

FIRST QUARTER 2021

WOOD VALLEY NEWS

Official Newsletter of the
Wood Valley Homeowners Association

Happy Spring!

We hope this first newsletter of 2021 finds you and your family safe and healthy. As we see more neighbors getting outside and enjoying the community, it's a sure sign that spring has arrived. For those who may migrate to warmer climates during the winter, we welcome you back to Michigan!

In this edition, you will find friendly reminders, seasonal tips and opportunities to get outdoors in the surrounding community. Additionally, the Board is pleased to share dates for our annual garage sale, follow-up information on the neighborhood survey and other updates on activities for the start of the year. Stay well and have a wonderful spring!

Annual Dues Reminder

As a reminder, the annual dues payment of \$80 for each homeowner was due by March 1, 2021. If you have not paid already, please do so as soon as possible to avoid unnecessary fees to be assessed pursuant to our bylaws. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.



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Neighbor Spotlight

RON PERRY

Special thanks to Ron Perry for sharing helpful tips with the community on the neighborhood Facebook page. As we head into growing season for plants, grass and other elements of landscaping, the advice and resources shared will be beneficial for homeowners!

Learn more: facebook.com/groups/146536112742869

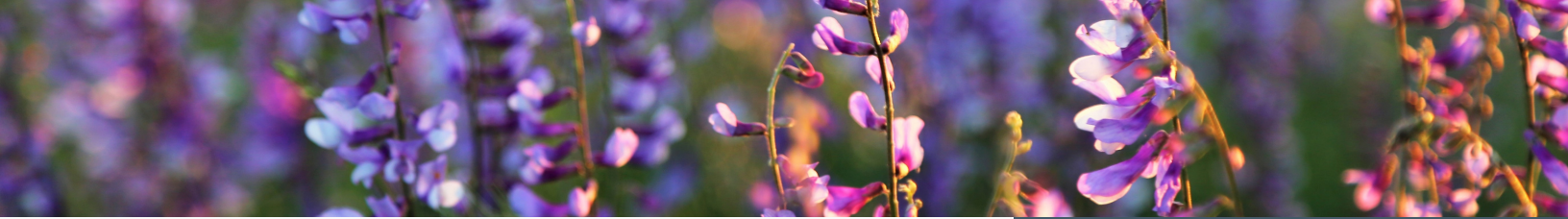


Spring Tips and Reminders

The start of spring is an ideal time to plan yard maintenance projects and keep your home and landscape looking beautiful. Below are a few tips to help you get started:

- **Trim trees and remove dead limbs.** Be on the lookout for limbs and vegetation that may be blocking sidewalks.
- **Consider having tree stumps removed.** Typically professional companies charge about \$2.50-\$3.50 per inch in diameter for removal.
- **Check drains in front of your home for debris** to allow spring rains to properly flow out of our subdivision.

"Spring:
A lovely
reminder of
how beautiful
change can
truly be"



Community Activities

Looking to get outdoors and explore the area? Utilize the resources below to learn more about parks, trails and activities in our township.

Parks Directory

meridian.mi.us/government/where-to-find/parks-directory

Trails and Pathways

meridian.mi.us/government/departments/parks-recreation/trails-pathways

Farmers' Market

meridian.mi.us/visitors/things-to-do/try-our-farmers-market

Harris Nature Center

meridian.mi.us/visitors/hidden-gems/visit-harris-nature-center

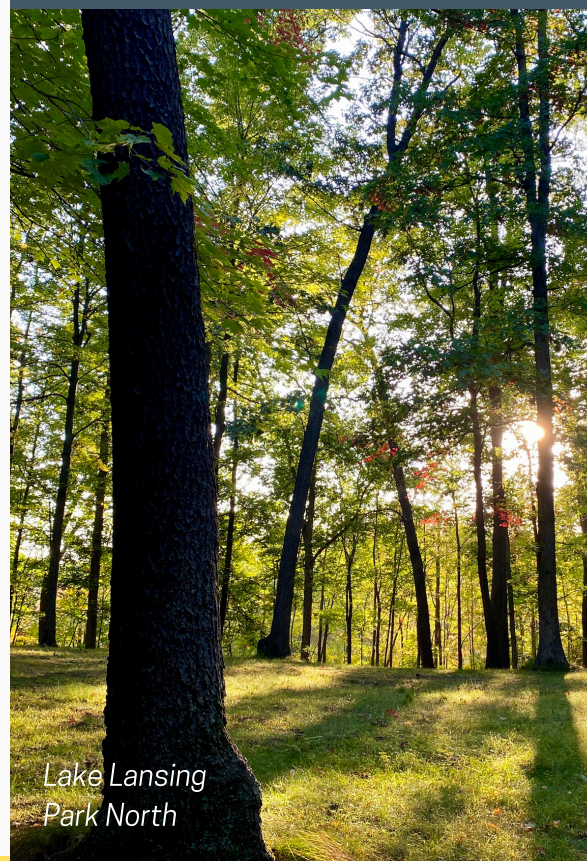
Dog Parks

meridian.mi.us/government/departments/parks-recreation/dog-parks

Speaking of dogs . .

