

The Good Life...

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

June 2017

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Meeting Calendar

Meetings are open to all residents.

Welcoming Committee
Monday, June 26 – 10:30 am

Finance Committee
Wednesday, July 5 – 4:00 pm

Architectural Review Board
Wednesday, July 5 - 7:00 pm

Maintenance Committee
Tuesday, July 11 – 4:00 pm

Board of Directors
Tuesday, July 18 - 6:00 pm

Tamarack Annual Meeting
Monday, October 23

Event Calendar

Please mark your calendars.

Imagine Madison
June 29 from 7:00-8:30 pm

Center Drainage Swale &
Clubhouse Parking Lot Lighting
Informational Meeting
Wed July 12, 5:30-6:30 pm

Tamarack Pool Party
Sunday, August 20 – 4:30 – 8 pm

Tamarack Bridge
Wednesdays from 6:30-10:00 pm

Office Hours

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

Current News

Tamarack Job Openings

The unemployment rate in Dane county is at a record low of 2.1%. This is great news for the employees, but not so great if you are an employer looking to hire. Tamarack's normal staffing level calls for three full time maintenance persons. Currently we are operating with just one and covering a portion of the shortage by using contractors for some of the larger projects.

One of the positions is for a person skilled in carpentry or residential construction; the other position requires an individual who likes to paint and has some light building maintenance and repair skills. Both positions are full time and include health insurance and benefits. The job postings are available on the Tamarack website. If you know of anyone who is looking for a change from their current job and meets the criteria in the job posting have them contact Lou at 833-1615 or via email to Lou@tamaracktrails.com.

Interior Work Order Delay

With the current staffing shortage, we will focus primarily on work orders which involve safety, or if not completed, could lead to further damage to the building. If you have a request for interior work on file most will be on hold until we are able to fill the two open maintenance positions. On rain-days we will complete interior requests in order from oldest to newest.

If you have requested dryer vent cleaning we plan to save most of these until late fall or the winter months. If you want to have your dryer vent cleaned sooner, just contact the office and we can supply you with the contractor names and remove you from the list. Requests like dryer vent cleaning are perfect for the off-season winter months when we are unable to work outdoors. We appreciate your patience and look forward to a return to a full-service level.

Safety Class on Swim Test for Children Under 16 – Saturday, July 1 at 9:30 am

Tamarack's Recreation Policy requires all persons under the age of 16 to pass a swim test for the on-duty Lifeguard before entering the deep end of the pool. Sometimes it is difficult for the on-duty guard to administer the swim test when the pool is busy on a hot afternoon. If you are able to visit the pool on a weekday between 10 and Noon, when pool use is light, the on-duty guard will administer the test and add the person's name to the deep-water log.

On Saturday, July 1, at 9:30 a.m. Lee Sippola (one of our head lifeguards) will conduct a 30-minute safety class for children and will administer deep water tests prior to the pool opening at 10 am. If you are planning to use the pool during the 4th of July week this would be a wonderful way for young adolescents to become more safety aware and take their deep-water swim test.

West Place II Workgroup Update

From the Tamarack Trails West Place II Workgroup

The Workgroup invited Alder Paul Skidmore to meet on Monday, June 5th and provide a project update. The information that he conveyed about the change in direction was that the development team was having a difficult time finding tenants. One of the reasons cited was the need for higher rental fees which included a limited amount of parking at the site vs. unlimited free parking for tenants at West Towne. When combined with the construction costs, potential tenants were hesitant to sign leases.

The Livesey Team is now working with Potter Lawson to develop new plans. It appears that a Master Plan will include an anchor tenant...possibly the state headquarters for a large company. Paul believes that the site will include structured parking. The Workgroup agreed that this is preferable to the large expanses of surface parking that we see at West Towne.

Traffic Study: The Workgroup feels that it is important to move forward with a traffic study of the area which includes Westfield Road, Tree Lane and the private drive which runs behind Old National Bank, Culver's and UW Health Clinic. Independent of any development at the West Place site, the increased traffic in the last couple of years and the large number of cars parking on Westfield have already had an impact on Tamarack residents and their quality of life.

