

# DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



## 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

### Greetings to all.

Well, I guess Punxsutawney Phil cannot be right every year! After the blizzard on Sunday, March 10, which forced the cancellation of our Monday neighborhood association meeting, my confidence in the furry one's predictions (and its supposed connection to scientifically verified weather patterns) is shaken. That storm was a full five weeks and one day after his prediction of an early spring – as opposed to the more dire possibility of six more weeks of winter. Without splitting any ground-hog hairs about this, I think calling it an "early" spring, even if it started the day after the storm, which it did not, (if you talk about comfort outside without wearing my "for coldest weather" jacket, warmest and longest wool scarf, and hood over my head to protect from the north wind that creates a wind chill making my eyes tear up like a bawling baby) is too big a stretch for any reasonable person. What I mean is that calling it an early spring in mid-March with a late spring in mid-March seems like a failure to communicate in a meaningful way. So, Punxsutawney Phil and I are on the outs, at least until next February.

**Winter Gratitude.** With that lament out of the way, let's think about the winter things for which we can be grateful. Top on my list is the way neighbors have shoveled their sidewalks. As a person who walks daily, I so appreciate the ability to walk on cleared concrete rather than uneven frozen footprints, deep snow, or smooth ice, all of which can lead to broken bones, torn ligaments, scratches and bruises. On the day after the March 10 storm, I was walking to work with not a single sidewalk left untended. Thank you to all our neighbors who are so considerate of those who use the sidewalks.

Another expression of gratitude for lifting spirits in our Dundee winter goes to the folks at the Dundee Bank who once again funded and organized the skating rink in the Sunks. Many days I passed by and saw young people on skates, many with hockey sticks – and they looked quite skillful, gliding about. Thank you to the Dundee Bank and to Jeff Royal, its president, who makes it happen. He has turned it into a wonderful Dundee tradition, creating fun memories for many of Dundee's children and their parents.

The skating rink would not be as delightful as it is without the volunteer effort of Jim Saville, who frequently "dresses" the ice with warm water. On many a cold dark night, Jim will make his way to the rink with shovel to clear snow, and water to smooth out the surface. Our rink would not be the delight it is without Jim. Thank you Jim.

**Dundee Community Garden.** The community garden folks are holding a special fundraising event – a Sunday Brunch Buffet at Marks Bistro, 4916 Underwood Avenue, on April 28 from 10 am to 2 pm. Advance tickets are \$15 (or \$20 at the door). Marks is donating all the food, so all proceeds will go to the community garden. Marks is normally closed on Sundays so the entire group will be garden supporters. Please look elsewhere in this newsletter for more details – and how to RSVP to the garden people and purchase tickets.

## DMPA

### Next Meeting April 8th

**Meeting:** Meet our new  
Omaha Police Northwest  
Precinct Captain - Shayna Ray.

City of Omaha Candidates in  
May's election will also be  
invited to our Social

**Location and times:**  
Dundee Presbyterian Church  
53rd & Underwood Ave

7:00 Social  
7:30pm Meeting  
Bring your questions and  
a friend or two.

Look Inside:  
Cleanup Day  
April 27th

## Dundee-Memorial Park Association

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402-502-2203

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## DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

**April 8th**  
New Omaha Police  
Northwest Precinct  
Captain - Shayna Ray

**May 13th**

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# President's Message

Continued from front page.

**Flower Baskets.** On March 15 and 16, a team of volunteers gathered at Indian Creek Nursery to plant the flower baskets, which will be nursed along for several months, and then installed on our light-post planter hooks in early May by yet another team of volunteers who have been doing this work for quite a few years. Then comes the task of organizing the watering crews, but you will be hearing more about that, with opportunities to volunteer.

About the flower basket funding, Peter Manhart coordinates all the block captains who collect the money from their blocks. Every year, some block captains move away or become unable or too busy to take on the task of collecting flower basket money. As of mid-March, the funds for flower baskets was running slower (or later) than previous years. If you have not heard from your block captain about donating for flower baskets, give Peter a call at 402-350-3890 and arrange to help financially. Only those blocks that have contributed to the flower basket fund can receive them. It seems every year there are a few neighbors who call to complain that they do not have any flower baskets, and the explanation is always that no one paid for that block. Please consider taking on the small task of being a block captain and collecting the money. Peter will guide you through the process to make it very easy and rewarding, and the flowers give us pleasure all summer long. It is an exclusively Dundee-Memorial Park feature, and was cited as one of the reasons our neighborhood was chosen as one of the country's best neighborhoods. Also, the association is willing to accept donations for flower baskets that exceed the cost for a block or a single basket, just to assure that the association has the funds it needs to bring the baskets out of the nursery when the time is right. So when the block captain requests \$10 or \$20 per person on the block, please feel free to bump up the amount to \$40 or more, to assure there is sufficient funding for the project.

**Streetscape update.** The city issued bid packages to interested contracting companies, with bids due at 11:00 am on Wednesday, March 27th, which is after this letter has gone to press. We are all eager to know how the bids come in, with our fingers crossed in hopes of the construction bids coming in well below the funds we have available. At our April 8th meeting we should have a definitive update on that process. We are still looking for construction to begin in late April. Before that date, we will see evidence of pre-construction activity, including tagging trees that will be removed and perhaps even the beginning of tree removal.

**Temple Israel Property.** Campus Crest, the company wanting to raze the temple buildings and mature vegetation and build a high-density, student-focused housing complex, has delayed its presentation to the Omaha Planning Board. Initially, they indicated they wanted to present their plan in March, and then delayed, indicating they would make the deadline for the April Planning Board meeting. At this writing, it now seems they plan on waiting until the May Board meeting. This proposed project can have a significant effect on the sur-

rounding neighborhoods, and I encourage everyone to keep an eye on the Planning Board agenda to see when it is scheduled and to appear at the meeting to make your opinions and concerns, if any, known. The Planning Board agenda can be viewed on line through the city of Omaha website. I also encourage you to contact your city council representative to assure that he or she is aware of your thoughts concerning the development.

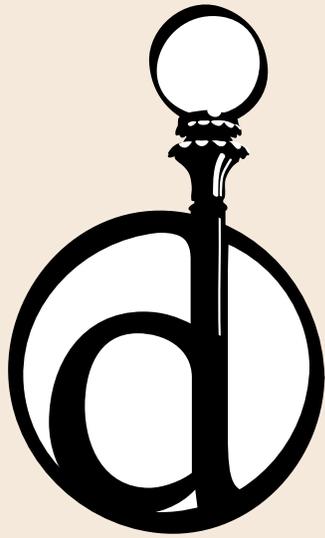
**Dundee-Memorial Park Garage Sale.** Our gigantic garage sale is returning, scheduled of May 17, 18 and 19. This is a popular event with neighbors and people from all over the city who wish to help us find new homes for all sorts of treasures lurking in our basements and garages. It is not too early to begin thinking about lightening your load, imagining the open space you might create by selling that chair, table, lamp, all those kitchen utensils you no longer use. It is a great way to interact with neighbors and visitors to the neighborhood, and to see your unused items find new homes.

There should be a sign-up form elsewhere in this newsletter, with the sign-up deadline of May 6th. Raquel Ahlvers, one of our stalwart volunteers coordinates the garage sale effort, and could use some help with publicity. You may contact her at Raquel.Ahlvers@CBSHome.com. And, by the way, if you contact her, please feel free to thank her for providing all our snacks and juices at our neighborhood meetings. She brings delicious nibbles for all, but mostly, she brings her delightful sense of humor and charm. She is one more reason to come to our neighborhood meetings.

With the cancellation of our March 11th meeting, our program schedule is in flux, so at this writing, I cannot say what our April program will be. We may reschedule candidates, or keep with the program as previously planned. There should be an announcement elsewhere in this newsletter that is more current than my letter. Whatever the program is, we hope to see you there and come visit with your neighbors – and enjoy Raquel's selection of treats.

