

**MESSAGE FROM GARY NEUBAUER, PRESIDENT**

Where did Spring go? It seems like the mild weather did not last long and now we are in the midst of summer-like weather.

I trust most of you are satisfied with the job being done by the current officers of Fox Meadows West Property Owners Association. I have been extremely impressed and proud of the commitment the other officers/directors and committee members have shown to keeping our neighborhood one of the premier places to live in Springfield. Many of these individuals have served our Association for a considerable length of time. While their efforts will be hard to duplicate, it is in the best interests of FMW to bring fresh perspectives into the leadership positions. In other words, we need to encourage others to step up and help meet the ongoing needs of our neighborhood. Every position, from the one I serve as President/Board Member to that of a committee member, should change every few years to ensure we have a vital leadership group and an orderly transition of the knowledge gained through experience with neighborhood issues. Please consider volunteering to help our Association and the wonderful people who live in Fox Meadows West. I am very willing to talk to anyone who has an interest and can be reached via the website or directly at 217/494-7829.

**NEWS YOU CAN USE**

This is a reminder that if you have changed or are planning to change your email address, please let Chuck Coleman ([chuckcoleman@msn.com](mailto:chuckcoleman@msn.com)) know. Chuck will update your email address in our system to ensure you will continue to receive the Fox Tales newsletter, dues invoices and other correspondence from FMW on a timely basis. If you no longer plan to use any email address or do not want FMW communications sent via email, please let Chuck know as well and he will send important information to you via USPS.

Andy Watts is the Neighborhood Police Officer for Ward 7. Please feel free to contact him at 217-741-0907 with any appropriate concerns.

If you encounter a pothole, see items dumped illegally or notice a traffic light that is not working properly, you can submit that issue to the City of Springfield online at the city website ([springfield.il.us](http://springfield.il.us)). Under the Residents tab you will find a "Report a Problem" link. If the issue is not specifically listed, just click "General Problem" and it will be sent to the appropriate department to be addressed.

Thinking about landscaping or other outdoor projects this Summer? If it requires digging, please notify JULIE before starting your project. This can be done by calling 8-1-1 or by going online ([illinois1call.com](http://illinois1call.com)) and filling out a request.

While the City of Springfield waste haulers are obligated to take everything that is properly bagged, curbside recycling is a different program that uses two different recycling techniques. The Office of Public Works has put together a handout to assist residents with their recycling concerns and to explain why some items might not be picked up. This information can be found on the City of Springfield website ([springfield.il.us](http://springfield.il.us)).

FMW has a Facebook group at <http://www.facebook.com/groups/4963912290403205> . It's a great way to connect with neighbors, share information and promote a sense of community here in FMW.

Now that Spring is here many residents are outside walking the dog, pushing the stroller or just enjoying the nice weather. Let's be good neighbors and be mindful of the speed limits/stop signs in the neighborhood to ensure the safety of everyone.

### **FMW SPOTLIGHT ON SELECT COVENANTS**

As stated previous editions of Fox Tales we will be highlighting a summary of the covenants that are more likely to impact our neighborhood on a regular basis. The covenants are designed to keep FMW one of the premier subdivisions in Springfield and to ensure we are good neighbors and stewards of our properties. If you have any questions or concerns, please do not hesitate to reach out.

This edition we will be highlighting:

- Section 5 (Mowing): All lots including vacant lots should be free of weeds and not be allowed to fall into an unsightly condition. Lawns should be maintained and mowed on a regular basis.
- Section 11 (Signs): No sign of any kind should be displayed on any lot except one sign identifying the occupants of the property, one sign advertising the property for sale or rent and signs used by contractors during the construction of any improvement on the property. The Board has generally made an exception for reasonable sized political signs ensure everyone is afforded the right of free speech.
- Section 26 (Outbuildings): No gazebo, doghouse, dog run or any other structure can be constructed without the written consent of the Architectural Control Committee (ACC).

### **FMW "FUN FACTS"**

Please send any Fourth of July photos to Chuck Coleman at [chuckcoleman@msn.com](mailto:chuckcoleman@msn.com) so they can be included on the FMW website.

Last year you might have noticed many of your neighbors flying a flag or putting flags in their yards over the Fourth of July weekend. It was truly impressive to see Old Glory flying proudly throughout our neighborhood, Let's keep the tradition alive this year on an even larger scale. Please consider putting an American flag out over the Fourth of July holiday. It's a great opportunity to show FMW pride in our country.

### **FMW WEBSITE**

Just a reminder that the Fox Meadows West Property Owners Association website can be found at [www.foxmeadowswest.com](http://www.foxmeadowswest.com).

### **EDITOR**

Please feel free to share any questions, comments, contributions or suggestions with me at [BbentivegnaFMW@gmail.com](mailto:BbentivegnaFMW@gmail.com)

Bill Bentivegna