

Quarterly Newsletter December 2024 – February 2025

President's Message

Happy Holidays. I hope all of you have a wonderful holiday season.

The annual Ironwood subdivision membership meeting is Tuesday, January 14th at 6:30 PM in the Ironwood Golf Course clubhouse.

The Ironwood Board of Directors will have three openings in 2025. Residents will receive a proxy, ballot, and 2025 dues notice in mid-December. Under the bylaws, residents must have their 2025 dues paid by January 14, 2025, in order to vote. Board candidates who have submitted their name thus far are included in this newsletter.

Town of Normal. The walkway to Ironwood Park is complete!!

Pop-Up Parties. The board is very concerned about the safety and well-being of our homeowners with regards to the pop-up parties that occurred this past summer at Ironwood Park. We have reached out to the Town of Normal to see if we can assist with this matter.

Holiday Decoration Contest. It's not too late to enter for the best decorated home in Ironwood. Judging will take place the week of December 16th, 2024. Please email your entry to mbrown@ihoa.org by December 15, 2024. Entry forms can be found on the IHOA website, under "Current News."

The board would like to thank all owners for being proactive in contacting us about the covenants and questions pertaining to the appearance of the neighborhood.

Vice President's Message

I hope everyone had a happy and safe Thanksgiving and didn't eat too much turkey. As we look forward to Christmas and the new year, I wish you all much happiness. I have noticed a few yard signs recently about Kindness, which I hope that we all remember and share.

Welcome to all the new residents who have decided to make Ironwood their new home. If you have any questions or concerns, feel free to reach out to any board member, which you can find in this newsletter or on our website (www.ihoa.org).

Thank you to Jeff Woodall for his leadership as our President and all the board members for a job well done. Thanks also to Chris Knight and her committee for their work on the Newcomers Committee.

Please remember our annual IHOA meeting is January 14th at 6:30 p.m. at the Ironwood Golf clubhouse. Town of Normal representatives will be there to give us updates on what is going on with the town.

Thanks to everyone who has donated to the food pantry this past year. The donation box is at the Ironwood clubhouse between the restrooms.



MERRY CHRISTMAS and a very happy peaceful New Year!!!
Linda Rheeling, V.P.

IHOA Board of Directors Candidates' Bios:

The following individuals are seeking positions on the board in the January election. The ballot mailed with the proxy and dues notice in mid-December will list all candidates running for the board.

JoEllen Bahnsen

My husband, Bob, and I have been Ironwood residents for 33 years. I retired from ISU and enjoy utilizing my accounting skills in my current position as Treasurer of the Homeowners Association. I hope you will consider voting for me again. Thank you.

Kyle Frick

Hello neighbors, my name is Kyle Frick and I'd like to run for the HOA board. My wife, Laura, and I moved to Ironwood in spring of 2021 and have been residents of Bloomington-Normal since 2017. We have enjoyed our time in Ironwood, and I'd like to help ensure our neighborhood continues to be a great place to live.

As a father of two younger children (ages 5 & 1), I hope to bring a perspective to the board to represent our many families in the neighborhood. If elected to the board, I promise to consider all questions and inquiries through an analytical lens and consider what is best for the neighborhood. I am not interested in policing individual homeowners over the minutia of their homes, but rather hope to seek ways to improve our already great neighborhood. I would greatly appreciate your vote!

Suzann Reid

Hi, I am Suzann Reid. I am seeking a position on the IHOA Board of Directors. I have been an attorney at State Farm for 34 years and am a member of Bloomington-Normal Sunrise Rotary.

My husband and I have lived in Ironwood subdivision for over 30 years. We raised our children here and have met numerous friends within the subdivision. I do not seek specific changes to the subdivision but am interested in hearing others' opinions and am particularly interested in ways we can improve the area. I seek a board position because I want the subdivision to maintain its beauty and be a place we are all proud to live in. Thank you.

Jeff Woodall

I, along with my wife Jenny, have owned a home in Ironwood since 1998. I have 20+ years of leadership experience in vendor, people and project management. I always worked within the scope/budget to develop efficient/effective solutions. Giving back to the community has given me so much enjoyment by working with and for the people. I believe my experiences and common-sense approach can be used to help Ironwood continue to be a great community for all of us to live.



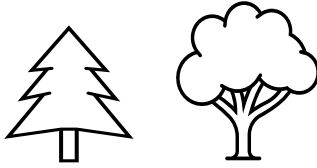
Reminders:

Holiday Collection

- Household garbage and recycling (in Town carts) **is** collected on all holidays except Christmas Day. When Christmas falls on a weekday, garbage and recycling normally collected that day will be collected on the next regular business day.
- Bulky waste, brush and landscape waste will **not** be collected on holidays when Town offices are closed. **Bulky waste** refers to large items that cannot fit into your garbage cart. As a reminder, *flatten large cardboard boxes* and do not place them between carts due to the method it is picked up. **Brush waste** includes sticks, branches, ornamental grasses, rose bush clippings and they should be piled in an organized manner near the curb, easily accessible for Town crews.
- **Landscape waste** ended the end of November and typically begins in April. Landscape waste is garden waste, plants, and basic organic waste. Grass clippings are excluded.
- Residents may dispose of their real (non-artificial) Christmas tree by placing it at the curb for collection on your regularly scheduled waste collection day. The tree must be bare, no decorations attached and not in a plastic bag.
- **Leaf pickup** will continue through December 27, 2024. The Town website provides a map of where crews are working throughout the week. Alternatively, leaves can be brought to the landscape waste drop-off site at 1301 Warriner St. The drop-off site is open year-round to Normal residents.

