

# DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



## DMPA Meeting

**No December Meeting**

**Next DMPA Meeting  
January 12th**

UNO will share plans for the new  
Arena near Aksarben Village.

**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.

*Happy Holidays!*



## Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

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

Published by Shurson Publishing, Omaha, NE 68131  
Vol. 24, No 12 December 2014

## Letter From the President

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

Welcome to the holiday season! We're officially in the thick of it. The neighborhood decorations are up. The music is festive on the streets and in the stores. Who's been naughty? Who's been nice? Let's hope for more of the latter.

I want to encourage all of you and any of your friends to support our neighborhood businesses over the holidays. It goes without saying that the Dundee businesses and business owners are part of our "inner circle". They're part of the "Fam". Just think of Pat (at the Dell) as your "uncle" Pat. Or Molly and Rachel at Marks Bistro as your sister's best friends. Get over there. Help them have a VERY merry Christmas. SHOP LOCAL

Oh, and for some neighborhood gear, please stop by Dundee Bank. They always have our famous picture book for sale – I think it's \$47. They have sweatshirts. They have some notecards. Jeff Royal, President of the bank can point you in the right direction if you have any questions.

70th and Cass Redevelopment (former Temple Israel)

I am very pleased to report that to the west of our neighborhood, on the site of the former Temple Israel, Bluestone and the Omaha Conservatory of Music (OCM) have come up with a nice plan for the 70th and Cass property. As most of you know, the Temple site was originally going to be demolished to accommodate a 450 unit apartment building. That plan has been scrapped – in favor of a more ideal arrangement.

Bluestone Development will build a 150 unit apartment building on 2 acres of land adjacent to Walgreens. OCM will occupy the 5 acres and existing structure on the east side of the property adjacent to Omaha Community Playhouse. The old property is going to get a nice makeover where needed while history, value, and yes – some old trees will be preserved.

I feel strongly that OCM will be a fabulous neighbor and a perfect fit for the property – not only preserving the existing temple structure but actually improving it. After conversations with Board member Paul Smith and OCM Executive Director Ruth Meints, I knew the property was in good hands. I don't have any doubt that the Bluestone apartments will bring value to OCM and the Playhouse and vice-versa. I don't have any doubt that the OCM staff and their board will keep a good eye on those apartments, parking, traffic, and any other challenges

**Dundee-Memorial Park  
Association**

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402-290-8084

**Peg Gibbs, Secretary**

**Rodney Olden, Treasurer**

rodney.olden@hotmail.com

402-551-2597

**Committees**

**Newsletter Publisher/Editor**

Ellen Shurson, 402-714-1016

ellenshurson@gmail.com

**Street Captain Coordinator**

Peter Manhart, 350-3890

**Problem Solving**

B.J. Reed,

**Program Coordinator,**

**Membership Data**

Eli McNichols, 402-551-5246

elimci@cox.net

**Beautification**

Mike Walenta, 402-659-5231

**NoDo (North of Dodge)**

Jared Schademann, 402-658-8122

**SoDo (South of Dodge)**

**Business Liaison**

Molly Romero, 402-502-2203

**Library & Rec Center Committee**

Lucy Lewis

**Social Chair**

Raquel Ahlvers

raquel.ahlvers@cox.net

**Flower Basket Planting,**

Julia Ross 402-926-9698

portlandandi@gmail.com

Mary Green megreen4@cox.net

**Website**

Sara Nelson, sarajeannelson@gmail.com

**Welcome Committee**

Mibby Schinzel 402-598-2061

**Historian Gary Rosenberg**

**Active Past Presidents**

Molly Romero, 402-502-2203

Jerry Ahlvers, 402-558-0641

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Don Browsers, 402-556-6638

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To join as a business member, send dues with the form on the inside back page. Please send to Elizabeth McNichols, address below.

The Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter is published monthly by Shurson Publishing. Direct all advertising inquiries to 402-714-1016. Send all articles for submission and press releases to Shurson Publishing, 131 N. 31 Ave, Omaha, NE 68131, e-mail to ellenshurson@gmail.com to arrive by the 15th of the month preceding publication. Content may be edited for clarity and space considerations. No warranties of the products or services printed herein are expressed or implied by either the DMPA or Shurson Publishing.

