

DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



DMPA

Next Meeting February 11th

Meeting Topic: Filmstreams

Exec. Director Rachel Jacobson.
Enhancing the cultural environ-
ment of the community:

Filmstreams is a truly unique
organization receiving national
attention, come hear about
Omaha's only non-profit film
theater and all that they do to
benefit our area.

Location and times:

Dundee Presbyterian Church
53rd & Underwood Ave

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



Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

"Dedicated to Preserving the Community"

www.dundee-memorialpark.org

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Vol. 23, No 2 February 2013

Letter From the President

Greetings to all.

As you may know, I write these letters a full three weeks before you receive them, like a truly snail mail – or the pony express from the Old West. So, for me today, it is mid-January. The reason I mention this is to place in context the following. One of the delights of winter for me is the silence, especially the silence after new snow has fallen. It is a great pleasure to be out walking on a sunny day with a new blanket of snow where the only sound is the crunch with each footstep. It is with surprise, then, that a few days ago as I was walking I heard the distinctive song of a cardinal. I took that as a sign that spring is not far away, and I am reminded of the joy of listening to the chorus of early morning bird songs as the many kinds of birds begin their seasonal conversation.

Dundee Community Garden. At our January meeting, Dundee Community Garden leaders Mary Green, Eric Williams and Rose Edzie gave an informative presentation about the garden, its programs, and their plan to purchase the property they are using at 49th and Underwood. Since the December unveiling of their plan to acquire the property, the showing of wide support has been heart-warming. Dundee's community garden is operated by dedicated and skilled gardeners, and we are very fortunate to have them giving their time and talents to that corner of Dundee and to the community. After four growing seasons, they have their systems well in place. They have done (and continue to do) their research and have great experience under their belts. They have a very capable team in their leadership.

One thing I learned from Mary Green's presentation is that the walkways between the garden plots are not only grass, but also full of clover, the preferred delectable from a rabbit's perspective. The garden may have many rabbits, but the rabbits get their fill from clover and are not a nuisance to the gardeners. Elmer Fudd could take a lesson in cooperation from the Dundee Community Garden!

The Dundee garden is a tremendous asset to the community and all Dundee residents. One feature of the garden is the sweet potato patch, which grows as much as 700 pounds of sweet potatoes a year, most of which is donated. It seems there is a crew of firefighters that has a surveillance system in place somewhere near the garden, because for the past two years, a fire truck has arrived on the scene just as the sweet potato harvest is underway. It makes me smile

Continued on page 4.

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DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

February 11th
Filmstreams
Rachel Jacobson

March 11
Candidates Forum

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President's Message

Continued from front page.

to think our firefighters are cooking the Dundee garden's sweet potatoes in their firehouse.

If you would like to support the fundraising efforts of the garden leaders, there is information about how to do that elsewhere in this newsletter.

Flower Baskets. In January, the DMPA paid its first installment for the flower baskets. It still amazes me how our flower basket program involves so many people, so many that are fully committed to making Dundee blossom all summer. We have many people to thank for the success we have enjoyed over the years. It is important to remember, there is room for everyone to participate in the flower basket project. Truly, everyone can play a part, even if that part is as simple as making a donation.

The labor-intensive tasks begin with the planting, and this year, our planting dates are March 15 and 16. There is information elsewhere in this newsletter about how to volunteer for the planting party at Indian Creek Nursery. Each year, volunteers gather to share in the work of planting the begonias and ivy in the moss planters, enjoying the company of their neighbors, and sharing in the meals and other goodies donated by Dundee businesses. Consider spending your "Ides of March" with baby begonias and ivy – it will warm your heart and boost your confidence in the coming of spring! Streetscape update. On January 31st, the public meeting to view the final design for the streetscape project was held. The next step is to prepare the bid package for contractors, with a view toward obtaining construction bids in March. The schedule still calls for construction beginning in late April. It has taken much work by many people to reach this point, and it is exciting to see it transition from idea to paper, and soon, to concrete! The project would not happen without the persistent support and guidance of our city councilman, Pete Festersen. Thank you, Pete.

