

# DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



## DMPA

### Next Meeting January 14th

#### Meeting Topic:

The Dundee Community  
Garden - Securing the  
Garden's future in Dundee

#### 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](http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org)

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## Letter From the President

Happy New Year to All.

With the end of the holiday season it is time to reflect on 2012 and begin to set goals for the coming year – resolutions, big and small, begin to creep into our thinking, even for those of us who tend to scoff at the idea. With a new year, we feel as though we can click on the “refresh” icon and begin again. I know for 2013, I plan to watch each episode of Downton Abbey with friends (and great food), be a bit more attentive to my garden’s needs, and participate in this year’s garage sale weekend in hopes of finding new homes for many items I no longer use. May you enjoy choosing your resolutions and seeing them through to fulfillment.

A few words about the season past – we thank the secret scouts who explored the neighborhood seeking beautiful displays celebrating the joy of the holiday season and sharing their discoveries in the December newsletter. If we followed their trail, we found gorgeous and elaborate holiday displays, enhancing the joy and beauty of the neighborhood. Our scouts found much to share, and with eloquent words, made a trip through our quiet nighttime streets irresistible. Thank you to our “secret scouts.”

Historic Dundee Signage. Some time ago, more than a few years, several board members of the neighborhood association decided it would enhance the neighborhood to place signs at various locations acknowledging entry to our historic Dundee. These board members created a plan, raised funds, had the signs made, and just this past month, they were professionally installed. With the final push to complete the project coming from Dave Schinzel, who overcame some interesting hurdles to see all eight signs installed. They now proudly announce entry to our favorite neighborhood, and we invite you to see if you can find all eight of them. Many thanks to Dave and all those before him who began the project and kept moving it along.

Streetscape update. The final public meeting for the Dundee business district streetscape design will be held on Thursday, January 31, from 6:00 to 8:00 pm, at the Neighborhood Center, located in the Holland Basham Building on the northwest corner of 49th and Farnam. The Neighborhood Center entrance is in the northwest corner of the building, at street level (not up the stairs). At this meeting Snyder & Associates, along with city personnel, will present the final design and discuss the anticipated time line. There will be plenty of opportunity to interact and ask questions. We encourage all to attend.

Continued on page 4.

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## **DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR**

**January 14th**  
Future of Dundee  
Garden

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# President's Message

Continued from front page.

Flower Baskets. In January, we will be gearing up for the flower basket project, with block captains raising money. Peter Manhart, our street captain coordinator, will be contacting block captains by email and looking for block captains for those blocks that do not have one. When your block captain contacts you for a contribution, please be generous. If you can, imagine the beauty of spring and blooming flower baskets suspended from our distinctive light poles, visible outside your window, during the most blustery winter storm, and it just may cheer you.

Each basket costs \$68, and the approximately 500 baskets require a large team of volunteer planters working over two days in March, putting the small plants in there baskets so the Indian Creek Nursery can nurse them along until May when the installation team spends a weekend or two hanging them from the poles. It is truly an amazing accomplishment and we have many people to thank for the success we have enjoyed over the years. Our own Jen Goodman, our planting coordinator, has an announcement elsewhere in this newsletter, calling for volunteers for this spring's planting. It is a great way to meet our wonderful neighbors and to welcome the coming of spring. Please consider joining the folks at the nursery and contacting Jen to let her know you will help.

Dundee Community Garden. At our January meeting (on the 14th) we will hear from Mary Green, one of the founders of the Dundee Community Garden. She will be telling us about the DCG's plan to acquire the garden property, a truly exciting prospect! I could not be more enthusiastic about the potential of placing that property in such capable hands. It would be such a valuable asset aesthetically, but even more importantly, it stands as evidence of the power of community, and the value of people working together for community improvement. I do hope you will attend and consider making a contribution to support their project.

