



# Westwood News

**July 2008**

*Half of the WNA Garden Tour proceeds will support Iowa flood relief efforts.  
Many thanks to all attendees!*

## Westwood Neighborhood Garden Tour

*By Barbara Bell, WNA  
Garden Tour Chair*

My deepest thanks to the following neighbors for working so hard to make the Westwood Garden Tour 2008 such a success:

### Garden Tour Committee:

Colleen Burgeson and Vicki Heiken—volunteers for the day of the garden tour, Vicki and Tom Heiken-- Crystal water to sell, Vicki Heiken—tour treasurer, Diane Schroeder—liaison to gardeners, Sonda

Newkirk—media coverage, Jack Hearn—poster distribution, Jeanette McGreevy—photography, Margo Hutcheson—commentary for brochures & tickets, Peggy Strief (Delta Designs)—posters & brochures

### Gardens Toured:

Dave DeBord & Kris Sutton, Herb & Kathy Eckhouse, Bill & Joyce Ludwig, Jim & Allison Fleming, Jim & Barbara Bell

### Ticket Takers & Garden

**Hosts:** Marty Huber, Margo

Hutcheson, Tom Kitsch, Nancy Farber, Sheila Keene, Peggy Strief, Amy Zuck, Diane Schroeder, Sonda Newkirk, Margaret & Mike Peterson, Vicki Heiken, Colleen Burgeson, Rob DenHartog, Barb & Dick Lyford

**Garden Prep:** Jo, Joe, & Zach Kobes, Dena Goplerud.

***Thank you again to each and every one of you. It certainly took a village to raise Garden Tour 2008. You are the best! Rest up. We'll be back in 2010!***

*"Spring being a tough act to follow, God created June." —Al Bernstein*

### Westwood Highlights:

Sutton & DeBord Garden	1
Eckhouse Garden	2
Bell Garden	2
Fleming Garden	2
Ludwig Garden	3
Jazz in July	4
Ice Cream Social Rescheduled	4
Newsletter Advertising	5
Cardinals	5
Block Captains, Board, Membership	6

## Garden #1: Kris Sutton & Dave DeBord

326 56<sup>th</sup> Street

Kris and Dave moved into their home in 2001--it was "all yard" with a fence in need of moving in order to open the space. Kris and Dave then divided the back yard into planters—planting areas that they filled with nature's bounty—nurtured and protected by the couple dedicated to seeing our Des Moines forest preserved and restored.

Want a magical journey? Just meander the trail in Kris and Dave' long, narrow back yard—where the "oak tree nursery" is

carefully tended. During the winter, the oak "babies" are siloed in black tubes to protect them from our "deer" friends.

Kris and Dave teach us well as they say, "100 years from now we want the neighborhood to look the same—that is why we have the nursery—it's for the future."



## Garden #2: Kathy & Herb Eckhouse

5320 Robertson



*"In all things of nature there is something of the marvelous."*

Aristotle (384 BC - 322 BC),  
Parts of Animals

Kathy and Herb Eckhouse moved into 5320 Robertson 19 years ago—the garden was essentially non-existent. It has come a long way since then!

After they moved in, one of the first changes the couple made was to "remove" the swimming pool. Too much silt from the slope, too many leaves, and a-you-won't believe-it-over-the-top water heating bill brought the pool to its knees—and opened the

yard to many possibilities!

Hosta lovers take heed—Kathy and Herb have some show-stoppers surrounding their property.

If Kathy ever moved from her home and could only take one thing from her garden, it would be her Sieboldonia Elgans Hosta—it was the first one she ever bought. It's a keeper!



## Garden #3: Barbara & Jim Bell

304 52<sup>nd</sup> street



Barbara and Jim Bell made 304 52<sup>nd</sup> Street their home 17 years ago, a time when the back yard was all forest, no garden.

Barbara, a master gardener and Jim, the "dig" man, started transforming their back yard with a "center" garden of hostas that, over time, have apparently invited many hosta relatives to live with them!

If the Bells had to leave their home and could only take one thing from the garden, Barbara would take her 8-ft. Columnar Geranium, and Jim would take his garden bench—he made it; he should take it!



Astilbe

## Garden #4: Allison & Jim Fleming

25 52<sup>nd</sup> Street



Allison and Jim cleared a spot in the woods for their home at 25 52<sup>nd</sup> Street 14 years ago—not a garden in site then!

While they made room for the house, this couple had the goal of keeping as many trees as possible—a

goal clearly reached.

