

Westwood News



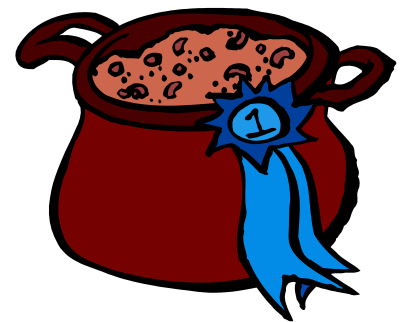
October 2013

NEIGHBORHOOD CHILI SUPPER AND MEETING

On Tuesday October 22 join your neighbors and friends at Hanawalt Elementary School for the Westwood Neighborhood Association's annual chili supper (chili and desserts from Palmers) at 6:30, followed by our annual meeting at 7 p.m. Like all Westwood neighborhood events, the chili supper is free and open to all in the neighborhood. Meanwhile, we have a packed agenda to get you the latest info on the various issues impacting our neighborhood. Hope you can make it.

Agenda

- 6:30-pm - 7 pm Chili Supper
- 7:00 pm - Welcome and Election of Officers
- 7:10 pm - Update on Bench Project - Mike Keller
- 7:15 pm - Update on the County - Polk County Supervisor Angela Connolly
- 7:25 pm - Update on Hanawalt - Hanawalt Principal Andrew Burg
- 7:35 pm - Update on Neighborhood Crime - Lt. Larry Davey (our new liaison)
- 7:45 pm - Update on the City/Grand Avenue Bridge Project - Councilmember Chris Hensley
- 8:15 pm - Q. and A. on Urban Bow Deer Hunt Program with Mike Gaul, DM Parks & Recreation
- 8:30 pm - Treasurers Report
- 8:35 pm - Any New Business
- 8:45 pm - Adjournment

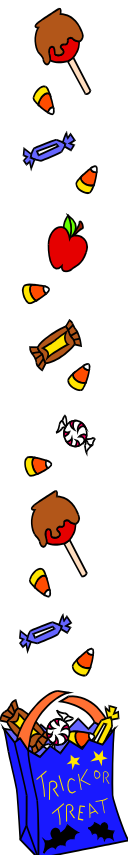


**Beggar's Night for Des Moines is
Wednesday, October 30th
from 6 to 8 p.m.
Welcoming trick or treaters?
Keep those porch lights on!**

HANAWALT HAS A NEW TRACK!

The Hanawalt community (school staff, PTA, and surrounding community) wanted a notable way to celebrate the school Centennial, and did so by raising funds for a track that the whole neighborhood can use! Because health and well-being are becoming more and more a focus for school leadership, staff, and PTA members, programs have been implemented within the school that provide students with greater access to nutritious foods and greater opportunities to stay active.

The PTA and school community believed constructing a track, improving the lawn (field), and upgrading the active courts was a good first step. The track will provide the Hanawalt KidStriders program a place to flourish outdoors, the field will provide the students and community with a Great Lawn for active and passive play, and the courts will serve as an area to be active during good and not so good weather. All three of these improvements were focused on getting kids and the community active. Stop by to see the work that has been done, or put on your running shoes and try it out!



WESTWOOD BENCH PROJECT

Soon, while walking along the bike path you will see three new park benches.

These benches, made of steel and attached to a concrete base will state "Welcome to Westwood Neighborhood" - a sincere greeting to all the users of the trail. This campaign to enhance the Walnut Creek Trail started last spring, when a group of neighbors approached the WNA with the project. A committee formed, led by Margo Hutcheson to make the vision of having locations along the trail to take a break, tie a shoe, or just enjoy nature, a reality.

The committee learned of outside funds available, a Community Betterment Grant was written and awarded to Westwood with the intention "to provide quality services to the citizens of Polk County." We think this project does just that! Then the fundraising at the local level started. The generosity of neighbors is overwhelming - and so appreciated. We have raised all the money needed to completely fund this project, which was over \$5,700. The benches have been ordered, the concrete slabs will soon be poured and hopefully the weather will cooperate and the benches will be fully installed by year's end.

