Spring 2023

THE Stonecrest CONNECTION

A Publication Of The Stonecrest Homes Association For Our Property Owners.



Spring Is Here In Stonecrest!

If you're a new resident in Stonecrest... a HUGE welcome to you!

We're excited that you're now holding our sixth issue of *The Stonecrest Connection* newsletter. Twice a year, we send this informative and entertaining communication tool to all property owners in Stonecrest to keep you up to date on the happenings, meetings, fun events, and more that we offer to the neighborhood. We hope you'll read it cover to cover and find some informative and useful information inside!

It's always a good idea to regularly check out the information posted on our website, www.stonecresthomesassoc.com. Whether it's event-related questions, or restriction-related issues, you'll find most of your answers there... and it's available 24 hours a day, seven days a week! Now, enjoy the newletter!

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NEWSLETTER EDITOR
David Sandy

From The President...

I simply cannot believe how fast time passes us by. I've lived here in Stonecrest since 2012 and it only seems like yesterday that we moved into our home in this wonderful neighborhood! Because I've always been a "get involved" kind of person, from the time I've lived in Stonecrest, I regularly attended the annual meetings, the board meetings, and nearly every event. Of course, the risk of attending meetings means that usually sooner-rather-than-later, someone will ask you to serve in an official capacity.

That's exactly what happened to me. About nine years ago, I was asked to serve on the Stonecrst Homes Association board... and then in May 2019, I was elected to serve as the association's president. This has been a position that I certainly did not take lightly... but I enjoyed nearly every moment of it. My goal was to bring an even greater sense of "community" to our neighborhood. I wanted everyone who lived in Stonecrest to feel like they were a part of a family... a family of residents, neighbors, and friends.

I am very pleased with the positive progress we've made as a neighborhood (i.e., *The Stonecrest Connection* newsletter, the Facebook page and updated website (stonecresthomesassoc.com), the commitment to enforce our established neighborhood rules and restrictions for the benefit of all of us, the holiday lights at our entrances, the upgraded and re-landscaped common areas throughout the development, the movie nights and neighborhood get-togethers, the friendly competitions and games, etc.). I truly believe, that with the help of our board, office staff (Jane Hausman) and property owners, we've come a long way.

I've been involved for nearly ten years... so now it's time for me to give others the opportunity to take the reins. At our Annual Membership meeting this coming May, I'll be stepping down to make room for other leaders in our neighborhood to step up and share their talents. In addition, this Spring 2023 newsletter will be my last as newsletter editor. I am very pleased that Sondra Kirby has volunteered to take on this enormous task. Thank you, Sondra!

It has been a pleasure and a lot of long hours and hard work... but I have enjoyed every minute of it. Thank you all for your support over these years... I deeply appreciate it. Let's all continue to enjoy our marvelous neighborhood and the friendship of those who share it with us!

David Sandy
President
Stonecrest Homes Association

Please Thank These Sponsors For Their Support Of Our Newsletter!



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Here's Some Neighborhood Information You Should Know

REAL ESTATE SIGNS - Just as a reminder, it is okay to post a real estate "For Sale" sign in your own yard, but please refrain from posting real estate or directional signs in anyone else's yard or in our Stonecrest common areas.

SPEED LIMIT THROUGHOUT STONECREST - Please remember that the maximum allowable speed on any street in Stonecrest is 25 mph per city statute. When the weather is nice, many residents and children are outside walking. For everyone's safety, please drive carefully and observe the speed limit.

REPORTING A STREET POTHOLE OR DEFECT - The Stonecrest Homes Association does not maintain the streets in our neighborhood. That's the responsbility of the City of St. Joseph. If you know of a pothole in your area, please report it to the city. Encourage your neighbors to do the same. Call the city at 816-271-4848. If you don't get results after 3-4 weeks, call again. Remember, oftentimes, the squeaky wheel gets the grease!

