

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood

Association

PO BOX 21222
DES MOINES, IA 50321

JANUARY 2019



Save These **DATES**

April 4, 2019 - 6:30pm

*General Neighborhood Meeting
Brody Middle School*

August 6, 2019 - 5:15-7:30

*Neighbors Night Out Free Picnic
Wakonda Church Parking Lot*

November 7, 2019 - 6:30

*General Neighborhood Meeting
Brody Middle School*

Executive Board

President

George Davis
288-0764

Vice-President

Nick Van Patten
249-9698

Treasurer

Heather Carman
979-9291

Secretary

Ginny Renda
287-3999

Darlene Blake

724-1894

Joe Harrison

210-8361

Penny Harrison

202-0166

Jon Shelness

314-5420

Steve Sarcone

287-7161

Steve Utterson

321-0717

Message From Our President

GEORGE DAVIS

Dear Neighbor,

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood is one of the best areas to live in Des Moines. Our neighborhood is a great place to raise a family. The close amenities of parks and recreation areas gives everyone an opportunity to see wildlife, green space and natural water areas. The changing colors of the four seasons make it very special. It is beautiful.

I want everyone to be involved in the neighborhood. Watch your neighbors' home when they are away. Attend neighborhood meetings and express your ideas. Keep your property in good condition. The success of any neighborhood is the people and our neighbors are wonderful. Southside pride is real.

I want to thank our Board Members for the many hours they work for our neighborhood. They are the best group ever and they always volunteer to make Southwestern Hills a better place. Be sure and thank them when you get a chance.

Your Neighborhood Association is there for you. We offer Facebook (Southwestern Hills Neighborhood), website (swhna.com), email (coachdavis@mchsi.com), and regular mail (PO Box 21222, Des Moines, Iowa 50321). Contact us if you have concerns.

See you in the hood,

George Davis

288-0764

Residential Housing Or A Commercial/Industrial Area

Many neighbors and two major developers feel a residential "housing gem" is in the southwest corner of our neighborhood. This area embraces, south of Park Avenue to SW McKinley, from SW 56th to SW 63rd. The area does not include the commercial park already there. A residential housing development on SW 56th, by Dan Kruse, is already in process where the old "Toon Mansion" is located.

Area neighbors attended a city - airport sponsored meeting, held at the Boy Scout Center off SW 63rd. Neighbors support the residential housing concept but are concerned the area will be zoned for commercial/industrial use. The area is currently zoned residential with restrictions. Neighbors feel upscale housing is needed and this area would enhance the total Des Moines community, if approved residential. Commercial/industrial zoning would decrease their home value. Many neighbors have lived in the area several years.

Airport Director, Kevin Foley, wants the area zoned commercial/industrial. Even though the area is not within the "runway protection zone", it could still impact development. No present date or future date has been set for any added runway, or if an added runway will ever be needed. His concern is a possible high 65-decibel noise level if residential housing is approved and the runway is ever built. He said the decibel noise level would be a detriment to residential housing. He feels it is fine for a commercial/industrial area. The noise level is based on results of a 2007 study.

Southwestern Hills neighbor, Mike Knapp, owns several acres in the area and his properties are zoned residential. However, he is prohibited from building single family residential homes because of the airport restrictions.

More meetings are planned for neighbors in the area and city council approval is needed whichever zoning is proposed by city officials.

SWHNA 2019 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 6:00p.m. Neighborhood members are encouraged to use your Neighborhood Association regarding issues in the neighborhood.

2018 Was A Busy Year For Southwestern Hills

- Sponsored a neighborhood meeting concerning new projects at Water Works Park including a large concert stage, walking amenities and the underground walk-way from Grays Lake to Water Works.
- Sponsored a Polk County Supervisor candidate forum.
- Attended several planning and zoning meetings regarding neighborhood issues.
- Held four General Neighborhood meetings regarding issues on streets, Fleur Drive, new businesses, housing and neighborhood concerns.
- Provided volunteers for “Trash Bash”.
- Held eleven SWHNA Board meetings.
- Attended special neighborhood meetings regarding Waldinger Corporation added to the Business Park.
- Attended planning meetings regarding new housing in area.
- Sponsored “Neighbors Night out Picnic” (over 500 meals served).
- Sponsored “Mega Scrub Day” at the Bell Center (free dumping day).
- Co-Sponsored “Neighborhood Garage Sale Weekend”.
- Keeping neighbors up to date on issues via our email list.
- Monitor website (swhna.com) and Facebook (Southwestern Hills Neighborhood).

