

TLIA Newsletter

Dues Compliance and Regulations Review

A Note from the Board so you are aware of the rules

Spring is a wonderful time in Tower Lakes. The sun and warm temperatures are returning and the entire community is getting ready to make use of the parks, sports fields and the lake. Tower Lakes is a unique community in that these common areas are all owned by TLIA (aka... the membership). Therefore, TLIA has embedded, in its bylaws, a dues requirement for all homeowners. The annual dues are established annually by the board and primarily budgeted for the maintenance and support of these common properties. In most communities, these types of common assets are paid for through taxation by the local government. That is not the case in Tower Lakes. In addition to maintaining these common assets, the membership dues also go to support many of the incredible social and community-building activities enjoyed each year, ranging from the Chili Cookoff, to Tot Soccer, and ultimately the July 4th celebration. Many members volunteer their time and talents at these events and all of it is supported by association dues. Without membership dues, none of these outings and events can happen and our common properties would be neglected. The TLIA Board, at the February meeting, thought it important to once again inform the entire membership of their responsibilities as related to these wonderful assets and activities.

Sadly, the TLIA membership is still is not 100% compliant with paying dues. Despite numerous notices, there continues to be members who have not paid their 2016, 2017 and 2018 homeowner's dues or established a payment plan as of the March 31 deadline. Since the calendar now reads April, the outstanding 2018 TLIA dues are now past due.

The details that follow are the steps that the TLIA Board is *required to perform* when members are delinquent and action is required for the collection of dues. We have no choice but to administer to the laws of the State of Illinois and our TLIA Bylaws on behalf of every property owner in the community.

Step 1: After final due date is passed

TLIA will send a "Notification Letter," from the board, to inform the homeowner that s/he is delinquent, and a \$100 late charge is assessed to the homeowners account. The letter will ask for payment or request a payment plan be set up. It will state that "until payment is made, you are a member 'not-in-good-standing'." That means the member cannot participate in activities, attend any functions, or use any of the TLIA facilities until the dues are paid in full or a payment plan is established and being followed.

TLIA BOARD

Step 2: If no response is received or no attempt made by member to pay or if a plan is established then neglected

The account is forwarded to our law firm, KSN Law. At this point, TLIA can no longer have any contact with the homeowner. KSN specializes in HOA law, especially in debt collection. KSN issues an official "Collection Letter" and serves it upon the homeowner. The cost is \$106 (currently) and will be charged back to the owner's delinquent account. The homeowner pays all collection and legal fees.

Step 3: If the bill continues to be unpaid

The homeowner will receive, from KSN Law, a "Demand Notice." The cost is about \$350 and will again be charged back to the homeowner's account. If the owner does not make payment in full (within 30 days) of the Demand Notice, then the association has the option to proceed with a "Forcible Lawsuit."

(An aside...at this point, the homeowner has added \$556 to their outstanding bill because s/he has not followed through on a solution of paying their dues or setting up a payment plan.)

Step 4: Final collection options

After TLIA prevails in the lawsuit and after the owner is served, TLIA will have an "Order for Possession" and a "Judgment" will be entered in court against the owner. This action includes credit rating implications. TLIA then has two options. The first is to try to collect from the owner by filing a wage and/or bank garnishment. The second is to proceed with a notice of eviction entitling TLIA to evict the owner and placing a tenant in the home, then applying the rent collected against the delinquent dues balance.

The Board's last wish is to follow this policy through to conclusion. It would be a difficult and undesirable decision. The TLIA Board urges all homeowners to avoid making these steps necessary.

If, however, a homeowner is having trouble paying his/her bill, there are options. The board is sympathetic to people on a fixed income, those who have lost their jobs, have medical conditions, or those who are just having a tough time. The board is understanding of individual situations and will work together to find a mutually agreeable solution. All it takes is a phone call and a conversation. Contact us. We are neighbors and will work towards everyone's best interest.

NOTES FROM THE NEIGHBORHOOD

RANDY YOUNG, PRESIDENT, TLIA

It does my heart good each day to feel the spring season wrap its arms around Tower Lakes as we inch our

way closer and closer to warmer weather. After all, springtime is a very special season around here. The grass begins to green up, trees pop their leaves, and the Easter Bunny makes its annual visit to the TL islands. That's right everyone, break out those bonnets, pastel shoes, flowered jumpers and bring on the smiles. It's Easter Bunny time.

