

Quarterly Newsletter



Dec. 2021 - Feb. 2022

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President's Message

Welcome to the holiday season. With several chances to have get-togethers with family and friends in the next few months, I will start off this message by asking you to remind your visitors which side of the street parking is allowed on and to follow Normal's traffic regulations.

The big news at this time is that your board has finished working on finalizing the proposed, new bylaws and fence guidelines and they are posted on ihoa.org for your review. You can reach them either by the purple button at the bottom of the home page, through the article on the "Current News" page or you may go to them directly at "http://ihoa.org/Proposed_By-Laws.pdf" and "http://ihoa.org/Proposed_Fence_Guidelines.pdf". These new bylaws and fence guidelines will be voted on at the 2022 Annual Membership meeting on Jan. 12.

You will be receiving a ballot along with a proxy and your annual dues notice in late December. It is important that there is a quorum present, either in-person or by proxy, so this business can be conducted at the annual meeting. If you will not be able to attend the annual meeting in-person, please make sure to sign and return the proxy along with your ballot. Remember, your proxy must be signed and the person you designate present at the meeting in order for you ballot to be counted.

Walt Clark has decided not to run for re-election to the board this year. He has been serving as beautification chair for many years and doing an excellent job of keeping the medians on Towanda and the berm along Northtown looking nice. When you see Walt, be sure to thank him for helping keep Ironwood a beautiful place to live.

It appears at this time we will have five candidates running for the four open seats on the IHOA Board of Directors. You will find brief bios of the candidates printed elsewhere in this newsletter.

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A Message from IHOA Vice President

We wish you all a wonderful holiday season and the very best for the new year. We also hope everyone had a great Thanksgiving and didn't eat too much.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank all the IHOA board members for the very thoughtful job that they have all done this year. Most of you probably aren't aware of the time and effort that is spent by the board to hopefully keeping the neighborhood looking the best in the area.

**THANK
YOU!**

A very big shout out to David Brown for the wonderful leadership as IHOA president. David has worked tirelessly on working on the bylaws and fence guidelines updates that will be brought before the membership for a vote at the annual meeting.

The IHOA finances have been well cared for by our treasurer, JoEllen Bahnsen. She pays our bills and always looks for the best prices for supplies. She is always available to the realtors who need letters for closings, sometime with very little notice. She also has had to deal with banks for refinancing mortgages. She put together our annual budget and a financial report for year-end. She has always done an excellent job, so a big "thank you!"

Our secretary, Amy Mortensen, has done a great job getting the minutes of our monthly meeting out in a very timely manner. Thanks Amy!!

Ali Preston has done a very good job keeping us all informed as our communications chair by posting any communications to the residents and putting together our IHOA quarterly newsletter. Getting all the articles from the board members is not always an easy job. A big thanks Ali!!

Our covenants chair, Susan Parrent, has done a wonderful job of keeping our residents informed of the Town of Normal ordinances and the IHOA covenants. Thanks Susan for always being on top of things.

Last but not least, a very big thanks you to Walt Clark who has chaired the beautification committee for many years and has seen to the upkeep of the berms and has worked with LKM for tree removal and tree planting. He also was responsible for contracting our new signs. Walt has decided to retire from the board and will not be running for re-election. You will be missed Walt!!!

Once again thanks to you all!!! Please remember our food pantry drop off box at the club house. Any donation is greatly appreciated. Thanks!!!

Linda Rheeling, vice president



Covenants Update

By Susan Parrent

Winter weather is soon to be here. Below are reminders from the Town of Normal.

Snow Parking Ban

During a snow event, you may park vehicles on Town streets if there is:

- Less than 2" of snow accumulation.
- More than 2" of snow accumulation and **no** parking ban in effect.

Often times when 2" or more of snow has accumulated, the Public Works Department will issue a snow parking ban. When a parking ban is activated:

- No parked cars are permitted on any streets.
- Cars must be moved to a driveway, garage, or parking lot.
- Normal Police may ticket cars for not complying.

If you do not have a driveway or garage, you may park for free in the parking lots of the Town's parks, including but not limited to:

- Anderson, Fairview, Maxwell, Rosa Parks Commons, Shepard, Underwood

Note: A snow parking ban is activated to allow snowplow crews to clear the entire street including parking areas. When a ban is in effect, information is distributed to the local media. Additionally, information is posted on the Town of Normal website (www.normal.org), Facebook page, and Twitter account.

Ironwood Reminder: Parking is allowed on only one side of the street. Be sure to notify your family and guests of this guideline throughout the busy winter season.

Shoveling of Sidewalks

The Town does not require the shoveling of sidewalks. However, consider being neighborly with safety in mind and shovel your walks, especially for students as they walk to and from school bus stops.

Another consideration is to recognize the number of walkers/joggers we have in the subdivision. Walking and exercising outside in all kinds of elements is popular so be alert for people on the sidewalks and streets. Let's assist and protect the walkers, joggers and school bus riders so they do not have to share the streets with vehicles.

Continued on page 7



Have

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merry

CHRISTMAS

and a

HAPPY

New Year



Ironwood Home Sales - Last 9 Months

- 🌿 22 single family detached homes sold in the last 9 months
- 🌿 20 were 1.5 and 2 story homes with 2 ranch homes
- 🌿 Sold Price: high was \$564,000 low was \$230,000 average of \$306,714
- 🌿 Days on Market: high was 51 low was 1 day average of 8

- 🌿 4 single family attached homes sold in the last 9 months
- 🌿 Sold Price: high was \$252,000 low was \$220,000 average of \$234,128
- 🌿 Days on Market: high was 23 low was 3 days average of 8

- 🌿 There are no active or pending homes as of this reporting date.

