

DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



DMPA Meeting

No December Meeting

Next DMPA Meeting
February 9th

Check website for speaker info.
www.dundee-memorialpark.org

Location and times:
Dundee Presbyterian Church
53rd & Underwood Ave

7:00 Social
7:30pm Meeting
Bring a friend or two.

**Meetings are always held
the second Monday
of the month.**

Jan - May and Sept - Nov.



Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

"Dedicated to Preserving the Community"
www.dundee-memorialpark.org

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Letter From the President

Adam Langdon
402-290-8084 aalangdon@cox.net

February 16 is Washington's Birthday, a federal holiday recognizing our country's first president, George Washington. His actual birthday on February 22 – is now recognized on the third Monday in February every year. In case you were wondering, the state of Nebraska also honors February 16 as a holiday and calls it President's Day.

The leaders of our country had immense respect for our first president – who was also a General in the revolutionary army. The General was instrumental in our victory for independence from the British. Washington, our President guided our country through our "start-up" years as a fledgling democracy.

Did you know that the original plans for the U.S. Capitol building included a spot where George Washington would be entombed? (I recently was in Washington DC and toured the capitol building). Washington would have none of that. He believed the Capitol is a building for the people – not for a man. He instead chose to be buried at Mt Vernon, Virginia.

Washington's Birthday & President's Day are about taking pride in America. While it's important to respect George Washington, it is just as important to take pride in the American spirit and can-do attitude. It's that pride and attitude that is so clearly seen day in and day out here in the heartland of America - and in Dundee.

Volunteers Build a Better neighborhood

Friday and Saturday March 20 and 21st, about 60 Volunteers from around the neighborhood go to work planting our flower baskets. Board member Mary Green is our organizer and coordinates all the efforts of the team. All the planting takes place at Indian Creek Nursery on Saddle Creek.

Pending warm weather, the flower baskets will be hung in Dundee around the 1st of May (May Day!). Volunteers go to work, cruising around the neighborhood in the red or white truck and hang about 425 baskets.

Then, the real work begins! Watering Brigade as it's fondly known is a large team of volunteers who commit to a week or a few days of watering the baskets to keep them hydrated in the summer. Managing the watering schedules, filling the trucks with water, and recruiting new volunteers has been a labor of love and coordinated by Dan Rock and Tom Craig.

143 block captains, 60 or so planters, the 50 or more on watering brigade, and the team that hangs and removes the baskets equate to

Dundee-Memorial Park Association

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President's Message

Continued from front page.

a very large Volunteer investment in our neighborhood. Thanks to all of you for making a difference!

It's important to mention another group of volunteers – the beautification committee that plants our neighborhood "islands". The neighborhood has 21 of these "islands" that get planted with beautiful flowers for the summer. Then, these "islands" are maintained – weeded, watered, trimmed, mulched, etc. throughout the spring, summer, and fall. It's a ton of work and we appreciate Board member Mike Walenta and neighbor Jared Shademann taking this on. Please let them know if you can help.

I also want to thank Ellen Shurson who has been great support to our neighborhood through publication of this newsletter, the Midtown Monitor, and the famous Dundee History Book. Ellen's done a ton of work that reflects well on our neighborhood – and we appreciate it.

UNO Community Arena

The new Arena south of Center at 67th Street will open in the fall 2015. UNO's new director of the Arena, Mike Cera gave us a virtual tour at our January neighborhood meeting. The arena will hold nearly 8,000 people. It will have ice for hockey and can be configured for other events with movable floors and curtains. Tons of parking is being built with new access points to and from the main arterial streets to the south. The parking lots will also be used for park and ride to the different University buildings – replacing the current crossroads solution.

I don't think it's really sunk in yet for most of us neighbors just how significant the new Arena is. Just counting the UNO athletics, they already have over 65 annual events scheduled in the new arena. On the northwest corner of the arena, there will be a public skate area – which will mostly be used for recreational hockey leagues. In addition, they plan to host concerts and other entertainment events. All this, within minutes of our neighborhood!

UNO Assistant Athletic Director Josh White was also on hand to give us an overview of UNO Athletics. UNO is a Division I athletic school with 15 different teams including hockey, soccer, volleyball, basketball, baseball, golf, tennis, swimming & diving, track & field, softball, and cross-country. 9 of these programs are for women and 6 are for men. In fact, UNO has more female student athletes than men – nearly 2 to 1.

With all that said, Hockey has become the sport that the Mavs are known for. The hockey program which was just introduced in 1997 is one of the most successful in the country – with nearly 4,000 season ticket holders. The Mavs are in the National Collegiate Hockey Conference (NCHC) which is college hockey's top league. As I write this, they are ranked #4 in the country. Go Mavs!

