

The Village Chatter

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER 2020

THE VILLAGES OF OSCODA
A Beautiful Place to Live and Visit



Board of Director's Corner

As your outgoing President, let me express my gratitude to the Board Members, Office Staff, and homeowners that made my tenure as President exciting and a life changing event.

When Aspen made available homes in the Oscoda area on the then closed Wurtsmith Air Force housing area, they were marketed as "retirement homes". Just as Covid 19 has changed our life during the 2020 year, our village has also changed over time. Our "Village" has moved into what some may call a rejuvenated growth phase. The makeup of the people living in our village has morphed from a heavily retired adult only population to a working family-based community with a younger aged population. Watch out for all those new little bikes!!!!

The growing business in the area has changed a sleepy, up north town, to a growing business community with over 30 new businesses putting a foot-hold into the area. With the latest business adventure (Space Port) in its infancy stages, the potential of a growth in the mean income of incoming residents: possibly into the 6-figure range; it can only mean that our property investments will grow. It is important that we as Village folks take advantage of this and keep a positive attitude.

It is also important that we take pride in our properties, and when the revised owner-friendly bylaws are sent to us, we give them a yes vote to be sure we have a document that is best for us and the Village of Oscoda Homeowners Association.

Please stay safe during this Covid pandemic by social distancing, wash your hands regularly, and wearing protective masks for you and your fellow Villager's protection.

Best Regards,
Mike Munson

Newsletter Editors:

Tammy Velten
Jennifer Wilson



Board of Directors

Christian Gualdoni - President
Beverly Knickerbocker - Vice President
JoAn Nink - Treasurer
Sherry Proulx - Secretary
Chad Adams - Trustee

Annual Home-Owners Meeting



The Annual Meeting of Co-owners was held remotely on Saturday, September 19th at 10am by Zoom Webinar. There were 12 people in attendance by video and 8 by phone, representing a total of 23 units. The Board gave reports and updates on all that was going on in the Villages of Oscoda. Co-owners in attendance were able to give their comments and/or ask questions. Thank you for showing interest in what is going on in *your* community!!! The next Annual Meeting of Co-owners will be held on Saturday, July 17, 2021 at 10:00 am in the Clubhouse. At least we are hoping we will be able to hold it at the Clubhouse next year. You can find information and updates on this and on all important Association matters in our newsletter and on our website at www.voohoa.net. We hope that you plan to attend. The unapproved minutes will soon be available on the website and in the office if you would like a copy.



2020 Board of Directors Election

On September 22nd, 10 volunteers gathered in the conference room to count the ballots that were received. for the Board Elections. There were 661 ballots mailed out with 207 ballots turned in by the 12:00 deadline on September 19th. Eight (8) ballots were returned to sender as undeliverable. The results are as follows:

- JoAn Nink - 132 votes - Re-Elected
- Sherry Proulx - 115 votes - Re-Elected
- Chad Adams - 112 votes - Elected
- Jackie Gonterman - 107 votes
- Robert Murray - Disqualified

Many thanks to all the candidates in this year's Board Election that were willing to give of their time in service to their community. You are all awesome!

The new Board met on Thursday, September 24th for the **Installation of Officers** meeting to determine who would hold what Officer position as required in the *Association Bylaws (Article 4, Section 1)*. See page 1 for a listing of the new *Officers* of the *Board of Directors*.

The Board would also like to extend a HUGE thank you to our former Board President, Mike Munson, for his willingness to stay on for a couple of extra months through the uncertainty and changes prompted by the pandemic and for his tireless service to the Board and to our community. We wish him and his family the best in their future endeavors!



Fall Home Maintenance



With autumn sneaking in, it's a great time of year to take care of a little home maintenance. This will help prevent costly repairs and safety issues.

Smoke/Carbon Monoxide Detectors Replace the batteries. With colder nights just around the corner, your furnace will run more often, and a carbon monoxide detector will detect if the colorless, odorless gas is leaking into your home.

Fire Extinguisher Check that the gauge needle is in the green, the safety pin is in place, and there is no visible damage to the hose and handle. Replace if any of these don't pass inspection.

Furnace Turn on the furnace and run it for 5 or 10 minutes to make sure it's functioning properly. Also, many heating and cooling companies provide cleaning and tune up services at special rates.

Thermostat Replace batteries in the thermostat control (they have batteries too).

Washer/Dryer Check that there aren't any leaks around the waterlines and they are free of cracks. If your drain line empties into a utility tub, add a lint trap sleeve. It will prevent lint from clogging the drain, and just replace it as needed.



If you need assistance with any maintenance, contact a handyman. The office has a list of some in the area. Have a safe and worry-free season!



Michigan will allow trick-or-treating with some health and safety recommendations

Trick-or-treating will be allowed in Michigan on Halloween, but state health officials are recommending several health and safety guidelines to prevent the spread of coronavirus.

The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services offered tips for trick-or-treaters, their parents and homeowners to prevent COVID-19 outbreaks this fall.