New Dundee Business Open. Just around Thanksgiving, Le Quartier Bakery opened at 5026 Underwood Avenue. Stop in to try their croissants, pastries, or pick up a baguette or loaf of bread. They also serve sandwiches, soup and salads, with a seating area for your enjoyment. A word of caution, however, the almond croissants can be habit forming. They are open seven days a week, serving from 7:00 am to 6:00 pm Monday through Friday, and from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm on Saturday and Sunday. To place a special order, you may call them at 402-933-3595.

New Trash Container Ordinance. One final note, we remind everyone that as of last June, there is a new garbage ordinance in effect. We are risking a \$100 fine (first offense) for leaving our trash containers at the curb after collection day or for failing to place them in a place screened from view when not at the curb. Please do not be the first to be fined for such a thing. Screen your containers

and keep them out of sight for the beauty of the neighborhood and health of your pocket book! This applies to commercial properties as well as residential.

We hope to see many of you at our next meeting. Once again, I am going to try to convince Dundee's answer to Erma Bombeck, our entertaining writer, Jean Sigler, to join us, as I am receiving many inquiries about her. So maybe, if I am successful, this will be your chance to meet her, too! Have a great January, and good luck with your resolutions!

Molly Romero  
DMPA President

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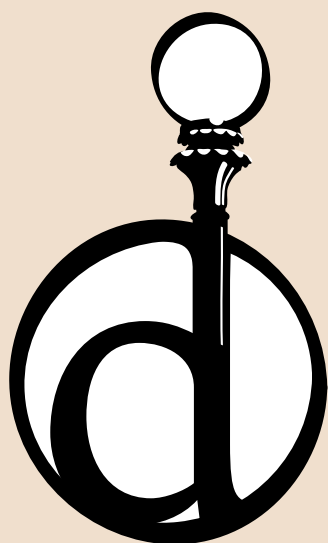
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# 2013 Flower Baskets

## 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 January or February Dundee-Memorial Park Association meeting or contact Jen Goodman at [jengoodman@centurylink.net](mailto:jengoodman@centurylink.net).



# RESTAURANT *month*

## FEBRUARY 1 - 28

Proceeds benefit



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Old house ownership means you get to take on many roles: a plumber, an electrician, a painter, a plasterer and a whole lot more. And if you're not playing the

roles, you get to write checks to the plumber, the electrician, the painter, the plasterer and a whole lot more. But here's one job title you may not have thought about: detective. This is one role I find the most gratifying—old house detective. With a bit of sleuthing you'll uncover a wealth of information about your old house and this is easily a do-it yourself job for everyone (no check-writing involved).

The Smithsonian Museum of American History recently published a pamphlet on how to research your old house's history. Here's what the museum curators suggest.

Old house history starts at home. The physical structure of your home will yield clues about its past. With a sharp eye and Sherlock Holmes logic, look at the materials the house was made of. If you're unsure of the age of the house, the materials can offer significant hints. For example the terra-cotta block used in our basement and garage has a 1918 patent date stamped in it. Materials and construction type are particular to specific periods of time. Also look for changes from the original materials that can suggest early remodeling efforts or additions to the original home.

Government records can yield a wealth of information. There is no charge to look up the list of previous owners at the Douglas County Register of Deeds. Armed with those names you can learn much about the people who previously lived in your home. The Omaha Public Library and the Historical Society of Douglas County are two excellent repositories of information about Omaha families.

Many Dundee old house owners have been surprised and delighted with a visit from previous owners who often hold the keys to certain old house mysteries. The Kennedy family who owned our old house for several decades visited us a few Christmases ago. In the course of their visit we learned the reason for the full-length mirror face-mounted on the third-floor bathroom door. It hides the hole they cut in the door to free the youngest daughter who had inadvertently locked herself in. If you haven't been blessed with this kind of visit, use your research to find previous owners or their offspring and invite them for a visit. Ask them for copies of old photos and encourage them to write down their memories of the house.

Whatever pictures, photocopies of documents, personal histories that you accumulate in your detective work, put them together in a narrative scrapbook. Your

scrapbook can be a legacy for your children and think of how thrilled future owners of your old home will be to get a copy of your house's history.

