



The Sidewalk

VOL. 13, ISSUE 2

THE OFFICIAL MAGAZINE OF THE BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

SUMMER 2018

BEAVERDALE NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

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BOARD MEETINGS

Meetings are held at 7 p.m. on the first Thursday of the month at the Better Business Bureau. Please visit www.beaverdale.org for more information. Board minutes are published on the website upon Board approval.

MISSION

The Beaverdale Neighborhood Association is neighbors working together to promote the social welfare of the Beaverdale area by bringing about civic betterment and social improvements for the common good of the community.

MEMBERSHIP

The BNA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt, nonprofit organization. Membership is open to the public, may be tax deductible and could be eligible for a matching gift from your employer. To join or get involved, visit www.beaverdale.org or follow us on Facebook @beaverdaleneighborhood.

THE SIDEWALK

The Sidewalk is the Official Magazine of Beaverdale and is published quarterly by the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association P.O. Box 30175, Des Moines, Iowa 50310
 Editor: Kate McGovern 515-577-2084
 Email the BNA: bna@beaverdale.org

Hi Neighbors,

2018 marks my 1st year as president of the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association and my 25th year as a Beaverdale homeowner, but my roots in the neighborhood go back more than 80 years. My father, Robert C. Ibson, Jr., grew up on 45th Street (just blocks from where I've lived since 2000) and graduated from Holy Trinity Catholic School (as did my children many years later). My cousin, Jim Duffy (my grandmother was Cecelia Duffy Ibson), lives around the corner from me. We worshiped at Holy Trinity together for years before realizing we're related, something Jim figured out when I hung the "Ibson Law" sign above my office door back in 2010.

Last year, the Meredith Neighborhood Association merged into the BNA by vote of both associations. BNA Board member Tom LaPointe is making membership and recruitment of former-MNA residents his top priority this year. Our next quarterly meeting is May 8, 2018. **Join the BNA on line at www.beaverdale.org before May 8, 2018 and you'll be entered into a drawing for a fabulous prize.**

While Sean Bagniewski certainly left big shoes to fill, I'll do my best to lead the BNA and I'm most grateful for our terrific Board and many neighborhood volunteers. These first 2 months of my term have been busy, indeed. Thanks to the VFW Post 9127 for inviting me to judge their Cabin Fever Chili Cookoff in February. In March and April, I attended informational meetings regarding the development proposed for 48th and Franklin and planned improvements to Witmer Park, both of which I'm very excited about. Jason Britten and Randy Ratcliff

from Git 'n Go met with the BNA Board to discuss neighbor concerns about the store at 49th and Urbandale. They were very responsive and I appreciate their commitment to resolving concerns.

As always, Debra Prentis and crew did a terrific job with our annual Easter Egg Hunt. That the day felt more like Christmas than Easter did nothing to deter the event or the families who came out to enjoy it. In June, we'll welcome visitors and neighbors for our biennial Tour of Homes. Thanks to Sasha Kamper and her committee for their work on this event. I know my husband is glad I didn't volunteer our home this year. Can't wait to see those that are open.

For the 3rd year, BNA is partnering with the Beaverdale Business Coalition for a terrific summer event. Mark your calendars for Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival, July 14, 2018 from 5:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Tower Park. Yes, we'll have more food vendors. And yes, some of the music may not be strictly Bluegrass. Attendance at this event has grown from 400 to 2400 over the past several years, so we're planning for even bigger and better this year. My heartfelt thanks to our Bluegrass committee, especially Jay Kozel, Joe Raymond and Wendell Eck. And to members of the Waveland Park Neighborhood Association, who have volunteered to help this year.

Here's to a busy and beautiful Beaverdale spring and summer!

**CeCe Ibson,
BNA President**

**DON'T MISS THE 2018
BEAVERDALE TOUR OF HOMES!
SATURDAY, JUNE 9TH, FROM 9AM-3PM**



The Beaverdale Neighborhood Association will once again sponsor its 2nd Biennial Beaverdale Tour of Homes event on Saturday, June 9th, 2018 from 9am-3pm. Guests can enjoy viewing seven or more Beaverdale homes, in a wide array of styles, including: Arts & Crafts, Mid-Century Modern, a 21st Century new build, a traditional 1917 farmhouse and two Beaverdale 1.5-story cottages (including a very unusual Beaverdale Brick). Many of the homes on the tour have undergone extensive remodeling initiatives—some even sat empty for few years before their current owners restored them. This event is a great way to garner renovation and design tips for your own home and to obtain ideas for making a

smaller footprint home functional for modern living needs. Tickets will be available online at www.MIDWESTIX.com. A limited number of pre-printed tickets will also be available at the Beaverdale Grounds for Celebration store (2645 Beaver Ave.). Cost is \$12/person, if purchased in advance, or \$15, if purchased the day of the event. For more information, visit www.beaverdale.org or www.facebook.com/Beaverdale. tourhomes. If you are interested in volunteering for this event, contact Sasha Kamper at mikesashakamper1@msn.com.





