

The Good Life...

--- Published by Tamarack Trails Community Services Association ---
(608) 833-1615 – www.tamaracktrails.com / Office Hours M - F 9 am- 4 pm, or by Appointment

October 2024

Meeting Calendar

Meetings are open to all residents.

Amenities Committee

Monday, December 9 - 11:30am

Architectural Review Board

Wednesday, November 13 – 4:30pm

Board of Directors

Tuesday, October 22– 6:30pm

Finance Committee

Wednesday, October 16 – 3:00pm

Maintenance Committee

Tuesday, November 12 – 4:00pm

Resident Activities Committee

Wednesday, November 6th – 5:00pm

Welcome Committee

Scheduled date TBD

Events

Annual Meeting
October 29 – 7:00
Vista West

Tamarack Pickleball Open Play

All residents welcome:

Monday: 6-8 pm

Wednesday: 9-11 am

Saturday: 9-11 am

OFFICE HOURS

Monday- Friday

9 am – 4 pm

Or by appointment

Stacey Haberman
Association Manager
Stacey.Haberman@tamaracktrails.com

Jean Hilgers,
Office Manager
Jean.Hilgers@tamaracktrails.com

Angie Swan leaves for a new position

Landscape Supervisor Angie Swan will be leaving Tamarack Trails to take a position at St. Mary's Hospital.

Angie worked tirelessly for Tamarack Trails for 7 years and we appreciate her contributions to our team and the community. Our gardens and green spaces are the envy of many other neighborhoods due to Angie's devotion and talents.

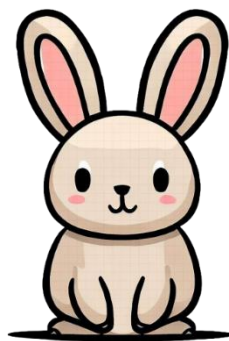
Her attentive handling of residents' requests also improved the sustainability of our grounds. Angie was always eager to help us improve our community and help us enjoy "The Good Life."

The Board has confidence in our current dedicated and talented staff that Tamarack's community green space and gardens will continue to be well maintained.

For any grounds needs, residents can call the office, and a work order will be entered for them; or residents can continue to use the Appfolio system to log requests.

We are seeking candidates for the open grounds position and will update you on the process when we have news.

Thank you,
Tamarack Trails Board of Directors



Dead Bunnies

Residents have reported finding dead rabbits and other small animals in various places around the property including the garden area and are concerned that they may have been poisoned.

This is a reminder that not only is poisoning rabbits dangerous to other animals (like your pet dog or cat, owls, hawks, foxes, etc.), and humans, but it is also **illegal!**

Billable Work Order Increase

The BOD approved an increase in cost per hour for construction & remodeling work performed by the Maintenance Team from \$50.00 to \$75.00 per hour and from \$50.00 to \$60.00 per hour for work done by the Grounds Team. This is effective October 1, 2024.

Activities and Events

First in Fifty: Pickleball Tournament Recap

Twenty-one players and a similar number of spectators enjoyed sport, companionship, and fun on the Tamarack courts on Saturday, September 21, 2024, as part of the Tamarack Trails 50th Anniversary Celebration. This was the first ever Tamarack pickleball tournament.

Congratulations to Brian Shore, trophy winner in the novice section. The metal crafted pickle trophy was donated by Paulette Harder. Handmade pickle jar trophies made by Denise Mirkin and Beth Goulette were awarded to gold medallists George Jesien and Beth Goulette; silver medallists Denise Mirkin and Elizabeth Hudson; bronze medallists Antonio Galvan and Hyan-Shik Jun. Barrett Karabis received an honorary pickle jar trophy due to an accounting error.



Les Mirkin thanked all the pickleball players who played their hearts out in both pickleball tournament sections.

Stacey Haberman and Jean Hilgers were recognized for the communication assistance they provided in making the event a success. Angie Swan and the maintenance crew made sure the courts were prepared for the tournament. Antonio (Tony) Galvan divided all the players into teams. He created a schedule for all the games, which were played on the two existing courts and on two temporary courts. The temporary courts were taped by Tom Hirsch, George Jesien, Michael Bea and Les Mirkin.

