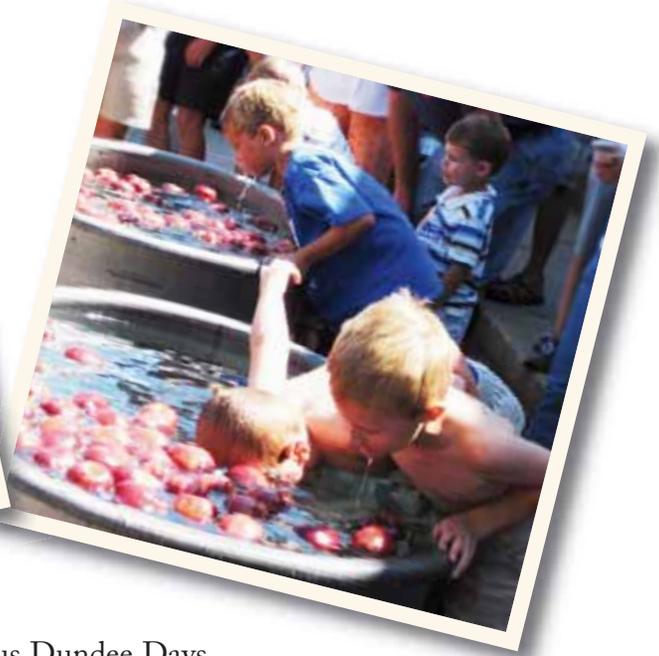


# Midtown Monitor

August 2014

## Dundee Day 2014- August 23rd

**A Day of Fun for Everyone!**



Photos from previous Dundee Days.



### Inside this issue:

- Summer Concert Schedule
- Dundee Day
- Gallery and Theater Events
- Things Burglars Won't Tell You
- Midtown Events and much more...

# Dundee Day 2014- August 23rd

## A Day of Fun for Everyone!

It will be hard to escape quirky events at this year's Dundee Day.

A full slate of activities is set for Dundee Day, which this year will be held on Saturday, August 23. Typical and not so typical street fair events will take place, along with live music, children's games, street vendors and plenty of other activities that will appeal to young and old, whether you live in Dundee or not.

"It gets bigger and better ever year," said Anne Cavanaugh, event chairman. For the first time, Underwood Avenue will be blocked off from 49th to 51st Streets. "It's been a pretty popular event years past," said Cavanaugh, a co-owner of The French Bulldog and Amsterdam Falafel & Kabob. "It's a great way to support the neighborhood, and it's fun for the whole family," she said.

The day gets underway with the Pancake Man, who will serve breakfast from 8 to 11 o'clock in the Avoli parking lot. Jim Kuper has been flinging pancakes—sometimes up to 30 feet—for nearly 30 years. He's back at Dundee Day with his signature cakes and sausage.

Next up at 8:30 is a 5K run. Sponsored by Omaha Healthy Kids Alliance, the "Rundee Fun Run" course goes from 51st and Underwood to Memorial Park and back. You won't get the usual T-shirt if you sign up for the race. Instead, participants will receive a pair of "Rundee Undee" boxers. The race includes some obstacle course activities at Memorial Park.

The Dundee Day Parade starts at 10:30 at Memorial Park. School groups from Dundee and Harrison Elementary schools will march along the parade route, along with the Central High School band and pom squad. Girl Scout and Boy Scout troops will be on hand, along with the Omaha Fencing Club, Omaha Ballet, and, since its election year, plenty of politicians, who will sling candy and troll for votes. There's bound to be one or two oddball groups, like the Lafayette Avenue Lawn Chair Brigade.

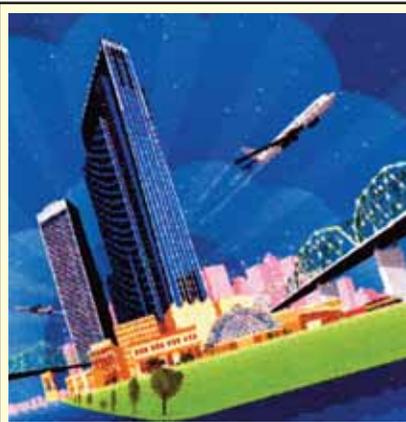
Dundee Bank will again sponsor the Street Olympics from 11 to noon. Olympic events include the hay treasure hunt, apple bobbing and an apple pie-eating contest. Lots of giveaways and prizes will go to the 4-to-12-year-old participants.

