



NORTHWOOD TRAILS

Newsletter

eNeighbors.com • July-August 2023



Youths catch fishing fervor at Pond

An 85-neighbor-strong crowd was met with mild temperatures and hungry fish early June 10 at the Northwood Trails Pond during the neighborhood's 2023 Fishing Derby. Snacks and bottled water kept sporting families nourished as their children and grandchildren competed in a race to the top of three categories per age group. Even a brief rainshower just before officials called time did not dampen the enthusiasm. Ultimately, 115 fish were caught (and released) during the event, indicating our pond is healthy and thriving!

Games including the venerable NWT classic Fishing Behind the Curtain were provided and youngsters also had a chance to craft Father's Day cards. A disc golf station attracted many new players for the second year in a row, and Miles Katzenberger won a drawing for a disc golf starter kit. Thanks to all the NWT residents who participated in the event, and a big-time thank you to all the volunteers from the Pond and Social committees who strived to make this another fabulous family event for Northwood Trails!

The winners

Most fish caught
Ages 5 and under
Viviana Discus: 12

Ages 6 through 9
Hunter Allison: 10

Ages 10 through 14
Ava Allison: 6

Longest fish caught
Ages 5 and under
Atalie Marlow: 22.5"

Ages 6 through 9
Olivia Kelly: 22"

Ages 10 through 14
Cale Sims: 25.5"

Shortest fish caught
Ages 5 and under
Joanna Kelly: 4.5"

Ages 6 through 9
Maren Sims: 2.5"

Ages 10 through 14
Xavier Lezano:
4.125"

Upcoming Events

Monthly Board meetings
7 p.m. July 11 and August 8
Grace United Methodist Church

Social Committee meetings
7 p.m. July 6 and Aug. 3
at the Pool Tower porch

Cool Treat Sunday
3-4 p.m. Aug. 13
Northwood Drive near the pool

Notes From Your Board President

Julie Pickerill • jpickerill61@gmail.com

The Board of Directors is planning for 2024. Please consider serving a two-year 2024-25 term, a great opportunity to become more familiar with the people and processes that keep Northwood Trails functioning. Please email your inquiries to our community liaison at rickerpickerill@gmail.com.

Good neighboring includes home exterior and landscaping upkeep, minimizing cars parked on the street (garages are there for a reason, hint, hint) and keeping boats or campers on driveways only for short periods of loading and unloading. Thank you for doing your part to keep home values high in our deed-restricted neighborhood!



Neighborhood Diplomacy

Pete Mundo • peterfmundo@gmail.com

In light of continued dramatic change in the real estate market, the Board of Directors, on behalf of homeowners comprising the Homes Association of Northwood Trails, wants to bring forward an amendment for discussion and possible addition to the Northwood Trails Declaration of Restrictions.

Given the increase in Northwood Trails homes used as rentals, the Board has heard community interest in limiting the scope of rentals, notably those owned and operated by limited liability corporations or other large investment companies who have at times rented to multiple unrelated parties.

The board understands that a decision of this magnitude should be, and will be, put to a decision by NWT homeowners. To complete this amendment, it would require two-thirds (66%) of homeowners to have notarized signatures.

Other area homes associations dealing with similar issues successfully limited rentals, within reason, through an amendment to the Declaration of Restrictions. What the board will ask NWT homeowners to decide is whether or not to require a purchaser to own a home for several years before being allowed to rent it out. This would theoretically dissuade those looking to purchase-to-rent in the neighborhood, while allowing the homes that have been longtime rentals to continue. If passed, this would not impact any current renter in the neighborhood

The Board will sponsor an online town Hall via Zoom in early August at a date and time to be determined and announced on eNeighbors. This information session will be designed to answer any and all questions and concerns on this issue.

This issue will be decided by Northwood Trails homeowners, and will require notarized signatures for two-thirds of homeowners. If you are a notary and could help lead a signature collection effort, please email peterfmundo@gmail.com.

Welcome, New Neighbors!

Matt & Heidi Carlson
18900 W 115th Terrace

**Paul Hefferson &
Rebecca Mathews**
11583 Northwood Drive

John & Jennifer Horton
18895 W 116th Street

**Hannah Pachunka
& Colin Finnegan**
18420 W 117th Street

Jess Perry & Kyle Gruel 11524 S Brentwood Drive

Pool Committee News • *Susie Kelling*

susiekelling@yahoo.com

Pool season is here!

We hope you've noticed the new tables and chairs, as well as the tropical plants at the pool. Check the schedule board by attendant's table for water polo, dodgeball and underwater ball game times. Cornhole, spike ball and bocce ball are available via check out at the attendant's table. Sidewalk chalk is also available for check out for the little ones to enjoy.



Some of our NWT pool attendants are in their first job. They gain valuable soft-skill assets here in their own neighborhood before entering the real world. Neighbors, please support the attendants as they work to provide a clean, safe environment for our patrons. Help them if you feel they need it. Their title is attendant, not lifeguard or child-care specialist. Please set your expectations accordingly and encourage your older children and teens to be positive role models for all youth enjoying the pool environment. Parents, you can help our attendants by consistently enforcing posted rules such as the minimum age to use the hot tub unsupervised and the prohibition against vulgar or abusive language.

Pool Committee asks that everyone be kind and respectful and do their best to keep the pool a safe and family-oriented amenity for Northwood Trails homeowners, their families and their guests. The same guest policy in place for many years continues. As a reminder, pool policy is 10 guests per household, or two guests per unaccompanied minor resident. Neighbors, to retain access to the pool you must ensure your guests follow pool rules.

