

# DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



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## DMPA Meeting

Next DMPA Meeting  
Sept 8th

Ted Stillwell, CEO of the Learning  
Community.

### 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.



New entrance to Community Garden

# Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

*"Dedicated to Preserving the Community"*  
[www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org)

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## Letter From the President

Adam Langdon

402-290-8084 [aalangdon@cox.net](mailto:aalangdon@cox.net)

September and October are two of the most beautiful months of the year in Nebraska. The weather cools down to near perfect temps. Neighbor Bill Randby would say – top 10 days are here! Speaking of "Innovation"

Have you ever wondered "what if?" about our neighborhood? What if our neighborhood had a ...? What if our neighborhood was more (or less)? What if we could...?

The other day while I was running, I deployed about \$100 million in capital to some neighborhood improvements. With just a little help from Mr. Buffett, I could really improve his property value.

For starters, I have been thinking about how to get a tennis court or two into the neighborhood. Aren't there any tennis players amongst us? It costs about \$35,000 to build one basic court. There are certified builders in Omaha. Maintenance is minimal. The City of Omaha would certainly support us. Where could we put one? At one of the parks? Team up with Brownell Talbot or Dundee Presbyterian? It would be great to be able to walk down the street after work to play a game or two. We've got a golf course, swimming pools, and running trails! Why not a tennis court?

Molly Romero (Past President, DMPA & owner Mark's Bistro) tuned me in to the idea of Memorial Park being a "city park" much like Central Park in New York. From Molly, "About my Memorial Park vision – thinking about what makes Central Park in NYC so comfortable and how we can use some of those design principles to have not just open greens space, but sort of rooms, strolling places with benches, greater variety of vegetation, shrubs, etc. I guess making parts of the park places to be (sitting and enjoying a view or conversation), not just places to do (like the ball field, play, open grass frisbee or dog park). Sitting need not always be on benches, boulders are great for that, too."

Craig Moody has been spearheading an effort to paint an intersection. From Craig: "In a nutshell, we are painting a mural on the street at the intersection of 57th & Jackson. We're very early in the planning stages but hope to hold a brainstorming session this fall, secure an artist to oversee the creative process, secure funding to pay for materials and a stipend to the artist, and then have a painting party, likely in the spring." I love it. Benefits are: beauty, traffic calming, and community engagement. Could we get the street painted at 50th and Underwood? What would be the best design?

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# President's Message

Continued from front page.

Dave Schinzel is working to renovate the Dodge Street underpass (subway). Not really a dream at all – but soon to be a reality. The Dodge St. subway was built by the WPA in the 1930s. It is the National Register of Historic Places and is the last underpass in Omaha. It's how kids get to Dundee School from the south side of Dodge Street. Dave is busy writing grants and looking for support for this project. Please let him know if you can help. Dave can be reached at [drschinzel@hotmail.com](mailto:drschinzel@hotmail.com).

I talked to a neighbor recently about a dog park for the neighborhood. We have lots of green space already for walking dogs – but I think the idea was really for a fenced in area to let your dog run. Or was this a plan for meeting singles?

I'm inviting you to send me your thoughts and dreams. What would you do? Email me at: [aalangdon@cox.net](mailto:aalangdon@cox.net). I'm curious. I'll even print the best ideas (that are printable!) in the next newsletter.

## Monthly Meetings

Come join us at our Monthly meetings – the second Monday of each month at Dundee Presbyterian Church. Our first monthly neighborhood meeting of the fall is on Monday September 8 at 7pm. Meetings are in the lower level dining room – so, yes, we have snacks! The first ½ hour is social time – talk with neighbors, friends, board members, etc. Neighborhood business and the program start at 7:30 pm. We wrap up before 8:30.

Take a walk, ride your bike, bring the family – and come up on the 8th, we are hosting Ted Stillwell, CEO of the Learning Community. The core of the Learning Community's mission is to improve educational outcomes of children in poverty. The LC gets plenty of press about the taxation issues around how they fund their efforts: ie, taxdollars are sent to areas of higher need in our community. I for one will be interested to hear from Ted about early childhood development. OPS board member Marian Fey and I have had

some nice discussion around the pros and cons of what our community is doing and weather the research & outcomes support the investment. My mother Cyndi is a retired educator with 3 degrees and a doctorate from UNL. She believes strongly in continuing the investment for early childhood development. Come and hear what Ted has to say.