The guidance MDHHS issued provides tips for trick-or-treaters and their parents along with homeowners who wish to hand out treats.”

The [Centers for Disease Control and Prevention](https://www.cdc.gov) considers trick-or-treating a high risk activity during the coronavirus pandemic. State health officials offered the following tips for children and their parents:

- Talk with children before Halloween about the changes in trick-or-treating and why they are necessary.
- Instruct children about social distancing guidelines and the importance of remaining six feet from others.
- Only trick-or-treat with people from the same household and avoid congregating in large groups.
- Wear a face covering over the nose and mouth, but costume masks don't count.
- Consider a neighborhood costume parade rather than going door-to-door.

Check out www.halloween2020.org to find exciting activities and ways to celebrate Halloween this year based on levels of COVID risks in our area.

Common coronavirus safety measures also should be followed, such as staying home with any symptoms of the illness and using hand sanitizer often during the night.

Homeowners passing out Halloween candy are asked to use the following health and safety measures:

- Use tape to mark lines six feet apart leading to the door where candy is being passed out.
- Put a table between people giving out and receiving candy ~ and disinfect the table often.
- Consider passing out candy in an open space rather than bringing people to the door.

Any Halloween gatherings are subject to Gov. Gretchen Whitmer's current orders, which limit indoor groups to 10 people or less not from the same household and outdoor groups to 100 people or less.

At the time of this publication, Iosco County /Oscoda Township have not restricted or prohibited trick-or-treating, but that could change at any time. Check with Township or County offices for the most updated information.



Reminders



Please don't wait to get a letter from the office before disposing of them properly. It looks messy and draws critters ... and sometimes zombie wolverines.

- * Beginning in October and running through April, the ACC will only meet once per month, on the 2nd Thursday of the month.
- * Pending new mandates by Governor Whitmer, the Clubhouse will remain closed until further notice. However, the staff is working inside and is able to accommodate all the needs of our members by way of phone, email and with the use of the pick-up/drop-off boxes at the Clubhouse.

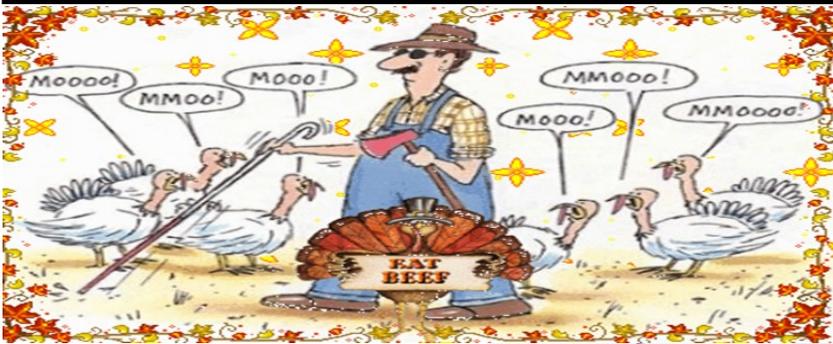


Winterizing the Garden

As we all prepare our gardens for the upcoming winter season, please keep the following guidelines in mind:

- » You must have your yard waste in brown paper bags with your address number listed on the bag.
- » Bags must be limited to 30 lbs. each and no more than 6 bags and/or bundles.
- » **No dirt, pet waste, or garbage should be in the bags or they will not be picked up.**
- » Bags must be out to the curb before 8 a.m. on Friday or they will not be picked up.
- » Branch bundles (shrubs, small tree limbs or branches) must be limited in size to a maximum of four (4) feet in length and two (2) feet in circumference and **must be bundled** together to prevent them from falling out of the trailer.
- » **Your yard waste will not be picked up if these guidelines are not followed.**
- » **No yard waste bags should be left in view all week long. We ask that you please store them out of sight until they are placed out for Friday pickup. Thank you!**

*****The last day for Yard Waste pickup will be Friday, November 6th.*****



Lawn Service Fall Clean-up



The lawn service will make the **last yard-waste pick up for the season on Friday, November 6th**, so have your bags ready!! The lawn service contract has a **November 13th end of service date**. The hard-working staff at G&H Lawn Care will **begin fall clean-up of leaves the week of October 19th**. This gives the lawn crew four weeks before the contract end date to go one-time through the entire Association property. Once that has been completed, if there is still time before the contract end date, they will go back and knock out some of the heavier areas that had dropped leaves after they had gone through initially. With the Association being located on the edge of the State forest, the strength and direction of the autumn winds is an ever-present factor in where all those loose leaves from the forest will end up.

G&H must rely on "Mother Nature" to keep to her time clock and work through the leaf color-change and fall-off cycle so the team can clean up the fallen leaves. However, as we have experienced in past years, some of the leaves do not cooperate and fall to the ground after our contract expires; or worse yet, we get an early freeze and snow thus preventing the final clean up tasks from getting completed. This may result in some of the leaves not being collected until spring snow melt. Stress not.....G&H will be back on-site in early spring to collect any late fallen leaves.



OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed on Thursday and Friday, November 26 & 27 for Thanksgiving.

Normal office hours will resume on Monday, November 30th.

HAPPY THANKSGIVING!



October & November 2020 EVENTS

- * Oct 2nd—ACC Requests Due-date
- * Oct 8th—ACC Meeting - 10:00am
- * Oct 8th—Monthly Board Meeting— 3:00 pm
- * Oct 31st—Halloween
- * Nov 1st—Daylight Savings Ends
- * Nov 6th—ACC Requests Due-date
- * Nov 6th—Last Day for Yard Waste Pickup
- * Nov 12th—ACC Meeting—10:00am
- * Nov 12th—Monthly Board Meeting— 3:00 pm
- * Nov 16th—VETERANS DAY
- * Nov 26-27th—Thanksgiving Day—STAFF OFF



Car/Pedestrian Accident

One of the lawn-crew members from our lawn maintenance company, G&H Lawn Care, was seriously injured when he was struck by a car while doing edging work along the curbs on Bissonnette. His name is Justin Farthing. He is in the hospital with bleeding on the brain, fractured pelvis, broken ribs, severe back injury and broken leg.

He just moved here from Georgia and has no way to pay for bills. Please help him through what will be a very lengthy recovery. He is facing multiple surgeries. They don't know exactly how many yet. The owner of G&H Lawn Care, Mark Hecht, has set up a GoFundMe account online. His goal is to raise at least \$10,000 dollars to help sustain Justin and his family while they are going through this difficult time. A direct link to the GoFundMe page is listed below. Simply copy and paste the link into a new browser window.

https://www.gofundme.com/f/justin-farthing?utm_source=customer&utm_medium=sms&utm_campaign=p_cf+share-flow-1

You can also drop off your donation at the office and we will be happy to forward the donations to Mark. Please be sure to indicate that the funds are for Justin.

Thank you in advance for your generosity and kindness.

Thank You Corner

- ◆ Thank you to Duane Keck for removing the deceased deer from Freedom Park.
- ◆ A BIG thank you to the 10 volunteers that had helped with the counting of the election ballots. We couldn't do it without your help.

If you would like to thank a special someone for helping you out, please send us an email so that we can put it in the next newsletter. A thank you can go a long way!



**THE VILLAGES OF
OSCODA, HOA**

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Oscoda, MI 48750

Phone: 989-739-4915

Fax: 989-739-4720

Email: office@voohoa.net

Website: voohoa.net

The HOA office hours are:

Mon., Wed., Thurs. and Fri. 8am - 5pm & Tues. 10am - 5pm.

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON

SATURDAY & SUNDAY

Please remember there is always a drop box for your convenience!

The office will be closed Thanksgiving and the Day after



Clubhouse Activities

IN ORDER TO DO OUR PART TO HELP REDUCE THE RATE OF SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS, ALL CLUBHOUSE ACTIVITIES & MEETINGS HAVE BEEN CANCELLED UNTIL FURTHER NOTICE



Classifieds

Pet Care: Riverside Pet Lodge is a new state of the art boarding kennel nestled in the woods beside the Pine River just north of Oscoda. We offer boarding, daycare and grooming services in a loving atmosphere. Our building has heated floors, indoor/outdoor runs and two play yards. Daily woodland walks also available. Send your pets to “camp” while you are out of town! Stop in and see us or give us a call. Riverside Pet Lodge, 2910 Kings Corner Rd., Oscoda, MI 48750; 989-739-5039; www.riversidepetlodge.com; “Like” us on Facebook!

Handyman Services: My name is Darryl Hollenbeck resident of the Villages and I am a Certified Handyman with the national Association of Certified Handyman Professionals. I provide thorough, knowledgeable home improvement and repair services for your home or business. But what makes this the areas premier handyman service? The answer: Experience and credentials: 40 years trade experience Former Real Estate Broker Certified Michigan Home Inspector, Insured, Reliable, Trustworthy. www.handymandarryl.com (989) 906-0148

Real Estate Services:

Sunrise Realty - Sharon Wasielewski, Agent & Resident. Cell# 704-408-0192 - 12 year Village resident and is in Oscoda year around and is ready to help you buy or sell!

Real Estate One - Roxanne Costea, Associate & Resident...23 Years experience. 406 S State St. Oscoda, MI 989-739-9129.

Sunrise Realty, Inc. - Penny Lee, Agent & 19 year Resident. Sold many homes in the Villages . Please let me help you! 989– 305-0437

Real Estate One - Looking to sell your unit in the Villages? As a full time Realtor and local real estate investor, I have a pulse on the market to best serve your selling (or buying) needs. Call or text me anytime! Jeff Pukall, 712-852-6190

If you would like a list of contractors in this area, stop by the office and grab your copy! Are you a resident in the Villages that would like to place your ad in The Village Chatter? Contact the office for more info.