

DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

"Dedicated to Preserving the Community"
www.dundee-memorialpark.org

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President's Report

February means that we are hopefully more than halfway through winter and that spring will soon be upon us. It also means that it is almost time to plant over 450 flower baskets for our light poles. Once again this year, we will be planting the baskets over two days and we are in need of volunteers to help. This is truly a community effort and we need your help. We will be planting on Friday, March 9 and Saturday, March 10 from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm at Indian Creek Nursery. Good food is donated each day by neighborhood restaurants. To volunteer, please contact Jen Goodman at jen.goodman@cox.net.

As has become a great winter tradition in Dundee, the ice rink is up in the sunken garden. The weather certainly has not been favorable for ice skating. Once it gets cold for an extended period of time, it will be up and running for anyone to use. Thanks to all of those who give their time each winter to put up this rink.

It has been announced that Omaha Steel Castings located at 46th & Farnam will be re-locating their steel mill to Wahoo over the next 3 years. This appears to be a win-win for everyone. It has always seemed strange to have a heavy industrial plant like this between a residential neighborhood and a major medical center. With the vacating of this prime real estate, there is great potential for something positive to move in next to our neighborhood. Of course, there has been talk for many years about UNMC purchasing the property as part of their effort to move Saddle Creek Road. With the likelihood of the road being moved diminishing, there is the potential for this large piece of property to be developed for other uses. It is important that as things move forward over the next 3 years that nearby residents be included in the discussions.

I want to thank State Senators Gwen Howard and Burke Harr for taking time out of their busy schedules to speak at our January association meeting. We had a great turnout and it was nice to see many new faces. A reminder that our next association meeting will be on Monday, February 13th. Our speaker will be Mayor Jim Suttle. Councilmen Chris Jerram and Pete Festersen have also been invited to attend. This is your opportunity to come and speak with the Mayor and City Councilmen about any issues you might have with City services.

I would like to welcome Adam Langdon as the newest member of the DMPA Board. Adam has agreed to take the Program Chair position on the board replacing Ben Rouch. We will all miss Ben as he embarks on a his new job promotion. Unfortunately for us, this means

DMPA Meeting

**This Month's Meeting
February 13th**

Speakers: Jim Suttle

Location and times:
Dundee Presbyterian Church
53rd & Underwood Ave
7:00 PM - Social
7:30 Meeting

Bring your questions and
a friend or two.

**Next meeting
March 13th**

**We Love
our
Members!**

Dundee-Memorial Park Association

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possible.

DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

Meeting
February 13th
Mayor Jim Suttle

March 12th
Beth Katz,
Project Interfaith

April 9th
Candidates Forum

DMPA Business Members

Antique Brick Warehouse, Armstrong Cleaners & Laundry, The Architectural Offices, CBSHOME Real Estate Agents-The Ahlvers Group, The Manharts, The Center for Mindful Living, 21st Century Quilts, Cramer Kreski Designs, Denim Saloon, Creighton Medical Associates- Dundee, Dundee Dell, Dundee Florist, Dundee Gallery, Dundee Lawn Care, Dundee Merchants Assoc, Dundee Lawncare, Dundee Orthopedic Physical Therapy, Dundee Presbyterian Church, Fashion Forward Optical, G.K. Management Co, LLC, Goldberg's II, Inc., Granwest LLC, Houchen Bindery, T. Hurt Construction, Edward Jones & Co-Chris Kilroy, J. Development Co., J & S Properties, KDE Woodworking, The Maids Home Service, Dana Mann Property Management, Marks, Montessori Learning Center of Dundee, Nebraska Power Wash, Oldenhuis Contracting, Inc., Omaha Hearing School, R G Paint and Decorating Inc., Timothy Sheehan, D.D.S., M.S., State Farm Insurance - Matt Dougherty, Tangerine Design, Threlkeld Art Studio, Torpy Tree Care, The UPS Store, Terry Wilwerding, DDS

Revised list, members current 1/12 To join as a business member, send dues with the form on the inside back page. Please send to Elizabeth McNichols, address below.

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President's Message

Continued from front page.

Ben and his family will be moving to Texas but we all wish him well. We are always looking for new people interested in joining the DMPA Board so if you have any interest in helping, do not hesitate to contact me or any other board member.

