

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association

PO BOX 21222
DES MOINES, IA 50321

SEPTEMBER 2020



Save These **DATES**

October 19, 2020

SWHNA Board Meeting

November 3, 2020

Election Day

November 5, 2020

Possible General Meeting

November 16, 2020

SWHNA Board Meeting

Executive Board

President

George Davis
288-0764

Vice-President

Nick Van Patten
249-9698

Treasurer

Heather Carman
979-9291

Secretary

Ginny Renda
287-3999

Pete Conrad
619-990-4585

Joe Harrison
210-8361

Penny Harrison
202-0166

Jon Shelness
314-5420

Steve Sarcone
287-7161

Steve Utterson
321-0717

Message From Our President

Dear Neighbor,

2020 has been a year we will never forget. I never thought I would see the day when it is mandatory to wear a face mask into the bank. That one room country school is now in our home. The audience at sporting events are cardboard cutouts, and stores have "one way" street signs in the aisles. Many adjustments in our lives.

Your Southwestern Hills board is still on the job. Even though our general meetings have been postponed for safety reasons, our board still meets monthly. We address neighborhood issues with zoning, streets, tree removal, housing permits and any concerns related to our neighborhood. We have Facebook (Southwestern Hills Neighborhood), website (swhna.com), email (coachdavis@mchsi.com), and regular mail at SWHNA, PO Box 21222, Des Moines, 50321. Contact us with your concerns.

Over the past few days, I've had deer, raccoons, opossums, and even a fox in my back yard. The fall colors are coming. Country living in our city neighborhood. Southwestern Hills is the best!

Wearing a mask!

George Davis

288-0764

We Support a Public Vote

The SWHNA Board discussed the Des Moines School Board's recent approval of a Drake/DM School partnership to build an estimated \$17,000,000 + soccer stadium East of the Knapp Center on Forest Avenue. Because of many neighborhood calls and comments, the board feels this does involve our neighborhood. Based on several thousand signatures presented, a board motion was unanimously passed by the SWHNA Board to let the Des Moines voters decide if taxpayer money should be used to build this stadium.

Working Together



The SWHNA Board wants to thank all of the Polk County Board of Supervisors for grant opportunities and involvement with neighborhood groups.

The Des Moines City Council and Polk County Supervisors will continue working together on many projects and shared amenities that will make our community strong and inviting.

Thank you Polk County Supervisors and Chairman, Matt McCoy. Thank you Mayor Frank Cownie and Council Members.

SWHNA 2020 Board Meeting Dates

The SWHNA Board meets the 3rd Monday of every month except December, when no meeting is held. Board meetings are open to neighborhood members and by calling a listed Board Member, you can be placed on the meeting agenda. Meetings are hosted at the Wakonda Christian Church upstairs meeting room, beginning at 6:00 p.m. Neighborhood members are encouraged to use your Neighborhood Association regarding issues in the neighborhood.

What's Happening In The Neighborhood?



- Our "Neighbors Night Out" picnic originally scheduled for August 4th, then moved to October 6th, has been cancelled for 2020....yes, Covid!
- The "Kruse Construction" housing project on SW 56th has over 25 new homes. A nice addition to our neighborhood.
- The old "Valero" store on Park Avenue is vacant and up for sale. Hope a new business comes to the building rescue.
- Fleur Drive construction is ongoing (seems forever) but construction is within the timeline. We are all aware of the traffic back up.
- Derecho? A new word in our vocabulary. Did lots of damage and destroyed many beautiful trees. We all learned to live without electricity. Remember how happy we were when it came back on.
- Jethro's BBQ opened on Park Avenue. A nice, new restaurant. Welcome to the south-side. You join many other great places to eat in our area.
- The walkway, under Fleur Drive, from Waterworks to Gray's Lake is open and looks great.
- We are fortunate to have three large grocery stores and several convenience stores in our neighborhood.