We will keep you posted on dates of some of our events this spring – Spring clean-up (dumpster day) is usually in April. Board member Wiff is in charge – watch out! He's planning on having recyclers present. We will be at Brownell Talbot again. Garage Sale weekend is usually in May – to sell all the stuff you didn't throw out. Our social chair, Raquel Ahlvers organizes that for us.

Don't forget Valentine's Day – it's on a Saturday this year. The restaurants will be full. If you see Heike, please pass along a hint that I would enjoy some eCreamery chocolate peanut butter. See you around the neighborhood. Be sure to say "hello"!

For more on the neighborhood, events and happenings, see www.dundee-memorialpark.org

For up to the minute action – "like" our facebook page – Dundee Memorial Park Neighborhood Association


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DMPA Meetings

February 9th
March 9th



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Flower Basket Planting: Volunteers Needed!

More Volunteers Needed for Flower Basket Planting!

Spring is just around the corner! And we've got a way to make it come even sooner. Join your neighbors to create the beautiful flower baskets that brighten our neighborhood and make it one of the best neighborhoods in Omaha.

We need 30-40 volunteers who will join us at Indian Creek nursery as we plant the 450 baskets. Volunteers insert 40 tiny begonia plants around the perimeter of the basket, then turn the baskets over to the Indian Creek staff, who fill the baskets with soil and add more begonia and ivy plants to the top.

We've got some great food from our local Dundee restaurants lined up to keep volunteers happy! There's no better way to meet your neighbors, do a good turn for the neighborhood, and sample food from neighborhood restaurants. Think flowers!

Date: Friday March 20 Saturday March 21
Time: 10-3 (both days) Lunch provided by local Dundee restaurants!

Location: Indian Creek Greenhouse 303 N. Saddle Creek Road
(Greenhouse is on the SE corner of the property)

To volunteer for one or both days, sign up at the next DMPA meeting, or e-mail Mary Green at megreen4@cox.net, or call 402-556-1830, and let her know which day you can help.

Mary Green, Flower Basket Chair



REMINDER
It's that time of
year again!

DMPA Annual Garage Sale Weekend will be here before you know it. Start going through your closets, storage room, attic, garage and wherever else you have "stored" all those goodies. Make 2015 the year to get organized!

Details to follow, but plan again for mid May.

Dodge Street Subway Update

Progress has continued on the restoration of the Dodge Street Subway which will include new LED lighting and a mural inside the tunnel. Design work on the mural started on January 20th by Dundee School students as part of a PTO afterschool enrichment class. The students are being led by future art teachers from UNO who are members of the National Art Education Association. They have generously volunteered their time to help with this project which is very much appreciated. They should have a completed design by the start of March.

Fundraising has gone extremely well as we are already near \$22,000. In December, the Sherwood Foundation made a very generous commitment of \$10,000 to the project which Dundee-Memorial Park Association is very appreciative. We will continue to seek additional grant funding as well as individual/business donations.

It is not too late for you to make a donation to the project. You can go online to www.dundee-memorialpark.org or mail a check made out to DMPA to Dave Schinzel, 319 South 50th Ave., Omaha, NE 68132. Donations of \$250 or more will be recognized on a bronze donor plaque at the subway.



Dundee-Memorial Park Association Wishes to Thank Those Who Have Donated to the Subway Project

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Among the hazards of winter, one you may not usually think about is carbon monoxide poisoning. But with your furnace or boiler working extra hours to keep your home

warm and the ill-advised practice of warming up your car in an attached garage, the dangers of CO poisoning increase exponentially. Because carbon monoxide gas is colorless and odorless, it is often called “the silent killer”.

According to Consumer Reports every year between about 500 people die from exposure to carbon monoxide. What isn't as well known is that carbon monoxide poisoning can also cause permanent injuries, damaging the brain, heart and other internal organs. Infants and older people are particularly susceptible to the effects of carbon monoxide. The EPA says carbon monoxide injuries are diagnosed in about ten thousand people a year. But with a few simple steps you can protect your family.

Start with MBWA—management by walking around, that is inspect your old house. Check any appliance that uses a flame, like the furnace, water heater or gas dryer. When the appliance is running the flame color should be blue. If the flame is orange, you have a problem that should be checked by a certified technician.

Old houses may also have old, worn out chimney pipes and vent hoods leading from your heating system and water heater. Exhaust gases contain sulfur which combines with water vapor to create a weak sulfuric acid. But even a weak acid can corrode exhaust pipes over time creating pinholes for CO to escape into your house, so start by inspecting the vent hoods and pipes. If they are suspect have them replaced.

How about your chimneys and flues? Are they obstructed? Birds like to build nests in chimneys and ivy can grow up to the tops of chimneys and restrict air flow. To make your inspection easier, go to an auto parts store

and pick up a mechanic's inspection mirror—a small mirror attached to a rod. You can poke this mirror through the flue damper opening to see up the chimney.

