

Northridge Homeowners' Association

A Newsletter for the Northridge Community

Issue 34

Summer 2007

2007 NORTHRIDGE PARKWAY HOMEOWNERS' ASSOCIATION BOARD MEMBERS

Dick Geil, *President*

Wendele Maysent, *Vice President*

Tom Huisman, *Treasurer*

Lois Pedigo, *Secretary*

Jeff Mann, *Member at Large*

Kate Sordelet, *Member at Large*

LeAnn Hillier, *Administrative Asst.*

Carroll Marty, *Green Space Project Mgr.*

MONTHLY MEETING SCHEDULE

Monthly board meetings are the second Wednesday of each month at 7 p.m. in the Greater Iowa Credit Union in the Somerset development. Kate Martin, Branch Manager, has gracefully permitted our board to use their facility at no charge.

GREENSPACE REPORT

The committee approved continuing the mowing and grass contracts with our current companies. The Northridge (NR) common areas and green space areas bordering roadways are the target treatment and mowing areas. The first lawn treatment was completed in early May. A few tough weeds will need some special care from Carroll to eliminate them from common areas. Carroll will be planting some Lily of the Valley in shady locations around the development.

We need to thank Carroll and volunteers for cleaning up the damage caused by the big ice storm in April. He was very busy for some time working on tree/debris clean up.

ADOPT A GARDEN or DONATE A BENCH

There are multiple areas around NR that are in need of weeding and sprucing up. Please consider adopting a garden in your name or as a family project. The board has also received requests for park benches to be placed in green spaces along the pathways. Please consider donating money toward a bench in honor of a loved one that NR could install. Call Carroll Marty at 296-2802 if you'd like to participate. Thanks for the help!

DUES REMINDER

There are a few remaining homeowners who need to send in their annual \$100 dues to support the association. A second dues notice will be arriving in the mail shortly. Please return it with your check to P.O. Box 642, Ames, IA. If you've already paid, please disregard this reminder, and thank you.

SUMMER SOCIAL

The summer social is scheduled for **Wednesday, July 11** from 6:30 p.m. to 8:20 p.m. at Moore Memorial Park in the Big Blue Stem Shelter. All immediate families residing in NR are welcome. There will be ice cream treats from ColdStone Creamery, live music by The Dixie Slicks, and games/activities for kids. Please come enjoy the fun!

MAILBOX CONDITIONS

There are a few mailboxes and stands around the development that need to be repaired and/or replaced. Please contact Chad Strohman (460-7322) for repairs and stay with the standard design chosen during the building of NR.

GARAGE SALES

The spring garage sale was a success with many homeowners participating. Pedestrian and vehicular traffic was normal for the sale creating some minor traffic jams. It was a good opportunity to visit with neighbors and find treasures.

The fall "Back to School" sale is scheduled for **Saturday, August 4**. The Ames Tribune no longer provides extra sale signs for the association. Thus, homeowners wishing to participate will be responsible for obtaining their own signs. The association will continue to advertise the sale in local newspapers.

NEWSLETTER IDEAS

The board can always use new, interesting ideas or special announcements to publish in the newsletter. Just contact a board member, or e-mail us! We plan to publish a newsletter quarterly to keep homeowners informed.

COVENANTS

The Northridge website contains references to covenants and forms required by homeowners to request changes in their personal lawn areas. The covenants are a standard to maintain consistent public spaces in our neighborhood. As a reminder, boats, RVs, and campers should be parked on driveways for only 48 hours. Please refer to the website guidelines to assist you in planning for fences and other lawn items.

E-MAIL COMMUNICATIONS

The last mailing sent out cost about \$190 for a 5" x 8" postcard. To keep costs down (and thus dues lower) and to increase communication, the board would like to begin using e-mail for a quarterly newsletter and other necessary information. A place to register yourself and update your e-mail information has been created on the Northridge website (www.northridge-ames.us). As another convenient option, there is a spot on the enclosed survey. Thanks to those who gave us your e-mail when collecting dues!

YOUTH ACTIVITY AREAS

The board has been in discussion for the past year on how we could develop the North 40 drainage area for youth activities. Ideas include: a backstop for baseball and goal posts for soccer. Neither is an expensive option and would be constructed by volunteers. We would like your input on the enclosed survey.

ENTRYWAY SIGNS

The signs are still a discussion item for future consideration. A new proposal has been presented to replace only the existing signs on Bayberry and Valley View so their design would be closer to and consistent with the older signs on the south entryways. The suggestion would cost approximately \$2,000 per entry (approx. \$4,000 total). We would like your input on the enclosed survey.

The board has also discussed illuminating all entryway signs with solar lighting. The cost is approximately \$400 per light. The details have not been completed. Again, we would like input on the enclosed survey.

SPEEDING

There have been many complaints of visitors and homeowners' alike speeding through the development potentially endangering our youth who frequently play and cross streets without looking for traffic. The speed limit in Northridge is 25 miles per hour. Please respect the safety of others.

SURVEY QUESTIONNAIRE

Please complete this page and deposit it in the drop boxes located at the entryways before
Friday, July 27.

- | | | |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----|----|
| 1. Should the board consider a lower cost design for the two north entries? | Yes | No |
| 2. Would you like to see the entryway signs illuminated with solar lights? | Yes | No |
| 3. Should we construct a youth activity area in the North 40 at a reasonable cost? | Yes | No |
| 4. Would you like to have a summer social every year? | Yes | No |
| 5. Are there any other activities you would like the board to consider? | | |

Name (optional):

Preferred e-mail address for board communications:
