

# THE LAMPLIGHTER

## FEBRUARY 2021



The Purpose of Country Place HOA is to: Collect our Homeowners Dues and Reinvest in a Responsible and Ethical Manner, Maintain our Common Areas, and Support and Enforce our Protective Covenants.

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### A Reminder about Homeowner Dues for 2021:

Each property is billed the full amount of HOA Dues of \$211.08 in January. If you choose to pay in full by February 28th, you receive a 10% discount and will only have to pay \$189.97. **However, it must be paid no later than February 28th. You will only receive the invoice sent in January via USPS with the newsletter.**

Otherwise, the quarterly payment schedule is as follows:

1st Quarter Due by March 31st in the amount of \$52.77

2nd Quarter Due by June 30th in the amount of \$52.77

3rd Quarter Due by September 30th in the amount of \$52.77

4th Quarter Due by December 31st in the amount of \$52.77

**Please remember that if you have any questions on your HOA payments, please contact our treasurer, Janet Toloso. Her information can be found on the last page of all newsletters.**

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### IRS SCAMS TO AVOID

Some email phishing scams appear to be from the IRS and include links to fake websites intended to mirror the official IRS site, the agency says. The sites ask for Social Security numbers and other personal information, which could be used to file false tax returns. They also may carry malware, which can infect people's computers and allow criminals to access your files or track your keystrokes to gain information.

The IRS warns consumers that it does not initiate contact with taxpayers by email, text messages, or social media channels to request personal or financial information. It also does not threaten taxpayers with lawsuits, imprisonment, or other enforcement action.

**Also know that the IRS will not:**

**Demand payment using a gift card, pre-paid debit card, or wire transfer.**

**Threaten to immediately have you arrested or deported for not paying.**

**Ask for credit or debit card numbers by phone, email, or text.**

To help protect yourself, never provide information to someone who calls or emails you first, the agency says. Instead, contact the IRS directly to confirm the validity of the request. If you think it could be a scam, call the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration at 800-366-4484.

More information can be found at: <https://www.irs.gov/newsroom/tax-scams-consumer-alerts>

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### Speeding in the Neighborhood

Please remember that the Speed Limit on ALL streets in Country Place is **20 MPH!** And **STOP signs mean come to a COMPLETE STOP.** Please also be sure to talk to your teen drivers. There have been reports of some being disrespectful to residents and lots of speeding. There have also been reports of people passing others in Country Place. If you see someone speeding, take down the license plate number and call the Bossier Parish Sheriff's Office at 318-965-2203.

### Beautification of Country Place

Amy Lowrey has offered to volunteer her time to work on our entrance and around the clubhouse to plant new perennials, Spring flowers, and replace some of the dying plants that are there now. Funds have been designated to pay for the landscaping improvements.

Should anyone want to volunteer to help in any capacity, please let Amy know by contacting her at 318-655-3159 using text. She can't always answer her phone so texts are better. You can also send her a message using the Facebook Messenger. She can be found as Amy Evans Lowrey.

Lastly, anyone having any pine straw they would like to donate can also contact her. Lots will be needed for the flower beds and is much better than purchasing mulch, especially when our neighborhood is plentiful in pine straw.

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### Protective Covenants-For All Units in Country Place

There are Protective Covenants that **ALL** homeowners in Country Place are required to comply with. Some of the biggest problem areas that diminish the integrity of the neighborhood are noted:

1. No automotive vehicles will, at any time, day or night, be parked within the right-of-way of any street, either upon the roadway, the shoulder, or the adjacent open area; but shall at all times be parked within the boundaries/driveway of privately-owned property.
2. No vehicle normally or actually used for the transportation of inflammatory or explosive cargo may be kept within the subdivision either on the public street or on privately owned property **at any time**.
3. All garage doors facing the street will be kept closed except when the entrance is in use.
4. No lot shall be used or maintained as a dumping ground for rubbish.
5. None of the following can be stored, kept, or allowed to remain parked or repaired, upon the street, nor upon any land lying within the Subdivision, except under such conditions where they cannot be viewed from any street:

Inoperable Vehicles; Motor Homes; Travel-Trailers; Boats, and/or Boat Trailers;

Recreational Vehicles; Commercial Vehicles, Industrial or Commercial Equipment

Neighborhoods that follow their covenants and standards tend to be safer, look more attractive, and better retain or increase the investments that homeowners have made in their properties. Together we can make Country Place the absolute best place to live.

