

#### A MESSAGE FROM THE GENERAL MANAGER - KEVIN EASON

November is the month most families and friends get together to celebrate Thanksgiving. Last year we were in the midst of the COVID 19 crisis and many of us missed out on the enjoyment of this time of year. Now that COVID 19 cases are decreasing and the number of vaccinated people is increasing, I hope everyone has the opportunity to enjoy a safe Thanksgiving holiday with family and friends.

SWRA will start decorating for the holiday season around mid-November. The decorations committee worked hard throughout the year to repaint, repair, and refresh the holiday decorations. Each year mischievous individuals damage the association's holiday decorations. Please help SWRA keep our holiday decorations usable for as long as possible by contacting the SWRA office at 256-825-2990 or calling Kevin Eason at 334-740-8338 afterhours to report anyone you see defacing, climbing on, or damaging the holiday decorations.

Occasionally SWRA has to close portions of roads or one of the gates to perform maintenance or make repairs. SWRA will send out an Eflash when there is scheduled maintenance or repairs that require the closure of a road or gate but sometimes there is an emergency situation and SWRA does not have time to send a notice before closing a road or gate. SWRA only closes a road or gate to help protect the safety of workers and individuals that drive on our roads. Every effort is made to open a road or gate as soon as possible. Please do not enter any area that is closed by driving around barricades. Driving around a barricade could cause someone to be injured or cause damage to your vehicle.

StillWaters property owners can follow Kevin Eason on Twitter @kevineason18 to receive information concerning issues that occur in StillWaters after regular working hours. Twitter is only used as a tool to notify owners. Kevin will not comment or answer any questions on Twitter.

The annual StillWaters Residential Association fee will increase by \$24 for 2022. The fee can only increase each year by the same percentage as the national COLA. The SWRA annual fee for 2021 was \$409; the SWRA annual fee for 2022 will be \$433. The annual fee does not include the additional assessment for the amenities, easy gate opening devices, or any other annual service fee property owners may pay. The annual invoices will be mailed to all property owners of record toward the end of December. The annual fee is due on January 1<sup>st</sup> of each year. Please notify the SWRA office if your mailing address has recently changed.

A property owner who owns property under the 1987 StillWaters covenants and is in good standing with SWRA can run for a position on the SWRA Board of Directors by petition for the 2022 election. Anyone meeting the required criteria can obtain a petition from the SWRA office. A minimum of 20 property owners representing 20 properties under the 1987 covenants must sign the petition. The SWRA nominating committee is also working on nominating two individuals to run for election in 2022 for the SWRA Board. Please read the article in this newsletter explaining how and who can run for election to the SWRA Board.

The SWRA landscape crew removes leaves on an almost daily basis during the fall. However, when it rains the leaves cannot easily be blown off the roads. Please be patient during the fall season as our landscape crew works to keep our roads clean and safe.

All of us at the StillWaters Residential Association office hope you have a happy Thanksgiving and enjoy everything StillWaters has to offer. The SWRA office will close the week of Thanksgiving but maintenance, landscape, and gate employees will be working their regular schedules.



# 2021

#### <u>SWRA</u> Business Hours

Monday 9 to 4 pm Tuesday 9 to 4 pm Wednesday 9 to 12 pm Thursday 9 to 4 pm Friday 9 to 5 pm

FAX: 256-825-2991 Phone: 256-825-2990

Email: info@stillwatersra.com

Website: www.stillwatersra.com

#### **Board Members**

Tom Nicholson *President* 

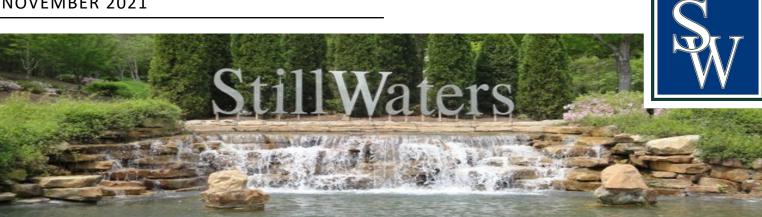
Tom Dyne Vice-President

Gene Akers Treasurer

Penny Alexander Secretary

> Kay Dickey Lee Eastman Sally Gantt

Kevin Eason General Manager



#### WHO CAN RUN FOR A SEAT ON THE SWRA BOARD OF DIRECTORS?

This article has been published in the SWRA newsletter for the last couple of years. Please read the entire article if you are interested in becoming a SWRA board member.

There are four different sets of covenants in StillWaters and all property owners under these covenants are members of the association and vote in the board of director's annual election. However, only property owners who own property under the '87 covenants and are in good standing with the association are eligible to run for a seat on the StillWaters Residential Association Board of Directors. There are two seats on the board up for election. Each seat is elected for a three-year term beginning March 2022.