IMPORTANT INFORMATION FOR DOG WALKERS - Please remember that if your dog deficates anywhere in Stonecrest other than your own yard, you MUST clean it up per St. Joseph city ordinance:

Sec. 5-105. Removal of dog waste from property. *(a) It shall be illegal for any person owning, possessing or having control of a dog to allow such dog to defecate upon the public property of the city or upon the private property of another unless the person immediately removes the feces and properly disposes of it in a sanitary manner.*

Let's be good neighbors and clean up after our dogs.

RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS - Regarding potential violations of our homeowner restrictions, it is important to note that the board of directors does not police the neighborhood looking for violations. It is the homeowners' responsibility to report possible restriction violations to the board by filling out the Restriction Violations Form on our website (please use this form as opposed to calling the office or sending an email). Names of persons submitting reports are kept confidential and absolutely no anonymous reports will be addressed.

YARD WASTE AND LEAVES - Please note that it is a violation of St. Joseph city ordinances to blow or deposit leaves or other yard waste into a storm sewer opening. Failure to comply may result in a ticket and fine.

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Just a reminder for all Stonecrest homeowners, your annual HOA dues notices will go into the mail the first of May and are due on June 1, 2023. Be watching your mailbox for an orange postcard... as it will be your only mailed notification. Dues payments may be made via the U.S. Mail or on our website (a small processing fee will be added to all online payments). Dues remain at $65/yr. Please pay on time! Thank you in advance!

Stonecrest Neighborhood 3-Day Garage Sale Event

For the third year in a row, a group of Stonecrest homeowners have organized a neighborhood-wide garage sale as an attempt to target one particular weekend and drive garage sale consumers to our neighborhood to find bargains, hidden treasures, and things they can't live without.

Although not an official Stonecrest Homes Association activity, we wanted to help "spread the word" to both potential sellers and buyers.



The dates are officially Thursday, Friday and Saturday, May 11-13, 2023. Any home in the Stonecrest subdivision is invited to participate.

A Facebook event has been created on the "*Stonecrest St Joseph*" Facebook page. This is where you can find updates, participating homes (sellers), and much more information. This Facebook page will be continually updated as the sale dates approach.

Remember, if you're planning to have a garage sale this particular weekend (or any other time), you need to purchase a garage sale permit from the City of St. Joseph. These may be obtained at the St. Joseph City Hall, 1100 Frederick, Room 101A at a cost of $5.00.

Garage sales can last no more than four consecutive days and can only be held four times per calendar year at the same location. For more information, please call City Hall Customer Assistance at 816-271-4751.

Stonecrest Spring Trash Pick-up



SATURDAY MAY 6, 2023

8:00AM 'TIL NOON

ONE DAY ONLY! TIME TO CLEAN-UP & CLEAN OUT!

Our Annual Stonecrest Spring Trash Pick-Up Is Saturday, May 6

It's time for our annual spring trash pickup. This is a great time to clean out the garage and discard things you don't need anymore. Please note that this event is for trash items only (no yard waste will be collected on this day).

VERY IMPORTANT: ALL ITEMS MUST BE CURBSIDE BEFORE 8:00am! If your trash is not curbside before 8:00am, it will not be picked up.

It is the homeowner's responsibility to understand what IS and ISN'T allowed.

Please read this and make sure your items comply:

ITEMS ALLOWED - trash, furniture, cans/bottles, paint cans (if lid is off and paint is dry)

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED - yard waste, oil, chemicals, batteries, tires, no concrete/construction/demolition debris, nothing containing CFC's (air conditioners, refrigerators, etc), items weighing more than two people can pick up.

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Stonecrest Yard Waste Pick-up

Saturday
May 20, 2023
8:00am 'til Noon



FREE SERVICE FOR STONECREST RESIDENTS!

Saturday, May 20 Is The Date For Our Annual Stonecrest Yard Waste Pick-Up

Now's the perfect time to get your lawn, landscaping and garden areas looking great by taking advantage of this free Spring yard waste pick-up. This event is for yard waste (leaves, limbs, branches, etc) only... no trash will be collected on this day.

Please read this and make sure your items comply:

ITEMS ALLOWED - must be in biodegradable bags or barrels that can be dumped, limbs & branches (must be bundled together no longer than 48" and 18" round).