Proposed Walmart. As published in the Omaha World-Herald, for those of you who missed the article, Walmart has proposed building a 38,000 square-foot grocery store with pharmacy where the old Target was on Saddle Creek just south of California Street. It will be good to see the empty building removed and the parking lot spruced up with landscaping, which is in the current plan. The area is designated as a Major Commercial Corridor ("MCC"), an overlay designation that requires compliance with the city's urban design ordinance in addition to zoning regulations. City planners are in the process of reviewing the site plan (including building placement, landscaping, ingress and egress) and will be receiving the proposed building elevations soon. If you

would like to see what is being proposed and engage in the discussion about it at the Planning Board meeting, the project is on the agenda for the February 6th meeting, in the Legislative Chambers at 1:30 pm (1819 Farnam Street). If you would like to attend, please confirm there has been no change to the agenda before making the trip downtown.

Temple Israel Property. The Temple Israel property on Cass just west of the Omaha Community Playhouse is for sale and a North Carolina-based company, Campus Crest, is proposing to build a 580-bed apartment complex made up of 10 four-story buildings, including a parking garage. They plan to market the apartments to college students. The site is approximately eight acres, and the 10 buildings would be a dense development and visually would be the highest buildings in the area. We are used to seeing a lot of open space there, so it would be a dramatic change, but I am not suggesting that we should form a quick opinion about the desirability of the project. There will be opportunities to learn more and express your views, especially to our two city councilmen, Pete Festersen and Chris Jerram. There was an information meeting scheduled at the First United Methodist Church across the street from the site on January 28th as this letter went to press.

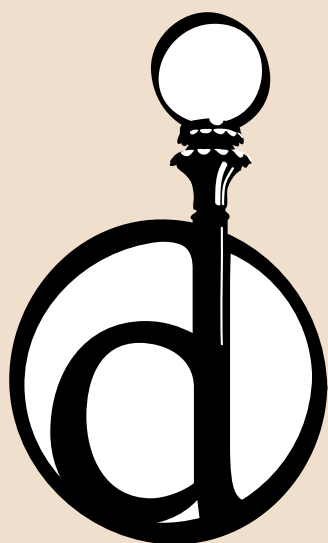
Film Streams. Omaha is extremely fortunate to have the non-profit film theater, Film Streams. It is truly one of Omaha's brightest gems, and only 10 minutes from the heart of Dundee. At our next DMPA meeting, Monday, February 11, we will have Rachel Jacobson, founder, visionary, and executive director of Film Streams, present to share stories about how Film Streams came to be, what it is, and what it does. I urge you to attend and share in the wonder of how Omaha became so fortunate as to have Film Streams, which is my favorite Omaha film theater.

We hope to see many of you there.

Molly Romero
DMPA President

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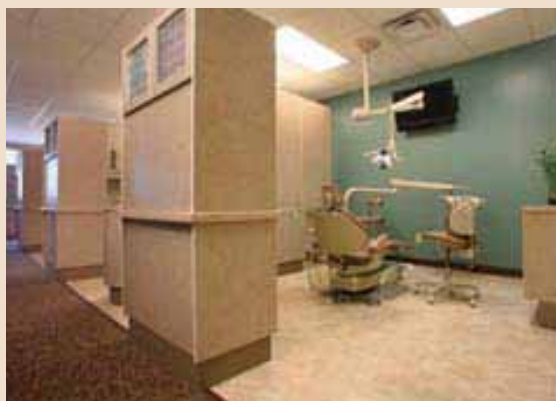
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2013 Flower Baskets

Flower Basket Volunteers Needed

Start the New Year right by turning over a new leaf! We need volunteers to sign up to help plant the 500 decorative flower baskets that will hang along the Dundee streets this summer. The planting will take place at Indian Creek Nursery on March 15 and 16, at the Indian Creek Nursery Greenhouse (303 N. Saddle Creek Road). Planting starts at 10 a.m. and lasts until around 3 p.m., with a mid-day break for a lunch donated by neighborhood restaurants.

Indian Creek Nursery provides not only the guidance in planting the baskets, but also the space to handle our volunteers in a climate-controlled environment. So, even if the weather outside is still frightful, you can enjoy the day inside meeting your neighbors and helping beautify Dundee.

