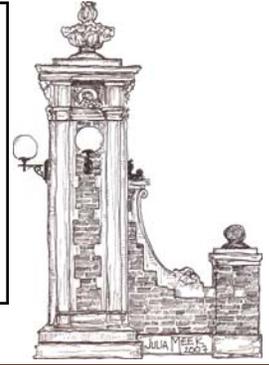




SOUTHWOOD PARK

NEWS



A Great Place to Live

www.SouthwoodPark.org

July 2011

Upcoming Events:

- August 20—Second Chance Neighborhood Garage Sale in morning and early afternoon
- August 20—Association 90th Anniversary Block Party, 4-7
- September 7—Board Meeting at Friendly Fox
- September 24—Fort4Fitness Half Marathon
- October 1— Filing date for residents to run for Board of Directors
- November 2—Board Meeting at Friendly Fox
- November—2012 Dues notices and ballots will be mailed

Mark Your Calendars for a Picnic!

On August 20th, after our Second Chance Garage Sale, we'll be closing off traffic around the Westover esplanade to transform it into "picnic central" from 4-7pm. We're throwing this bash to celebrate our beloved neighborhood's 90th anniversary!

We'll have food, fun and someone with a camera to record it all. There is no rain day but we will have a tent for cover just in case. Find some details below and please check our website, SouthwoodPark.org, for updates.

Food and drink we'll provide:

- Hot dogs right off the grill
- Potato chips
- Bottled water
- Samples from Chuck & Birds, The Friendly Fox and Pembroke Bakery

Things we'd like you to bring ...or not.

- Chairs and/or blankets
- Decorated bicycles, strollers, little red wagons
- Homemade cookies for judging and sharing as desserts
- Smiling faces ready for painting
- Your own food & drink if bottled water, hotdogs and chips aren't part of your diet
- Frisbees, nerf balls, etc. ...*please nothing hazardous for insurance reasons...*
- **PLEASE DO NOT bring your dogs! ... it's that darn insurance thing again.**

Fun stuff:

- A parade and contest* for your decorated bicycles, strollers, etc.
- Chalk drawings
- Face painting
- Homemade cookie contest*
- Live music by a local group

*Contests will be judged by guests from the Foster Park neighborhood. We'll provide the fun but totally worthless awards.

Why an online newsletter?

The next *Southwood Park News* that will be sent by letter carrier will be in the late fall. How can you keep up with events?

Our WEBSITE.

Our FACEBOOK group. "Historic Southwood Park Neighborhood".

Our E-MAIL list. Send an e-mail to Southwood_Park

[@yahoo.com](mailto:Southwood_Park@yahoo.com) (include your name and address, please) to receive news by e-mail.

There will be online versions of the *Southwood Park News* through the spring and summer. Consider printing a copy for neighbors without internet access.

Be there or miss a fun time with your neighbors!

Let us know you're coming on Facebook!

Board of Directors 2011 meeting dates:

September 7

November 2

All meetings are in the Friendly Fox meeting room at 7PM. All Board Meetings are completely open to residents. We would love to see you there!

Who ya gonna call?

Ghostbusters? Probably not...

Crimes in progress, fires (even nuisance burning): 911

Noise violations and nuisances - FWPD
Desk Sergeant: 427-1222

Any other City-related question, such as missed trash pickup, abandoned cars, city code violations, weeds, or requesting a recycling bin: 311

APS Security Patrol for home vacation checks: 747-7700

Do **NOT** call APS or a Board member about a suspicious person or crime in progress—
Call 911 immediately!

If you have not received a City-issued recycling cart, call 311.

The carts **MUST BE REQUESTED** by residents. They won't be automatically delivered.

Emerald Ash Borer Tree Grant Awarded to Historic Southwood Park

The City of Fort Wayne received a grant through the Indiana Department of Natural Resources to help assist three communities with the mitigation of ash trees infected with emerald ash borer (EAB). Historic Southwood Park, Woodhurst, and Foster Park neighborhoods are the three communities included in the grant. The grant will help fund the removal and replanting of many of the ash trees that are in serious decline throughout the neighborhood.

In the coming weeks many residents of Southwood Park will be receiving notices on their door that a public tree located within the city easement and adjacent to their property will be removed in the coming weeks. The door hanger will denote that a tree is to be removed, stump grinded, and if applicable, replanted. The tree (s) that will be removed is denoted by a white dot at the base of the tree. Trees marked for removal are significantly infested with EAB, are in poor to critical condition, and were **not** part of Historic Southwood Park's 2011 ash tree treatments. The trees that will be removed could pose serious risks to residents, and could cause property damage if left unattended.