**Memberships** please send the form on the inside back cover to:

Elizabeth McNichols, 5017 1/2 Cass St., Omaha, NE 68132.

Questions call 402- 551-5246 or email: elimci@cox.net

## pay it forward

is a phrase  
we hear most every day  
but all this month  
we're living it  
in a tiny, simple way

## a touch of hope

some wonder, too  
a bit of joy somewhere  
if you hear from us  
please do your part  
and let it spread from there

a joyous deecember  dundee bank

# President's Message

Continued from front page.

we were concerned about. I don't have any doubt that this is a great win for our community.

Thanks Paul Smith, OCM's board, Christian Christensen, Barb McCusker and the Fairacres Neighborhood Association, Councilman Pete Festersen, your DMPA Board, and any others who were instrumental (a play on words perhaps?). Good job!

Omaha Conservatory of Music (OCM)

It's exciting to have new neighbors – and OCM will be a fantastic addition to our part of town. Within any large, vibrant community, there are specific organizations that add to the cultural attractiveness and are Key to the community's success at large. OCM is one of those Key organizations.

OCM is a non-profit community music school founded in 2001 that provides private lessons in violin, cello, bass, piano, guitar, voice, winds, brass, and percussion as well as conducting, music composition, and theory. Most of the classes are conducted between 3:00 and 7:00pm. They have been located in the Westside Community Conference Center (former Valley View Middle School). They have over 500 students enrolled today with 150 or more from zip codes in our neighborhood.

All OCM recitals are open to the public, and dates and times are posted at [www.omahacm.org/calendar-of-events/](http://www.omahacm.org/calendar-of-events/). OCM's Inside the Mind of the Artist series is an annual suite of master classes and concerts that are free, open to the public, and representative of the quality of education and training taking place at OCM. Check out the events that comprise this series at [www.omahacm.org/ima](http://www.omahacm.org/ima). OCM also hosts an annual concert, Sprouts and the Symphony.

To support OCM, please contact Kevin Mahler at [kevinmahler@omahacm.org](mailto:kevinmahler@omahacm.org). To get in touch, try: [www.omahacm.org](http://www.omahacm.org) or call 402-932-4978 or facebook at omahacm or Twitter: @OmaConservatory

## Small Bites:

Welcome Wiff! I'm talking about Mr. William Farrell Jr. for you youngsters. Wiff has joined the DMPA Board of Directors. As personally described, Wiff was born and raised in Dundee. He lives in the house he grew up in. He's a lifer. Thanks Wiff!

A warning from the Omaha Police Department: Don't leave your car running unattended in the morning.

Thieves love to see cars "ready to steal" – with the keys in them, running, and ready to go. Think about a remote starter that will keep your car locked while it warms up. Or bundle up and sit in the car!

Garbage pick-up will move to a different day in 2015 (January 15). Most of us in Dundee and Memorial Park will have our trash picked up on Wednesday under the new schedule. Changes were made by Mayor Jean Stothert with Deffenbaugh (our trash company) to add route efficiencies and fuel cost savings. For more details, see [newday.wasteline.org](http://newday.wasteline.org)

2015 Flower basket donations: We are ordering the baskets for next year and we need a count for the neighborhood. All donations will need to be collected before the planting begins in March. Your block captain will be collecting if you prefer cash or checks. You can donate online – at [www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org) Your donation will be connected back to your block. Thanks to Peter Manhart for working with our block captains to collect and track donations!

January's neighborhood meeting at Dundee Presbyterian Church will be with UNO – who will share plans for the new Arena just to the south of Aksarben Village. It's taking shape and should be open in the fall of 2015. Representatives from UNO will share plans and answer questions about the arena's future.

