

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association

PO BOX 21222
DES MOINES, IA 50321

OCTOBER 2014



Save The Date

General Neighborhood Meeting
Thursday November 6, 2014 at 6:30pm
At Brody Middle School

There will be an election of neighborhood board members, along with guest speakers, Scott Sanders (City Manager), Pat Kozitza (Public Works) and Councilperson Chris Hensley.

Executive Board

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George Davis
288-0764

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202-0166

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979-9291

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Ginny Renda
287-3999

Jon Shelness
314-5420

Steve Sarcone
287-7161

Steve Uttersen
321-0717

Nick Van Patten
249-9698

Message From Our President

GEORGE DAVIS

Dear Neighbor,

I hope you attend the general meeting on November 6th. One of our speakers will be new city manager, Scott Sanders. When we are all involved in our neighborhood it makes us stronger and better. Our "Neighbors Night Out" picnic in August was very well attended. With over 250 people, it was one of the largest in the City. Our neighborhood sponsored "Scrub Day" had over 300 cars/trucks involved in their dumping. We all support our neighborhood events, and it shows.

Have our fall colors been the best yet? I shudder when I think of the damage coming to our Ash trees. Many of them were planted when I was in high school and the Beatles were singing. I've since graduated and the beetles are attacking the trees.

I can't believe how quick the "Long John Silver" building on Fleur Drive went down. I'm excited to see what is going in the space. Also waiting for the finish of the building at Fleur and Watrous. Many ideas on what is going in there but nothing for sure yet. Fleur Drive, like SW 9th, is a main artery for the south side and we need to always keep it developed.

I think I've seen enough political ads and enough mailers to last me through the year. Time to get ready for the holiday season and the family time that goes with it.

See you at Brody on the 6th,

George Davis

Neighborhood Election of Board Members



The General Neighborhood Meeting in November is also the time Southwestern Hills board members are elected to serve a two year term. If you are interested in becoming a board member please contact George Davis at 288-0764. Board members attend monthly board meetings and are involved in many neighborhood projects and activities. Board members volunteer many hours to make our neighborhood one of the best places to live in Des Moines. Board members are selected by majority vote of neighborhood members attending the November meeting. Neighborhood members with 2014 dues paid are eligible to vote. This newsletter has listed 2014 paid membership on page 5. You may also check the website at swhna.com.

Neighborhood Sidewalks Being Inspected

Several neighbors have reported their sidewalks are being inspected for repair. A red marking will mean a sidewalk needs repair. Usually large cracks or a drop of more than 3/4" from one section to another are the main causes. Home owners are responsible for the cost of sidewalks but repairs must meet city code. Please call 283-4950 for code information if you have been marked for repair.

Comments Heard In The "Hood"



1. If you're a walker/jogger "Browns Woods" has beautiful new trails.
2. We need street lights and walks on SW 31st. . . children and walkers can't be seen.
3. Include Stanton Ave. in statement #2.
4. "Dart Bus Service" offers nothing in our neighborhood.
5. Hope Dahls stays in our neighborhood.
6. Our "Scrub Day" is the best, thanks Steve & Board.
7. \$450,000,000 for new airport, really!
8. What happened to Long John Silver's? B-Bops???
9. Fall is beautiful in our neighborhood, city, & state.

Get Involved In The Neighborhood

We often times get important neighborhood information that would be beneficial to get out quicker than our quarterly newsletters. Your Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Board would like neighborhood members' email addresses so we can get information out quickly. At no time will your email address be used for advertising purposes. You can email George Davis, coachdavis@mchsi.com to be put on the email list. You may also fill out the information at "Neighbors Night Out" or at general meetings. Let us help you get information quicker.

Ash Tree Removal To Hit Southwestern Hills Neighborhood



The Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) is headed to Des Moines with destruction of the Ash tree in its path. If you travel in our neighborhood you see many Ash trees with painted red dots on the trunk. David Jahn, Municipal Arborist for Des Moines and resident of the neighborhood prepared a question and answer sheet that may help.

SW Hills Q&A regarding EAB and ash tree removal/treatment 09-17-14

What do the red paint dots mean on ash trees in SW Hills Neighborhood?

Answer: Red dot trees are to be removed within the next three years, exact schedule for SW Hills unknown. Enjoy your trees while they are still there. After removal the city will give opportunity to receive a new tree planting(s) on the curb at no cost to the adjacent property owner.

How were removals determined? Can residents inquire about saving a tree?

Answer: Any tree scheduled for removal and marked with the red paint dot is so identified because it has some health or structure issue that prevents it from being a treatment candidate. Some typical causes are cavity, co-dominant trunks, mechanical damage, and canopy dieback among others. Some trees have multiple problems. When trees were assessed, adjacent property owners were provided with a flyer indicating pending removal within the next 3 years, and noting the reason(s) why it was being removed. The city will not permit treatment of trees the city considers to be compromised in either health or structure. Any citizen who does not understand why the tree(s) adjacent to their property will be removed, may contact City Forestry to make inquiry. They may call 283-4583.

What do the aluminum tags mean?

Answer: Ash trees with a numbered aluminum tag attached to the trunk are scheduled to be treated in the Spring of 2015, if EAB has been discovered in the city by that time. The treatment is viable for 2 years, with subsequent treatments scheduled at 2-year intervals through 2019. Treatment will be conducted by the city at no cost to the adjacent property owner.

If the city has designated an ash tree for removal, may the adjacent property owner seek a permit to treat it?

Answer: If the tree is an ash and the city has determined it is not a treatment candidate, residents may not treat this tree for the reasons stated earlier.

Des Moines Public Schools Offers Another Program With Opportunities

Mercy Medical Center, Des Moines Public Schools, Easter Seals Iowa and Iowa Vocational Rehabilitation Services have partnered together to bring Project SEARCH to the Des Moines area. This collaborative effort was initiated in the fall of 2012 and currently involves twelve students who are interning at Mercy Medical Center in Des Moines. These students are being provided a range of hands-on job experiences and developing work skills necessary for future employment. Mercy Medical Center Project SEARCH offers Des Moines Public School students with disabilities (18-21 years old), that have completed their graduation requirements, a one-year school-to-work program that takes place entirely at Mercy Medical Center. Total workplace immersion facilitates, a seamless combination of classroom instruction, career exploration, and relevant job-skills training obtained through a variety of strategically designed internships.

The national Project SEARCH program began in 1996 by Erin Reihle, Director of the Emergency Department at Cincinnati Children's Hospital Medical Center. She had a number of entry level positions to fill and worked with the Great Oaks Career Campuses and the Hamilton County Board of Developmental Disability Services to provide an opportunity for students with disabilities to participate in the workplace.

The program was so successful that the model was adopted in 40 states and four countries including the National Institute of Health – Clinical Center, Xavier University, the Federal Department of Labor, and the University of Rochester Medical Center.

Heather Carman, the instructor of the program stated, "Project SEARCH allows students to find their areas of interest and gain the skills necessary to obtain and maintain employment in those fields." She added, "Project SEARCH is not only beneficial for the students, but it is also beneficial to Mercy and the community as a whole. It is definitely a win-win for everyone. This program produces quality candidates for employment in numerous areas." Out of twenty-four students that have completed the program, twenty-one of them are employed in the field of their interest. The Project SEARCH model is a proven recipe for success.

Get on The 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!

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

Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association

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 Alley, Chad & Donni
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 Anderson, Joan & Don
 Anderson, Bob & Kathie
 Anderson, Amy & Mark Hill
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 Badger, Jamie & Kate
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 Ballard, Leonard & Sheryl
 Balzer, Donna C
 Bare, Charles & Barbara
 Barkley, Paul
 Bartlett, Justin & Gina
 Becker, Gene & Fran
 Beltrame, Marc
 Bening, Christine
 Benson, Rob & Marzia
 Berardi, Gianfranco & Laura
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 Black, Kyle & Peggy
 Blake, Darlene
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 Cigelman, Michael & Susan
 Coble, Tim & Janice
 Comfort, Connie
 Conrad, Pete & Rachel
 Core, Scotty
 Cosimo, Mary
 Culp, Mike & Lisa
 Currie, Ed & Betty

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 Davis, Toby & Lisa
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 Ervin, Bob & Linda
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 Fife, Mark & JoAnn
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 Graziano, Albert
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 Harrison, Dennis
 Harrison, Joe & Kim
 Harrison, Scott & Penny
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 Hein, Jane & Rich
 Held, Steven & Susan
 Henry, Sara
 Hempel, Julie & Matt
 Hillman, Rosemary
 Hollingsworth, John
 Housby, Shirley & Jack
 Hugunin, Mike & Betty
 Huppert, Sue & Mike
 Hunter, Robert
 Ingvaldson, Scott & Becky
 Jacobsen, Clark & Pauline
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 Jamagin, Jeff & Lisa

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 Lankamer, Marylee
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 Leo, Julie
 Leonard, Tim & Karen
 Leopold, Harry
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 Madison-Levi, Pat & Deb
 Mani, Robert & Michele
 Martel, Rich/Jill Sorenson
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 Mauro, Joseph & Joanne
 Mauro, Michael & Dorothy
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 Martin, Jason & Tatum
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 Williams, Roger & Anna
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 Zagnoli, Marilyn
 Zimmerman, Steve & Kris

2014 membership dues will be accepted until November 30, 2014.
 2015 membership will be accepted beginning December 1, 2014.
 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!

We would like to give a special

THANK YOU to

Robert Hunter

*for his continued generous donation to the
 neighborhood!*

Bob & Kathie Anderson

and Scotty Core,

*also a huge thank you for their extra
 donations & support of SWHNA.*

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

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.

Thank You

An extra "Neighborhood Thank You" to Wakonda Christian Church for providing a meeting place each month to the Southwestern Hills Board.

Advertisers

Advertisers and business owners, if you are not listed in this section of our newsletter, now is the time to get your message to the neighborhood. The publishing fee for 2014 is \$125. It includes quarterly newsletters, with a mailing list of 1,800 copies in the 50321 zip code area. Get your advertisement in our next newsletter. Please mail in the Association Membership Form found on page 8 in this newsletter or call a listed board member today.

THANK YOU!!

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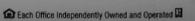
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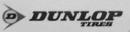
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