



Chelsea Woods Trails

1505 Yuma Lane N., Plymouth, MN 55447

July—September 2024

Editor—Becky Evenson cwa.newsletter@outlook.com

- Meet Jesse Glassmann
- A note From a Neighbor
- Night to Unite
- Yard Waste Pickup
- To Buzz or Not to Buzz
- Chelsea Woods Legal Update
- A Slice of Heaven
- Fire Safety in Chelsea Woods
- Sweet Cravings
- Hidden in Plain Sight
- DIY Education
- Appreciation For Bob
- Dates to Remember

Introducing Jesse Glassmann

Jesse Glassmann is the Chelsea Woods, Grounds Manager, he began in this role at the beginning of May.

Jesse grew up in northern Minnesota where he learned the hands-on skills that qualify him for this position. As a product of Walker, Minnesota he embodies the stereotype of a Minnesota outdoors person.

While in high school, Jesse enlisted in the Minnesota Army National Guard and later transferred into active duty. During his service, Jesse maintained 100% accountability of all assigned equipment worth more than \$300,000. He established and administered the annual budget. He created, set, and enforced and optimized internal policies to maintain efficiencies and responsiveness to demands. He evaluated upcoming program plans to forecast expected resource needs. Jesse implemented policies and standard operating procedures for continuous improvement. As well, he established and implemented operational procedures that saved over \$5 million dollars. Throughout all of these accomplishments, Jesse was also accountable for training and managing personnel, demonstrating his strong leadership skills. Jesse retired from the Army in October of 2019 and moved his family of five (wife, son and two daughters) back to Minnesota. He worked as a sales consultant in the commercial and residential solar industry, prior to coming to work at Chelsea Woods.

Since early May, Jesse has coordinated a beautification project on the cul-de-sac on Black Oaks Lane. This project involved opening the pool (ahead of schedule), developing plans to replace the bridge with a paved pathway and refreshing/establishing gardens near the pool parking area. He successfully negotiated a contract with DMJ Asphalt to repair the basketball court and CWA streets.

He has been working with Meridian Tree Service to implement a structured plan to address the large problem with Emerald Ash Borer infected trees in our neighborhood. He was able to get a truck full of wood chips delivered at no cost that he has been using to beautify common areas and boost the curb appeal of the neighborhood.

When time permits, Jesse has been cleaning up and organizing the CWA Office/Garages/Sheds. Jesse has performed these tasks while also doing the day-to-day tasks that are a key part of this position.

Jesse has made it his professional goal to raise the value of our properties while keeping our association dues low. Jesse's sense of personal initiative and strong work ethic make him a strong asset to our community.

Contact Information

Chelsea Woods Dues:

Information included on invoice from UptoDate Bookkeeping.

Resident Information:

Chelseawoods.org

Business Related

Questions:

info@chelseawoods.org

612-389-9622

Board of Directors

President - Bonnie Johnson

Vice President—Dena Sonbal

Treasurer—Jean Stanke

Secretary—Becky Evenson

Member at Large - Roderick Hedner

Member at Large - Tom Navratil



A Note from A Neighbor- Appreciation for the “Personal Touch”

Judy. Not only is your first name the same as my only sibling, a sister six years older than I was - but she has died, and you are the first "Judy" I have encountered since her death. So, there's that...

Also, as I mentioned before, I have lived in Chelsea for around 35 years now. Back in the day, we had "grounds-keepers" and "Chelsea/authoritative" people who were folksy, easy to deal with, quick to respond - all the things that abounded from that generation. As time has passed, I, and the other "older" residents of Chelsea Woods - have (shh, I'll whisper this part) had to watch as everything became "mandating", "unfriendly", "demanding", and outright "offensive to homeowners" here - who have to scrape up an ever-increasing monthly "dues",

which were \$88.00 when I moved here, to now what they are.

I do understand. Progress, not perfection. But I am telling you all of that because most of we longer-term residents here speak softly about our "management" experiences now - shake our heads sadly - and know that there is nothing any of us can do about it. Everything changes. People. Associations. Times...

