

DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



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DMPA Meeting

Next DMPA Meeting
May 11th

Last Meeting Until September

Brownell Talbot History
Anne Constantino,
Interim Head of School

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.

Look Inside:

Gigantic Yard Sale Weekend
and much more

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

Trashed!

Is it just me or have you noticed a lot of trash around Omaha this spring? Our business areas always get a lot of trash. I've noticed more trash on and around our area trails – the Happy Hollow, Papio, and Keystone. Our Parks need some help too. Let me share this editorial from the Omaha World Herald on March 27:

"I am appalled at how much trash is along every roadway I travel. We have picked up dozens of trash bags full, just in our own little area, and it still amazes me how much is thrown out each day. Please, everyone, it's spring, and that means it's time to clean up. It is a matter of pride in your neighborhood and this city. If we all do something, it will help. Thanks to the Parks Department for their help with some signs."

Bob Jackson, Omaha

I pick up trash ALL the time. My biggest pet peeve are all the people that assume the city, neighborhood, or trash gods are going to come by and take care of the problem. Trust me, the city doesn't have a special trash detail that goes around Omaha picking up our trash. It's not a paid position. This is our neighborhood – and it's on Us to keep it beautiful.

Want to know more about the trash issue? DMPA board member Mary Green put me in touch with Retired UNO Professor Dr. David Corbin. Dr. Corbin is a professor emeritus of health and human services who has become a regularly cited "trash" expert. He walks every day in our neighborhood and is a past contributing editor for Runner's World Magazine. His route: from his home of 34 years at 49th and IZARD Street through Memorial then Elmwood Park – and back. According to Dr. Corbin, the most common trash found is (in order): cigarette butts, alcohol related, and/or fast food related.

Worst of all are the plastic bags. Dr. Corbin is a board member of the Omaha area Sierra Club and has proposed a ban on plastic bags in Omaha. The ban has general support of our city councilmembers. To see and understand the issue, check out his photo collection online at www.flickr.com. Dr. Corbin has assembled a collection of photos of plastic bags from Omaha – on trees, in fences, in parks, on cars, etc. To see more, just go to the flicker website and type in "David Corbin Plastic Bags".

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President's Message

Continued from front page.

Which reminds me, one good thing about a plastic bag is that it can be used to pick up dog trash (aka: POO). Please neighbors, when walking or running with your dog, take something to pick up after them.

Which reminds me, one good thing about a plastic bag is that it can be used to pick up dog trash (aka: POO). Please neighbors, when walking or running with your dog, take something to pick up after them.

City Legislative Update

Superman, Wonder Woman, & Pete - I love crime fighters. In April, our City Councilman Pete Festersen introduced an ordinance in cooperation with Omaha Police and the City Prosecutor that will help deter neighborhood burglaries and copper theft, increase arrests, and increase the likelihood that stolen property gets returned to its rightful owners. Thanks Pete!

This city law implements a new electronic tracking system for items sold at salvage and pawn shops and confirms holding periods before such items can be resold. As part of the new digital system, sales will be recorded, fingerprinted, and photos would be taken of the seller and the item which gets uploaded to police every night at no cost to the business owner. Right now this is done with a very inefficient paper postcard system.

Electronic systems like this have worked well in many other cities and Pete and OPD believe other local jurisdictions will move to such a system if we take this first step. We're on the right track!

Speaking of Police, OPD Northwest Precinct Captain Shayna Ray introduced us to our new beat officers at the last meeting. Officer Chad Wiebers and Officer Matthew Stigge will be working our area from 5pm to 3am on Wednesday through Saturday from now until the fall. These guys have recently traded in their patrol car for bicycles so they can be more nimble and silent in their approach to crime fighting in our neighborhood. Give our OPD beat patrol a pat on the back or a nice "hello" to thank them for keeping Dundee safe.

Garage Sale

You don't need to go to Walnut, Iowa for antiques. If you like browsing through used treasure, gems, or junk – stay close to home. May 15,16 &17 is our neighborhood Garage Sale weekend. Board member Raquel Ahlvers (Raquel.ahlvers@cox.net) is in charge of this great event.

