

Neighborhood News

Quarterly Neighborhood Update

SUMMER 2020

STAYING CONNECTED WITH YOUR NEIGHBORS

Summer is the traditional season for neighborhood block parties and gatherings, but this summer is very different. Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, large gatherings are strongly discouraged and nearly impossible to achieve in this era of social distancing. However, many Ames neighborhoods are coming up with unique ways to stay connected with each other. Here are some ideas for new ways to connect with your neighbors:

- Post a large letter in a front window or door. Use a first initial of a person or pet who lives in your house. As you walk through your neighborhood, see how many names of your neighbors (or their pets) you know from the letters you see displayed.
- Scavenger hunt. Make a list of items you might see in your neighborhood, such as porch swing, wreath, BBQ grill, red door, etc. Keep track of the things you find and which neighbors have items in common.

- Chalk the title of a book you've read on your sidewalk and give it a rating (0-5). When you see book titles, consider adding them to your "Want to Read" list. Also, if you leave a piece of chalk out, neighbors can add their rating if they've also read that book.



- Designate a time every week (or every evening!) to come out into your front yard and chat across the yards and street with your neighbors. You can even use it as a time to compare scavenger hunt findings or book recommendations.

Got other ideas for staying connected with your neighbors? Send them to neighborhoodnews@cityofames.org.

CRAWFORD COMMUNITY PLANTS TREES, GETS REBATE



Neighbors who live in the Crawford community planted some trees recently using the Smart Watersheds Native Tree Rebate. Members of this homeowners association want to model the way for others to be engaged and connected. Plant trees! Meet your neighbors! The City's Public Works Department would love to help you bring your neighborhood tree planting idea to life. Contact Stormwater Resource Analyst Liz Calhoun at liz.calhoun@cityofames.org.

COVID-19 UPDATES

With the reopening of City facilities, residents are expected to follow best practices for containing the virus including frequent hand washing or hand sanitizing, using safe social distancing, wearing a mask, and not touching your eyes or face.

OPEN: City Hall, the Community Center, and Ames Public Library are open to the public as of July 1. Other City facilities were opened prior to July 1, including Homewood Golf Course, Ames Dog Park, Georgie Tsushima Memorial Skate Park, City playgrounds and parks restrooms, Ames/ISU Ice Arena, and Municipal Pool.

CLOSED: Furman Aquatic Center will be closed for the 2020 season.

CANCELLED: Fourth of July events including the community pancake breakfast, parade on Main Street, and fireworks have been cancelled. Other City-sponsored events and most events held on City property have also been cancelled through Aug. 31. These include Ames Municipal Band concerts; Street 'N' Greet Block Party Trailer reservations through Sept. 1; Rummage RAMPage; and Velo Bike Race, Midnight Madness Race, Ames Triathlon, and various other road races. (Note: This is not an all-inclusive list of cancellations.)

For more information on City facilities openings, closures, and cancellations, please visit the website at www.CityOfAmes.org/COVID19.



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NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

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