We are thankful for the following groups and individuals who have helped us along the way, with expertise, funding and time.

- Angela Connolly and the Polk County Board of Supervisors for recognizing the importance of beautifying and enhancing our neighborhood trail;
- Mindy Moore, from DSM Parks and Recreation for her help to find suitable benches, locations and for answering all our questions;
- Jane Hein and the Friends of Des Moines Parks group for helping with fundraising. You can learn more about this local nonprofit at friendsofdmparks.org;
- The Bench Committee - Margo Hutcheson, Kris Sutton, Dave DeBord, Tom Kisch, Jim Spevak, Mike Keller and Vicki Sehgal for their hard work and vision;

And we are most thankful to the following neighbors who donated so generously to this project:

James & Barbara Bell	Pamela Bass Bookey & Harry	William & Maureen Tiffany	Dennis and Nancy Galeazzi
Michael Keller & Rick Keller	Bookey	Melissa & Mike Wolnerman	Tom Van Hon
Maruca	Craig & Kimberly Shadur	Robert & Sandra Tatge	Bob Furstenau & Valerie
Jim Spevak	Mike & Margaret Peterson	Herb & Kathy Eckhouse	Landis
David & Laura Mackaman	Arlene Shannon	Angela Althoff	John & Ann Nesbit
Sheldon & Roselind	Jay Fulton & Diane Kuhn	Bill & Virginia Satterstrom	Kathy & Scott Bannister
Rabinowitz	John & Ann Nesbit	Bruce & Annabel St. Amour	Avril & Hal Chase
Leann Treloar	John & Sharon Murphy	Scott & Diane Post	Tom Kisch & Margo
Sabina Clutter	Garth Coffman & Celene	Rod & Jennifer Townsend	Hutcheson
Rose Lee Pomerantz	Gogerty	Jim & Allison Fleming	David & Jane Hemminger
Steve & Sara Marquardt	Dennis & Cheryl Pederson	Shirley and D. Munier	Maria & Greg Berry
Dave DeBord & Kris Sutton	Matthew & Mary Mouw		

\$5,775



SAVE THE DATE: WINTER PARTY AT... BISTRO MONTAGE! THURSDAY, JANUARY 23RD

James Beard Nominee and longtime Westwood resident Enosh Kelley has agreed to host Westwood's annual winter party this coming January at his nationally praised Ingersoll restaurant, Bistro Montage. You won't want to miss it!

Please mark the night of Thursday January 23 on your calendar for good food and good times. More details to come!



A LETTER FROM COUNCILMEMBER HENSLEY REGARDING THE GRAND AVE BRIDGE

Living on 55th Street, just off the Grand Avenue Bridge detour, I fully understand the frustration we all feel as it relates to the various setbacks this project has faced. Therefore I wanted to share with you some additional information from the various aspects I have been involved with throughout the project

There is no question traffic flow has been an issue both on the detour route and the routes taken by citizens that are other than the signed detour route. I can see the impact on Pleasant and 56th, as I am eating dinner in our dining room which looks right out onto 56th. South of Grand, North Valley Drive, 51st Street and Robertson Drive have also been issues as it relates to traffic. I actually stood in the front yard of Amy MacKrell's home to witness firsthand the significant increase in traffic and unfortunately the running of the stop sign and speeding. We have worked with Traffic and Transportation to move the Traffic Smart Cart to critical locations. We have also worked with the Police Department to have radar set up and added additional signage. All of your e-mails and calls were helpful in dealing with these issues.

Unfortunately we are all aware of the new date 11/29 for the partial opening. Nobody is more disappointed than I am. Staff, engineers and the State have all been working with us to get this project completed. With 39,000 cars using this intersection daily, it is critical to get it open as soon as possible.

