash every Thursday.  
Recycling is Wednesday morning. If you need a bin, please contact Crest Management and they will have VF Waste drop a bin off at your home.

**Clubhouse Rentals:** (281) 579-0761  
The clubhouse is available to any resident (up to date on dues) to use for private parties and includes use of the pool and parking lot areas.

For reservations contact Crest, 281-579-0761, login to your homeowner portal at [www.crestmanagement.com](http://www.crestmanagement.com) and check the calendar for availability, days with reservations will have a blue dot within them. If your desired date is available email [jacquelync@crest-management.com](mailto:jacquelync@crest-management.com) for an application.

A \$150.00 deposit is required. Rental fee is \$150.00.

**Community Website:** [www.countryvillagehoa.org](http://www.countryvillagehoa.org)

## Board Update (continued)

### Trash & Recycling Services

Trash service is Monday and Thursday. Recycling service is Wednesday.

“Backdoor” trash pickup is provided for standard residential trash and grass clippings, which means trash can(s) or bags can be placed near the back or gate but outside of any fenced area. A maximum of 6 bags not exceeding 40 pounds per bag per pickup.

Tree trimmings and branches, cut in length not to exceed four (4) feet, securely tied in bundles weighting less than 40 pounds, heavy trash and recycling must be placed curb side.

Generally, paper, cardboard, plastic, and metal are accepted for recycling. Glass is not currently accepted.

Holiday Collection days falling on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years will occur the following day and service for the subsequent day in the same week will also be completed one day later. Collection days falling on Good Friday, Memorial Day, July 4th and Labor Day will continue as normal.

Additional information or changes to these services can be found at our website, [www.countryvillagehoa.org](http://www.countryvillagehoa.org)

### Community Center Improvements

Are still underway and are being planned to both the grounds and the clubhouse. The refurbishment of the basketball court is complete as new basketball goals and court lighting has been installed. You'll notice a stronger Wi-Fi signal strength around the playground and pool. An upgraded security system including cameras has been installed. The new system includes cameras to provide more coverage, especially of pool and more space to save recordings.

Upcoming topics include updating the Clubhouse interior and furniture, improving the grounds to include more play fields, a T-ball field, walking paths, the addition of an event pavilion, new tennis courts with pickle ball. The Board has been aided in these efforts by committees for the Community Center revitalization projects. The Board is continuing to work on the implementation of the recommendations created by the committees.

### Future Activities

See Social Events Update on the following page.



## A Holiday Treat From Our Home to Yours

### Baked Biscuit Wreath Dip

1 can refrigerated biscuits

1/2 cup plus 1 tbsp grated parmesan

2 cup shredded mozzarella

1 cup ricotta and chopped

3/4 cup frozen spinach, defrosted and chopped

1/4 cup mayonnaise

2 tsp garlic powder

1 tsp kosher salt

Extra-virgin olive oil

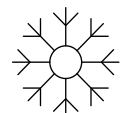
Crushed red pepper flakes

Preheat oven to 350°F. Halve biscuits and roll into a ball. Arrange biscuits in a ring around the edge of a skillet and brush with olive oil salt and 1 tbsp parmesan. In a large bowl, combine mozzarella, ricotta, spinach, Parmesan, mayonnaise, garlic powder, salt and mix. Spoon dip in the center of the skillet and sprinkle with red pepper. Bake 25-30 minutes until bubbly and golden brown. Enjoy warm!

**Thalia and Josh Guderyon**

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## CV 2022 SOCIAL EVENTS UPDATE

We ended the summer season with our annual Summer Bash at the pool, with wonderful neighbors and pizza. Thank you again to the Dailey, Hall, and Lohmeier families for sponsoring sweet treats for the kids and boozy popsicles for the adults.

A few weeks back, we welcomed all the little goblins in the neighborhood for the spooktacular Halloween party. Spooky treats, games, & fun crafts were had by all! Thank you to Linda Aber for bringing the face painter again this year, who made sure everyone was even more BOOTiful in their costumes. The balloon artist was a wonderful new addition to this event! Then, back by popular demand, we did another neighborhood scavenger hunt on Halloween night! Thank you to everyone who decorated their homes to make this hunt a success yet again!