It's a very special day when neighbors, friends and families all come out of winter hibernation and say hello to a bright new season. We've all been stuck inside our isolated worlds for too many cold and cloudy days, but those days are over! Let the sunshine in as it brightens all our hopes and dreams with the gentle warmth and fragrant scent of springtime. It's a grand opportunity for us all!

Need proof you say? Well it was easy to find. Despite a cold and rainy spring morning, the Easter Bunny lead the charge across the bridges to the islands for the Youth Committee's Annual Easter Egg Hunt. We all saw the ear-to-ear smiles on the faces of our kids, grandkids, and those who wish they were still kids. They all jumped for joy as they found colorful eggs chock full of all kinds of surprises, candy, coins, and little toys that made us smile. We heard the joyful yelps of each child as they found that special treat behind every bush, hidden next to the tree stump, or maybe in grandpa's pocket or grandma's sweater. I hope you each took a moment to say thank you to the volunteers on the Youth Committee for making our springtime just a little brighter or if you didn't get the chance, send them a brief note of thanks by [CLICKING HERE](#).

When the sun comes out and warm air billows through the new leaves, it makes us all kids again, wondering just how good we have it, as we grab our baseball mitts, fishing poles or bikes and just laze the coming days away in the warm sunshine.

It is a season to enjoy our friends, neighbors and family! Take this special time to gather everyone close, wish them a Happy Easter, Happy Passover or just bestow a smiling "good morning" as spring dawns another beautiful season in Tower Lakes.



Email me and let me know
your thoughts.
[CLICK HERE](#)



[Read all the president's columns at TLIA.org](#)

February 20, 2018 TLIA BOARD MEETING MINUTES UNAPPROVED

TLIA BOARD

Board Members: Randy Young, Steve Burgoon, Tom Kubala, Kevin Middleditch, Kathy Pattengale, Fran Steffen, and John Yancey

Apologies: Mary Magro and Mike Mitchell

Committee Reps:

Pat Covek - Tennis & Grounds Beautification, Kelsi Knight - Events

Guests: None

Call to Order

Randy Young

President's Report

Randy Young

Randy Young shared details regarding the 703 N Lake Shore Dr. property transfer. He also provided an update on the foreclosure at 128 South Hills. This property is currently boarded up and has been sold through the court system. The new owner will receive a prorated dues invoice. As a result, TLIA will lose approximately \$500 in dues money.

A \$2,300 fine has been paid on behalf of TLIA for unpaid taxes dating back to 1996-2007. The latest tax returns have been filed and are posted on the TLIA website.

Approval of November Minutes

Motion to approve: Fran Steffen

Second: John Yancey

All in favor

Committees

Beach

Mary Magro

No Report

Communications

Cassandra Young

The Communications Committee sent out email blasts, created and posted signs, and published the monthly newsletter this month. In addition, they are in the process of creating a digital archive, refreshing the website, and coordinating list management with Member Services.

Events

Kelsi Knight

The laser tag event was a success. The Pub Quiz might need to be canceled due to low registration numbers to date. The Progressive Dinner is scheduled for May. Tentative dates for the 4th of July festivities are Wednesday, July 4, followed by a July 6 Friday night adult social and two days of events on Saturday & Sunday, July 7 & 8.

To see prior Board minutes, click button.

Click here

TLIA BOARD

Next Meeting:

April 9, 2018 - 7:00 pm

May 14, 2018 - 7:00 pm

Tower Lakes Village Hall

All recent meeting minutes are archived on the [TLIA.org](#) website.

Hints to Protect Against Burglaries and Thefts

Contributed by Chief Sinacore,
Tower Lake Police

I would like to remind residents that burglary to homes, cars, and garages, have occurred in Tower Lakes. To help safeguard against such crimes, please remember a few common sense precautions. Please remember to lock all doors and windows if no one will be home at your house. At night, double check that your garage door is closed, and that valuables such as bicycles, and property is stored. It is always a good idea to leave lights on inside and outside your house for safety and to give the illusion that someone is at home. Installing motion sensing lights on your property can help scare away would be thieves and reduce hiding outside. The Tower Lakes Police Department also offers a house check program for any Tower Lakes resident who goes on vacation. To register call

(847) 526-3800. The Tower Lakes Police Department Officers will do periodic premise checks of your residence while you are gone. While these steps will not totally eliminate the possibility of hindering a crime, they do minimize the chances. Remember, most criminals are opportunists and look for an easy and quick job. Why make it easy for them?