Neighbors, thank you for your help maintaining the family-friendly atmosphere Northwood Trails pool is known for.

From The Treasurer

Bryan Kelling • bryan_kelling@hotmail.com

Summer is flying by, as it always does. Committees begin the 2024 budget process in August and present their work to the Board in October before the budget is presented to homeowners at the annual meeting.

Now is the time to talk about things neighbors would like to repair or replace or would like to add to the neighborhood. Bring your ideas and let's have a conversation. If you want to be part of the process, reach out to the committee chairs to give them your

ideas. After that, follow up with those committees to see if your idea is a neighborhood priority or what it will take for the project to come to fruition.

One last thing: May 1 was the dues payment deadline. Late fees began to accrue June 1. We may be moving those due dates up a month in 2024 in an attempt to eliminate any confusion vis-à-vis timely pool access. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask.

As always, if anyone has any questions, concerns, suggestions or solutions, please reach out to your volunteer treasurer at the address above, and I will answer best I can.


Grounds Committee News


Gerry Buehler • GerryBuehler@sbcglobal.net


Have you noticed trees or shrubs with yellowing leaves in our neighborhood? Iron chlorosis is a yellowing of plant leaves caused by iron deficiency that affects many desirable landscape plants. Some leaves will look yellow with green veins. This area is iron deficient. We have treated our pin oak a couple times in the last several years, and it needs it again.

Also, our oak leaf hydrangeas just received a dose of iron. The huge pin oak by the pool parking lot will be receiving iron injections. Treating with iron will help the tree be healthier and better able to resist diseases and insects. It also helps promote new growth and the leaves will once again be their dark green color. If you have questions about iron treatments for your trees or shrubs, contact Johnson County Extension at 715-7000.

Volunteers have saved NWT homeowners thousands of dollars in recent years. Here are a few jobs done by our grounds committee this past month:

 **Kathy & Orin Swift** teamed with **Barb Mueller** to weed, prune and mulch the perennial bed stretching across the dam west of the pond.

 **Chuck & Carol Nigro** weeded the large beds by the pool parking lot. Chuck refilled the iron solution injection jug on our convalescing big oak in that area and continues to water the new maple tree.

 **Steve Karasek** completed repairs and painted the 117th Street and Northwood Drive entrance monuments and installed handsome solar safety ground lights lining the pool entrance ramp.



Creekside sanctuary

Where in NWT is the best place to take your kids or grandkids for a great nature walk and exploration? The kids will love walking out on the stones of Mill Creek and playing with all the rocks while you enjoy the new bench at the Northwood Trails Mill Creek Destination!

From the north, go to the playground parking lot (bottom of Millview Road). At the west end of the lot, you will see a trail going left between two large evergreen trees. Take that trail and walk about 200 feet. You will be on the east side of Mill Creek. Turn west (right) on the first spur and you will see a concrete walkway that leads into the creek.

From the south, walk north on the trail that runs behind the Millview Road homes and curves into the woods, then turn west (left) on the spur leading to the creek.

Can you build the tallest rock sculpture? How many rocks can you stack to build your stony creation? Mosey on down to our new Mill Creek Destination and see what you can do! Have someone photograph you standing behind your build and post it on eNeighbors.

 **Tony & Regina Wittman** repaired fences, moved shrubs and perennials, added shrubs to the 117th Street entrance beds, and kicked out weeding and pruning tasks in many of our NWT common areas.

In the following months you will see some trail sections being repaired or replaced. Also, the log fence lining Ridgeview damaged in a single-truck collision will be repaired.

Neighbors, a request: NWT common area sprinklers are set to run 2 a.m. to 10:30 a.m., so if you see them running outside that period, please call Gerry immediately at 913-894-0154. Also, call or e-mail if you see any areas needing attention or want to join our committee, which meets monthly on the third Monday.

Community Relations News

Rick Pickerill • rickpickerill@gmail.com

Welcome to summer in Northwood Trails!

As you are well aware, the neighborhood board of directors and committee leaders are all volunteers. Without their hard work and endless devotion, many of the niceties of NWT would not be available or possible.

One example is our pool. Prior to the 2022 pool season, Johnson County inspectors informed then-new Pool chairwoman Susie Kelling and a relatively untested Pool Committee about numerous items not up to code and were very close to not allowing the pool to open. This situation had developed over several years. Susie and her team were instrumental in ensuring that the pool could last year, and have proceeded with many substantial improvements ensuring continued operation and enjoyment by all. When you get a chance, let Susie and the committee know what a great job they are doing.

eNeighbors is the official site for NWT information. Tweak your eNeighbors profile and settings by clicking your picture or the blank photo box in the upper right corner. Via three tabs, update your information and set



NWT ONLINE

- Bookmark Northwood Trails at eNeighbors.com to see posts from neighbors and official Board of Directors communication.
- On Facebook, find “Northwood Trails - KS” or “Northwood Trails Buy, Sell, Trade” for classifieds.

your frequency of notification. Our recommended settings for timely notifications are: a) show in neighborhood directory; b) allow neighbors to send me an email; c) under notifications, select daily for summary email; enter your phone number if you'd prefer texts.

Taking these actions will keep you informed about your neighborhood. Please note Facebook is not an official communications forum for the neighborhood and reliance purely on that platform could leave you uninformed.