And now you have come along: friendly, folksy. kindly and politely 'official'. willing to respond quickly. willing to listen and understand. a total breath of fresher air at least to this "older" Chelsea resident. So I just want to thank you for being all of those things. We aren't used to that here anymore. And now you have arrived. So thank you.

As for the trees, thanks for the explanation, I understand, am in no rush, and will wait patiently now until it becomes my turn for smaller tree removal.



Yard Waste Pickup –Reminders

- Yard waste bag pick up will only on Wednesday Only.
- NO LAWN CLIPPINGS! This is a rule that the City of Plymouth does enforce. If lawn clippings are found in your yard waste bag, the bag will be left. Lawn clippings should be placed in your garbage cart or composted.

To Buzz or Not to Buzz



World Mosquito Day may fall on August 20, but what reason do we have to celebrate this annoying pest of an insect? Researchers are beginning to ask that very question. What would a world without mosquitoes look like? Would anyone miss them? Would ecosystems suffer? Mosquitoes have

lived on Earth for hundreds of millions of years. Many animals rely on mosquitoes as a source of food.

However, many scientists believe that any ecological disaster produced by their eradication would be worthwhile. The world would learn to live without the mosquitoes, and humans would suffer fewer diseases... although we would have one less holiday to celebrate.

Chelsea Woods Association Legal Update

The Chelsea Woods Board of Directors would like to share some positive news regarding various legal matters, which have been briefly mentioned at town hall meetings in order to preserve attorney-client privilege.

We are pleased to have settled two matters arising out of financial disputes that took place starting in 2020. We are bound to confidentiality as to the terms of one settlement agreement, and we are pleased with the outcome. As to the other settlement agreement, we were able to recoup several thousands of dollars and terminate an agreement that was not working in favor of Chelsea Woods.

We have a pending litigation suit that Chelsea Woods filed against RowCal for (1) breach of contract; (2) unjust enrichment; and (3) conversion. Chelsea Woods is seeking over \$100,000 in damages from RowCal.

Upon taking over as your Board of Directors and in consultation with our legal counsel, we discovered these claims which are founded in law and in fact,

and we brought them forth on behalf of Chelsea Woods. RowCal filed a counterclaim against Chelsea Woods for malicious prosecution and then voluntarily dismissed it because it has no basis in law or in fact.

Finally, Compass Management filed a small claims case against Chelsea Woods and individually against three members of the Board of Directors seeking almost \$14,000 in damages. Upon responding to Compass Management's claims, Compass Management offered to dismiss all its claims with prejudice in exchange for zero dollars. We have therefore reached a settlement on all claims as to Chelsea Woods and the three Board of Directors and we are awaiting the order dismissing the action in full and with prejudice.

To date, our legal expenses on these matters have been paid out of the claims we have settled.

We thank our experienced and competent legal counsel for their sound legal advice on these legal matters. The Board of Directors will continue to follow the advice of legal counsel for Chelsea Woods as we work to resolve the only open legal matter which is against RowCal for the claims of: (1) breach of contract, (2) unjust enrichment; and (3) conversion.

A Slice of Heaven

Braham, Minnesota, is the Homemade Pie Capital of Minnesota, and they aim to earn that reputation on Friday, August, 2nd. There are plenty of pies to eat, either at your leisure or



competitively during the pie-eating contest. There are pies for sale and pies to bid on in the pie auction. There are pie-baking lessons and contests. There is even a Pie Art Show with art in two categories: 2D (drawings or paintings of pies) and 3D (pie sculptures).

While Braham was declared the Pie Capital in 1990, the city first became famous for its pie in the 1930s and 1940s, when travelers would take a “shortcut” through Braham on the way to Duluth and stop at the Park Cafe for its famous pie. You will still find a huge variety of pies on the menu today. Dutch apple, banana cream, blueberry cream, strawberry, and coconut cream are local favorites. Which one is the best? There is only one way to find out—visit Braham on an empty stomach!

Fire Safety in Chelsea Woods

Recreational fires (bonfires) are permitted in Plymouth, provided that certain requirements are met. Please take cautions and follow the requirements below.

Defining a Recreational Fire (Bonfire)

- Recreational fire sites include in-ground or above ground pits, fire rings, portable firepits, bowls, chimeneas and other approved wood burning devices.

Mobile cooking devices such as manufactured hibachis, charcoal grills, wood smokers and propane or natural gas devices and burners are not defined as recreational fires.

Ordinance Requirements:

- Fires must be contained within a fire ring, pit or similar device.
- Fires must be no larger than 3 feet in diameter and 3 feet in height.
- Fires must be at least 25 feet from any structure and the area within a 5-foot radius of the fire must be clear of combustible materials.
- Fire extinguishing equipment must always be readily available. This may be a fire extinguisher, garden hose or other equipment designed for such use.
- The fire must always be attended by at least one responsible person 18 years of age or older.
- Only clean, non-treated wood may be burned. Wood must be at least 1 inch in diameter and produce little smoke or odor.
- Flammable or combustible liquids, yard waste (branches, twigs, sticks, leaves or grass), garbage, recycling, plastic, furniture, construction materials or treated wood shall not be burned or used as starting materials.
- Winds must be less than 10 mph and blow away from nearby residences.
- Residents starting recreational fires must respect weather conditions, neighbors, burning bans and air quality so that nuisance, health, or safety hazards are not created.
- Fires are prohibited when the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources has declared a burning ban (fire danger level is at or above Very High) or the Minnesota Pollution Control Agency has issued an air quality alert.

The fire chief, on-duty firefighters or police officers

are authorized to order recreational fires to be immediately extinguished if smoke emissions are offensive, the fire constitutes a hazardous condition or if residents do not follow the set guidelines.

Fireplace safety seems like the last thing you would want to think about when the temperature is 90° with 70% humidity. But this is the time to beat the rush and make sure that the fireplace in your home is in good repair. Hire a certified chimney sweeper to inspect the whole setup once a year. Only a professional will have the right tools and knowledge to ensure everything is functioning correctly. They will be able to head off significant issues such as cracks in the chimney lining or a damaged chimney cap. They will also be able to clean out any creosote buildup that you might have from last year.



Mama turtle didn't like mulch or rock, the nesting place search continues.



Finally an acceptable place to lay her eggs!

Sweet Cravings

Why is it that after a big meal we still crave something more? Not another helping of meat and potatoes. Not salad. Something sweet. Dessert!

Some scientists say that it is simply conditioning—that we've been trained to eat dessert after dinner since childhood. Others believe that it is a matter of brain chemistry. Eating sugar enables the absorption of amino acids, and these amino acids increase serotonin, which is a powerful chemical in our brains that makes us feel happy. Depriving ourselves of dessert only makes us want it more. Luckily, you will not need to deprive yourself on September 4th, Eat an Extra Dessert Day. Remember, desserts eaten in moderation can be part of a healthy diet. Or, instead of unhealthy sweets like cookies and cake, opt for fruits, which contain natural sugars

Hiding in Plain Sight



This past weekend there were a considerable number of downed branches and tree limbs throughout Chelsea Woods. The branches that were on the roadways were cleared by volunteers. What

most residents may not be aware of are the number of trees in our forested areas that came down in that storm. In an effort to stay within budget, the cleanup of those trees is being done by our Grounds Manager, Jesse.

Emerald Ash Borer assumed residence twenty years ago here in Chelsea Woods and many of our trees have been slowly dying, still others for various other reasons are dying or decaying from the inside out as shown in the photo.



It is imperative that we work with the City of Plymouth Forester and our professional tree service (Meridian) to manage our wooded areas in the most cost effective and efficient manner. If you have dead or downed trees in your wooded area, report it, but also be patient because we are prioritizing

the removal needs. If the tree happens to be in your yard, it is up to you to take care of removing it.