From the e-mailbag, I'll share this story of an Old House Dundee renovation. (For all the pains of renovation more stories than not do end with "they lived happily ever after.")

*Dear Don,*

*I thought I would finally drop you another line regarding my home remodeling endeavors. The kitchen is nearing completion. I removed all the old wallpaper upstairs and then repainted. The wood floors throughout the house have been refinished. Red Oak floors with no stain really lighten up the house. My mother and I have recently finished stripping and sanding all the woodwork on the main floor and will soon be staining.*

*I will be having new windows put in on the second floor but will be retaining most of the old storms on the first floor. This will be much more conducive to my lifestyle as a single woman, being that the second floor windows prove to be a bit too daunting. All in all the remodeling project has been going well and I have much confidence in all whom I have retained to complete such beautiful work.*

*I am not expecting to move for another month due to a wallpaper setback. But, I will keep you updated as the project is wrapped up and would love for you to see the house. Although I have done very, very little of the work myself I have certainly learned a great deal by watching others and by such small projects as the stripping of the woodwork. I believe we tried a few different products and finally settled on Citristrip - it was a beautiful day when that was applied to the woodwork - I thought the paint would never be removed prior to that. Well, now that I have rambled on. . . have a great day!!*

*Trilety Wade*

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# No Walk in the Park

By Jean Sigler

When the first of the year rolls around I am always reminded of the January a few years ago when my friends and I hiked to the bottom of the Grand Canyon and (thankfully) back up.

I thought the trip would be expensive, but the cost of the food, lodging and transportation was quite reasonable. The hotels and meals cost about \$300 for four nights. I got a reasonable airfare to Phoenix and getting to the Canyon itself was free because my friend drove us up to the South Rim. Nonetheless the total cost of the trip came to \$4,798.43. I believe I bought every piece of hiking clothing and equipment that was available for sale. I got a backpack that could accommodate all the needs of a healthy toddler for two weeks and a trekking pole that would make a Sherpa jealous. I got soap-on-a-rope, chapstick-on-a-rope, a really cute little flashlight-on-a-rope, a combination whistle, mirror, compass and secret compartment for your ibuprofen-on-a-rope. I had \$200 hiking boots, heavy socks, medium socks, sock liners and the entire line of Dr. Scholl's blister treatments. I had glove warmers and crampons. I had hats for warmth, hats for shade and a hat just to cover my hair, which always looked completely dorky from wearing the other hats.

Not only did all this stuff cost a fortune, it had to be crammed into the backpack along with make-up and toilette items, hair-do enhancers, ibuprofen, a curling iron, a hair dryer, hormone pills, blood pressure pills, cholesterol pills, anti-histamine pills, antacid pills, more ibuprofen, a camera, a journal, guide books, a mini bottle of wine from the plane, and oh yes, food and water. On the first attempt at packing, my Camelback Trans Alp Daypack weighed 117 pounds. I was able to hoist it onto my back okay, but I immediately fell over backwards and lay there flailing my legs in the air like a turtle upended on its shell. It was obvious I had to shed some weight (still is, for that matter). My thought was to get rid of the heaviest thing first – the water. After all it was winter and how thirsty can you get when you're cold anyway? Then my eye caught sight of the tag hanging from my backpack, "Hydrate or Die." Clearly something else had to go. I bit the bullet and left the hair dryer, camera, airplane wine and journal behind. I figured I had hats to cover my dorky hair; my girlfriend had 12 rolls of film and her camera; there was wine at Phantom Ranch at the bottom; the hormones

would help me to remember my deep thoughts and hiking hints so I could fill in the journal when I returned to civilization.

Our group rose at an ungodly hour and began our trek down the South Kaibab Trail for the 5,000 foot vertical descent to the Colorado River.