The tournament idea was the brainchild of Jean MacCubbin and the 50th anniversary committee. Many other residents pitched in to make this historic event a memorable success. We recognize Lynn Hirsch, Tom Hirsch, Michael Bea, George Jesien, Antonio Galvan, Lyndon Clemens, Les Mirkin, Jean MacCubbin and the entire 50th Anniversary Committee, and all the spectators. Thank you all; you made the tournament a huge success.



Pickleball is Americans fastest growing sport. It is an inclusive team sport that is not only welcoming and community building, it provides people of all ages an

opportunity to make new friends and to exercise. This was all evidenced here at Tamarack. Open pickleball play is played at Tamarack every Monday from 6-8 pm, and Wednesday and Saturday from 9-11 am. All residents and their guests are welcome.



Tamarack's 50th Anniversary Events Continue

Pickle Ball Tournament



Sat. September 21st

The September Event featured nearly 2 dozen residents competing in **The First in Fifty! Pickle Ball Tournament**

Congratulations to trophy winner Brian Shore; gold medalists George Jesien and Beth Goulette; silver medalists Denise Mirkin and Elizabeth Hudson; bronze medalists Antonio Galvan and Hyan-Shik Jun; honors medalist Barrett Karabis; and to all the pickleball players who played their hearts out in this tournament celebrating and honoring Tamarack Trails 50th Anniversary.

Thanks to residents and staff who prepped the courts and assisted in all of the organizing and communications. And where else could you buy an extra-large pickle on a stick for \$1?

Leaving a Legacy



Friday, October 18th

The anniversary event for October is planned for Friday, October 18th; the location and time to be announced via an email blast.

The 50th Anniversary Committee plans this as a **Legacy Event—the planting of a burr oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*)** which was donated by the Dane County Tree Board and carefully looked after in Caryl Terrell's nursery.

We are in contact with Tierney Bosci from the Dane County Tree Board and Tree Board Chair Matt Noone, a Senior Environmental Resources Planner for the Capital Area Regional Planning Commission. Matt is a heritage tree expert and leads a Heritage Oak Program; both have been asked to say a few words about our tree selection and leaving a legacy.

Home Movie



Thursday, November 21st

Saturday, November 23rd

Come November we'll move inside and turn the club house meeting room into a theater with the scheduled premier and matinee showing of **Tamarack: The Home Movie** created by Board President James Steinbach.

The 50th Anniversary Planning Committee will be selling note cards, caps and mugs, along with a "Just in Time for the Holidays" balsa wood ornament of the 50th Anniversary Logo. Many thanks to the creativity and woodworking skills of Don Haas!

Watch for details in future issues of the Good Life.

Save the Date for the **Holiday**

Party

Thursday, December 5th

6-8 PM at the Clubhouse

Sponsored by RAC



Board and Committee Business

Board Meeting Notes – September 24, 2024

This is an informal report about the regular monthly meeting of the Board of Directors. The official minutes will be posted on the Tamarack website after approval by the Board. Board members Steinbach, Jesien, Larson, White, Foley, Meyer, and Association Manager Haberman, and 10 residents were present. Findley and 15 residents attended Zoom.

The Association Manager reported on work in progress:

Swimming pool

- Concrete pours are complete, wave line is currently being installed
- Removal of pool decking will start soon
- Tile colors selected for the pool by community are in clubhouse lobby for viewing

Maintenance

- Replacing entire rim joist and sill plate on a foundation (2 homes)
- Removing and replacing damaged light posts / electrical wire replacing
- Replacing ground breaker on foundations
- Deck repairs
- Gutter maintenance, cleaning, and repairs
- Trim repair and replacement
- Minor roof repairs
- Working with contractors on concrete replacements
- Working with contractor on asphalt replacements
- Working with Badger on Pool
- Basic plumbing repairs/work orders
- Power washing

August 2024 financial statements weren't available. The August 31 balance at US Bank was \$629,000, an increase of \$13,000. The Edward Jones balance was \$602,700, an increase of \$1,600.