ITEMS NOT ALLOWED - yard waste in plastic bags, garbage/trash, bags weighing over 75 pounds each, railroad ties. *NOTE: limbs/branches not bundled will not be picked up.*

VERY IMPORTANT: ALL ITEMS MUST BE CURBSIDE BEFORE 8:00am!

It is the homeowner's responsibility to understand what IS and ISN'T allowed.



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- Agent Jo

To Buy Or Sell A Home, call Agent Jo!

Browse my listings at agentjo.com, visit my office at 817 Francis Street in St. Joseph, or call 816-259-LIST / 816-617-4412.

Two Important Meetings You Should Attend



Association Quarterly Board Meeting

MONDAY MAY 1 6:00pm

The Stonecrest Board of Directors meet once per quarter to discuss and manage the business of the association. All members of the association in good standing (homeowners with paid dues) are invited to attend all board meetings.

This is your opportunity to review the organization's activities, finances, and ask questions. You'll hear reports from the executive secretary, the finance committee, the compliance committee, the construction approval committee, the activities committee, and more. Other agenda items (new business and old business) are discussed and decisions are made. We encourage input and involvement from all homeowners in Stonecrest.

The meeting will begin at 6:00pm and will be held at the Rolling Hills Library conference room at 1904 North Belt Highway, St. Joseph, MO (the conference room is on the lower level).

Annual Homeowner Membership Meeting

WEDNESDAY MAY 31 6:00pm

Our Annual Membership Meeting is one of the most important meetings of the year for the Stonecrest Homes Association. At this meeting, homeowners present will approve the annual fiscal budget for the association, elect new officers, address homeowner concerns, learn about upcoming plans of the HOA, and much more.

We strongly encourage *all association members* in good standing to attend this important meeting. If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, this is the best time to share them. The Stonecrest Homes Association board is extremely transparent about the finances and activities of the association... and we want to give all homeowners an opportunity to have a full understanding of the processes and management of the organization.

THE OFFICE UPDATE

Reported By Jane Hausman, Secretary



DUES: Annual home association income for dues for the June 2022 through May 2023 year have almost come to an end. (These dues became Past Due on July 31, 2022.) Final letters requesting payments for past due dues were mailed out to 25 past due property owners the first week of March 2023. These letters requested payment by April 15th, 2023, to avoid liens being placed on the property. Payment can be made online at: *stonecresthomesassoc.com* (a small service fee is added to all online payments)

Notices for the upcoming annual dues covering the time frame of June 1st, 2023 – May 31, 2024, will be mailed to all homeowners the first part of May 2023. These notices are sent in the manner of a colored postcard. The dues amount is $65 annually and these dues become past due on July 31, 2023.

E-MAIL ADDRESSES/PHONE NUMBERS: All residents are asked to provide their email addresses and phone numbers. This will allow the office to send out notices by email of meeting dates and events that pertain to all living in the Stonecrest community. We currently have over 490 email addresses registered in our database for residential owners. All NEW residents are asked to send their email addresses and phone numbers to the office by going to the website under "Contact Us".

RESTRICTION VIOLATIONS: If a restriction violation is noticed by a resident, please fill out the Restriction Violations form found on the website under Documents. Once a form has been filled out and sent to the office, the violation is investigated and then addressed personally with the resident by a board member. Most violations involve trailers & boats on driveways, yard maintenance, yard lights and general appearance of the property.

CONSTRUCTION APPROVAL FORMS: If a construction project(s) at your property is in the planning stage, you need to go to the website and fill out the Construction Approval Form (under Documents) ***PRIOR to starting your project.*** Once the form is received, the project will be taken under advisement by the Construction Approval Committee and you will be notified of the results.

NEW STONECREST PROPERTY OWNERS: Once transfer of property in Stonecrest is shown at the courthouse, the new homeowner is registered in our data base and the SHA office sends a packet to the new owner. This packet includes a welcome letter, the most recent newsletter, a copy of the HOA Restrictions and a request for email address/phone number. If you are new to Stonecrest and did not receive this packet, please call us at (816-427-8663) or email the office (*office@stonecresthomesassoc.com*) and one will be sent to you.

