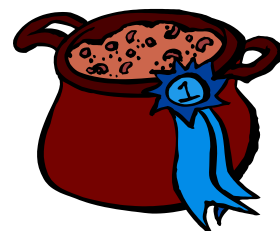


# Westwood News

October 2010



## LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

I hope you will join us on Tuesday evening, Oct 19th at 6 p.m. for the Westwood Annual Meeting at Hanawalt's Weitz Commons. Westwood will provide chili, cornbread, cinnamon rolls, coffee, and great neighbors! There will be election of officers. Andrew Berg, the new principal at Hanawalt, will speak and take questions. Mayor Frank Cownie has been invited. Brad Sammon has arranged for an arborist to speak about tree concerns. Please invite another neighbor to come with you and join us for a fun evening with your neighbors.

—Kristy Barzen

## WNA 2010-2011 SLATE OF OFFICERS

The Nominating Committee would like to present the following 2010-2011 slate of officers to be voted upon at the Annual Meeting, October 19, 6:00 p.m. at Hanawalt Elementary:

<b>President:</b>	<b>Kristy Barzen</b>	<b>Secretary:</b>	<b>Open</b>
<b>Vice-President:</b>	<b>Mike Keller</b>	<b>Treasurer:</b>	<b>Ed Truslow</b>
<b>Immed. Past President:</b>	<b>Brad Sammon</b>		

These officers comprise the executive committee of the Board of Directors. All other positions on the board are appointed by the president. If you have any other nominations for officers to present, please feel free to do so at that meeting. Also, we would welcome new members on the Board of Directors and encourage you to let us know of your interests.

Several openings exist on the Board for anyone with an interest in their neighborhood's direction and activity. We hope you will consider filling one of these positions:

**Secretary (officer) \* Des Moines Neighbors Liaison \* Historian \* Newsletter Editor \* Nominating**

—Barbara Bell

*Nominating Committee Chair*

The position of Westwood Liaison to the Des Moines Neighbors is one position that is open. The position entails attending the once a month meeting of DM Neighbors which is held the fourth Thursday of each month at the Mickle Center. In addition to the monthly meeting, the liaison reports to the Westwood Neighborhood Association board either in person at the meetings or via e-mail.

—Sharon Murphy

## THANKS TO THIS YEAR'S BOARD MEMBERS

The WNA Board would like to thank those who have dedicated their time and energy during the 2009-2010 year. Many thanks to Mary Mouw for handling the marketing and public relations for our neighborhood. Her time and talents are much appreciated.

Sharon Murphy will no longer be serving in the position of WNA Liaison to the Des Moines Neighbors. We thank her for all the years of service she has dedicated. In addition, Mary Gottschalk is stepping down from the neighborhood beautification position. We would like to extend our appreciation for her efforts.

Good luck and goodbye to our neighbor Sue Boesen Copple, who is moving. Sue has been an incredibly efficient, resourceful, and talented secretary for Westwood over the past year. She has updated our Westwood website and posts our quarterly newsletter there. She is responsible for our neighborhood email list which allows quick communication. She has used this over the past year for meeting and event reminders, as well as neighborhood alerts of loose dogs, questionable vehicles around the school, and thieves breaking into cars. It is a valuable way to communicate happenings in the neighborhood. Thank you Sue, for all your volunteer work as Secretary for Westwood. You will be missed.

## GOODBYE TO OUR NEWSLETTER EDITOR

I want to extend a grateful thank you to Amy MacKrell, who has kindly prepared and provided our Westwood newsletter for the last three years. She has volunteered her time, talents, and resources, and for that we are genuinely appreciative. We are seeking a new volunteer to prepare the quarterly newsletter.

If you are interested, please contact Kristy Barzen, 274-6263.

## JAZZ IN JULY

Westwood Neighborhood Association sponsored its fourth Jazz in July at Sylvan Theater in Greenwood Park. This year's Jazz in July was perhaps our best ever.

For the first time this year, WNA sponsored two bands. Max Wellman opened with his retro-crooner jazz style followed by the Jim Oats Quartet playing traditional jazz favorites. The weather was gorgeous. Excellent artists displayed their works for sale. Great food was offered by Woody's Bar B Que and Brandmeyer Popcorn. Once again, Tom and Vicky Heiken donated Crystal Clear water that was sold at the event which helped offset the cost of sponsoring. Thanks to Tom and Vicki for Crystal Clear's support.