Quick Neighborhood Updates With Emails

Our neighborhood organization will keep you informed on issues involving our neighborhood. The information will be sent via email and your email will never be sold or given to other organizations for any purpose. You will not be burdened with unnecessary and unrelated information. This email system was very helpful in keeping neighbors informed about recent crime situations in our neighborhood. We will also keep you informed about neighborhood meetings, zoning changes and building projects. Over 475 neighbors are already on the list. Email coachdavis@mchsi.com and request to be added. This is **not** affiliated with a National Group called "Nextdoor".

Did Property Tax Increase?

Yes, it probably did. Property tax was based on your home evaluation for 2019. We received our evaluations via mail by April 1st. If property owners disagree with the evaluation, they could have filed a protest from April 2nd to June 5th web.assess.co.polk.ia.us - Protest Forms. The same is true every year. Basically, the protest are "the assessment is not comparable to others with similar properties" or "the property is assessed at more than its actual value". Property owners who disagree with the assessor's estimate of the market value of their property should ask themselves, "Could I sell this property for that amount today?" If the answer is yes, then the value is probably correct. The first half payment for 2019 is due September 30th and the 2nd half is due March 31, 2021.

The City Council does not control the property evaluation or other taxing authorities such as schools, county or state. They only set the mileage rate for Des Moines which was reduced to \$16.61 per thousand. That rate, passed by Council, is the lowest in eight years and is close to the lowest rate in twenty-five years. Our city budget is based on our tax rate.

Will our property tax bill continue to go up? Remember, it is based on property evaluation. Do you see your home losing value? The City Council and Polk County are working to improve every neighborhood.

Des Moines City Directory

| | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------------------------|----------|
| Public Works | Public Works Department | 283-4950 |
| Animal Control | Police Department | 283-4811 |
| Code Enforcement | Community Development | 283-4046 |
| Building Codes | Community Development | 283-4046 |
| Emergency | Emergency | 911 |
| Information Center | City Clerk | 283-4500 |
| Municipal Code | Legal Department | 283-4130 |
| Parks Dept. Administration | | 237-1386 |
| General Information | Police Department | 283-4824 |
| Parks & Trail Maintenance | Parks/Recreation Department | 237-1386 |
| Permits & Inspection | Community Development | 283-4200 |
| Sidewalks | Public Works | 283-4950 |
| Street Signs | Police Department | 283-4873 |
| Traffic | Police Department | 271-4650 |
| Zoning & Zoning Enforcement | Community Development | 283-4200 |

Comments Heard From Neighbors



- "Thank you Des Moines police for keeping us informed about neighborhood crime and safety issues. Our liaison officer keeps us up to date. I support them."
- "I have concerns about so many business vacancies along Fluer Drive. The same is happening on SW 9th."
- "Public Works is doing a good job picking up tree limbs. A big, big job!"
- "I didn't realize schools get that much percentage of our property tax dollars."
- "I have a new appreciation for our parks and trails during this isolation time."
- "I'm seeing lots of homes for sale in our area, many new neighbors moving in."
- Our police department does a great job. They are involved in many activities."
- "Can't wait for elections to be over!"
- Spending tax dollars on vandalism damage and paint tags is a waste of money."
- I hate facemasks, but, I'll wear it everywhere."

Get On Our Website

Our Neighborhood Association has a website www.swhna.com that provides information about upcoming events, neighborhood concerns, current membership lists and a picture inventory. In fact, if you have a picture that defines our neighborhood or that special neighbor, email it to us and we'll get it on the website. You may also go to the "Contact Section" and send us a direct email about any concerns you may have. If we have your email address, you can stay current on neighborhood events and not wait for the newsletter. Try it, you'll like it!

Did Something Nice Happen?

Do you have a neighbor that has done something nice for you or the neighborhood? How about letting us know via email and we will recognize them at our neighborhood meetings. It just takes a minute to let us know the good deed, the person's name and their contact information.