Subway! – Did you see the Omaha World Herald story? Have you seen the TV news stories? The Dodge Street Subway project to upgrade the underpass under Dodge Street at 51st Street is moving along. Our hope is to start work in the Spring 2015. Dave Schinzel continues to secure donations from supporters. We are hoping to win a few grants as well – as the project is going to cost close to \$30,000. We need your support. Donate online at [www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org) or call / email Dave at [drschinzel@hotmail.com](mailto:drschinzel@hotmail.com) for more information.

Heike's going to be snuggling - or hibernating, with Oscar (our orange cat) over the winter. You may not see much of her (or him). I'll be out and about getting my holiday shopping done in Dundee. Watch out Jean Imray. Watch out Goldbergs and Jenny Coco. Watch out Denim Saloon, BBB skate shop, and Scout. Here I come! See you around the neighborhood. Be sure to say "hello"!

For more on the neighborhood, events and happenings, see [www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org)



## DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

No Meeting in December  
January 12th

## Newsletter Deadline

The 15th of the preceding month  
for all advertising and article submissions.  
(check for possible extension.)



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Serving Dundee for Over 30 Years

# DCG has Successful Gardening Season

2014 was a year of major accomplishments for Dundee Community Garden. In the spring we installed solar panels on our tool shed (making our lawn-mowing and weed-whacking fossil-fuel free), planted a strawberry patch as an edible groundcover under our six fruit trees, planted a native prairie wildflower area for pollinators (where native plants can send down 20 foot tap-roots, making them drought-tolerant), and built a retaining wall along the alley side of the garden.

On a wet and muddy Saturday in June, we planted our 250 sweet potato starts, which yielded over 1000 pounds of sweet potatoes when we dug them up in October.

We donated approximately 950 pounds of fresh organic produce to the Underwood Tower this year, which is more than we have ever donated in a single year. Since our founding in 2009, we have donated 3,937 pounds of fresh produce to others.

We hosted a number of events in 2014, including our annual Ice Cream Social in June, a Watermelon Feed in July, and educational workshops including What to Plant and When, Herbs from the Garden, and Edible Weeds.

In August, we were delighted when scouts from Boy Scout Troop 42 built new compost bins for us as part of Jack McCullough's Eagle Scout Project. Jack designed the bins with removable wooden slats, making it easy to turn the compost from bin to bin. The corner posts are set in concrete, and the wooden slats are made of cedar—it is a highly functional design!

Also in August, our new entranceway, designed by sculptor Dan Newberry and Greensleeves Landscaping, was completed. With its whimsical depiction of people carrying a giant carrot, it serves as a welcoming entrance to both the community garden and the Dundee neighborhood.

DCG hosted a 5th year birthday party on Sunday Sept. 7, with a ribbon cutting at the new entranceway, and remarks from City Council President Pete Festersen and DMPA President Adam Langdon. With live music from the "Burt Street Individuals" and homemade carrot cake using carrots from the garden, it was a gala event with over 150 people attending.

In October, a bronze plaque recognizing those who donated \$150+ to our Growing Roots fundraising campaign in 2013 was installed in our 49th Street flowerbeds.

While the DCG is a relatively small garden, our compact design provides growing space for 41 members, as well as additional plots for growing produce to donate, and a "Neighbor Garden" area where anyone walking by the garden is invited to help themselves to fresh produce.

DCG is a 501(c)3 organization, and donations are fully tax deductible. Plans for 2015 include setting up drip hoses for irrigation for the sweet potato area, as well as improving the Neighbor Garden area, compost signage, and purchasing needed garden equipment. Every year we have expenses that exceed our membership fee.

If you would like to make an end-of-year tax-deductible donation to the DCG, you can donate through our website at DundeeGarden.org, or send a check to our Treasurer Ben Tiggelaar, at 14302 FNB Pkwy, Omaha, NE 68154.

Thank you for considering DCG in your charitable contributions.

Happy Winter and we'll be back next Spring!



## DMPA Online

[www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org)  
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To Advertise call 402-714-1016

## Toys for Tots

Drop off New and Unwrapped Toys  
Now through December 12th  
at Edward Jones office  
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# Looking for an End of the Year Tax Deduction and a Way to Help Preserve an Important Part of Dundee History?