Monthly Meeting Our May 11 monthly neighborhood meeting at Dundee Presbyterian Church will feature Brownell Talbot and a history of the school. Anne

Constantino who was interim head of school last year will be our presenter. If you've never been to a meeting, this will be a fun one to try out. The meeting starts at 7pm with social time – and 7:30 for the program (BT). As a reminder, we take the summer off – there are no neighborhood meetings or board meetings again until September.

Roads Good news...Underwood Ave from Fairacres Road west to 69th and Cass Street from 69th west all the way to the Papio Creek bridge will be resurfaced this year. That will slow traffic down on Underwood while the work is being done. When finished, we should have smooth sailing in and out of the neighborhood to the west.

Upcoming Events We've got a lot going on over the next few months. May 8-10, the flower baskets go up. 450 baskets are installed all on 143 blocks throughout the neighborhood. If you have any questions or want to volunteer to help out, please contact Dan Rock at 402-558-4913 or drock@ellickjones.com.

Friday, June 26 Bank of the West Celebrates America concert is in Memorial Park. Headliners include Joan Jett and Eddie Money. Our neighborhood should be able to enjoy the free fireworks too – from our porches and patios! I love rock and roll....

Dundee Days has a date: Saturday, August 29. Get ready to celebrate all that is great about Dundee! on cars, etc.

Heike and I are back on the running trail – training for the Sandhills Half Marathon in June. It's fun to see so many friends and athletes on the Happy Hollow trail from Cuming St all the way over to the far side of Elmwood Park. The other day I passed friend Laurie Kay. She has a big dog! (Hope she has a bag). We'll see you around the neighborhood. Be sure to say "hello"!

For more on our neighborhood history, events, important contacts, check out our website at www.dundee-memorialpark.org. For up to the minute action – "like" our facebook page – [www.facebook/Dundee Memorial Park Neighborhood Association](http://www.facebook/Dundee%20Memorial%20Park%20Neighborhood%20Association).



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Trim Those Trees ... Please



Please be considerate of your neighbors and keep your trees and shrubs trimmed along your sidewalks. There is a city ordinance stating that there should be an 8 foot overhead clearance. And shrubs should not over hang sidewalks, so that they are obstructed and inhibit passage or views of street traffic.

Please take a careful look at all sides of your property and make sure that you are not causing problems or safety issues for others.

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Dundee Community Garden Garden News

Tomato Workshop, Tomato Cage Sale, & OmahaGives!

Join the Dundee Community Garden for our free “Growing Tomatoes” workshop on Saturday May 9, 10-11 a.m. at the garden, at 4902 Underwood Ave. We’ll cover selecting tomato plants, and how to plant, grow, support, and harvest tomatoes. Afterwards, from 10-11 a.m., we’ll be selling our hand-made tomato cages. Made from rebar, our tomato cages will contain your tomatoes and train them to grow vertically, saving you space in the garden. Our sturdy cages withstand the strong NE winds. Cages are \$15 each, or two for \$25. For more information or to reserve a cage e-mail us at info@DundeeGarden.org

DCG will again be participating in the Omaha Community Foundation’s OmahaGives! 24-hour on-line charitable giving challenge on Wed. May 20. OmahaGives! is a fun and easy way to donate to your favorite local charities.

While DCG membership dues cover our operating expenses (water, insurance, compost, and most of our flowers & vegetables), we rely on additional fundraising for long-term site improvements. We have many goals for improving our garden in 2015: we plan to landscape our entranceway and other garden areas, purchase drip irrigation hoses to increase the produce yield in our community beds, build a “Little Free Library,” and improve our signage.

If you would like to support the Dundee Community Garden as part of OmahaGives!, just go to OmahaGives24.org and choose the amount you want to give (minimum donation \$10). Your gift will be amplified by matching funds, and may help DCG qualify for hourly prizes. We benefit from every donation, no matter how large or small, so please consider making a tax-deductible donation during this 24-hour giving event on May 20.
DundeeGarden.org [Facebook.com/DundeeGarden](https://www.facebook.com/DundeeGarden)

Last Chance to Donate for the Subway Renovation Project

Fundraising for the 51st & Dodge Street Subway has gone exceptionally well as we approach our fundraising goal. We are still taking contributions but we have a May 15th deadline for names to be added to the bronze donor plaque for donations of \$250 or more. You donate either online at www.dundee-memorialpark.org or by check made payable to DMPA and mailed to Dave Schinzel, 319 South 50th Avenue, Omaha, NE 68132.