The 2025 budget hearing will be held October 10th. The draft budget represents an overall 5.3% increase in AMA.

The Board of Directors will seek resident input on:

- Appropriate cost division when owners choose to upgrade to composite materials for deck replacement.
- Reconstitution of Ad Hoc Solar Committee as Ad Hoc Energy Conservation and Green Energy Committee.
- Proposed financing for club house solar panels.

Next monthly Board Meeting: Tuesday, October 22, 2024, at 6:30 PM.

Amenities Committee Updates

The Amenities Committee meets on an as needed basis, but that doesn't stop them from getting things done! As of our last Good Life article we've met with the Budget committee on proposals for the 2025 budget and making planned expenditures already budgeted for 2024. We hope to secure a vendor to spot repair some areas of the tennis courts.

Along with some RAC volunteers and fueled by homemade treats, we thoroughly cleaned and organized the upstairs storage room at the clubhouse complete with movable wire shelving and "a place for everything". Come check it out.

We're still looking for any Resident Artists who would like to reserve the lower-level display area for November and/or December, just in time for "holiday shopping". Contact Jean MacCubbin, chair, for more info.

If one of your New Year's resolutions is to volunteer closer to home, think about joining the Amenities Committee; find out more about the committee included in the Annual Meeting materials. See you there.

Updates from the Architectural Review Board

Window Replacement Procedures

Our units are aging! If you find you need to replace windows in your unit, make sure you follow the procedures stated in the Book of Standards, which can be found on the Tamarack Trails website: <https://www.tamaracktrails.com/info/>.

Tamarack Trails now requiring full frame window replacements which opens the entire window frame providing for an adequate inspection. This results in the replacement of any rotted framing materials and adequately seals the new window to the elements, leaving you with near worry-free installations. You are encouraged to work with bidders or contractors and share window/door replacement specifications as included in the Book of Standards. All unit owners should contact the Office when considering window/door replacements. Having staff inspect installations adds value to your unit; they can determine if any water intrusion or wood rot has taken place requiring repair or replacement.

Post Lights and Miniature White Lights

You may see your post light coming on earlier and staying on longer now that the season has changed. ALWAYS leave the interior switch for your post light ON (even if you are away). The post light fixtures have a motion sensor which triggers the on/off mode. There are switch cover

guards that one can install on the interior switch, so family members or visitors don't mistakenly turn off this switch.

Homeowners may install miniature, non-twinkling, white lights from October 25th to March 15th for safety and security purposes. These lights must be removed, not simply turned off, by March 15th to facilitate pruning. The white lights may adorn shrubs, fences, and light posts on the owner's unit lot. Extension cords must be marked and protected so that letter carriers, snow shovelers and others will be able to see the cord and avoid an accident. Homeowners must assume responsibility for any accidents involving such extension cords.

ARB Meeting Dates and Request Deadlines

The Architectural Review Board meets on the second Wednesday of each month, except for December. The deadline for receipt of completed requests is 14 days prior to meetings. Mark your calendars:

Meeting Date (4:30 pm Clubhouse)	Completed Requests Due
October 9	September 25
November 13	October 30
December—NO MEETING	
January 8, 2025,	December 26

Completed requests using Form 1 or Form 2 may be submitted via AppFolio or emailed to the Office.

 <p>Neighbor for a Greener Tamarack</p>	<h2>Neighbors for a Greener Tamarack</h2> <h3>Fall Activities and Updates</h3> <p><i>“Mow less, spray less, plant more natives.”</i></p>
--	--

2024 Fall No Blow Proposal Approved by the Maintenance Committee and Board of Directors

Fall Now Blow will help Tamarack support overwintering pollinators and other invertebrates by providing them with winter leaf-cover. No Blow reduces noise, dust, turf and bed damage and pollution from gas-powered leaf blowers.

For the past two Fall leaf cleanups, NGT has assisted residents who wanted the leaves left on their flower beds by delineating these areas with **WHITE flags**. These flags must be placed on the outside edges of all developed or mulched beds in your yard; you can no longer choose which beds. The white flags indicate to the contractor **NOT TO BLOW** out the leaves in those designated areas.

