

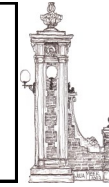


# SOUTHWOOD PARK NEWS

A GREAT PLACE TO LIVE

HISTORICSOUTHWOODPARK.COM

NOVEMBER 2021



## Upcoming Events

Board of Directors Meetings, 7PM. Locations TBA on website and Facebook.

- November 10

City Leaf Pickup

- November 8-12
- December 6-10
- Bagged, until Dec. 31 (weather permitting)
- Bagged, March 2022 (2 weeks, TBA)

Board of Directors letters of interest:

- November 9

2022 Association Dues

- January 31

## Important Contacts

**Emergencies: 911**

**FWPD Desk Sergeant (non-emergency number): 427-1222**

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

**Dues questions:** Above & Beyond Community Mgmt. at **490-2226** or e-mail at [office@abcmanagement.org](mailto:office@abcmanagement.org)

**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)

## Roundabout Landscaping Redesign

In 2019, the Board of Directors hired a gardener to tend to neighborhoods pocket gardens that had become overgrown and unruly. Since that time, the Beautification Committee has also managed to start and maintain other programming such as neighborhood cleanups, dumpster days, tree seedling giveaways, a new native garden and the creation of a neighborhood flag. All of those tasks have been completed. It's time set our sights on the most monumental task of them all: redesigning the Old Mill Roundabout. It's a cornerstone of our neighborhood and we'd love to see it shining again! But, we're going to need your help.

**Fundraising**—The Board of Directors estimates that a conservative redesign of the roundabout will cost approximately \$10,000. This goal can be accomplished in a number of ways: an ARCH Home and Garden Tour with the proceeds going directly to the roundabout redesign; donations; selling Historic Southwood Park swag; and contributions from the association budget.

**Design**—After years of heavy trims and weeding, the roundabout is thriving and overgrown. Many of our 20+ year old spirea are dying. Beautification Committee Volunteers could remove a large number of plants to create a more clean and tidy baseline for redesign. Any healthy plants that are removed will be taken to other pocket gardens, or offered to residents before being composted.

**Execution**—But in the meantime, we're looking for your input on the redesign and would love to see the following elements in your renderings and idea submissions: Welcome to Historic Southwood Park Signage; Lighting; Drought tolerant full-sun flowers, trees and shrubs; Solution for tire ruts in the grass on the east and west sides of the roundabout; Improved pedestrian safety such as crosswalk striping and improved signage. Right now, nothing is off the table so show us what you've got! While we all would love to get this completed sooner rather than later, keeping a loose timeline will be of great benefit to the volunteers taking on these tasks. When a more concrete plan has been set in motion, a timeline will be posted here and on our website.

**We Need Your Help**—In order to stay within our \$10,000 budget, we will need a massive volunteer effort that ranges from manual labor to digital design and everywhere in between. There's space for everyone to help. Visit <https://www.historicsouthwoodpark.com/roundabout-redesign>, to let us know how you can help!

We are partnering with Clean Drains Fort Wayne, an initiative started by Friends of the Rivers and City Utilities, to make sure the storm drains in our neighborhood remain free from pollutants as they carry rain water to our rivers. As part of this effort, all **176** of the storm drains in our neighborhood need new permanent medallions affixed to them, but we can't do it without your help!



We need a team of at least 12 individuals who have been looking for ways to engage with and serve our community to join us!

**Your volunteer tasks would be:** Remove any trash, debris or weeds from the storm drain. Install medallion on storm drain in accordance with Friends of the Rivers & City Utilities directions. **You will be provided with:** A lawn bag for your trash and debris, a map of the drains you are responsible for, installation directions, and medallions.

**If you are interested in this sort of community stewardship please sign up to be responsible for a section of drains!** For more information, visit [www.HistoricSouthwoodPark.com](http://www.HistoricSouthwoodPark.com) or email us at [hello@HistoricSouthwoodPark.com](mailto:hello@HistoricSouthwoodPark.com).