*Stay connected
with your
neighbors!
Plan to attend
the next
SWHNA
General
Meeting.*

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".

SWHNA General Meeting Addresses Fleur Drive

The Southwestern Hills November General Meeting was attended by over 110 neighbors with the Fleur Drive reconstruction a main concern.

3rd Ward Councilman, Josh Mandelbaum gave an overview of the three phases of the Fleur Drive reconstruction project. 1.75 miles of Fleur Drive will be reconstructed on both sides of the street from McKinley Ave. to George Flagg Parkway. Sidewalks will be added on both sides of the street when allowable. Phase one-spring to fall 2019, includes northbound lanes from Watrous to George Flagg. Phase two-spring to fall 2020, includes southbound lanes from George Flagg to Watrous. Phase three-2020-2021, includes northbound and southbound lanes from McKinley to Watrous. He is working with staff for traffic flow issues during construction periods. He also feels sidewalks are badly needed in most southside neighborhoods.

At Large Councilwoman, Connie Boesen added comments regarding sidewalks and safety features for both pedestrians and bus stops. It is recommended that 5' sidewalks be added whenever possible. She is going to address the planters and height of plants that may obstruct vision of oncoming traffic. She wants traffic safety a main concern regarding the planters.

4th Ward Councilman, Joe Gatto expressed concerns about sidewalks and costs. He favors sidewalks on both sides of Fleur Drive, if feasible. Some areas of Fleur Drive cannot support sidewalks on both sides. He also has concerns if car "merging lanes" are removed. He feels car congestion adds to safety problems. He has received many calls from citizens on these issues.

City Engineers, Steve Nabor and Dave Kemp did a great job providing informational maps and features about the Fleur Drive project. They along with **City Manager, Scott Sanders** addressed all questions from the neighbors and gave important facts about the project.

Many neighborhood questions were addressed, with a wide range of comments. Everyone is concerned about the street project, traffic safety, bus stops, sidewalks and home properties.

Most of the neighbors absolutely do not want reduced traffic lanes from 12' to 11'. Council members and staff stated lane size would not be reduced and would be 24' from curb to curb which includes a one-foot concrete gutter. Designated turning lanes would remain.

Neighbors have concerns regarding the removal of merging lanes on Bell Ave. both on and off Fleur Drive.

Feature needs to be more specific regarding emergency vehicles and traffic flow.

A large majority of the neighbors want sidewalks on both sides of Fleur Drive. Many had concerns about this issue and how it would be achieved. Many felt sidewalks, to bus stops, is an absolute need. This led to discussions about sidewalks on other neighborhood streets.

Several property owners on Fleur Drive have concerns about the impact on their properties and their responsibility regarding added sidewalks. They questioned the predicted pedestrian volume. If sidewalks are only added on one side of the street, what determines the side?



Comments Heard In Our Hood

- "The streets in our neighborhood need lots of repair. Terrible shape."
- "I really like my neighbors. They are so nice and helpful."
- "I'm a senior citizen and I want a nice housing option in this neighborhood. We currently have very few and I want to stay in the area."
- "I always come to our neighborhood meetings. Very informative, large crowd."
- "I think we overspray streets for a 'possible' snow storm. Spray goes to storm sewer then waterways. It is winter in Iowa."
- "Parks Department did a fantastic job cleaning the area west of Harmon Park Tennis Courts. Neighbors thank you."
- "We have the greatest Neighborhood Resource Office, Sgt. Lance Ripperger. He gives his phone number (515-991-8414) at every meeting. We are so happy with the entire Police Department and their work in the neighborhoods."
- "How come Dart Transportation does not have bus service in the entire neighborhood. Very disappointing to lots of neighbors without cars."

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!

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

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.

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.

2019 membership is now due.

If paid before March 1, you will be listed in the next newsletter.

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

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association 2018 Paid Members

Alley, Chad & Donni
Andrews, Karen & Thomas
Anderson, Don & Joan
Anders, Steve & Trish
Augustine, Ed
Babcock, Kevin
Badger, Jamie & Catherine
Ballard, Leonard & Sheryl
Barnes, Stew & Trish
Bailey, Bobby
Bailey, Sarah & Austin
Bare, Barb
Belding, Marion
Beltrame, Larry & Gina
Beltrame, Marc
Bentz, Floyd
Besco, Alise
Biber, Bennett
Bierley, Tom & Christy
Blake, Darlene
Bonanno, John & Holly
Bonnett, Gary & Vicki
Bridgewater, Earl
Brodersen, Chuck
Bryce, Ed & Mary Jane
Brockelsby, Penny
Canfield, Paul & Vivian
Cardamone, Marie
Carter, Gary
Carmichael, Bill & Donna
Calder, Julie
Caligiuri, Pat & Brenda
Celsi, Claire
Clark, Andy & Janet
Core, Mark & Mary
Cosimo, Mary
Davis, George & Sandi
Davis, Mike
Davis, Toby
DeMeyer, Phil & Cindi
Duffy, Rebecca & Keith
Durden, Lorreta
Durik, Amy Tincher & Jacob
Evans, Randall & Susan
Erickson, James
Erickson, Catherine