Metro Arts is the sponsor of the Jazz in July program. This year we had a new committee at Metro Arts. The new Metro Art's committee provided better support and coordination. Metro Arts estimated our crowd to be at 1,200 people which would be our largest crowd ever.

Special thanks to Brad Sammon, Amy Zuck, and Dave Barzen for their commitment as Jazz in July committee members. Also thanks to our other neighbors that volunteered their time to help at the event July 9<sup>th</sup>. Once again thanks to our Westwood Neighborhood Association for their continued monetary support of the Jazz in July event.

—Rob DenHartog



## NEIGHBORHOOD ICE CREAM SOCIAL



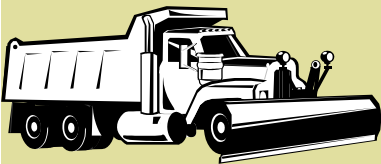
In celebrating this years National Night Out, we held our annual Ice Cream Social and Pool Party. We had a nice crowd and the kids enjoyed their "pool time" - as this had to be the hottest and most humid night ever recorded in Iowa. The ice cream and adult friendly refreshments hit the spot for all as we tried to keep cool - and we got to know our neighbors even better.

We were visited by officer Larry Anderson who presented us with the Governor's Proclamation for Fighting Crime in Des Moines. He had nice things to say about our neighborhood. Many thanks to Bernie and Stephanie for hosting us once again this year. They have a beautiful yard and pool for holding this annual event and we are grateful. Hope to see everyone at the fall meeting.

—David Barzen

## CHANGES IN WESTWOOD'S SNOW REMOVAL

Neighbors requested that Westwood sign up for the City's Snow Priority program. The City will use its larger wing plows that reduce the number of passes they have to make, and therefore we will have less snow buildup and narrow lanes. Plowing will also start much sooner--- after only one inch of snow on the ground. Currently, the regular plows are not out until there is four inches of snow. 'Priority Snow Street--No Parking' will be posted on all the streets in Westwood's boundaries. Cars not moved from the street will receive a \$35 ticket. Being on the Snow Priority Program should make our streets easier to travel on!



## WELCOME ANDREW BURG AS HANAWALT'S NEW PRINCIPAL!

Mr. Burg is a University of Iowa graduate with a major in elementary education and a minor in math. He went on to graduate school at Drake and achieved his degree in Educational Leadership. He has held several positions with the district as an elementary teacher, school level math leader, district level math leader, and dean of students.

He and his wife Josie are from Decorah. Josie is also an educator who teaches 2nd and 3rd grade for Des Moines Public Schools. They welcomed their first child, a son, Brody, on Mother's Day 2010!

I welcomed, and visited Mr. Burg recently, and invited him to join us at our Annual meeting Oct 19--so you can have an opportunity to meet him and hear him as one of our keynote speakers.

—Kristy Barzen



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



## SAVE THE DATE: WESTWOOD'S ANNUAL ART CENTER MIXER

Westwood's annual Art Center mixer is scheduled for January 20th, 2011. Make sure to mark your 2011 calendars!

## ADVERTISE WITH US!

Would you like your business information circulated to over 475 neighbors? Advertise in the Westwood Newsletter for \$75 for one year. If interested, contact Kristy Barzen.

## LUIS, KATIE, AND LUCCA GO BATTY FOR HALLOWEEN

The horrendous number of mosquitoes in Westwood Neighborhood Association this summer has led the Leon family on 51<sup>st</sup> St. to install a bat house. The small bat house, mounted on an unused utility pole, has room for up to 30 bats as they like to pack themselves in tight. Bats, meanwhile, are reported to eat anywhere from 300 to 1000 insects a night. So if all goes well, in a few years when the bat house is full the Leon's actions could mean 9,000 to 30,000 mosquitoes that are being fed on in their backyard—rather than feeding on us each night.

Bat houses can be hung anytime, and should be left in place year-round. They should be hung roughly 12 to 20 feet above the ground, sheltered as much as possible from the wind and where the approach is unobstructed by vegetation or utility wires. A bat house can be placed on a tree or pole, although those attached to the side of a building have had the most success because they provide added temperature stability. If a bat house is not occupied by the end of the second year, you might change its location. In Iowa, its best to mount bat houses facing south and in the sun as they need the sun's warmth all day. Painting the house black is also reported to help in our climate.



