

Southwestern Hills  
  
Neighborhood  
Association

P.O. Box 21222 Des Moines, Iowa 50321

December 2010  
Newsletter

Happy  
Holidays  
from your Executive Board



Let's make 2011 the best year ever!

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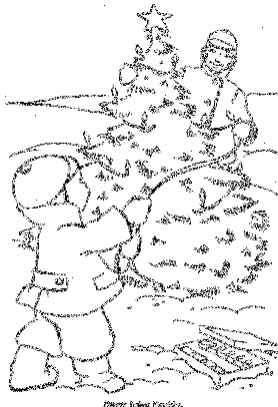
Steve Utterson  
285-3965

Message From Our President  
GEORGE DAVIS

One year ago we had record snow falls, followed by record rain in the summer. Some of our neighbors had water everywhere with no place to go. Some have suffered continual water problems in their homes and are looking for solutions in cooperation with the city government. This situation was addressed at our Annual Fall Neighborhood Meeting, at Brody Middle School in November. We hope a long term solution can be found for both our neighbors and our city government. We still have water running across the 3500 block of Park Ave. It has been seeping out at that location for many weeks and will become hazardous in freezing weather. What is going on with that situation?

Be sure to read "keep your home safe" in this newsletter (pg 3). This time of year is the worst for home invasions and we are all possible targets. Most break-ins happen during the day when people are at work. If your block has a person home during the day, keep them informed of your "away" schedule. Keeping extra sets of eyes on our houses is a good thing.

This is the best time of the year. All of my family is here. That means plenty of good late night talks, squeals of joy from visiting friends, great meals, and a feeling of comfort with everyone back in the nest. There are memories of my children when they were little, mixed with new ones now that they are adults with their own little ones. A layer of white snow, making yards so clean, with fresh animal tracks going across my backyard tundra . . . this is my Christmas, and I treasure the season. May you also have a very MERRY CHRISTMAS!



George Davis

# The S.W. 30th Sidewalk is Completed

Neighbors in the Southwestern Hills Neighborhood now have a safe connection to Water Works Park and many miles of bike trails. SW 30th street has always been a very narrow street that made it difficult and dangerous when walking or biking at the old sidewalk's ending located at Carney Park's softball fields.

The new section of sidewalk was completed in November and crosses over the levee that is between SW 30th and the softball fields. It connects to the previously completed section that leads to Water Works Park or the trails to downtown and Grays Lake. In Water Works you can access the Bill Riley and the Great Northwestern Trails. All of these connect to trails all over the Des Moines Area.

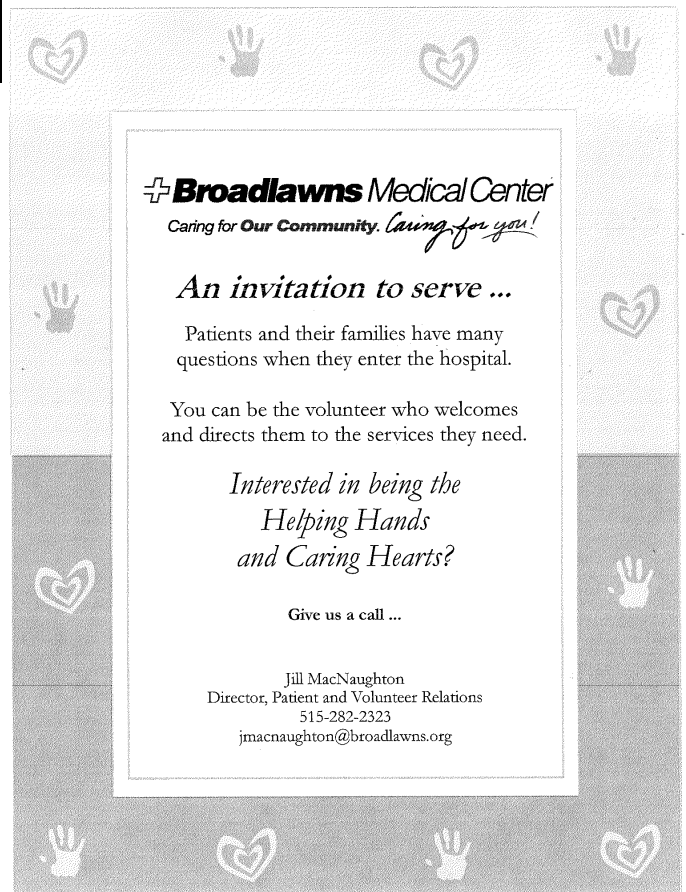
Get out and enjoy this wonderful new trail, it is a great addition to the Southwestern Hills neighborhood.

