

Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

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

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Letter From the President

John Ashford Johnnyash5@gmail.com

DMPA Meeting

October 2nd Meeting Postponed

Next meeting will be announced as well as the speaker

Happy Fall



Hi Neighbor!

This the start of my 2nd and final year as your president. It was an eventful first year. We had city council battles, celebrations and continued our commitment to the neighborhood. We have partnered with the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance and Indian Creek Nursery to plant 14 new trees. This year focused on locations north of Dodge between Happy Hollow and 58th Street. We also planted a new Sugar Maple down by our new ballfield in Memorial Park. DMPA also receives grants and donations to maintain the Streetcar Memorial, renovated subway under Dodge Street with security cameras and lighting, flower baskets and countless civic projects in every corner of Dundee.

The board met for the first time since May and we continue to work hard at both all our usual events plus we have maintained our books and non profit status thanks to the tireless work of our treasurer Nancy Johnson! We are a small working board and I have been honored to be a part of it all! We will have a spring clean, spring garage sale weekend and we are beginning to raise money for next year's flower baskets. Please support our little organization by staying current on your \$12 per year dues and donate generously for our beloved flower baskets. It costs us around \$40,000 a year to keep this tradition alive and that doesn't include our truck maintenance and watering!

Oct 2nd in person meeting is postponed. I will update you in the next newsletter!

See you around the neighborhood!!

John Ashford, DMPA President

Dundee-Memorial Park Association Board of Directors Officers

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Sara Paesl, Secretary

Nancy Johnson, Treasurer

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Dundee Day Used Book Sale: Recap and Looking Ahead to 2024

by Mary Schleifer

Because of all of you who donated your books, volunteered, and shopped, the 2023 Dundee Day Used Book Sale raised \$1531 for the A.V. Sorensen Library! That brings our book sale grand total to over \$7000 raised for Sorensen over the years at Dundee Day. Thank you!

If you saw our booth this year or last year, I'm sure you noticed how huge the sale has become. Half of that grand total has been raised just this year and last. I didn't quite know what I was getting into when I volunteered to take over the sale last year! We had some large donations both years,



but at least half the books came from neighbors dropping off a bag or two here or a couple of boxes there. Thank you all! Start setting aside books to donate next year; I'll begin collecting again in the spring.

Although we sold thousands of books, we donated even more at the end of the sale. Three SUVs filled up the donation closet at the Swanson Library, a few other folks loaded up their cars to donate the books elsewhere, and I've been filling up little free libraries around town with another carload that we took home. We still have a couple boxes in the trunk of each of our cars, but at least we can see our basement floor again! And I want you all to know that even if your donated books didn't sell, they did get redonated in some fashion, most of them benefiting the library through the Swanson used book sale.

Which brings me to a few ideas for next year. First, I'd love to see even more books sold. We don't want to max out Swanson with our leftovers again next year! So I'm thinking about lowering the price to a flat \$1 per book (children's books would remain at a quarter) and adding a quantity discount: fill a bag or box for just \$10. I'd also love to see even more of the leftovers going to little free libraries or charities around town. If you know of a nonprofit or charity that could use some free books after next year's sale, put them in touch with me.

My next idea involves selling more books in advance of Dundee Day. About a third of our sales this year actually happened before Dundee Day from the two presales at my house as well as from my own family and friends. While we raised a lot of money this year, it was a bit less than last year. I think a lot of that had to do with fewer shoppers on the sweltering Saturday we ended up with. Next year, look for expanded presale shopping hours; I also plan to get those dates published here further in advance.

Finally, I realized again that I need more help to make this sale happen. A few tweaks from last year and more volunteers loading up their cars with books on Friday really helped me out, but I'm hoping to recruit even more help next year. Especially if you've benefited from the sale or need to get in some volunteer or community service hours, would you consider chipping in next year? I especially struggled with teardown this year. My husband drove me home and made me lie down on the couch with a glass of water and a fan blasting in my face. As a doctor, he wasn't about to let me succumb to heatstroke!

I'd also appreciate more help with marketing and getting the word out about the sale. I wrote articles here in the newsletter and posted on the neighborhood Facebook page a few times but really didn't have the margin (or inclination, honestly) for doing much else.

Just wanted to end with a shoutout to David Conway for the fun and helpful book category labels he created for the sale this year (quite an improvement over my old mailers and last-minute stickers last year!). He's already sent me a whole list of ideas for making the sale better next year. What about you? Any thoughts or suggestions? Email me your feedback at msiatros@gmail.com.

And my husband says that when you visit the used book sale booth at Dundee Day 2024, bring a wagon.







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Lights on Dundee

The Dundee Merchants Association invites you to an expanded Light's on Dundee event, Thurs. Nov. 30th 4pm-8pm. This free, family friendly event celebrates local, small businesses with a kick off to the holiday season!