Several years ago, our association was fortunate enough to come across the original building permits for a large portion of the commercial and residential properties in Dundee before the City was about to throw them out. These are fascinating records that go back to when our neighborhood was originally built. Thanks to Cate Kratville, we have copies that are organized by street. Over the years, the board has considered how best to make these records more accessible to the public while preserving them for the future. The board has decided to seek grant funding to have the records professionally scanned so that they can be made available on the DMPA website. We are so lucky to have gotten these records before they were destroyed and this offers a great opportunity to make our website an even better resource.

You may have noticed that the floodlight at the streetcar monument is once again working. I want to thank Jerry Ahlvers for his help in getting the repairs done. Jerry is also working on getting the broken hand on the monument replaced later this year.

Finally, our neighborhood lost a great friend and supporter when Don Rock passed away in January. The entire Rock family has always been so willing to give to our neighborhood no matter what the cause. Our thoughts and prayers are with the Rock family as we all remember Don and what he gave to our neighborhood.

Please remember our next association meeting with Mayor Suttle. I hope to see you on February 13th at the association meeting!

Dave Schinzel

January DMPA Meeting



Beautification Help Needed

Dundee Memorial Park Association oversees the planting of flower beds on city owned islands. After several years of planting the bed at the five way stop on Western and Happy Hollow, the Pohrens have moved from the area. We are looking for a volunteer to plant the bed late May and maintain it thru the growing season. The city greenhouse provides the flowers so volunteering involves picking up the flowers, planting them in the tilled 13X16X16 ft. triangle garden spot and pulling weeds throughout the growing season. If you would like to volunteer to take care of this flower bed, please call Millie Miller, 402-558-6023.

DMPA Online

www.dundee-memorialpark.org

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Don Rock - September 9, 1935- January 13, 2012

The recent passing of Don Rock brings up many memories of how much he meant to the Dundee/Memorial Park neighborhood. I remember him most for the many hours he spent on the flower basket project, putting up the baskets and then wandering through the neighborhood all summer in a pickup with a water tank in back hosing down the baskets to keep the flowers looking good. And they always did. The flower baskets are a major reason residents talk with pride when talking about their neighborhood.



Ask Don and he was right there to help with all kinds of projects that benefitted the neighborhood. I remember riding with him to Oklahoma to pick up the old style gas pump installed at 50th and Underwood at the south end of A.B.'s 66 to help emphasize the historic nature of the neighborhood.

And what kind of a neighborhood would it be without the Boy Scouts. Don was involved in every way imaginable with the Scouts. Just the camp-outs alone with Troop 42. One would have a hard time counting the number Don helped organize and lead.

It takes people like Don Rock to make a neighborhood.

Gary Kerr

I will miss Don and his antique bike display at Dundee Day. Don was always so generous with his time and knowledge of his bicycles. And, once a couple of decades ago, I was even recruited to ride one of Don's bikes in a parade in 50's costume. In the picture below are more of Don's riders.

Ellen Shurson



Don is standing in the back of the Blossum Brigade truck with watering wand in hand. Gary Kerr standing in front.





Friends don't let friends put vinyl siding on their old houses.

Have I left any room for doubt? I'm not a big fan of vinyl siding, or aluminum siding, or steel siding. There are two main problems I have with these commonly used substitutes for traditional drop siding made of wood.

Too many re-siding jobs just look god-awful and that's my first objection. Replacement siding skinned over the existing siding changes the look of the house. Typically, the new siding sits flush with window and door trim, so you lose the effect of the light and shadow that defines the subtle detail of these fine old Dundee homes. The houses look smothered in artificial siding. The effect is like putting a parka on a Sports Illustrated swimsuit model.

And then to add insult to injury, the siders gleefully slap aluminum, vinyl or steel over the soffits, eaves, and every other exterior detail forever obscuring them. There is a handsome California-style bungalow on south 60th Street. That is, it was handsome until some crazed "tin man" boxed around the classically styled pillars with aluminum drop siding. Yikes!

Also, new siding usually has a much wider drop (width). If you haven't paid notice to this, look closely at the majestic old wood houses in the neighborhood. You'll see the siding is narrow. In some cases the width varies from the top of the house to the bottom, creating the pleasing visual effect the architect intended. New siding is usually much wider. Why? Because similar to most construction jobs, the cost of siding is mostly labor. Wider siding equals faster installation, equals lower costs for the contractor.

Another thing I've never understood about metal drop siding is the faux wood texture the manufacturers stamp into it. Presumably the stamping is to make the siding look more like wood, but I've not seen wood siding with grain pattern that visible. Wood siding, properly primed and painted is flat and smooth.

