



Westwood News

PRESIDENT'S NOTES

6:00 pm, January 21, Art Center - write it on your calendar! It is **Westwood's Annual Art Center Mixer** and a great opportunity to gather with neighbors you know and meet neighbors you are not yet acquainted with. With many people in need, I'd like to encourage you to bring a food donation that will be given to a Des Moines based food pantry. With many of us gathering, it gives us a unique opportunity to unite and give back to our community. The Soul Searchers will be providing the music for the night.

I recently attended a city-wide Des Moines Neighbors meeting and it was interesting to listen to and visit with neighborhood associations from all over Des Moines. I was also impressed that by coming together as one neighborhood group (Des Moines Neighbors), it gets the attention and help of the City Council and other leaders.

I look forward to the opportunity to meet you at the upcoming mixer. Some of the nicest neighbors I know, I would have never met, had I not gotten involved in the Westwood Neighborhood Association. In this newsletter, we have included a membership form and envelope. I hope you will return it and take part in our Westwood gatherings.

Your dues help pay for events like the January Art Center Mixer, our annual Jazz in July event in Greenwood park (this year we will have Sinatra style crooner and Roosevelt Grad Max Wellman and his band), Garden club beautification projects, donations of time and dollars to Hanawalt, and the annual ice cream social/pool party. Please help out by joining, paying your dues, and volunteering your time.

Save the Date:
Westwood's Annual
Art Center Mixer
Thursday, January 21
6:00 pm

ANNUAL NEIGHBORHOOD MEETING

—Kristy R. Barzen, President

Halloween was in order as we carried out our annual Westwood Neighborhood meeting at Merrill school in October. Halloween decorations and music added to the festive flair, as we all enjoyed numerous helpings of Palmers Chili and Sweet Rolls (special thanks for Crystal Clear and Thom and Vicki Heiken for providing the water). On the docket was the election of a new slate of officers with new ideas and energy to make this another great year. (Thanks for stepping up to help). We had some good neighborly fun and were treated by a visit from our hardworking Mayor, Frank Cownie. He told us about what was happening in Des Moines and what we will be seeing over the upcoming year(s) - including changes along Ingersoll Avenue and downtown. He also expanded on budget concerns that face the city, downtown commercial occupancy issues and what that might mean for all of us. He also shared about all of the great things that have been happening in Des Moines - which are very visible as you drive through downtown.

This was followed up by a discussion by Ralph Connor, an arborist with Perrific Cut Tree Service. He told us about what to watch for with our trees and warned us to watch for new tree diseases coming from less than a state away that could have a drastic effect on our old oaks. He also explained that October and early November are great times to aerate your lawn and plant grass seed and that winter was the best time to trim trees - both for cost savings, but also for tree health. He also reminded us to make sure that tree dressings were put on cut areas to prevent insect infestation. Thanks to all who attended and to those who keep contributing in one way or another - whether paying membership dues or volunteering. Looking forward to seeing everyone at the January Art Center party.

—David Barzen



BEST WISHES FOR A QUICK RECOVERY!



Jerry and Danise Nelson of 49th Street, got a phone call on November 5th that their daughter, Joy Clark, had been wounded in the Fort Hood shooting. Joy grew up on 49th Street and attended Hanawalt, Merrill, and Roosevelt schools. She joined the Army eight years ago, working as an Occupational Therapy Assistant. She was set to be deployed for Afghanistan in December. Joy was shot in her left arm. Her husband and parents immediately joined her in Temple, Texas, where they did her surgery. She is expected to make a full recovery and is spending that time in DM. Jerry and Danise thank everyone for all the support they have received.

—Vicki Heiken

Westwood wishes Joy a speedy recovery and would like to thank her for serving our country.

BEST PUMPKIN DECORATING

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Prize Winning Pumpkins at the Beeman's

The award for best Halloween Pumpkin Decoration was given this year to the Beeman's, at 315 51st, who spent many hours carving pumpkins - with themes as varied as Star Wars, Disney characters, and colleges—traditional and quirky.

Runner up was the Horstmann's at 106 51st, who had a grand display with cobwebs and skeletons for added effect. Overall, everyone did a grand job of adding to this years Halloween tradition with scary music and more decorations.

If you know of someone who needs to be recognized for their efforts, please feel free to call your newsletter photographer, David Barzen at 274-6263.

—David Barzen



Carving talent on display at the Horstmann's

BEST HOLIDAY DISPLAYS

Everyone has done a great job of showing their holiday spirit this year, with beautiful trees, decorations and extra efforts and to help get everyone motivated again for next year, Here are the unofficial results of the best Westwood Neighborhood Holiday Lighting displays:

1st Place - Four Way Tie

The Wallace's— 1 Greenwood Terrace

The Flemming's— 117 SW 51st

The Wirt's—216 49th

The Kobes— 5100 Grand Ave.