### MORE FACTS ABOUT BATS:

- Bats are incredible creatures and hold the distinction of being the world's only flying mammal. Bats occur worldwide and make up a quarter of all mammal species on the planet. Of the approximately 850 species of bats only 39 occur in the United States
- Bats are an essential link in the balance of nature but are on the decline throughout the United States. Loss of habitat due to the disturbance of natural and man-made roosting sites in buildings, old trees, and caves is a major factor in this decline. Another factor is active and persistent persecution by people not aware of the bat's gentle nature and beneficial activities.
- Bats are actually clean animals that groom themselves daily. You are more likely to contract rabies from an unvaccinated dog or cat or contract food poisoning at a church picnic than get sick from bats.
- The 3 species of vampire bats live only in Central and South America. Scientist are currently studying the saliva of these bats in the hope of developing new anticoagulant drugs to prevent blood clots in heart patients.
- Bats have been unjustly persecuted by misinformed people who have been solely educated by exaggerated stories, media hype and horror movies. As a result of our ignorance bat roosting sites have been intentionally destroyed resulting in the death of millions of bats

Homeowners who are interested in preserving and attracting bats can help by preserving uncut wood lots and snags, especially in locations next to water, and putting up bat houses, as all serve as important bat habitats.

For directions on creating a simple bat house that you can attach to a tree in your yard, go to:

<http://mdc.mo.gov/discover-nature/how/woodworking/building-bat-house>



The WNA Board minutes and past newsletters are available online

**Go to:** [www.neighborhoodlink.com/desmoines](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/desmoines)

### New to the neighborhood?

We want to get to know you! To be featured in the Neighborhood News, contact Kristy Barzen at [kbarzen@aol.com](mailto:kbarzen@aol.com)



# WESTWOOD MEMBERSHIP—IS IT TIME TO RENEW?

Strong, consistent membership can greatly benefit the neighborhood association and is essential when seeking grants to fund neighborhood improvements. Our challenge is to build a stable neighborhood association. Becoming a member is the first step. **Thanks to the members who have contributed to our success!**