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### COLD WEATHER WARNINGS-STAY WARM & SAFE

- With these extremely cold days and nights, be sure to stay warm and safe. If you use any small, electrical heaters, be sure to have them in a safe place, away from furniture, curtains, and rugs etc. where fires could start.
- If you have propane heating units or generators, be sure to use them properly. These can be dangerous & deadly, if not used properly. Generators should NEVER be used indoors and propane heaters are not safe for indoor use for any length of time. The fumes can be unnoticed and deadly.
- Please also remember to check on any elderly neighbors you may have to see if they need anything.
- Cover plants, bring animals in from the cold. If it is too cold for you to be out, it is also too cold for the animals.
- Cover outdoor faucets and consider dripping all indoor faucets as well.
- If you MUST get out, be extremely careful on the roads & go slow!

**UPCOMING MEETINGS**  
**TUESDAY, MARCH 9TH AT 7:00 PM**  
**TUESDAY, APRIL 13TH AT 7:00 PM**



Our website is: <https://countryplacehoaliving.com/>

*"Spread Love everywhere you go. Let no one ever come to you without leaving happier." .....Mother Teresa*

## Angela's Chicken Salad

Boil 3 boneless, skinless chicken breasts seasoned for 30-40 minutes or until done with:

1 Onion                                      1 Chopped tomato

Minced Garlic 2 Chicken Cubes

## A little Cumin

When done, shred the chicken and add these items and any others you may like:

1 Cup Mayonaise                      2 Tbsp Mustard

1 Finely chopped apple                      1-2 Stalks of celery

Grapes Chopped Pecans

Chopped green onions                      Lime juice

Salt and pepper to taste

Add any other ingredients you like, such as cranberries, raisins, walnuts, etc.

## Board Members

President	Ronnie Jordan	470-2472	<a href="mailto:rjordan509@gmail.com">rjordan509@gmail.com</a>
Vice President	Mark Toloso		<a href="mailto:marktoloso@yahoo.com">marktoloso@yahoo.com</a>
Secretary	Ashlie Rape	751-3787	<a href="mailto:cphoasec@yahoo.com">cphoasec@yahoo.com</a>
Treasurer	Janet Toloso	949-4316	<a href="mailto:cphoatreasurer@yahoo.com">cphoatreasurer@yahoo.com</a>
Architectural	Keith Foshee	773-5573	<a href="mailto:foshee.keith@gmail.com">foshee.keith@gmail.com</a>
Member at Large	Brent Thomas	294-3387	<a href="mailto:bthomasx4@yahoo.com">bthomasx4@yahoo.com</a>
Clubhouse	Suzanne Weltzien	780-0035	<a href="mailto:cphoarentals@yahoo.com">cphoarentals@yahoo.com</a>
Common Grounds Chairperson	Ronnie Jordan	470-2472	<a href="mailto:rjordan509@gmail.com">rjordan509@gmail.com</a>
Pool Manager	Open Position		
Pool Rentals	Open Position		
Yard Lights/Mailbox Posts	Mark Toloso		<a href="mailto:marktoloso@yahoo.com">marktoloso@yahoo.com</a>
Newsletter	Mitzie Cochrane	393-7163	<a href="mailto:mecochrane56@gmail.com">mecochrane56@gmail.com</a>

## Babysitting List

Susan Burns: 268-1846      Charlotte Ray: 655-4003      Shelby Kander: 990-6452  
Samantha McCain: 347-8185      Amber Molnari: 754-5331      Haylee Thomas: 218-5027  
Sydney Shortle: 523-0599      Kyleigh Liming: 550-8364      Jovanna Wallace: 510-5390

Here is some helpful information from Mike Tilton Plumbing that I saw online and wanted to pass along:

We at Mike Tilton Plumbing would like everyone to know a few things about the incoming winter weather.