My second objection to these replacement-for-wood siding options is that they may just be masking more serious problems. If the paint on your home is peeling or sections of wood are rotten, then you have a water problem—maybe a leaky gutter or roof damage. Covering the problem areas with siding will only take care of the symptom but do nothing to cure the problem. Your old house could

be rotting away under the siding but you wouldn't see it until the damage was severe and quite possibly irreversible.

If you hate house painting (and yes that would be every one of us) you might consider one of the new super long life paints on the market. Sherwin-Williams has a paint called "Durations" which some painting experts claim will last 20 or 30 years before it needs to be repainted. The paint is expensive, about \$55 a gallon. Or a still good but cheaper alternative is Sherwin-Williams SuperPaint at \$40 a gallon. But since labor is the expensive part of a paint job and the incremental cost of better paint is always worth the investment, in my opinion.

The siding industry brags about how their products are "maintenance free" and they are—up to a point. Substitute siding will eventually fade or lose its glossy appearance. The solution for aluminum or steel siding is to paint it. But then it will have to be painted just as frequently as wood siding. Substitute siding will cost from two to three times the cost of a good paint job. According to the Department of Agriculture an exterior paint job should last from 8 to 10 years. Using the low end of that estimate then substitute siding will have to last from 16 to 24 years to break even.

All siding is subject to damage from fire, weather or vandalism. Repairing wood siding is a lot easier than repairing substitute siding.

If (despite my lunatic ravings) you have your heart set on substitute siding, find a "sensitive" contractor. Find a siding installer who will not smother the charm and character of your old house under an aluminum parka.

Connections

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

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Volunteers Needed for Flower Basket Planting

Join the fun of planting the 475 begonia flower baskets that adorn our Dundee historic street lights.

Location: Indian Creek Greenhouse
303 N. Saddle Creek Road
(Greenhouse is on the SE corner of the property)

Dates: Friday, March 9, 2012
Saturday, March 10, 2012

Time: 10 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Volunteers insert 40 begonia plants around the perimeter of each basket. Baskets are then filled with soil, and more begonia plants and ivy are added to the top. The baskets are stored in the Indian Creek Nursery greenhouse until mid-May, when they are placed on the lamp posts.



To volunteer for one or both days, sign up at the February DMPA meeting, or email Jen Goodman at jengoodman@centurylink.net.

Farewell to Grand Pa's

By Molly Romero of Marks Bistro

Lou and Paula Hyland of Grand Pa's Food Store and Deli announced their retirement and the closing of their store, long a landmark and active merchant in Dundee.

Grand Pa's was more than a convenience store – although it was truly convenient. Paula stocked the deli case with her home-made salads, sandwiches, freshly baked goods, and entrée selections for years, and, along with all the items you would expect in a convenience store, Lou, who was the store's meat cutter and sausage maker, also made certain their meat case was full of bargains and the fresh produce section was stocked.

Most of all, what set Lou and Paula apart from the convenience store genre, was service. The two of them have been giving to their neighborhood through service their entire lives. And that promises to continue. Paula plans to continue her catering, and Lou will be finding a way to keep busy, as I am sure he cannot stand still after being his own boss and putting in long days for so many years. He is hoping to continue with his pig roast for Dundee Day, which will keep him in touch with all his Dundee devotees.

In addition to running their business, over the past several decades, Lou and Paula have served their community in a most loving way; they have been foster parents to over 600 children, for which the Nebraska legislature passed a resolution honoring them for their commitment and service. "Many of the children," Lou says speaking of his huge foster family, "stay in touch with us."

On Friday, January 27th, the Dundee Bank hosted a farewell gathering for Lou and Paula, while the Dundee merchants attended to express their appreciation for all the Hylands have done for the neighborhood and wished them well in this next phase of their careers.

We will all miss Lou and Paula's daily presence – and we hope they will stay in touch with us and look for Lou and his roasted pig on Dundee Day and wish him well.

Meet the Merchants

Voilà!



One Woman's Dream Brings Delight to Many

By Molly Romero of Mark's Bistro

On a cold January day, I stopped in to meet Ann Étienne, proprietor of Voilà! Blooms & Décor in Dundee. She greeted me with a smile that could warm the coldest day and welcomed me into her back workspace, where she and her staff make all the creative floral arrangements. We began our conversation with her telling the story of Voilà!'s beginning.

Formally trained as a nurse, and with a stint working in a law firm, Ann found her niche when she landed in a floral shop. She loves (which she must have said many more times than she realized) working with people, flowers, and beautiful things. In September 2003, with strong encouragement (gentle shove) from her husband, Larry, and friends and family, she took the plunge and rented space.