Molly Romero  
DMPA President





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## Thanks

**to our volunteers, staff at Indian Creek Nursery and Dundee restaurants  
for helping make the basket planting another success!**

From the Dundee-Memorial Park Association

- **Dundee Dell** – Friday's Meal
- **Dario's**- Saturday's Meal
- **Goldbergs**- Dessert
- **Neurology Consult.  
of Nebraska**- Drinks



## Thank You to Our Garden Donors

Thank you to the many Dundee neighbors and friends who have donated to support the Dundee Community Garden's "Growing Roots" fundraising campaign. We are confident that we will be purchasing the property for the garden this year. You can help by donating to our fundraising campaign! Donate on-line at [dundeearden.org](http://dundeearden.org), or send checks, made out to DCG, to DCG c/o Rose Edzie, 4902 Capitol Ave., Apt. 304, Omaha, NE 68132. The Dundee Community Garden is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt organization.

Donations of \$150 and over will earn you a spot on the permanent plaque in the garden.

Thank you to these donors: Rose Edzie, Lori Huebert, Stephen and Maria Hansen, Don Seten, Chelsea Taxman, Allen and Mary Kay Greenberg, Steven Hutchinson and Susan Thomas, H. Lovell, Laura Schaben, Bill and Marilee Kelly, Fred and Dana Meyer, Thomas and Carol Svolos, Barbara Else and Brad Carson, Teri Mauch and Dave Sweeney, Debra Forthmann, Arlene Hull, Paul Hodgson, Ashley Farrell, David Corbin, Jeff and Lisa Dempsey, Stephanie Howard, Molly Romero, Tom and Susan Weidner, Joe & Carrie Novotny, Johanna Dieterich Horn, Gary and Karren Kerr, Elizabeth Eynon-Kokrda, Cynthia Hadsell, Debbie Wyatt, Julie Anderson & Jeffrey Beiermann, Bob Bertrand & Kathy Kennedy, Dick & Maureen Kizer, Samantha Ammons & Donald Eastwood Jr., Therese Straseski, Lyn Rice, Dan Haske, Virginia Grissom, and Anonymous.

And thank you to these donors who have given \$150 or more. These names will be on the permanent garden plaque: The Thoreson-Green Family, Jo Bartikoski and Don Westling, The Herman Nolan Family, Tancy & Rick Ellis, Eric Williams, Kevin and Rebecca Reagan, Katie Micik, Peggy Wheelock & Keith Johnson, Ward Peters and Jean Ann Ballinger, The Peter & Ellie Wolcott Family, Tracy and John Wells, Renee Young, James & Martha Goedert, Gary Marshall and Ilka Oberst, The Kelly Family, Mary Lincoln and Jeff French, Rosemary and John Brownrigg, Lauren, Matthew, & Caroline Ortman, Adam and Heike Langdon, Tony, Lauren, Sam & Clara Kincaid, Connie & Rick Spellman, Jane Heurter & Dick Jeffries, Friz & Millie Miller, Steven & Annette Huff, Rita & Don Otis, Tom & Terry Price, Brent & Alissa Hogan, Nancy & Michael Getty, the Dundee Bank, Omaha Organics Lawn Care, and Anonymous.

# The Only Thing . . .

By Jean Sigler

Sometimes, when I can't sleep, I will reel off a list of something – kind of like counting sheep. The other night I started to think of things I am afraid of and came to the realization that I am afraid of everything. The following is only a partial list:

1. Speed - including but not limited to fast cars, boats, sleds, skates, and airplanes. I am convinced that after a certain velocity is reached, any vehicle or apparatus I am in or on will fly out of control and I will become airborne.

2. Being airborne - including in a plane, helicopter, ski lift, gondola, slide or swing. Also on the high end of a teeter-totter. I think the teeter totter is more about my teeter partner waiting until I am almost airborne and then hopping off leaving me to crash to the ground. I'm not sure how any of us escaped childhood with all of our sit bones intact.

