WHISPERING MEADOWS HOMEOWNERS ASSOCATION NEWSLETTER

SUMMER ISSUE | AUGUST 2020

2020 EVENTS

Summer

Annual Family Picnic August 22 *Cancelled*

Food Trucks August 11 & 25 4:30-7:30pm

FALL

Food Trucks September 8 & 22 October 6, 13, & 20 4:30-7:30pm

Halloween Home Decorating Contest Judging October 22 & 23

WINTER

Luminary Distribution December 16 &17

Christmas Home Decorating Contest Judging December 17 & 18

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Please note that all dates are subject to change

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A Letter from our WMHA President

Hello Whispering Meadows!

Hope this newsletter finds you and your family well. With the increased time staying at home, I cannot help but notice our neighbors taking the time to beautify their properties. Whether it be sweeping the cobwebs from the front windows, power washing the driveway to get rid of dirt and weeds, trimming overgrown shrubs, or weeding/seeding the lawn, every little bit helps to maintain and beautify our properties. This has been recognized by the House Beautiful volunteer judges where eight homes were recognized for outstanding beauty in the neighborhood: One grand prize winner, four winners and three honorable mentions. With 338 homes in our neighborhood this is quite a recognition. Congratulations and thank you for making our subdivision shine!

I am happy to report the completion of our subdivision road repairs. You may recall the City's contractor last fall was interrupted by weather. We had fallen off their list of on-going repairs for this spring. As a result, I requested a return to

complete their work. It is recognized by the City our roads will need future attention.

I am working with Turtle Creek's homeowner president to collaborate on pond maintenance.



The two subdivisions have a shared ownership of the pond. A solution to the foul smell, which had been reported by our members, is currently being researched.

A quick thank you to our junior residents Clare and Sydney for handing out Fourth of July flags and Mike Segal for organizing that event, Matt Hannah for the playscape repairs and Nicole O'Neill for arranging the monthly Kona Ice and now food trucks !

Thank you to all our homeowners who have paid their 2020 yearly dues of \$85.00. We have received 95% of the dues thus far.

The Board and I are always here to help with any of your Association needs. Please reach out to us at: wmhaboard@gmail.com

Extra Extra Read All About It

Whispering Meadows is getting a Little Library! The Little Library will be in the Commons area off of Sunrise. When you visit the library you will be able to take books home with you and you may return them or put new books into the library for others to enjoy. The library will have books for ALL ages and must be appropriate for our community. The back side of the library will be a place for WMHA to post news and other information as well. We hope you all



enjoy our little library and continue to take great care of it for years to come! If you

would like to donate books to the little library please feel free to drop them off to Nicole O'Neill's front porch anytime (21731 Clover Lane) or contact the the WMHA email to arrange pick-up. Thank you to those who donated materials to create the library.

Whispering Meadows Annual Picnic Cancelled

We regret to announce due to COVIDrestrictions regarding 19 group social/recreational activities, the WMHA Annual Picnic scheduled for August 22, has been cancelled. The Board decided the spirit of the picnic would have been greatly compromised. We share vour disappointment and hope future events of this type will be allowed to resume soon. On the positive side, monies now not spent on the Picnic have been dedicated to accelerating maintenance and enhancement projects to our Commons playground area. We welcome any ideas or suggestions you may have towards this end.



A Message from the Architectural Control Committee Chairman

My name is Matt Hannah. I am on WMHA the Board and the Architectural Control Committee (ACC). As members have begun home improvement and landscape projects, questions have been received by the Board regarding Subdivision requirements and limitations about what members can do with their property. These are expressed in our established CC&Rs (Covenants, Conditions and Restrictions). The CC&Rs are the rules of our Association. The goal of the CC&Rs is to protect, preserve and enhance property values in our community. Some of your home improvement projects may need to be submitted to the Architectural Control Committee for approval under our CC&Rs. Fences, pools, decks, additions, sheds...are some examples of projects which would need prior approval before work can be started.

The WMHA CC&Rs can be found on the city of Novi's website. It is worth noting that the city has their own ordinances which as a community we are bound to follow.

Lastly, we are looking for a few non-board members to help with the Architectural Control Committee. If interested, please email the Board to request details.

COVID-19

We are now approaching day 2,500 of COVID-19 or so it feels like. Here are a few tips to stay safe, healthy, and positive during this time in our community.