Honorable mention:

The Tegrotenhuis' — 334 58th

The Haakinson's — 317 58th

The Weber's — 15 Greenwood Terrace

The Cramers — 5200 Grand Ave

The Beeman's — 315 51st

49th street gets extra recognition for the most lighting displays per street!

I hope that you took the time to "drive the neighborhood" or walked to check out these and other wonderful holiday displays. Great job everybody and we hope to see you at the January Art Center party. Happy Holidays!

—David Barzen

MOST IMPROVED PROPERTY

Nominated by Rick Horstmann, the most improved property goes to The Harris's of 51st Street. They purchased the abandoned eyesore at 330 51st, tore it down and turned it into a park-like yard. Thanks for making the improvement that most of us were glad to see finally happen.

—David Barzen

DO WE HAVE YOUR EMAIL?



WNA will now be sending notices of events and the newsletter via email in addition to signs posted on the street corners. A "save the date" notice for the Art Center event on January 21st was sent in December to all WNA members for whom we have an email address. If you did not receive that notice or would like to make sure we have the correct address, please send a brief email to Sue Boesen Copple, WNA Secretary at coppledsm@yahoo.com. Please note the email address will be kept confidential, will not be released to third parties, and will only be used for WNA correspondence.

—Sue Boesen Copple 277-8474

WE HAVE NEW NEIGHBORS! WELCOME TO WESTWOOD!

44th Street:

Ryan and Ashley Koopmans

56th Street:

Jose Pimentel

58th Drive:

Andy Zeiner
Scott and Diane Post

58th Place:

Kathy Winter



Do you have a new neighbor on your street? We'd like to know!

Email amy.mackrell@dmu.edu with information and we'll make sure they are acknowledged in the upcoming issues of The Westwood News.

MEET YOUR NEIGHBORS

Names: Jason Allen and Tracy McAninch

Family : Logan (10th grade at Valley), Noah (4th grade at Hillside), Caitlyn

Address: 4910 Grand Ave

Jason has his own business, Anything Automotive at 1980 SW 94th Street in Clive - and he can work on any car, make, or model. Tracy is head Nutritionist for West Des Moines Schools

Jason's hobby is the Rolls Royce Owners Club, Modern Lady (post WWII Rolls Royces).

He states he always wanted a Rolls Royce and got his chance when a contact was moving and wanted to get rid of a couple of project cars. He ended up buying them out of a barn in Minnesota - covered in hay. Look for a 1967 Rolls Royce Shadow in his driveway on nice days!



Tracy's hobby is painting. Noah and Logan are holding up of some of her work (at left).

The family's favorite place in Des Moines? With 1960s home updating/remodeling underway, it's Home Depot!

Welcome, McAninch family!

**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 BURGESSON, 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

DES MOINES NEIGHBORS NEWS

Des Moines Neighbors began over twenty years ago with just a few neighborhoods coming together to address issues that affected the city as a whole from a grass-roots level. Currently there are over 50 recognized neighborhoods in the City of Des Moines under the umbrella of the DM Neighbors.

DM Neighbors meets the fourth Thursday of each month at 7:00 pm at the Mickle Center located at 1620 Pleasant Street in the Sherman Hill neighborhood. The meetings are open to the public & I hope that you will attend a meeting. DM Neighbors puts together informative agendas and many governmental departments attend the meetings to get feedback on plans, projects and issues.

For more information contact Shallee Keenan, Program Coordinator with the Neighborhood Resource Office at 280-1807 or skeenan@dmneighborhoodresources.org

Body by Pilates

Offering Pilates classes in
my home at 100 56th St

Brenda Shehan Meester,
certified in Stott Pilates,
Matwork and Reformer



515-313-6234

HELP DM NEIGHBORS BY RECYCLING

DM Neighbors Needs Your Help!

Please help Des Moines Neighbors, a coalition of all the Des Moines neighborhoods by saving your used ink jet and laser jet toner cartridges along with old cell phones. The Des Moines Neighbors is paid for each cartridge and cell phone turned in. This fundraising effort has been so successful that it will continue indefinitely. Your are helping support a great advocacy group and making a positive impact on our environment at the same time!

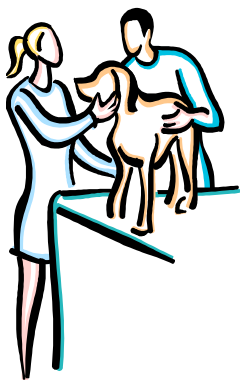
Please bring items to the home of **Sharon & John Murphy at 100 SW 52nd Street** and leave them on the front porch. We will ensure they get to the Des Moines Neighbors office.

