



**We need you!!**

## **Flowerbeds to be planted at Waveland Woods sites**

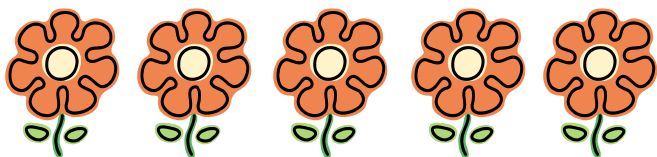
Our association is planning its 19<sup>th</sup> annual flowerbed plantings on Saturday, May 18, 2013.

**Place:** 56<sup>th</sup> and University Ave.

**Time:** Starting at 8 a.m.

**(help anytime you can from 8-11 a.m.)**

We need your help to make this effort a success! Two large flowerbeds will be planted at the corner of 56<sup>th</sup> and University Avenue. Seven smaller flowerbeds will be planted on Cummins Parkway.



Bring your trowels, knee pads and your work gloves. Plan now to get down and dirty. It's a wonderful way for newcomers to meet your neighbors as we work together to make Waveland Woods one of the most beautiful neighborhoods in Des Moines. Refreshments will be served. Even if you are unable to help plant flowers, plan to stop by and meet your neighbors. (Rain date is Sunday, May 19).

## **We're now on Facebook and Neighborhood Link**

The Waveland Woods Neighborhood Association can now be found on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/WavelandWoods](http://www.facebook.com/WavelandWoods). Be sure to check it out and click "Like" on the Facebook page to receive updates and announcements in your "News Feed." The site also provides a link to Neighborhood Link, a nationwide network of community websites. Check us out at [www.neighborhoodlink.com/Waveland\\_Woods](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Waveland_Woods). You can find our neighborhood newsletters, information about our community, links to other important websites and up-to-date information concerning our association. Please give us your feedback. We're here to serve you!

### **Noted arborist to participate**

## **'Tree Day' workshop planned May 5**



Many Waveland Woods residents have experienced tree damage and loss in the past year due to disease, the summer and fall drought as well as the December blizzard. Because our trees are so valuable to our neighborhood, we are holding a "Tree Day" workshop on Sunday, May 5, at 1 p.m. at Windsor Elementary School's Auditorium, 5912 University Ave.

Tivon Feeley, one of Iowa's leading tree experts, will present the session. Mr. Feeley, who lives in Waveland Woods, is program leader with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Forestry Division. He will discuss emerging threats including Emerald Ash Borer, Gypsy Moth, Bur Oak Blight, Thousand Cankers Disease of Black Walnut and Asian Longhorned Beetle. He will also advise what trees should be planted in our area and stress the importance of diversity. He plans to work with our association on a continuing basis.

Attendees are also encouraged to ask questions about their particular concerns and bring photos if available.

(cont. on p. 3)

## **Waveland Woods SCRUB Day to be held April 20**

The Des Moines Department of Public Works has announced that Waveland Woods' annual SCRUB Day will be Saturday, April 20. Items should be taken to Hoover High School, 4800 Aurora Parking Lot, from 7 a.m. to 1 p.m. Proof of residency will be required so take a photo ID or current utility bill.

(cont. on p. 3)

## ***Area-wide garage sales planned June 8***

It's time to clean out the closets and the basement! The Waveland Woods Neighborhood Association will sponsor area-wide garage sales on [Saturday](#), June 8, from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. The association will publicize the event, and any homeowners in the neighborhood boundaries may participate by holding garage sales at their homes that day.

Boundaries are the freeway on the south, 56th Street on the east, University Avenue on the north, and 63rd Street on the west.

This neighborhood event hasn't occurred for several years, and there have been requests to renew it. It's fun to see all the visitors to the neighborhood.

## ***Waveland Woods neighborhood explores ways to assist Windsor Elementary School***

Windsor Elementary School holds a special place in the hearts of many Waveland Woods residents. Many of us have children who now attend or have attended the school. Some of us received our elementary education at the school. It was under our watchful eyes that we saw it undergo a major renovation a few years back.



**Scott Nichols, principal at Windsor Elementary School**

Our neighborhood association has held several events at the school and we have inquired how we might be able to "give back" to the school which is so vital to our neighborhood community. Principal Scott Nichols has advised us that they would appreciate any help our residents can provide during the summer maintaining their community garden. Last fall, students donated produce from the garden to needy families. If you would like to volunteer to help with their community garden this summer, contact Sunny Dash at Windsor Elementary School, 242-8440.

## **When you read with a child**

## ***'Everybody Wins! Iowa' program seeks mentors***

Do you want to make a difference in a child's life?

The typical middle-class child enters first grade with 1,000 to 1,700 hours of picture books reading time; a low-income child averages just 25 hours. The stark disparity of the American literacy gap emerges early and only widens with time. By fourth grade, only 46 percent of low-income students read at or above the basic level, compared with 77 percent of their middle-class peers.

Everybody Wins! Iowa is part of a national literacy and mentoring non-profit organization that increases children's opportunities for success in school and life through one-on-one reading experiences with caring adults and older students.