Despite numerous requests to City staff, the Workgroup was never able to receive information from the initial study. Paul stated that he would talk to the Ped/Bike Commission regarding a study that addresses some of our concerns.

We hope that you had a chance to look at the stakes that show our east property line. We have had many residents comment that they were surprised at the small distance from the property line to some of the Tamarack homes. With our property line defined, the Workgroup will be discussing options to increase the buffer between the Tamarack homes and any new construction. Thanks to everyone who sent in suggestions.

Introducing the Tamarack Maintenance Staff

We welcome Josh Ostertag as our new Tamarack Maintenance Superintendent. He was hired in March and brings with him 19+ years of construction experience from JP Cullen. Josh hails from Milton, Wisconsin and attended Milton HS where he played and was captain of the basketball team. He has a seven-year-old daughter, Elliana who plays baseball in a Coaches Pitch league where Josh is one of the coaches. Hobbies include boating, fishing, camping and hunting. One of his favorites is walleye fishing on Two Sisters Lake in the Lake Tomahawk area.



A Request from the Staff

Please do not ask the staff to do extra landscape projects while they are on the clock. You should fill out a maintenance request on the Tamarack website or in the mailbox at the front of the clubhouse. This will allow them to schedule and handle your request efficiently and in order with other requests already on file.

Waste Management Trash Collection

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

Center Swale and Clubhouse Parking Lot Lighting Informational Meeting

There will be an informational meeting held at the Clubhouse on Wednesday, July 12, from 5:30 to 6:30 pm. Ron Klaas from D'Onofrio Kotke will be present to discuss the plans for re-grading the drainage swale that runs through the middle of Tamarack from Westfield Road in front of the clubhouse to the greenway west of Tamarack (between 66 Oak Creek and 7410 Cedar Creek). We will allow forty minutes for the discussion of this project. For the last twenty minutes the discussion will focus on additional lighting for safety in the clubhouse parking lot.

Board and Committee Business

Clubhouse User Fee and Deposit Increase

For over twenty years the user fee for the clubhouse has remained at \$20. At their May meeting, the Board of Directors reviewed and approved a revised clubhouse reservation form. The user fee was increased from \$20 to \$25, and the security deposit was increased from \$75 to \$125 with a separate check for each. The slight increase in the user fee will help offset the bi-weekly cleaning services which was also approved by the Board. While the cleaning service will provide general bi-weekly cleaning of the clubhouse, residents are still responsible for cleaning up after their event.

Board Approves New Members for Architectural Review Board (ARB)

At their May meeting the Board approved the appointment of Bob Jacobs (59 Oak Creek) as a new member to the ARB. We welcome and thank him for volunteering his time to serve the community.

Maintenance Committee Meeting, Tuesday, July 11

The Maintenance Committee meeting will be one week later than normal (7/11 at 4 pm) as the first Tuesday falls on the 4th of July.

Activities and Events

SCRABBLE GROUP/GAMES

I'd like to start a Scrabble group. Perhaps others would like to also make it a card game morning. Wednesday or Thursday 9:30 or 10:00 to 11:30 or noon.

You can have people contact me at 821-0332 or lkniaz@hotmail.com and say Scrabble, Bridge, Rummikub, Mahjong or suggest a different game. Lorna Kniaz

Also, I asked some people a few years ago about a walking group. If you are interested in starting a walking group let me know and we can

Tamarack Pool Party!

Sunday, August 20, 2017

From: 4:30 - 8 pm

Enjoy live music, tasty food and meet new residents at the Pool Party.

Meal includes your choice of the following hot sandwiches: Rib Eye Steak, BBQ Pork, Marinated Chicken Breast or Vegetarian Burger plus potato salad, coleslaw, fruit salad, lettuce, onion, tomato, condiments, beer, wine, lemonade, iced tea, and dessert.

Reservations required. **RSVP by August 16.**

To sign up please use the Reservation Form at the end of the newsletter.



Live at Tamarack Trails – Imagine Madison

Share your ideas about the future of Madison.

Imagine Madison is a public listening campaign designed by the City of Madison to gather the opinions of each and every Madisonian. The feedback will be used in planning the Madison of tomorrow. It will guide decision making and investments for the community goals which include: neighborhoods and housing, economy, culture, services, transportation and parks.

Representatives from the City's Planning Division will be traveling to our neighborhood to present a project update and provide an opportunity for feedback.

Thursday, June 29, 2017

7:00-8:30pm

Tamarack Trails Clubhouse

110 S Westfield

Busy that night? Provide input on the Strategies online until June 21st. You can vote for the strategies listed (click on the thumbs up) or add your own ideas. You can also make suggestions about the Future Land Use Map.

<https://imaginemadisonwi.com/workbook-2-home>

For information about the meeting, contact: Janet Hirsch, 7311 Cedar Creek Trail, 608.829.2557.



Elver Park Farmers Market

DATES

Saturdays, June 10 - September 16

WHEN

8:00 am to 12:00 pm

LOCATION

Elver Park, 1250 McKenna Blvd. Madison WI

PARTNERS

American Heart Association,
Common Wealth Development Inc., Prairie Hills Neighborhood Association,
MG&E, Madison West Neighborhood Association, Meadowood Neighborhood Association,
Melissa Carlson Creative, SM Health, UW Health, Urban League of Greater Madison

SNAP/EBT Accepted



Scheduled Projects and Reminders

Summer Safety Tips

Many of us practice personal safety measures every day without thinking about it. The reality is that you could do everything right and still be a victim of a crime. This is because the suspect is choosing their target based on opportunity. If we can take away the opportunity, we can reduce the potential for crime.

The Madison Police Department provides several safety suggestions:

- Lock your doors and windows.
- Keep electronics and valuables out of sight.
- Lock your car.
- Keep your garage door closed.
- Keep outdoor lights on at night. Report post lights that are out via an online Tamarack Maintenance Report.

Report suspicious activity or a crime to Madison Police at 255-2345 or www.cityofmadison.com/police . More safety tips are available at www.cityofmadison.com/police/safety/crimeprevention/ and on the Tamarack website.

Fence & Deck Rail Painting

After inspecting several homes in Phase 1 through 4, we will skip trim painting this year and focus our efforts on the peeling paint on fences and deck rails. We were able to hire three persons willing to paint this summer. The Clubhouse deck rails were finished the last week in May. Work will progress in the following order:

- a. Phase 1 deck rails (all) and staining deck surfaces based upon inspection.
- b. Fence and Deck rail painting requests.
- c. Finish work on east border fence.
- d. Phase 1-4 deck rail painting (based on inspection).
- e. Paint fences Phase 1-4 (in October as perennial beds are dying back).

Edging and Mulching

Tamarack staff will edge and mulch existing beds at all homes east of Westfield and south of Tree Lane this year. Work began the last week of April starting at Randolph Drive and proceed in the following order: Tree Lane, S. Westfield, Red Oak, Winterberry, Honeylocust, Bayberry, Pin Oak, White Pine, Sugar Maple, Red Maple, Gray Birch, Hemlock, and Millstone.

Mulch completed as of June 15 – Randolph, 7339-7445 Tree Lane, S. Westfield, Red Cedar and Mt Ash.

Tentative timeline going forward – finish Honey Locust by 6/20,

- Bayberry/Pin Oak/White Pine/Sugar Maple by 7/20
- Red Maple/Gray Birch/Hemlock/Millstone by 8/30.

If there is an area that you do not want mulched please submit a detailed written request to the Tamarack office. White flags are available at the office for residents to mark flowerbeds or areas that should be skipped. For those not wanting mulch, specify “No mulch” on the written maintenance request. Addresses of the homes currently on the “No Mulch” list are posted on the website and on the Clubhouse bulletin board. If you have questions, would like to be removed from the No Mulch List, or need white flags, contact Jean at 833-1615 or via email to Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com.