The bank then brings family comedian and magician Joe Cole to the main stage for an hour-long presentation. There will be other fun opportunities for kids, such as a bounce house and slide.

At least 25 vendors will line the street, selling their wares or promoting various causes. Second Helping Boutique specializes in repurposed items, whimsical art, and rustic treasures. Jock & Jill Popcorn has lots of fun flavors of popcorn, including a s'mores type. Goodlife Clothing will be selling mostly promotional items, like Cornhusker T-shirts. If you bring your pooch to Dundee Days, stop by The Green Spot, which will serve gourmet treats for dogs from its food truck. Several merchants on Underwood will have sidewalk sales. Denim Saloon will have its biggest sale of the year. The Dundee Gallery will be selling some items on the sidewalk, as will Great Harvest Bread. Most of the restaurants will serve something special in addition to their usual menus. The beer tent will be set up in its usual place near the Dundee Dell and French Bulldog. After 4 p.m., when the bands start playing, only the block between 50th and 51st will be closed to traffic.

Music will be provided by at least four bands, including the headlining Rhythm Collective, a popular reggae band. Also performing will be Noah's Ark Was a Spaceship, an Indie rock power trio that counts Sonic Youth among its influences; Clarence Tilton, a five-piece country rock band; and Little Joe, aka Joseph McCarthy, who will play an acoustic set of bluesy rock.

Gary Rosenberg



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# FOXTAIL GRASS: DANGER TO DOGS

There are several varieties of foxtail, some are more dangerous than others. These grasses have seed awns that are extremely dangerous to dogs. Foxtail awns are barbed, razor-sharp needles, designed to burrow into the ground with the seed.

The sharp needles on the seed heads of the foxtail plant can also work their way into any part of your dog, from the nose to between the toes and inside the ears, eyes, and mouth. They can even simply dig themselves directly into a patch of skin.

At this time of year, foxtails have green, lush heads that resemble a finer version of wheat or barley. But the moment the plants start to dry in the summer the heads start to fall apart, and each barbed seed becomes a danger to any dog who goes near it. And because the seeds don't break down inside a dog's body, they can cause significant damage.



## Symptoms Foxtails can Cause:

According to WebMD.com, "Embedded foxtails can cause discharge, abscesses, swelling, pain, and death." Dogs with an infected grass awn penetration will show signs typical of an infection: lethargy, loss of appetite, painful swellings, or signs of drainage.

## If your dog is displaying any of the following symptoms, check for foxtails or talk to your vet:

Foxtails often lodge in dogs' feet and can easily become embedded between their toes. Check for foxtails if you notice swelling or limping or if your dog is constantly licking the area.

If your dog is shaking his head, tilting it to the side, or scratching incessantly at an ear, it could be the sign of a foxtail that may be so deep inside the ear canal you can't see it. Your veterinarian needs to take a look in the ear using a special scope.

Redness, discharge, swelling, squinting, and pawing could be signs your dog has a foxtail lodged in its eye. If you think this may be the case, seek veterinary care immediately.

If you see discharge from the nose, or if your dog is sneezing frequently and intensely, a foxtail could be lodged in a nasal passage.

If you notice your dog persistently licking at its genitals, foxtails could be the cause. Foxtails can also lodge under a dog's skin, which causes visible swelling and/or pus discharge.

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or

**402-551-6787**

**Gary Rosenberg**

Distribution Manager

Community Affairs

The Midtown Monitor is published monthly by Shurson Publishing. Direct all advertising inquiries to Ellen Shurson, Publisher at 402-714-1016.

The Midtown Monitor is distributed with the Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter, AEPNA and select midtown businesses, online and through email subscriptions.

Send all articles for submission and press releases to (Preferred) e-mail to [ellenshurson@gmail.com](mailto:ellenshurson@gmail.com) or mail Shurson Publishing, 131 N. 31 Ave, Omaha, NE 68131, to arrive by the 1st of the month preceding publication. Please send articles as Word documents with photo as separate TIFF or JPEG attachments. Content may be edited for clarity and space considerations. No warranties of the products or services printed herein are expressed or implied by Shurson Publishing. Shurson Publishing reserves the right to reject unsuitable advertising or articles.