TLIA Dues Reminder

TLIA dues were due March 31. Payments received after March 31, 2018 that are not covered by a payment plan, agreed upon with the TLIA financial secretary, are subject to a \$100 late fee.

Please mail your payment to:

**PO Box 405
Barrington, IL 60010**

or hand-deliver to:

TLIA mailbox at the Village Hall

Payments were due **March 31**. If you need to create a payment plan, please contact our financial secretary, Fran Steffen, at dues@tlia.org.

Happy Holi Tower Lakes!

Contributed by Shaun Kildare

Holi Party!
Tower Lakes 2nd Annual Holi BBQ
June 2, Starting at 2 PM
Hussissian Park (Soccer Field)
BYO food and drink
TL Youth Committee
RSVP: [Click here](#)

It is that time of year again to get out your white shirts, get good and messy, and take part in one of Hinduism's great festivals...Holi! This year we are reviving the barbeque we did last year down at the soccer field, and we once again welcome all of our neighbors to stop by and take part.

Holi is a celebration of spring marking the passing of winter and the triumph of good over evil. Technically this year it was back on March 2...but that is waaay too cold here in Chicagoland, so we are doing this June 2. It is also a festival to celebrate burying the hatchet and letting go of old disputes. The festival is marked by a large bonfire the night before, followed by a citywide colored powder and water gun fight and ends with the sharing of a meal with friends and family.

This year, like last, we will be celebrating this with a BYO-barbeque. Bring what you want to grill and drink, and maybe a little extra to share. We will provide the barbeque and the colored powder! This is a very BYO event, bring what you need for the bbq including chairs, tables, utensils, etc.

This is a messy event. Holi is celebrated with a colored powder fight and a water gun fight. The powder is food dyed cornstarch. Participants are encouraged to wear white shirts (the powder shows up much better); other clothing should be anything you don't mind getting extra messy and possibly stained.

If you plan to attend please RSVP at [CLICK HERE](#)



Memorial Day TLIA "Fun Run for the Parks"

Monday, May 28 (Memorial Day)

Proceeds to benefit TLIA Parks and Grounds

Contributed by John Yancey

TLIA Parks and Grounds Committee and the Stewards of the Parks invite you to join in on the fun on Memorial Day, Monday, May 28 for the first Fun Run for the Parks. This year's proceeds will help defer costs of a number of improvements in all our parks, such as new picnic tables, umbrellas and the new elm tree on Play Island (the beach).

The Fun Run will start at the Soccer Field at 9:00 am and end on Rest Island where a short Memorial Day service will be held, and refreshments served.

Two routes will be offered to participants: an east side short loop for small kids and families with strollers, and the full course which will include east, west and the north lake loop. An email blast will be sent out prior to the fun run date detailing the routes. The route will include multiple quick stops at each of our parks where runners will need to complete fun activities and/or specific tasks before continuing. Participants will be greeted by Park Stewards at each park and instructed on how to complete the activity before continuing to the next park.

Medals and prizes will be awarded to the first three runners from each category and for the family group; and ONLY if all can show proof of all tasks completed at each park.

The course route will finish on Rest Island. The Tower Lakes police will be very involved and will monitor the course and make safe all major road crossings. They will also help at the finish line in honoring all that have served our country in a short Memorial Day service where Taps will be played.

The entrance fee will be \$40/family, \$20/individual runners. Kids under 12 are free. Fun Run T-shirts can be ordered when you register prior to the event for \$15 each. All registration will be online at the TLIA website. Watch for an email with instructions on registration, T-Shirts, and routes.



There will be three categories in the race:

1. Individual runners 12 -18 years old;
2. Individual runners 19 + years; and
3. Families (11 and under participants should be entered in the family category and accompanied by a parent or older sibling).

Arbor Day Celebration

Sponsored by

the Village & TLIA
Saturday, April 28
11:00 am - beach

Come out and bring the family to celebrate our Tree City USA status and learn about the care of your trees. The celebration will be held on Beach Island at 11:00 am. The Village Tree Commission has teamed up with the Morton Arboretum to provide information for families and especially children on the importance of trees in our community. Children attending will receive a small Norway Spruce for planting with their parents at their home.

TLIA Parks will dedicate the new elm tree planted on the beach.