This year new activities will stretch from Dundee merchants at 50th and Dodge to our traditional location at 50th and Underwood with free rides from Ollie the Trolley from Dundee Bank. There will also be a very special guest appearance by two of Santa's live reindeer at Dark Horse Salon & Spa! Families will enjoy pictures with and letters to Santa, holiday window displays, beautiful Christmas caroling by St. Cecilia's, Omaha Central, Marian, and Brownell Talbot, and of course, lots of fun Holiday Menu Specials for children and adults from the Dundee bars and restaurants!

Many businesses have teamed up with local charities to encourage giving back with special offers in exchange for your donations. Be sure to watch HistoricDundee's social media channels for details on how to support.

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram @historicdundee and visit our website at www.VisitDundeeOmaha.com. We will post detailed information for Lights on Dundee with each participating business.

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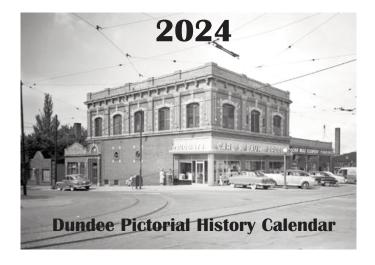
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Peter Manhart, 312 S 57th St,

Omaha, Ne, 68132

dundeememorialparkinfo@gmail.com



The DMPA's 2024 Dundee Pictorial History calendar features historic photos from the Durham Museum and short descriptions of each.

The calendar will be available for \$20. at the Lights on Dundee event, Dundee Bank, AB's, the Elmwood Pharmacy, Bookworm and Jackson Street Booksellers for \$20 plus tax. Online purchases will be available through the association website for \$20 plus \$5. postage.

www.dundee-memorialpark.org

Edgewood Neighborhood Centennial

By Jim McGee

Cindy Humphreys described the September 10th neighborhood celebration at the 57th and Jackson "T" intersection as "a joyful experience with past and present neighbors." It was billed simply as a "block party"; but it was a celebration of life in century old homes. Fifty homeowners living on 56th & Jackson and the 600 and 700 blocks of South 57th Street celebrated the 100th anniversary of the historic 1920s Edgewood Addition.

The Edgewood Addition is part of the Dundee- Happy Historic District which consists of all or part of the subdivisions known as Dundee Place, Happy Hollow, Evanston, Edgewood, Lockwood; and smaller subdivisions and replats. The original decorative street lights, ornamented with





well cared for and tended flower baskets give the neighborhood a distinct aesthetic quality that invokes a discernable sense community spirit, time and place.

The Edgewood kids operated a lemonade stand to wash down hot dogs with profits going to a shelter. Five of the century old homes were open to tour. Some hosts were attired in 1920s flapper garb. Those open to tour were the Humphreys home, 5628 Jackson, the Emmanuel home, 624 South 57th, the Gouttierre home, 614 South 57th, the Miller-Bartek home, 608 South 57th, and the Moody home, 510 South 57th.

A photo board display showed how the homes look much the same in 2023 after 100 years. Marbles, dominoes, jacks, and jump rope and 1920s games added to the 1920s atmosphere. A 1920s photo booth was set up. The neighbors shared photos of houses and children, history, food, and conversation. Rain dampened plans for a band and a Model-A car club display.

The centennial planning committee members were Tom & Marylu Gouttierre, Jim & Leslie Cavanaugh, and Cindy & Brooks Humphreys.

The Edgewood 100th anniversary successfully celebrated life in a 100-year-old neighborhood.

Halloween Safety Tips

Kids love the magic of Halloween, but costume and traffic safety are essential for trick-ortreaters. These tips can help make a safe and happy holiday for everyone.



To help ensure adults and children have a safe holiday, fda.gov has compiled a list of Halloween safety tips. Before Halloween arrives, be sure to choose a costume that won't cause safety hazards.

All costumes, wigs and accessories should be fire-resistant

If children are allowed out after dark, fasten reflective tape to their costumes and bags, or give them glow sticks Opt for nontoxic Halloween makeup over masks, which can obscure vision; always test makeup in a small area first to see if any irritation develops

Remove all makeup before children go to bed to prevent skin and eye irritation

When They're on the Prowl

Here's a scary statistic: Children are more than twice as likely to be hit by a car and killed on Halloween than on any other day of the year. Lack of visibility because of low lighting at night also plays a factor in these incidents.

Keep these tips in mind when your children are out on Halloween night:

A responsible adult should accompany young children on the neighborhood rounds

If your older children are going alone, plan and review a route acceptable to you

Agree on a specific time children should return home

Teach your children never to enter a stranger's home or car

Instruct children to travel only in familiar, well-lit areas and stick with their friends

Tell your children not to eat any treats until they return home, and take care to avoid any food allergies





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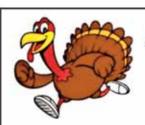
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Dundee Community Garden: Leave the Leaves

Happy October!