Fanter, Bill & Cynde
Farley, Michael & Mary Jean
Farrell, Willie & Jenny
Fegley, Dave & Cathie
Flynn, Andy & Linda
Forburger, Randall & Bonnie
Foreman, Jeffrey
Frazier, Mell & Michael
Gage, Mabelle & Don
Garnett, Bob & Faye
Gilmer, Bill & Marcia
Glodt, David & Janine
Graziano, Albert
Graziano, Peter & Connie
Green, Chris & Belinda
Gross, Alex & Connie
Guthrie, Nancy
Harrison, Penny & Scott
Harrison, Joe & Kim
Hassel, Larry
Hays, Nancy
Hein, Rich & Jane
Held, Steve & Sue Breen Held
Hill, Mark
Hoover, Brent & Kris
Huppert, Mike & Sue
Hunter, Robert
Ingvaldson, Scott & Becky
Irvine, Chuck & Ann
Johnson, Heather & Tony
Jaquinta, Sam
Kehoe, Theresa
Kesterson, Kris
Kirst, Dan & Gail
Konior, John & Jenny
Kruse, Marilyn
Lawson, Jim
Ligouri, Gennaro & Karen
Lindfield, Anita
Linkenhoker, Ellen & Josh
Luft, Jim

Martel, Rich
Mauro, Michael & Dorothy
Mauro, John & Grace
McGowan, John
Michael, Jerry & Neva
Mitchell, Lora
Mitchell, Norm
Morris, Joan
Moulder, William & Louise
Mowery, Ann-Al Powers
Neugent, Tim & Diane
Neugent, Gerard & Mary Lou
Newman, Mark
Nimry, Basil & Teresa
Nizzi, Arthur & Patricia
Noah, Dave & Anne
Noftsgar, Jonann
Ode, Constance & Carson
Padden, Anthony & Ginnie
Peterson, Randy & Rhonda
Poetting, Gary & Kathy
Radach, Penny
Renda, Carmie
Renda, Ginny
Reese, Griff & Karen
Reynolds, Tom & Kathy
Rice, Harvey
Richards, Wilma
Robbins, Dave
Roberts, Beverly
Rohif, Ryan
Roloff, James
Roney, Joe & Debra
Rosendahl, Gene & Shirley
Ross, Randy & Nancy
Runge, Gary
Sallade, Charles
Sarcone, Steve & Stephanie
Schetzlsle, Brad
Schlenker, Anita
Schmidt, Lisa & Bart
Schulte, Mary Ellen
Seidler, Stanley & Mary
Shaffer, James & Carolyn
Shelness, Jon
Shelton, Dane & Chris

Sorenson, Jill
Sokoloff, Mark & Jeri K Deo
Smith, Bruce & Angela
Smith, Robert & Sandra
Spracklin, Jerome & Mary
Stauffer, Rachel
Staples, Marilyn
Stewart, Clark & Pam
Sporleder, Paul & Elizabeth
Sulgrove, Les & Linda
Thielke, Denny & Mary
Thill, Sigrid
Thompson, Rick & Tina
Tyler, John
Utterson, Steve & Teresa
Vanderhaar, John
Vanderhaar, Rae Ann
Van Patten, Nick
Viggers, John & Samantha
Vos, Tom & Barb
Wadden, Jerry & Marilynn
Watters, Jerry & Joyce
Weltha, Catherine
Weston, Josephine
Williams, Anna
Wingert, Dana & Tami
Worthington, Rob & Sherry
Yacinich, Lou & Judy

2019 Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association Membership

Name _____ Telephone _____

Address _____ Email _____

City, State, Zip _____

Annual Dues ___ Family Membership \$20.00 ___ Individual Membership \$10.00
 ___ Advertising Business Membership \$125.00
 ___ 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.

General Neighborhood Meeting - Thursday, April 4, 2019 at 6:30pm



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Southwestern Hills
Neighborhood Association
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