## Small Business Owners Encouraged to Participate

To foster a stronger sense of community among residents, the Board of Directors will manage and publish an annual directory of residents who are also small business owners.

If you'd like to be part of this directory, please submit your information on our website today. The first annual directory will be published to the website January 1, 2022 and every January thereafter.

<https://www.historysouthwoodpark.com/smallbusinessdirectory>

## Board Positions Available

Our election is coming at year's end. Are you interested in serving?

**What does the Board do?** The Board works together in committees and discusses plans for the future via email, online groups, or in person. Those plans take shape when the Board meets in person six times a year to discuss a variety of neighborhood topics regarding beautification, community safety, and social events.

**Who can be on the Board?** Any homeowner who is current on dues can run for the Board.

**How many people are on the Board? How long are terms?** Five of the fifteen positions on the Association Board of Directors are elected to three year terms each year.

**What else is required?** Energy, ideas, a love of the community, and a desire to make it better.

**Interested?** Contact [hello@HistoricSouthwoodPark.com](mailto:hello@HistoricSouthwoodPark.com) before November 9, 2021. If there are enough candidates for an election, a ballot will be included with the next *Southwood Park News*.

Residents are welcome to Board of Directors meetings to learn what is happening, share concerns, or ask questions.

## Volunteers, Please!

What is YOUR special talent that the neighborhood needs? Contact us and let us know how you'd like to help! We are in need of the follow kinds of volunteers:

- Gardeners
- Drain Storm Troopers (see page one)
- Block Party Helpers
- Future Home and Garden Tour Hosts
- "Flamingo Friday" Event Hosts
- Committee members—Membership, PR, Beautification

## Welcome, New Neighbors!

52 sets of new neighbors so far in 2020. We hope to see you around in the new year! :-)

Lawrence Baker & Sarah Monger	4008 Indiana
Moises J. Uribe	4707 Old Mill
Michael Habeeb	4017 Indiana
Amy Bell	1026 Maxine
Pedro, Lori, & Dana Garcia	702 Maple Grove
Matthew Diemer	4722 South Wayne
Courtney Tritch	3927 Indiana
Christopher Fellows & Bernadette Becker	4215 Beaver
Logan Lee & Krista Kranz	935 Lexington
Justin & Jessica Hynes	4010 Tacoma
Sarah Braun	4515 South Wayne
Kay Mason	4615 Beaver
Rachel & Tyler Moord	810 Lexington
Nathan Janacek	928 Sherwood Terrace
Jordan Busch	4802 Arlington
Chase Gibson	919 Maxine
Rayshawn Sampson-Dailey	4730 Arlington
Danielle Andersen	4230 Indiana
Jon Helman & Anna Brinegar	4714 Arlington
Opal Davis	1001 Prange
Rachel Fox	4324 Pembroke
Brian Woolwine & Marissa Murphy	4612 Arlington
John & Nora Figueroa	4701 Arlington
David & Elizabeth Scharfenberg	4705 Indiana
Brad Potter	4821 Indiana
Tyler Nigro	4817 Arlington
Craig & Joyce Amacker	1115 Westover
Susan Monger	4405 Pembroke
Benjamin Koch	4610 Tacoma
Tiffany L. Spearman	4401 Indiana
Judith Gamble	1247 Sherwood Terrace
Artem Gervets	4328 Tacoma
Lisa Opozda	4332 Tacoma
Samantha Allen	931 Pasadena
Brian & Catherine Faris	4408 Beaver
Bruce & Catherine Whitman	4202 Beaver

## My Streetlight is Out...

Gather the pole number and address to report outages online at: <http://cityoffortwayne.custhelp.com/app/Fortwayne/home>

## INN Improvements in Works

The Southwest Area Partnership (SWAP) is a coalition of all the neighborhoods in the southwest quadrant of the city. SWAP voted on how to spend \$250,000 of Investing in Neighborhoods Now (INN) funds in our quadrant.

SWAP voted to spend money on trees. Southwood Park and Fairmont requested to plant trees along both sides of Fairfield Avenue from Rudisill to Pettit.