—Sharon Murphy

DES MOINES NEIGHBORS COOKBOOK

Des Moines Neighbors first cookbook should be ready for sale around the first of the year. Books will be sold at various locations around the city and through the board members of Des Moines Neighbors. If you have questions, please call the Neighborhood Resource Office at 515-280-1807.

—Sharon Murphy



Happy Holidays!

While the holidays are a time of family gatherings, parties and food, they also pose some common questions from pet owners, such as how much chocolate is bad for my dog? And do I really need to get rid of my poinsettia if I have a cat?

Chocolate: Last Christmas my husband and I received a giant dark chocolate bar from a well-meaning relative. The chocolate was inadvertently placed under the tree. Not missing a beat, my 15 pound Rat Terrier promptly ate the entire bar of dark chocolate. So we spent the rest of our Christmas day taking our dog into my hospital for treatment.

Yes, chocolate is bad for dogs (and cats)! Chocolate contains a compound theobromine, which humans can metabolize, yet animals have a difficulty with it. As a general rule the more dark the chocolate, the more dangerous. Symptoms of theobromine poisoning include gastrointestinal upset, dehydration, excitability, and a slow heart rate. Later stages of theobromine poisoning include seizures and death. If caught early on, theobromine poisoning is treatable. Although not usual, the effects of theobromine poisoning, as stated, can become fatal.

Fortunately Shelby pulled through with no side effects due to early treatment, but avoid having to spend your holidays at the veterinarian and keep chocolate away from your pets!

Poinsettia and other Holiday Plants: If your cats are like mine, and graze on any plant in the household, I advise keeping poinsettias out of your cats reach. While poinsettias are not specifically toxic, chewing on the bright red plants can be slightly irritating the stomach of the cat or dog which chews or eat it. Who wants to spend their holidays cleaning up cat vomit?

What most people do not realize is that some types of **mistletoe** and most varieties of **lilies** are very dangerous if consumed, and can lead to liver or kidney failure in cats. These should be considered hazardous and be inaccessible to pets.

Dietary Indiscretions: While it is very tempting to slip your pet some holiday food, this is not advised. A sudden rich diet is likely to upset a pet's stomach, resulting in vomiting or diarrhea, two very common symptoms we end up treating pets for after a holiday. If the holiday food is especially fatty, this can result in a more serious condition known as pancreatitis, which requires your pet to be hospitalized.

Have a safe holiday season!

—Dr. Laurie Meythaler-Mullins

Veterinarian and Westwood Neighbor

Questions for the vet for the next Westwood Newsletter?

Email them to:

ingersollvet@gmail.com

CONGRATULATIONS!



John Freude, son of Jeff Freude and Laurie Wolf of 56th Street, was the recipient of a \$5000 college scholarship as part of the Herbert Hoover Uncommon Student Award program. John completed a charity benefit battle of high school bands to raise money for the Bidwell-Riverside Center located on Des Moines' south side.

The Hoover Uncommon Student Award program seeks to identify uncommon students during their junior year of high school, an idea based on the words of Herbert Hoover: "In my opinion, there has been too much talk about the common man. We believe in equal opportunity for all, but we know that this includes the opportunity to rise to leadership — in other words, to be uncommon."

Westwood congratulates John on his hard work and philanthropy!

Interested in hearing more about the program? Go to scholarship@hooverassociation.org for more information.

 	3009 Ingersoll Ave. Des Moines, IA 50312 515-274-3555 After hours & holidays: 515-280-3051	Veterinary Staff: Dr. N. T. Peterson Dr. T. J. Frye Dr. T. S. Dermody Dr. L. Meythaler-Mullins
	Ingersoll Animal Hospital Premiere Service. Quality Care.	

HOURS Weekdays: 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday: 7 a.m. to Noon
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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 these members who have contributed to our success!