3. Flying – Please! This is smoke and mirrors, folks! Flying involves tons of weight being suspended in mid-air 35,000 feet up. There is no reason for those planes to stay up there and someday Mother Nature is going to assert her gravitational authority over us and they are all going to come crashing down at once. I don't know whether to be afraid I'll be in a plane or on the ground when it happens.

4. Beautiful scenic mountain roads – that people are always saying I will enjoy traveling on while I marvel at the breathtaking views. What takes my breath away are the winding, curvy, narrow roads with no guard rails and 150,000 foot drop-offs. My car mates inevitably tell me not to look or to ride on the inside. Thanks for trying friends, but I'm not three years old. I know that just because I close my eyes, the very real possibility of plunging to certain death does not go away.

5. Icy roads, wet roads, snowy roads - I have one word for you – Hydroplane! Riding in bad road conditions has become less of a problem over the years, as I would never do it on my own and no one asks me to accompany them any more unless the roadways are one hundred percent dry with a zero percent chance of precipitation for the following twenty four hours. One trip with me gasping, braking, screaming and begging to take the exit to a town three hundred miles short of our destination is usually enough for any driver.

6. Bugs – this is an absolute phobia. It includes any creature that has feelers, really tiny legs, more legs than I have, and eyes bigger than their heads. The fear also encompasses the species that are supposed to be cute like lady bugs and butterflies, clothing adorned with dragonflies, and any and all fuzzy, stuffed, smiling, and/or talking happy go lucky bumblebees. You cannot fool me, they sting.

7. The cement things by the overpass – I firmly believe that those things were put there by aliens who deposited similar cement things all over the world and who will come in the night and assemble them into a gigantic alien science lab where they will conduct experiments on us humanoids.

8. The overpass – if I ride my bike up I am afraid I will get a heart attack from the effort. When I ride down the other side I am afraid I will get a heart attack because my breaks will fail and I will start to fly down at an uncontrollable speed (See #1).

9. Neighborhood Watch signs – I always feel like the bandit is watching me.

10. My grandchildren riding on anything they can fall off of – bikes, big wheels, skateboards, roller skates, scooters, their dad's shoulders, and each other (See #4 – plunging to certain death). My grandchildren climbing on anything they can fall off of including their beds, the toilet, a chair, and their school desks. My grandchildren doing somersaults, cartwheels, jumping on trampolines, really any activity that involves having less than two limbs in contact with the ground at all times (see #2).

11. Congress

FDR said they only thing we have to fear is fear itself. Great! That's one more thing!



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It has been said that experience is the best teacher because it's the most expensive.

To mark nearly twenty years of this column, here are some of the things I have learned from my teacher—experience—about old house repair, renovation and living.

**Never start a plumbing job on Sunday afternoon.** Here's what will happen if you ignore this rule: You'll be missing a 3/4 inch galvanized union or a copper elbow or some such thing. You won't find this out until all the stores are closed. So you'll have to leave the water to the house turned off at least until Monday, maybe longer. Your family will get surly and start to smell bad.

**Beware of the Mushroom Factor.** I am indebted to The Old House Journal for putting a name to a phenomenon I observed starting with my very first old house renovation project. The Mushroom Factor is when you start on what seems to be a minor project and before you know it, it seems like half your house is torn up.

For example let's say you intend to repair a small section of plaster in the ceiling—and before you know it you've removed the toilet in the bathroom above the ceiling because a leaking seal is why the plaster needed repairing in the first place. While you're replacing the shutoff valve because the old, corroded one snapped off when you unhooked the water line, you're eyeing the linoleum and wondering how to tear out part of the subfloor because the wood around the toilet drain seems a little "punky". Friends, that is the Mushroom Factor where even the simplest of jobs can mushroom into major renovations.

Which leads us to: **The OHM Rule for Project Time Estimation.** For any old house project estimate the amount of time it will take—one day, for example. Then convert to the next higher unit of measure—one week---and then double that. (This also works for estimating costs.)

You're likely to be more successful with any old house project or, for that matter, any task in life if you start with the end in mind. In the broadest of strokes with an old house you have to decide: Remodel? Or Restore? Or Renovate?

