

# The Good Life...

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(608) 833-1615 – www.tamaracktrails.com

July 2016

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## Meeting Calendar

*Meetings are open to all residents*

Board of Directors  
Tuesday, July 12 - 6:00 p.m.

Finance Committee  
Monday, July 18 – 4:15 p.m.

Architectural Review Board  
Wednesday, July 27 - 7:00 p.m.

Maintenance Committee  
Tuesday, August 2 – 4:00 p.m.

Board of Directors  
Tuesday, August 9 – 6:00 p.m.

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## Event Calendar

*Please mark your calendars.*

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

### Waste Management Trash Collection

Due to the July 4<sup>th</sup> holiday, trash pick-up will be delayed by one day and occur on Saturday this week.

### Tamarack Board Candidates Sought

The Nominations and Elections Committee is seeking Tamarack members who are willing to serve on the Tamarack Board of Directors. The election will be held at the Annual Meeting on October 17, 2016; the two-year term will start following the November board meeting. If you are interested or would like to recommend a neighbor, contact any member of the Nominations & Elections Committee or any of the current Board members. They can provide you with additional information.

Nomination & Elections Committee members are: Roy Meyer (chair), Jean Allen, Booth Fowler and Don Haasl.

### Adult Swim and Guests

At their June meeting the Board provided authority to the lifeguards to call an adult swim at their discretion for a period of no more than 15 minutes. This allows the Lifeguard to call adult swim at any time.

Prior to using the pool, please be sure that your guests are aware of the Tamarack Pool Rules and abide by them. We want everyone to enjoy the pool season.

### Lussier Food Pantry - Bed at Tamarack Garden

Thank you to the people who planted extra veggies in the bed -- a couple broccoli and three green peppers appeared from unknown sources, and the nice woman across the aisle who heard Lussier especially wanted kale and donated about a dozen baby kale slips. Thank you! We also have a dozen sweet potatoes from Extension, and lots of tomatoes, zucchini and cukes starting to produce. We are especially grateful for those who stop by to pull weeds or water. Thank you.

To the person who asked about not having fencing -- yes, the critters ate the peas and beans as fast as they came up. Guess that's why Tamarack gardeners need those fences.

The first donation to Lussier Food Pantry went in at the end of June which was nine baby zucchini for a total of five pounds donated. I trust July will be much more productive and have more variety.

*submitted by Marilyn Sallee*

## **Board and Committee Business**

### **Clubhouse Refurbishing - Forum Update**

The Amenities Committee sponsored a forum on April 13th to receive resident input on refurbishing the first floor of the clubhouse. Several suggestions were received regarding improvements to the locker rooms, including installing clothes hooks, adding fans, replacing the urinals and redoing the floors. After reviewing the suggestions received, the Amenities Committee prioritized them to determine which work should be requested for inclusion in the 2017 budget. Given that the pool is scheduled to be replaced in 2024, and will necessitate our following city requirements for pools and locker rooms, any changes made to the locker rooms during the next few years will be relatively minor and done in accordance with city requirements so as to limit the number of changes needed when the pool is replaced.

Another suggestion received pertains to the reconfiguration of the first floor office and storage spaces. The office space is cramped and there is no space for our Property Manager to meet privately with residents or staff as necessary. The Amenities Committee will propose that the 2017 budget include funds for an architectural re-design of the first floor storage room and office.

Any comments or suggestions relating to refurbishing the clubhouse may be sent to Prudy Stewart at [Prudystewart@tds.net](mailto:Prudystewart@tds.net).

### **Pest Intrusion Policy Proposal - Hearing Tuesday, August 2**

Each year the Tamarack office receives several calls and requests for assistance with pests both around, and sometimes in the home. In an effort to clarify responsibility and provide assistance in these situations the Maintenance Committee (MC) is currently working on a policy to define the responsibilities for pests that have found their way into your home. A copy of the first policy draft can be found at the end of this newsletter.

The MC would like to hear your comments and opinions on this policy proposal and will hold a hearing open to all residents at their Tuesday, August 2 meeting at 4 pm in the clubhouse. Comments can also be submitted via email to Andy Owca at [AOWca@WBMI.com](mailto:AOWca@WBMI.com).

### **Welcome New Committee Members**

We would like to welcome James Steinbach (19 Mountain Ash) as the newest member to the Finance Committee, and Don Haasl (54 Oak Creek) & Roy Meyer (101 Pine Ridge) as members of the Nominating and Elections Committee. Thanks go out to them for volunteering their time to serve and assist with Association governance and financial operation.

### **Board Approves Mulch Policy**

With and few minor clarifications the Board approved the Mulch Policy at their June 8 meeting. The mulch policy is part of Policy Resolution V-501 "Maintenance Responsibilities of the Association and Homeowner". The updated policy is available on the Tamarack website.

## **Tamarack Annual Meeting Date October 17**

This year's Annual Meeting is set for Monday, October 17. The meeting will be held at High Point Church, 7702 Old Sauk Road, starting at 7:00 p.m. Please place this date on your calendar.