Trimming Schedule

At the end of June, we will start shearing shrubs overhanging walks, patios or encroaching on air conditioner units in Phase order (starting in different Phase each year). We will be performing the trimming in Phase 5 first this year and progress in order (Phase 6, 7, 1, 2, 3 and 4). The community map on the website and in the Tamarack Directory lists all Trails by Phase. This first round of shearing runs from June through mid-September. Planned work includes shearing and some renewal pruning primarily of spirea, yews, viburnums, and dogwoods. Shearing and hand pruning all remaining shrubs will be completed in the same Phase order during the fall months.

If a shrub is overgrowing a driveway or entrance walk, fill out a maintenance request and it will be completed within two to three days. You are also welcome to turn in pruning requests regarding any special task you would like to have done.

No Pruning: Flags and List - If you have any bushes or shrubs that you don't want pruned please mark them with a yellow (do not prune) flag. The flags are available at the Tamarack office or can be delivered upon written request.

Some Tamarack residents prefer to do their own gardening and trimming of their shrubs. This is allowed as long as the trimming does not include larger trees and evergreens. If you wish to perform your own gardening and trimming (of bushes and shrubs) please submit a request to the office stating, “No Pruning”. The current no pruning list is posted on the website and on the Clubhouse bulletin board.

Monona Plumbing to Map Sewer Mains in Phases 1-3

A funding plan is being developed to cover the future maintenance and replacement costs of underground water and sewer pipes in Tamarack's common areas. The first step in this project is to determine the location and quantity of each type of pipe. Utility plans were found for Phases 4-7, but none were located for Phases 1-3. Within the next few weeks Monona Plumbing will be using a robotic camera to inspect and map the sewer mains in Phases 1-3 (see Tamarack map at the front of your directory for Phase locations). Once the field work is complete, the location of the pipes will be entered into a computer mapping program. Funding for the mapping of water mains is slated to be included in the 2018 Budget.

Food Pantry Update

This month let's think ahead about the summer months with children not in school but spending valuable time at the Lussier Center. The Center will again feature summer programs for kids and so would especially welcome granola bars, individual packages of nuts, fruit snacks made with real juice, beef or turkey jerky, healthy crackers, and olive oil. As usual, place your donations in the area provided in the Tamarack office entrance, check to see that the "use by" dates have not passed, and feel free to leave a check in the office. Checks should be made out to the Lussier Community Education Center with "food pantry" entered in the "for" line. You will receive a receipt for your check for tax purposes.

Thanks to Toni Brown for helping with the May Pantry delivery and, also thanks to Toni and Sara Lee and Bill Hinckley for delivery duty on June 20. And special thanks to Jean Hilgers for always being helpful on delivery days.

If any of you would like to be a Pantry delivery volunteer (only one day a month for one month!), please give me a call or send me an e-mail.

Sybil Letzing • Tamarack Lussier Food Pantry Coordinator • 608-609-9232

KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBORS – Gail Burbach

I have had the pleasure of interviewing many outstanding Tamarack residents over the 2 ½ years that I have been writing these bios, but this month's KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBOR – Gail Burbach of 7 White Pine Trail, is unique in several ways. 1) She is renting; 2) She lives with her son, Paul, & 3) She stepped up to the plate to perform a difficult, but rewarding feat – but I am getting ahead of myself.

Gail started out in West Allis, WI, one of three girls and one boy, & two parents that "all used just one bathroom!" Her car dealer father provided a comfortable living for the family, and they ended up living in Wauwatosa. Each summer, the family vacationed the month of July in N. Wisconsin with the family being together on the weekend, and then the father going back to work on the weekdays. Gail remembers one year, the family was going north, and her birthday presents were inadvertently placed on the roof of the car. They drove off, losing the presents as they drove so she got no presents that year!

Age 13 was a pivotal year for Gail for she started wearing glasses, got braces on her teeth, and developed a health problem that plagued her for many years, and has really shaped her as a person.

Her High School was Holy Angels Academy in downtown Milwaukee, and she says that she enjoyed it. She participated in a Girls Club that did crafts, and she coached an Intramural Volleyball team. She is not sure how she got involved in volleyball because she says, "She is the least coordinated person she has met."