As we head into fall, we are clearing out our garden plots. Vegetable plots need to be cleared out every year to reduce the spread of pests and disease. But we like to leave the spent flower heads of sunflowers, coneflowers, and other perennials—they provide food and shelter over the winter. And the stems of flowers can provide shelter and nesting places for overwintering insects.

We encourage all our Dundee neighbors to "leave the leaves!" We would like to share with you this excerpt from a post from the nation's leading invertebrate conservation society, the Xerces Society, written by Scott Black, president (and also an Omaha native):

For many people fall cleanup means cutting all the seed heads and stems off the flowers and raking up all of the leaves. A tidy garden and yard are what many people strive to achieve. Everything clipped back, leaves raked and removed, messy piles of branches put in the green bin for pick up. This tidiness may look nice to us, but it is not good for all of the small creatures that live in and around your property...

Out of sight often means out of mind for people and fall is a time when you do not see the bees, butterflies, and other beneficial insects that were flitting around your flowers all summer. Where do these insects go when they are not visiting your garden? Some do migrate—like the monarch butterfly, flying south to overwinter in trees in Mexico or along the California coast—but the vast majority spend their entire life in and around your property. Many of our native solitary bees have laid eggs and provisioned nests in soil or in standing dead trees or hollowed out branches where the young are pupating. Bumble bee queens have found areas to overwinter under branches, in rock walls and in other relatively dry, snug places...

Many species rely on fallen leaves for cover and to insulate them from the elements. Depending on the species, butterflies and moths spend the winter as eggs, caterpillars, pupae, or adults.

My yard is a great example. If I had my way, it might look like the local natural area but there are many considerations, and we have been quite successful in providing for our needs and those of wildlife. We maintain enough lawn for the kids to play and where we can set up our trampoline. We also need to consider neighborhood association rules. In addition, my wife likes a little sense of tidiness.

We leave our wildflowers to go to seed for the birds—it was amazing and fun to watch how many birds fed on my sunflower seeds this year—and let our vegetable garden bolt to provide resources for pollinators. We also allow some messiness. When I finally trim back bushes, I pile the branches in out-of-the-way places where they can provide shelter for overwintering bumble bees or butterflies. An added benefit is that we have had spotted towhees nest in these same branch piles.

When the leaves fall we rake them but do not discard them. Instead, we pile them on our garden beds or in the corners of our yard where they might be used by the animals that need this shelter. In the spring, we either dig them into the garden beds or put them in the compost. I also often look at what is using these leaves. Spiders and pill bugs are common, as are predatory centipedes and beetles. Where the leaves are in contact with the soil, I often find great numbers of earthworms that help make better soil for my garden.

Scott Black, Xerces Society https://xerces.org/blog/leave-leaves-to-benefit-wildlife





Dundee Community Garden Sweet Potato Dig 2023











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Recent Midtown Homes Sold

Sold Price	Address	Br	В	G	Style	Sq
"\$220,000 "	802 N 49th Ave	4	2	1	2.5 Story	"1,788"
"\$240,000 "	5530 Leavenworth	3	2	0	1.5 Story	"1,846"
"\$250,000 "	310 S 50th Street	4	1	1	2.5 Story	"1,799"
"\$265,000 "	4906 Cuming St	3	2	2	2 Story	"1,812"
"\$265,000 "	7072 Izard St	4	3	2	R Ranch	"1,678"
"\$265,000 "	4616 Davenport S	t4	2	1	1.5 Story	"1,722"
"\$285,000 "	5003 Izard Street	3	2	2	2.5 Story	"2,199"
"\$399,000 "	4825 California St	3	4	2	2 Story	"2,588"
"\$400,000 "	313 S 52nd Street	3	2	2	2 Story	"2,245"
"\$415,000 "	1134 N 66 Street	2	3	2	2 Story	"1,916"
"\$425,000 "	310 S 53 Street	4	4	5	2.5 Story	"3,092"
"\$430,000 "	531 S 50th Ave	3	3	1	1.5 Story	"2,290"
"\$435,000 "	320 S 51st Street	3	3	1	2 Story	"2,261"
"\$435,000 "	5311 Howard St	4	3	1	2 Story	"2,415"
"\$465,000 "	1017 N 64th St	4	3	2	Multi-Lvl	"2,430"
"\$550,000 "	668 N 58 Street	3	2	1	2 Story	"2,247"
"\$570,000 "	683 Parkwood Ln	4	3	2	1.0 Story	"4,886"
"\$600,000 "	307 S HHBlvd	4	5	2	2 Story	"3,061"
"\$610,000 "	5116 Capitol	4	3	1	2.5 Story	"2,537"
"\$744,000 "	718 Hackberry Rd	4	6	2	1.0 Story	"3,523"
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