There are two different opportunities available for a property owner who qualifies and would like to run for the board of directors. One is to contact the Nominating Committee and inform them of your interest to run. The other opportunity is to run by petition. This information can be found in the Bylaws Article VII, Section 7.1. This article will discuss both opportunities.

RUN FOR BOARD BY NOMINATING COMMITTEE: Each year a Nominating Committee is appointed by the SWRA Board of Directors to find qualified, willing board candidates to run for the board. The Nominating Committee works diligently each year to present qualified candidates to the association members. The Nominating Committee is charged to put forth who they have determined to be the best candidates to fill the open board seats.

The Nominating Committee works several months contacting and interviewing possible candidates. The committee always requests that anyone interested in running for the board contact them for consideration.

Any qualified property owner interested in running for election to the SWRA board can contact a member of the Nominating Committee and discuss what is required to be considered. The names of the committee members and their telephone numbers are included in this newsletter in the article titled SWRA Nominating Committee Appointed.

RUN FOR BOARD BY PETITION: A qualified property owner may run by petition for the board. The person interested in running for the board must pick up a petition at the SWRA office. The potential candidate must obtain signatures from twenty separate property owners governed by the '87 covenants and in good standing with the association. As of the date of this newsletter, there are 1,601 properties governed by the '87 covenants so it should be very easy to obtain twenty signatures. The petition must be filed with the SWRA Board Secretary at least thirty days prior to the election.

It does not matter if a candidate is selected by the Nominating Committee or runs by petition. All candidates are treated the same. All candidates' information is published in the newsletter and all names are listed on the election ballot.

Being a SWRA Board Member is not easy. Each SWRA Board member attends a minimum of two board meetings per month on the first and third Tuesday of each month. There are additional special meetings, phone calls, and social events, such as new member welcome socials, all of which board members must attend. Board members discuss and make decisions that will not always be the most popular among all property owners but is the best decision for the community as a whole. Board decisions must also follow what is required in the governing documents. Being a board member takes hard work and dedication. Each year I personally encourage several potential candidates to consider running for the board. Very few are willing to commit to the time and effort that will be required if they are elected. The Nominating Committee has the same issue. The committee contacts several potential candidates but few are willing to commit. If you are interested, make the commitment and run for an open board seat either by contacting the Nominating Committee or by petition.



#### LITTLE KNOWN FACTS ABOUT THANKSGIVING

According to many historians, in 1621, the Plymouth colonists (aka Pilgrims) and the Wampanoag Indians shared an autumn harvest feast that is acknowledged today as the first Thanksgiving celebration in the then English colonies. The autumn harvest is believed to have lasted at least three days and probably was celebrated more than once during the autumn of 1621. There is evidence that an autumn harvest festival was celebrated by the ancient Egyptians, Greeks, and Romans long before the one held in America.

For more than two centuries, days of thanksgiving were celebrated by individual colonies and states. During the American Revolution, the Continental Congress designated several different days of thanksgiving a year. In 1789 George Washington issued a proclamation for a day of thanksgiving calling upon Americans as a way to express their gratitude for a conclusion to the country's war of independence. It wasn't until 1863, during the Civil War, that President Abraham Lincoln proclaimed a national Thanksgiving Day to be held the last day of November as a way to help heal the wounds of the war.



Most everyone enjoys eating their fill on Thanksgiving, but in 1623 instead of celebrating by enjoying a big feast, the Pilgrims held a religious fast to mark the end of a long drought that had threatened the year's harvest. The traditional pies, cakes, and other sweets would not have been found at the first Thanksgiving celebrations because the Pilgrims had no oven and their sugar supply had been exhausted. Lobster, seal, and swans were on the first Thanksgiving menu. The Wampanoag Indians brought deer and corn. According to journals from the early settlers Turkey was not a staple of the traditional Thanksgiving Day feast. Turkey did not show up on most Thanksgiving Day tables until modern times.

The tradition of shopping and merchants offering special bargains after Thanksgiving Day has been attributed to President Franklin D. Roosevelt. He moved the holiday from the end of November to a couple of weeks earlier in an attempt to spur early Christmas retail sales during the Great Depression. This was met with such opposition that he signed a bill in 1941 making Thanksgiving Day the fourth Thursday in November but the idea of an earlier Christmas selling season stuck.

These are just a few of the little known facts about the Thanksgiving Day holiday. The best fact about Thanksgiving is that it gives people a time to come together to be thankful for what they have and to help spread their fortunes to those who have been less fortunate. Make sure you remember to pass your blessings onto someone else that might need a little help, sometimes a good word is all it takes to let someone know you are thankful they are in your life.