Watch for additional information on the Bulletin Board, drop at your doorstep, via an email blast, or from a visit by your NGT representative. Thank you to all who have supported this effort and made it so successful.

If you have not participated in the Fall No Blow in the past, and you would like to be included in the 2024 Fall No Blow, please send an email with “No Blow” in the subject heading to Jean Hilgers (jean.hilgers@tamaracktrails.com).

Save the Date!

Neighbors for a Greener Tamarack will host their annual **Fall Volunteer Workday** to help keep Tamarack beautiful. Mark your calendars to join us on **Fri., Oct. 18, 10 am to noon**. We will be removing invasive plants, weeds & unwanted undergrowth from the area near 112 Pine Ridge and 64 Oak Creek. Watch for more details via email. Contact Stacey Campbell, s.condit@verizon.net, if you would like to volunteer on Oct. 18 for our Volunteer Workday.



AN INVITATION FROM THE RESIDENT ACTIVITIES COMMITTEE

In case you're not familiar with the Resident Activities Committee (RAC), I'd like to take a minute to introduce our group. The RAC puts together various events throughout the year such as the holiday party, potluck dinners, Tam Talks, summer concerts and other opportunities for Tamarack residents to get together. Happily, the RAC is not limited to a certain number of members, which is a blessing because we need many hands to keep up with everything we do. So, this is your official invitation to join the RAC. We are looking for men and women who want to have fun, meet new people and help to contribute to the Tamarack community. If you think that you might be interested in becoming a member of the RAC or if you are looking for more information, please call or text Lynn Clemens at 608-345-3771.

KNOW YOUR TAMARACK NEIGHBOR — Kendra Gurnee

Kendra and her husband, Jason Steffke, have been living in Tamarack for 2 1/2 years, and are very happy with their choice. They are relatively young and find many things to do in Tamarack/Madison.

Kendra was born and raised in Watertown, WI. She has two sisters, Andrea & Rebecca; her father worked in the manufacturing field, and her mother was a nurse. It was a nice place to grow up in, but once she decided to come to the UW in Madison, she never looked back.

While at Watertown High School, she participated in forensics and played the flute in the school band. Athletics have never been her forte. On to the UW-Madison where she carried a double major in Legal Studies and Sociology. Later she received a master's degree in social work. She originally came here because UW was the best in the state, and she could be close to home, so she could go home whenever she chose to do so. She never had any problem adjusting to this big school.

Kendra met her husband, Jason, through online dating in 2017, and they were married in 2020. They have no children, but two cats. His daytime job is with Frank Beverage, but he also likes electronics. What is their attraction? Well, they both have cats, they like to play video games, they both enjoy UW hockey, and the same music.

Why did Kendra & Jason choose Tamarack? Well Kendra told me that they were interested in certain neighborhoods on the West Side, close to Middleton, where Jason works. Also, Tamarack was well maintained, financially stable, and close to a lot of things. A final consideration was the bus line which had to be close to getting Kendra to her job at the University.

Kendra works at UW Madison. Her title is Academic Program Manager for Pharmacology & Toxicology major. She does all types of things to keep these programs going. This job started when she was a student helper at Student Orientation where she advised new students on what

classes to take. From there, she worked her way up & took advantage of HAPPENSTANCE. She likes her job because of its variety, and she likes seeing students reach their goals.

Kendra is very active in Tamarack, and there are forces at work now trying to get her on the Board. So far, she is resisting, choosing instead to serve as the Chair of the Welcoming Committee, and serving on the Ad Hoc (working group) redesigning our website. Kendra & Jason enjoy attending Tamarack events and using the pool when it is available.

I asked Kendra if she had any hobbies, and she said she likes to read anything written by Stephen King because the books are a combination of mystery, thriller, plus his style of writing is appealing. She also likes to watch TV, try new restaurants and travel — to Las Vegas to gamble, see shows, & eat at new restaurants. In January of this year, they went to Disney World in Florida, plus they have their eyes on some International Travel in 2025. At their young age, the world is their oyster!! Again, I felt like I was interviewing the wave of the future — just what Tamarack needs.

Joyce Hasselman Waldorf