

**COVINGTON SQUARE
SUBDIVISION ASSOCIATION
PO BOX 871082, CANTON MI. 48187**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE PRESIDENT, JOHN L. SILAGY
SUMMER NEWSLETTER
JUNE 2006**

After a rainy early May and then temperatures over 90 degrees for a few weeks, it looks like summer is coming to Canton. It is good to see people walking around the neighborhood, and cutting the grass, staining their decks, eating bar-b-que and of course enjoying their swimming pools. We have a few new homeowners this year, so please take the time to welcome them to the neighborhood. It is good to be welcomed.

The last of our two-year critical cement replacement work has been completed at the intersections of Trent Dr. and Dundee Dr. & on Dundee Dr. just south of Oakland Dr.

The school bridge planks have been power washed and a clear stain applied in the last few weeks. Sorry for any inconvenience, however, after 12 years, it needed it badly. I hope you're as pleased as I am.

With the hot weather coming early this year, we are experiencing some algae build-up in the detention pond. We have contracted again this year with "All About Ponds" to check and treat the pond every month so as to control the algae build up. However, we urge all homeowners use low phosphorus fertilizer to cut down the phosphorus on the lawns. The lawns when watered, drain into the streets, which drain directly into the detention pond. Using low phosphorous fertilizer will save us money in future upkeep, besides being good for the environment.

The west end of the pond has been reseeded and the dead shrubs removed and new ones planted. Hope to see a colorful west end this year. The pond committee requests that those living along the pond, please pick up any litter you might see in that area when out in your backyard.

The tree committee has taken their spring survey to identify dead trees in the neighborhood. Homeowners that have dead trees or those that have removed dead trees, but not yet replaced them, are being notified by letter. **REMEMBER, it is the homeowner's responsibility, not the Association's responsibility to replace all dead trees. It is a Township ordinance that all dead trees be replaced. Please comply as soon as possible. You are reminded that every tree removed has to be replaced!** The Township has a Tree Cost Share Program, that assists individual homeowners planting new trees. This is noted in the letter sent to the individual homeowners.

Mailboxes are being repaired as needs are reported. We are also replacing some of the wornout posts before they fall over. The new posts will be painted after the appropriate weathering time required for treated wood.

100% of the homeowners paid their homeowner association dues. Thank you all!!

Canton Township ordinance, as well as our by-laws, requires that all property be well-maintained throughout the summer. If you have health problems that prevents you from cutting your lawn or trimming your trees, or just don't want to work out in the hot sun, please call one of the board members for referral. Or you may also call Tim Skeeters, a Covington Square homeowner, who has been cutting lawns in the subdivision for years. His number is 734-397-1370. If you are going away on vacation this summer, Tim will be able to assist your lawn needs. His rates are reasonable.

Remember to clean up after your dog(s) when you take them out for a walk around the neighborhood or by the soccer field and woods. We all thank you in advance.

Summer events are planned as follows:

* Please consider volunteering for a woods cleanup project. First we need a leader, then we'll need lots of people to help on one day to get the work done. This is important to the value of our subdivision. See more specific remarks in the Landscape News part of this newsletter.

* The social committee, Mike Young, Doug Baker and Tania Ganguly, are scheduling the annual subdivision garage sale for the weekend of June 24th. The past subdivision garage sales have been very successful and this is a great opportunity to get out and meet your neighbors. A flyer was passed out last week with the details.

* We will be having our annual subdivision picnic later this summer. The date has not yet been established. The social committee will be keeping us informed.

* A revised directory of all of the homeowners will be passed out by the end of June. Phone numbers will not be published for those that so indicated on the bottom of the annual dues flyer.

Tania Ganguly and Joyce Silagy have provided welcome baskets to four new homeowners since our annual meeting. We are glad you have chosen to live here in Covington Square Subdivision. If you are new and for some reason did not receive a welcome basket, please call Joyce Silagy at 734-397-5574.

As provided last year, flyers will be circulated throughout the year to keep every homeowner updated on the comings and goings of our subdivision.

Should you have any questions regarding the subdivision, please call me or one of the board members listed on our web page at www.covingtonsquare.org.

LANDSCAPE NEWS From Lori Treder

Hello to all. I hope you are having a good summer. I feel very fortunate that we have had as much rain as we've had. It seems to me that every time I plant something, a little while later it rains! It has worked out very well for me. I hope it's working out for you.

This is the busiest time of the year for my commitments to the sub-division. This year has been even busier because, finally, I was able to make some changes at the sign areas. I have wanted to do this for some time but every spring would come and go and I would be overwhelmed by other things and it wouldn't get done.

I trust that everyone has had a chance to see the work we've done at the sign areas. I am pleased with the outcome and I hope you are too. I hired Kenny Weir, Clay Treder and Zachary Treder to do work for the subdivision. They have been working very hard weeding, preening, moving shrubs, planting new shrubs, putting down topsoil and planting the flowers. I am happy with their efforts. This has worked out very well for them and for me. For their part, they are learning some skill in maintaining property and they are earning some money. I am right with them when the work is being done so I can tell or show them exactly what I want. In the past, when we hired larger companies to do the work and inevitably, something would be not really what I asked for or not done in the time frame that I wanted it, etc. So this has worked out so far, so good. In addition to the plants at the entrance signs, I am looking into getting the painted part of the signs repainted. The man who built them, Tom Hay, will be doing this job.

WE ARE IN NEED OF A VOLUNTEER to head up the cleaning of the woods area. There is a lot of cleaning up to be done in there. For those residents who are not already aware, our subdivision owns a really nice and fairly large piece of land immediately north of our sub. Some residents will remember that shortly after the sub was completed, homeowners did a huge job cleaning out the detention pond. We took out car batteries, old tires, a door, five-gallon paint cans, bikes, household appliances and I could go on and on. Well, the woods are not quite as bad as that but it is bad and it's a pretty large area. What I propose is that the resident that takes on this job first call Canton Township to see if they will provide a dumpster for the job: if not, call some waste management companies and see what is normally involved to obtain one, pick a date to have it, send out a flyer asking for volunteers then do as much clean up as is possible in one long day and then plan on doing it again annually for the next few years. I will gladly be of any assistance to this Volunteer, however, I do not have the time to head up the project. Please seriously consider doing this job, it is way overdue.

That's it for now. If you have any questions regarding subdivision landscaping issues, please call me at 734-397-8586. Have a great summer and I'll see you around the neighborhood.