WELCOME NEIGHBOR

We'd like to welcome the following folks to our beautiful Stonecrest neighborhood...

Wyatt & Amber Burnett
Morgan Smith & Robin McDermott
Kyle Evans
James & Linda Josendale
Brian Debenito
Eric & Marina Dudu
Jorge & Oyuki Lara
Jacab Sherman
Michael & Brooke McBride
Charles Davis
Bree & Dominic Newbold
Bobbi Howe
Jeremy & Rebecca Fruechting
Doug Taylor

YOU are our neighbors.

No matter who you vote for, your skin color, your faith, or who you love, we will try to be here for you.

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Let's be neighbors.

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It's Our 3rd Annual Stonecrest Neighborly Kindness Day

WHEN? Saturday, April 29
WHERE? All Over The Neighborhood
WHAT? Do Something Kind For 2-3 Of Your Neighbors

Do Something Kind For A Neighbor On Stonecrest Neighborly Kindness Day

One of the best surprises you could give a neighbor is a random, unsolicited act of kindness. Maybe it's lending a hand on an outdoor chore, maybe it's taking your neighbor some fresh-baked cookies, or maybe it's just a warm smile and a wave from across the lawn.

Everyone loves to be treated with kindness, right? A simple friendly gesture can lead to avoiding potential disputes down the road, lifelong friendships, and a general overall better quality of life for you, your family, and all of your Stonecrest neighbors.





On Saturday, April 29, do something special to show your Stonecrest neighbors how much you care and that you appreciate them. It doesn't matter if they live right next door, across the street, or even across the entire neighborhood. And to make a great day even better, choose a neighbor or two you don't know real well. Get to know them... surprise them with some neighborly kindness! The entire neighborhood will profit from it!

Being a good neighbor is an art which makes life richer.



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Entrance Signs Get Needed Repairs And Upgrades

Some Stonecrest residents may have noticed some work in progress on our stone entrance signs/walls as you enter into our subdivison. After more than 50 years of hot summer days and freezing winter nights, much of the mortar in these stone structures was suffering and falling apart. In addition, electrical service to these welcoming entrance signs was suffering and in need of repair.

This Spring, a qualified mason and experienced electrician have been working to restore these structures to their former glory. This will insure that these landmarks continue to welcome residents and visitors into our neighborhood for many years to come.

A big thanks to the Stonecrest Board of Directors for approving these much-needed repairs.

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Household Hazardous Waste City-Wide Collection Event

Now's the time to get rid of those things in your garage that you can't set out with the garbage... i.e. antifreeze, fuels, oil, cleaners, batteries, pesticides, paint and related products, photographic chemicals, pool chemicals, and more.

It's Saturday, April 15 from 9am to 3pm. The location is the Remington Nature Center parking lot. This is open to all residents of St.Joseph (ID with proof of residency is required).

If you have questions about this free event, contact Public Works at 816-271-4653 or the Landfill at 816-253-1120. More info can be found at www.stjosephmo.gov. The event is sponsored by the Dept of Public Works & Transportation.

8 Spring Tips For A Beautiful Stonecrest Lawn

1. **Clean Debris and Dethatch.** Rake leaves, pinecones, twigs, fallen branches, and thatch to let your grass breathe and access sunlight.

2. **Aerate.** If your soil is compacted, aerate your soil to allow your lawn's root system to access the sun, water, and nutrients from fertilizer. This is one of the most important steps for taking care of your lawn.

3. **Perform a soil test.** Test your soil's acidity and nutrient levels to determine the kind of fertilizer and care your lawn needs.

4. **Fertilize.** It depends on your fertilizing schedule and grass type, but this might be the time to apply a slow-release nitrogen fertilizer once your grass starts actively growing.

5. **Apply Pre-Emergent Herbicide.** Prevent weeds and crabgrass from growing in your lawn by treating it with a preventative weed killer.

6. **Overseed Bare Patches.** Plant grass seed as soon as the soil warms up to allow new grass time to establish itself before summer. Water well on a regular basis until the grass has become well established.

7. **Perform Lawn Mower Maintenance.** Inspect your mower and sharpen the blades, change the oil, filter, and spark plug. Replace any necessary parts.

