

THE HILLSIDE NEWS

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Landscape Update

On May 22 and May 29 from 7-8pm the Landscape Committee (LC) will be hosting "Informational and Input" meetings at the Thousand Oaks Clubhouse. The purpose of these meetings is to discuss with Hillside homeowners the overall landscaping vision and suggested revisions to the Landscape Master Plan that was presented last fall.

These meetings are not meant to be simply presentations. We want homeowners' input regarding the evolving vision of the Landscape Master Plan. We want to make sure that what is developed is a reflection of the interests of a majority of the Hillside community. That can only happen by you choosing to attend a meeting and share your thoughts. We hope to have Dan Clark of Clark's Landscaping in attendance to provide his professional perspectives and answer questions owners may have.

Also, we recognize that with the onset of spring, homeowners may be anxious to enhance their landscaping. However, the Master Plan has not been finalized yet. Therefore, the LC and the Board, for the time being, will be more restrictive in the review and approval of newly submitted Landscape Change Applications, in order to not compromise the eventual Master Plan.

Most notably, the restrictions will include no approval of new trees of any size in General Common areas, expanded Limited Common areas, or around mailboxes. Other requests to enhance Limited Common areas (which is basically the garden area, around the unit, covered with bark) will be reviewed using the current Landscape Change Application process and policy. Flowers of limited size will be permitted within a 1.5 foot radius around mailboxes.

We look forward to your attendance and participation at one of the meetings next month.

[Written by Dave Robinson & Mike Holton]

Golfing News

Again, I am not a golfer and I am in no way trying to promote, advertise, or push for people to join a golf club. For a variety of reasons, I enjoyed watching the Masters Golf Tournament this month. I doubt that it is even close to the reality of how golf is played by most people. I do believe that it can be a great experience - to challenge yourself and to be with people. Here is some information about golf at Thousand Oaks which I thought was interesting and helpful. More can be found at thousandoaksgolf.com:

- The course was designed by golf course architect Rees Jones and opened in 1999.
- Golf Digest has rated the course 4 ½ stars and one of the 25 best golf courses in Michigan.
- Players talk about the 5 sets of golf tee markers on each hole, the many changes in course elevation, and how the course design challenges everyone.
- Buying a membership at The Country Clubs of Watermark Properties allows you to play at 4 different courses:
 - Thousand Oaks
 - Watermark
 - Sunnybrook
 - Stonewater
- There are golf leagues and events, golf lessons and clinics are available from PGA professionals, and the practice facility includes driving range, short game, and putting green areas.
- Annual Membership dues are:
 - Application Fee (for all) - \$495
 - Single Golf (Age 40 – 64) – \$4,550
 - Family Golf – \$4,850

- Intermediate Single Golf (Age 35 – 39) – \$4,050
- Intermediate Family Golf – \$4,350
- Junior Single Golf (Age 31 – 34) – \$3,550
- Junior Family Golf – \$3,800
- Junior Junior Single Golf (Age 30 & Younger) – \$2,100
- Junior Junior Family Golf – \$2,350
- Intermediate Senior Golf (Age 65 – 74) – \$3,950
- Senior Golf (Age 75 & Older) – \$3,600
- Contact Membership Director, Thomas Holmes, at 616-949-0570, ext. 237, for more information.

"Golf is a game in which you yell "fore", shoot six, and write down five." - Paul Harvey

Updates

- I monitor pretty closely the Plainfield Township website (plainfieldmi.org) for public meetings that include discussions or decisions regarding the Treetops development to the west of Hillside, the pool/recreation facility for Thousand Oaks, and any other proposals that may affect Hillside. I have not seen any activity regarding this on their agendas for about a year. I will let you know, if one comes my attention.
- When the weather gets better(?), the Handy Persons Club will organize and get to work on mailbox painting and other projects for this year. Several people have signed up. Contact Dave Robinson, if you are interested.
- So far, no one has expressed interest in running for the 2 open Hillside Board seats this July. Current Board members may be reaching out to the membership soon to find people willing to serve. Please contact Natasha at Gerow (616-433-9090), if you are interested.

- There is a restatement of the Hillside Pets and Animals Policy which has been approved by the Board. You can find it on the Hillside website (hillside.condos) and use the Hillside Owners tab. If you need the website password, email me and I will send it to you. A copy of the new policy will be emailed with this newsletter.
- We hope to have some Hillside social gatherings this season. Please let Cathy Downer know, if you are interested in organizing or hosting a party.
- Sarah Ginebaugh and John Stetson have teamed up to create a Facebook page for our neighborhood. You can find the group by searching for Hillside Neighbors and sending a request to join the group. Both Sarah and John are the Admins and will be happy to provide you with access.

Einstein at Work