The next goal was a "deer-proof" garden—another goal to cross off the list! (Rumor has it that deer come up to the formal garden, look at the mighty fence, and sob, "No salad for us here!")





*You must not know too much or be too precise or scientific about birds and trees and flowers and watercraft; a certain free-margin, and even vagueness - ignorance, credulity - helps your enjoyment of these things.*

*Walt Whitman (1819 - 1892)*

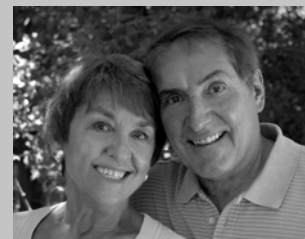
## Garden #5: Joyce & Bill Ludwig

303 52<sup>nd</sup> Street

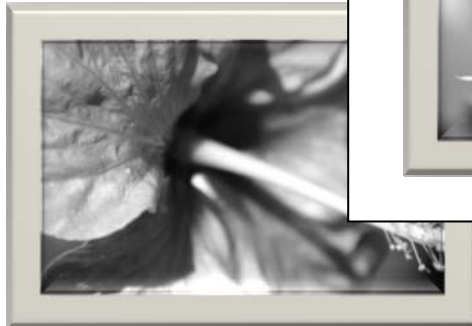
Joyce and Bill moved into their "new" home 30 years ago. Bill's "decking" construction started in year two of residence—and oh, what a deck!

If you would like to rid yourself of mowing the back yard forever, a stroll through the Ludwig's back yard will show you how.

If this couple left their home and could only take one thing from the garden with them—Bill's sculptures were the big winner! Joyce would take the "cow" and Bill would take the "porcupine." Those lucky critters!



**More beauty from Westwood homes . . . thank you, gardeners!!**



*lity of life in Westwood Community.*



## Jazz in July—July 11, 2008—Greenwood Park—5:30

Mark your calendars now!

Westwood Neighborhood Association again sponsors a superior Jazz in July event at Sylvan Theater.

Excellent jazz will be provided by **Roxie Copland's Band**. Artists will have works on

display for sale.

Storytelling and the new Westwood Neighborhood Association Bounce House will be available for kids. **Kinfolks BBQ**

and **Fresh Café and Market** will provide great food, and the Westwood Neighborhood Association

will sell beverages and A&E products.

Bring your family, your pets, and anything to make your evening enjoyable. Help the neighborhood showcase Sylvan Theater and the Westwood Neighborhood Association.

*Rob denHartog, Jazz in July Chair*

*"I think I should have no other mortal wants, if I could always have plenty of music. It seems to infuse strength into my limbs and ideas into my brain. Life seems to go on without effort, when I am filled with music."*

*George Eliot (1819 - 1880)*

## Jazz in July—concert help needed!

Volunteers are needed to work at Jazz in July—Friday, July 11, at Sylvan Theater in Greenwood Park.

Several responsibilities available: help set up the concert, work during the event, and break down/clean up.

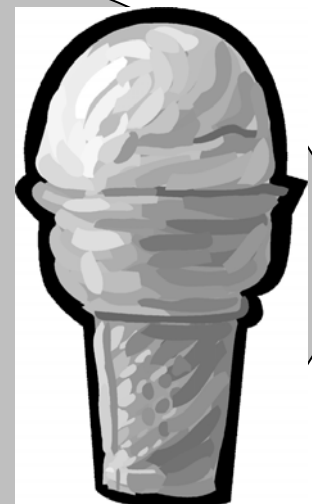
**Call Rob denHartog at 515-210-4472 or e-mail him at [rob.denhartog@nmfn.com](mailto:rob.denhartog@nmfn.com).**



Want to see WNA Board minutes, past newsletters, and other info?  
[www.neighborhoodink.com/desmoines](http://www.neighborhoodink.com/desmoines)

## Ice Cream Social Rescheduled—August 3, 2008

As a result of rainy conditions, the Westwood Neighborhood Association Ice Cream Social planned for June 8 has been rescheduled to **Sunday, August 3, 1:00-4:00 at Greenwood Park.**



## Westwood Neighborhood Newsletter Advertising

Westwood Neighborhood Association needs newsletter sponsors to help offset the costs of the upgraded newsletter.

Westwood distributes 460 newsletters to all residents.

