

Maplewood

Monday, July 9, 7pm West Hills Friend's Church Classroom, 7426 SW 52nd St.

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Wow! Have you seen the new playground equipment at Maplewood School? What a great accomplishment.

Congratulations to the PTA, John Blanck and all of the volunteers who worked to make this happen. I stopped by the playground on my way home from a beach trip late Saturday afternoon. What a sight. It was absolutely amazing. The mud must have been a foot deep, the rain was coming down and these volunteers kept at building the play structure until every nut and bolt was in place. That's community spirit.

Talking about community spirit, the neighborhood is gearing up for **The Second Annual Maplewood Picnic and Ice Cream Social**.

Mark your calendars **Sunday, July 29th** from 1 pm to 5pm.

Expect to have lots of great family fun including live music by the "Usual Suspects", numerous children's activities, hot dogs (vegetarian also), watermelon, lemonade and more!!!

Our picnic is also a part of National Night Out so we will have our police and fire department visiting us.

Rumor has it that if it's a hot day they may do a repeat of last year's cooling off in the lower field.

Local businesses have been donating lots of gift certificates and other really cool stuff for our raffle. The proceeds from the raffle will go into a fund towards purchasing a water fountain for April Hill Park.

At our June MNA meeting, Chris Mays talked about the status of the proposed trail from the intersection of SW 49th Ave. & Texas St. to SW 45th Ave & Vermont St. He discussed and walked the prospective trail with Jon Erickson of St. Luke Lutheran Church and, at another time, with Don Baack of SW Trails to get a better understanding of the trail route. Further discussion will be held with Father Forbes of St. John Fisher School. Julie Harp, the Safe Routes to School coordinator at Maplewood School, has offered help on building the trail and forwarded a grant application from the National Park Service as part of the Rivers, Trails and Conservation Assistance Program for a bridge over the creek near 49th and Texas. Discussion was held with Dana Via about the current informal trail through her property and moving the future trail away from next to her house to a point east. Other neighbors gave history of another bridge and a trail at the southwest corner of the St. John Fisher play field. Future meetings will be planned with the Southwest Community Center at Gabriel Park and business owners at 45th and Vermont to see what their level of interest is and hopefully gain support for the trail. Emails have been exchanged with Linda Birth at PDOT in regards to the right of way, easement, and vacation status and process on Florida between 45th and 46th.

Hope to see you all on July 29th at the Maplewood Neighborhood Picnic!!!