### SAVE THE DATE!!

**SANTA'S WINTER WONDERLAND** will be **Sunday, December 4 from 3-4:30pm**. Many thanks to Linda Aber with Keller Williams Memorial for ensuring that Santa will be flying in to read a tale, sing carols, and take pictures! \*We are hoping to have a few families help sponsor something extra special for this event - please contact us if you would like to help!\*

Thank you all for helping us make these events successful time after time!

Please contact us if you have any questions, or would like to help sponsor future events:  
[cvillagesocialevents@gmail.com](mailto:cvillagesocialevents@gmail.com)

Elizabeth Boelsche, Cameron Miles, and Laura Payne



### Community Website

Don't forget that our community website has a lot of useful information for residents. Events, forms, documents and much more! [www.countryvillagehoa.org](http://www.countryvillagehoa.org)





# Yard of the Month



## August

Matt & Cheri Menard  
1430 Lake cliff drive

## September

Kay Macha  
11807 Chase Lake Drive



## October

Paige Schock  
11919 Drexel Hill



The December Yard-of-the-month will be replaced by **"Holiday Lighting Contest"** with judging being held over Dec 10-11 weekend.

There will be no Yard of the Month for January and February; this program will start back up in March.



# Holiday Decorations Safety

Use only Christmas tree lights that have the "UL" tag attached to it. This means that the lights have been tested by the Underwriters Laboratories and are safe.

However, before you put the lights on the tree, (new or old), check them for broken or cracked sockets, broken or exposed wire and/or any loose connections. If any one of the problems is present, throw the light set away. Damaged lights can shock a person or start a fire.

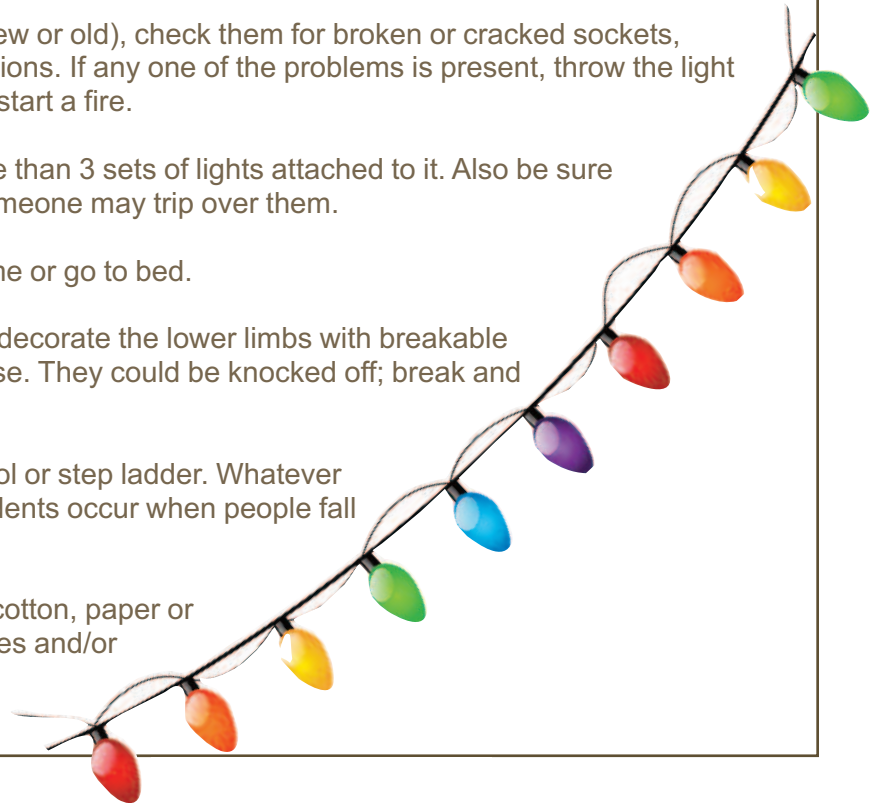
If you have to use an extension cord, use no more than 3 sets of lights attached to it. Also be sure there are no exposed wires on the floor where someone may trip over them.

Be sure to unplug your lights when you leave home or go to bed.

When decorating the tree, it is a good idea not to decorate the lower limbs with breakable ornaments if small children or pets are in the house. They could be knocked off; break and serious cuts may result.