You can help in several ways:

- Make a newsletter cash donation.
- Purchase newsletter advertising.
- Donate newsletter funds via advertising as a sponsor (someone who lives outside the neighborhood)

WNA members receive a discount to advertise membership lists.

**Please contact  
Rob denHartog  
at 515-210-  
4472 or e-mail  
him at  
rob.denhartog  
@nmfn.com.**



Support your community! Purchase "Westwood Impressions." Six note cards for \$6.00.

## Spring 2008—Time for a Cardinal Flying Lesson!

A pair of cardinals decided to make their nest at the top of a twig wreath hanging by a back door in Westwood neighborhood.

Two eggs hatched—two young "fliers" in need of coaching from mom and dad.

The day arrived—two scruffy youngsters stretching their stick legs and fluffing their not-so-great feathers!

Mom and dad cardinal coached from the stands for hours—only they knew what they were yelling!

Before the sun set that day, the two young cardinals had made it to Landing A (a nearby bush) and then gone into the Westwood canopy.

From Wild-Bird-Watching.com:

The **Northern Cardinal**, a frequent visitor to bird feeders is one of the most admired backyard bird species. A bird so admired that seven states have named it as their states bird.

To listen to the cardinal song, go to YouTube:

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Nrl8t6nhlgg>



Flying Day—Ready or Not!



Father Watching Carefully



Lunch Before Takeoff

*"There is nothing in which the birds differ more from man than the way in which they can build and yet leave a landscape as it was before."*

Robert Lynd (1879 - 1949), *The Blue Lion and Other Essays*

## Much Appreciation to Westwood Neighborhood Captains

*They deliver the news to you!*

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

## Vicki Heiken, Chair & Block Captain (255-7066)



WNA Newsletter Layout &  
Photography  
Jeanette McGreevy

## FOR YOUR BUSINESS AND ITS FUTURE.

Expert guidance and innovative solutions to help you evaluate your  
risk management, business continuation and employee benefit needs.



Robert J. Denhartog, CLU  
Retirement and  
Pension Specialist

The Erhard Financial Group  
2300 128<sup>th</sup> Street  
Des Moines, IA 50323  
(515) 697-4646  
rob.denhartog@nmfn.com  
www.nmfn.com/robdenhartog



**Northwestern Mutual**  
**FINANCIAL NETWORK**  
*the quiet company*

© 2007 Northwestern Mutual. Northwestern Mutual Financial Network is a marketing name for the sales and distribution arm of The Northwestern Mutual Life Insurance Company, Milwaukee, WI (NMLIC) and its subsidiaries and affiliates, and "the quiet company" is a registered trademark. Robert J. Denhartog is an Insurance Agent of NMLIC (Life Insurance, Annuities, and Disability Income Insurance). 7/25/07

## Westwood Neighborhood Association Board Members—Thanks!

President	Brad Sammon	277-9190, <a href="mailto:marley@aol.com">marley@aol.com</a>
Vice President	Joe Kobes	279-5202, <a href="mailto:kobesj@mchsi.com">kobesj@mchsi.com</a>
Secretary	Thomas Kisch	274-4644, <a href="mailto:tkisch9@mchsi.com">tkisch9@mchsi.com</a>
Treasurer	Vicki Heiken	255-7066, <a href="mailto:lattevic@msn.com">lattevic@msn.com</a>
Membership Chair & Jazz in July Chair	Rob denHartog	210-4472, <a href="mailto:rob.denhartog@nmfn.com">rob.denhartog@nmfn.com</a>
Des Moines Neighbors Liaison	Sharon Murphy	255-2011, <a href="mailto:sharon.murphy@iowa.gov">sharon.murphy@iowa.gov</a>
Neighborhood Beautification Chair	Barbara Bell	277-4860, <a href="mailto:belldsm@dwx.com">belldsm@dwx.com</a>
Social Committee Co-Chair	Amy Zuck	255-5508, <a href="mailto:zuck.amy@principal.com">zuck.amy@principal.com</a>
Social Committee Chair & Immediate Past President	David Barzen	<a href="mailto:dbarzen@aol.com">dbarzen@aol.com</a>



## Westwood Neighborhood Association Membership Form Annual Dues

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-Mail: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ \$25 July 1, 2008, or after (more than one person in household)

\_\_\_\_\_ \$15 July 1, 2008, or after (one person in household)

Please make check payable to the following: Westwood Neighborhood Association

Mail this completed form and your check to the following: Vicki Heiken, 327 49<sup>th</sup> Street, Des Moines, IA 50312