Allen, Jason	Galeazzi, Dennis & Nancy	Meehan, Judith	Tiffany, Bill & Maureen
Althoff, Angela	Galenbeck, Scott & Leann Treloar	Meester, Ed & Brender Shehan	Tiffany, John & Laura Martino
Anderson, Marcus & Mary	Gleson, Lisa	Melton, Mark	Truslow, Ed & Nancy
Aspengren, Mary Lou	Gottschalk, Mary	Michelson, Brent & Ann	Urban, Tom & Mary
Baker, Keith & Deborah Guthrie	Grannes, Dean & Stephanie	Mouw, Matthew & Mary	Van Hon, Thomas
Baldwin, Patricia	Hand, Judy	Moyer, Debra	Vander Weerd, Adam & Christine
Bannister, Scott & Kathy	Harris, Rick & Jill	Mullins, Dan & Laurie	Ver Steeg, Dr. Dirk & Adele
Barzen, David & Kristy	Hearn, Jack	Munier, Shirley	Voss, Zachary & Sara
Bates, Dennis & Sally	Heggen, Dr. Bill & Lynn	Murphy, John & Sharon	Wallace, Sam & Sally
Beh, Carleton & Mary	Heiken, Thomas & Vicki	Murphy, Kathy	Walsh, Sharon
Bell, Jim & Barbara	Heinz, Amy & Jason Handeland	Nesbit, John & Ann	Weitenhagen, Dean
Berntsen, Rob & Steph Pickens	Hemminger, David & Jane	Olson, Gretchen	West, Mary Beth
Berry, Dr. Greg & Maria	Hetherington, Dr. Peter & Sue	Pederson, Dennis & Cheryl	Westlund, Robert & Nancy
Bertness, Scott & Nancy	Hogan, Brady & Allison	Peterson, Mike & Margart	White, Toby & Ruth
Bookey, Harry & Pam	Horstmann, Rick & Laura	Pintus, Peter & Eva	Wieland, John & Denise
Brooks, Steve & Katie	Howard, Steve & Kay	Pollard, Tom & Julita	Williams, Ted & Nancy
Brown, Kendall & Diane	Huber, Rory & Marti	Pomerantz, Rose Lee	Windsor, Stephanie
Brown, Peter & Lisa	Hull, Marg	Post, Scott & Diane	Winter, Kathy
Burgeson, John & Colleen	Jansen, Dale	Rabinowitz, Sheldon & Roselind	Wirt, Brian & Kelly
Burke, Bernie, Stephanie Preusch	Kahl, Andrew & Peg Roy	Rask, Rick & LaRayne Lilley	Wolnerman, Michael & Missy
Burkle, Daniel	Karas, Chris & Kiera	Rasley, June	Young, Linda
Caldbeck, Garry & Debbie	Karas, Kiera & Chris	Ray, Robert & Billie	Zeiner, Andy
Campbell, Jan & Bo	Keene, Sheila	Reece, Maynard & June	Zisko, Tom & Dena Goblerud
Cary, Daniel & Tiffani	Keller, Mike & Rick Marura	Reece, Dr. Mark & Barb	Zuck, David & Amy
Christensen, Scott & Debby	Kelley, Enosh & Rachel	Reynolds, Joe/Jim Lansing	
Church, Barbara	Kenworthy, John & Lisa	Ricker, Ron & Kathleen	
Clark, Brian & Ann	Kisch, Thomas & Margo Hutcheson	Ricker, Ronald & Kathleen	
Clemens, Maxine	Kneile, Bob & Ruth	Rosenberg, Dr. Steven & Tracy	
Clemenson, Jane	Kobes, Joe & Jo	Rosenberg, Dr. Harlan & Audrey	
Clutter, Ryan & Vicki Sehgal	Kramer, Randy	Sammon, Brad and Jenny	
Connor, Bob & Shirley	Krantz, Mary	Sara Sager	
Copple, Vincent & Susan	LaValle, Michael & Lisa	Satterstrom, Bill & Virginia	
Cownie, Drew & Christine	Lawson, Jim & Rachel Stauffer	Schroeder, Diane	
Cranberg, Gilbert & Norma	Lem Mon, Jean	Scott, Debora	
Davis, Ron & Agnes	Lindstrom, Matt & Krista Mattsen	Shadur, Dr. Craig & Kimberly	
DeBord, Dave & Kristi Sutton	Linebaugh, Jesse & Melissa	Shiffler, Bryan & Lyn	
DenHartog, Rob & Brenda Currans	Lonning, Craig & Judy	Shumaker, Bill	
DiSilvestro, Charlie & Martha	Lorber, Fred & Mickey	Sissel, Joel & Karen	
Dorner, Dr. Carolyn	Ludwig, Bill & Joyce	Smith, Val & Elizabeth	
Downing, Dr. Wendell & Joyce	Lumbard, Rob & Lisa	Spellman, Ted & Anne	
Eckhouse, Herb & Kathy	Lyford, Dick & Barb	Spevak, James	
Engler, Joan	Mackaman, David & Laura	Steger, Dee Dee	
Erbstein, Louis	MacKrell, Scott & Amy	Stevenson, Peter & Barb Bremner	
Faber, Vern & Nancy	Malone, Jane	Strief, Charles & Peggy	
Fisher, Bob	Marquardt, Steve & Sara	Tatge, Bob & Sandy	
Fleming, James & Allison	Martinez, Richard	Taylor, Dawn	
Fox, Cynthia	Martinez, Mary	Tegrotenhuis, Jeff	
Freude, Jeff & Laurie Wolf	McGreevy, Jeanette	Tempero, Howard & Megan	

## Much appreciation for our neighborhood captains!

They deliver the news to you!

Bill & Ginny Satterstrom, 49th St  
 Joe & Jo Kobes, N. 51st St  
 Phil & Sharon Walsh, S. 51st St  
 Jim & Barbara Bell, N. 52nd St  
 Bill & Lynn Heggen, Robertson Dr  
 Jim & Alison Fleming, S. 52nd St  
 John & Colleen Burgeson, Welker  
 Dean Weitenhagen, 56th St  
 Tom Kisch & Margo Hutcheson,, 58th St  
 Tom & Dena Zisko, 58th Pl  
 Sheila Keene, 59th St  
 Rory & Marti Huber, 44th-45th St  
 Rob denHartog, Grand Ave  
 Dennis & Cheryl Pederson, 56th Private Drives

## 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 Kristy Barzen with news, articles, and calendar events at [kbarzen@aol.com](mailto:kbarzen@aol.com) (subject line "Westwood"). Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.**