Come out and help us celebrate the wonderful trees in our community. For more information please contact Rick Steffen at Ricks569@yahoo.com

TLIA GROUNDS



So... Get in shape! challenge your neighbors and friends families! And come out and join us to celebrate our parks and honor those who have served.



For more information or to volunteer to help, please email or call
[John Yancey or Mike Mitchell](#)

TLIA GROUNDS

Check out the
 Great Memories
 The Kids Jump Event
 Pub Quiz Night
 Easter Bunny in TL
 Page 10 & 11

TLIA SPRING CLEANUP DAY



MEET AT BEACH
PARKING LOT
8:00 am

TLIA GROUNDS

- Please meet at the beach parking lot at 8:00 am.
- Work will focus on park projects and maintenance.
- Lunch will be provided at the tennis courts at 12:00 noon.
- Please bring protective hand and eyewear.

**Come out with the family
and lend a hand.**

For more information, please call
John Yancey or Mike Mitchell.



Kathleen Leitner Named New President of Citizens for Conservation

Contributed by Patty Barten



Tower Lakes' own Kathleen Leitner is the new President of Citizens for Conservation. Kathleen is our former multi-term Village President of Tower Lakes and a founder and current board member of the Tower Lakes Community Foundation.

Kathleen's nomination was confirmed at CFC's 47th annual meeting on March 8 attended by more than 220 supporters. She brings her vast experience and skills to a newly expanded Presidential role. In addition to the organization's successful on-going activities and regional leadership, Kathleen will be leading new programs and objectives to deliver benefits to the greater Barrington Community.

Kathleen said she is "very excited and honored to be leading CFC in its next visionary steps. CFC is a strong organization with engaged leadership and amazing supporters and volunteers."

Please congratulate Kathleen on this important new role.

Citizens for Conservation's 22nd Annual NATIVE PLANT, SHRUB & TREE SALE

May 5 & 6

9 am - 3pm

Good Shepard Hospital



Citizens
for
Conservation

Click
[HERE](#)

for details

The Trouble with Buckthorn

Contributed by Patty Barten

Why is there so much fuss about buckthorn? Basically it is an invasive species that destroys our ecosystems. It pushes out native plants and kills native wild flowers and trees. Therefore, pollinators, birds and other wildlife do not have the food sources and shelter they need to thrive. Buckthorn has a very shallow root system that does not protect against flooding and erosion like the deeper root systems of native plants. So as buckthorn takes over, the soil around oaks and larger trees washes away, killing the trees



and native plants.

Buckthorn is spreading in spite of eradication efforts. 42% of the tree landscape in Lake County is buckthorn according to the Regional Tree Initiative. Buckthorn is a very prolific plant that spreads by its root system and berries carried by birds. It's usually one of the first plants to leaf-out in the spring and the last to shed leaves in the fall. Plants have nasty thorns and can get very large.

Groups work continuously to eradicate buckthorn from nature preserves. But birds carry seeds from plants on neighboring residential areas back into the preserves. This reseeding creates a continuous battle to eradicate buckthorn in important ecosystems like preserves.

But you have some in your yard! Buckthorn is a big challenge in Tower Lakes. If you, or a lawn service, just cut the buckthorn it will come back with a vengeance as a larger multi-stemmed plant. There are areas that literally look like thick forests of buckthorn due to just mowing the small plants in years past. Stumps must be herbicided or completely pulled up to eradicate the plant.

This article from the Chicago Tribune highlights why buckthorn is so bad for the environment along with a new focus on enlisting homeowners to help towards the goal of eradication. It is definitely worth a [read](#).

Tower Lakes is important

In addition to making Tower Lakes healthier and more beautiful, the control of buckthorn will also help all the nature preserves and open spaces that surround us.



What you can do to help

1. Help slow the spread of buckthorn. Join in the tree initiative.
2. Learn how to identify and correctly remove buckthorn. Participate in Tower Lakes Cleanup Days or any of the workday events through Lake County Forest Preserves, Barrington Greenway Initiative, Citizens for Conservation, or Barrington Area Conservation Trust. You can learn a lot by volunteering.
3. Remove buckthorn from your property.
4. Tell other Tower Lakers about removing buckthorn.



