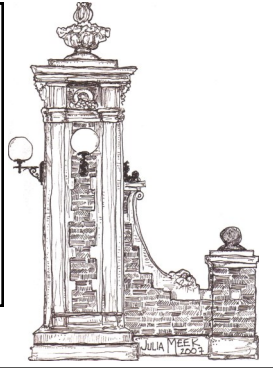


# SOUTHWOOD PARK

## NEWS



A Great Place to Live

[www.SouthwoodPark.org](http://www.SouthwoodPark.org)

June 2020

### Upcoming Events:

- July 8—Board of Directors meeting, 7PM, location TBD
- July 11—Association Garage Sale
- July 25—Association Block Party and Picnic
- September 12—Second Chance Garage Sale
- September 25—Chalk the Walk
- September 26—Fort4Fitness Marathon

## Garage Sale Rescheduled for July 11

UPDATE: The first Association Garage Sale date has been changed to July 11, one week after the target end date for Indiana's coronavirus restrictions.

The Association places ads in Fort Wayne Newspapers and posts signs around the neighborhood. You should post balloons or a sign in front of your house on that Saturday to let buyers know you are participating. Avoid placing signs in the public right-of-way, especially on major streets outside the neighborhood. Doing so is illegal and signs are often confiscated by "sign patrol vigilantes" in other neighborhoods.

Association garage sales are a great way to make space around the house, earn a little pocket cash, and get out and see your neighbors!



### Important

### Contacts

Emergencies: 911

**FWPD Desk Sergeant**  
(anything not an emergency): 427-1222

**APS Security Patrol** for home vacation checks:  
747-7700

**Dues questions:** call Above & Beyond at 490-2226 or [cassie\\_abcm@frontier.com](mailto:cassie_abcm@frontier.com).

**City-related questions** (code violations, trash and recycling problems, street lights out, potholes): 311

**Nuisance fires:** 911

**Other questions:** e-mail [Southwood\\_Park@yahoo.com](mailto:Southwood_Park@yahoo.com)

## City Utilities Project Updates

### Broadway-Rudisill    Arlington-South Wayne

Representatives from five neighborhoods met with City Utilities for an update on the sewer consolidation work that began last summer and has caused detours through Southwood Park and Oakdale. City Utilities presented two options for input.

The first was partially opening the Broadway/Rudisill intersection in early June. Traffic would have been restricted to two lanes through a very narrow passage. It would have been subject to periodic detours. This option did not reopen Old Mill Road to Rudisill. This option would have extended road work until February 2021.

The second option was allowing Rudisill-

We submitted a list of concerns in April to City Utilities concerning water main work on Arlington and the large construction yard that has taken over South Wayne Avenue.

Those concerns included repairing damage to the esplanades on South Wayne; trash left in holes and on worksite; vehicle and pedestrian safety at Maple Grove; noise outside of posted work hours; traffic stoppages as workers double park to use portable toilet; water disruptions or discoloration for non-Arlington residents not getting paper mailers; and needing information on where Phase II of the project will be and will South Wayne continue to be the construction staging yard.

## Broadway-Rudisill continued

Broadway to remain closed – as it is currently – until September 2020 to allow almost all work to be completed more quickly and more safely. This would allow repairs to the Hartman Road sewer to be completed in this stage of construction, helping avoid a possible emergency situation if it would fail during a delay.

**The unanimous recommendation from all the involved associations was to keep the road closed to allow work to continue.** This will avoid on-again, off-again detours. This will allow the full reopening of all roads and trails in September 2020 if work continues progressing without delays. Multiple concerns about landscape restoration, traffic volumes, speeding concerns, and the need for police patrols were voiced to City Utilities.

Historic Southwood Park believes this sharing of information and input regarding options is how infrastructure progress should be communicated to neighborhoods. We hope other future City Utilities projects follow this model.

Read the full press release from City Utilities and view project photos on our website.



## Volunteers Needed



Are you interested in becoming a board member? Do you have skills you think our neighborhood could benefit from? Are you willing to volunteer your time? If so, please fill out this short questionnaire and a board member will be in touch.

<https://forms.gle/E7Ph7GRHEKYKodRXA>

Hope to hear from you soon!

## Arlington-South Wayne continued

We finally have written comments/answers from City Utilities regarding the work on Arlington and the work area on South Wayne. Here are some of the major takeaways from their answers:

- Work on the project, officially called Arlington-Sherwood Water Main Replacement Phase I, is still expected to be complete in August.
- There are still no solid answers from City Utilities as to what, when and where Phase II of the project will entail.
- City Utilities tells us they are not getting 311 calls from neighbors about unannounced water outages and discolorations.
- City Utilities thinks disruptions are only occurring on Arlington. If you live on a nearby street and are getting discolored water or loss of pressure, please phone 311. They need to realize this is a wider problem than they claim.
- Many people are upset and worried about restoration of the grounds on South Wayne. We have been promised it will be repaired.

We suggest contacting the city's project manager as you have continued problems with double parking, trash, long work hours, dangerous sight lines and other similar issues. His name is Nicholas Rupley and can be reached at **[Nicholas.Rupley@cityoffortwayne.org](mailto:Nicholas.Rupley@cityoffortwayne.org)**.

Thank you for helping us collect concerns.

## A Helping Hand

The City of Fort Wayne has restarted its weed and grass violation reporting program. These violations can be reported via the City's website, mobile app or by calling 311. While these violations are incredibly easy to report, please also consider asking your neighbor if they could use a helping hand.

If you are having trouble taking care of your lawn or garden, reach out to me and I will do what I can to connect you to low cost lawn care options or drum up a group of volunteers to help give you a jump start on the season.

If you'd be willing to help a neighbor in need with weed pulling, mowing, trimming bushes or other lawn care duties please send me an email at

[Sierah.Barnhart@gmail.com](mailto:Sierah.Barnhart@gmail.com).

Thank you and stay safe!

Sierah Barnhart, Beautification Chair

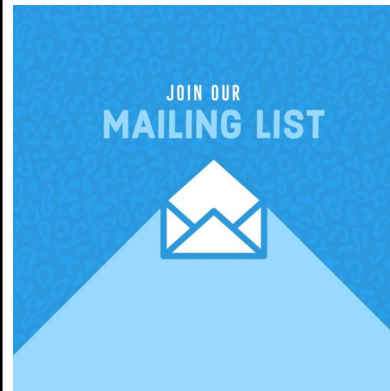
Save the Date!

**JULY 25TH**

for the Summer Picnic and  
Block Party!

Food! Music! Fun and games!

## Updates by Email



Do you want to get the most up to date information about our neighborhood straight to your inbox?

Use this form to submit your information and we will get you on our Constant Contact list!

<https://forms.gle/neYao5RZjse95BneA>

## An Unpleasant Subject: Rats

Yes, they exist. The good news is there are several things you can do to help prevent them from living around your home.

Eliminate habitat:

- Keep your yard mowed and weeds under control.
- Stack firewood off the ground at least 18 inches.
- Get rid of brush.
- Sweep out your garage. Get rid of junk piles.

Eliminate food sources:

- Clean up after your dog. Keep water bowls indoors.
- Eliminate places where standing water collects.
- Keep your garbage bins closed. Bag garbage to keep from attracting rodents. Compost responsibly.
- Birds and squirrels aren't the only critters using feeders.

For questions about rodent or mosquito control measures in Allen County, please call Vector Control (260) 449-7459 during normal business hours.

## Rain, Rain, It Can't Go Away!



What do you see in this photo? If you see a storm drain, pat yourself on the back. Under about ten pounds of organic material, a storm drain is hiding.

When drains are clogged like this, they can't do their job. Basement floods result.

Avoid blowing your lawn clippings into the street.

Sweep your gutter, even if you're "upstream".

City street sweepers only visit a couple times yearly.

When fall comes, pile leaves for pickup on your parkstrip.

If you're worried about your grass, bag your leaves.

## Safer Sidewalks in the Works

The City has contractors conducting trip hazard remediation in the neighborhood. They worked on Indiana Avenue recently.

Bumps are ground off edges of the sidewalk. It will make noise and dust. Some small bits of sod may be dug off sidewalk edges. But we will have safer walks!

## Saving Ash Trees Continues

Our neighborhood continues to treat 75+ street side ash trees with Xytect treatment diluted in 5 gallon buckets of water. Southwood Park board members pour this solution around your tree's drip line in late spring as they leaf to prevent the emerald ash borer from infesting surviving ash trees. Gardener Pat Thomson began this crusade over ten years ago and we have carried it on, living out our intention to "keep the wood in Southwood Park."

Historic Southwood Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.

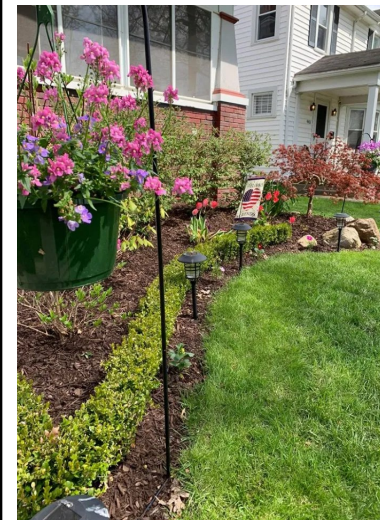
c/o Above & Beyond Community Management

507 Airport North Office Park

Fort Wayne, IN 46825

## May Award Home Was Worth a Second Look

There are times in life when things are worth a second look. This was the case for Shannon Ulrick nearly five years ago. Scouring Southwood Park over six months for a home for herself and young daughter and having been a resident of West Rudisill, she knew our neighborhood well and was committed to finding her next home here.



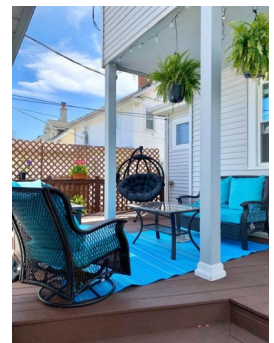
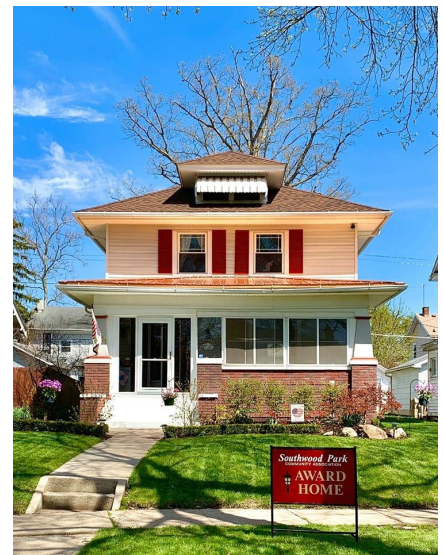
She had toured 4331 Indiana Avenue during the winter of 2015 and it didn't seem like a good fit. She was plagued with typical buyer issues; unable to see beyond wall colors, the sellers furniture and personal belongings and quickly scratched it from her list and continued her search. Many months later with no suitable prospects in sight, her realtor recommended she revisit the Indiana home with fresh eyes, reimagining it with her own furniture and colors. Fortunately, the second look revealed a different perspective. Able to look past the former issues her renewed interest gave confidence that this would be a fine home for her family and she made an offer. **SOLD!**

She reflects, "Our neighborhood is a very unique place and I wouldn't trade it for anything. I feel very safe here and with an 11 year old daughter that is important to me. I don't see myself moving anytime in the near future. I love my house, it's actually 100 years old this year and it's the first home I have purchased on my own and I am proud of it. It is decorated to tell a story of my daughter and I and there is still more I want to do but that will come in time."

We feel the same about our neighborhood, there is always more to do in a 103 year old place. But people and effort make the difference and in time we will get there. Congratulations on your May home award, Shannon. We are glad you thought 4331 Indiana Avenue was worth another look. 🏠

~Erika Stuller

Send your nominations to [Southwood\\_Park@yahoo.com](mailto:Southwood_Park@yahoo.com).



Enjoy an expanded article and more photos on our website: [SouthwoodPark.org](http://SouthwoodPark.org)