Work continues on the mural design at UNO and should be completed in a few weeks. DMPA was awarded a \$5,000 matching grant from the Peter Kiewit Foundation which requires DMPA to raise an additional \$2,700 in order to get the full \$5,000. So if you have not contributed yet, please consider making a donation that can help us get to the \$2,700 mark.



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Of all the fashions that have come and gone—Nehru jackets, leisure suits, and avocado-colored appliances come to mind—my least favorite is textured ceilings. Textured ceilings

(or as they are sometimes known, popcorn ceilings) were a cost-saving shortcut used by many builders in new homes starting in the sixties. Builders liked it because the drywall ceilings were just taped and then a thinned drywall compound gunk was sprayed or brushed or slathered on the ceiling. It saved all the labor (and cost) intensive steps of mudding and sanding the seams. In old houses textured ceilings were often used in an attempt to cover broken and cracked plaster. (Typically this was a failed repair attempt and sooner or later you had a cracked textured ceiling.)

Before you attack your textured ceilings there are two things you need to know: Does the ceiling texture material contain asbestos? And has it been painted?

To ascertain if there is asbestos present, scrape a small part of the ceiling material into a plastic bag, being careful not to raise any dust. Have your sample tested by an asbestos testing service. (You can find several local firms by Googling “asbestos testing Nebraska”.) If there is more than 1% asbestos in your ceilings, then the hardest work you’re going to do is to dial the phone for an asbestos abatement contractor and to lift your pen to write a sizable check.

If the ceiling doesn’t contain asbestos and it’s not painted (we’ll get to painted ceilings in a moment) then scraping the ceiling texture off is the next step. Start by removing all the furniture and the ceiling light fixtures in the room. Cover the floor with plastic from wall to wall and duct tape it in place, because this is a messy job. You can scrape off the texture with a comfortably wide drywall knife. Comfortably wide means if the blade is too narrow, you’ll be

scraping a long time. If the blade is too wide, your arm will get tired and you’ll nick and gouge the ceiling more than you would with a narrower knife. An eight to ten inch knife should be about right. Another option is a ceiling scraper that is no more than a drywall knife on a pole. With this gadget you can stand on the floor and reach the ceiling. You can find a ceiling scraper at one of the big box home improvement stores.

The texture will come off easier if you wet the surface. A sprayer filled with warm water will get the job done. Spray in sections so the texture doesn’t dry out before you get your scraping done.

If the ceiling has been painted your job is going to be a little tougher. If the water doesn’t soak through the paint, you’ll have to score the surface back and forth with a utility knife before wetting the ceiling.

After you’ve finished scraping off all the texture, clean up the room. (I did mention this is a messy job, didn’t I?) Then if the underlying plaster is cracked or missing big chunks, replaster those first. Make sure the plaster is still tight to the lath. If it’s not use plaster washers and drywall screws to make it tight. Then patch all the nicks and gouges from the scraping process with drywall compound. (Or another option to get flat, crack-proof ceilings is to cover the whole ceiling with 3/8” drywall. Unless you have above average drywall skills or you feel really brave, this is a good job for a pro.)

Be sure to prime the ceiling with a good latex primer before you paint.

Now stand in the middle of your room and admire your smooth and flawless ceiling—just the way it was originally in your old house. And if you’re wearing one of your old leisure suits while you admire the ceiling, well so much the better.

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REMINDER
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year again!

Friday, May 15th
Saturday, May 16th
Sunday, May 17th

→Deadline to sign up is Monday, May 4th

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!
www.dundee-memorialpark.org

If you don't have Internet access & can't sign up online, please email me the information w/ the subject line "**DMPA SALE**" or fill this out & mail it to me @ 312 S 54th St. Omaha, NE 68132

Name: _____

Phone # _____

Address: _____

Email: _____ *please note email is best & quickest for me, please

include

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Programs subject to change—visit omahalibrary.org for updates.

Kids' Programs

Baby Storytime - Fridays | 10:30 AM

Recommended for ages birth to 15 months, though children of all ages are welcome. Enjoy very simple books, rhymes, music and play designed to promote development and learning. Explore early literacy skills like singing, playing, reading and talking with each storytime.

Fit Club - Saturday, May 2 | 2 PM

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

Minecraft Club - Tuesdays, May 5 & 19 | 4:30 PM

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

Toddler Storytime - Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

Recommended for ages 15 months to 3 years, though children of all ages are welcome. Enjoy simple songs, creative movement, and short stories with the toddler in your life. Join in the fun by interacting and participating. Explore the early literacy skills of singing, playing, reading, talking and writing. Childcare groups, please call in advance.

Lego Club - Wednesdays, May 6 & 20 | 4:30 PM

Use your imagination to build unique LEGO creations. Snack provided.

Get Crafty: Mother's Day Craft - Saturday, May 9 | 2 PM

Join us for a lesson in creating a Mother's Day craft using various art supplies and techniques. All supplies included. Recommended for Grades K-5. Registration required.

Squishy Circuits - Tuesday, May 26 | 2 PM

Join us for a basic lesson in electrical circuits using Squishy Circuits. Use play dough to create circuits and explore electronics. Registration required.

Cubelets - Wednesday, May 27 | 2 PM

Join us for a lesson in simple robotics and engineering using Cubelets. Registration required.

Sorensen Branch Summer Reading Program Kickoff Party - Saturday, May 30 | 1-3 PM

Help the A.V. Sorensen Branch kick off the Summer Reading Program with fun and games as well as a magic show at 1:30 p.m. with the Amazing Lindy!

Teen Programs

Teen Advisory Board - Saturday, May 16 | 2 PM

Let your voice be heard! Gain leadership experience while enjoying snacks, talking about issues, sharing ideas, planning programs and make friends.

Game Time - Thursday, May 28 | 2-4 PM

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

Adult Programs

Sorensen Readers Book Club - Saturday, May 2 | 1 PM

Under the Dundee Sun Book Club - Tuesday, May 5 | 4:30 PM

Create a Memory Box - Saturday, May 9 | 4 PM

Celebrate a memory or special family member by transforming an empty shoe box into a decorative memory box or storytelling diorama. Participants are encouraged to bring their own mementos or photos to add a personal touch to their creation. Registration required.

Tech Time - Tuesdays, May 12 & 26 | 6:30 PM

Receive assistance with uploading a resume, downloading an eBook or free music, creating an email account, or just getting started on the computer. Our friendly, tech-savvy staff members are here to help. Registration required.

Plains Pages Book Club - Saturday, May 16 | 1 PM

CDC Vaccination Checklist

- PREVNAR** (Additional Pneumonia) ages 50- even if had previous pneumonia vaccine
- MEASLES/MUMPS/RUBELLA (MMR)** anyone not vaccinated yet
- WHOOPING COUGH (T-DAP)** Tetanus, Diphtheria, Pertussis
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Please Water New Trees

Over the past 7 years, over 160 new trees have been planted in Dundee-Memorial Park as part of Re-Tree Midtown at no cost to property owners. The weather is now warming up and it is critical that these young trees get good waterings as the very cold winter was once again extremely dry leaving little moisture in the soil. The first five years are critical to the survival of new trees.

If you received one of these plantings, PLEASE BE SURE TO GIVE THEM PLENTY OF WATER.

Once again, DMPA will be participating in Re-Tree Midtown. The planting area this fall will be 55th Street to Happy Hollow Blvd between Howard Street and Leavenworth Street. Of course, this is contingent on grant funding coming through.

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.

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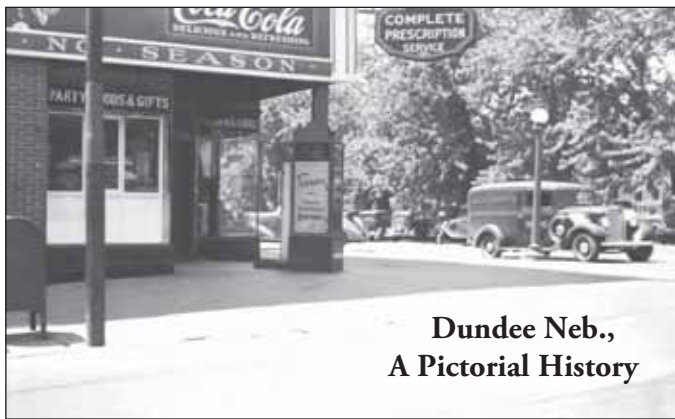
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