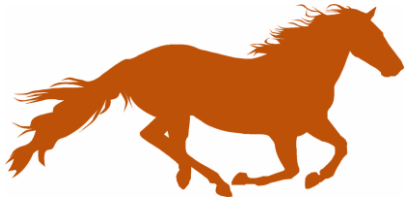


THE PONY EXPRESS



February 2021 Edition

AN INDIAN RIVER FARMS HOA PUBLICATION

To All Homeowners: At the last HOA meeting which was held via Zoom on January 12th things came out that I think all need to be aware of. First, our HOA Association is for all who live in our neighborhood (whether you are a homeowner or a renter. The difference between the two is renters cannot vote). As such we all need to take part and take an interest in our community. The Board of Directors were elected by you the homeowners and their roles are to run the HOA for the betterment of the community. Think of our HOA as a corporation and the Board of Directors are the CEOs. The Board has the responsibility to keep all informed of what is going on in the community and the decisions that are being made. Keeping all informed is done by several means; our website; mailings; newsletter (posted on our website); and even the unofficial Facebook page. Remember some of the decision do not need homeowners vote or approval; but you need to be aware of the changes being made. Since moving into the neighborhood in 2009 I've notice homeowner involvement and participation has declined – do not know the reason but it saddens me to see this happening. The ways people can get involved are attending our HOA meetings; volunteering to head or be on one of our committees; and running for a Board position. This does not take up a lot of your time and it shows your interest and concern for the entire community – not just your home or just the neighbors around you. If you see something that needs our attention or have questions you can reach out to the board via our email: Boardofdirectors@indianriverfarmshoa.org.

We are only as good as the members of our association – the Board cannot do it alone. Doing nothing but criticize when something does not go your way is not how it works. I would like to see higher attendance at our HOA meeting – I know Zoom is not the best arrangement but it's the best we have at the moment. We are a good group of people living in one of the best neighborhoods in the area and together we can do a lot more. Some of you have lived here since the beginning (2002) and some are new to the neighborhood, but we all moved here for a reason – let us make sure that reason is still valid today.

Thanks

Mike Boungiorno

Vice President



HOA BOARD MEETINGS FOR 2021

Board meetings will be held via Zoom until further notice. The meetings will start 6:30 p.m. Mark your calendars.

| | |
|---|--------------------------|
| January 12 th | March 9 th |
| April 13 th | June 8 th |
| July 13 th | August 10 th |
| September 11 th (Annual Mtg) | |
| October 12 th | November 9 th |

BOARD POSITION OPEN

The board of directors currently has an open position due to the resignation of one of the members. If anyone is interested in filling the position or if you are interested but have questions, please email:

boardofdirectors@indianriverfarmshoa.org

The next board meeting will be held on March 9th at which time the board will appoint a new member.

HOA FIRST QUARTER DUES

Due to an unforeseen delay, payment books for 2021 were not received by homeowners in time to remit their January payment. The board waived the late fee for the month of January for all delinquent accounts.

If you do not receive a payment book you are still obligated to pay your quarterly dues by the due date. A letter from UPA was mailed to all homeowners in November with instructions on how to remit a payment if you did not have a payment book. For those who need the address, you will find it below.

The amount due for the first quarter is \$135.00. Please make checks payable to:

Indian River Farms Homeowners Association

The address to remit your payment is:

C/O United Property Association
P.O. Box 844565
Boston, MA 02284

Please include your account number on your check.

Late fees will resume being assessed in February.

INDIAN RIVER FARMS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION – A FAMILY FRIENDLY COMMUNITY SINCE 2002
COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER TO KEEP ALL HOMEOWNERS INFORMED AND CONNECTED



The speed limit throughout the neighborhood is 25 MPH. Please remember to slow down, stop at the stop signs and yield at the yield signs. There are a lot of families out walking with their children and pets. Keep the speed down and keep everyone safe.