Website Upgrade and Launch – [www.dundee-memorial-park.org](http://www.dundee-memorial-park.org)

Our new web page is up and running – and we continue to gather and update content. Check it out on your phone or PDA. Save it as a favorite! Share it with friends and family – especially people who need to join and sign up as members! We have links to all the important neighborhood “stuff” you need – including our businesses and their webpages. If you have comments, concerns, or questions, please reach out to our board web chair, Sara Nelson at [sara-jeannelson@gmail.com](mailto:sara-jeannelson@gmail.com).

## September 11

Thursday, September 11, the entire City of Omaha will be respecting a moment of silence to honor and to pay respect to the people impacted on September 11, 2001. The official time that the city of Omaha will pay our respects is at 9:11 am and will last for one minute. The First Responders Foundation of Omaha, led by Executive Director and President Ray Somberg, has put this together with the city. Thanks Ray.

Summer is winding down. Our kids have been back at school for a while. Labor Day has come and gone. Fall will be here soon. It's all good – enjoy the season. Let yourself go – dream a little about the potential of our community. Heike and I love a good walk in the neighborhood as the weather cools down. See you around the neighborhood. Be sure to say “hello”!



## DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

Sept 8th  
October 13th  
November 10th

To reserve barricades for your block party,  
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[Breed@unomaha.edu](mailto:Breed@unomaha.edu)



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## Flower Baskets Coming Down in October

Our volunteer basket take down crew will be taking the flower baskets down either the weekend of October 4th or 11th. Those volunteers request that if neighbors wish to take down their own basket down, please do so just a couple days before then. The crew would appreciate it and neighbors may enjoy the basket a little longer that way. If a basket is not taken down, the crew will be happy to take the basket down as normal.



Please do not remove the brackets. Leave the brackets on the poles. Please be careful removing the baskets as they can become very heavy and they are at a height needing a ladder at an awkward angle sometimes.

## Elmwood Park Project



The final scheduled date work days in the park is Sept. 13. Once again we will be concentrating on the grotto and its surrounding areas. With the help of the equipment truck tools we will be able to trim, rake, dig weeds and other general maintenance tasks. Our meeting time is 9:00 -11:00 a.m. in the grotto parking lot. All you need to bring is your gloves and favorite trimmer and we will provide the tasks.

All volunteers are welcome. If you have youngsters who would like to help, we would like them to be accompanied by an adult..

Put the work dates on your calendar and join us for a “give back to your park” day. Questions: marty myers (402) 556-2513

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## Newsletter Deadline

The 15th of the preceding month  
for all advertising and article submissions.

# DCG Five-Year Anniversary: Birthday Party and Live Music Sept. 7, 3 p.m.

Join the Dundee Community Garden for our five-year anniversary celebration! We have a lot to celebrate, including our new entranceway, designed by sculptor Dan Newberry and Greensleeves Landscaping, and our new compost bins, built by the scouts from Boy Scout Troop 42 for Jack McCullough's Eagle Project.

We're having a birthday party on Sunday Sept. 7, 3-4 p.m. at the Dundee Community Garden. We'll have a ribbon cutting and remarks from city council president Pete Festersen and DMPA President Adam Langdon at 3:15, and then cut into our carrot cake. And we'll have live music from the "Burt Street Individuals" to make it a real party!

We'll also have garden tours so you can see our solar tool shed, fruit tree/strawberry patch/ native NE wild-flower area, compost bin system (we have a great design borrowed from the Gifford Park Community Garden), and more.

Please come enjoy a piece of carrot cake and join the celebration! We hope to see you there!



Beautiful new entrance to Dundee Community



Hard at work building the compost bin.

Completed bin.



As a kid you probably loved winter. Sledding, ice skating and no-school snow days were reasons to look forward to winter. But now it's scooping snow, mornings of ice cold cars and, if you

own an old house the paranoia of frozen pipes. While I can't bring back the winter of your childhood, or eliminate snow on your driveway (and no I'm not going to come to your house to warm up your car), I can help you prevent frozen pipes.