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# Summer Concerts in Midtown



Midtown Crossing unveils Jam-packed Summer Concert Lineup as part of their highly anticipated Thursdays in the Park series

No matter the concert, attendance is free. Shows will be held on consecutive Thursday evenings (June 12 - September 25) with performers making use of the iconic, new Pavilion in Turner Park.

Thursdays in the Park: Summer Kickoff Concert Series

## Thursdays in the Park: Jazz on the Green

Presented by Omaha Performing Arts

A treasured Omaha tradition, Jazz on the Green will run six consecutive Thursdays, from July 10 to August 14. The free concerts will begin at 7:30 p.m. The venue, Turner Park, opens at 5 p.m. for all shows.

**August 7: Sing, Sing, Swing Orchestra** (Free swing dance lessons will begin at 6:45 p.m.)

**August 14: Dirty Dozen Brass Band**

Thursdays in the Park: End of Summer Concert Series  
Presented by the University of Nebraska at Omaha

Midtown Crossing's popular End of Summer Concert Series, presented by the University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO), will showcase a range of musical stylings – from opera to country – on six consecutive Thursday evenings.

This Series launches on August 21 with audience favorite Billy McGuigan and his high-powered tribute to some of rock's greatest legends.

The remainder of the lineup features:

- August 28: Josh Gracin
- September 4: Opera Omaha
- September 11: Walker McGuire
- September 18: The 402
- September 25: The Sugar Thieves

All End of Summer Series performances are free to the public with the venue opening at 5 p.m. Musicians and performers from UNO will serve as the opening act each night beginning at 6:30 p.m. with the headliner taking the stage around 7 p.m. Midtown Crossing offers three hours of free garage parking (\$1 for each hour thereafter for a maximum fee of \$6). On-street parking is free after 5 p.m.



## AUGUST

2 Omaha Crush – Wine Festival 1pm – 5pm

2 The 402 Concert 7pm – 10pm

9 John Doe Concert 7pm – 10pm

16 MAHA Music Festival 12pm – 12am

23 The Continentals 7pm – 10pm

30 Taxi Driver Concert 7pm – 10pm

## SEPTEMBER

6 Fishheads Concert – Close of Series 7– 10pm

27-28 ARTsarben Art Festival 10am – 5pm

Full Schedules listed on  
[www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)

## Farmers Markets

### Omaha Farmers Market - Aksarben Village

67th & Center St. 402.345.5401

Sunday 9am–1pm May 5–October 20

### Benson Military Ave. at Maple St.

402.571.1785

Saturday 8am–1pm

May 4–September 28



### Gifford Park Neighborhood 33rd & California St.

402.558.4070

Friday 4pm–8pm May 23rd–September 26

### Omaha Farmers Market - Old Market

11th & Jackson St.

402.345.5401

Saturday 8am–12:30pm May 4–October 19

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# “Duct, Duct Lose”

By David Holtzclaw of Transduction Technologies

Most midtown homes have forced air heating and cooling (i.e. air conditioning, AC) systems. This means that air is “forced” (i.e. blown by a fan called an air handler) through ducts or other conduit (even empty wall cavities in many midtown homes) from the furnace or AC coil to the rest of the house. Equally important are return ducts, or duct that carries air, forced by pressure gradients, back to the furnace or AC coil to be heated or cooled again. The ducts, termed ductwork, can be the source of significant energy loss. Gaps, holes, poor connections, can lead to conditioned air (air that is either heated in the winter or cooled in the summer) being loss in the basement, walls, or attic space and not making it to its designed location. This leads to hot/cold rooms, room-to-room pressure imbalances, and even poor indoor air quality.

If you suspect you ducts are leaky, the first step is to have the duct leakage measured. All energy evaluators and most HVAC contractors can perform this task. The ducts are pressurized to 25 Pascals and the air leakage is quantitatively measured in cubic feet per minute (CFM). More importantly, the energy evaluator can determine approximately where the ducts are leaky most and if it’s economical to repair.