In 1934, a “subway” was constructed at 51st & Dodge St. as part of a New Deal public works project that widened Dodge Street. The subway was placed on the National Register of Historic Places in 2010. It is the last remaining pedestrian tunnel in Omaha. The primary reason for the subway was to provide a safe way for school children to cross Dodge Street. .

As the tunnel reaches 80 years old, it is in need of renovation. The Dundee Memorial Park Association has decided to take on a renovation and rejuvenation of this historic landmark. This is where we need your help.

The project will do the following:

- Install brighter, longer lasting, energy efficient LED lighting
- Install new historic signage
- Install skid-resistant coating on the ramps
- Make minor concrete and masonry repairs
- Install a mural designed by Dundee School students inside the tunnel

The overall project is estimated to cost \$30,000.

This is where we NEED your financial support. Dundee-Memorial Park has always been willing to come together to financially support projects that better our neighborhood like the flower baskets, the Dundee Clock and the Streetcar Monument.

There are two ways you can donate:

1. Online at [www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org) by clicking on Donate at bottom of the Home Page and selecting “Dodge St. Subway/Tunnel”
2. Write a check payable to Dundee-Memorial Park Association and mail to: Dave Schinzel 319 South 50th Avenue Omaha, NE 68132 All donations of \$250 or more will be recognized on a special plaque in the tunnel.

Dundee-Memorial Park Association is a recognized 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization.

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law.

PLEASE VISIT THE DUNDEE-MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION WEBSITE FOR MORE INFORMATION or Contact Dave Schinzel at [drschinzel@hotmail.com](mailto:drschinzel@hotmail.com) or 402-551-3742

## Give the children you care about a present of the future.

As a parent or a grandparent nothing is more important than seeing your children succeed in life, and success starts with a superior education.

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For more information and to register for the Brownell-Talbot entrance exams go to [brownell.edu/testingday](http://brownell.edu/testingday) or call B-T Admissions at 402.556.3772.

Or call us for your personal School tour.



Water heaters are like relatives who overstay their welcome. They sit there for so long that you just sort of ignore them. All too often the only time we notice the water heater is when

it fails or worse when it starts leaking water all over the floor. When it starts leaking then it's too late to save it. It has to be replaced.

The average life span of a water heater is only about 10 years, but with a little maintenance the life of a water heater can be extended to as much as 30 years. So, now might be a good time to head to the basement and get reacquainted with your water heater.

Two things attack your water heater over time and reduce its life span: rust and sediment.

The process of heating water causes calcium carbonate to form inside the tank. This is the same limestone sediment that collects inside a well-used teapot. Calcium carbonate collects at the bottom of your tank and reduces the heater's efficiency. Luckily there is a simple way to combat this buildup: drain the tank at least once a year. ▬

To drain the tank, first turn the thermostat control dial to pilot on a gas heater or turn off the power at the breaker box for an electric heater. Then shut off the inlet valve that feeds cold water into the tank. Open a hot water faucet to prevent a vacuum lock in the hot water line. Attach a length of garden hose to the valve at the bottom of the heater and put the end of the hose near a floor drain or into a bucket. Then drain all the water and sediment out of the tank. Be careful because the water is, of course, very hot. After the draining is complete, close the drain valve.

While the heater is shut off check the anode rod. This is a maintenance step that is overlooked more often than not. The anode rod is a magnesium or aluminum rod that attracts charged water molecules that cause the tank to rust. Anode rods are meant to be sacrificial, that is, the charged water molecules destroy it rather than rusting your tank. The lifespan of an anode rod is about five years. The anode rod is removed from the top of the tank.

If six or more inches of the rod's core wire is exposed it should be replaced. Replacement anode rods are available at plumbing supply shops.

After reinstalling the anode rod, turn on the cold water supply to the water heater, let the tank completely fill and then turn the control dial back to the normal operating position for a gas heater or turn on the power for an electric heater.

While you're at it, make one additional safety check. Check the pressure relief valve. This is a critically important safety precaution. The pressure relief valve prevents the water heater from exploding if pressure builds to an excessive level in the tank. If the pressure relief valve isn't working due to rust or corrosion, have a plumber replace it.