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PROVIDERS

Robert Callahan, M.D.	Mary Klemesrud, PA-C
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Sudeep K. Gupta, D.O.	Krista Webb, PA-C
Betsy Dettman, ARNP	*Dr. Giddings is not currently accepting new patients.

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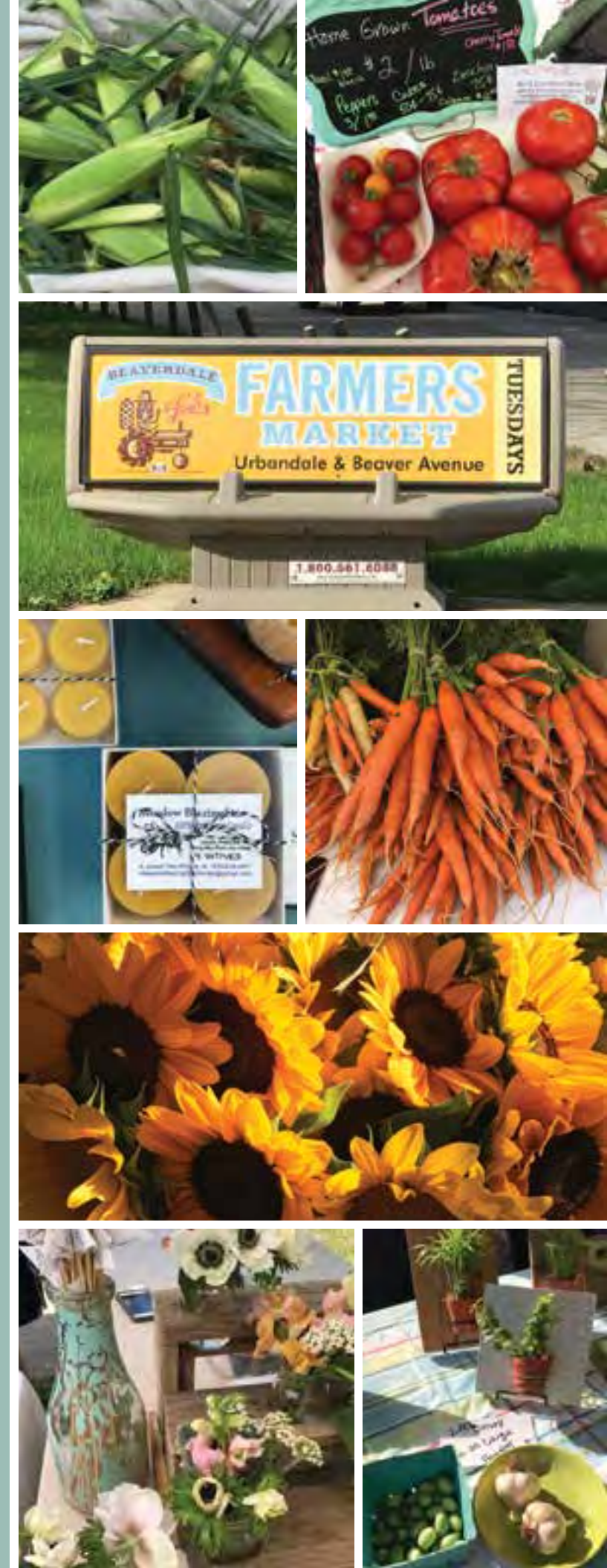
GET READY FOR THE 2018 BEAVERDALE FARMERS MARKET
 TUESDAYS FROM 4:00-7:30 P.M.
 JUNE 5TH THROUGH SEPTEMBER 11TH!

Who's ready for summer and your neighborhood farmers market? Beaverdale Farmers Market opens on June 5 from 4:00-7:30 p.m. on Urbandale Avenue between Beaver Avenue and 42nd Street. You will find favorite vendors and many new ones to try. Iowa-grown produce, meats, eggs, honey, plus baked goods, salsa, jams, plants and personal items brought to you by 40+ local farmers, bakers and artisans. Taste a wide variety of foods and beverages prepared on site, plus ice cream and desserts, to enjoy at the market.