The first step to sealing ductwork is to ensure that each seam accessible is mechanically secured together by at least 3, #8 sheet-metal screws for metal ducts or compression straps for flex ducts. Then, liberally apply a product called mastic at every seam and edge. Mastic is a gooey, non-hardening material with a consistency between mayonnaise and smooth peanut butter. Apply mastic with a paint brush, putty knife or even with your gloved finger. Gaps in ductwork or plenums that are over 1/8 inch wide can be sealed with mastic as long as the gap is first reinforced with fiberglass mesh tape. If you're using mastic to seal seams in fiberglass board ductwork, use fiberglass mesh tape for all joints. Mastic, available at most hardware stores, is nontoxic, but messy, so wear old clothes and proper protective clothing, and don't use it on the furnace or air handler.

However, if most of your duct leakage occurs behind walls and other inaccessible location, the next approach is to use a new product called aroeseal. Aroeseal is a new, patented technology where sticky vinyl polymer particles are blown through the duct system and the polymer particles stick to the edge of a duct opening or leak, then to each other as the hole or gap is filled. This technique has been confirmed by several independent studies (visit our website at [www.transductiontechnologies.com](http://www.transductiontechnologies.com) for copies of these studies) to seal better than 50% compared to other techniques. However, the price is approximately \$1200-\$2000 for your average sized midtown home.



## Attention

**Midtown Business Owners**

**You're invited to the**

**Midtown Business Association Meeting**

**Speaker: TBA**

The next MBA meeting will be Sept 24th, 2014  
Noon, UNMC private dining room, just \$10. for lunch.  
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E-mail [contact@midtownbusinessassociation.org](mailto:contact@midtownbusinessassociation.org)  
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# Midtown Galleries & Theaters

## Modern Artists Midtown (MAM)

3615 Dodge St. 402-520-8737

[www.modernartsmidtown.com](http://www.modernartsmidtown.com)

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Saturday, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m.

August 1 to 30

Jamie Burmeister

Mechanical deices by Burmeister set in motion art that is interactive, witty, and engaging.

Opening reception August 1, 6 to 8 p.m. Artist talk at 6:30.

Also featuring works by Scott Blake, Paul Chelstad, Troy Muller, Lynn Piper, Ben Pratt, Iggy Summik, and Jordan Weber.

## Cathedral Arts Project, Sunderland Gallery

3900 Webster St. 402-551-4888

[www.cathedralartsproject.org](http://www.cathedralartsproject.org)

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Friday, 11 a.m. to 4 p.m.,

Saturday, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m, third Sunday of each month

Through August 31

A Life of Art: Brother Mel Meyer, SM (1928-2013)



## Connect Gallery

3901 Leavenworth St. 402-991-8234

[www.connectgallery.net](http://www.connectgallery.net)

Gallery hours: Wednesday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 5 p.m.

August 6 to 31

Emerging Artist — Courtney Porto

Artist Reception: Friday, August 15, 5 to 9 p.m.

## Dundee Gallery

4916 Underwood Ave., Lower Level 402-505-8333

[dundeegallery.com](http://dundeegallery.com)

Gallery hours: Tuesday to Thursday 11 a.m. to 7 p.m.,

Friday to Saturday 11 a.m. to 9 p.m., Sunday 12 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Dundee Gallery is offering 25% off all jewelry during this event, which features the handcrafted jewelry by several artists.

## Omaha Community Playhouse

6915 Cass St.

402-553-0800

[www.omahaplayhouse.com](http://www.omahaplayhouse.com)

New season begins August 15 in the Howard Drew Theatre.

Enron — August 15 to September 14

A satire by Lucy Prebble that exposes the corruption and deceit of a company whose predecessor called Omaha home.



## Shelterbelt Theatre

3225 California St.

402-341-2757

[www.shelterbelt.org](http://www.shelterbelt.org)

No productions scheduled until January.

## SNAP Productions

3225 California St.

402-341-2757

[www.snapproductions.com](http://www.snapproductions.com)

We Are Proud to Present a Presentation About the Herero of Namibia, Formerly Known as South West Africa, From the German Sudwestafrika, Between the Years 1884-1915

August 21 to September 14

This play by Jackie Sibblies Drury shows what unfolds when a group of actors gather to give a presentation on a distant genocide, then realize that summaries are not enough. In their attempt to delve into history they struggle with stereotype, fear, and their own personal histories—uncovering the potential for brutality in all of us.

