



Westwood News

Neighborhood Association Newsletter

Fall 2026



HALLOWEEN ON 51st

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31ST 6-8PM

51st Street Closure

A safe, fun-filled evening of Trick-or-Treating and free entertainment! 51st Street will be closed to thru traffic, but local residents will still be able to access 51st.

Free entertainment provided by WNA:

- Flying Silos band will be playing at 243 51st Street.
- Check them out at: www.flyingsilos.com/band
- An outdoor projector will be playing a festive movie at 120 51st Street.

Polk County has generously provided WNA with a grant to support our annual 51st Street Halloween festivities.



THE WNA HALLOWEEN HUNT IS HERE!
Take a look at the map on the back for details.



ANNUAL FALL MEETING & CHILI DINNER

THURSDAY, NOV. 12TH, 6:30-8:30
HANAWALT SCHOOL CAFETERIA

Please join neighbors, old and new, for a complementary chili dinner and neighborhood meeting to include board elections and guest speakers! Registration not necessary.



SUMMER SPLASH

65 ATTENDED



Thank you entertainers, vendors, and volunteers! See you next summer.

Two final SCRUB (Spring Cleanup to Reduce Urban Blight) dates for 2026:

- October 17, 7am-2pm
- November 21, 7am-2pm

More info at DSM.city/SCRUB
or 515-283-4950.

OCTOBER

Night Eyes at Blank Park Zoo:
October 15–18 and October 22–25.
A family-friendly, "merry-not-scary" Halloween tradition featuring lighted displays, a treat safari, costumed characters, and family activities.

Stone Park Spook-tacular:
October 26 at 5pm. Stone Park, 323 E Fulton Dr, Des Moines, IA 50315. Families can trick-or-treat, collect treats and spooky surprises, show off costumes, and enjoy a free family-friendly celebration. **(FREE)**

Family Halloween at Living History Farms: October 23–25. Trick-or-treat in the 1876 town of Walnut Hill, listen to storytellers, and take a wagon ride.

Halloween on the Hill (Sherman Hill Neighborhood): October 30, 6:30–8:30pm. Historic homes light up with spooky scenes collecting donations for the DMARC Food Pantry.

Trick or Trees at the Greater Des Moines Botanical Garden: October 31, 9am–4pm. Family trick-or-treating and activities surrounded by spooky botanicals.

Spooky Science at the Science Center of Iowa: October 31, 9:00am–4:00pm. Hair-raising experiments and family-friendly programming.

Tunnel of Terror at Tommy's Express Car Wash (West Des Moines): October 23, 24, 30, and 31, 7–9pm.

A drive-through haunted car wash experience with actors and candy.

Beggar's Night on Ingersoll: October 30, 4–6:30pm. The Avenues on Ingersoll hosts trick-or-treating from neighborhood businesses.

NOVEMBER & DECEMBER

Jingle in the Junction: Nov. 20, Dec. 4, Dec. 11, & Dec. 18, 5–8:00pm. Historic Valley Junction Enjoy extended shop hours, over 100,000 holiday lights, free horse-drawn trolley rides, live ice carving, and visits with Santa.

Dome for the Holidays: November and December. Greater Des Moines Botanical Gardens. An indoor illuminated light show featuring tropical conservatory displays, a holiday train, and festive gnomes.

Historic East Village Holiday Promenade, Friday evenings between Thanksgiving and Christmas (typically 5–8pm). Historic East Village, East Grand Ave & E Locust St, Des Moines, IA 50309. Stroll through the neighborhood with twinkling street lights, live carolers, family photo opportunities, and extended shopping hours at locally owned boutiques. **(FREE)**

43rd Annual Festival of Trees & Lights to benefit Blank Children's Hospital: November 25–29. Community Choice Convention Center. Dozens of beautifully customized, designer-decorated holiday trees and wreaths, live performances by local music and dance groups, children's craft stations, a scavenger hunt, and special visits with Santa Claus.

Christkindlmarket

December 4–December 10 (daily starting at 11:00am), Principal Park, A German-inspired Christmas market featuring open-air stalls with traditional food, holiday shopping, and warm mulled wine.



