



# NORTHWOOD TRAILS

## Newsletter

eNeighbors.com • July-August 2025



## Dad's weekend Derby enjoyed by all

### The winners

#### Most fish caught

*Ages 5 and under*  
Atalie Marlow: 8 fish

*Ages 6 through 9*  
Lillian Lueck: 9 fish

*Ages 10 through 14*  
Chloe Ast: 5 fish

#### Longest fish caught

*Ages 5 and under*  
Timmy Hileman: 21.25"

*Ages 6 through 9*  
Elliot Manan: 17.5"

*Ages 10 through 14*  
Keira Rhodes: 9.5"

#### Shortest fish caught

*Ages 5 and under*  
Samuel Gardner: 7"

*Ages 6 through 9*  
Maren Sims: 3"

*Ages 10 through 14*  
Cade Ast: 6"



A hearty congratulations to the nine winners of the 2025 Father's Day Fishing Derby. Catfish, smallmouth bass and bluegill were a few of the species represented among the 54 fish caught by 32 young neighbors. Many thanks to Pond Committee for rising to the challenge of a persistent algae bloom; to Social Committee for handling the sign-up, setup and snacks; to Matt Jamison for bringing a three-hole disc golf course to life for all ages (pics on page 6); to Grounds Committee for managing mowing and trimming operations; to Ian "The Kid" Lawncare for some last-minute touch-ups; and to the main-most made-it-happen guys: Kirby Demott of Pond Committee and Jim Buehler of Pond & Social.



## Yards of the Month *To nominate, send address, description, photo to nwtlawnaward@yahoo.com.*

### June winners



**Congratulations Fair Family, 11349 S Millview Road!** Neighbors say these new neighbors have worked diligently to improve their landscape since they recently moved in! In particular, they have beautified their front and side lawn with colorful bushes and flowers, as well as with new trees. At the same time, they have pulled out old shrubbery and weeds. They obviously take great pride in their yard! By the way, they already have fruit growing on their fruit trees!

**Congratulations Barnard Family, 18873 117th Street!** Neighbors noted the outstanding, kid-friendly lawn including a horse swing in the front and a swing set in the back. The lush, vibrant grass is so inviting that we could not resist stopping to ask their secret! The homeowners shared that the whole family stays off the lawn for four weeks each fall to let new grass grow, an impressive commitment that clearly pays off with a thick, beautiful lawn perfect for play.



**Congratulations Blades Family, 18952 118th Street!** Neighbors say this is a welcoming yard with beautiful lush grass and thoughtfully arranged plantings. The vibrant landscape creates an inviting atmosphere and showcases the care and pride taken in every detail. The yard has an added appeal of the best friendly dog in Northwood Trails. It is a standout example of seasonal curb appeal at its finest.

### July winners



**Congratulations Kunze Family, 18945 W. 117th Terrace!** Neighbors say their yard is beautifully manicured with a vibrant showcase of summer pride, including lush greenery and neatly edged flower beds to create a welcoming foreground. Their charming porch, adorned with classic patriotic bunting and an American flag, reflects a heartfelt tribute to the season and community spirit.

**Congratulations Green Family, 11831 Skyview Lane!** Neighbors say this is a very festive home year round including heading into July. The radiant curb appeal of this patriotic home shines with a perfectly manicured lawn lined with American flags, reflecting a deep sense of national pride. A peaceful front-yard fountain adds a hidden touch of elegance and serenity to this welcoming and festive display.



**Congratulations Murphy Family, 11417 Northwood Circle!** Neighbors say this beautiful brick home is quietly nestled among mature trees, featuring a lush, rolling lawn and carefully curated landscaping that enhances its timeless charm. A classic American flag adds a patriotic touch, completing the serene and welcoming curb appeal of this tucked-away gem.



## Community Relations News *Julie Pickerill • jpickerill61@gmail.com*

This is a reminder about neighborly courtesy to maintain a pleasant living environment for the community.