## Blue Barn Theatre

614 S. 11th St.

402-345-1576

[www.bluebarn.org](http://www.bluebarn.org)

No productions scheduled for the summer.

**View Updates and Other  
Community Affairs /Calendar Listings  
Online at [www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)**

## 13 THINGS YOUR BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU:

1. Of course I look familiar. I was here just last week cleaning your carpets, painting your shutters, or delivering your new refrigerator.

2. Hey, thanks for letting me use the bathroom when I was working in your yard last week. While I was in there, I unlatched the back window to make my return a little easier.

3. Love those flowers. That tells me you have taste ... and taste means there are nice things inside. Those yard toys your kids leave out always make me wonder what type of gaming system they have.

4. Yes, I really do look for newspapers piled up on the driveway. And I might leave a pizza flyer in your front door to see how long it takes you to remove it.

5. If it snows while you're out of town, get a neighbor to create car and foot tracks into the house. Virgin drifts in the driveway are a dead giveaway.

6. If decorative glass is part of your front entrance, don't let your alarm company install the control pad where I can see if it's set. That makes it too easy.

7. A good security company alarms the window over the sink. And the windows on the second floor,

which often access the master bedroom-and your jewelry. It's not a bad idea to put motion detectors up there too.

8. It's raining, you're fumbling with your umbrella, and you forget to lock your door-understandable. But understand this: I don't take a day off because of bad weather.

9. I always knock first. If you answer, I'll ask for directions somewhere or offer to clean your gutters. (Don't take me up on it.)

10. Do you really think I won't look in your sock drawer? I always check dresser drawers, the bedside table, and the medicine cabinet.

11. Helpful hint: I almost never go into kids' rooms.

12. You're right: I won't have enough time to break into that safe where you keep your valuables. But if it's not bolted down, I'll take it with me.

13. A loud TV or radio can be a better deterrent than the best alarm system. If you're reluctant to leave your TV on while you're out of town, you can buy a \$35 device that works on a timer and simulates the flickering glow of a real television. (Find it at [faketv.com](http://faketv.com).)

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## 8 MORE THINGS A BURGLAR WON'T TELL YOU

1. Sometimes, I carry a clipboard. Sometimes, I dress like a lawn guy and carry a rake. I do my best to never, ever look like a crook.

2. The two things I hate most: loud dogs and nosy neighbors.

3. I'll break a window to get in, even if it makes a little noise. If your neighbor hears one loud sound, he'll stop what he's doing and wait to hear it again. If he doesn't hear it again, he'll just go back to what he was doing. It's human nature.

4. I'm not complaining, but why would you pay all that money for a fancy alarm system and leave your house without setting it?

5. I love looking in your windows. I'm looking for signs that you're home, and for flat screen TVs or gaming systems I'd like. I'll drive or walk through your neighborhood at night, before you close the blinds, just to pick my targets.

6. Avoid announcing your vacation on your Facebook page. It's easier than you think to look up your address.

7. To you, leaving that window open just a crack during the day is a way to let in a little fresh air. To me, it's an invitation.

8. If you don't answer when I knock, I try the door. Occasionally, I hit the jackpot and walk right in.

Sources: Convicted burglars in North Carolina, Oregon, California, and Kentucky; security consultant Chris McGoey, who runs [crimedoctor.com](http://crimedoctor.com); and Richard T. Wright, a criminology professor at the University of Missouri-St. Louis, who interviewed 105 burglars for his book *Burglars on the Job*.

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Our Evergreen thrift shop (located on the church's north side) is a browser's paradise, filled with household needs, clothing, antiques and collectibles, furniture, books, jewelry and more, all at amazingly low prices. Profits go into our community service programs, right here in Midtown.

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UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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FirstCentral.org

These Open Forums are free and open to the public, and will be held at **First Central Congregational Church, United Church of Christ**, located in midtown at the corner of 36th and Harney Streets, at 9:10 a.m. on the dates noted. For more information, call 402-345-1533.