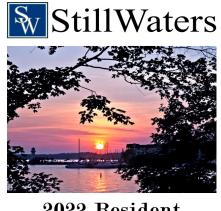
#### NEW SURVEILLANCE CAMERAS AT PARK AND TENNIS COURTS

SWRA has installed several new surveillance cameras at Moonbrook park, tennis courts, and around the SWRA office. These cameras record motion 24/7. Please remember you are under video surveillance all throughout the StillWaters community.



#### UPDATE YOUR CONTACT INFORMATION WITH SWRA

Now is the time for all property owners to update their contact information with the SWRA office. Please contact the SWRA office at 256-825-2990 or info@stillwatersra.com if you have recently changed your mailing address, email, or phone number.



2022 Resident Telephone Directory In Case of Emergency

**DIAL 911** 

#### 2022 STILLWATERS DIRECTORY

Having your name, address, and phone number listed in the StillWaters directory is optional. You must request adding your name and contact information to the StillWaters directory. In this newsletter is the directory information form that must be completed and returned to the SWRA office.

You do not have to complete and return a form if you were in the 2021 StillWaters directory. Only submit a new form if your contact information has changed.

#### NEWCOMER'S CLUB CHRISTMAS PARTY

Anyone interested in joining the Newcomer's Club is invited to attend the Newcomer's Christmas party on December 11<sup>th</sup> from 10:30am until 12:30pm at the home of Thelma Pitts located at 178 Blue Creek Circle in StillWaters. Come enjoy refreshments with your new neighbors. Please contact Kay Dickey at 334-462-0835 for more information



If you would like your StillWaters address and telephone number (up to two) in the directory, please complete the following:

#### PLEASE PRINT

Last Name:			
First Name:			
StillWaters Stree	t Address:		
Telephone Num	per(s):		

Property owners are not automatically listed in the StillWaters directory; you must complete this directory information form and return it to the SWRA office to have your name included in the directory. Property owners that were in the previous year's directory do not need to complete an information form unless their information has changed.

#### A MESSAGE FROM STILLWATERS VOLUNTEER FIRE & RESCUE





When the weather turns cold, it can bring a chill into our homes. Portable space heaters have become a popular way to supplement central heating or heat one room. If you plan to use portable electric space heaters, make sure to follow these tips and recommendations:

#### HEATER CHECKLIST

- Purchase a heater with the seal of a qualified testing laboratory.
- Keep the heater at least 3 feet (1 metre) away from anything that can burn, including people.
- Choose a heater with a thermostat and overheat protection.
- Place the heater on a solid, flat surface.
- Make sure your heater has an auto shut-off to turn the heater off if it tips over.
- Keep space heaters out of the way of foot traffic. Never block an exit.
- Keep children away from the space heater.
- Plug the heater directly into the wall outlet. Never use an extension cord.
- Space heaters should be turned off and unplugged when you leave the room or go to bed.

#### Types of electric space heaters

**Oil or water-filled radiator** Heated oil or water travels through the heater.

Fan-forced heater A fan blows warm air over metal coils.

Ceramic heater Air is warmed over a ceramic heating element.

Infrared heaters Heat is created by infrared bulbs.

Fact

Two in five deaths in space heater fires involve portable electric space heaters.

NATIONAL FIRE PROTECTION ASSOCIATION The leading information and lengeledge resources on the electrical and related hazards

nfpa.org/education ©NFPA 2018



# NOVEMBER

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
OCT 31	1 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	2 SWRA Board Meeting 9 AM	3 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM ARC Meeting 4 PM	4 Sisters at The Lake 9 AM	5 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	6 Stoneview Summit Annual Meeting 9 AM
7	8 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	9	10 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	11 Sisters at The Lake 9 AM	12 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	13 Villas on the Harbor Board Meeting 9 AM
14	15 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	16 SWRA Board Meeting 9 AM	17 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM ARC Meeting 4 PM	18 Sisters at The Lake 9 AM	19 Bridge 9 AM - 1 PM	20
21	22 SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	23 SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	24 SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	25 THANKSGIVING SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	26 SWRA OFFICE CLOSED	27
28	29 Lake Martin Creativity Group 1 PM - 4 PM	30	Dec 1	Dec 2	Dec 3	Dec 4

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## **RING the SALVATION ARMY BELL**

This year's ring season is from FRI, 26 NOV through THU, 23DEC.



To volunteer for a ring time slot at Renfroe's, contact Sue Mason at [865] 274-2493 or 1SweetHomeAlabama@charter.net





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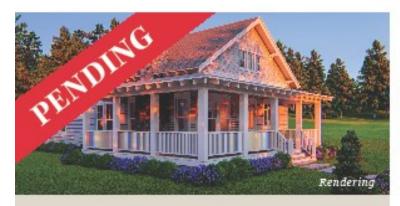


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# The Hideaway

**Don't miss out!** ONLY 6 lots remaining for custom homes!

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\$589,000 4 BD | 3.5 BA 61 Hideaway Dr Dadeville, AL 36853



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