8. **Mow Wisely.** Start out mowing at a height of 3☒ high in spring. Mowing low early in the spring chops off the dead tops of grass blades. Gradually raise the mower setting as the weather gets warmer.

A Little Effort In The Spring Can Lead To A Gorgeous Lawn All Season!

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Enter Our 2nd Annual Stonecrest Photo Contest

We live in a beautiful neighborhood! In fact, many areas of Stonecrest are so picturesque, they deserve to be photographed and shared for others to enjoy! So, we're giving you another chance to take advantage of your fine photography skills and enter into our second annual Stonecrest Photography Contest!

You don't have to own a thousand-dollar camera or professional photography gear to win... just a phone camera or digital camera, and an "eye" for what makes for a good picture.



To enter, simply take a photo somewhere in Stonecrest... it can be on a street, in your yard, at an entrance... *anywhere* within the boundaries of Stonecrest... and email it, along with YOUR NAME and PHONE NUMBER to us at *fun@stonecresthomesassoc.com* before May 31, 2023.

If there are people in your photo, make sure you have everyone's permission! Judges will award fantastic prizes to the top winners!

All photos will be posted on the official Stonecrest Homes Association Facebook page!

Don't Forget The Stonecrest Construction Approval Form

PRIOR to beginning any exterior construction project (fence, deck, driveway, additions, pergola, etc), make sure you submit a Construction Approval Form and receive approval BEFORE you begin work on the project.

Also, familiarize yourselves with the building guidelines and restrictions as set forth in the Stonecrest Restrictions document as found on our website (www.stonecresthomesassoc.com). Remember, detached structures are not allowed per the restrictions unless attached by a breezeway or connecting roof from the home. This would include detached garages, buildings, storage sheds, pool houses, greenhouses, and other similar detached structures.

When in doubt, always seek approval first!





Upcoming Events

Saturday, April 29, 2023 . . Stonecrest Neighborly Kindness Day
Monday, May 1, 2023 . . . . . Quarterly Board Meeting
Saturday, May 6, 2023 . . . . . Free Spring Trash Pick-Up
Fri-Sun, May 11-13, 2023 . . . . . Stonecrest Garage Sale Days
Saturday, May 20, 2023 . . . . . Free Spring Yard Waste Pick-Up
Wednesday, May 31, 2023 . . . . . Annual Membership Meeting
Monday, August 7, 2023 . . . . . Quarterly Board Meeting
Monday, November 6, 2023 . . . . . Quarterly Board Meeting

Mark these dates on your calendar now. Details on the location and times of these events may be found elsewhere in this or future issues of *The Stonecrest Connection*, or on our official Facebook page and website.

Stay up to date with our online resources

If you haven't already done it, please join/like our official Stonecrest Homes Association Facebook page located here: *https://www.facebook.com/stonecresthomesassociation* . Also, for more information and resources about the neighborhood, check out our website (*www.stonecresthomesassoc.com*).

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X	E	Q	W	W	V	T	X	T	H	A	K	X	Z	F	W	C	Q	P	S	C	M	J	M	F

Our 13 newsletter advertisers are hidden above. Can you find them?

Look for these advertisers:

Pam Blevins
Dixon Lawn Care
Craig Moore
Agent Jo
Craig Sinclair
Renee Zweerink
Melissa Lawyer
Lake Viking Sales
Meyer Flooring
St Joseph Lodging
Chimney Sweep
Colony House
Larson Heating And Cooling

Hey kids...take a photo of something "Spring-ish" and email it to us at fun@stonecresthomesassoc.com and you could win a prize if your photo is chosen!

HELP ANDY THE ANT GET TO SCHOOL!





Riddle #1

I'm tall when I'm young, and I'm short when I'm old. What am I?

Riddle #2

Sam's parents have 3 kids. Their names are Huey, Dewey, and _____?



Riddle #3

What has a head and a tail but no body?

ANSWER #1: A candle ANSWER #2: Sam
ANSWER #3: A coin



FIND THESE 15 OBJECTS IN THE PICTURE ABOVE



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Homes Association

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