It's free and easy to park and walk in Beaverdale, with friendly spaces to relax and play. We showcase a weekly live performance by area musicians, from solos to combos. Remember to bring some cash for the tip jars! Visit www.beaverdalefarmersmarket.org for a list of vendors and the music calendar.

- June's music lineup:**
- June 5 - Asphalt & Stained Glass
 - June 12 - Brian Holtz Band
 - June 19 - Ed Kelly & the Piranha Brothers
 - June 26 - Big Joe Kinser Band

Beaverdale Farmers Market is a 501c3, managed by an all-volunteer board of directors. We'd love for you to join our volunteer team on Tuesdays, before, during or after market hours. To learn more, email info@beaverdalefarmersmarket.org or message us via Facebook www.facebook.com/BeaverdaleFarmFest/. See you June 5th!





**TOUR OF HOMES
BEAVERDALE**
SATURDAY, JUNE 9, 2018
visit Beaverdale.org for more details.

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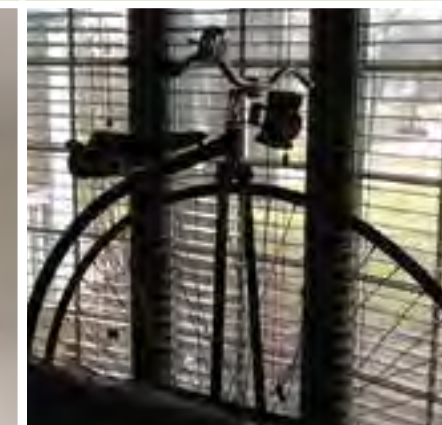
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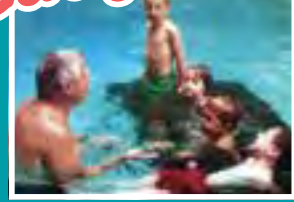
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BUSINESS SPOTLIGHTS

GIVE LIL' BROTHER CONSTRUCTION YOUR "HONEY- DO-LIST."



Lil Brother Construction is celebrating its 10th year as a small family owned handyman business located in the Beaverdale area. Steve and Jean Jones began the company in 2008 with a vision to help people by providing reasonably priced, honest and quality services. Through the years they have made some big impacts in our community.

Jean has served on the Des Moines West Side Chamber board for over seven years, including two terms as president. She has been instrumental in making sure the service area of the West Side Chamber included the Beaverdale and Merle Hay areas and that our voices are heard. Steve and Jean are still very active in the Chamber and are always advocating for businesses and residents' needs of this area.

Lil Brother Construction also invests back into our neighborhoods by helping those with threatening illness maintain the quality of their homes while they are fighting their health challenges. By partnering with different organizations that determine project needs and provide the cost of materials, Lil Brother Construction

provides the labor at no cost. During the past 5 years, the Lil Brother staff has volunteered their time on 4 to 5 projects a year. Also, always look for the Lil Brother Construction's ambulance in the Beaverdale Fall Festival Parade every year.

Lil Brother Construction is the company people turn to for help on their household projects. They like the smaller jobs that the larger companies don't want to bother with. No job is ever too small! Whether you are building, repairing or maintaining a deck, patching, hanging or finishing some drywall, remodeling a bathroom or basement or something minor like installing a faucet, or ceiling fan— just give Lil' Brother Construction your "Honey Do List".

Over 75% of their customers are referrals or repeat customers. Jean says, "We believe this is because of our commitment to high quality service- from the moment you call our office to set up your free estimate, to the point your project is completed and the invoice in paid." When

you call their office for your estimate you will receive an email confirming your appointment. This email will include the name and cell phone number of the individual that will be doing your estimate, a link to the website, a list of references and the cell phone numbers the company president and the operation manager. They want you to feel comfortable and be able to call anyone from their company if you need.

For your next home project, give Lil' Brother Construction your "Honey- Do-List."

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It's rare for a business of any type to survive for 63 years, let alone a company in the highly competitive field of residential heating and air-conditioning sales and service.

Yet Bell Brothers Heating and Air Conditioning has remained locally owned while thriving and growing since our founding in 1955. Today, the familiar red, white and blue service vans are a common sight around Beaverdale and throughout the Des Moines metro.

The seeds of today's success were planted when brothers Bob and Maurice Bell founded the company. From the beginning, the Bells operated their enterprise on family values and high standards that focused on creating repeat customers. Even as they kept pace with rapidly changing technology, the Bell brothers made sure that serving customers with respect, fairness and honesty remained at the forefront of their business. That's why Bell Brothers only employs the best-trained HVAC technicians who share the company's commitment to customer service.

Chuck Gassmann, who joined the company in 1995 and is now CEO, purchased Bell Brothers in 2011 and continued the focus on the Bells' founding values. Jason Gassmann, Chuck's son, joined the company in 2002 and became president in 2017.