QUESTIONS FOR BOARD MEMBERS

Did you know that everyone in IRF has easy access to the board of directors? They are only an email away! If you have a question for the board, please email them at:

BOARDOFDIRECTORS@INDIANRIVERFARMSHOA.ORG

This email goes directly to all board members who will do their best to provide you with an answer to your question. Please remember that some matters are best handled by our UPA Association Manager and in these cases, they will refer you to the appropriate person.

Questions regarding the rule change allowing above ground pools

The board would like to clear up any misconceptions regarding the above ground pool rule change. Below are answers to the questions that the board received. *Any homeowner can request that an item be placed on the agenda for a future board meeting. If after presenting their position on a particular topic, they can ask the board to consider adopting, changing, or removing a rule or regulation. If this action does not conflict with our governing documents, the board can either:*

- 1. Deny*
- 2. Vote*
- 3. Table until due diligence can be performed.*

In this case of the pool rule, the board opted for number 3. Part of the due diligence was to solicit feedback from all homeowners. A letter was mailed to all homeowners explaining the particulars. This resulted in the board receiving approximately 8 responses. Believing the lack of response indicated that the remaining homeowners either were in favor or did not care either way, the board moved forward. A notice that the vote would take place at the October meeting was mailed to all homeowners. Updates were placed in the 3 subsequent newsletters.

At the January meeting several homeowners stated that they did not receive the letter and were unaware that the vote had taken place.

Taking this into consideration as well as the low number of responses received from the initial mailing, the board will be making a second attempt to gain a more accurate consensus. This will be done via a survey that has been mailed to all homeowners.

The board understands that they are 5 individuals who represent 113 homeowners. The opinions of all 113 matter and are taken into consideration with every decision made. In order to do the best job, they must hear from homeowners. To that end, the board is asking all homeowners reply to the survey that was mailed. If you have not received this mailing, you may reply to our association manager with one of the following options. Her email is: scosby@unitedpropertyassociates.com

- 1. I support the rule change to allow above ground pools.***
- 2. I do not support the rule change to allow above ground pools.***
- 3. I do not have an opinion either way.***

The deadline to respond is February 28th. The next board meeting will be held March 9th at 6:30pm.



Scooping the poop

No one likes stepping in dog waste when walking on the sidewalks, in our park or in their own front yards. Here is why you should properly pick up your pet's waste:

- Animal waste can contain harmful organisms that can be transmitted to other animals and to humans.
- Being a good citizen is looking out for your neighbors, so they don't have to worry about stepping in pet waste and spreading it into their homes, vehicles, and businesses.
- It's easy to carry a plastic bag with you when you walk your pet. Dispose of waste in the trash.
- It's the law! State code says: "It shall be unlawful for any person owning, keeping, or having custody or control of a dog to fail to remove immediately the dog's excrement ..." To neglect doing this is a Class 4 Misdemeanor.
- Picking up waste keeps our environment beautiful and clean.
- Viruses and worms shed in dog feces can remain active in the feces for long periods of time and can likely be transmitted to other animals in contact with the feces.
- Waste left on the ground is carried into area waterways and adversely affects underwater life.

Source: <https://hampton.gov/1484/Scooping-the-Poop>



Board Members/Property Manager/Public Utilities

Board Members: Mike Bongiorno Diana Merciez
 Jim Smith Joe Modica

Email: Boardofdirectors@indianriverfarmshoa.org

Our UPA Property Manager: Shawna Cosby

Email: scosby@unitedpropertyassociates.com

Ph: 757-995-1393 and Fax: 757-497-9133

Trees: 757-385-4461 or Email: Landscape@vbgov.com

Sidewalks: 757-385-1470 or Email: pwclrks@vbgov.com

Street Lights: 866-366-4357 or visit:

<https://www.dominionenergy.com/outagecenter/streetlight-outages/outdoor-lightingemail-form>

You may also contact Shawna at UPA and she can submit the outage information.

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