## SWHNA 2011 Meeting Dates

We have a General Meeting for all residents (anyone living in the 50321 zip code) every April and November. 2011 dates are April 21st and November 3rd. Please plan to attend, we need you there.

General Board Meetings are held the third Monday of the month at Wakonda Christian Church beginning at 6:00pm. If you have a situation to present to the board, please notify an officer of your intent at least one week prior to meeting date. Meeting dates for 2011 are January 17, February 21, March 21, April 18, May 16, June 20, July 18th, August 15th, September 19th, October 17th, November 21st. There is no meeting in December.

Stay connected with your neighbors!  
Plan to attend the next  
SWHNA General Meeting.



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and Caring Hearts?*

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Jill MacNaughton  
Director, Patient and Volunteer Relations  
515-282-2323  
jmacnaughton@broadlawn.org

# Keep Your Home Safe

Here we are at the end of the year and ready for the holidays to begin. People are often away from their homes for a few hours or a few days.

If you planning on leaving for a few days or even a few weeks you can contact the Des Moines Police Department at **515-283-4824 (Police Information Line)** and request your home have a **Vacation Watch**. You will need to give the officer details on how long you plan to be away. That information is passed on to your territory police officer for added patrol of your home. When you call you will hear a recording, stay on the line and a receptionist will answer. Ask the receptionist for your address to be placed on a **Vacation Watch**. Be ready with information on how long you will be away, an emergency contact number, and if any lights will be left on. ***I recommend lights, television, or a radio be placed on a timer switch so they go on and off at irregular intervals.*** Let us know if anyone will be checking on the house or if there will be any cars left in the driveway.

## You can make your home less attractive for intruders:

- ◆ Install motion lights over your exterior doorways or a darkened corner of the exterior wall to your home.
- ◆ Trim bushes down that cover any ground level windows. No one can hide behind them for cover while they access a window.
- ◆ Plug of few interior lights to a timer switch so lights go on and off periodically.
- ◆ Install sturdy door locks in you exterior doors.
- ◆ Ask a trusted neighbor to help keep an eye on your home during extended leaves and call if they see anything suspicious.
- ◆ Have your home added to the vacation watch list.
- ◆ Don't leave a message on your answering machine that says you are on vacation or gone for an extended period of time.
- ◆ Make sure you put a hold on your mail and paper deliveries during the length of your absence.
- ◆ Don't leave holiday gifts in open window view. Don't leave gift boxes on the curb. This will advertise to the burglar "Look what I have."



I would like to wish everyone a joyous holiday season and be safe in your travels.

Sincerely,  
Sergeant Brian Vance  
DMPD, Neighborhood Based Service Delivery



## Do You Know Who To Call?

### Where to get answers?

Keep this next to your phone or in your phone book for quick reference.