To volunteer for one or both days, please sign up at the February Dundee-Memorial Park Association meeting or contact Jen Goodman at jen-goodman@centurylink.net.



Dundee Community Garden is “Growing Roots”

The Dundee Community Garden is happy to report that our fundraising drive to purchase the garden site, making the garden a permanent part of the neighborhood, is off to a very strong start. In our first six weeks we have raised over \$8000 from individual donations from our members and our Dundee neighbors. Additionally, we are in the process of submitting grant applications to foundations to help us meet our \$65,000 goal.

If you can help us make this plan a reality, please consider a tax-deductible donation to the project. Checks should be made out to DMPA Community Garden Project and can be sent c/o Rose Edzie, 4902 Capitol Ave., Apt. 304, Omaha NE 68132. Donations can also be made on-line at www.dundee garden.org, or dropped off at the Dundee Bank. Donations of \$150 and above will earn the donor a space on the commemorative plaque that will be installed at the garden.

(The Dundee Community Garden (DCG) has applied for tax-exempt status, and the application is pending. In the interim, the Dundee-Memorial Park Association (DMPA) has agreed to act as a fiscal sponsor for the fundraising activity until the DCG's application is approved. Therefore donations for the DCG are being made to the DMPA on behalf of the garden, and are fully tax-deductible.)



Don't wag your finger at me. It's not that my mind is in the gutter...it's that my mind is on gutters—house gutters that is.

Barb Davis, a reader who lives in Benson, got me thinking about gutters when she wrote:

Had a few questions about gutters.

I need new gutters and my house insurance inspector said I had galvanized gutters. He said the houses he inspected that had galvanized gutters did not show hail damage like aluminum ones.

My question is: In your opinion, are galvanized gutters better than aluminum? Do they cost more?

Another question: I have had one bid so far. Can't seem to get companies out soon. The one bid I have for the gutters are for 032-gauge aluminum. Is this a good quality weight?

One more question: Should I consider seamless gutters?

It is my opinion that galvanized gutters are a better choice exactly for the reasons your house insurance inspector cited--they are tougher. As you know, aluminum is a very soft metal and hail, branches, ladders, etc. will take a greater toll on aluminum. The downside for galvanized gutters is that they will eventually rust. The galvanizing will prevent that happening for many years and good maintenance--keeping them clear of leaves and debris and painting when needed (every 7-10 years)-- will extend the life of galvanized gutters and downspouts.

As a rule of thumb galvanized gutters are supposed to be about a 1/3 cheaper than aluminum. (However, I have not specifically priced them, so I don't know this for a fact.)

.032 inch is generally considered the thickest guttering material used and I would not use anything thinner because it won't hold up.

Seamless gutters are better choice than gutters assembled in sections, because there are fewer seams where water may begin to leak out of. Because they take less labor to install, presumably seamless gutters should be less expensive.

Dale Vandevort, writing for the This Old House web site warns gutter installation is an easy-entry business that requires only a few tools and a \$20,000 seamless-gutter machine. As a result almost anyone can call himself or herself a gutter contractor so carefully choosing a pro is crucial on gutter projects. Check references, and drive by finished jobs. Always get more than one bid; if one is considerably lower than another, there's a good chance the gutters used by the contractor who made the lower bid are less than .032 in. thick.

There are other ways to guarantee a good installation. Before you hire someone, insist on a free estimate, and be there when the pro checks out your project. Clearly point out where you want gutters and downspouts installed. Also make sure the bid includes all carpentry-repair work. Before installation starts, replace rotting fascia boards (the trim boards at the eaves). Gutters need a 1/4" per four foot drop to drain properly.

Finally, check the warranty. For gutters and accessories, look for a warranty that runs at least 20 years, though a lifetime backing is preferable. For labor, one-year coverage is the minimum. Also be sure the contractor has completion insurance, which continues coverage on the gutters if he goes out of business.

I hope this information is helpful to you. I wish you good luck with your project.

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February Fixes

By Jean Sigler

Recently my neighbor was quoted in a World Herald article as saying, "The only thing that works in an old house is the owner." Anyone who lives in one of these old Dundee beauties knows this is true. It is usually during these dark cold months that boredom causes me to look around and see all the things that need to be repaired in this particular old house. There is no time like winter to hunker down and fix up the old place, so I have made a list of problems to address.

