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June/July/August 2020



President's Message

By David Brown

As I prepare this message in mid-May, it looks like summer may be starting to find us. I hope all of you are safe and well as we all work to control the spread of Covid-19.

I would like to recognize the members of the By-Laws Review Committee who have been working via email and Zoom to identify parts of the by-laws that need modification and clarification. The members are Floyd Aper, Mel Brown, Tiffini Bushue, Susan Evens, John Krueger, Mary-Margaret McHugh, Becca NeuSmith, Richard O'Brien, Matthias Pope and Bruce Reynolds. Although it has been difficult to work through this task without being able to meet as a group, they continue to press on.

With all the rain we have had this year, Ironwood has greened up nicely. I would remind residents who have shrubs, bushes or trees along sidewalks to make sure they are not partially blocking the sidewalks. It seems we have a lot of residents who are getting their daily exercise by walking. This also reminds me that, with the golf course opening up to golfers again, residents are asked to not walk on the golf course as we do not want anyone to get hit by a golf ball.

For those of you who own boats or campers, we understand that you may need to park them in your driveway for a day or two to clean it and get it ready for the summer season. However, they should not be left there more than 4 or 5 days before they are moved out of the subdivision.

The Board recently has received some complaints regarding the condition of some mailboxes in the subdivision and the mold growing on especially the north side of some homes. This might be a good time of year to consider repairing or replacing a mailbox or to find a business that power washes homes to take care of those issues.

There has also been some concern regarding residents who may want to put up an above ground swimming pool this summer since the community pools are closed. There is nothing in the covenants regarding above ground pools, but residents should check with the Town regarding ordinances relating to the installation and maintenance of these pools.

David Brown, president
IHOA Board of Directors

Covenants Update

By Susan Parrent

The Board appreciates everyone who strives to make Ironwood a friendly and desirable neighborhood through your property care, the acceptance and following of covenants, and assistance with neighbors in need. Thank you to all who call, email, or talk with Board members about the subdivision. Your commitment to the subdivision is appreciated. Following are communications we have received the past two months and we are sharing as reminders to you, the homeowners.

Trimming of Bushes and Tree Limbs along the Sidewalks

If you are a property owner along a sidewalk, please trim the low limbs on the trees and/or the bushes that hang over the walk. If a tree limb touches down to 6' and less, it's time to trim. Walkers have commented they must walk single file in areas where bushes hang over the walk. Please trim the bushes so two can walk comfortably side by side. We have many walkers and bike riders and the numbers will likely increase over the summer.

Boats, Trailers and Summer

Homeowners who own boats are reminded a boat cannot be parked in the driveway or on the street. Ironwood covenants require them to be in an enclosed structure – the garage. If the boat cannot fit in the garage, it must be stored off-site. Parking them temporarily for a short period of time to clean and prepare them is acceptable. Parking them every weekend is not acceptable. All property owners who own any of the items listed below are requested to abide by the covenants of the subdivision.

Article V, Section 17 states: *“No truck, travel trailer, recreational type vehicle, mobile home, boat, trailer,.....shall be kept on the lot or in the subdivision except entirely within an enclosed structure. All automobiles kept or stored on said premises not enclosed in a permanent structure or building shall be in a workable and running condition....”*

Now is the time to repair that mailbox

Many mailboxes in the subdivision are showing their age, the weather, and/or their use. Now is the time to replace your mailbox, to paint the post, to sturdy the box and post, to adjust the opening or just clean it.

Mold, Moss Growing on Houses

Many houses in the area are now sporting a new color – that greenish moss. If you have the moss and/or mold growing on one or more sides of your house, it is the right time to get that cleaned in preparation for summer. If you are uncertain how to remove it yourself, make some calls and do some research. There are also businesses who specialize in cleaning your siding.

Covenants Update Cont'd

Bins: Garbage, Recycle and Waste

Your landscape bushes are not the place to store your bins. Again, **Article V, Section 7** of the Ironwood Covenants states, *“No rubbish, trash, garbage or other waste material shall be kept or permitted on any lot or on the common area except in sanitary **containers located in appropriate areas concealed from public view.**”* Bushes do not conceal the containers.

Dogs Must Be On Leashes

All dogs are expected to be on leashes throughout the Town of Normal and that includes the Ironwood subdivision. **The Town ordinance, Sec. 17.8-11**, states: **“Running At Large.** *Off the premises of the owner and not under physical restraint by means of a leash, cord, or chain, or confined by means of a secure enclosure. It shall be unlawful to permit to run at large any dog or cat on the streets, parks, or public ways of the Town, or on private property where the owner or person in control of the private property has not granted permission for the dog or cat to be on the private property.*” All subdivision residents are asked to abide by this Town ordinance.

Yard/Lawn Maintenance

As you mow your lawns, please do not blow or sweep your clippings into the street and then allow them to run directly into the sanitary or storm sewers. Lawn waste is not sewer friendly. Grass clippings are not accepted by the Town as landscape waste so must be taken by you to the Town waste site along with dirt and sod. The Town drop site is at 1301 Warriner Street in Normal. It is open 24 hours a day. Have questions? Call Public Works at 309.454.9571.