Please email George Davis at coachdavis@mchsi.com

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association

2019 Paid Members

Abendroth, Melissa
 Adrianse, Rick & Lori
 Agey, Ken
 Amend, Barbara
 Andersen, Zac
 Anderson, Ann & Sigurd
 Anderson, Amy
 Anderson, Betty J
 Anderson, Bob & Kathie
 Anderson, Don & Joan
 Andrews, Karen & Tom
 Augustine, Ed
 Babcock, Kevin
 Bailey, Bobby
 Ballard, Leonard & Sheryl
 Bardole, Linda
 Bare, Barbara J
 Bartine, Mary Kay
 Belding, Marion & Family
 Belieu, Dale & Jenny
 Beltrame, Larry & Gina
 Bentz, Floyd
 Besco, Alise
 Besh, Kirk & Cathy
 Bierley, Tom & Christy
 Bird, Michael & Lora
 Blake, Darlene
 Bonnett, Gary & Vicki
 Breed, John
 Brewer, Jacquie & Ely
 Brocksley, Penny
 Brown, April & Glen
 Bryce, Ed & Mary Jane
 Bryson, Jack & Rose
 Burnquist, John & Ellen
 Canfield, Paul & Vivian
 Cardamone, Marie
 Carroll, Dewayne
 Carter-Lewis, Linda
 Celsi, Claire
 Cheung, David
 Chidley, Holly & Mark
 Clark, Andy & Janet
 Coble, Tim & Janice
 Comfort, Connie
 Conrad, Rachel & Pete
 Core, Mark & Mary
 Core, Ruth "Scotty"
 Cosimo, Mary
 Cruchelow, Todd & Lisa
 Currie, Ed & Betty
 Daly, Chrys & Michael
 Dassanayake, Tamara
 Davis, George & Sandi
 Davis, Mike
 Davis, Toby
 Decker, Jerry
 DeMeyer, Phil & Cindi
 Donnelly, Tom & Amy
 Dow, Carmen
 Dunn, Marty & Jean
 Durik, Jacob & Amy Tincher
 Easley, Jacqueline (McGhee)
 Eddy, Elizabeth
 Edelstein, Deena & Scarpino
 Eggers, Melinda
 Eidson, Derek & Natasha
 Erickson, James
 Erickson, Catherine
 Evans, Randy & Sue
 Fanter, Cynde & Bill
 Farley, Michael & Mary J Timp
 Farley, Roland & Jean
 Felice, Richard & Elaine
 Fegley, Dave & Cathie
 Fering, Al
 Flapan, Marshall & Judy
 Flug, Ryan, Taren, & Birdie
 Flynn, Andy & Linda
 Foggia, Diane
 Forbuger, Randy & Bonnie
 Foreman, Jeffrey & Maddie
 Gaffney, John & Jane
 Gage, Marchelle
 Garnett, Bob & Faye
 Garot, Pat & Ken
 Glass, Julie & George
 Glodt, David & Janine
 Goldman, Cathy & Tom
 Good, Bill
 Gosselink, Carol A
 Grant, Sarah
 Graziano, Albert
 Green, Nancy
 Green, Chris & Belinda
 Greenwald, Adrienne
 Griffin, Kathryn
 Gross, Connie & Alex
 Grote, Roger & Carol
 Guess, Matt & Melissa
 Hall, Dr. Joe & Carrie
 Hamilton, Lisa
 Harcourt, Beverly
 Harrison, Penny & Scott
 Harrison, Joe & Kim
 Hassel, Larry
 Hassman, Jared
 Hays, Nancy
 Heiken, Ryan
 Hein, Richard & Jane
 Hemsma, Denny & Nancy
 Hendrix, Sharon & Rick
 Held, Steven & Susan-Breen
 Hill, Mark
 Hillman, Rosemary
 Holmes, Chuck & Becky
 Huber, Marj
 Hunter, Robert
 Huppert, Sue & Michael
 Ingvaldson, Scott & Becky
 Irvin, Chuck & Anne
 Jacobsen, Clark
 Jarnagin, Jeffrey
 Jaquinta, Sam
 James, Martha
 Johnson, Heather & Tony
 Jones, Josh & Lisa
 Jones, Paul
 Kawamura, Barbara & Myles & family
 Keairness, Mark
 Kehoe, Theresa
 Kenneally, Joe & Joan