With the grant, the City will be able to replace the majority of the ash trees removed in Southwood Park in 2011. One of the goals of the City is to diversify the urban forest with a large variety of trees. Species diversity will help prevent the possibility of another tree pest from decimating a local tree population like what is currently happening with EAB, and what has occurred with Dutch elm disease in the past. Replacement trees will not be planted until later this fall.

— *Kasey Krouse*

Please keep your car doors locked!

Spring and summer brings mischief. There are already reports from residents, FWPD and our Security Patrol about car break-ins. Garage Door openers, cash, electronic devices and practically any other visible item in your car makes a tempting target for thieves! Report suspicious activity to 911 immediately!!

Second Chance Garage Sales will be August 20th

Historic Southwood Park will hold its "Second Chance" association-wide garage sales on Saturday August 20th.

Clear out the basement, garage, and closets! It's time to have a sale and make a little money.

We placed an ad in the Journal Gazette and the News Sentinel for that weekend. The association's garage sale signs will be posted around the neighborhood. Place your own sign in your yard or mark your sale with balloons so people know you're participating.



Homeowners can call now for preliminary eligibility for low-interest loan

Mayor Tom Henry invites city homeowners who need to replacement their roofs or furnaces to find out if they are eligible for the City's 2011 homeowner repair loan program. "This year's focus on roof and heating replacement is designed to address primary systems within a home, which are not inexpensive projects and significantly affect those living there if not repaired," Mayor Henry said. "The program will help homeowners who may have difficulty qualifying for a line of credit or loan for these repairs while also helping to rebuild credit."

Specifically, this year's eligible repairs consist of:

- **Roof replacement**
- **Furnace replacement**
- **Boiler replacement.**

No other repairs will be considered for the 2011 program, which opened July 11.

The recorded pre-screening number is now open at (260) 427-8585. Homeowners are encouraged to call before the program opens to see if it is a good fit for them.

The Heating and Roof Program is limited to households earning 80 percent or less of area median income as established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development. For a family of four, the cap is \$50,400. Program participants must have lived in the habitable house for at least one year and not received any other Office of Housing and Neighborhood Services assistance in the past 10 years.

Homeowners who are approved for the program will then work with OHNS staff to select a private contractor to perform the needed repairs. In addition to inspections as required by the Allen County Building Department, the City will ensure the replacements are completed to bid specifications. The City is using federal HUD funds from the Community Development Block Grant. By making this year's repair program a loan, funds will return to OHNS to be used in future initiatives.

The Community Development program opened July 11, but interested homeowners can call the pre-screening hotline at (260) 427-8585 for information about the 3-percent-interest loans. That same number will be used to complete a pre-screening survey starting at 9 a.m. July 11. The complete HARP guide, including a pre-screening eligibility checklist, is available at www.cityoffortwayne.org/repairs.

Here are the July 2011 Historic Southwood Park Award Homes!

Matt and Michelle Liepold are the proud homeowners of 4629 Beaver Avenue. Despite Matt's insistence that Michelle would proudly display the award sign because of all of her hard work, neighbors have noticed both Matt and Michelle's labor in making their home an Award Home.

They have enlarged and maintained their perennial beds. The Liepolds have also added flowerboxes to their home. They have expanded their deck and added a deck arbor.

When we asked why he likes living in Southwood Park, Matt replied that he likes the

character of historic homes and the "old-fashioned" neighborly community. The hard work the Liepolds have done to their home has definitely added to our Southwood Park neighborly community.



Our other Award Home for July is 4202 Tacoma Avenue, the home of Creager and Joan Smith. They have put an incredible amount of work into their home this year. We asked Creager to write some of the things they have done, and what we got back was really a great example of the thought and planning that can go into a outdoors makeover:

"When we bought the house in 2007 we had three large oak trees that were a big part of the character of the property. In May 2010 we were surprised when one of the large oaks in the front yard unexpectedly toppled over, leaving quite a mess and a large hole in the front yard. We found that it was very rotten on the inside. A few months later we realized the single oak in the back yard was dying. We consulted with an arborist in the fall of 2010 and found that the remaining oak tree in the front yard was sound, but it was declining.

This spring Joan and I decided to remove the dead and dying oak trees and start over with new trees. We knew that removal of the tree in the rear would damage the already deteriorated driveway so we decided to do concrete replacement work. When we really looked at the garage and driveway concrete we realized that the concrete floor and foundation of the garage were so deteriorated that it all needed to be redone.

The work that we decided to do mushroomed to such a degree that it's easiest to provide a list of the work so far in 2011.