Parks will benefit. Money will be spent to restore Foster Park Pavilion #3 and redesign Packard Park. A pocket park at Rudisill and Fairfield is being replanted.

Several homeowners were awarded Home Improvement Grants, based on income and need.

Money is also being dedicated to sidewalk repair. Southwood Park got the biggest chunk including sections along Pettit at South Wayne and Pettit at Indiana. We know there's a lot more that need help, but this is a start.

## Southwood Park Flag Available

Show your Southwood Park pride for all to see! Flags are again available at \$20. Mail or drop off this order form to Steve McCord, 4125 Indiana Avenue and we'll deliver yours to you.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Check No. \_\_\_\_\_ or Cash Paid \$ \_\_\_\_\_



## Fall Leaf Pickup – Pros and Cons

Plan now how you will tackle the tide of leaves. Will you rake, bag, or mulch? We have laid out some of the pros and cons of each choice. Whatever you do, please don't put leaves in the street.

### **Raking – How It Is Supposed to Work:**

Rake your leaves into your park strip – the area between your curb and the sidewalk. City crews are scheduled to pick up leaves on the south side the weeks of November 8-12 and December 6-10.

### **Raking – a Realistic View:**

City crews usually fall off the posted schedule, due to weather and understaffing. If you rake your leaves to the curb too early, it will not do your yard any favors in the short term. But—it will grow back!

### **DO NOT RAKE LEAVES IN THE STREET.**

This causes clogged storm drains and flooding. It causes an increase in local water pollution by placing unneeded nutrients in stormwater. It also creates a traffic hazard by limiting the spots where vehicles can safely pull over.

### **Bagging – How It Is Supposed to Work:**

Place your leaves in **brown paper biodegradable leaf bags**, set them at the curb and call 311.

The leaf bags will be collected within two business days of your call to 311. Weather permitting, bagged leaf collection will continue through 2021. In March 2022, the Street department will announce two additional weeks of bagged leaf collection.

### **DO NOT PLACE BAGS IN THE STREET.**

### **Bagging – a Realistic View:**

It takes time and money, but you can keep your yard clear. The wind may have other plans...

### **Burning – a Realistic View:**

Nope. Don't even go there. If your neighbor is burning leaves or trash, phone 911 to reach the Fire Department. They will remind your neighbors that it is not 1947. A fine could result.

### **Mulching – How It Is Supposed to Work:**

Mow your leaves to hasten leaf breakdown, and leave them in place. Mulching creates nutrients for your lawn and garden for the coming year.

### **Mulching – a Realistic View:**

There is already an inch and a half of acorns on the ground in some places. How will another 5 inches of leaves possibly break down this winter? :-)

Keep tabs on leaf collection at <https://www.cityoffortwayne.org/publicworks/street-department/leaf-collection.html>

### **Large Branches, Shrubs, and Pumpkins**

These items can be taken to the Bio-Solids Handling Facility, 6202 Lake Avenue. Every 100 pounds costs \$1. Hours are 8-6 daily except Sunday, noon-6.

Historic Southwood Park Neighborhood Association, Inc.  
c/o Above & Beyond Community Management  
507 Airport North Office Park  
Fort Wayne, IN 46825

*Historic Southwood Park  
and Historic Fairmont  
present the*

## **Holiday Night of Lights**

**Tentative date—December 11**

- A DOZEN or more candy stops at homes
- Kids Scavenger Hunt
- Holiday Lights
- Holiday Music
- Photo Booth Murals at Friendly Fox, Tasty Pizza
- Restaurant and store specials

Details are still being finalized, and could change...  
FOLLOW us on Facebook, Instagram, and our

## **Subscribe to Our Weekly Online Updates**

Lots of people asked for email and online newsletters. We're happy to report that the **Southwood Park Online Update** have been available this year to residents who provided an email address.

To subscribe, visit our website:  
**[www.HistoricSouthwoodPark.com](http://www.HistoricSouthwoodPark.com)**  
Click on "Contact Us".  
Then click on "Email Subscription".

We're easy to follow:  
Website, **Online Update**,  
Facebook, and Instagram.