Tower Lakes Garden Club Meeting

Wednesday, April 18, 2018

7:00 pm at the Village Hall

Building Healthy Garden Beds

Guest speaker

Hugh Davis

of Willoway Nurseries

Please RSVP to

[*towerlakesgardenclub@gmail.com*](mailto:towerlakesgardenclub@gmail.com)

LUMBER GRASS - CUSTOMIZED LAWN SERVICE

Jack & Nick Wegh, Tower Lakes, IL

Jackwegh49@gmail.com

Jack Cell 847-507-9122

or

nickwegh@gmail.com

Nick Cell 847-502-9330

It's the Year of the Bird!



Photo courtesy of Stephen Barten, DVM

The year 2018 marks the centennial of the Migratory Bird Treaty Act, the most powerful and important bird-protection law ever passed. In honor of this milestone, nature lovers around the world are joining forces to celebrate the "Year of the Bird" and commit to protecting birds today and for the next hundred years. Join *National Geographic*, *National Audubon Society*, *Birdlife International* and *Cornell Lab of Ornithology* in celebrating the Year of the Bird.

You can help make it a better world for birds. Sign up at the official website (birdyourworld.org), and receive emails with monthly projects, inspiring stories and things you can do to help birds. Websites for each of the organizations above also have links to wonderful information (like how to select the best binoculars for you), free bird ID apps, fun instructional games to learn bird calls through both audio and spectrograms, and native plants that support birds. There are also listings of upcoming TV specials, new publications and local events. Even just taking a walk in nature to listen and watch for birds is an action.

Birds are a great indication of the health of nature. Helping them ultimately helps us. Get involved.

Contributed by Patty Barten

Helpful links:

[National Geographic Year of the Bird](#)

[National Audubon Society Year of the Bird](#)

[National Geographic Year of the Bird Campaign](#)

The Progressive Tapas Dinner

Saturday
May 19

Join your friends and neighbors for the 2018 Progressive Dinner featuring a Tapas format. Tapas are small plates served in a more casual setting. This is always a highlight of Tower Lakes Events.

Partiers each receive an itinerary and visit two houses featuring tapas of all kinds. You will meet a diverse group of neighbors at each house and then join the group at the Dessert House for remainder of the evening.

Here are the details for Saturday,
May 19:

Time: Tapas House 1 - 6:00 p.m.
Tapas House 2 - 8:00 p.m.
Dessert House - 10:00 p.m. - 1:30 a.m.

Cost: \$20/single \$40/couple
before May 4
\$25/\$50 after May 4

TLIA EVENTS COMMITTEE



Checks should be made out to TLIA and drop off at the Lacsons' home: 25466 Wren Road

Tapas Hosts: Please provide substantial but informal appetizers to serve.

Tapas Guests: Please bring 2 bottles of wine to each tapas home: one to share and one to appreciate their host.

*Additional information/itineraries will be shared to hosts and guests the week prior to the event.

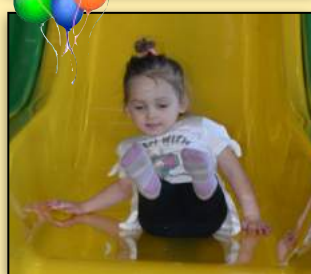
Jump, Run, Play

Contributed by Shaun Kildare

The TL Play Group and their Little Leprechauns kept it local last month, returning to the Treehouse in lake Zurich. The slides were the hit of the week! We would like to thank the Banaszak family for coming out.

For those interested in the play group, please email me at shaunkildare@hotmail.com. We try to meet at least once a month on a M/W/F in the morning around 10 to noon. (This is based on a survey of respondents, but could change with enough responses).

TL Play Group



**SIGN UP
NOW!**

[Click here](#)

Tower Lakes Youth Tennis

- Tennis lessons will begin June 11 and run through August 2
- Classes are Mon/Wed or Tues/Thurs running from 9am-1pm
- Kindergarten and 1st grade - \$70 for 45 min lesson
- 2nd grade through 8th grade - \$80 for 60 min lesson

Class times and days may change based on enrollment. Grade is based on what your child's grade level will be in the fall of 2018. I will try to accommodate all requests.

- Any questions? Please contact Bridget Lacson at sheansbm@yahoo.com or 312-927-2114.
- Any Tower Lakes teen interested in coaching lessons needs to send resume to Bridget Lacson at sheansbm@yahoo.com no later than April 15.