More About Halloween on 51st

The street will be closed during trick-or-treating on Saturday, 10/31 from 6–8pm. The street closure will stretch from Grand to Welker. Keep porch lights on for the trick-or-treaters & let them know of allergy-free treats by displaying a Teal Pumpkin!

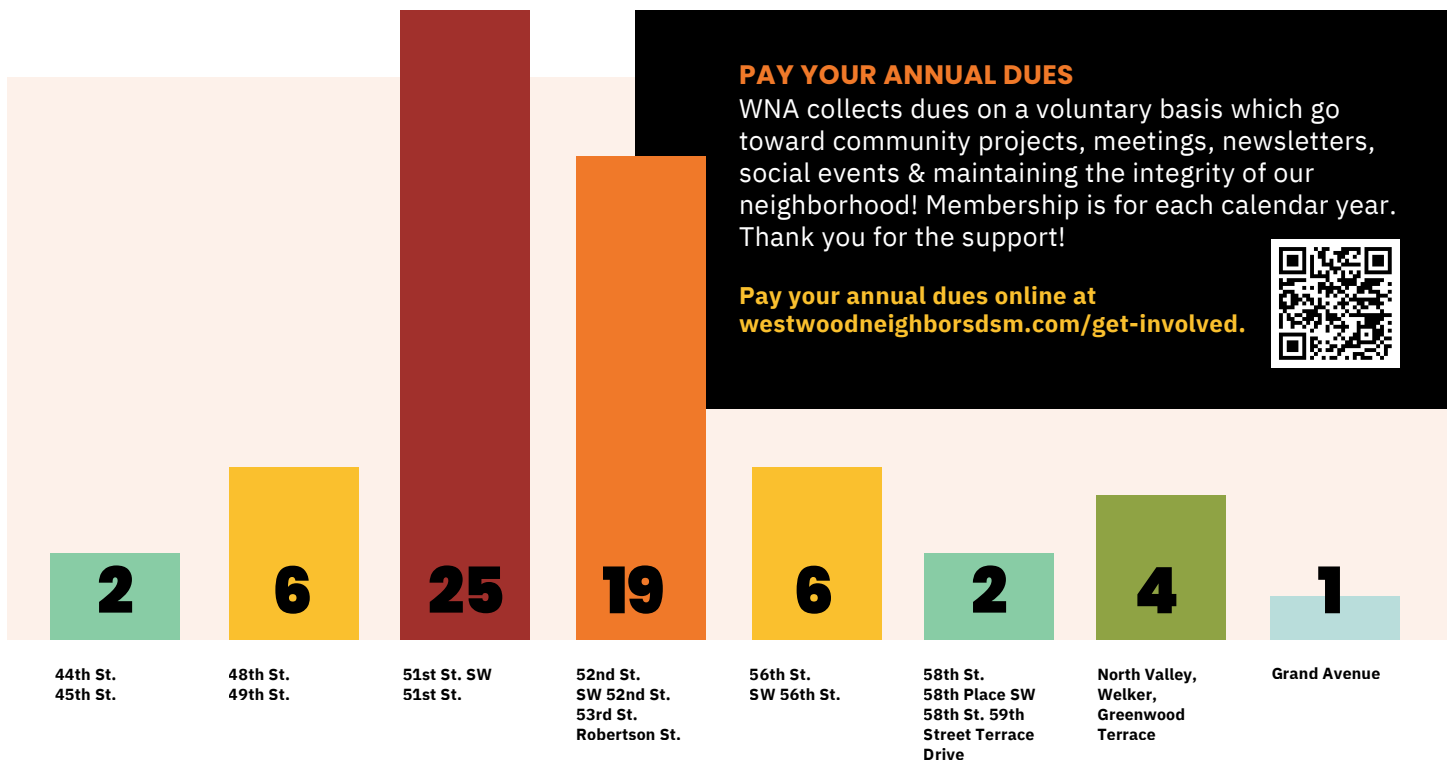
If you don't live on 51st but want to get involved, WNA will sponsor a table for you to participate in handing out candy during trick or treating. Reach out to westwoodneighborsdsm@gmail.com for more info.