**POLICE:** Emergency - 911 (not anonymous)

283-4811 Dispatch (could be anonymous)

Vice & Narcotics: 283-4830

**ANIMAL CONTROL:** 283-4811

**GRAFFITI:** Inspector (Ed 283-4183), (Sgt. Pascuzzi 283-4965) or 248-6350

**FIRE:** 911 or 283-4327

**ILLEGAL DUMPING:** Inspector (Ed 283-4183 ) or 283-4099

**TRAFFIC & TRANS:** 283-4973 (Street signs - traffic flow etc.)

**TALL GRASS:** Polk County Weed Commission 286-3005

**PARK PROBLEMS:** 248-6324 Scott Wallace (SW side)

**RECREATION PROGRAMS:** 248-6310

**PUBLIC WORKS:** 283-4950 (trash pick-up)

**FORESTRY:** 283-4134 dead trees or limbs on property

**WATER DEPT.:** 283-8700

**SIDEWALKS:** 237-1368 John Evans

**MAYOR & COUNCIL:** 283-4944

**D.O.T. (STATE):** District 1 Maintenance office: 1-800-89900623 or 515-239-1635

**NEIGHBORHOOD INSPECTION DIVISION:** 283-4046 Front Desk

**FOR INFORMATION ON YOUR HOME:** <http://www.dmgov.org/Pages/default.aspx>

and click on "show me my house" (on the home page) or go to Polk County Assessor site

<http://www.assess.co.polk.ia.us/web/inven/query/queryAll.html>

## Good Neighbor Recognition

Please remember our "Good Neighbor Award" program. We have so many great and helpful people living in our neighborhood, we want them recognized for their good works. You can e-mail your nominations to Anne Noah ([noah.ad@mchsi.com](mailto:noah.ad@mchsi.com)) anytime. All that is needed is the name and address of the person you want to nominate and the reason for the nomination. We will start recognizing the award winners at our Annual Meetings in April and November and at our "Neighborhood Night Out" picnic. This should be fun and another way to reward good deeds.

## Holiday Tips



### **The Christmas Tree Debate: Real vs. Artificial**

We won't provide resolution to this debate, but whichever way your branch swings, here's the best way to ensure you're being environmentally sound. Buying real? Find a local tree farm where you cut your own (no machinery) and that doesn't use harmful pesticides and herbicides. Going artificial? Buy something you won't get tired of to ensure you reuse it for years and years to come.

### **Save the planet - one less card at a time**

This may sound overly dramatic, but approximately 2.6 billion Christmas cards are sold annually in the United States - that's enough to fill a football field 10 stories high. So instead of mailing holiday cards, email it. You'll save on postage, too.

### **Holiday Lights**

Recycling your old holiday lights and invest in LED ones this year. The upfront cost is more, however, LED surpass incandescent in power savings, some using up to 33 percent less power. And while LEDs are not as bright, they are cooler and can help reduce Christmas tree fires.



## Embrace Winter

You'll want to grab a pen and circle the dates of February 4, 5 and 6 on your calendar!!! These are the dates of the 4<sup>th</sup> annual Des Moines Winter Games sponsored by Des Moines Parks and Recreation and Sleepy Hollow Sports Park. This event draws over 4,000 participants annually in individual and team events as well as hundreds of children who enjoy many free activities geared especially for them. New for 2011 will be the Mullet Fun Run which starts and ends at one of Des Moines' newest eateries - Mullets. Participants are encouraged to wear costumes and sport the proper haircut as prizes will be awarded for best "Natural Grown Mullet" and "Best Mullet Costume."

Again this year the Winter Games will start off with a splash - literally. Friday night's Polar Plunge is part of the pre-event party that starts at Sleepy Hollow at 5 p.m. Other events for individuals on Friday night include skiing and snowboarding competitions at Sleepy Hollow. Events taking place Saturday and Sunday include the Ice Fishing Derby at Easter Lake and the Rail Jam downtown on Court Avenue. Get a team together for fun, and of course competitive tournament play that includes adult Pond Hockey, Broomball, Men's and Coed Softball, and Flag Football at various park facilities.

Go to [www.dmparks.org](http://www.dmparks.org) or Des Moines Park and Recreation's Facebook page for more information and details about registration, rules, and times or call 515.248.6310.