When decorating the higher limbs, use a step stool or step ladder. Whatever you use, make sure it is steady. Many home accidents occur when people fall off whatever they are standing on.

For fire safety sake, do NOT decorate trees with cotton, paper or other materials that burn readily. Avoid wax candles and/or other types of open flame.



## Country Village Women's Club News

All women in our neighborhood are encouraged to join the Country Village Women's Club! This is a great way to get to know your neighbors, learn about interesting topics, and stay informed about the neighborhood...all with snacks and wine! We meet monthly from August to April, typically the 3rd Thursday at 7 PM. And there's a Holiday Party in December and a special Spring Event in May. New faces are always welcome!

Up to date information on the Club's events are posted on the Facebook group: Country Village Houston. For more information, please email [CVillageWomensClub@gmail.com](mailto:CVillageWomensClub@gmail.com) or text Wenni Guo at 832-655-8227.

Dates and tentative programs for the rest of the 2022-23 season are:

- Nov 17th: Crafting with pine cones
- Dec TBD: Holiday party
- Jan 19th: White elephant gift exchange
- Feb 16th: Wills, estates, and trusts
- Mar 23rd: Mission of Yahweh
- Apr 20th: Floral arrangements
- May TBD: Spring event



## Book Club Notes & Musings

I have heard it said many times throughout the years of living here in Country Village, that we have the best neighborhood. I ask myself why our neighborhood is the best? Here is my personal answer to that question:

- We have so many kind, generous and wonderful people that live in our neighborhood.
- Those kind, generous and wonderful people volunteer their time to put together some of the most amazing opportunities to bring our neighborhood together; here are some of those opportunities – Women’s Club, Book Club, Gourmet Dinner, National Night Out, and Social Events for all the holidays.
- So many of us know and care about each other, and we are there to help - even something as simple as asking a neighbor to get a package off a porch when you’re not home, taking someone to the emergency room, loaning a generator during a hurricane, or taking people into your home when theirs is flooded.

I hope you will feel the warmth and understanding that I feel in my heart after reading this. I know there are quite a few new families that may not be aware of all the activities, clubs, and potential lifelong friendships to be had nearby in this neighborhood, we hope you reach out and get to know your next-door neighbor or even the ones down the street. And to those who have lived here for a while, go introduce yourselves to our new families.

We are not just a book club; we open our homes and our hearts to discuss much more. We share stories, life events and we bond, it’s almost like group therapy.

### Upcoming Book Club Meetings

Book Club meetings are held at member’s home on the 2nd Monday of each month. Our next meeting will be November 14th and we’ll be discussing *Death and the Penguin* by Andrey Kurkov and translated by George Bird. It will be held at Amanda Seiler’s home with Marilyn Arendt being our discussion leader. On Monday, December 12th we’ll have a Pizza night with a movie at Cheryl Coppock’s home.

If you would like to be part of the book club, please contact Amanda Seiler at [atseiler@comcast.net](mailto:atseiler@comcast.net)

Amanda Seiler  
713-854-5529



## CARE COMMITTEE

The CVWC has a Care Committee. We send out e-birthday cards and e-congratulations cards. We also mail out cards for condolences. If you wish to have someone added or have yourself added to the list, please do not hesitate to contact us at: [mabirch527@gmail.com](mailto:mabirch527@gmail.com)

Mary Ann Birchfield

# Fall Energy Saving Tips

Fall is an ideal time to make repairs that will make your home more energy efficient, both saving you money and keeping you warmer. Even if you can't afford major repairs, such as a new furnace or new windows, there are small things you can do to save big bucks on heating costs – and you can handle most of them yourself.

## **Protect Your Pipes**

Depending on the region of the United States you're in, you'll need to protect your pipes from bursting this winter.

**Caulk around windows.** Warm air can escape and cold air can enter your house if the area around your windows has cracks. Caulking needs to be replaced periodically, and you should check every fall for holes that need to be patched, as well as holes anywhere outside your house.

**Replace weather stripping around doors.** If you can see light around the edges of your doors, you need new weather stripping.

**Close up your fireplace.** Make sure your flue closes all the way, and check whether you can feel air coming in when it's closed. Glass doors around your fireplace opening are another way to keep warm air in and cold air out of your house.