The group most financially impacted by these delays are the businesses located at 63rd and Grand. Yes, there is no question the traffic issues have been a huge problem but not to the extent the impact has had on the businesses. As a result I have worked with Clear Channel to get free advertising for all of the impacted businesses until Grand is open. A big thank you to Tim Jamison for making this happen. I am also working with Dahl's who has agreed to insert fliers in all customer grocery bags for the impacted businesses. A big thank you to CEO David Sinwell.

Lastly, I have received a number of inquiries as to the condition of the roads and if the City will repair them once the project is completed. We will carefully inspect the various detour routes and make decisions as to how to bring them back to the condition they were in before the project started. We will monitor them closely throughout the project and a final decision will not be made until it is completed. We will keep you posted throughout the next few months.

As always, please feel free to contact me via e-mail, hensley.chrissteve@gmail.com or on my cell at 202-9677.

NEW NEIGHBORS!

Westwood has seen a number of new neighbors this past year including Zoe Shannon, who lives in the 400 block of 49th Street, and Mike and Krista Becker, who live at 242 51st St.

Zoe Shannon moved here from NE Indiana, attracted to our neighborhood by amenities such as the Art Center and Greenwood Park. Auggie, her Blonde Lab, and Iseult, her tortoise shell cat, also make Westwood Home. Zoe has a daughter, Laura living close by in the Wavelend Neighborhood, while her adult sons Greg and Chet live in Illinois and California. A retired teacher and former owner of Greenfield Herb Garden, Zoe continues to give lectures about herbs. You may also catch her enjoying her love of gardening and participating in craft shows.

Mike and Krista Becker moved to 51st Street in Westwood from Chicago, attracted to our neighborhood by the unique homes, mature trees, and schools. Having both grown up in Iowa, Mike and Krista are looking forward to raising their daughter Peyton here. Krista, meanwhile, teaches Spanish for the West Des Moines school district; Mike works as an IT project manager for Allscripts.

Help us welcome these new folks, and the many other new neighbors we have. If you are new to the neighborhood, and are up to sharing a little information with the rest of us, please e-mail mrk515@gmail.com.



51st Street Neighbors Mike, Krista, and Peyton Becker

WESTWOOD MEMBERSHIP

If your name is listed below - thank you for being a member of Westwood! We appreciate your support to help great things happen in our neighborhood. A warm welcome to our new members (indicated by an asterisks following their names). If you have questions about your membership or want to be included in the Westwood email distribution list, please contact Vicki Sehgal, Treasurer at vicki.sehgal@gmail.com.