Remodeling, reduced to its essence, is tearing out all the old parts of your house and replacing it with new. The downside here is that the character of your old house is lost under the gloss of shiny new parts. Eventually all the new stuff will become old and outdated and will have to be removed again. At the other end of the spectrum, restoration is recreating your old house using only historically correct materials and methods. I can only recom-

mend this approach to museums and to people who like to polish copper-topped kitchen counters. Renovation is in the middle ground. The idea here is to keep intact the elements of your old house that make it unique while making it livable for the 21st century.

The guiding principle of renovation is: Be true to your style. If you don't know the style of your house, research it. Find out what architectural and decorating elements were typical of your house's style and resist the temptation to stray too far into other styles. Put another way: Don't dress your colonial lady like a Victorian tart.

The most important lesson I've learned in more than 15 years of old house living is: **If you're going to laugh about it someday, it might as well be today.** My wife, Marj, and I learned this lesson when we were removing the subfloor during our kitchen renovation. Some workman in the past had sloppily nailed sheets of plywood over the floor joists and they had to come out. To make them easier to remove I was cutting the sheets into smaller sections with a circular saw. Unbeknownst to us a previous owner in a misguided do-it-yourself attempt at radiant floor heating had crisscrossed copper pipes under the floor and attached them to the hot water heating system. When my circular saw nicked the pipe, a water geyser shot up to the ceiling. We rushed to the basement and while the water cascaded over me, I cut and capped off the line. When this crisis was over I looked at Marj and said, "We'll laugh about this someday". "Why not today?" she replied. We had a good laugh, mopped up the floor and went back to work.

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# 2013 DMPA Gigantic Garage Sale Weekend



## MAY 17, 18, 19

Sign up by Monday, May 6th

Sign up online @

[www.dundee-memorialpark.org](http://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 54<sup>th</sup> St. Omaha, NE 68132

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone # \_\_\_\_\_ Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ \*please note email is best & quickest for me, please include

Days (circle)      FRI      SAT      SUN

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**LOOKING FOR A VOLUNTEER!** If you would be interested in helping to coordinate the Garage Sale efforts, please email [Raquel.ahlvers@cbshome.com](mailto:Raquel.ahlvers@cbshome.com). Help to input the ads in the OWH, Thrifty Nikel, etc... possibly walk flyers around to business, not too time consuming. Mostly done from the comforts of your home computer & phone.



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**Recreation Center info: 444-5596 [www.cityofomaha.org/parks](http://www.cityofomaha.org/parks)**

Saturday 8:30 am - 12 pm Mon - Thurs 8:30 am - 8:30 pm Fri 8:30 am - 5:30 pm

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

## **Kids' Programs**

**Toddler Storytime** - Wednesdays | 10:15 AM

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

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

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

**Baby & Me Storytime** - Fridays, April 5, 12 & 26 | 10:15 AM

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

**Yoga Storytime** - Friday, April 5 | 5 PM

Storytime comes alive as we demonstrate books through yoga. Suggested for kids up to age 6.

**Homeschool Family Fun Night** - Friday, April 5 | 6-9 PM

Homeschool families are invited to the Library for a night of family fun! Enjoy an unofficial family spelling bee, family games, and snacks and refreshments. Registration required.

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

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

**Max the Bunny Storytime** - Wednesday, April 17 | 10:15 AM

Bring your camera to storytime and meet Max the Bunny!

**Movie Day: Rise of the Guardians ©Walt Disney Pictures** - Friday, April 26 | 1 PM

Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie about a video game villain who wants to be a hero!

## **Teen Programs**

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

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

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

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

**Game Time** - Saturday, April 13 | 2-4 PM

Have fun with your friends at the Library playing Wii or Xbox 360 Kinect games!

**Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** - Saturday, April 20 | 3 PM

Enjoy snacks and refreshments while talking about issues, sharing your ideas and helping out at the Library.

**Green Body Care for Teens** - Saturday, April 27 | 2 PM

Learn how to create your own green body care products! Registration required.

## **Adult Programs**

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

Read and discuss *The Camel Bookmobile* by Masha Hamilton.

