

# The Good Life...

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## Meeting Calendar

*Meetings are open to all residents.*

Finance Committee  
Monday, August 15 – 4:15 p.m.

Board of Directors  
**Tuesday, August 16 – 6:00 p.m.**

Architectural Review Board  
Wednesday, August 24 - 7:00 p.m.

Maintenance Committee  
Tuesday, September 6 – 4:00 p.m.

Board of Directors  
Tuesday, September 13 - 6:00 p.m.

Tamarack Annual Meeting  
High Point Church  
Monday, October 17 - 7:00 p.m.

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## Event Calendar

*Please mark your calendars.*

Pool Party  
Sunday, Sept. 11, 4:30-8 pm

Forum for Proposed Landscape  
Screening Plan for Tamarack Garden  
Tuesday, August 30, 7:00-8:00 pm

Holiday Party  
Wednesday, Dec. 7, 6:30-8:30 pm

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## Office Hours

Mon & Wed-Fri 9 am – 4 pm  
Tuesday 9 am – 6 pm

## Current News

### Forum for Proposed Landscape Screening Plan for Tamarack Garden – August 30

The Tamarack Community Garden is located at the southwest corner of Tree Lane and Westfield Road. One of this year's major landscape projects involves the removal and replacement of the large, overgrown arborvitaes along the city sidewalk on the Tree Lane side of the garden. Looking towards the future, a proposed landscape screening plan is being developed that includes new plants for all four sides of the garden. As this area serves as a main entrance to Tamarack we would like your thoughts and opinions on this proposed plan.

An open forum will be held at the clubhouse on Tuesday, August 30 at 7 pm. The proposed plan will be reviewed and the floor will be open to residents for comments, questions or suggestions. A copy of the landscape plan is available at the office and on the Tamarack website.

### Tamarack Board Candidates Sought

The Nominations and Elections Committee (NEC) is seeking a few good people who are willing to run for the Tamarack Board of Directors. The term is for two years from November 2016 to November 2018.

There will be three seats up for election at the Annual Meeting on October 17. Jim Beck and Janet Hirsch have served two terms and are not eligible for reelection. Incumbent Linda Vahldieck is eligible to run for a second two-year term.

The NEC encourages you to think seriously about whether this is the right time for you to contribute to our community in this way. This service would be a rewarding way to engage your skills and talents to make a difference in our community while working side by side with other dedicated people on the Board, its committees, and staff.

Of course Board membership does entail a fair amount of work and time. If you have any questions about what Board membership entails, we encourage you to discuss them with a current Board member.

If you are interested in this opportunity, there are two routes you can take to make your interest know:

1. **The easiest route is to tell any of us on the Nominations and Elections Committee of your willingness to put your name in nomination.**
2. The other route is via self-nomination, which involves acquiring and submitting a nomination form, available at the Tamarack office and on the Tamarack website.

**Submission deadline is September 5.**

Subsequently you will be asked to prepare a brief statement that will be provided to all owners and that you attend a meeting where the role and expectations of being a Board member will be discussed. It is also suggested that you attend at least one Board meeting prior to the election.

Feel free to contact any of us on the Committee with any questions you may have about the election process itself, and certainly to place your name in nomination. And, remember, the deadline is September 5. The members of the Nominations and Elections Committee are:

- Roy Meyer, Chair .....203-6632 .... [meyer@charter.net](mailto:meyer@charter.net)
- Jean Allen .....827-0446 .... [jeandjo@tds.net](mailto:jeandjo@tds.net)
- Booth Fowler .....770-2489 .... [rbfowler@wisc.edu](mailto:rbfowler@wisc.edu)
- Don Haasl .....203-6645 .... [don.haasl@yahoo.com](mailto:don.haasl@yahoo.com)

**Enjoying the Pool**

It's been a hot summer. We have more people enjoying the pool; the number of lap swimmers has increased.