# Neighborhood Survey

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

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

City, State, Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

How long have you lived in the SWHNA area?  
\_\_\_\_\_

What do you like about living in the neighborhood?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What concerns do you have about the neighborhood?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended any past neighborhood general meetings?  Yes  No

If not, what has kept you from attending?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

What additions would encourage you to attend the meetings?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

If you did attend, would you like to see anything changed? (e.g. speakers, topics, time, location)  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you attended/participated in any of the following SWHNA-sponsored activities?

Neighborhood Night Out  Jazz in July

Scrub Day  Other \_\_\_\_\_

If not, why not \_\_\_\_\_

Are there any other activities you would like to see offered by the Association?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Have you visited our neighborhood website [www.swhna.com](http://www.swhna.com)?  Yes  No

Would you like to see something added?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

How do you think the Association could better serve your needs and the needs of your neighbors?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Anything else you want us to know? \_\_\_\_\_

**Thank you very much  
for your time and ideas!**

.....

**Please Mail Your Completed Survey To:  
Southwestern Hills Neighborhood  
Association  
Attn: President, George Davis  
P.O. Box 21222  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321**

## Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association 2010 Paid Members

Acri, Peter & Rosemary  
Adams, Sherwood & Barb  
Agans, Charles, Jr.  
Agey, Sandy  
Albers, Everett  
Allen, David & Terry  
Amos, Brad & Tracy  
Andrews, Tom & Karen  
Baal, Terry  
Babcock, Kevin  
Badger, Jamie & Catherine  
Baln, Joanan  
Ballard, Leonard & Sheryl  
Barcelo, Lisa  
Barkley, Paul  
Becker, Gene & Fran  
Belling, Keith & LaGaya  
Benz, Carole  
Bird, Michael & Lora  
Birocci, Paul & Linda  
Blake, Darlene  
Bonanno, John & Holly  
Burnquist, John & Ellen  
Cannon, Barbara  
Cardamone, Marie  
Carman, Joshua & Heather  
Chaplinsky, Margaret  
Cigelman, Mike & Susan  
Clark, Mike & Sue  
Clayton, Karen  
Condon, Kaye  
Core, Ruth  
Cosimo, Mary

Cross, Tom & Linda  
Currie, Edward  
Darnell, Don & Rebecca  
Davis, George & Sandi  
Davis, Toby  
Dow, Carmen  
Durden, Dave  
Eidbo, Walter & Mary  
Ely, Dorothy  
Evans, Randy & Sue  
Fanter, Cynde  
Farley, Mike  
Felice, Dick & Elaine  
Fife, Mark & Jo Ann  
Fischer, Gordon & Monica  
Gaffney, John & Jane  
Garnett, Robert & Faye  
Gelb, Sam & Marian  
Goldman, Tom & Cathy  
Goode, Larry  
Grask, Phil & Betty  
Grask, Elizabeth  
Guessford, David & Priscilla  
Gustafson, Phil & Sue  
Hamilton & Shelness,  
Lisa & Jon  
Hansen, Audrene  
Hassel, Jerry & D.J.  
Harrison, Dennis  
Harrison, Scott & Penny  
Hein, Rich & Jane  
Held, Steven  
Hillman, Rosemary

Hoganson, Dean & Pam  
Hollebrands, Phyllis  
Hollingsworth, John  
Hulse, Larry  
Jackovich, Catherine  
Jackson, Patricia  
Jacobsen, Clark & Pauline  
Jannes, Jodi  
Jarnagin, Jeff & Lisa  
Jeffries, Joseph & Ann  
Johnson, Harold & Annie  
Johnson, Harold &  
Constance  
Johnson, Marv & JoEllen  
Kilman, James & Beverly  
King, John & Renee  
Kinley, Ray & Sara  
Kline, Lee & Lila  
Krajcir, Bob & Joanne  
Kruse, Marilyn  
Kunkel, Chuck & Mary  
Lane, Randy  
Lankamer, Marylee  
Lavigne, Harry  
Lehman, Julie  
Leo, Michael  
Leonard, Timothy & Karen  
Leopold, Harry  
Long, Val Jean  
Malheiro, Sharon  
Marckmann, Shari  
Martin, John & Terri  
Matthes, Rich & LaDonna  
Mauro, Eddie & Sharilyn