**Scrabble** - Thursdays | 1 PM

Join us for some fun with this classic board game!

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

Read and discuss *The Body in the Library* by Agatha Christie.

**HisMys Book Club** - Saturday, April 13 | 10:30 AM

Read and discuss *The Water Thief* by Ben Pastor.

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

Read and discuss *The Tiger's Wife* by Téa Obreht.

**Retirement Income Planning & Social Security Strategies** - Tuesday, April 23 | 2 PM

Learn about retirement income planning as well as Social Security strategies.

**Green Body Care & Green Cleaning for Adults** - Thursday, April 25 | 3 PM

Learn how to create your own green body care products and green cleaning products! Registration required.

# Spring Clean Up 2013

**Location:** Brownell Talbot School  
400 North Happy Hollow Boulevard  
(Lower parking lot on the east side)

**Date:** Saturday, April 27, 2013

**Time:** 9 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Free disposal of bulky household waste and recycling of scrap metal and most electronics. Old style CRT type monitors and TV's that contain toxic materials like Mercury and lead will cost a nominal amount to divert them from the landfill.



Certain items cannot be accepted at our site but are available at other sites on the same day. Tires can be taken to Keystone Community Task Force and appliances can go to Metcalfe-Harrison Neighborhood Association. Any batteries, paints, liquids, oils, pesticides or other hazardous materials cannot be accepted at the site but these items can be disposed of at Under The Sink Special Waste Facility (402-444-sink).

If April 27th is not a convenient day for you to drop items off, there are locations around the city every Saturday between April 13th and May 18th, for more information on those locations please call the Spring Clean Up hotline at 402-444-4636.

Similar to years past, donations will be collected to benefit the A.V. Sorenson Library. To volunteer to help unload vehicles on April 27th email Tom Craig at [tcraig@tenaska.com](mailto:tcraig@tenaska.com).

## DUNDEE CLASSIFIED /WANT ADS

**Denny's Handyman Service**  
Carpet Restretch & Repair  
Painting & Home Repairs  
397-4223 Area References

**For Rent**  
5830 Western Ave.  
2 Bdrm/ 1 Bath/ \$750 month  
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**Reserve this spot  
for next month**  
For pennies per household.  
Call 402-551-6787

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**Contact Matt:**  
402-213-4004  
[www.seasonalgardens.biz](http://www.seasonalgardens.biz)

**Advertising Rates:** \$8 for three lines plus \$2 for each additional line. \$14 for a three line ad run for two consecutive months. 25 characters per line, count all spaces & punctuation. Submissions will be edited to fit contracted space. **Send check to Shurson Publishing, 131 N. 31 Avenue, 68131.**

**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  
Membership  
Dues:**  
Family \$12  
Senior \$6  
Business \$20  
**Multiple year  
discounts available**

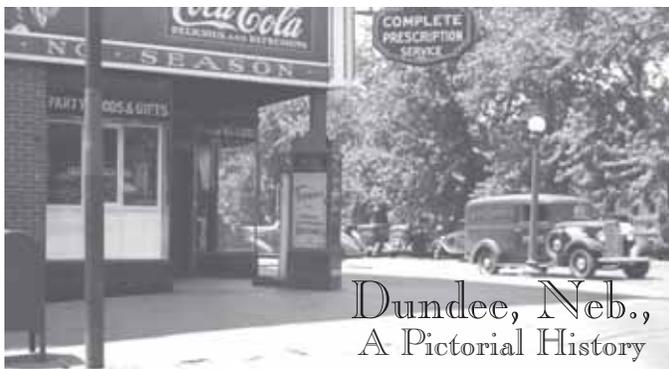
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To avoid delay... Please send all membership renewals to address on membership form, on the other side of this page.  
**Please. DO NOT** send membership forms to the address above.

## Dundee Day

Dundee Merchants decided to schedule Dundee Day for September 28th due to the streetscape construction. This is the only September Saturday with no Husker football game



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### Dundee Presbyterian Church

9 am Rejoice Worship  
10 am Christian Education  
11 am Traditional Worship

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