

History of MMNA Mailboxes

Prior to 2013

- After paying a \$100 refundable fee, Monument Manor property owners took ownership of a mailbox. And the mailbox was for lifetime use of resident. Military families were the only renters who will be allowed to pay the \$100 mailbox fee. The mailboxes were associated with an HC box number.

2013

- Cluster of MMNA mailboxes on Uphill and Desert Shadow and Uphill were vandalized on December 7, 2013. Mail was stolen across the region, federal investigation and some prosecution for mail theft and federal fraud.
- Will Harner contacted the USPS, researched and ordered new mailboxes (because the old ones were damaged before repair and did not meet current USPS standard for security).
- Will Harner and Mike Darrah (then MMNA president) removed the old Uphill mailboxes and replaced with two 16 cluster boxes – consolidated based on use at the time (27 people, 5 spares).
- Mike Darrah (then MMNA president) worked to remove the mailboxes at Desert Shadow/Quail Springs and disposed of the old aluminum boxes.
- Removed Desert Shadow mailboxes were NOT replaced.

2014

- **\$100 mailbox fee will NO LONGER BE REFUNDABLE** to help pay for the cost of the newly installed mailboxes at Uphill/Quail Springs, approved by a vote at the 2014 General Annual Meeting. Additional sales of mailbox keys beyond the original costs of the new mailboxes will go to repair and maintain the mailbox infrastructure (e.g., painting, solar lights, concrete pads, rekeying lost keys). Since the keys are only on loan to the owner, MMNA will take the keys back when a house is vacated, as the mailboxes are the property of MMNA.
- The MMNA board member managing the mailboxes will retrieve the old keys. No \$100 refund will be given for turning in the keys.
- The MMNA board member will contact the first person on the waiting list and sell the keys to the neighbor requesting a MMNA mailbox for \$100 non-refundable fee.
- MMNA will remind the neighbor receiving the new mailbox that we ask to have the mailbox keys be returned to MMNA when owners/renters leave or sell their home.
- The neighbor requesting a vacated MMNA mailbox will be given the keys and given a mailbox number (e.g., #6 etc) (posted on the outside of the bank of mailboxes). They then must go to the post office and request a USPS address change. It is advised to post your street address on the inside of the mailbox to assist contract mail carrier delivering our mail. They are advised to alert MMNA when they have successfully transferred mailbox ownership to them.
- The new mailbox renter should do two things: (1) Use the keys to their new mailbox, and leave a note inside the mailbox for Vanessa (our contract mail carrier) stating the names of the people who will receive mail at that mailbox and the physical address of the house connected with that mailbox. (2) Go to the post office in Joshua Tree and tell Carol (or whoever else is in charge) the same information (names of people who will receive mail at that new mailbox and the physical address of the house connected with that mailbox).
- \$100 one-time fee will be given to MMNA treasurer to deposit in MMNA bank account.
- MMNA mailbox database will be updated.

2017

- Dan Stork (MMNA treasurer) reported that the USPS is going to link our physical street addresses and no longer use the HC box numbers. So, Monument Manor neighbors are advised to only use their street address with no reference to the number of the mailbox at Uphill/Quail Springs.

2021

- MMNA mailboxes are now being managed by Linda Doyle, secretary. Anyone interested in putting their name on the waiting list for a MMNA mailbox should email Linda Doyle @ Lsdoyle@earthlink.net

2022

- MMNA mailbox fees are increasing. Stay tuned for approved fee increase by MMNA board.