



# Trails Newsletter

July 01, 2025

## Stalled At The Finish Line

“The devil is in the details”, the saying goes. And that has proven to be the case with the sale of your tennis club as well. A general agreement on the sale of the club to the pro from Texas has been in place since early April. However, a contract has still not been signed yet. It has stalled inches from the finish line. But we are still hopeful it will cross the line in the next days.

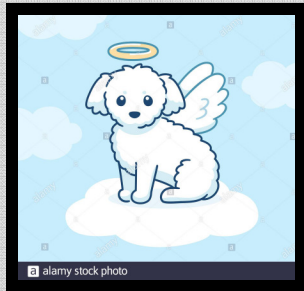
And even if it doesn't - this is not the end, neither for the club nor for its members. If a deal with the TX pro is not reached by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July, other options will be explored. This deal has taken so long, a pipeline of new inquiries has built up. While most of them seem to be just exploratory, there are at least two that seem to be quite serious. Both are out of Florida. So, if one deal falls through, another one will get started. Trails members deserve to be in great hands. You

will hear/read more about the outcome in the next couple of days.

What is completely unaffected by all of this is your dues. Their amount will stay the same it has been for a while. The one change: only monthly payments are possible at this time. Please pay your dues for July only. Later in July, you will hear how future payments of yours will be handled. More details on the back page.

Also new this month: clay court pickleball. We were able to obtain a couple of pre-production clay court pickleballs. If you want to try them out, talk to Jan. These are very rare balls that cannot be purchased anywhere yet. Bring your own paddle, please.

For these and other fun topics, keep reading. Happy Fourth Of July everyone.



*Cookie in Heaven*

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## New Members

As play opportunities at other facilities diminish (snow birds going home, court resurfacing, etc.), the Trails is benefitting from its always open courts. Some guest players rolled in, and a new member joined,

too:

♦ Tom Donovan

Tom is an old friend of the Trails and will test the quality and reliability of its players now. Welcome to the Trails, Tom.

## Clay Court Pickleball!

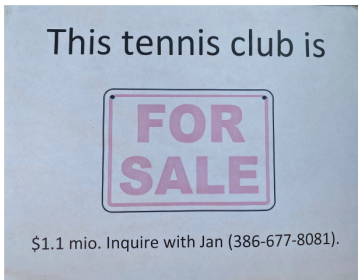
A question quite regularly being asked is if the Trails Racquet Club could convert 1 or 2 of its courts from tennis to pickleball.

Great question, that. In the past, that would have meant tearing up a clay court and replacing its soft surface with concrete. **NOT HAPPENING!**

But here is great news for pickleball fans: sports equipment manufacturer

Wilson and tennis court builder HarTru have developed a pickleball for clay courts. The ball is not commercially available yet. However, HarTru was so friendly as to send us a couple of prototypes. If YOU want to try out joint-friendly pickleball on our clay courts, talk to Jan. He will gladly loan you a ball for your tryout.





## Sale Of The Trails – July Update

In spite of best intentions by everyone, only little progress has been made in the last month. The contract to sell the club is still bouncing around between seller, buyer, and lawyers. The number of questions in discussion keeps going down, but it is still not at zero. In

fact, it seems that for every two solved problems another one shows up.

But either way - by the 3<sup>rd</sup> of July this deal is either done, or another one will be pursued. You will hear/read about it, as always.



## Dues – Month-By-Month Now

As mentioned in various places, a sale of the Trails appears imminent. So, to maintain maximum flexibility for everybody, you are asked to pay your dues for one month at a time only. Members on automatic payment will also only get charged

for one month at a time. Once a new owner takes over, he/she will communicate to you what the new dues will be and how to pay them. Until then, the old fee schedule (\$82/month for seniors, \$92/month for adults, \$112/month for couples, etc.) stays in place.



## Century Plant – Still Standing Tall

She might look a bit ragged by now, and is clearly leaning - but the Century Plant or Blue Agave in the back flower bed remains our backyard star. What a way to stand tall until the very end: until the last flower has bloomed, or match point has been played, as we say in tennis. The plant grew its stalk in mid

March, and it is still standing upright almost 4 months later. It has spread hundreds of flowers, some of which will produce baby Agave plants. Then the stalk will collapse and the mother plant will die. Circle of life completed. Great to observe the beauty of nature at work.



### Dear members of the Trails Racquet Club,

With so many interesting things going on at the Trails, it pays to show up for matches here. If you want to get involved in some, talk to Jan. Setting up good matches for our members is the #1 priority here at the Barn. Happy Trails, and Happy Fourth Of July everyone.

Jan Buenner & Team