**Put up storm windows and doors.** If you have older windows and doors, adding storm windows and doors can help considerably. Window insulation film is another option to provide a layer of protection.

**Improve your insulation.** Insulation deteriorates over time, so you may want to add more material in your attic. Other places to add insulation are in crawl spaces and exposed areas of decks. An insulating cover over your attic opening also helps trap in the heat.

**Cover and Flush the water heater.** You can buy a water heater blanket for around \$20 at the hardware store that will keep the tank from losing heat as quickly, saving you money on your heating bill. Particles and sediment can collect over time in the bottom of your water heater, hindering the unit's efficiency. Flush the water through the drain valve to clear out the material and keep your heater functioning at its best.

**Change filters.** If the filters are dirty, the device has to work harder. In most homes, filters should be changed monthly in the heating season. Regularly changing the filters in your central air and heating system can significantly improve its efficiency and longevity, while easing the pressure on your wallet.

**Get a programmable thermostat.** The newest thermostats can learn your family's habits and set themselves to keep the house cooler when no one is there and warmer when the home is occupied.

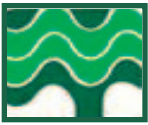
**Lower your water heater temperature.** You can lower it from 140 degrees to 120 with no ill effect,

**Maintain your Outdoor Equipment.** Outdoor power equipment such as mowers and string trimmers need to be cleaned and maintained prior to storing them.

**Clean Gutters.** Make sure that water can flow freely through your gutters now will help prevent icicles and ice dams from forming later.

**Clockwise Ceiling Fans.** Ceiling fans are everyone's favorite summer budget-saver. But they can help out in the winter as well! Have your ceiling fans move in a clockwise direction so they push hot air along the ceiling towards the floor. If they're going counterclockwise, they won't be as effective.

**Check smoke and carbon monoxide detectors.** Winter sees an uptick in the number of home fires and cases of carbon monoxide poisoning because people are running their furnaces/heaters in overtime in order to keep warm. To keep your family safe, check the batteries on your smoke and carbon monoxide detectors and change them if needed.



## COUNTRY VILLAGE

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### CALL BEFORE YOU DIG

Building a deck? Planting a tree? 811 is the new number you should call before you begin any digging project.

A federally-mandated national "Call Before You Dig" number, 811 was created to help protect you from unintentionally hitting underground utility lines while working on digging projects. People digging often make risky assumptions about whether or not they should get their utility lines marked due to concerns about project delays, costs and previous calls about other projects. These assumptions can be life-threatening.

Make a call for every digging job – even small projects like planting trees or shrubs. If you hit an underground utility line while digging, you can harm yourself or those around you, disrupt service to an entire neighborhood and potentially be responsible for fines and repair costs.

A recent study revealed that nearly half of homeowners who plan to dig this year won't call 811 to learn the approximate locations of buried gas, electric, communications, water and sewer lines before digging, putting their safety and the safety of others at risk. According to data collected by CGA, when an individual makes a call to 811 before digging, damage occurs less than 1 percent of the time.

So, before you dig, call 811. More details online at: [www.call811.com](http://www.call811.com).

## SECURITY REPORT

If you are planning on traveling this season and would like to have the Constable put a vacation watch on your house, please go to the Precinct 5 constable website ([www.Constablepct5.com](http://www.Constablepct5.com)) and download the form.

While you are on the website you can look over the other programs that the Constable offers. I took the "Citizens Police Academy". It was extremely informative and enjoyable. Sadly, crime continues and our lawn and garden contractors and homeowners are easy prey for theft of equipment. Please remind them to watch their equipment.

During the year we have many residents enjoying the outdoors and walking the streets of CV, please be observant of your surroundings...if something does not appear right, please call the Constable. The Constable can typically respond in 5-10 minutes, so please call. If you are the victim of a crime, call the Constables, they will respond faster and inform the neighborhood of the crime in a timely manner. HPD does not send out crime alerts, so if you are the victim and HPD responds the only way we would know about it would be for the victim to pass along the information.

- I have changed my email address to [jkennelly@icloud.com](mailto:jkennelly@icloud.com)
- Precinct 5 Constable 24-hour dispatch 281-463-6666
- Precinct 5 website: [www.Constablepct5.com](http://www.Constablepct5.com)

John Kennely