Allen, David & Ellie	Fleming, Jim & Allison	Mandelbaum, Justin & Li Zhao	Smith, Val & Elizabeth
Althoff, Angela	Fox, Cynthia	Marquardt, Steve & Sara	Snyder, Jim & Lisa Simonetta *
Antoniou, George & Christy	Fulton, Jay & Diane Kuhn	McGreevy, Jeanette	Spellman, Ted & Anne
Aspengren, Mary Lou	Furstenau, Bob & Valerie Landis	Melton, Mark	Spevak, James
Baldwin, Patricia	Galeazzi, Dennis & Nancy	Michelson, Brent & Ann	St. Amour, Bruce & Annabel
Bannister, Scott & Kathy	Galenbeck, Scott & Leann Treloar	Mouw, Matthew & Mary	Stevenson, Peter & Barb Bremner
Barr, Jud & Heidi	Gleson, Lisa	Moyer, Debra	Strief, Charles & Peggy
Barzen, David & Kristy	Grannes, Dean & Stephanie Masumura	Mullins, Dan & Laurie Meythaler	Stroh, David & Tami
Bates, Dennis & Sally	Gusse, Derek & Sarah	Munier, Shirley	Swift, Tom & Roni
Beane, Ron	Harman, Brett	Murphy, John & Sharon	Tamisia, Tyler & Michaela*
Beaumont, Tom & Paula	Heggen, Dr. Bill & Lynn	Murphy, Kathy	Tatge, Bob & Sandy
Becker, Mike & Krista*	Hemminger, David & Jane	Nesbit, John & Ann	Taylor, Dawn
Beckley, Stephen & Gretchen	Hoover, James & Kellie*	Norian, Randy & Anita*	TeGrotenhuis, Jeff
Beh, Carleton & Mary	Horstmann, Rick & Laura	Pederson, Dennis & Cheryl	Tempero, Howard & Megan
Bell, Jim & Barbara	Hubbell, Andrew & Kristen	Peterson, Mike & Margaret	Textor, Jack & Susan
Berry, Dr. Greg & Maria	Huber, Rory & Marti	Petrov, Vasil & Teodora	Tiffany, Bill & Maureen
Boesen, Bryan & Betsy	Hull-Jackson, Marg	Pokorny, David & Betsy	Tiffany, John & Laura Martino
Bookey, Harry & Pam Bass	James, Fred & Rose	Pollard, David & Stephanie	Townsend, Rod & Jenny
Brown, Peter & Lisa	Jansen, Dale	Pollard, Tom & Julita	Tracy, Rob & Ann Steger
Burgeson, John & Colleen	Jessen, Jeremy & Janel Brown	Pomerantz, Rose Lee	Truslow, Ed & Nancy
Byers, Jay & Katie	Keefe, Brian & Monica	Post, Scott & Diane	Uhl, Kiel & Lisa
Caldbeck, Garry & Debbie	Keehne, Maureen	Rabinowitz, Sheldon & Roselind	Urban, Tom & Mary
Campbell, Chris	Keller, Mike & Rick Marura	Rasley, June	Van Hon, Thomas
Cary, Daniel & Tiffani	Kelley, Enosh & Rachel	Ray, Robert & Billie	Ver Steeg, Dr. Dirk & Adele
Cawiezell, Jill*	Kisch, Thomas & Margo Hutcheson	Raymond, Chad & Brian Ryerson	Voss, Zachary & Sarah
Cervetti, Nancy	Kneile, Robert & Ruth	Reece, Dr. Mark & Barb	Wallace, Sam & Sally
Chase, Hal & Avril	Krantz, Mary	Reynolds, Dennis & Charlotte	Walsh, Sharon
Clutter, Ryan & Vicki Sehgal	LaValle, Michael & Lisa	Richards, Mike & Leighton	Watson Fuller, Lori
Coffman, Garth & Celene Gogerty	Lewellyn, Dustin*	Ricker, Ronald & Kathleen	White, Toby & Ruth
Crandell, Mark & Kitty	Linebaugh, Jesse & Melissa	Roy, Peg	Wieland, John & Denise
DeBord, Dave & Kristi Sutton	Lonning, Judy	Sammon, Brad and Jenny	Williams, Ted
DenHartog, Rob & Brenda Currans	Lorber, Fred & Mickey	Satterstrom, Bill & Ginny	Windsor, Stephanie
Downing, Dr. Wendell & Joyce	Lyford, Dick & Barb	Schroeder, Diane	Wittmayer, Kreg & Emily Christensen
Eckhouse, Herb & Kathy	Mackaman, David & Laura	Scott, Debora	Wolnerman, Michael & Missy
Faber, Vern & Nancy	MacKrell, Scott & Amy	Shadur, Dr. Craig & Kimberly	Young, Linda
Fisher, Bob	Malcomson, Rob & Ginny	Shannon, Zoe	Zuck, David & Amy

About Westwood Neighborhood News

Westwood Neighborhood News is published quarterly to provide residents with information about the activities of the Westwood Neighborhood Association.

We welcome and encourage contributions from residents.

Please contact Amy MacKrell with news, articles, and calendar events at amy.mackrell@dmu.edu (subject line "Westwood") or 440-2766.

Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.