Most old houses have outside water faucets that will freeze up if you don't turn off an inside valve. But what if you forget? Well, then you may have a burst pipe. (Maybe you dream of an indoor pool, but probably not this way.)

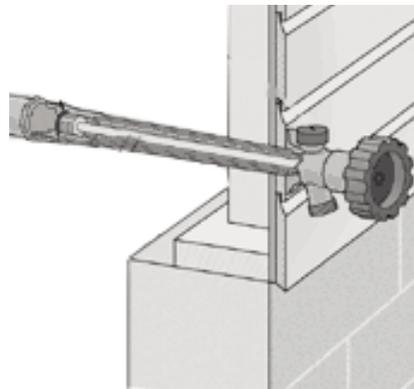
Luckily, converting your old faucet into a freeze-proof faucet isn't too difficult and now's a good time to do it while the weather is still comfortable. A freeze-proof faucet has a stem that is 6 inches to 30 inches long compared with a standard faucet with a stem that is only an inch or two long. The longer stem of the freeze-proof faucet extends inside the house so it's protected from freezing temperatures.

If you're not comfortable with plumbing and soldering pipes, you may want to call a plumber. A plumber can do this job for a reasonable price and certainly it will be cheaper than repairing a flooded basement. If you're okay with light plumbing chores, read on.

First turn off the water and open the existing outside faucet to drain all the water you can out of the pipe. Cut the pipe leading to the faucet inside the house and remove the old faucet from the outside. Measure the new faucet and cut the supply pipe to correct length to fit the new faucet in place.

If you have galvanized pipe (it's silver colored) you'll need to install a dielectric fitting between the new faucet and the old pipe. You should never attach copper pipes directly to galvanized pipe because the contact between the two metals will create a micro electrical charge which will greatly accelerate corrosion and eventually block the flow of water. For galvanized pipe you may have to work your way back down the pipe to find a union, a tee or elbow fitting to attach the correct length of new threaded pipe to mate with your freeze-proof fitting.

If you have copper pipes cut the pipe to the correct length with a tubing cutter and "sweat" on the new faucet. Clean the pipe end and the inside end of the new faucet with a sandpaper. Apply solder flux paste with a rag to the end of the pipe and press the fittings together. With a propane torch in one hand and a length of solder in the other hand, heat up the joint. (Be very careful to make sure the flame is not anywhere near combustible material like wood joists or plaster lath. And open the valve on the outside to relieve the heat and pressure so they don't destroy the valve washers.) When the joint is hot enough for the solder to melt by touching it against the joint (not the flame) apply the solder so it is drawn up into the joint.



Freeze-proof Faucet  
Courtesy: homestore.com

Let the joint cool. Turn on the water and check for leaks. Squeeze a bead of silicone caulk around the valve flange on the outside and attach it to the outside wall of the house with a couple of screws. Remember, though, to keep the valve from freezing you have to disconnect the garden hose.

Now, you can take your kids sledding or ice skating and have one less thing to worry about this winter.

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## DMPA to Plant New Trees Again This Fall

DMPA will once again be participating in the Re-Tree Midtown project of the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance this fall. The Nebraska Statewide Arboretum will be providing grant funding for the plantings through its Trees for Nebraska Towns Program. This year's plantings will take place on California Street, Chicago Street and Cass Street between 48th Street and 50th Street. We hope to plant 44 new trees in late September or early October once the weather cools. If you are a property owner on any of these streets and you received a permission form and have not yet returned it, please be sure to get that form back as soon as possible. Again this year, DMPA will be partnering with Indian Creek Nursery to get these trees planted.

## Garbage Ordinance

Trash cans are only be allowed to be at the curb from 5:00 pm the day before collection until 7:00 pm the day of collection. There is an exception if garbage collection is delayed. Trash containers will no longer be permitted at the curb at any other time. Leaving trash containers at the curb all of the time will no longer be allowed. Outside the collection period, all trash containers shall be placed behind a building facing the street or a screening fence. This ordinance also applies to containers for private collection. In addition, commercial dumpsters will not longer be permitted on public right of way unless space is leased from the City and the dumpster is properly screened.