If your water heater is like your brother-in-law and has been hanging around your house for too long, consider replacing it (the heater not the brother-in-law). Water heaters consume about 15 percent of your energy, so a new model that is more energy-efficient may save you money in the long run. Also to save energy and extend the life of your heater set the water temperature to between 120 and 130 degrees.

**Connections**

For an online archive of previous articles go to: <http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org/>

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# Ever Evolving Dundee Theater



The Dundee Theater has closed many times throughout its years of operation for renovations and upgrades.

But its current closure is certainly the longest time that its doors have remained locked and its seats unoccupied. The theater closed in May 2013 for installation of a digital projector and new sound equipment and other improvements. Just about everything in

the theater is being refurbished: the lobby, concession stands, seating, and heating and air conditioning systems. The exterior brick and roof also needed repair. Owner Dennis Moran has told sources it will reopen some time in 2015.

When that day occurs, Dundee residents, preservationists, and movie lovers will breathe a sigh of relief. The theater has lived a somewhat fragile existence for the past 30 years or so, with threats both real and imagined. People have been concerned that it could be razed in favor of a drug store, fast food restaurant, or something less savory.

The Dundee Theater was reeling a bit back in the 1960s, when the Cooper Foundation owned it. For a time it had screened art films. Then Cooper installed 70-millimeter projection equipment and a Todd-A-O screen so they could show epics like "Spartacus." Not long after that, the theater closed for about eight months. When it reopened, independent film distributor Abbott Swartz was leasing the theater to show mostly foreign films. The Cooper Foundation had bigger concerns: They had just opened the Indian Hills Theater for "Cinerama" productions.

The Cooper Foundation again turned its attention to the Dundee Theater in 1965, and Julie Andrews came to their rescue. Theater owners wanted to fill the theater with "The Sound of Music," as their other theaters were booked up. They planned to sell reserved seats for the movie. Cooper executive George Gaughan thought the musical would solve the theater's profitability problems for "a year or two."

Gov. Frank Morrison attended the movie's premiere on April 7, 1965. An audience of more than 400 nuns enjoyed one screening. By the time the movie ended its run at the Dundee in July of 1967, more than 300,000 people had seen it. The 118-week run of "The Sound of Music" made it the longest-running film in Omaha's history. It was said to be second only to a theater in London.

Other big movies followed, including "Thoroughly Modern Millie," "Funny Girl," and "Hello Dolly." They did well, but by 1970, the Dundee was again experimenting with classic films and foreign affairs. The Cooper Foundation sold the theater in 1974 as multiplex theaters were starting to dot the landscape.

New owners David Frank and Edward Cohen mostly floundered as they tried to find the right niche. After initially promising family fare, "Candy Stripe Nurses" made its way onto the screen. Two years later, the Dundee screened

"Annie," an X-rated film about the sexual escapades of a young woman. There were complaints, but the movie had a fairly long run.

Shortly before he died in 1983, Frank sold the theater to Moran. A retired police officer, Moran stuck mostly to independent and art films and built a steady clientele.

The theater was designed by noted architect John McDonald and constructed in 1925. In a December 18, 1925 ad in the Omaha World-Herald, manager A.R. Hansen stated, "Our policy is to bring to this theater the best pictures obtainable anywhere, and to present them as finely as possible."

Owners including Ralph Goldberg made many upgrades to theater equipment during its first 25 years. In 1947, the Theater Guild selected the Dundee for a regional premiere of "Henry V," starring a young Laurence Olivier. The movie simultaneously premiered in San Francisco, St. Louis, Cleveland, Atlanta, New York, and Omaha. The Dundee Theater was selected because of its location in a "fine residential district," its excellent sound and projection equipment, the "class and tone" of the theater, and the likelihood of attracting a suitable audience.