DIY Education

Interested in a little self-improvement? Self-University Week is September 1–7. MOOC stands for Massive Online Open Courses, and this means that anyone can open a computer and join a course online for free. You no longer have to spend thousands of dollars to receive an education at top universities like Harvard, Yale, Stanford, Duke, UCLA, and others that have joined the MOOC movement. Professors have recorded their lectures and have even provided required reading, homework, and final exams. With thousands of people enrolled in these free courses, students cannot expect one-on-one contact with their teachers, but students can easily chat online with other students. Will you earn a degree? Not quite. Some professors offer certificates of completion, but these are not official certificates from the university itself. The goal of MOOC is not to hand out degrees but to offer high quality education to the far reaches of the globe. Do you want to learn Italian? Build a solar panel? Learn how to write good comedy? It is now all there for you at the touch of a button. See MOOC.org for more information.



The bee is not afraid of me

The bee is not afraid of me,
I know the butterfly;
The pretty people in the woods
Receive me cordially.

The brooks laugh louder when I come,
The breezes madder play.
Wherefore, mine eyes, thy silver mists?
Wherefore, O summer's day?

Emily Dickinson

Services Available by Chelsea Woods Residents

Jim Gregory

Handyman Extraordinaire

Text to 612-232-6686

1830 Archer Lane North Working Exclusively in Chelsea Woods

Plymouth, MN 55447 jimgregory327@gmail.com

Electrical-110VAC / Low Voltage, Plumbing, Carpentry, Mechanical, Refinishing
Maintenance, Repairs, Weather Stripping, Picture Hanging, Landscaping



Bob Benik has semi-retired (he is doing pool maintenance for the summer) and this group took Bob out for breakfast to show their appreciation and gratitude for his eight years of service. Bob is staying on to manage our pools for the summer.

Need a Plumber?

John Hannus,
Master Plumber
(retired but wants to stay busy)
763-229-9776

"Summer is the annual permission slip to be lazy. To do nothing and have it count for something. To lie in the grass and count the stars. To sit on a branch and study the clouds." — Regina Brett

Dates to Remember

Independence Day	July 4th
Parents Day	July 28th
Night to Unite	August 6th 6pm -9pm
State Fair	August 22—September 2
Grandparents Day	September 8th
Labor Day	September 2nd
First Day of School	September 3rd

Disclaimer of Endorsement:

The Trails Newsletter of Chelsea Woods contains information and content supplied by third parties. Information contained herein regarding any specific person, commercial product process, or service by trade name, trademark, manufacturer, or otherwise, does not constitute or imply its endorsement, recommendation, or favoring by Chelsea Woods, its directors or employees.

Provider, Products, and Services Disclaimer

The information about providers and services contained in the Trails Newsletter of Chelsea Woods does **not** constitute endorsement or recommendation by Chelsea Woods. It is your responsibility to verify and investigate providers and services. Please consult your own professional advisor for all advice concerning medical, legal or financial matters in connection with the services needed.

Chelsea Woods assumes no liability of any kind for the content of any information transmitted to or received by any person in connection with the person's use of the Trails Newsletter of Chelsea Woods. Also, references in the Trails Newsletter of Chelsea Woods to any specific commercial products, process, information, service, manufacturer, or company do not constitute endorsement or recommendation by Chelsea Woods, its directors or employees.

Content Disclaimer

All information provided in the Trails Newsletter or Chelsea Woods is provided for information purposes only and does not constitute a legal contract or other covenant or agreement of any kind between Chelsea Woods and any person or entity. No warranty, expressed or implied, is made regarding the accuracy, adequacy, completeness, legality, reliability, or

usefulness of any information, either isolated or in the aggregate. All information is provided "as is." All warranties of any kind, express or implied, including but not limited to implied warranties of merchantability, fitness for a particular purpose, freedom from contamination by computer viruses, and non-infringement of proprietary rights, are disclaimed.

Chelsea Woods, and its directors and employees (i) are not liable for any improper or incorrect use of the information in the Trails Newsletter of Chelsea Woods, (ii) assume no responsibility for anyone's use of or reliance on any such information, (iii) are not liable for any damages (of any type, for any reason, however caused, or under any theory of liability) arising in any way out of the use of the Trails News Letter of Chelsea Woods, even if advised of the possibility of that damage.