The fine for violating this ordinance is \$100 for first offense and \$500 for second offense. Enforcement will be complaint driven. There is a process for obtaining a hardship waiver for those who have a legitimate reason that they are unable to comply with the ordinance.

## Code & Zoning Violations -

**What neighbors should look for!**

### Code Violations

- Deteriorated and cracked sidewalks and driveways.
- Deteriorated porches, decks and patios.
- Stairway with three or more steps without handrails.
- Deteriorated, broken or missing siding.
- Missing shingles / roofing.
- Deteriorated overhangs, soffits and fascia.
- Deteriorated or missing gutters and downspouts.
- Cracks or holes in foundations.
- Broken or missing windows.
- Torn or missing screens.
- Broken or missing storm or entry doors.
- Deteriorated chimneys.
- Deteriorated masonry joints.
- Exterior walls that lean or out of plumb.
- Deteriorated sheds or detached garages.
- Deteriorated fencing.
- Missing light fixtures.
- Exposed electrical wiring.
- Basement bedrooms without adequate windows.
- Hazardous electrical service entrance.
- Missing address numbers.

### Zoning Violations

- Cars parked on unpaved surfaces.
- Inoperable or unlicensed vehicles.
- Boats, campers and R.V.'s, over 20' in length, parked in front of the house.
- Commercial vehicles parked at property.
- Outdoor storage of materials, appliances, etc.
- Fencing with the finish side facing in.
- Fences over 4 feet high in the front yard.
- Fences over 6 feet high in the rear yard.
- Noise complaints.

If you observe any of the above conditions, please call 444-5555 to report the conditions and address to the City of Omaha, Planning Department, Code & Zoning enforcement.

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*Programs subject to change—visit [omahalibrary.org](http://omahalibrary.org) for updates.*

### **Kids' Programs**

**Minecraft Club** - Tuesdays, September 2 & 16 | 4:30 PM

Have fun playing Minecraft at the Library. Program limited to ages 8-18.

Registration required.

**Toddler Storytime** - Wednesdays, September 3, 10 & 17 | 10:30 AM

Read books, sing songs, play games and make crafts. Fun for toddlers/preschoolers.

**Lego Club** - Wednesdays, September 3 & 17 | 4:30 PM

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

**Baby & Me Storytime** - Fridays | 10:30 AM

Parents & babies will enjoy this program with rhyming games, puppets, songs & musical instruments.

**Fit Club** - Saturday, September 6 | 2 PM

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

**Gr. 2-6 Lego Lock-In** - Friday, September 12 | 6-9 PM

Enjoy lego-themed activities, as well as food and refreshments at the Library. Registration required.

**Game Time** - Friday, September 19 | 2-4 PM

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

**Amanda Panda Visits Sorensen** - Wednesday, August 24 | 10:30 AM

Amanda Panda wants to meet the kids at Sorensen Branch, so she's joining us for a special storytime!

Remember your camera!

### **Teen Programs**

**Teen Advisory Board** - Saturday, September 20 | 2 PM

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

### **Adult Programs**

**Under the Dundee Sun Book Club** - Tuesday, September 2 | 4:30 PM

**Scrabble** - Thursdays | 1 PM

**Sorensen Readers Book Club** - Saturday, September 13 | 1 PM

**Common Soil: Late Season Seed Saving** - Tuesday, September 16 | 6 PM

Save your greens! Lettuce, arugula, and springtime radish readily bolt when our Nebraska heat spell arrives. Take this course and be ready to gather your first crop's seed. Registration required.

**Plains Pages Book Club** - Saturday, September 20 | 1 PM

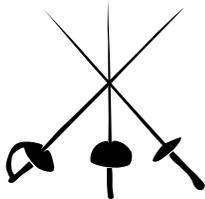
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Yes, you may list my name in the newsletter as a \_\_\_new member \_\_\_ renewal.

**Send form (Photo copy acceptable) and checks made out to DMPA to**

Eli McNichols 5017 1/2 Cass St, Omaha, NE 68132

**(Please DO NOT send to p.o. box.)**

\_\_\_ I would like to learn about volunteer opportunities.

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