Front yard:

- *Two oak trees removed; a total of five new trees were planted on the property (2 oaks, two redbuds, and a honeylocust). A dead Rose of Sharon bush was also removed.*
- *The front yard was redone by grinding the old tree stumps and filling the holes with new topsoil.*

- We took advantage of the SWP tree program to get two large oaks planted. We also planted two lilac bushes and a redbud tree in the front.
- We adjusted the shape and placement of the landscape beds to compensate for the new tree locations and reinstalled a stone border.
- The multitude of mulch from grinding the oak stumps was all used on the property in the landscaping beds.
- Lastly, new grass seed is starting to grow where holes were filled due to damage from the tree removal.



Garage, driveway, and rear:

- Removed the dead oak tree from rear—that caused destruction of parts of the privacy fence and the driveway. Planted a new honeylocust tree within the rear yard/patio to replace the oak.
- The garage was supported in place and the old garage foundation was demolished in sections; as the sections were removed they were replaced with new reinforced concrete foundation. Approximately 70% of the old foundation was replaced. The completed new foundation sections were faced with new brick that matched the old brick veneer. When the foundation was done the building was shifted a bit to square the walls and then it was solidly bolted to the foundation. It should last another 85 years.
- When the foundation work was complete the old garage floor was removed and replaced with new concrete; a floor drain was added to drain to the outside.
- The old driveway was removed and replaced with a new concrete drive with a new retaining curb at the patio. The new drive is wider (and safer) than the old drive, yet it retains the same gentle curves the original 1925 drive had. The driveway was widened to both the east and west.
- A grassy mound was removed from between the old drive and the alley; an original concrete curb was replaced with a new curb along the alley that was extended further along the garage to the south. The space between the drive and alley provides a planting bed for small bushes and perennial flowers—particularly many black-eyed susans.
- The small area behind the garage was also landscaped with small bushes and perennials such as Wiegela, yews, a butterfly bush, and black-eyed susans.
- The privacy fence was replaced where sections were damaged due to tree removal and a new section of privacy fence was built at the southeast corner of the backyard to complete the privacy fencing. All three gates in the privacy fence feature antique grates with unique designs; the grates were all salvaged from other historic houses and reused.
- The landscaping in the rear yard and patio area was adjusted to better accommodate Jimmy the Golden Retriever; a small grassy area that was stressed and failing was replaced with durable cypress mulch.

I would add that I particularly wanted to improve the view and garden character of the alley around the garage because an early planning document used to design the plat of Southwood Park labeled our alley as “Garden Side Drive.”

As far as “favorite things why you enjoy the neighborhood—” I think that is hard for Joan and I to say, because we enjoy nearly everything about Southwood Park. Great neighbors, great houses, great location, AND it was a pleasure to have a role in listing Southwood Park on the National Register of Historic Places. We plan to stay a long time.”

Whether we take on projects large or small, the effort any of us put into our homes and gardens pays us back in satisfaction, added curb appeal, and property value. Send your nominations of neighbors worthy of recognition to

Southwood_Park@yahoo.com.

— Steve McCord and Ryan Keirns

Lost Dogs or Cats?

Lost pets are one more reason to join our Facebook group...

We will post lost pet notices to the whole 300+ members of our Facebook group if you ever find yourself in that unfortunate situation. It's a great way to reach many people quickly.

Send your notice to the group, or to
Southwood_Park@yahoo.com.



Save These Dates Now!

August 20—Second
Chance Garage Sale

August 20— A 90th
Anniversary Celebration
for our Association!
4 to 7PM: more details
coming soon!

September 24— Fort4Fit-
ness half-marathon

Board of Directors

Questions? Email us at Southwood_Park@yahoo.com.

NAME	ADDRESS	TELEPHONE
Brooks Beatty	4248 Beaver Avenue	745-1503
Andrew Boxberger	4730 Beaver Avenue	423-9411
Steve Brelsford	4239 Beaver Avenue	745-4662
David Goodman	1010 Maxine Drive	745-9208
Ryan Keirns, <i>Secretary</i>	4801 Indiana Avenue	745-5199
Lori Keys	804 West Maple Grove Avenue	705-7284
Kasey Krouse	1038 Maxine Drive	479-0733
Cheryl McCarthy	4004 Indiana Avenue	458-9265
Jeff McCarthy	4004 Indiana Avenue	458-9265
Steve McCord, <i>President</i>	4125 Indiana Avenue	745-8070
Steve Nagy, <i>Treasurer</i>	4330 Pembroke Lane	456-1670
Charles Northrop	1211 Sunset Drive	750-5327
Lisa Oberlin	4410 Tacoma Avenue	456-8833
Tom Steigmeyer	4631 Indiana Avenue	744-3552
Pat Thomson, <i>V.P., Beautification chair</i>	1321 Sunset Drive	456-7468

Be involved! Make civic pride neighborhood wide!

The Historic Southwood Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

P.O. Box 12991; Fort Wayne, IN 46866-2991