School Winter Break Dates

- Unit 5 - December 23 - January 6, classes resume January 7
- Dist. 87 - December 23 - January 6, classes resume January 7
- ISU - December 14 - January 12, classes resume January 13
- IWU - December 14 - January 7, classes resume January 8
- Heartland – December 14 – January 12, classes resume January 13



LANDSCAPING NEWS:

The Ironwood Homeowners Association signed an agreement with LKM for the removal of the dead evergreens on the Northridge Estate medians. The work was completed this fall. They removed the evergreens and stumps and installed additional river rock where needed. At this time, the board will wait until 2025 and determine if any replacement plantings are needed. The board is open to suggestions for the open spaces, so if you have any ideas, please reach out to a board member by 12/31/2024.

Several of you contacted us regarding the entrance lights being out on the east side of the north entrance. There were a couple of broken parts, and we were aware of the situation. At this time the new parts have been installed and the lights are working.



GOLF COURSE NEWS:

The golf season is winding down with fewer and fewer golfers playing with each passing day. Soon snow will be falling, and golf and the 2024 season will come to a close. In this newsletter, I will touch on a few things that came up during the year as well as projects completed during 2024.

The projects completed during 2024 were significant upgrades to the Ironwood Golf Course facility. The biggest project was the expansion of the putting green and construction of our new chipping green. Both projects went very well and barring any unforeseen issues over the winter, they will be open for use in May.

Another project completed was the improvements to our culverts on our 17th hole. Stark removed our old culverts and installed new, while grading the area for better drainage. They did a wonderful job and once grass fills in the areas it should look like nothing happened in that area.

Next, I'd like to cover a few questions/concerns that came up during the year:

Several emails/calls have come in about walking/running/biking/fishing on the golf course. We do not allow any of these activities on the course due to concerns for safety from errant shots. We have signs at the entrance of all cart paths that indicate only golfers are allowed on the course. Those golfers should also always check in at the pro shop before starting their round.

GOLF COURSE NEWS (continued):

Another question involves the use of personalized golf carts on the course and if they are allowed. We do allow personal golf carts on the course, but you must have an Ultimate Pass (purchased in the pro shop) to be able to use it on the golf course. All other uses are prohibited. The same cart rules apply to personal golf carts that apply to carts rented from the golf course. No driving in the tall grass or in people's yards, and cart path restrictions apply as well during inclement conditions.

Many questions have been asked about what some people refer to as the "common area." This refers to an imaginary area approximately 5-10 feet behind the property lines. The Town agreed that homeowners could mow the tall grass in these areas as a buffer between the golf course tall grass and the homeowners' yards. This was never meant to be an area for homeowners to build permanent or semi-permanent structures on. Please keep this in mind when planning new features in your backyard. If there are questions, please call the golf course and we will be happy to discuss it with you further.

Lastly, I want to thank you all for being a great neighbor to the golf course. Occasionally, we will have golfers vandalize the course and/or golf carts and many of you call in to the clubhouse to let us know. As you know, our staff can't be everywhere on the property, so your help with this is much appreciated. Thank you for another great year and we look forward to 2025.

Tyler Bain, Park Maintenance Supervisor

IHOA WEBSITE:

The IHOA website (iho.org) contains a wealth of information for homeowners. Included on the website are covenants, by-laws, fence guidelines, board information, meeting minutes, newsletters, and useful links. The *Current News* section provides notices of matters that may need your attention. Please take time to explore this handy resource.

EMAIL ADDRESSES:

If your email address changes, please remember to let us know so newsletters and other IHOA notifications continue to reach your inbox. If you have not provided an email address to us, please consider doing so to make our communications process more timely and less expensive. Rest assured, your email address will be secured and used exclusively for Homeowners Association communications. Email updates can be sent to mbrown@iho.org.

Ironwood Real Estate Sales (source: Homes by Marco)

	November			Year to Date (Jan 1 - Dec 1)		
	2023	2024	% Change	2023	2024	% Change
Homes Sold	3	0	-	14	19	+35.7%
(Single Family)	3	0	-	12	15	+25%
(Condos/Townhomes)	0	0	-	2	4	+100%
Median Sale Price	\$330,000	\$0	-	\$338,500	\$305,000	-9.9%
(Single Family)	\$330,000	\$0	-	\$341,500	\$360,000	+5.4%
(Condos/Townhomes)	\$0	\$0	-	\$245,350	\$260,000	+6%
Days on Market	23	0	-	5	4	-20%
(Single Family)	23	0	-	5	6	+20%
(Condos/Townhomes)	0	0	-	26	4	-86.5%

IHOA Board of Directors:			
President	Jeff Woodall	309-706-2249	jwoodall@ihoa.org
Vice President	Linda Rheeling	309-454-2941	lrheeling@ihoa.org
Secretary	Merritt Burns	309-530-5233	mburns@ihoa.org
Treasurer	JoEllen Bahnsen	309-454-3053	jbahnsen@ihoa.org
Communications Chair	Mel Brown	309-451-5601	mbrown@ihoa.org
Beautification Chair	Keith Palmgren	309-531-9605	kpalmgren@ihoa.org
Covenants Chair	Susan Parrent	309-452-1934	sparrent@ihoa.org



Best wishes for a happy and healthy holiday season from your Ironwood Board of Directors!