To accommodate all users, open swim and lap swimmers, the Board is modifying the current rules.

The updated rules are:

- 1) If the patron load is light, the lifeguard will open additional lanes on request, up to a maximum of three.
- 2) If there are people waiting to use the lap lanes, please be respectful and limit your lap swimming to 30 minutes.

The Board is open to input at their August 16<sup>th</sup> meeting.

**Pool Schedule and Closing Date**

The last day for this year's pool season is Sunday, September 25.

The pool hours are:

- Now – Sept. 5 ..... 10:00 am - 8:00 pm
- Sept. 6 - Sept. 25      2:00 pm-7:00 pm weekdays &  
   10:00 am – 7:00 pm on weekends
- Monday, Sept. 26 ..... 10 am – 1 pm (Dogs Only Swimming)

Hours are subject to change based on lifeguard availability. Any changes will be posted at the entrance gate to the pool.

## **Trash Collection on Saturday 9/10 Labor Day Week**

With the Labor Day holiday Friday's trash collection will be delayed until Saturday, September 10. Also, if leaving for Labor Day weekend, please make arrangements to have your containers returned to your garage.

## **New Tennis Court Gate - Same Key**

Struck & Irwin installed new fence posts on the east side of the tennis court. A new gate was also installed. The lock is the same and you can use your existing key to gain access. If you need a key to the tennis court, they are available through the office at a cost of \$5.

## **Board and Committee Business**

### **Wegner CPAs Review Audit Report at July Board Meeting**

In July Wegner CPAs reviewed Tamarack's financial records for the 2015 calendar year and presented the audit report to the Board and members of the Finance Committee. Tamarack's financial records received an unqualified opinion which is the highest level of assurance for an audit. At the meeting Jason commented that Tamarack's records are very well kept.

### **Investment Policy Approved**

At their July 12 meeting the Board reviewed and approved a revised Investment Policy. The policy provides guidelines on how Tamarack's reserve funds are invested. The Investment Policy also establishes a review and oversight timeline for Tamarack's Finance Committee. A copy of the Investment Policy is available at the office and on the Tamarack website.

### **Maintenance Committee Members Change**

Bernie Cohen, 87 Oak Creek, recently sold his Tamarack home and is leaving the MC after serving as a member for the past three years. Jayne Meyer, 201 Randolph, was appointed as the new member of the MC. Thanks to Bernie for his time served and Jayne for volunteering her time.

### **Board Meeting on August 16**

Due to the August 9th elections, the Tamarack Board of Directors which normally meet on the second Tuesday will meet one week later on August 16th at 6 pm.

## **Activities and Events**

### **Forever Fit Class at the Clubhouse**

*Forever Fit Fitness Class*

**Monday & Wednesday 4:00-4:45**

**Oct. 3 - Jan. 11 (No class Nov. 7, 9, 14, 16)**



***Testimonial: "Forever Fit exercise class is a fun, affordable way to get or stay in shape. Patti always makes class fun but varied. We use exercise balls, weights, mats and stretchy bands. It's a great way to improve one's strength, fitness, flexibility and balance. Join us!" Jan Haasl***

**Payment due: September 7 \$80.00**

**Please call Patti Sponem 279-3149 or Email: [psponem@gmail.com](mailto:psponem@gmail.com)**

A colorful poster for a Tamarack Pool Party. The background is blue with musical notes and a treble clef. A yellow duck is in the top left, and a green flip-flop is in the bottom left. The text is white and yellow. The main title is 'Tamarack Pool Party' in large white letters. Below it is 'Sunday, Sept. 11, 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.' in yellow. Then 'Live music by Casey & Greg' and 'Food by Blue Plate Caterer' in white. Below that is 'RSVP required payment due noon Sept. 9' in white. At the bottom is 'Reservation forms & details available in Tamarack Office & on website' in white.

**Tamarack Pool Party**  
**Sunday, Sept. 11, 4:30 p.m. - 8 p.m.**  
Live music by Casey & Greg      Food by Blue Plate Caterer  
RSVP required  
payment due noon Sept. 9  
Reservation forms & details available in Tamarack Office & on website

## Scheduled Projects and Reminders

See "Seasonal Project and Reminders" on the Tamarack website or on the clubhouse bulletin board. Items updated for August include: Asphalt on Bayberry and Sugar Maple delayed, East Border Fence, Edging and Mulching, Phase 6 Trim painting and Seasonal Trimming.

### **Storm-Water Runoff**

Recent thunderstorms have demonstrated how quickly Tamarack storm-water pipes and grassed swales can fill and overflow. If your unit experienced water leaks during these events, contact your insurance company and notify the TT office.

To better manage storm water, TT will continue to invest in sediment traps, rain gardens, re-graded berms & swales, and modified or extended downspout take away pipes to reach natural areas. TT has also contacted the city engineering department to discuss storm water control in areas impacted by city street storm water drains.

There are some of these simple practices that could be implemented around your home to slow and reduce the amount of storm water runoff. Consult the TT Office for further assistance before planning a project.

- Redirect downspouts from pavement to more natural areas (grasses and gardens) where water can seep into the ground.
- Replace some turf grass or pavement with a native garden to promote infiltration. (requires Office or ARB approval)
- Install a rain garden or rain barrel to collect roof runoff (requires ARB approval).
- Pick up after pets and dispose of properly.
- Prevent soil erosion by covering bare soil with seed or mulch as soon as possible.

For more information on what you can do to help protect our waters visit [www.myfairlakes.com](http://www.myfairlakes.com).

## **Trash & Large Items on City Terrace**

Frequently large items for city pick up are being put out well ahead of the bi-weekly Wednesday pickup day. This is not only unsightly but is also not good for the turf and hampers mowing and landscape projects. As a reminder please do not put large items out for city collection on the terrace earlier than the Tuesday before pick up. Please refer to the city website for pick up dates or call the Tamarack office.

## **Neighborhood News**

### **Pedestrian Crossing Now Complete**

The new pedestrian crossing was installed on Westfield Road near the Tamarack clubhouse. Thanks to Jean MacCubbin and Alder Paul Skidmore for their part in making this happen.

- Use caution when crossing - vehicles are getting used to the signage.
- Be a role model - stop if you're driving and see a pedestrian.

### **Tamarack Veggie Garden for Lussier – July report by Marilyn Sallee**

The vegetable plot in Tamarack Garden for Lussier Food Pantry has been producing copious amount in July. Twice a week we carry over shopping bags filled with fresh vegetables. July had a bumper crop of zucchini and squash, as well as goodly amounts of cucumbers, broccoli heads, cherry tomatoes, and a few radishes. This month alone we supplied over a hundred pounds of fresh produce, and this is just the beginning of the harvest. August should see the tomatoes coming into their own, not just cherry, but large slicers. The beans have survived the bunnies and may yet provide a harvest, and the kale is getting established. We also have a couple of pumpkin vines that are starting to set fruit.



I'd like to thank those who helped weed during my illness, and those who helped pick and deliver when I was unable to get to the garden. I greatly appreciate the help.

If you have a bumper crop of anything, Lussier is always grateful for donations. They especially like to receive them on Tuesday or Friday late afternoon, as they have community feeds on Wednesdays and Saturdays. Some produce is prepared for the free meal and some is put out for the taking. All is appreciated. Please give your name or say it is from Tamarack Veggie Garden when you donate.

### **Food Pantry and School Supplies**

Tamarack donations continue to make a big difference at the Lussier Food Pantry! The folks there are really appreciative of the quality and quantity of our resident donations, including the individual packets meant for kids' tote bags to take home. The kids seem to really love granola bars, nuts (small packs are available in bulk at a large store that begins with a C) and individual containers of fruit or applesauce. This month the Pantry would also especially like to receive toilet paper, peanut butter, olive oil, and hearty soups. As usual place your donations in the bins provided outside the Tamarack office.

