

BARDEN WOODS ONE



Newsletter

October/November 2023

A Message from the Board ...

Happy Fall everyone!

As a new Board, we have been getting up to speed on the fiduciary responsibilities we have on your behalf. We have discovered the depth of attention needed for the Upcoming/Future Projects as outlined and addressed at our 2023 Annual meeting. Some of you have heard us say that we are analyzing the needs of the community and prioritizing safety first and then the longevity of our property. You have probably noticed over the course of the last few months contractors walking the grounds with us. We have been getting quotes on repair and maintenance of our grounds, buildings, trees, etc. We have contracted with the following for this fall:

- Trip hazards on our sidewalks (elevated sidewalks exceeding 1.5 inches) and some rework on porch steps are scheduled to commence by the end of the month, weather permitting. When the contractor is scheduled, we will contact the affected Co-owners to let you know that there will be work conducted outside of your condo.
- The roofing contractor will be working to preserve the roofs on our buildings and garages to prolong the full replacement for a couple of years. All Pro will be replacing and repairing damaged and improperly installed shingles, repair nail pops and aluminum trim, seal flashing, replace, reinstall, clean all gutters and downspouts.
- Sprinklers have been turned off for the season.

Please let the contractors do their work without interruption. They have a very full fall schedule and are trying to do all they can to address our property concerns. If you have any questions about the scope of the work or have a specific issue you would like addressed, please contact your Board. We will be sure to respond within a timely manner. Thank you!!

Shout out to ...

Parker Woo in building D who goes above and beyond to keep our pipes clean in D and F, which mitigates clogs and reduces our expense as a community. We are so fortunate that Parker flushes these old pipes every Sunday so that they remain as clear as possible to reduce the heavy maintenance of snaking the lines to once a year. We used to snake the lines quarterly ~ what a savings! Parker, we don't know how you do it, but we THANK YOU!!!

When is trash pickup?

This is the proverbial question after a federal holiday. What holidays affect my trash pickup day? GFL is closed 6 days yearly on the following holidays: New Year's Day, Memorial Day, Fourth of July, Labor Day, Thanksgiving Day and Christmas Day. If your pickup day is on or after a holiday during the business week, services will be pushed back one day.

Please note: If you have plant/yard waste, please place it in a brown paper yard waste bag and dispose of it properly with your weekly trash pickup.

November Reminders:

- Daylight Saving Time ends on November 5. The time change is the perfect reminder to check and change your smoke alarm batteries. If you need assistance in doing this important safety check in your home, please contact us at bardenwoodsone@gmail.com and we will have someone assist you.
- Please remove and store all summer seasonal furniture and decorations by November 1.
- Water lines to outdoor water faucets should be turned off to avoid freezing pipes. If you need assistance, please contact us at bardenwoodsone@gmail.com

♪♪ Who Are the People in Your Neighborhood? ♪♪



As they often ask on Sesame Street, who are the people in your neighborhood?

We hope to introduce you to one special neighbor in each Barden Woods One newsletter.

Our first highlighted resident is Sally Gerak, who lives in Unit 1, at 28 Barbour Court.

Sally Miller Murphy Gerak grew up in Dayton, Ohio and arrived in Birmingham from the University of Michigan in 1959, as a very young widow. Her plan was to teach grammar, composition, and government at the junior high school level for one year before setting out to “see the world.” Her travel plans were waylaid when she met a young landscape architect / urban planner named Joe Gerak. They married the following summer, four children arrived in short order, and Sally retired from teaching. Joe and Sally resided for forty years in Birmingham and at their vacation home in Harbor Springs. She immersed herself in community activities involving her children, their school, and their church, eventually utilizing her incredible and clever writing skills in the non-profit sector. She even wrote the Holy Name PTA newsletter!

When her children were a bit older, Sally returned to the classroom as a substitute teacher, still maintaining her volunteer status in many schools and organizations. In 1978, Sally became a columnist for the *Birmingham Eccentric*, and she covered the non-profit social scene for decades in her column, *Suburban Accents*.

Much of Sally’s volunteer work was focused on The Community House. She co-chaired a six-month celebration of the 70th anniversary, served on the board, headed its fund development committee, chaired the OUR TOWN art show, and served on the art show committee for several years. Because her beat was the non-profit events scene, Sally says that she felt like a pseudo volunteer of all the organizations she covered. Following her stint at the Eccentric, Sally wrote for *Downtown Publications* for many years before her retirement.

After years in Birmingham, Sally and Joe moved to Barden Woods One in 1999. Sadly, Joe passed away on Valentine’s Day 2013. (Editor’s note: Joe Gerak was a prince of a guy. He and my late husband worked together on several projects.)

Sally has often been referred to as a “treasure” in our community and we are so lucky to have her here as part of our wonderful Barden Woods One community.

Barden Woods One Fun ... Several neighbors gathered on a beautiful evening in late August for a bit of community camaraderie. Thanks to Mollie and Jud for hosting this soirée on their fabulous new patio – it was a wonderful opportunity to meet and greet new neighbors and catch up with everyone.

Those in attendance were John Cotter, Karen & Larry Defiore, Barb & Phil Fioravante, Cathy Gulvezan, Judy Martinek, Karen Mellott, Roy Palasek, Mollie Proctor & Jud Street, and Duffy Wineman.



Another big shoutout to Jud and Phil ...

for planting flowers and shrubs at the entrance of Barden Woods One.



A (semi) monthly newsletter will keep you apprised of
all that is happening at Barden Woods One.

Have something to share?

New job ... new grandchild ... new pet ... new garden ... or just news? We want to know.

Send your information to Duffy Wineman at jwine2216@aol.com.

Maintenance issue?

Contact MCM at 586.775.5757

jcubba@mi-condo.com (Jill)

skratch@mi-condo.com (Sue)

Board question?

BardenWoodsOne@gmail.com

(Your inquiry will go to all three Board
members for their prompt response.)

Insect Problem?

Contact Erlich Pest Control

at 248.477.4853

Our account number is 1531609