The road to hell, as it turns out, is not paved with good intentions but with mule droppings (not to mention drippings). In the winter these naturally occurring phenomena freeze into ice covered, boulder-sized hazards. With each step, the unwary hiker runs the risk of slipping on one of these Donkey Death Traps and plunging to a sure and certain death – or at the very least absolutely ruining her brand new Patagonia breathable wicking fleece pullover. Caution is the order of the day. It was probably a good thing that I had to stay totally focused, or I might have noticed one or all of the following: I was always only a careless footstep from a three to four thousand foot fall into the belly of the earth; my knee and hip joints actually made an audible sound when I took a step as bone grated against bone time after time after time; my calf muscles and quads had locked up and become like concrete blocks which served no purpose except to generate the most exquisite pain I had ever experienced. Near the bottom of the trail when I didn't think that I could take one more downhill step I seriously considered diving head first into the mule poopcicles and ending it all.

I hung on and we completed the downhill trek in 6 hours and 15 minutes. We were continuously passed by youngsters in windbreakers and tennis shoes who reached the bottom while we were just finishing lunch. I hated them then and I hate them now.

The trail going up is longer, so it took us eight hours to get back to the top. We could have made it in less time, but there does not seem to be any way to coordinate the bladder, nutrition, and layering/unlayering needs of four menopausal women. We stopped about every 8.5 minutes so someone could scamper into the bushes, take a picture, eat some trail mix or layer up or down to accommodate her hormonally challenged internal thermostat. BUT WE MADE IT!



[www.cityofomaha.org/parks](http://www.cityofomaha.org/parks)

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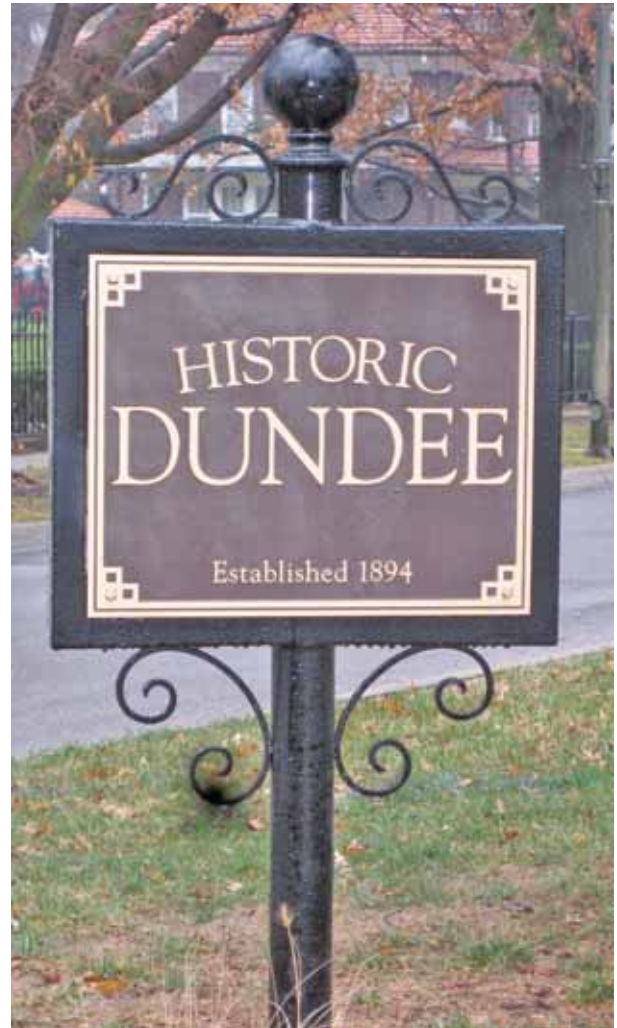


# Historic Dundee Signs Installed

Back in 2004, DMPA decided to undertake a project of installing 8 bronze Historic Dundee signs at the main entrances to our neighborhood. Gary Kerr, Bob Welk and Bill Kelley took on this project and received funds from Mayor Fahey's Neighborhood Grant to get the 8 bronze signs fabricated. Unfortunately, the project ran into some obstacles with the City so it was put on hold. In 2011, DMPA decided to move forward on this project. We worked with the Public Works Department on getting the locations finalized and approved. In March, DMPA was awarded a Kiewit Foundation Neighborhood Grant for \$4,500 which allowed for the fabrication of decorative cast iron posts by American Fence Company. After some difficulties with the sign posts, we were ready for the final installation in September when we ran into another obstacle from the City Planning Department. They were now requiring DMPA to pay for sign permits for each location as well as the leasing of City property. This would have added thousands of dollars to this project and threatened to bring it to a halt.