Please consider the following opportunities:

**Property Maintenance:** Regularly maintain homes and yards, including mowing and addressing weeds, to enhance the neighborhood's appearance.

**Responsible Pet Ownership:** Prevent pets from entering and potentially damaging neighboring properties. This contributes to a harmonious community.

**Clear Paths/Trails:** Maintain clear trails in and around your property by removing debris such as leaves and dirt/mud, trimming back trees, cutting or removing

## Welcome, New Neighbors!

**Alezia & Bianca Rios**

18310 West 116th Street

**Andrew O'Grady and Nadia Belghali**

11514 South Millview Road

**Laura Hurtado**

18320 West 117th Street

**Miguel Sanchez and Laura Guzman**

11423 S Millview Circle

weeds. The trails are one of NWT's amazing assets, enjoyed by many residents.

Your efforts are appreciated and contribute to a positive atmosphere for all residents.

## Grounds Committee News

*Gerry Buehler • GerryBuehler@sbcglobal.net*



We are blasting into summer with the usual drought potential, aggressive vine takeovers and damage from critters.

We have added sprinkler nozzles in several places. Should you see water shooting where it should not be, or after 10:30 a.m. call Gerry.

Three winterberry holly bushes have been planted in the bed north of the 117th entrance. We are continuing to update the area around the new entrance signs. In the 116th cul-de-sac, four red yuccas have been installed and residents are watering those.

Mark Sunderson has been repairing squirrel and carpenter bee damage on the porch. Watch for the swarming male bees that indicate females are nearby, doing their worst.

Don't forget to clear the trail section bordering your property. This is a banner year for poison ivy. We have seen it all over Northwood Trails. Please examine the area on both sides of the trail that runs along your property. Using caution and protecting yourself, destroy the poison ivy. If left to grow, it can aggressively take over an area. While you are searching for the nasty ivy, look for wild honeysuckle and eradicate it, as well.

See an area in our common areas that needs attention? Contact GerryBuehler@sbcglobal.net. 913-894-0154.

## Pool Committee News

*Susie Kelling • susiekelling@yahoo.com*



We're thrilled to see so many families enjoying the pool this summer! A big shout-out to our incredible pool attendants who are doing an amazing job keeping things running smoothly. Their hard work and dedication to our neighborhood pool have not gone unnoticed — thank you!

If you haven't activated your pool pass yet, please email your completed Emergency Contact Form to: poolattendant@nwthoa.onmicrosoft.com.

As a reminder, our pool is not staffed with lifeguards. Our attendants are there to ensure all pool rules are followed and that daily operations run safely and efficiently.

Thank you to all of our residents for contributing to a fun, respectful, and safe environment at the pool this season. Let's keep it up and make the rest of summer just as enjoyable! If you have any questions, concerns, or feedback about the pool, please don't hesitate to reach out to us at poolattendant@nwthoa.onmicrosoft.com.



## Social Committee News *Jess Perry • jessperry805@gmail.com*

### What a summer it's already been!

From bratwursts to bike parades, Crumbl cookies to cannonballs in the pool, we've been making



core memories all season long.

**Heard about the Summer Kickoff Party?** Let's start with a GIANT shout-out to the amazing Melanie,

who went above and beyond to help pull off our annual evening of fun! With juicy brats on the grill, sweet Crumbl cookies in hand, and a sea of neighbors sharing watermelon and laughter, we made a splash as we officially opened our stunning neighborhood pool for the season. Thank you, Melanie — you truly brought the magic!

### Our Thursday Night Food Trucks

have been a huge hit since June — and they're not just about the food (although yes, it's delicious). We've also added bar trucks, so you can grab a cold beer or a fun cocktail and relax poolside. But most importantly? These nights are about bringing people together. Pull up a chair while you wait for your order, plop down on the grass with a neighbor, and strike up a conversation while the kids run around. These evenings are a simple, easy way to connect — no RSVP required. Just show up, say hi, and stay a while.