August 3 – 31 Embracing the Prophets, with Walter Brueggemann (video series)

Deb Kirwan, member of First Central and facilitator of a discussion.

“Walter Brueggemann, arguably America’s leading Old Testament scholar and theologian, takes us on a wild ride through the poetic prophecy of the Hebrew Scripture, identifying cultural contexts, putting a framework to Israel’s history, and, most significantly—and at times challengingly!—drawing connections between Israel’s sociological, economic and spiritual status and that of America today.”

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Please try to send **at least one month in advance** of event whenever possible.

**Check our website for even more midtown events [www.midtownmonitor.com](http://www.midtownmonitor.com)**

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## Do You Have a Great Photo of Midtown?

Submit your photo possible for publication in the Midtown Monitor and/or online. Of particular interest would be great, high resolution, colorful photos for the front cover. Could be just about anything that relates to Midtown. A great scene, historic house, garden, fun event.

Send only your two favorite photos for submission to [midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com](mailto:midtownmonitor.omaha@gmail.com) (do not send whole collections, thumbnails etc.) Send along a detailed caption and statement that all permissions were obtained for photos of people, especially children.

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## Recent Midtown Homes Sold

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\$116,000	626 S 68 Street	3	1	1	Ranch	1,404
\$120,000	6502 Lafayette	2	2	2	R Ranch	1,360
\$120,000	5511 Poppleton	3	2	1	R Ranch	1,413
\$125,000	1004 N 69 St	3	2	1	Ranch	1,733
\$128,000	5824 Walnut St	2	1	1	R Ranch	1,195
\$130,000	502 S 70 Street	3	3	1	Tri-Level	1,796
\$130,000	1320 S 55 Street	3	2	2	1.5 Story	1,199
\$135,000	1302 S 51 Avenue	2	1	1	Ranch	1,314
\$135,000	2846 S 34th Street	3	3	2	2 Story	1,578
\$135,000	5521 Pierce Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,615
\$145,000	5410 Pine Street	2	2	2	Ranch	1,725
\$155,000	307 S 50 Avenue	3	2	1	2.5 Story	1,813
\$160,000	1507 N 54 Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,408
\$162,500	4808 Hickory	4	3	1	1.5 Story	2,111
\$164,000	5208 Western Ave	3	2	1	2 Story	1,557
\$175,000	5003 Western Ave	3	2	2	2 Story	1,408
\$184,950	124 S 69 Street	3	3	2	2 Story	2,324
\$186,000	6223 William St	3	3	3	1.5 Story	2,062
\$187,000	1915 N 50 Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	1,952
\$195,000	5839 William St	3	3	1	1.5 Story	1,996
\$202,500	5848 William St	3	2	2	2 Story	1,723
\$207,000	6456 Cuming St	3	4	2	Ranch	2,956
\$226,000	1402 S 63 Street	3	2	1	1.5 Story	2,444
\$227,000	5001 Cass Street	3	3	2	2 Story	2,297
\$228,000	5612 Harney Sr	3	2	1	2 Story	1,824
\$229,000	5704 Harney St	3	2	1	2 Story	2,430
\$335,000	6488 Cuming St	4	3	2	Ranch	2,993
\$340,000	835 Parkwood Ln	4	3	2	Ranch	2,877
\$340,000	5206 Underwood	3	3	2	2.5 Story	2,550
\$351,000	115 S 52 Street	5	5	2	2.5 Story	3,040
\$375,000	5204 Cass St	5	3	2	2.5 Story	3,474
\$400,000	5203 Cass Street	3	3	2	2.5 Story	2,703
\$425,000	6459 Cuming	4	4	2	2 Story	2,880
\$464,000	5113 Cass St.	4	4	2	2.5 Story	3,054
\$530,000	652 N 58 Street	4	5	2	2.5 Story	4,194
\$600,000	113 N 54 Street	5	5	2	2.5 Story	4,134
\$650,000	652 N 59 Street	4	6	2	2.5 Story	3,241
\$700,000	5302 IZard Street	4	6	2	2story	3,596

Our thanks to Raquel Ahlvers, The Ahlvers Group, CBSHOME Real Estate for providing this information.

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Photo by Robert Klien Engler of a great midtown house in the 38th and Dewey area.