We are expecting snow and freezing rain. That means no-one can get out and drive including plumbers.

If it stays below freezing for 72 hours the plumbing in a lot of houses will freeze; our plumbing systems are not designed for that level of sustained cold.

Pipes frozen solid will not provide water to you until they thaw, which, unless the reports are wrong will be a few days.

You need water to drink, flush toilets, cook, etc. and will not have it in some cases.

Be prepared for that scenario. Run a few faucets inside your house the entire duration of the freeze. That does not mean put it at a drip. That will not suffice here with that level of freeze. Put a steady stream in your faucets. That's a small, pencil lead sized stream that doesn't try and turn into a drip on you. Check periodically to be sure it stays at a stream. This is especially critical on plumbing inside an outside wall and for people who's house is not on a slab (pier and beam homes). Those pipes will be at the most risk. Outside hydrants need to be covered by a foam hydrant cover but shoving more insulation underneath the cover (clothing, fiberglass insulation, etc) would be a really good idea.

Remember hot water freezes faster than cold water.

Open up your bathroom and kitchen cabinets to allow heat from your house in them. Even if you have no heat, your house will stay a little warmer than the exterior wall.

You can flush your toilet with buckets of water. Pour a bucket of water directly towards the flush hole. Make sure it's enough to push out the entirety of the bowl water (1-2 gallons, more for 90s or earlier model toilets). This mimics the flushing action of the toilet, which uses the volume and pressure of the toilet tank to push the bowl contents out. So think of it as this...instead of a tank full of water causing the flushing action, you have a bucket full of water.

If your washing machine is on an exterior wall, particularly a north or northwest facing exterior wall, take the hoses loose from the washer. Then stick the hoses inside the drain and turn those on slightly so they run and drain into the pipe. You

may have to force them a little. This will not be easy to do for some people. If you can't do this, don't panic. The insulation in your wall plus the streaming faucets may be good enough to handle protecting the piping. Check the area around this piping at the time of the thaw if unable to do this.

Learn now how to cut off your water heater and also the water at the street (see attached pics). If your water heater has a wheel style valve (called a gate valve) turn it counter clockwise until the water shuts off. Do not force a gate valve!! Even if you can't get it all the way off, use that as your steady stream of water, just be sure to turn on the hot side of a fixture to give it a place to run out of the pipe or it will build up pressure and possibly freeze. Once it thaws if there's is a frozen pipe that was iced over and the ice blocked the flow, it will give you the impression that there's no leaks. However, once it thaws and becomes free of that ice, it will leak water out of any splits or cracks caused by the icing. This is when knowing how to turn off your water will come into play.

The reason you need to learn how to turn off both the hot and cold water is so you can isolate the 2. You may not be completely out of water if only a hot line is busted because you can keep still keep your cold up and running after you turn off the hot water.

Plumbing companies will be completely overrun with frozen and burst pipe calls and may not be able to get to you for a week or more. Be ready for that. Have plenty of water on hand for drinking and flushing. Start preparing now. A 5 gallon bucket of water will give you 3 or 4 flushes but use sparingly and pour it in fast and forcefully, not a slow and steady pour.

#### **IMPORTANT:**

Do NOT try to heat your home with gas appliances of any kind of heaters that are not rated for interior use. This can cause carbon monoxide poisoning which will result in death. A good rule of thumb with these appliances is if you're not sure about that, do not use it. It is not worth the risk to you or your family. Bundle up.