Everybody Wins! Iowa's signature program is the Power Lunch program which matches elementary school students one-to-one with community volunteers. Everybody Wins! Iowa has about 440 community volunteers who assist directly with the Power Lunch program. Volunteer reading mentors visit their students for an hour once a week during the students' lunch. Volunteers talk with the students, read aloud to students, have students read aloud to them, and instill positive attitudes about reading. Volunteers serve as role models, enhancing students' self-esteem and increasing their success through these consistent, weekly, positive interactions, according to Melanie Hopkins, volunteer coordinator.

### ***How to become a mentor***

If you are interested in becoming a reading mentor, apply through the Everybody Wins! Iowa website [www.everybodywinsiowa.org](http://www.everybodywinsiowa.org). The application can be found under the volunteer tab. The complete application is online and Everybody Wins! Iowa staff will call once the application has been processed to complete a background check. The staff will visit more with you about the reading program and get you signed up for the coming year. A limited number of summer positions are also available.

Students at 18 elementary schools in Des Moines (including Windsor and St. Theresa's), Indianola and Pella are currently participating in the program.

If you would like more information, contact [volunteer@everybodywinsiowa.org](mailto:volunteer@everybodywinsiowa.org) or call 277-7590. The organization also has a need for books and they will send you a list if you are interested, Ms. Hopkins said.

## Tree Day workshop (cont. from p. 1)

Following the session, which should last about one to one and a half hours, participants will walk to nearby Cummins Parkway to discuss tree issues at that site. Plans include a look at the invasive “Tree-of-Heaven” along the Parkway and what might be done to rid the area of the unwanted specimen.

Plan now to join us so we can all work together to preserve our beautiful landmark trees. Light refreshments will be provided.

## SCRUB Day (cont. from p. 1)

Other drop-off points that day include: MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. from 7 a.m. to 2 p.m. and MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett from 7 a.m. to 4 p.m. Additional SCRUB days will be held each month through November and they are open to all neighborhoods.

Some household hazardous waste items are now accepted at these locations. For complete guidelines of acceptable items and future SCRUB locations and dates go to: [www.dmgov.org/Departments/PublicWorks/Pages/ScrubCalendar.aspx](http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/PublicWorks/Pages/ScrubCalendar.aspx) or go to our neighborhood site at [www.neighborhoodlink.com/Waveland\\_Woods](http://www.neighborhoodlink.com/Waveland_Woods) for a link to the information.

## Grand Avenue bridge to be closed until September

A major commuter route from West Des Moines to downtown has been closed for the remainder of the spring and for the entire summer.

Crews started work March 25 on replacing the Grand Avenue Bridge over Walnut Creek at 63rd Street. More than 18,000 vehicles a day used the bridge, according to city officials.

The bridge won't reopen to traffic until [September](#), city officials said, when three lanes are expected to open on the bridge.

Traffic is still be able to get up and down 63rd Street and a detour uses 63rd Street, University Avenue and 56th Street.

Replacing the bridge will cost about \$3.3 million.

The new bridge is designed to have five traffic lanes, including new turn lanes to help with traffic flow onto 63rd Street.

## Police official addresses neighborhood association



Lt. Joe Gonzalez

Lt. Joe Gonzalez with the Des Moines Police Department's Patrol Services Bureau spoke at the Waveland Woods Neighborhood Association's annual meeting last fall.

He advised residents that most burglaries occur during the day. He said all incidents should be reported to the police so they can check for patterns in the neighborhood. Some 2,800 burglaries were reported in the city during 2011.

Lt. Gonzalez said that anyone going door to door must have a city permit. He also said that neighborhoods can set up an association chat on social media to follow suspicious activities or lost pets. If residents are concerned about speeding in their area, they should contact him at (515) 237-1531 or his cell at (515) 577-2433, and he will see if a speed trailer should be set up in the area.

Residents can also contact any Waveland Woods Association board member if they have neighborhood safety concerns so the association can assist in resolving the issues.



**Waveland Woods Neighborhood Association**

**New & Annual Existing Member Form**

**New Member**\_\_\_\_ **Existing Member**\_\_\_\_

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Children and ages\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

Phone (    )\_\_\_\_\_

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

Are there any projects you would like to see the Neighborhood Association initiate or participate in?

Would you like to serve on the board or a committee?

Annual Family membership: \$10; Annual Business membership: \$25. Make checks payable to Waveland Woods Neighborhood Association and mail to:

Andy Lorentzen

5908 Chamberlain Dr.

Des Moines, IA 50312

**Waveland Woods News**

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The WWNA area is 56<sup>th</sup> Street to 63<sup>rd</sup> Street and south of University Avenue to I-235 in Des Moines, Iowa.

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*If properly cared for, trees provide a wide variety of benefits to people, communities and the economy. An investment in our trees is an investment in our future.*

*Strategically placed trees save up to 56 percent on annual air-conditioning costs*

**Advertising now accepted**

The Waveland Woods newsletter is now accepting advertising. If you would like to submit an ad, the cost is \$50 per issue. Only business card-size ads are accepted. Contact Anne Van Ryswyk at 288-9068 or [avanryswyk@mchsi.com](mailto:avanryswyk@mchsi.com), or you may contact any other board member if you would like to place an ad for your business.