Allen, Jason	Kelly, Enosh & Rachell	Ricker, Ron & Kathleen
Anderson, Marcus & Mary	Kenworthy, John & Lisa	Rosenberg, Dr. Steven & Tracy
Aspengren, Mary Lou	Kisch, Thomas & Margo Hutcheson	Rosenberg, Harlan & Audrey
Baker, Keith & Deborah Guthrie	Kneile, Bob & Ruth	Sammon, Brad and Jenny
Baldwin, Patricia	Lem Mon, Jean	Sara Sager
Barzen, David & Kristy	Linebaugh, Jesse & Melissa	Satterstrom, Bill & Virginia
Berry, Dr. Greg & Maria	Lonning, Craig & Judy	Schroeder, Diane
Bookey, Harry & Pam	Mackaman, David & Laura	Scott, Debora
Brooks, Steve & Katie	Mackrell, Scott & Amy	Shumaker, Bill
Cary, Daniel & Tiffani	Malone, Jane	Sissel, Joel & Karen
Clutter, Ryan & Vicki Sehgal	Marquardt, Steve & Sara	Spellman, Ted & Anne
Connor, Bob & Shirley	Martinez, Mary	Steger, Dee Dee
Copple, Vincent & Susan	Meehan, Judith	Stevenson, Peter & Barb Bremner
Davis, Ron & Agnes	Melton, Mark	Strief, Charles & Peggy
DeBord, Dave & Kristi Sutton	Michelson, Brent & Ann	Tatge, Bob & Sandy
Denhartog, Rob & Brenda Currans	Mouw, Matthew & Mary	Taylor, Dawn
Downing, Dr. Wendell & Joyce	Moyer, Debra	Tempero, Howard & Megan
Faber, Vern & Nancy	Mullins, Dan & Laurie	Textor, Jack & Susan
Fleming, James & Allison	Munier, Shirley	Tiffany, Bill & Maureen
Fox, Cynthia	Murphy, John & Sharon	Truslow, Ed & Nancy
Galeazzi, Dennis & Nancy	Murphy, Kathy	Urban, Tom & Mary
Galenbeck, Scott & Leann Treloar	Nesbit, John & Ann	Van Hon, Thomas
Gleson, Lisa	Olson, Gretchen	Vander Weerd, Adam & Christine
Gottschalk, Mary	Pederson, Dennis & Cheryl	Ver Steeg, Dr. Dirk & Adele
Grannes, Dean & Stephanie	Peterson, Mike & Margart	Wallace, Sam & Sally
Hearn, Jack	Pintus, Peter & Eva	Walsh, Sharon
Heggen, Bill & Lynn	Pollard, Tom & Julita	Weitenhagen, Dean
Heiken, Thomas & Vicki	Pomerantz Family	West, Mary Beth
Heinz, Amy & Jason Handeland	Rabinowitz, Sheldon & Roselind	Williams, Ted & Nancy
Hemminger, David & Jane	Rask, Rick & LaRayne Lilley	Windsoe, Stephanie
Horstmann, Rick & Laura	Rasley, June	Wirt, Brian & Kelly
Huber, Rory & Marti	Ray, Robert & Billie	Wolnerman, Michael & Missy
Kahl, Andrew & Peg Roy	Reece, Dr. Mark & Barb	Young, Linda
Keller, Mike & Rick Marura	Reynolds, Joe/Jim Lansing	Zuck, David & Amy

WESTWOOD NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Officers

President	Kristy Barzen	274-6263	kbarzen@aol.com
Vice President	Mike Keller	707-2764	mrk515@gmail.com
Secretary	Sue Boesen Copple	277-8474	boesencopple@yahoo.com
Treasurer	Ed Truslow	277-1608	ed@ampiowa.com
Immediate Past President	Brad Sammon	883-0616	MARLEYRB@aol.com

Committee Chairs

* Beautification	Mary Gottschalk	633-9258	mcg9258@gmail.com
44 th Street Garden	Marty Huber	255-8471	huberauto@msn.com
Gateway Garden	Margo Hutcheson	274-4644	mhutches@mchsi.com
Perennial Divide	Kris Sutton	255-4638	downtowndave@att.net
* Bylaws	Stephanie Pruesch	277-7750	stephaniep@mchsi.com
* Block Captains	Vicki Heiken	255-7066	lattevic@msn.com
* Des Moines Neighbors	Sharon Murphy	255-2011	smurph@mchsi.com
* Historian	Bill Satterstrom	274-5911	BSATTER1@aol.com
* Membership	Amy MacKrell	440-2766	amy.mackrell@dmu.edu
* Newsletter	Barbara Bell	277-4860	belldsm@dwx.com
* Nominating	David Barzen	274-6263	dbarzen@aol.com
* Photographer	Mary Mouw	277-1105	mmconsulting1@me.com
* Public Relations	Greg Berry	274-1582	g.berry@mchsi.com
* Social	Greg Berry	274-1582	g.berry@mchsi.com
Art Center	Rob DenHartog	279-5743	rob.denhartog@nmfn.com
Jazz 'n July	Bernie Burke	277-7750	bburke@gaf.com
National Night Out			

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



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New to the neighborhood?

We want to get to know you!

*To be featured in the Neighborhood News, contact Amy at
amy.mackrell@dmu.edu*

The WNA Board minutes and past newsletters are
available online!

Go to: www.neighborhoodlink.com/desmoines

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

Submissions may be edited for length and clarity.