Speaking of lawns, regular lawn maintenance is expected in Ironwood which includes regular mowing and taking care of clippings that are not mulched, along with weed control. It also includes caring for any lawn waste on the sidewalks. You are asked to maintain the sidewalks, keeping them free of waste for the many who use the walks in the subdivision.

Dead trees. If you have a dead tree or one that is headed there, it is time to consider taking it down and possibly replanting. There are many businesses who specialize in tree removal to assist you.

Copies of IHOA Covenants and By-Laws can be found at IHOA.org.



Ironwood Golf Course Update

Ironwood Homeowners,

My name is Tyler Bain, and I am the Golf Course Superintendent here at Ironwood. I would like to take the time to update you on a few things. With Governor Pritzker's announcement recently, the state of Illinois is moving into Phase 3 of Restore Illinois. This announcement means you will notice some different things at Ironwood Golf Course. Beginning Friday, May 29th, we will be allowing 4 players in a group as well as allowing golf carts. Phase 3 will allow our practice facilities to reopen. If there are questions about these rules, feel free to reach out to myself or the pro shop staff.

Since golf has resumed, our policy of only allowing golfers on the course is back into effect. We ask that you refrain from walking/running/biking on the golf course for your own safety.

We are currently in the process of spraying weeds in the tall grass areas, and I am hoping that we can complete this sometime soon if mother nature gives us a break from the rain. Some other projects include installing the fountains on hole 5 and hole 14. I would anticipate the fountains being back in the ponds by June 1st.

We still plan to replace our fleet of golf cars this season. The current fleet is 8 years old and showing their age, so new golf cars would be a welcome sight to the golf course. This request was approved by the Town Council and we anticipate receiving the fleet in mid- to late-June. There were several homeowners who expressed concern with the golf car crossings through the subdivision. Recently we have installed stop signs for golf cars at the crossing, but we will also be painting new crosswalk lines in those areas to bring more awareness.

Another item that I always touch on is planting trees on the golf course and at the rear of homes abutting the golf course. Unfortunately, due to the current circumstances we will not be planting trees this spring. It is possible that we will again plant trees this fall, but no decision has been made yet. I will update you on this matter in upcoming newsletters.

As always, if you have any questions or concerns that you would like to share, please feel free to contact me via phone or email, and I will be happy to talk with you about them. I look forward to meeting you and I hope the golf course can continue to have a great relationship with the Ironwood HOA.

Tyler Bain

Phone: 309-454-9568

Email: tbain@normal.org



2020 First Quarter Home Sales

- 🌿 3 Single family detached homes sold in 1st quarter of 2020
- 🌿 2 were 1.5 and 2 story homes with 1 ranch home
- 🌿 Sold Price: high was \$275,000 – low was \$219,900 – with the average of \$247,450
- 🌿 Days on Market: high was 269 – low was 28 day – with the average of 138

Single family homes For Sale as of March 31, 2020

- 🌿 4 homes for sale – 3 were 1.5 and 2 story with 1 ranch
- 🌿 List Price: high was \$304,500 – low was \$265,000 – with the average of \$284,825
- 🌿 Days on Market: high was 281 – low was 17 – with average of 122
- 🌿 0 Single family attached homes sold in 1st quarter 2020
- 🌿 1 Attached home was For Sale – Priced at \$195,000 with Days on Market of 24

*Information provided by the Bloomington-Normal Association of Realtors
 Provided by Floyd Aper, Real Estate Broker with Coldwell Banker Real Estate Group.*



IHOA Financial Report

Beginning balance as of 1/14/2020	\$26,899.66
Income	+ 8,415.00
Expenses	- 8,629.91
Ending balance as of 5/12/2020	\$26,684.75



Town of Normal Announcements

Fairview Family Aquatic Center and Anderson Aquatic Center will be closed for the duration of the summer. All swimming related programs will be canceled as well.

The Children’s Discovery Museum will remain closed for general admission through July, or until large groups are permitted to gather but limited camp programs will be available. The Museum Store remains open with educational toys and games available for curbside pickup.

During the Stay at Home Order, Normal PD has suspended all solicitor permits throughout the Town. Contact NPD at our non emergency number 309-888-5030 with any concerns.

Loungeabout the Roundabout and Sounds of the Connie Link Amphitheater are canceled through July.

June Cancellations:

- 13 - SOILL Dance
- 26 & 27 - Make Music Normal

July Cancellations:

- 4th of July Celebration and Sky Concert Fireworks
- 11 & 12 - Sugar Creek Arts Festival
- 18 - Medici Craft Beer and Jazz Festival

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IHOA Board of Directors

President: David Brown.....(309) 451-5829
Vice President: Linda Rheeling...(309) 454-2941
Secretary: Kristi Gibbons.....(309) 287-7548
Treasurer: JoEllen Bahnsen.....(309) 454-3053
Beautification Chair: Walt Clark..(309) 862-4350
Covenants Chair: Susan Parrent..(309) 452-1934
Comm. Chair: Ali Preston.....(309) 714-1771

Important Numbers

ECIA Agency on Aging.....(800) 888-4456
Ironwood Golf Course..... 454-9620
Normal City Manager.....454-9503
Normal Fire Department.....454-9610
Normal Inspections Department.454-9581
Normal Parks & Recreation.....454-9540
Normal Police Department.....888-5030
Normal Public Works.....454-9571
Normal Water Department.....454-9563
Town of Normal.....454-2444