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

Welcome neighbors!

The IHOA Board of Directors meets on the second Tuesday of every month at 7 p.m. at the Ironwood Golf Course clubhouse. Monthly agenda and minutes can be found at ihoa.org. Stop by a meeting to say hi, or reach out to any board member (information on the back page) with any questions.

Welcome to Ironwood!

President's Message Cont'd...

With the cold weather arriving, the Town of Normal has begin its leaf vacuuming program which will run untill late December. The board would like to remind residents that raking leaves into the gutter can cause problem with the functioning of the storm sewers. Leaves should be raked to the front of your property, but not be allowed to fall into the gutters. Residents can calculate when the Town will be vacuuming leaves in Ironwood by using the interactive map on the Town's website - "<https://www.normal.org/210/Leaves>".

I will close this message with my annual suggestion that if you live on the side of the street which does not have a sidewalk, as I do, we can always be a good neighbor by occasionally shoveling the sidewalk across the street from your house. Also, remember that if the Town issues a "No Parking Ban," then all cars should be off the streets Ironwood until the ban is lifted.

David Brown, president

Candidates for the IHOA Board of Directors



The IHOA Annual Meeting will be held at **7 p.m. on Jan. 11.** The ballot for the election of IHOA Board members will be sent out in mid-December along with your dues notice. Make sure you return your ballot, along with your dues, so they can be counted.

Below are the biographies of the residents running for two-year terms on the IHOA Board of Directors beginning Jan. 2022. Four residents will be elected.

David Brown

David moved to Ironwood in 2005 from Wisconsin. He was elected to the board in 2006. He has served on the board as vice-president, secretary and communications chair. Currently he is the board's president and has maintained the association's website since 2005.

Katy Gesell

I appreciate being considered for the IHOA Board of Directors! I was born and raised in Normal. My husband, Brendan, and I met in high school and married in 2016. We purchased our home in Ironwood in March of 2020. We have two boys, Gavin (3 years) and Henry (18 months), and one dog Harley (an 8 years old lab). I work as a Strategic Business Advisor for a local technology and cybersecurity company, Integrity Technology Solutions. Brendan owns and operates Post Up Fencing. Moving to a new neighborhood was exciting, but when the pandemic hit two weeks after we closed on our home, I wasn't sure how we would get to know anyone or if it would change our neighborly experience. Thankfully, Ironwood has lived up to its long-standing reputation and has been a wonderful and inviting neighborhood to live in. We are so lucky to have found our forever home in Ironwood and love living here. I believe I would be a good fit on the IHOA Board of Directors because I can help make sure all neighbors are kept in the know, I will listen to any questions and requests and I will always be transparent with how and why I make decisions. As someone newer to the neighborhood, I can bring fresh perspectives and ideas. It is important to me that I help support the neighborhood that my kids will grow up in and I can't think of any better way to support Ironwood than to be on the IHOA Board. Thank you in advance for considering me!

Keith Palmgren

I have been a resident of Bloomington-Normal since 1982 and an Ironwood Subdivision resident for almost 29 years. I've worked for Cumulus Broadcasting (WJBC, WBNQ, B104, Nash Icon and WJEZ) for over 37 years. I've been a member of the Sunrise Rotary Club for over 30 years (functioning as a charter member as well as secretary); served on the board for the Bloomington-Normal Baseball Association for over 29 years (served as president for over 10 years); and am currently on the Town of Normal Zoning Board of Appeals (15 years). I've raised four grown children in Ironwood and consider this the best place to live in Normal. My civic involvement demonstrates my heart for giving back to the community. Now I'd like to give my time to the place I've called home for nearly 29 years by serving on the Ironwood Homeowners Board of Directors. Thank you for your consideration.

Candidates for the IHOA Board of Directors Cont'd...

Ali Preston

Hi, my name is Ali and I've served on the IHOA Board of Directors since Jan. 2019. My husband, Scott, and I have lived in Ironwood since 2016. We have two rescue pups, Duncan and Donut, and they love long walks around the neighborhood.

I have served as the communications chair the last two years and enjoy talking to and sharing information with residents. I first ran for the board because it is important to me to protect and improve the characteristics and quality of life of the neighborhood that we have all come to expect and enjoy, and I would like to keep doing that. I'm asking you to vote Ali Preston for IHOA Board!

Linda Rheeling

I'm Linda Rheeling and I'm asking for your vote to the Ironwood Homeowners Board of Directors. I'm not a political person so I will not be going door-to-door or handing out fliers asking for your vote, so this will be my only communications asking for your vote. My mission as a board member is to be consistent and uphold the bylaws and covenants as they are written. I also would like to see that the neighborhood remains as beautiful tomorrow as it is today for all our wonderful new families that have found their forever home. My husband Roger and I have lived and loved Ironwood for almost 30 years and look forward to many more. Thank you for your consideration.



Covenants Update Cont'd...

Live Christmas Tree Removal

After the holidays, follow the guidelines established by the Town for tree pick-up and removal. The tree must be bare, no decorations attached and not in a plastic bag.

Covenant News

Boating and camping season is over. The board is appreciative of the homeowners who notify us about a boat or camper in the driveway for a short time period due to seasonal maintenance. **Article V, Section 17** is specific in relation to the storage of recreational type vehicles and all trailers. Covenants are available at www.ihoa.org.

Copies of IHOA covenants and bylaws can be found at IHOA.org.

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IHOA Board of Directors

President: David Brown.....(309) 451-5829
Vice President: Linda Rheeling...(309) 454-2941
Secretary: Amy Mortensen.....(815) 325-3800
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