**Derby Day:** Thanks to the unstoppable Jim and Kirby, families lined the banks of our beautiful pond, casting lines and making memories at the annual Dad's weekend Fishing Derby. Thank you to Pond Committee for keeping our pond picture perfect, to Grounds Committee for keeping the surrounding area ship-shape, and to all the hard-working volunteers.



Neighbors Sue Read and Kathy Swift catch up over a cookout at the 2025 Summer Kickoff Party. At left, Keith Read (with a temporary brat-smile), Orin Swift and Janis Carpiniello man (and woman) the prep zone.

**A tradition in the making:** We are thrilled to introduce something totally new this year: our very first July 5th Great American Bike Parade & Touch-a-Truck Event!

This is a first for our neighborhood — and we're so excited to try it out! With your help, we hope it becomes a cherished annual tradition. Kids can decorate their bikes with patriotic flair (we've got the supplies!), then cruise in a neighborhood parade before checking out the sirens, lights and more on real-life emergency vehicles.

We'll also be handing out refreshing

popsicles and setting up a big sidewalk chalk zone where kids can draw murals showing what America means to them. Food vendors will be there too, so come hungry and festive in your favorite red, white, and blue gear. Let's come together and make this one to remember!

**We're turning up the island vibes** with a one-time-only Beach Bash/Tiki Night this August! Think palm trees, tiki torches, tropical music, and good neighbors.

**Fire up your grills** and dust off your recipe books this October for the return of the annual Great Northwood Trails BBQ Battle!





Eats, treats and sweets were in abundance at the Northwood Trails Summer Kickoff party on May 31. The event was originally scheduled during Memorial Day weekend, but Mother Nature had other ideas. At left, Melanie Weilert, Gerry Buehler and Renee Fair serve bratwursts, hot dogs, chips and watermelon to a line of hungry neighbors. Below, fun with the axe-throwing game and in the hot tub.

*Photos by Jess Perry*



There's a dessert competition for all you bakers and sweet teeth out there. Watch this space and the neighborhood socials for an October date TBD.

**For all our movie lovers,** we're excited to announce three Fall Family Movie Nights, one each in September, October, and November, weather permitting. Bring your blankets, lawn chairs, and a friend, for it's going to be a

cozy, fun-filled fall under the stars.

**Want to be part of the magic?** Join us! Here's the best part of all this: each event was brought to life by busy neighbors with full-time jobs, kids, dogs, carpools, and laundry piles who have found time to give back and make this neighborhood a place where magic lives. Some of you have served in earlier decades. For others, life doesn't allow anything extra right now. But if you

can find time, want to get more involved, meet more neighbors, or just help create joyful moments, we'd love to have you. You don't have to plan a whole event or run the grill (unless you want to!). Even a few hours of helping hands or a single great idea makes a big difference. Here's to more fun, more connection, and the best summer yet. See you out there, neighbors, and remember, 'suns out, buns out!'



## Disc-information session



Disc golf at the Fishing Derby! For this year's Derby, neighbor Matt Jamison designed a temporary three-hole disc golf course along the east and north sides of the pond, provided discs, baskets and scorecards (seen below), taught the sport and handed out prizes to the delight of the all-ages crowd.

Name: _____	
Hole 1: _____	
Hole 2: _____	
Hole 3: _____	
Total: _____	

## Board President's Notes

*Pete Mundo • peterfmundo@gmail.com*

As we continue through the summer months, please be overly cautious driving on our streets. With lots of residents and kids out and about, please take precaution, and remind your young drivers to take it slow on our busier streets: 114th, Northwood, 116th and 117th.



At the Summer Kickoff, we had a successful turnout of neighbors interested in trying to dissuade LLCs from purchasing homes in Northwood Trails. A couple dozen homeowners showed up with their driver's licenses and signed their forms to be notarized. I also appreciate those of you coming forth with ideas on how to expedite this process. If you're someone interested in helping gather signatures, and especially if you are a notary and have some time to spare (as much or as little as you choose), email me at the above address. We will announce our next mass signature drive on eNeighbors and Facebook when we find the right time to reach the most homeowners.