Register here

Click here

TLIA YOUTH TENNIS



Planned lesson schedule is:

Kindergarten M/W 9-9:45 am
 1st grade M/W 9:45-10:30 am
 3rd grade M/W 10:30-11:30 am
 5th grade M/W 11:30-12:30 pm
 2nd grade T/TH 9-10 am
 4th grade T/TH 10-11 am
 6th grade T/TH 11-12 noon
 7th-8th grade T/TH noon-1 pm

Helen Cantieri

ABR, SFF

530 N Hough St. Ste 180
 Barrington, IL 60010

Cell 847.340.4601

Direct 847.277.2287

Fax 781.609.9481

Email helen.cantieri@cbexchange.com

"Like my fellow realtor, Cathy Schmidt, I will donate \$250 to TL Youth Committee for every home I sell in Tower Lakes."

COLDWELL BANKER
 RESIDENTIAL BROKERAGE



If you're buying or selling, you've got to call Helen!



Welcome to the Neighborhood!

Contributed by Mary Beth Adams

Nathan & Laura Janitz 122 Rose Terrace



We have new friends in South Hills! The Janitz family lived in Chicago and Lake Zurich before finding their home here in Tower Lakes. Laura graduated from Barrington High School and is a recruiter for an accounting firm. Nathan is in digital marketing. They have three children. Anna is six, Dylan is 4 and Evan is 3. They are a very busy family that enjoys cooking, sharing great wines, kayaking and going for long walks. They are huge Purdue fans and enjoy watching college football and basketball games. They have already met many of their neighbors and look forward to meeting many more!

Join us for a Family Outing!
A day at the
Schaumburg Boomers Game!

Saturday, July 21

*Food at 5:00 pm
(all you can eat buffet
included)

*Game starts at 6:00 pm
*Fireworks after the game



Our group will have the entire
Left Field Party Deck.

All are welcome, so invite your family and friends!

\$25 per person (ages 3 and up)

Please RSVP by May 4

[Click here](#)

TLIA YOUTH COMMITTEE

Tot/Parent Soccer



Coach Andy is back and ready for action on the field! Bring your own soccer ball and water bottle.

Ages 2 - 4 years old
9:00 am, Saturdays

Dates:

April 28; May 5, 12, 19

\$15 if you'd like to order a t-shirt!
(checks made out to TLIA Youth)

We hope to see you there!

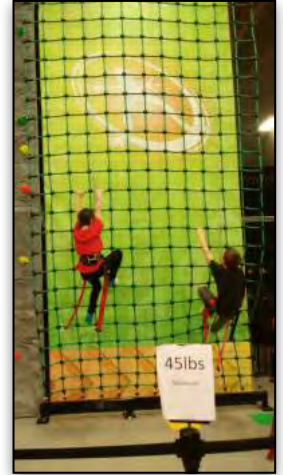
Sign up
by April 18!

[Click here](#)

TLIA YOUTH COMMITTEE

Jump photos

47 tickets sold to raise a total of \$235 for the Clark family



TLIA YOUTH COMMITTEE

Photos courtesy of Lisa Vraniak and Kristi Nash

TLIA EVENTS COMMITTEE



Trivia Night

photos by Kristi Nash





Photos by Lisa Vraniak & Kristi Nash

Tower Lakes 4th of July 2018 - **Lake Life**

Here is a sneak peak of some of the events that will take place during the celebration:

Tuesday, July 3
Adult Social

Wednesday, July 4
*Parade, Flag Raising,
Pie Eating, Bingo,
Sailboat Races*

Thursday, July 5
*TL Youth Committee Event
(evening)*

Friday, July 6
*Music on the Main Stage
(evening)*

Saturday, July 7
*Pony Rides,
Beach Events, and Music*

Sunday, July 8
*Pancake Breakfast,
Music, Volleyball,
Tennis Tournament*

TLIA EVENTS COMMITTEE

If you would like to help lead any of the events during the celebration please email events@tlia.org

We will post the SignUp genius in May.

Your Tower Lakes Home Town Agent

Serving the Tower Lakes Area since 1993!

TLIA Youth Committee
receives a \$250 donation
for every home I sell in
Tower Lakes

Cathy Schmidt

Broker Associate

847-828-1277

remaxcathy@icloud.com

www.cathyschmidthomes.com



Download my QR code to get the
free RE/MAX Home Finder App.



OUTSTANDING AGEN
OUTSTANDING RESUL

RE/MAX of Barrington

306 W. Northwest Hwy., Barrington, IL 60010

Tower Lakes Newsletter
P.O. Box 405
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