1. Fix the bedroom door for real. Several years ago the little pointy thing that clicks into the plate on the door jam, causing the door to shut and stay shut, stopped clicking into anything. I have no idea what happened to it, but it looked like some kind of long-toothed nocturnal animal had chewed on it for a decade or two. In any case, it didn't keep the bedroom door closed. I used the deadbolt type lock, but that eventually wore away as well. Then I shoved a hunk of a moleskin pad between the door and the jam which worked great for a long time, but finally it was embarrassing to look up and see a corn plaster holding the door closed, so I decided it was time to get a proper door mechanism. I went to the old house graveyard in south Omaha and found a mortise lock (the real term for what opens and closes the door) that was the right size, more or less. When I installed it, it didn't fit exactly, but if I slammed the door with some authority, the little pointy thing clicked in and the door stayed shut without the use of moleskin. Only problem is, you can't open the door from the outside. The knob on the other side of the new door setup doesn't seem to have any noticeable effect on the movement of the little pointy thing. So, if I have any kind of emergency on the inside of the bedroom door while everyone else is on the outside, I could buy the farm waiting for the jaws of life or the fireman with the ax or whatever. Except that I have the Plan B door. That is the door between the master bedroom closet and the two other rooms the closet was apparently intended to service. Since I am the only one who uses the closet, which is the size of a cereal box, I have blocked egress to it from the other side with the poor man's version of a California Closet. Obstructing the door on my side is a bank of particle board cubbies which hold my shoes, a towel rack from which I hang my necklaces and a toilet paper holder on which I hook my bracelets. Across the top door jam are cup hooks which accommodate my baseball caps. In an emergency it would be entirely possible for someone to open the closet door, shove the cubbies down, duck under the jewelry racks and caps and crash into the master bedroom to rescue me. It would be inter

esting to see, though, if the firemen could figure out the route before I croaked.



2. Call the plumber. The faucet in the tub trickles pitiful little streams of water and runs a bath at the rate of approximately a gallon per hour. The hot water faucet in the sink works at about the same rate. If I need hot water to wash my face, I generally turn on the tap and watch an episode of the View while I wait for the sorry little dribble to warm up.

3. Figure out once and for all why the back door sticks with any variation in the weather. I am tired of instructing people on the proper way to close it. They never do it right anyway. I keep telling them it's 1) pull up on the knob, 2) shift the door to the left, then 3) kick it at the bottom. Last month the door started malfunctioning in a completely different way and I had to teach the family a whole new set of moves necessary to get the pointy thing to click into the hole: heave up on the knob and give it a shoulder slam at the same time. A few days into using the stopgap system, and assuming the issue would right itself when the humidity went up or down, I reached to get my favorite fleece jacket from the coat rack by the door. It wouldn't budge. I looked down and noticed that the zipper was caught in the door jam. When I took it out, the door closed easily. That was nice, but now I have to figure out how to fix the zipper on the jacket.

4. Repaint the wall in the living room that looks like a patchwork quilt. When I did some scratch and chip paint repair a few years ago, I thought it looked fine. Now that the cataracts have been removed it is apparent that I used the dining room paint.

5. Ask the garage door guy why one side won't go up or down on winter days between 3 and 5 o'clock. I've tried bending the electric eye gadget and sweeping all the cobwebs away, but the weird pattern of this glitch makes me suspect that electronic fields in the universe are being manipulated by aliens who are bored with winter and are just yanking my chain.

Simply writing the list makes it feel like spring is just around the corner.



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Monday – Thursday	5:30 pm – 6:30 pm
Tuesday & Thursday	4:20 pm – 5:20 pm
Saturday & Sunday	8:30 am – 9:30 am

Tai Chi

Tai chi is for everyone. Tai Chi is a series of slow moments and postures that are practiced for health in a relaxed state.

Tuesday & Friday's	10:30 am – 12:00 pm
Contact Lucretia at 402-558-8299	
Monday & Wednesday's	6:00 pm – 6:45 pm
Contact Michele at 402-558-8645	

Anahata Yoga

This class is very gentle and good for all levels, including those with limited mobility. Emphasis on heart centered awareness that promotes balance, flexibility, and strength.

Tuesday & Thursday's	12:00 pm – 1:00 pm
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Contact Ruth at 402-991-7088

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Friday	8:30 am – 5:00 pm
Saturday	8:30 am – 12:00 pm

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Adult Tap Class FREE

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Pilates, Yoga & Stability Ball Classes

Pilates	
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Wednesday	2:00 pm
Thursday	9:30 am

Active yoga

Monday	10:45 am
Thursday	6:30 pm
Saturday	8:30 am

Active Senior Yoga

Saturday	10:00 am
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Stability Ball

Tuesday	9:45 am
Tuesday	5:25 pm

Zumba

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Saturday	9:30 am – 10:30 am

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

Kids' Programs

Baby & Me Storytime - Fridays | 10:15 AM

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

Padmini Yoga Storytime - Friday, February 1 | 4:30 PM

Storytime comes alive as we illustrate books with yoga. Suggested for kids up to age 6.

Fit Club - Saturday, February 2 | 2 PM

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

Toddler Storytime - Wednesdays | 10:15 AM

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

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

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

Family Power Hour - Saturday, February 9 | 4 PM

Learn how to use Scratch to create interactive stories, games, music and art with your family online! Registration required.

Valentine's Day Craft for Kids - Tuesday, February 12 | 4:30 PM

Have fun creating a fun Valentine's Day craft!

Maisy Storytime - Wednesday, February 13 | 10:15 AM

Bring your camera to storytime and meet Maisy the Mouse!

Science Club - Wednesdays, February 13 & 27 | 4:30 PM

(Gr. 2-6) Have fun learning about science and doing experiments! In February, we will learn more about electronics.

Movie Day: Hotel Transylvania ©Columbia Pictures Industries, Inc. - Friday, February 15 | 1 PM

Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie about what happens when Dracula's daughter falls for a human boy!

Teen Programs

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

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

Game Time - Saturdays, February 9 & 23 | 2-4 PM

Have fun with your friends at the Library playing our Wii & Xbox 360 Kinect games.

February 9: *Sonic's Ultimate Genesis Collection*

February 23: *You choose*

Valentine's Day Craft for Teens - Tuesday, February 12 | 4:30 PM

Have fun creating a fun Valentine's Day craft! Registration required.

Gr. 6-12 Gaming Lock-In - Friday, February 15 | 6-9 PM

Enjoy food and refreshments while playing some of the Library's Wii & Xbox 360 Kinect games! A signed parental permission slip is required.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) - Saturday, February 16 | 3 PM

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

Adult Programs

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

Book selection to be announced. Please call the Library for more information.

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

Read and discuss *The Necklace* by Cheryl Jarvis.

Scrabble - Thursdays | 1 PM

Join us at the Library for some fun with the classic board game Scrabble!

HisMys Book Club - Saturday, February 9 | 10:30 AM

Book selection to be announced. Please call the Library for more information.

Movie Day for Adults: Alex Cross ©Lionsgate - Tuesday, February 12 | NOON & 5:45 PM

Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie based on James Patterson's famous literary character Alex Cross!

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

Book selection to be announced. Please call the Library for more information.

Garbage Ordinance

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

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



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Dundee-Memorial Park Association Membership Form

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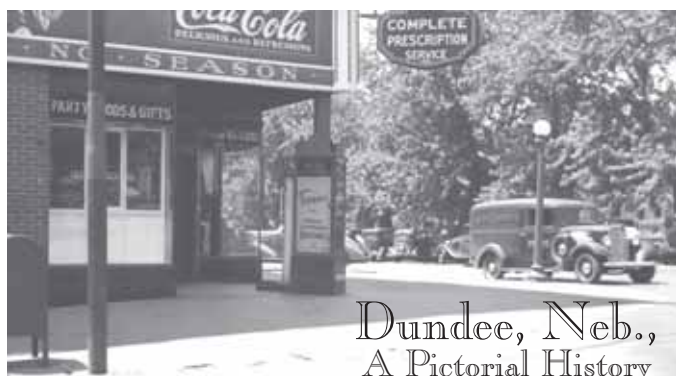
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