Then came the name. Ann and Larry (who is of French heritage), tossed about various potential names. At that time, Ann was working on a project, and when finished, she exclaimed, "Voilà!" and that was it. They looked at each other with a sort of astonished recognition and realized that was the name. As Ann puts it, they wanted the name to "say everything, but also say nothing," to reflect the endless possibilities, unbounded by preconceived notions.

That September, Ann (with Larry along for support) headed to her first Atlanta Market to purchase the home décor inventory. Aside from her near "panic attack" at the vastness of the task of choosing her initial inventory, she found the experience thrilling. In speaking of her decision to open her own business, "It was a big gamble," she said, as they were putting everything into the new venture. But she is so very glad she did – she said once again, she loves what she is doing. Did I mention that her eyes sparkle when she says that?

So, Voilà! is fresh flowers in custom arrangements and home décor, meaning accessories and furniture.

When I asked Ann to describe Voilà!, she said "It is kind of like the market place for your home – a great place to spend an hour or two, with unusual décor, especially furniture. Something for everybody." That is a pretty broad brush, but when one enters the environment she has created, it is immediately apparent what she means. Whenever I go there I don't dare leave without examining every square inch of the place, and items that delight are everywhere.

Ann went on to say, "I want people to feel comfortable here, not obligated to buy. I want them to buy only because they fell in love with it." Many of Voilà!'s items have a continental feel, as if someone scoured the flea markets and antique stores of Paris, finding treasures that would fit any home décor from beach house to contemporary, from small cottage to large mansion. As beautiful accessories, they cross the barriers, enhancing the feel of any décor, enhancing the warmth. Ann says "Come in and experience us. Grab a friend and come on in."

But Voilà! is much more than a retail store. Ann and her staff provide full floral services for weddings, special corporate events (including shareholder events), country club dinners, private parties, and naturally those special bouquet days like Valentine's Day and Mother's Day. She says she also fills many orders for people who just send the special wishes for birthdays, "thinking of you" days, and get well wishes.

Ann offers a bit of advice to guys for Valentine's Day: "You don't have to send a dozen roses to make a statement for your Valentine to feel special." She encourages a wide range of selections for small and large bouquets – and budgets. One more bit of advice: "Send it to the office, not her home" as she will be able to share the delight of receiving flowers with all her co-workers. Ann has lived in Omaha since high school when her parents moved here to live near her grandmother, Ann Walsh, who was an Omaha institution in her own right.

Ann and Larry now live in Dundee just a few blocks from Voilà! With her home so close, several years ago, Ann decided to invite her customers to her home for a special event around the holidays. She decorates her home for both her family and her customers, and holds a double open house – one at her home, followed by another, on the same day at the store, both of them full of holiday ideas and the warmth and joy of the season.

Ann also holds store open houses for the change of season, one in March and the other in September, with the next one scheduled for March 22. At these open houses, the store hours are extended (open from 9am to 9pm), and she offers snacks during the day with wine and cheese in the evenings. At the upcoming spring open house, Ann is excited to share some terrific garden items, as well as other new-found treasures with her customers.

Her fall open house (the first Thursday after Labor

Meet the Merchants

Volia -continued from page 8.

Day), as you would expect, is flush with all things autumnal, full of color and texture. In addition, every June (with this year's scheduled for Saturday, June 16th), Ann holds a "Basement Sale," with items as a deep discount, a sort of spring cleaning for the store, but a magnificent treasure hunt for her customers.

But her heart still belongs to flowers, with all her arrangements made on the spot customized for each customer. "My customers know what they want," she said, and "Our designs are beautiful and make a statement." She added, "We take a lot of pride in what goes out the door." And I would add, she must also take a lot of pride in what comes in her doors, as her place is a feast for the eyes and pure delight, but her customers are what make her eyes twinkle with joy.

And Voilà! There it is.

Voilà! is at 4922 Dodge Street (the old Simons Florist building) and is open Monday through Friday 8 am to 6 pm and Saturday 8 am to 4 pm, closed Sundays. You may contact Voilà! at their website www.volaflowers.com, or by phone 991-1970.

PS I asked Ann if she would use some flower vases from my basement if I were to bring them by, and she said she would – eagerly. So if anyone needs to recycle those flower vases that seem to multiply in the dark of the basement, bring them by. Ann and her staff will see that they find a new home, and will be full of flowers when they do.



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Gabrielle, Our Beautiful German Shepherd

Was struck down with Leptospirosis on December 16, 2011.