Our dedication to helping employees build their skills and better serve customers led the company to



include a state-of-the-art training facility and working lab to our headquarters expansion in 2014. In 2015, we began an in-house apprentice program that helps more people build the skills needed to succeed as HVAC technicians.

Today, Bell Brothers provides customers with HVAC comfort products and services, including heating and cooling design, installation and replacement, service, furnace and AC repair, annual maintenance programs and tune-ups, indoor air management, and more. As a Carrier factory authorized dealer in Des Moines, Bell Brothers offers the highest-efficiency and highest-quality equipment in the industry and the best customer service in the metro.

Our commercial HVAC and plumbing division delivers single-source design-build services — ensuring high-quality, cost-effective heating, cooling and plumbing solutions for multifamily and other light to medium commercial projects.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

REMEMBERING CORK SMALLEY, BEVERDALE NEIGHBOR AND VOLUNTEER INFLUENTIAL IN OUR CHARTER, MONUMENT SIGN, BEVERDALE PARK & MORE!

Cork Smalley, Beaverdale's own 'gentle giant' passed away March 28th at the age of 90. Cork had been synonymous with Beaverdale almost from the beginning. He was involved in setting up Beaverdale as one of the original charter neighborhoods, served on the BNA Board for 6 years, and the Beautification Committee almost since its inception. Cork designed our beloved Beaverdale sign that sits at the intersection of Beaver and Urbandale

Ave. and was instrumental in getting it built. Beaverdale Park is the serene, woody place it is today, thanks to Cork's efforts to help prevent the building a road through it, building a school on it, as well as expanding it with the Save the Woods committee. He also worked on the bike trail committee that led to establishing the bike trail through Beaverdale Park and opening of the railroad bridge across the Des Moines River. It should be no

surprise that Cork also served on the Streetscape Design Committee, as well as the Beaverdale Main Street Initiative Committee which was its forerunner. The Beautification Committee knew him best for his wry humor, love of all things growing, and will miss his thoughtful ideas for improving Beaverdale. Donations are being collected by the Beautification Committee in his name and will be used to create a memorial.



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Thanks to Alice Meyer and staff at Beaverdale Books for their assistance in selling signs on behalf the Beaverdale Neighborhood Association!

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Special Order Yard Signs, 12" x 6" sign	
37" pole.....	\$35
54" pole.....	\$40
Wording and style varies, such as: Beaverdale Cyclones (red letters with yellow background), Beaverdale Lane, Beaverdale Beanery, etc.	

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BEAVERDALE'S NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH GIT N'GO AT 4900 URBAN DALE AVE. - UPDATE

Recently we met with representatives from the Merle Hay Neighborhood Association, Beaverdale Neighborhood Association, Des Moines Police, City Councilman Gray, City Councilman Coleman and Git n' Go. The purpose of the meeting was to discuss the robberies that plague Git n' Go. It was a very constructive meeting. After the security upgrades they are planning, they will continue to improve the perception that may be lingering about the store's history. They want this to be a safe and successful service for the Beaverdale and Merle Hay neighbors. We all will work to make that happen.

The Des Moines Police shared Git n' Go store robbery statistics and it was clear that Git n' Go stores in general are a target. Both myself and Jason Pulliam (President of Merle Hay Neighborhood Association) made it clear to Git n' Go, that we do not feel safe shopping at the 4900 Urbandale store.

Git n' Go seemed sincerely concerned. They indicated they are upgrading the lighting and camera equipment at the 4900 Urbandale location. Additionally, they have reduced the clutter that blocked the windows. We discussed incidents of unprofessional employee behavior. I also brought up former employees' perception corporate Git n' Go does not care. Git n' Go indicated they are emphasizing employee training in order to improve and recognized their stores have a perception problem.

Overall it was good discussion. Getting everyone together to discuss the situation will hopefully have a positive impact. I intend for us to have ongoing discussions in the future. I've been critical of Git n' Go in the past. Like it or not, they are part of our neighborhood. I'm willing to give them the benefit of the doubt and help them succeed.

Things that we can do:

1. If you live near there, consider having a neighborhood block party in their parking lot. Git n' Go seemed receptive to this.
2. More foot traffic in their store would help deter crime. We discussed limiting the hours of the 4900 Urbandale Ave but at this point no change will be made.
3. Keep your eyes and ears open for anything out of the ordinary and report it to police.
4. The police indicated they will frequent the establishments much like they do QuikTrip.

This won't get solved overnight but at least it is a start.