WNA is also looking for volunteers to help with the Halloween festivities such as:

- Hosting Halloween decorations in your front yard. Volunteers are requested to provide an outlet and extension cord. WNA will provide the decorations as well as take care of set up and tear down.
- Helping with setup and tear down Halloween decorations on 10/31 and 11/1.

Reach out to westwoodneighborsdsm@gmail.com if you're interested in helping.

BEST IN THE WEST(WOOD), SEPTEMBER 2026



WNA MEMBERSHIP AS OF OCTOBER 2026

Allen Reicks and Judy Janning-Reicks
Amy MacKrell
Becky Klisares
Bob Haines
Brenda Currans and Rob Denhartog
Brian Clark and Ann Reinhart
Bryan and Sara Steussy
Charles and Peggy Strief
Christina Vald
Christine Taggart
Daniel and Nichole Stabile
David and Laura Mackaman
David and Linda Beeman
David Clemens
Dennis & Nancy Galeazzi
Diane Schroeder
Elizabeth Ankeny

Elizabeth Boesen
Emily and Mickey Shields
Eric and Laura Horstmann
Frankie Hanson
Greg Dunn
Jaime Miller and Arley Beane
James and Allison Fleming
James Spevak
Jeffrey Cheeseman
Jill Niederhuth
Joe and JoAnn Kobes
Jon and Angie Bos
Katelynn Tappan
Katie and Walter Gibson Overby
Kiley and Pete Cutler
Kimberly and Craig Shadur
Kristy and Aaron Rogers

Lauren Burgeson and Cooper Lewis
Leann Treloar and Scott Galenbeck
Leslie Lepeltak
Lindsey Maurer
Luke and Heather Groben
Margaret Peterson
Maria Sadden-Berry
Mark and Barbara Reece
Mark Movic and Susan Skinner
Mark Pederson
Marti Huber
Melissa McCollum
Michael and Melissa Wolnerman
Molly and Austin Gill
Molly and Chad Dolan
Nancy and Scott Bertness
Pamela Duffy and Mickey Carlson

Paula Cerne
Rachel Kelley
Ryan Clutter and Vicki Sehgal
Sara and Benjamin Ulfers
Sara Wallace
Seth and Tim McMillin-Robb
Sharon Fuller
Steven and Keely Rosenberg
Steven Marquardt
Susan and Eric Van Linden
Susan Barnes and Jean Davis
Theresa Chivers
Thomas Kisch and Margo Hutcheson
Todd and Jackie Krone
Virginia Satterstrom

2026 WNA BOARD • President, Steven Camerona (UPCOMING VACANCY) • Vice President, (VACANT) • Secretary, Ellie Ankeny • Treasurer, Mickey Shields • Data and Compliance*, Ben Ulfers • Neighborhood Relations*, Vicki Sehgal • Block Captain Chair*, Vicki Heiken • *Positions filled by WNA Board and not subject to Board vote.



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✉ westwoodneighborsdsm@gmail.com
f facebook.com/westwoodneighborsdsm



NEW TO THE NEIGHBORHOOD?

Sign up here: bit.ly/westwoodemail
or scan the QR code to the left.

STAY INFORMED!

We want to meet you! Drop us a line at:
westwoodneighborsdsm@gmail.com

2026

Halloween Hunt!



Sponsored by

THE STATION
ON INGERSOLL

The hunt lasts **throughout October!**
Find these signs around Westwood! Check them off to complete the map!



Take completed Halloween Hunt map to...

THE STATION
ON INGERSOLL

To receive a special treat!
Redeem by Oct. 31, 2026

Only one map needed per family for redeeming.
No photocopies will be accepted.

Grand Ave

Grand Ave

Grand Ave

49th St

45th St

44th St

Art Center

59th St

58th Pl

58th St

56th St

52nd St

51st St

Robertson Dr

Terrace Dr

SW 58th Dr

52nd St

53rd St

Greenwood Terrace

SW 51st St

SW 56th St

SW 52nd St

Welker Ave

official cool cat

MEOW! USE MY
SECRET MAP!
I have hints on
where to find
these signs in
Westwood!



SECRET MAP!!