This month, Pantry pick up day is Monday, August 15. It will be staffed by volunteers Gene and Marge Miller, backed up by Diana Shaw. Many thanks to them and to our July volunteers, Sara Lee and Bill Hinckley and Toni Brown.

A reminder also that the Lussier Center is now also conducting their annual school supplies drive. Pamphlets listing what is needed and an envelope for \$ donations have been dropped at your door. You may also take donations at the LCEC between 9 am and 5 pm through at least August 5 (better call if you'll be later than that).

Thanks to you all and keep up the good work!

Sybil Letzing, Food Pantry Coordinator • [letzing.sybil@gmail.com](mailto:letzing.sybil@gmail.com) • 608-698-9232

## **KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBORS – Booth Fowler**

Booth (Robert Booth) Fowler of 106 Pine Ridge, was born and raised around Niagara Falls, N.Y. in a family that practiced “both sides of the street” i.e. his mother was a stay-at-home, activist Democrat, and his father was a conservative, business executive Republican. He learned early on to look at both sides of an issue.

He picked up a love of politics at an early age at home, but also by being involved in debating and public affairs in H.S. He was elected governor in his H.S. at one point. He told me to say that now, “He was very cautious and revealed nothing about his political views.”

He graduated from Haverford College, a Quaker related institution, where he majored in history and government. Then it was on to Harvard for a PhD in Political Science. From there, he came to the UW-Madison, and stayed for his whole career. His areas of interest were: Political Thought, Religion and Politics, and Voting Behavior. He has published 12 books, including one called, “Wisconsin Votes” published by the Wisconsin Press that analyzes the strengths and weaknesses of the parties. He recently wrote “Catholics on State Street” which he self-published.

Booth has a zest and enthusiasm for life which probably stems from many areas, but certainly is a pleasure to encounter. He says that he wakes up every day just glad to be alive, and that he has just the right amount of stress in his life. To name a few of the probable causes for this zest, I would say: a good, stable upbringing, good health, a loving marriage, and life-long work in a field that he loved. He waxed eloquent about his passion for teaching saying, “I love it, I love it, I love it!” Though retired since 2002 from the UW-Madison, he keeps his hand in teaching with Continuing Education courses at the Extension. He says he likes to present his courses now through the eyes of the person he represents i.e. Freud, this fall.

Booth has been married since 1990 to his wife Alice Honeywell, and they have three children, and five grandchildren between them who often visit. He has many nice things to say about his wife including that “she is beautiful in both appearance & soul, that she is interesting, full of energy, & caring – the best thing that ever happened to him.” How nice is that!!! She is a retired editor from the UW-Madison.

In spite of the fact that Booth got very tired of committee meetings towards the end of his UW career, he has gotten involved in several committees at Tamarack. He currently is serving on the Maintenance Committee, the Resident Activities Committee, and the Nominating & Election Committee. He mentioned that the Maintenance Committee is working on formulating a Policy on Critters.

I asked Booth why he and Alice had chosen Tamarack to live out their later years in, and he said because they knew people who lived here, and who had lived here, and these people praised Tamarack. It hasn't disappointed as Booth says his neighbors are great – taking in their paper and watering their flowers if they are gone; calling if the garage door is open; and just being generally fun to talk with.

Booth does not have a lot of extra time, but he does love to read. On his own he likes to read Scandinavian detective stories, but he is also in three book groups – and not just any “run of the mill” groups. One is an Internet Group that found him, another functions with the use of Skype, and the third is a group of 10 persons (two others from Tamarack) that read and discuss biographies.

Booth and Alice also like to play cards with friends.

I sincerely believe I have found another Tamarack gem in the person of Booth Fowler.

*Joyce Hasselman Nigbor*