Please be mindful of those living around you and compassionate in the care of your animals.

- Keep your companion(s) on a leash and clean up after them.
- Do your best to deter barking. Looking for tips and tricks? [Try this BarxBuddy resource!](#)



Lake Lansing
Park North



Events and Updates

Events

June 18-19, 2021 | Annual neighborhood garage sale

Updates

Survey Results

Results of our neighborhood survey will be distributed in the coming weeks as a separate communication. Thank you to everyone who responded! We appreciate your input so we can improve and plan future initiatives.

Website Redesign

The Wood Valley website will be redesigned in the weeks ahead. Once the revamp is complete, we'll notify neighbors!

Lawn Maintenance

Our lawn maintenance contract has been renewed with Cherithbrook Farm, LLC for 2021. They have provided dependable service over the years. There was a modest 2% increase for 2021, and many prior years had no increase at all.

Service Recommendations

If you had a great experience with a contractor or service provider in the area, send their business name and contact information to the Board at woodvhoa@gmail.com. We hope to compile a reference list to assist homeowners.

Safe Driving

The children in our community are of the utmost importance. Please be mindful of their safety and wellbeing, particularly as we head into spring and summer when more people are enjoying the outdoors. Board members would like to emphasize the importance of following posted speed limits in our subdivision to keep everyone safe.

Garage Sale Dates

June 18-19





Meet the Board of Directors



Brittany Risk, President | Brittany is the current President of Wood Valley Homeowners Association (WVHOA). She has served on the Board since August 2019. Brittany is a licensed social worker and served as a Governor appointee on the Michigan Board of Social Work for a four-year term from 2016-2019. Additionally, she has worked for the University of Michigan and the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. Brittany completed her bachelor's degree in Social Work at Michigan State University (MSU), and earned her master's degree in social work at the University of Michigan. Brittany loves living in Wood Valley neighborhood and the Greater Lansing community with her husband and their two children. She is also a member of the Junior League of Lansing.



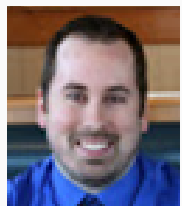
Leah Ball, Secretary | Leah is the current Secretary of the Board and she joined in December 2020. For more than 13 years, she has been a communications professional in various settings, including non-profit and higher education. Currently, Leah is the Communications Manager for MSU Culinary Services, representing dining and hospitality locations on campus. In addition to working at the institution, she is pursuing a master's degree from MSU in Strategic Communications. She and her husband, Jesse, moved to the neighborhood in 2015. They love living in Wood Valley with supportive and friendly neighbors, and enjoy spending time with their 5-year-old daughter, Aviana.



Zachary Risk, Treasurer | Zack joined the Board in June 2019 and is the current Treasurer. He is a licensed Michigan attorney (2011) and also admitted to various federal courts. He is currently an Assistant Attorney General in the Labor Division at the Michigan Department of Attorney General. Previously, he worked as an associate attorney at a large Michigan law firm practicing real estate and banking law, and was also a Presidential Management Fellow with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. Zack graduated from MSU Law in 2011 and from the University of Michigan in 2008. He is an avid baseball and football fan, and enjoys fantasy sports and stand-up comedy. Zack appreciates the tranquility of the Haslett community and the friendliness of the Wood Valley subdivision, where he lives with his wife and two sons.



Mark Epolito, Trustee | Mark is currently a Trustee on the Board. He works for Google as a Public Sector Lead in Michigan and Illinois. For 37 years, he has been a Haslett resident, including the last 10 years living in Wood Valley neighborhood. After graduating from Haslett High School, Mark became a proud Central Michigan University Chippewa. He and his wife Jenny have been married for 17 years and they have two children, Ben (6) and Josephine (3). Their family lives in the same house Jenny grew up in, which could make her the longest Wood Valley resident!



Dan Wood, Trustee | Dan is currently a Trustee of the WVHOA. He has served on the Board since October 2020. A graduate of Haslett High School, Dan has lived in the Haslett area for almost his entire life. Now a Business Operations Partner with Culver's restaurants, he oversees operations for three locally-owned locations. His wife, Allison, a former Trustee of the WVHOA, serves as Executive Director of the Michigan Water Environment Association. Dan and Allison moved into the Wood Valley neighborhood in the summer of 2017. They love seeing how family-oriented and festive the neighborhood can be, as well as how many dog lovers there are.