## **Activities and Events**

### **Urban Salad Container Garden Report:**

The Urban Salad Container Garden class had a total of 22 attending participants. Most attended the event at the clubhouse, but a few couldn't make the time slot, so stopped by before or after to get container veggies and instruction to plant on their own. Plants included ten types of tomatoes, bush cucumbers, bush zucchini, mini bell peppers, mini pumpkins, and a variety of herbs - parsley, dill, sage, thyme, oregano, chives, cilantro. And a half-dozen pots of dahlias, for those wanting flowers.

We also had a dozen very large pots donated and they were all used by attendees. Two large pots were planted for Tamarack and are growing well beneath the flagpole in the parking area.

Of the unused veggies, most were distributed to Tamarack homeowners. The rest were planted in the Lussier veggie bed in Tamarack Garden or at The Playing Field Children's Garden for donation to food pantries. About 50 tomato plants were left at Tamarack garden for whomever wanted them. They were all taken.

We've received several thank yous and have recently received pleasant comments on how well the containers are doing. Hopefully Tamarack members will be able to enjoy salads grown on their doorsteps as well as beautiful plantings.

## **Scheduled Projects and Reminders**

This section has been moved to a "Seasonal Project and Reminders" document on the Tamarack website. Items added for July / Summer includes: New asphalt for Bayberry and Sugar Maple, Edging and Mulching, Phase 6 Trim painting, Seasonal Trimming, and No Trim List, Grilling Guidelines.

## **Neighborhood News**

### **Safety Meeting Held at High Point Church**

On June 1, 2016, 120 neighbors from Tamarack Trails and surrounding communities gathered to hear Chief Koval and Sheriff Mahoney speak about Safety and Security in our West Side neighborhood. Remarks from Chief Koval assured us that there is no indication of changes in criminal behavior to suggest a migratory threat to West Side neighborhoods. Sheriff Mahoney spoke about the excellent working relations between the two departments and the type of work they do together on a daily basis. Mahoney stressed the importance of improving the jail facilities and expanding support programs.

More information can be found in the summary notes available at the Clubhouse.

Join West District Madison Police Officers for a weekly "Coffee with a Cop" Thursdays at 9am, Steep & Brew at 6656 Odana Rd. See you there!

*Submitted by Judy Bluel*

## **Theft from Auto and Stolen Vehicle Incidents**

MPD is seeing an increase in theft from auto incidents in the West District this summer. Some simple steps can reduce your chances of being victimized:

- Keep your vehicle locked with the windows rolled up, even if parked in your driveway.
- Do not keep valuables in your vehicle.
- To the extent it's possible, keep your vehicle parked in a well-lit area.
- Never keep keys (house or vehicle) or garage door openers in your vehicle.

We are also seeing a number of stolen vehicles that are being abandoned in the West District. All of these vehicles had been unlocked, with the keys in them.

These incidents are crimes of opportunity...please do your part to reduce these opportunities and keep your car locked.

## **Toilets for Sale**

**For sale** - two Eljer Right Height Elongated Seat toilets (\$60 each). Finish color white. 1.6 gal/flush. The toilets are six years old and are from the recent remodeling of the second floor bathrooms in the Tamarack clubhouse. For more information contact Lou at the Tamarack office. 833-1615 or email: [Lou@tamaracktrails.com](mailto:Lou@tamaracktrails.com)

## **Food Pantry Update -**

This month Sara Lee and Bill Hinckley, backed -up by Toni Brown, will pick up our donations from bins in the entry to the Tamarack office and deliver them to the Lussier Food Pantry on Monday, July 18. Many thanks to them for also doing delivery duty in June, with Toni as the lead volunteer backed -up by Sara Lee and Bill.

Pantry special requests for July include olive oil, whole wheat crackers, granola bars, nuts and dried fruit. Please also think of individual-size snacks for the tote bags prepared by Center "campers" for kids to take home. These will augment the fresh veggies, etc., prepared by the campers and will be a big item helping to feed hungry kids during the summer months when they don't get meals at school. Bags are packed and delivered on Wednesdays. If you have garden produce to donate, I'm sure it would be welcomed if taken to the Pantry.

As always, if you have questions or suggestions for our Tamarack effort for the Pantry, please let me know.

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

## **KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBORS – Greg Mickells**

As I wrote this month's article about Greg Mickells (7322 Cedar Creek Trail) for KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBOR, I was reminded once again that we have a real melting pot out here. Greg, of Slavic/Croatian heritage, was born and raised in Omaha, Nebraska, and received all his early schooling there. He participated in baseball and debate while in H.S., and he met his wife Beverly while they were both on the same debating team.

Greg then went on to college, and to quote from another biography which he shared with me: "Mr. Mickells holds a Master of Library Science from Emporia State University and a Bachelor of Fine Arts, from the University of Nebraska at Omaha, with an emphasis in

printmaking and drawing. Prior to his library career, Mr. Mickells was an artist –in-residence with the Nebraska Arts Council and co-owner of Lizard Graphics, a graphic design firm.”