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

## Kids' Programs

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

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

**Toddler Storytime** - Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

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

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

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

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

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

**Lego Club** - Wednesdays, December 10 & 31 | 4:30 PM

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

**Handmade Holiday for Kids: Christmas Tree Cones** - Thursday, December 11 | 4:30 PM

Have fun at the Library decorating an ice cream cone like a Christmas tree. Suggested for Grades K-5. Registration required.

**Santa Visits Sorensen Branch** - Saturday, December 13 | 10:30 AM

Santa wants to meet the kids at Sorensen Branch, so he's joining us for a special storytime! Remember your camera!

**Handmade Holiday for Kids: Christmas Craft** - Saturday, December 20 | 2 PM

Have fun at the Library creating a Christmas-themed craft. Suggested for Grades K-5. Registration required.

**Movie Day** | 1 PM

Enjoy popcorn while watching movies at the Library and creating a movie-themed craft.

Tuesday, December 23: Holiday Movie

Tuesday, December 30: Frozen

**Minecraft Party** - Saturday, December 27 | 2-4 PM

Enjoy a Minecraft-themed snack and craft while also playing Minecraft on the Library's server & Xbox 360. Registration required.

## Teen Programs

**Handmade Holiday for Teens: Candles** - Saturday, December 13 | 2 PM

Craft your own decorative candle. All supplies included. Registration required.

**Handmade Holiday for Teens: Stained Glass Ornament** - Thursday, December 18 | 4:30 PM

Design and create your own stained glass holiday ornament. All supplies included. Registration required.

**Handmade Holiday for Teens: Chocolate Stir Sticks** - Tuesday, December 23 | 4:30 PM

Learn how to make chocolate stir sticks for your mug. All supplies included. Registration required.

**Game Time** - Friday, December 26 | 2-4 PM

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

**Holiday Treats for Teens** - Tuesday, December 30 | 4:30 PM

Learn how to make different holiday treats. Registrations required.

## Adult Programs

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

**Sorensen Readers Book Club** - Saturday, December 6 | 1 PM

**Holiday Music with George Walker** - Tuesday, December 9 | 4-5:30 PM

Enjoy snacks and refreshments while listening to holiday music played by George Walker on the guitar.

**Holiday Music with Robert Glaser** - Tuesday, December 16 | 4-6 PM

Enjoy snacks and refreshments while listening to holiday music played by George Walker on the keyboard.

## Dundee Gallery Closing

This is a letter that was sent out to Dundee Gallery customers.

Hello Neighbors,

It's been eight years since that first day I flipped my window sign to OPEN.

- Eight years of promoting amazing local artists, giving them a voice and a place to sell their work.
- Eight years of life alongside an incredible group of Dundee business owners.
- Eight years of being in the thick of the Omaha arts community.
- Eight years of serving kind and loyal customers.
- Eight years of watching your kids and puppies and neighborhoods grow up.
- Eight years of filling your new or remodeled or cherished old homes with art.
- Eight years of being a passionate and committed business owner.

And now it is time to move on. December 31, I will flip the sign to CLOSED for the last time.

I am taking with me eight years of precious memories – and a deep sense of gratitude for all of the shows and artwork and beautiful experiences that I've been able to share with you during the lifetime of Dundee Gallery. Thank you, thank you, thank you.

It will be business as usual here all the way up until closing day. My team and I are currently focused on hosting the best holiday season in the history of Dundee Gallery. More than 70 artists will be showcased in the gallery throughout the holidays. New items are coming in daily: artwork, jewelry, ceramics, holiday cards and decorations and more. We're chock full of beauty and hope you'll include us in your holiday shopping – we'd love to see you here throughout the season.

See you soon!  
Jean Imray

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**Email:** [ellenshurson@gmail.com](mailto:ellenshurson@gmail.com) or call 402- 551-6787.

## PLEASE CHECK YOUR MAILING LABEL

Please renew **before** your membership lapses.  
Multi-year memberships are available.

## Dundee-Memorial Park Association      Membership Form

Name (s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ Zipcode \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_ E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_

Multiple year membership discounts : Family 2 year - \$20, Senior 2 year -\$10, Business 2 yr \$30

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.

**Annual  
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Business \$20

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