Be smart. Don't use any device that burns fuel like a space heater, generator, or camp stove inside your home without adequate ventilation. Because most of our old houses pre-date attached garages most of us avoid the potential hazard of CO generated by an idling automobile. But if you do have an attached garage, don't warm up the car in the garage even if the garage door is open.

Buy a carbon monoxide detector. Prices start at about thirty bucks and go up to about seventy-five, depending on the model and features. But no matter what you pay, a CO detector is cheap insurance. Consumer Reports suggests that you “check the package to make sure CO alarms meet UL Standard 2034. Also look up the date of manufacture on the back of the alarms. These devices lose their sensitivity over time, so the fresher, the better.” The National Safety Council and The Underwriters Laboratories recommend placing the detectors close to sleeping rooms but away from any device that burns fuel. In a multi-story house, one detector on each floor is a good idea. CO detectors, however, should be considered as a backup not as a substitute for proper home maintenance, so do that MBWA.

If your detector goes off treat the warning seriously. First check to see if any family members are experiencing CO poisoning symptoms like nausea, headache, confusion or dizziness. If they have symptoms, get them out of the house and to a hospital emergency room immediately. Ventilate the house with lots of fresh air and turn off all fuel burning appliances. Then have a qualified technician inspect your chimneys and fuel-burning appliances.

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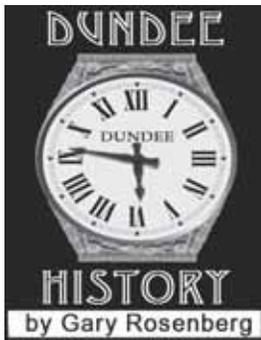
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Dundee Restaurants



The recent The opening of Dugger's Café brought to mind the many restaurants that have served the Dundee Memorial Park neighborhood.

Dugger's opened in late December and had its grand opening the week of January 12. It's owned by the same woman who helped run Dugger's near 84th and

Center for about 20 years. Jeanette Laitner, along with her son and daughter-in-law, Randy and Rhonda Dugger, serve some of the same foods as the original restaurant, such as hot roast beef sandwiches. Time—along with food and service—will tell as to the longevity of this Dugger's iteration, which is located at 4950 Dodge St.

Dundee, in its earliest days, seemed to be lacking any sort of eatery. The Happy Hollow Country Club may have been one of the few places to grab a bite, and then, of course, only for its privileged members. A 1920 Omaha World-Herald article lamented the lack of restaurants in both the Dundee and Kountze Park areas. New teachers were finding spots to live in the districts, the article noted, but homeowners were not interested in providing board as well as a room. Thus, the need for a decent restaurant.

By 1924, things had improved a bit, with the opening of the Dundee Coffee Shop at 50th and Dodge. Within a couple of years, the nearby Dundee Sweet Shop was serving hot and cold lunches, while the clubhouse at the Dundee Golf Course offered "splendid café service." The first official neighborhood restaurant appears to have been the Sunset Tea Room, which opened in the new Hillcrest Building at 49th and Dodge Streets in 1927. Contractors, along with nearby businesses, welcomed the restaurant with a full-page ad in the World-Herald. Greek immigrants Nicholas Petrow and Mitchell Giannou ran the restaurant for about 10 years, serving turkey, chicken and goose for Sunday dinners. They also served the after-theater crowd. After closing the Sunset, Petrow opened a drive-in. Petrow's son later opened Petrow's restaurant near 60th and Center that Grandson Nick Petrow now runs.

The Dundee Dell is certainly the oldest restaurant in the neighborhood and one of the oldest in the city. It even seems to predate the claimed "established 1934" on its sign. Owner William Herzoff sued the city to prevent the closing of grocery markets on Sundays in 1932. He was listed as the owner of the Dundee Delicatessen. Competition came in 1936, with the opening of the nearby Forty-Niner, which billed itself as "Omaha's most beautiful delicatessen and cocktail lounge." Brothers Max, Maurice, and Harry Cohen ran the Dell for about 20 years,

beginning in 1940. It featured live music and dancing. The fish and chips came after Neill Everitt bought the business in 1962. Long popular as a hangout for college students and professors, as well as neighborhood regulars, the Dell became perhaps even more favored when owner Pat Govel moved it from Dodge Street to Underwood Avenue in 2000. It now features Scotch and beer tastings, and the fish and chips are as popular as ever.

Trovato's operated for more than 50 years at 5013 Underwood Ave. In fact, from what I could tell, it was the first restaurant on Underwood. Italian immigrant John G. Trovato and his wife, Rena, opened it in 1956. Trovato moved his House of Bottles from downtown, and the restaurant and liquor store stood side-by-side for a time. Following the founder's retirement in 1980, the restaurant was operated by Bill Beeler. John Coolidge ran it for about 20 years after that. In its later years, the restaurant was as popular for its music scene as its Italian fare. It hosted South Dakota band Indigenous to many a sold-out crowd.