Mauro, Michael & Dorothy  
McCaw, John & Maxine  
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Metge, Gregory & Maria  
Mitchell, Colleen  
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Mullstay, Rick & Marcy  
Murrell, Phil, Steve & Curtis  
Neugent, Gerry & Mary Lou  
Neugent, Tim & Diane  
Nimry, Basil & Teresa  
Noah, Dave & Anne  
O'Connor, Paul  
Ode, Carson & Connie  
Olyphant, Fred & Brents  
Olsen-Daniel, Nate &  
Martine  
O'Neal, Paul & Bonnie  
Patch, Jim  
Pearson, Herbert & Jeanne  
Perry, Thomas, Jr.  
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Poetting, Gary & Kathy  
Rapoll, Mary  
Rasmussen, Rita  
Reed, Rod & Angela  
Reineke, Carolyn  
Renda, Virginia  
Reynolds, Kevin  
Reynolds, Tom & Kathy  
Rice, Harvey

Richards, Wilma  
Rivera, Andrea  
Roberts, Stephen & Dawn  
Roerig, Rick & Cindy  
Rosendahl, Gene & Shirley  
Runge, Gary  
Rutledge, Michael & Linda  
Sagrillo, Primo & Wilma  
Sarcone, Steve &  
Stephanie  
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Schemmel, Bill & Mary  
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Scigliano, Rob & Melissa  
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Shivers, Dick & Toni  
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Shreffler, Don & Becky  
Simpson, Lyle & Janet  
Siprut, Manny & Dawn  
Smith, Bruce & Angela  
Smith, Bev & Glenn  
South, Richard & Elvira  
Staples, Marilyn  
Stokes, Allan & Doreen  
Strouf, MJ  
Stundins, Julie  
Squire, John & Barb  
Squire, Martha  
Sulgrove, Les  
Susanin, Andrew & Sarah  
Taber, Bill

Tantillo, Irene  
Taylor, Doris  
Tetmeyer, Michael &  
Madelyn  
Thill, Sigrid  
Thompson, Connie  
Timmons, Skip & Marlene  
Timp, Mary Jean  
Tison, Brad  
Tofanelli, Ralph  
Tonini, Mary  
Townsdin, Ruth  
Trollope, Dennis & Joyce  
Utterson, Steve & Teresa  
Van Patten, Nick  
Vernon, Marilyn  
Wadden, Jerry  
Wessels, Renee  
Williams, Roger & Anna  
Zimmerman, Kent

This is the final list of the 2010 paid membership. If your name is omitted please contact George Davis or Josh Carman so neighborhood records may be corrected. Remember, now is the time to submit your 2011 membership, which will be published in the February 2011 news letter. Membership dues may be mailed to our neighborhood P.O. Box 21222, Des Moines, 50321

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The SWHNA would like to hear your ideas! Please complete the survey on page 6.

*Thank You*

An extra "Neighborhood Thank You" to Wakonda Christian Church for providing a meeting place each month to the Southwestern Hills Board.

**THANK YOU!!**

SWHNA is grateful to **Edwards Graphic Arts Inc.** for their continued support of the association.

Call them for all your printing needs!  
**280-9765**  
2700 Bell Ave, Des Moines 50321

## 2010 SOUTHWESTERN HILLS NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP FORM

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Telephone \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

City, State, Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Annual Dues    \_\_\_ Family Membership \$20.00    \_\_\_ Individual Membership \$10.00

\_\_\_ Advertising Business Membership \$125.00

\_\_\_ Additional Donation to the Association \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Mail check & membership form to:** Southwestern Hills Neighborhood Association  
Attn: Treasurer  
P.O. Box 21222  
Des Moines, Iowa 50321

**NOTICE OF PRIVACY POLICY:** SWHNA will maintain the confidentiality of the information contained on this form and it will not be shared with others pursuant to its written bylaws.



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