Prior to coming to Madison, Greg held positions as Assistant Director for Lincoln City Libraries (NE), and Library Manager for Douglas County Libraries (CO).

In 2012, Greg interviewed, and got the job as head of the Madison Public Library. Just four years later MPL has received an award presented by Michele Obama at the White House for being one of 10 outstanding libraries & museums in the US. To quote the newspaper CT, “The award is given to libraries for outstanding community outreach and public service..... Kathryn K. Matthew, director of the Institute of Museum and Library Services, which gives out the award, attributed Madison public Library’s honor to its innovation and creativity. Matthew pointed to the library’s literacy programs and services to the homeless as examples of its inspiring community involvement.” Greg said that MPL was the first Wisconsin library to win this award. This is high praise for “our” library, and its director Greg Michells.

To be a little more precise about what MPL does (to name a few services):

1. Visiting Nurses trained by the librarians are involved in a literacy program called “Parents as First Teachers – a program for 1-3 year old children. This is in partnership with the Public Health Department.
2. A Social Services section on the second floor of the main library finds Porchlight and case management workers helping the underserved in our community get services they need. Many of these people do not have transportation, but they can reach the library & be served there without sending them to another place.
3. A recording studio waits for those interested in music with limited funds.

Greg and his wife, Beverly, have two children, a married son, Ian (34) & a college student daughter Emily (23), and one grandchild. Beverly is now retired, but when she was working she was a forensic scientist specializing, at first, in crime scene work, and later in handwriting analysis.

Greg had never set foot in Madison before coming to interview for the job with Madison Public Library, and certainly Beverly and he had never thought they would buy a condo, but after looking at many houses with the realtor, and, at her suggestion, they looked at Tamarack. It was then that they decided that a condo made sense to them, and now they really appreciate the sense of community here.

Working full time leaves Greg little time for hobbies. He does like to golf, but does it seldom. When he reads, he likes to read biographies, non-fiction, and Business Books. He and his wife both enjoy photography and travel, but the travel part has mainly been family vacations, drives to watch his son play hockey, and to business conferences. He lists travel high on his bucket list.

Greg says that he and his wife both like to cook, and they specialize in Stir Fry. In the past, their Slavic heritage led them toward heavy dishes, but they are trying to change this mindset. Greg is a second generation American who is interested in traveling to both his and his wife’s ancestral European homelands – something which will fit right in with his bucket list. America is lucky to have received another wonderful immigrant family, and Madison is lucky Greg is currently heading our library.

*by Joyce Hasselman Nigbor*

**A. PEST INTRUSION PROPOSALS**

These proposals apply to situations where animals have entered a home and where the owner chooses not to address the problem on his or her own at their own expense.

1. It is the overall policy of Tamarack condominiums that if animals enter a home DUE TO A MAINTENANCE FAILURE by the Association, the Association will assume responsibility for addressing the point of entry and dealing with the problem within the dwelling at the ASSOCIATION'S expense. If Tamarack determines that the entry is not due to a maintenance failure by the Association, Tamarack does not assume financial responsibility, but will always attempt to help: See Section B "Procedures To Get Help".
2. In addition to maintenance failure entry points, Tamarack takes responsibility for animals entering through the following entry points: chimney caps; bathroom fan vents; dryer vents (owners are responsible for cleaning regularly); and under deck entries IF built with unit originally or if built by Tamarack later; if built by current owner, Tamarack does not take responsibility; if built by a previous owner, Tamarack takes 50% of costs.
3. According to already established policy, the following entry points are not Tamarack's responsibility nor are their consequences: foundation floors and walls; screens, windows, and skylights; porch screens and any trim board touching a screen or located between screens and any decking or patio slab located within or under the screen porch; entrance doors; storm doors; patio doors; garage doors; bulb

replacement in outdoor lights; doorbells; meter boxes, exterior junction boxes, outlets, fixtures, and switches serving individual units; all plumbing piping, valves, and fixtures serving an individual condo; air conditioning units. See Policy Resolution V-501 for details.

4. Tamarack does not take responsibility for bees, wasps, or ants that may enter a condo, but Tamarack may be able to help with the problem.

**B. PROCEDURES TO GET HELP:**

1. Step One is to contact the Tamarack Office and ask for assistance. If the animal problem is determined by Tamarack staff to be caused by a maintenance failure or by entry from the other points Tamarack covers, Tamarack will proceed to take care of the problem and/or contact one of the three pest companies Tamarack recommends, at Tamarack's expense.
2. If Tamarack's staff determines the problem is not Tamarack's responsibility, Tamarack will recommend one of its companies to assist the homeowner, at their expense. It is to the advantage of the owner to use one of these companies as the companies are aware of and sensitive to Tamarack owners.
3. If you experience an after work hours pest intrusion EMERGENCY, please call one of the several recommended pest control companies for help.