BEAVERDALE FALL FESTIVAL SEPTEMBER 14-15, 2018!

Planning has begun! The Beaverdale Fall Festival will be September 14th-15th. This year we have a brand new website (fallfestival.org) allowing us to take sponsorships, vendor and parade applications, and volunteer registrations online! Due to its huge success last year, the dog parade will be returning - as well as a new variety show, the car night, carnival, arts and crafts market, kid zone, and OF COURSE the parade and float contest! If you are interested in helping out in ANY way - contact us through our website! See you in September!



WWW.FALLFESTIVAL.ORG

BEAVERDALE'S BOOK OF LOCAL HISTORY HAVE ANY STORIES OR PHOTOS TO INCLUDE?

Do you have historical information about Beaverdale? Looking for residents, neighbors, and past residents who might have stories, photos, and other information that could be included in a book of local history. Photos must be high quality, dated, and captioned. Also looking for folks to be interviewed about local landmarks, past history, and past businesses. For more information, contact: jdkreads@yahoo.com.

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OWN A SMALL BUSINESS? JOIN US! BBC SUPPORTS BEAVERDALE BUSINESSES

The Beaverdale Business Coalition (BBC) represents and advocates for neighborhood businesses. Our annual events include Restaurant Week, Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival, and Shop Hop, our holiday-season event. The BBC also sponsors Better in Beaverdale, a showcase of local merchants and restaurants, held the last Thursday of every month. Members of the BBC Board also sit on the SSMID Board, which is responsible for the ongoing maintenance of the streetscape district, including our planters and street-level beds and holiday lighting. The BBC is funded by voluntary contributions from area businesses and we need everyone's support to continue our mission of serving the community. To join the BBC, please contact Board chair Jay Kozel at jay.kozel@gmail.com.

ANNUAL NATIONAL NIGHT OUT EVENT AUGUST 7TH, 2018 AT 6:00PM

The BNA and Waveland Park Neighborhood Associations will again partner with Des Moines Police and Fire Departments, Westminster Presbyterian Church, and local businesses to sponsor National Night Out. This is a free, kid-friendly event, held at Beaver Bend (the intersection of Beaver and Franklin Avenues and 41st St.). Last year's event featured fire trucks, police patrols, a dump truck, a Drake athletics tent, a movie princess, superheroes, the Isiserette's at Chef's Kitchen, free popcorn at Westminster, free hot dogs at Price Chopper, in addition to pony rides, a bounce house and 50-cent ice cream cones at Snookie's. While details for this year's event are yet to be determined, you can expect similar fun activities that the whole family can enjoy together. This year's National Night Out will be Tuesday, August 7th, beginning around 6pm. Look for more information closer to the event date in the neighborhood's mass emails, the BNA website and the August edition of the Sidewalk. Please come out to meet your neighbors and promote safety in the City of Des Moines on August 7th!



BEAVERDALE BLUEGRASS FESTIVAL JULY 14TH, 2018 AT 5:00PM - 9:00PM

Mark your calendars for this year's Beaverdale Bluegrass Festival, July 14, 2018 from 5:00 to 9:00 p.m. at Tower Park, brought to you by the Beaverdale Business Coalition, Beaverdale Neighborhood Association and, for the first time this year, the Waveland Park Neighborhood Association. This year's line up includes Wood & Wire (from Austin, TX), The Host Country and the Big Joel Kinser band. Thanks to Jeff Young, new owner of the 48th and Franklin property, for allowing us the use of the church parking lot for food trucks and event parking. We are taking applications for food vendors. If you are interested, please contact CeCe Ibson at ibsonlaw@yahoo.com. We are also in need of volunteers, even more than last year as we expect attendance to grow yet again. If you can give an hour or two to the event, please contact CeCe at ibsonlaw@yahoo.com. This event is organized and run entirely by volunteers and admission is always free.



ASHBY PARK NATURE TRAILS AND WOODLAND WILDFLOWER GARDENS

The City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department will be working in Ashby Park this year to construct a network of nature trails and woodland wildflower gardens. This project was made possible by a generous bequest from the estate of Gordon Greger. In mid-April, work will begin in the Ashby Park woodland to remove a significant number of undesirable trees and shrubs that have invaded the park over time. Performing management work on the woodland's canopy is the first step toward reinvigorating the ground layer of vegetation with the native wildflowers and grasses that belong there. The woodland wildflower gardens nested amongst nature trails will be a first of its kind project within Des Moines' park system. The Parks and Recreation Department appreciates the patience of neighbors and citizens as the project is completed, and they've asked that park users forgo entering the Ashby Park woodland while canopy management and or nature trail construction is actively under way.