

# THE HILLSIDE NEWS

**VOLUME 4   NUMBER 3**

**JUNE 2020**

## Thank You Handyperson Committee

The Handyperson Committee (HPC) has already been hard at work this summer. HPC members are Tom Prus, Dan Klein, Chuck Ginebaugh, and Dave Downer. They have already replaced the sprinkler sensor batteries and the backup batteries in the sprinkler control units that needed servicing. Once they had all the replacement batteries in hand, they accomplished this task in short order. They provide a great service for Hillside and save us money.

Now, they are working on the rainwater diversion systems. Our gutter downspouts connect to underground tubing that diverts rainwater away from our homes towards the street or towards the outer backyard boundary. This prevents pooling of water around the condo foundation, during and after rainstorms. The tubing and grates, where the water comes, out can get plugged with grass, dirt, and other debris. If that happens, water backs up and can cause problems. The HPC will be out clearing these clogs during the next couple of weeks.

They say that they are willing to take on other tasks (within reason) from the Board or Gerow. I wonder a bit if they are just a little crazy because they say, “we are doing it for the fun of it”. We should all be grateful for their good efforts.

**TOGC Golfing News – Randy Ritter**

As you may know, Thousand Oaks Golf Club is open for play with social distancing expectations still in place. The course has a lot of golf carts in their fleet and can provide single occupant golf carts for those who desire them. New E-Z Lift devices were attached to each flagstick allowing for a golf

ball to be retrieved from the hole without touching the flagstick. All tournaments in May were canceled but the Member-Member tournament was held on June 5-6.

The grounds crews were busy this winter and spring removing trees to get more sunlight on the greens, repairing irrigation lines and heads, and improving drainage where needed. A new blue tee box on hole #3 was constructed and recently sodded. This tee box should be open for play this summer.

There is a desire to make the course play firmer and faster this year. We will see if Mother Nature cooperates! There were quite a few “cart path only” days in May.

The Men's and Women's Golf Leagues are in full "swing." The next big tournaments are the Women's and Men's invitationals (in June and July) and the Club Championships in mid-August.

A revised handicapping system was put in place effective January 1, 2020. As a result, each player who has a current GHIN account can see their handicap “index” updated daily instead of twice per month. This also means that all scores must be posted before midnight on the same day of play.

## Hillside Summer Party

Reserve the date of Sunday August 23, 2010 at 5:00pm on your calendar for this year's Hillside Summer Party. It will be in the same place as previous such gatherings – around the middle cul-de-sac, near the golf club cart path. It will be a “bring a dish to share” event. You should receive an evite next month with more details.

)))))))))(((((((

### **Entrance Sign Update**

This year the new Hillside entrance sign was built using the specified design and color scheme. After people could see it in place, a number of residents thought the lettering was difficult to see from 5 Mile road, both during the day and at night.

At the Board meeting last month, the members concurred with this assessment. They discussed changing the colors of the sign lettering and upgrading the lighting at night. There was not a consensus about how best to improve the situation, so they decided to go with the recommendations of our sign and lighting contractors.

Recently, the sign letters and background were repainted and installed. Comments from residents ranged from “It looks great” to “I still think it could be better”. Intrepid Board member, Mike Holton, called Midwest Sign and gave us this report:

“Given some concern expressed with the color of the backer plate for the “at Thousand Oaks” lettering, I went back through all the communications with Midwest Sign. I would agree that the rendering we received looks quite different than the finished product. We did ask Midwest Sign (the experts in sign design) to assist us with the coloring of the sign and backer plate. Their designer was attempting to have the backer plate blend in more with the stone (so that it did not become a “design” element), yet still provide contrast for the lighter lettering.”

“I contacted Midwest Sign and explained that we felt the finished product was noticeably different than their design renderings and we had not achieved the needed contrast. A salesman from Midwest Sign and I met, and he showed me the color samples that were selected. When I saw them, I told him those weren’t the colors on our sign. The color samples looked great (to

me) and appeared to provide good color contrast. We took the samples to the sign and he showed me how they matched perfectly. Light, shadows, and surrounding colors all affect how the colors appear on the finished product.”

“Midwest Sign agreed that our actual sign looked quite different from the renderings and they want to make sure Midwest Sign has satisfied customers. So, Midwest has agreed to repaint any part of, or all of, the sign using any colors of our choosing. We just have to select them and sign off on them. They do advise to stay in the same “hue” or color family. He left me with their “ColorSnap” samples to assist with color integration and selection.”

“I have reviewed all this with Steve Warren, and we will proceed as follows: The LC will meet to review and develop a recommendation to the Board for sign colors. The Board will then review and make a final decision.”

“I want to call attention to the fact that Midwest Sign has not misled us on any of this and I appreciate their integrity and service commitment in working with us.”

So, over the next few weeks, we will work through this process and we should have a new sign soon. Thanks to Mike Holton for his tenacity in getting all of this done.



Current Entrance Sign

### **Garden Club** – Cathy Downer

With the LMP almost completed, the Garden Club has begun planning to add some color to the common areas. Since we are getting relatively late in the season for flowers, they will probably only be focusing on the main entrance this year.

Susan Gelling has graciously offered to head up this group. If you have green thumb and are interested in participating in planting and maintenance, please contact Susan. She can be reached via phone at (269) 806-8925 or email at [skgelling@gmail.com](mailto:skgelling@gmail.com).

### **American Flags**

Recently Dan and Chris Klein sent out a flyer about American flags for sale. We bought one and they installed it for us. I think it is a great deal – for \$30 you get a 3x5 foot American flag, a 6-foot aluminum pole, and expert installation. Dan says that they could probably do one more order, but he doubts the flags would get here before July 4<sup>th</sup>. They are doing this to be of service to our community and it certainly is not for profit. If you would like a flag, email Dan ASAP at [dklein1969@gmail.com](mailto:dklein1969@gmail.com).

### **Board Elections 2020**

There will be four (4) Board Member positions, each with a two-year term, open for election at this year's Annual Meeting in September. Dave Robinson, Tom Shaw, and Steve Warren all have terms that expire this year. Katy McCarthy was appointed to the Board, in January of this year, to fill the position vacated by Craig Wassenaar. Since Craig's term would have expired this year, that determines when Katy's term ends.

All Board candidates must be an Owner of a Hillside condominium. New candidates are encouraged to be on the ballot, as well as, current Board members who want to run for re-election. We do not yet have a roster of

candidates willing to be on the Board. If you are interested in serving on the Hillside Board of Directors, please contact Natasha at Gerow Management (616-433-9090) or one of the current Board members.

### **Meeting Dates**

The dates of the Annual Meeting and the Board meetings have been reshuffled. Here is the current list:

- Board Meeting: July 27, 2020
- Board Meeting: August (date TBD)
- Annual Meeting: September 14, 2020
- Board Meeting: November 16, 2020

All meetings start at 6pm and are usually at Reds Restaurant. The Annual Meeting will be held at the Thousand Oaks Golf Club, meeting room to be determined.

### **Newsletter**

If anyone is interested in contributing to, editing, or managing the newsletter, please contact Tom Shaw.

Gerow Management: 616-433-9090

Hillside website: <http://hillside.condos>

Facebook page: Hillside Condo Neighbor

Check on your mom. she's stuck at home with your dad.