DMPA contacted Councilman Pete Festersen about this situation and he was able to move quickly to get it resolved. Other similar projects in previous years had not been required to pay for permits or lease property. Councilman Festersen was able to get a change in the City ordinance that was a compromise with the Planning Department where DMPA ended up paying one fee for a sign permit and did not have to pay for the leases of property. Unfortunately, this caused a lengthy delay while the law was changed by the City Council. In October, the first sign was installed on the old Piano Building at 49th & Dodge. After some more delays, the other seven signs were installed on December 14th bringing this project to a successful conclusion. We finally have beautiful signs at the major entrances to our neighborhood to let people know they are in Historic Dundee.

Dave Schinzel



## Sign Locations

49th & Dodge St. (Piano Building)  
48th & California St.  
52nd St./Western Ave./Happy Hollow Blvd.  
J.E. George Blvd. & Underwood Ave.  
Dodge St./Farnam St./Happy Hollow Blvd.  
52nd St. & Jones St.  
50th St. & Leavenworth St.  
Happy Hollow Blvd. & Leavenworth St.

## Special Thanks for Making This Project Possible

Bob Welk, Bill Kelley, Gary Kerr  
Mayor Fahey's Neighborhood Grant  
Kiewit Foundation  
Todd Pfitzer, City of Omaha Traffic Engineer  
Councilman Pete Festersen  
Matt Dougherty, Owner of Old Piano Building  
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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.

**Movie Day** - Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie.

Wednesday, January 2: 1 PM—*Shrek* ©DreamWorks

3 PM—*Shrek 2* ©DreamWorks SKG

Thursday, January 3: 1 PM—*Shrek the Third* ©DreamWorks

3 PM—*Shrek Forever After* ©DreamWorks Animation

**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, January 4 | 4:30 PM

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

**Gr. 2-6 Lock-In** - Friday, January 4 | 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.

**Fit Club** - Saturday, January 5 | 2 PM

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

**Lego Club** - Wednesdays, January 9 & 23 | 4:30 PM

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

**Family Power Hour** - Saturday, January 12 | 4 PM

Explore [diy.org](http://diy.org) which is a website for families who want to learn how to make things! Registration required.

**Science Club** - Tuesdays, January 15 & 29 | 5 PM

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

## **Teen Programs**

**Fit Club** - Saturday, January 5 | 2 PM

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

**Lego Club** - Wednesdays, January 9 & 23 | 4:30 PM

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

**Game Time** - Saturdays, January 12 & 26 | 2-4 PM

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

January 12: *Kinect Sports* January 26: *You choose*

**Teen Advisory Board (TAB)** - Saturday, January 19 | 3 PM

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

## **Adult Programs**

**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, January 5 | 1 PM

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

**Under the Dundee Sun Book Club** - Tuesday, January 8 | 4:30 PM

Read and discuss *Rainwater* by Sandra Brown.

**Kindle Basics** - Tuesday, January 8 | 6 PM

Learn how to download eBooks from the Library and the Internet using your Kindle. Registration required.

**HisMys Book Club** - Saturday, January 12 | 10:30 AM

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

**Movie Matinee for Adults: *Trouble with the Curve*** ©Warner Bros. Pictures - Wednesday, January 16 | NOON

Enjoy popcorn while watching a movie starring Clint Eastwood.

**Plains Pages Book Club** - Saturday, January 19 | 1 PM

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



**Dundee**  
4825 Dodge St.

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## DUNDEE CLASSIFIED /WANT ADS

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**397-4223** Area References

**Reserve this spot  
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For pennies per household.  
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❖ Snow Removal - residential / commercial

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Artistic plant palette & natural stone selection

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

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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.)**

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