1. Be grateful for the community in which we live. Take advantage of everything it has to offer from clean roads, common areas that allow for many activities, beautiful ponds, and friendly neighbors.

2. Be neighborly. Now more than ever we need to reach out to our neighbors. Invite them over for a chat, keep an eye on their home and make sure you see them often.

3. Get outside! No matter the weather please make sure you are getting fresh air as often as you can. Our roadways have been bustling with walkers, bike riders, and runners. Join someone you see daily for a walk around the block or tighten up those shoelaces and go for a run with many of our runners.

4. Do you hate yard work or never had time for it before COVID-19...well now is the time you might just fall in love with it and/or have a chance to tackle those pesky weeds that keep popping up.

5. Stay positive! Please know that we are all here for each other. We will get through this time together. You are



never alone in our community and as a Whispering Meadows homeowner you always have someone close by.

Neighbor Spotlight

House Beautification Winners



Congratulations to this summer's "House Beautiful Award" winners! As always, the secret panel of judges found it challenging to select the Fab Five from so many worthy homes vying for a coveted HB Yard Sign, but decide they did and here are the 2020 winners: **21961 Shadybrook *Grand Prize Winner*,** 40688 Ladene, 22389 Mill Rd., 40124 Ladene, 40535 E. Mill Ct.

Honorable Mentions: 21855 Arbor Lane, 21677 Sunrise, 21992 Clover Lane

effort and resources to keep their properties attractive and make WM the desirable neighborhood it is.

Frequently Asked Questions

Q. What is the purpose of the Homeowners Association (HOA)?

A. HOAs are created to protect the community's property values by developing and upholding its <u>covenants and bylaws</u>, which define the actions homeowners may take with their properties, as well as their behavior within the Common Areas.

Q. What is the difference between "CC&Rs" and Association "bylaws"?

A 1. CC&Rs stand for covenants, conditions, and restrictions applied to homeowners and renters who live in communities that are governed by a homeowner's association. CC&Rs must be disclosed prior to the final sale of a home, as homeowners want to know what they are buying aside from a house. Whispering Meadows' CC&Rs were established December 7, 1977. Bylaws are the guidelines for the operation of the HOA. The bylaws define the duties of the various offices of the volunteer board of directors, the terms of the directors, the membership's voting rights, required meetings and notices of meetings, and the principal office of the association, as well as other specific items that are necessary to run the HOA as a non-profit business. Whispering Meadows' by-laws were adopted September 17, 1979.

Q. How do HOA's boards enforce rules?

A. A conversation will be had (or in some cases a letter will be sent) indicating the infraction, solution, and timeline. If the infraction is not resolved within the time determined, disciplinary actions by a HOA are typically in the form of fines, but in more serious cases may go as far as a lien on the property.

Tired of Cooking? We've got Food Trucks!



We are excited to announce that Whispering Meadows will be having food trucks come right to us in the Commons area bi-weekly for dinner until late October. We will have a different food truck coming each time and all Whispering Meadows families are welcome to join. For the safety of all our residents we ask that all social distancing and safety guidelines be followed. Come out and enjoy a safe evening with your family and visit with neighbors. All times and food truck menus will be posted the day before on our WMHA Facebook page. All sales will be cash only and all the food trucks will be adhering to safety regulations. We can't wait to see you!



We Need You

Are you a builder and/or have building experience? We need your help with a few projects around the subdivision.

Are you wondering how you can volunteer in our subdivision? There are so many ways you can volunteer! Email us at <u>wmhaboard@gmail.com</u> for more info.

Stay Connected

Have you heard about how to stay connected with your neighbors? There are many ways to stay connected whether it be a nice note on their mailbox, a wave hello, or a good old driveway chat. We also want you to know that you can stay connected through the internet. WMHA has a Facebook page, an email, and posts to the City of Novi website!

wmhaboard@gmail.com

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Please feel free to email the board directly for any questions, comments, and/or concerns.



Whispering Meadows Homeowners Association, All WMHA news, updates, events, etc. will be posted to this site regularly. To find this group, make sure you type in the entire name of this group and you will see the WM sign off of 9 mile in the group logo.



www.cityofnovi.org

The city site has our Declaration of Covenants, Conditions, and Restrictions as well as board info and newsletters.

If you would like to receive these newsletters electronically please email wmhaboard@gmail.com