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From a Banfield Pet Hospital handout:

Infected pets may have fever, muscle pain, increased thirst, and loss of appetite.

Vomiting, diarrhea and sign of upper respiratory disease (runny nose and eye, sneezing or coughing, trouble breathing) may also occur.

MY Thoughts: There may be no obvious "sick" signs until too late. So watch your pets carefully. Also, check with your veterinarian about vaccinations for this, as it is possible, but not widely done possibly because it is considered rare, BUT when it hits your family, it does not seem rare at all!



PS This was Gabrielle down by the Rebecca Nahas Abbott bench at the end of Happy Hollow Blvd near Dodge.

We went there many times and sat a short while. I am SO happy I took this picture about a month ago.

Connie and Don



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Recreation Center info: 444-5596 www.ci.omaha.ne.us/parks Saturday 8:30 am - 12 pm

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

Kids' Activities

Storytime - Wednesdays, February 1, 8, 15 & 22 | 10:30 am
Read books, sing songs, play games and make crafts. Fun for toddlers/preschoolers.

Lego Club - Wednesdays, February 1, 15 & 29 | 4:30 pm
Use your imagination to build anything you want with Legos. Snack provided. All ages.

Baby & Me Storytime - Fridays | 10:30 am
Mother Goose on the Loose. Parents, babies and toddlers will enjoy this nursery rhyme program that incorporates rhyming games, puppets, songs and musical instruments.

Fit Club - Saturday, February 4 | 2 pm
Have fun while working out! Try out yoga, do strength training, aerobics and even balance games.

Craft Time for Kids - Tuesdays | 4:30 pm
Have fun and be creative while you make a variety of crafts. Registration required. (Gr. K-5)

February 7: Pencil Toppers

February 14: Lollipop Flower Valentines

February 21: Mardi Gras Masks

February 28: Leap Year Craft

Movie Day: "Lion King" - Saturday, February 25 | 1 pm
Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie about a young lion cub and the lessons he learns while growing up.

Mittens Storytime - Wednesday, February 29 | 10:30 am
Come to the Library and meet Mittens! Remember to bring your camera!

Teen Activities

Homework Hangout - Tuesdays, February 7, 14 & 28 | 4:30 pm
Get basic homework help, use Tutor.com or type a paper on one of our teen computers. Grades K-12.

Teen Craft: "Valentine Fortune Cookies" - Thursday, February 9 | 4:30 pm
Learn to make this unique Valentine craft just in time for the holiday! Registration required.

Game Time: "Link's Crossbow Training" - Saturday, February 11 | 2-4 pm
Compete with your friends to see who has the best aim and can get the highest score!

Gr. 6-12 Lock-In - Friday, February 17 | 6-9 pm
Come to the Library and hang out with your friends! Enjoy food and refreshments while playing some of the Library's Wii & Xbox 360 Kinect games. A signed parental permission slip is required!

Teen Book Club - Saturday, February 18 | 2 pm
Book selection to be announced at a later date! Refreshments provided.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) - Saturday, February 18 | 3 pm
Enjoy snacks and refreshments while talking about issues, sharing your ideas and helping out at the Library.

Movie Day: "Zookeeper" - Tuesday, February 21 | 1 pm
Watch what happens when Griffin gets love advice from the animals at the zoo while enjoying popcorn.

Mardi Gras Masks for Teens - Tuesday, February 21 | 4:30 pm
Create your very own Mardi Gras Mask!

Adult Activities

Adult Game Time: Scrabble - Thursdays | 1 pm
Join us at the Library for some fun with the classic board game Scrabble!

Sorensen Readers Book Club - Saturday, February | 1 pm
Read and discuss "Winterdance" by Gary Paulsen.

Under the Dundee Sun Book Club - Tuesday, February 7 | 4:30 pm
Read and discuss "I Know Just What You Mean" by Ellen Goodman.

Internet Basics - Friday, February 10 | 10:30 am
Learn how to use the Internet to search effectively. Basic computer skills required. Limit 3.

HisMys Book Club - Saturday, February 11 | 10:30 am
Read and discuss "The Cocaine Blues" by Kerry Greenwood.

Movie Day for Adults: "What Women Want" - Tuesday, February 14 | Noon
Watch what happens after an accident causes a man to hear what women are really thinking.

Plains Pages Book Club - Saturday, February 18 | 1 pm
Read and discuss "Black Elk Speaks" by John Neihardt.

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Dundee-Memorial Park Association

Membership Form

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

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