Another popular Dundee restaurant was the Hilltop House, on the southwest corner of 49th and Dodge. Owners Raymond and Mildred Matson served comfort food, such as creamed chicken on tea biscuits and chicken salad, to an appreciative crowd for about 40 years, beginning in 1941. In the early years—during World War II—they had to ration meat. In the '50s, the Matsons expanded the restaurant and added the Red Rooster lounge.

Dick Duda and Gene Dunn opened the Goldberg's Restaurant at 5008 Dodge in 1994. Goldberg's has built a steady clientele with its signature Bloody Mary and burgers. It may not be the first restaurant one associates with Dundee, but try finding a seat there at 6 o'clock on a Friday night, or a Thursday for that matter.

When Mark Pluhacek and Molly Romero opened Mark's Bistro in 2003, Dundee started to become a destination for fine dining. That reputation was only enhanced when Dario Schicke opened Dario's Brasserie in 2006. With the success of that restaurant, Dario opened Avoli Osteria, serving Northern Italian cuisine in the spot formerly occupied by Trovato's. Two other restaurants lasted only about two years there, but Avoli's seems to have captured commercial and critical success.

Dundee, within the last five years, has become somewhat of a foodie haven, with the opening of Pitch, Amsterdam Falafel, and the French Bulldog. There are a few restaurants that I didn't mention, and perhaps they will be the subject of a future column. If you have a memory of a favorite restaurant, let me know.



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Kids' Programs

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Toddler Storytime - Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

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Baby & Me Storytime - Fridays | 10:30 AM

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Fit Club - Saturday, February 7 | 2 PM

Have fun while working out! Play video games that will get your heart pumping.

Let's Go on an African Safari Storytime - Wednesday, February 11 | 10:30 AM

Come along children we're going to Africa. Listen to stories, sing silly songs about monkeys, crocodiles, and tigers O MY. We'll also dance to the music of the African drums. Using paper plates, construction paper, and glue we'll create an awesome lion mask to take home.

Lego Club - Wednesdays, February 11 & 25 | 4:30 PM

Use your imagination to build anything you want with Legos. Snack provided.

Valentine's Day Craft for Kids - Saturday, February 14 | 4 PM

Have fun creating a Valentine's Day Craft! Registration required.

Game Time: Kinect Rush - Thursday, February 26 | 2-4 PM

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Movie Day: The Boxtrolls - Friday, February 27 | 1 PM

Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie based on the book 'Here Be Monsters' by Alan Snow about a young orphan boy.

Teen Programs

Valentine's Day Craft for Teens - Saturday, February 14 | 2 PM

Have fun creating a Valentine's Day Craft! Registration required.

Gr. 6-12 Teen Lock-In - Friday, February 20 | 6-9 PM

Hang out with your friends at the Library while enjoying food and refreshments. Have fun playing Wii & Xbox 360 Kinect games.

Registration is required as well as a signed parental permission slip.

Teen Advisory Board - Saturday, February 21 | 2 PM

Enjoy snacks & refreshments while discussing issues and helping out at the Library!

Game Time - Saturday, February 28 | 2-4 PM

Have fun with your friends playing one of the Library's Wii or Xbox 360 Kinect games.

Adult Programs

Under the Dundee Sun Book Club - Tuesday, February 3 | 4:30 PM

Sorensen Readers Book Club - Saturday, February 7 | 1 PM

Where's the Money Going in My Small Business - Tuesday, February 10 | 12 PM

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Common Soil: Starting Your Seeds Indoors - Tuesday, February 10 | 6 PM

Learn how to germinate and grow seeds inside your home for springtime gardening planting. Registration required.

Technology Corner - Tuesdays, February 10 & 24 | 6:30 PM

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Plains Pages Book Club - Saturday, February 21 | 1 PM

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Dundee-Memorial Park Association Membership Form

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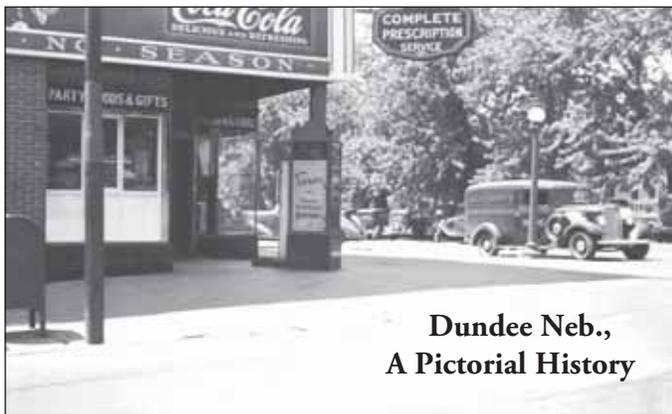
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