When it was time for her to go to college, she went to Marquette, but not really being ready for college (for whatever reason), she flunked out after 1 ½ years. However, her wise father sat her down & said, "You will go to school, and you will make something of yourself" so she went to Prospect Hall to be a Secretary. She worked as a secretary for several firms in downtown Milwaukee.

Gail married in 1968, a man who was friends of her brother, and from that union, three children (Maggie, Peter, & Paul) were born. Many years were good until they were divorced 19 ½ years later. They did move about every five years because Gail's husband was a realtor, and sometimes he would sell the house they were living in! The good part was that all these homes were in Brookfield, & close to St. Dominic School and church so the families support system remained intact.

The divorce prompted Gail to reevaluate her life, and she decided she had to go back to college so she could support her children. So off she went to Mt. Mary's College in 1988 at the age of 46 years old. THIS TIME College stuck, and she graduated with honors (almost straight A's) from the Education Department in 1992. Her first job in the teaching field was as a long-term sub teaching job at St. Mary's in Elm Grove.

Now, I need to back up a bit to tell you what makes Gail Burbach so outstanding in my book, and what that special feat was that she performed that I alluded to in the first paragraph. When she was in her senior year at St. Mary's, a crisis in her brother's family came to a head. Gail's sister-in-law had been sick for some years with Lupus and cancer, and the insurance carried by the family was being cut off so the astronomical costs could no longer be met. Financial disaster loomed, and Gail's brother broke under the strain. He committed suicide. Shortly after this, the sister-in-law died, and five children were left without parents. A large group of friends, neighbors and relatives rallied to form a fund, and the family, headed by two older girls (19 & 17 years old), stayed in their home. This lasted for six months until Gail noticed that all was not well.

Gail consulted with these five children and her three as to the possibility of combining the two families, and when her son Paul said, "Mother, what took you so long?" it was decided to go ahead. Gail sold her house, the kid's house, and a much larger house was purchased. This unique, special arrangement with eight children, organized & directed by Gail, lasted for five years, and was a total success. HOW EXTRA ORDINARY!

Gail taught at St. Mary's Grade School for 5 ½ years after her graduation, and then she heard a recruiter talk about positions for teachers out in Las Vegas so she applied. It was time for her to think of herself, and spread her wings. Within one week they called her, and she ended up teaching grade school in LV for 14 years, retiring at the age of 69. When she retired, she decided to move back to Wisconsin (Madison) because her boys said they were tired of vacationing in Las Vegas!

She has been a bit lonesome in Madison, and she misses some of her friends, but she has been serving on the Recreation Committee here at Tamarack, and enjoys that. She says that the people are friendly here, and she likes the White Pine circle. She walks her sweet little dachshund, Frank, and has met many people that way. Fortunately, she has no plans to leave Madison, so this kind, caring woman (& her equally kind & caring son) will be part of us for the foreseeable future.

Gail keeps herself busy with the Recreation Committee, Quilting, and Sewing plus reading. She is content with her life and has no Bucket List. If she won the lottery, she might buy a RV, and drive all over, but since that is not likely to happen, you will find her at 7 White Pine Trail.

How lucky we are to have extraordinary, ordinary people like Gail Burbach living here at Tamarack.

Joyce Hasselman Nigbor

Tamarack Pool Party!

August 20, 2017 • Sunday, 4:30 - 8 pm • RSVP by August 16
Beer and Wine begins at 4:30

Music • Food • Pool



Reservation and Payment Form

Deadline: August 16 @ Tamarack Office

Name(s): _____

Email: _____

Phone: _____

Number of orders for the
following hot sandwiches:

___ Rib Eye Steak \$25

___ BBQ Pork \$20

___ Marinated Chicken Breast \$20

___ Vegetarian Burger \$20

TOTAL ENCLOSED: \$ _____

Make Checks Payable to TAMARCK TRAILS

*Meal Includes: potato salad,
coleslaw, fruit salad, lettuce, onion,
tomato, condiments, lemonade,
iced tea, and dessert.*

*Beer and Wine
provided by the RAC!*