 Kesterson, Kris
 King, Kim & Lorna Johnson
 Kinley, Sara & Ray
 Kirk, Lew & Linda
 Konior, John & Jenny
 Kruse, Dan (Development)
 Kruse, Marilyn
 Kucera, Joe
 Kunkel, Mary & Chuck
 Laverty, Joan K
 Lavigne, June & Harry
 Lawson, Jim
 Leach, Tim & Rhonda
 Leo, Julie
 Leonard, Timothy & Karen
 Leopold, Harry
 Lewis, Dennis & Mary
 Lindfield, Anita
 Lindeman, Dean
 Luft, Jim
 Mahoney, John & Lisa
 Martel, Rich & Jill Sorenson
 Mauro, Eddie & Sharilyn
 Mauro, Michael & Dorothy
 Mauro, Joe & Joanne
 Mauro, John & Grace
 McCall, Dr. John (102 years)
 McCaughey, Rhonda
 McDonald, Chris & Stacey
 McGhee, Odell & Jacqueline
 McGowan, John
 McMichael, Mark & Sheri
 Michael, Jerry & Neva
 Michelson, Brent & Ann
 Miller, Bill & Lucy
 Mitchell, Lora
 Mitchell, Sondra & Norm
 Molloy, John
 Moon, Nancy
 Moulder, Bill & Louise
 Mowery, Ann-Al Powers
 Myszewski, Mike
 Neugent, Gerry & Mary Lou
 Nimry, Teresa & Basil
 Nizzi, Arthur & Patricia
 Noftsger, Jonann
 North, Deborah
 Oberg, John & Maxine
 Oliphant, Fred & Brents
 O'Neal, Paul & Bonnie
 O'tool, Teresa
 Ott, Nick & Jena
 Owens, Kevin
 Parton, Mike
 Patch, Jim
 Pearson, Herb & Jeanne
 Peterson, Rhonda & Randy
 Petheram, David & Janice
 Piper, Kim & Jeff
 Poetting, Gary & Kathy
 Polson, Dan & Erica
 Popejoy, Donni
 Post, David & Deborah
 Prieto, Hilda
 Prijatelj, Patricia
 Radach, Penny
 Radach, Fred
 Reed, Rod & Angela
 Reese, Griff & Karen
 Renda, Ginny
 Requist, John & Jill Burnett
 Reynolds, Kevin
 Rice, Bill & Julie, Max
 Riggs, Marian
 Robbins, Dave
 Robbins, Howard & Pat
 Robel, Aubrie
 Roberts, Beverly
 Roloff, James
 Roney, Joe & Debra
 Rosendahl, Gene & Shirley
 Ross, Randy & Nancy
 Sallade, Ron
 Sarcone, Steve & Stephanie
 Sacone, Jim & Jenelle
 Schemmel, Bill & Mary
 Schlenker, Anita
 Schetzle, Brad
 Schutt, Bob & Kathi
 Scigliano, Audry
 Seid, Steve & Carol
 Seidler, Mary & Stanley
 Selzer, J
 Severinghaus, Joel
 Shaffer, Jim & Carolyn
 Shelness, Jon
 Shelton, Dane & Chris
 Siprut, Manny & Dawn
 Slater, Sue
 Smith, Bruce & Angela
 Smith, Margaret
 Sovich, Charlie & Maria
 Sporleder, Paul & Elizabeth
 Spracklin, Jerry & Mary
 Staples, Marilyn
 Starmer, Russ & Becky
 Stauffer, Rachel
 Stemler, Fred
 Steward, Clark & Pamyla
 Straub, Jan Miller
 Sulgrove, Les & Linda
 Sweeney, Pat & Molly
 Taber, Bill
 Thielke, Denny & Mary
 Thompson, Connie
 Timmons, Marlene
 Tursi, Amy
 Tursi, Joe
 Tursi, Sarah
 Tuttle, Cheryl & Tom
 Uttersson, Steve & Teresa
 Vandelaar, John & Rae
 Vandervort, Robert & Diana
 Vanderwerff, Juan
 Van Patten, Nick
 VanWyk, Adam & Jeni
 Vogel, Julie & Rich Lemke
 Wadden, Jerry & Marilynn
 Weldon, Jerry & Sandy
 Weltha, Catherine
 Westra, Beverly
 White, Nathan
 Williams, Anna
 Wingert, Tami & Dana
 Withers, Nancy
 Yacinich, Judy & Lou
 Zonona, Victor

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association 2020 Paid Members

Abendroth, Melissa
Adrianse, Rick & Lori
Agey, Ken & Marie
Anderson, Don & Joan
Anderson, Ann & Sigurd
Andrews, Karen & Tom
Augustine, Ed
Babcock, Kevin
Besco, Alise
Bierley, Tom & Christy
Blake, Darlene
Boldt, Wes
Bonnert, Vicki & Gary
Brocksley, Penny
Burnquist, John & Ellen
Carman, Heather
Celsi, Claire
Comfort, Connie
Conrad, Rachel & Pete

Davis, George & Sandi
Davis, Mike
Davis, Toby
Durik, Jacob &
Amy Tincher Durik
Eddy, Elizabeth
Erickson, James
Erickson, Catherine
Erickson, Samantha
Farley, Roland & Jean
Farley, Michael & Mary Timp
Fegley, Dave & Cathie
Garnett, Bob & Faye
Glodt, David & Janine
Graziano, Albert
Harrison, Penny & Scott
Hassel, Larry
Hays, Nancy
Hein, Richard & Jane
Hendrix, Rick & Sharon
Huppert, Sue & Michael

Irvine, Ted & Chris
James, Martha
Johnson, Tony
Jones, Josh & Lisa
Kawamura, Barbara & Myles &
family
Kenneally, Joe & Joan
Kernen, Glenda
Kinley, Sara & Ray
Konior, John & Jenny
Lindeman, Dean
Luft, Jim
Mauro, John & Grace
McCall, Dr. John (103 years)
Passed away in May
Meginnis, Sheila
Michael, Jerry & Neva
Michelson, Brent & Ann
Myszewski, Michael
Nimry, Teresa & Basil
Noftsgar, Jonann

Oberg, John & Maxine
O'Neal, Paul & Bonnie
O'tool, Teresa
Piper, Kim & Jeff
Radach, Fred
Renda, Ginny
Roloff, James
Roney, Joe & Debra
Sallade, Ron
Sarcone, Steve & Stephanie
Seidler, Mary & Stanley
Shaffer, Jim & Carolyn
Staples, Marilyn
Sulgrove, Les & Linda
Vigger, John
Wadden, Jerry & Marilynn
Weldon, Jerry & Sandy
Williams, Anna
Wingert, Dana & Tami

2020 membership is now due.

Memberships may be paid at a
neighborhood meeting, paid online
(www.swhna.com) with PAYPAL
or mailed to our
Neighborhood Association at:
Southwestern Hills
P.O. Box 21222
Des Moines, 50321

A Special Thank You!

SWHNA is grateful to
Edwards Graphic Arts Inc.
for their continued support
of the association.

Call them for all your printing needs!
280-9765
2700 Bell Ave, Des Moines 50321

Thank You

An extra
"neighborhood thank you" to
Wakonda Christian Church
for providing a meeting
place each month to
the Southwestern Hills Board.

2020 Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association Membership

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____

Annual Dues ___ Family Membership \$20.00 ___ Individual Membership \$10.00

 ___ Additional Donation to the Association \$ _____

Mail check & membership form to: Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association
Attn: Treasurer
P.O. Box 21222
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

NOTICE OF PRIVACY POLICY: SWHNA will maintain the confidentiality of the information contained on this form and it will not be shared with others pursuant to its written bylaws.

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Des Moines, Iowa
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Southwestern Hills
Neighborhood Association
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Des Moines, IA 50321