

DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



**No DMPA
Meetings
Until September**

Have a Great Summer



**Dundee
Day
August 29th**

Plan on a day full of fun!

Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

"Dedicated to Preserving the Community"

www.dundee-memorialpark.org

Published by Shurson Publishing, P.O. Box 31485, Omaha, NE 68131

Vol. 19, No 6 June 2009

President's Message

Where to begin....conclude the spring, or start the summer?!?! First, and foremost, a rousing thank you to one and all who had a hand in making DMPA go during the year past. I don't know about a village...but it takes many willing workers to have a functioning and productive neighborhood association. THANK YOU! And give yourself an "atta boy/girl". I can't really say "rest up....and get ready for fall" because there are so many activities, so much to do this summer...and in early June...two things on the same day, at the same time!!! June 6, the 55th anniversary of D-Day, right here on our own Omaha Beach, in the Memorial Park Rose Garden, at 10 am, we will be dedicating a piece of sculpture, "ASCENSION", by Jake Balcom; a gift from an anonymous donor and the Association to the city of Omaha. Mayor Mike Fahey, in one of his last appearances as Mayor, will be present to accept the gift. Please join us. Complete details may be found elsewhere in this Newsletter. Neighborhood Clean Up is the second activity on June 6th. Dumpsters, along with metal and electronic recyclers, will be present in the parking lot east of Brownell Talbot School from 9 am to 2pm. Entrance to the parking lot is from Underwood Avenue. Adam and Heike Langdon encourage volunteers to help with this event. Give them a call. One last reminder, on this day, many streets in the north Dundee/Memorial Park portion of the neighborhood will be designated as one-way, beginning at 8 am, due to the Mayor's Musical Concert that begins at 4 pm that afternoon in Memorial Park. Underwood Avenue will remain two-way all day.

It is encouraging to report that a fine group of friends and neighbors attended the first Adopt Elmwood Park & Stream event of the spring, from 9 to 11 am on May 9. Marty Myers and Trilety Wade led the volunteers in clean-up, planting and mulching activities. Additional clean-up and tending activities will occur on June 13, July 18 and September 26, from 9 to 11 am. Complete details are available elsewhere in this Newsletter and on the DMPA web site. Please help keep our wonderful Mid-town Park in shape! Questions should be directed to Marty and Trilety.

I'm sure you don't need me to tell you...the flower baskets were again in place by Mother's Day...and they are beautiful, as usual. But we need help to keep them that way. Each basket usually needs to be watered every other day. (It would be wonderful if each of you gave the basket near your home a drink everyday!) For that to happen, Big Red Truck and Big White Truck need to be taken out every day and sometimes twice. We need volunteers, two per truck, for each run. It's a great way to enjoy the neighborhood...and to get tips on how you might add to the attractiveness of your own yard. Each run takes about an hour to an hour and a half...you

Continued on page 4.

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DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

**No DMPA Meeting Until
September**
Enjoy Your Summer!

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Revised list, members current 3/09 To join as a business member, send dues with the form on the inside back page. Please send to Elizabeth McNichols, address below.

DMPA Online www.dundee-memorialpark.org

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Memberships please send the form on the inside back cover to:
Elizabeth McNichols, 5017 1/2 Cass St., Omaha, NE 68132.
Questions call 551-5246 or email: elimci@cox.net



howdee

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President's Message

Continued from front page.

can choose the time of day when you wish to water and your stint is only for one week. (Hint: You don't need to dodge nearly as many cars parked under a basket during the day as you do during early morning, late afternoon and evening hours.) So find a watering partner (you can take the kids since each truck has a second row of seats) and call Dan Rock, 558-4913. It shouldn't be difficult to find an open time since we water from Mother's Day into October. There is no need to worry about finding the baskets on your route as Dan provides great maps and directions. You'll come!

Now that summer is in full swing, I know it's again time for block parties. To keep you and the little one safe during the party, remember to reserve the Association barricades. Call B. J. Reed, 556-5509, to make arrangements...he will be happy to help!

Summer got off to a rousing start with two events, the DMPA Giant Garage Sale and Spring Fling. I hope you were able to either, unload your old or acquire some new treasures. Thanks to Raquel Ahlvers and Gene Ray for another well appointed Giant Garage Sale! And thanks as well to the Dundee Merchants for an exciting Spring Fling. Let me be one of the first to congratulate Rene, from the Bread Oven, on being elected Mayor of Dundee. The folks at the Oven worked hard on behalf of Rene's election and deserve all the credit, while Rene watched from on high. I breathlessly anticipate Rene's service as Grand Marshall of the Dundee Day Parade on August 29th...and I hope you do too.

In conclusion, many of us enjoyed Scott Farrington's presentation, at the May meeting, of the latest and "coolest" plant varieties available at the Indian Creek Nursery. This was our last meeting until September. Have a great summer and watch the Newsletter and the web site for information about summer activities and fall programming.

Bob Welk



Please join the
Dundee-Memorial Park Association
and Mayor Mike Fahey
for the dedication of
Jake Balcom's sculpture
"ASCENSION"

Saturday, June 6, 2009
10 AM

Omaha's Memorial Park Rose Garden
6005 Underwood Avenue
North of the WW II Memorial

PARKING: Northwest corner of Memorial Park, near
the softball diamond, Underwood Avenue at J. E.
George Blvd.

1st (annual ??) Association Picnic
Sunday Afternoon, September 6
Elmwood Park

Watch the newsletter for further details

Reminders ...

Clean Up Day -- June 6th

Sculpture Dedication -- June 6th

Dundee Day -August 29th

Association Picnic- September 6th


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Trim Those Trees ... Please

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



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

**Be a good neighbor...
Please Clean up
after your dog!!!**

Adopt Elmwood Park/Stream

A big Thank You to all the folks who came to Elmwood on 09 May 2009 to volunteer for the first Adopt-Elmwood-Park/Stream of the season. A total of 22 volunteers gathered at Elmwood Park and worked hard from 9 to 11am. Volunteers had their choice of working with Marty Myers in the park or with me (Trilety Wade) in the stream. The groups were split evenly making fun work of all projects.

Marty's park group included Jack and Julie Zuakaitis, John Morse, Bob and Judy Welk, Peg Gibbs and her two sons Kevin and Bob, Alice Fleming, and Helen Deffenbacher. They worked hard to beautify the front garden of the pool house by planting 80 begonia plants (provided by the City) among the existing perennials. The newly planted annuals were covered with a protective layer of mulch, also provided by the City, and then watered. As with all gardening, weeding was also an important component of Saturday's work.

My stream group included David Hedman, Jody Baines, Barbi Hayes, Jim Becic, Nancy Hawekotte, Jim Ducey, Ken Deffenbacher, and Boy Scouts Daevon Harker and Jake Wiese. This group of stream-troopers took on the daunting task of eradicating the invasive species Garlic

Mustard by mechanical removal, aka pulling, and also cleaned the stream of debris, trash, and bulky items.

The next Adopt-Elmwood-Park/Stream group, which is facilitated by the Dundee-Memorial Park Neighborhood Association, will be held on 13 June 2009 from 9 am to 11am. The Environmental Club of UNO (EC-UNO) will host the Adopt-A-Park portion of the Adopt Elmwood gathering on 13 June 2009. Hosting involves recruiting additional volunteers, working with DMPNA to identify tasks, and leading the two-hour event.

Please consider volunteering with UNO Students and neighbors at the Park on June 13 to clean-up the park, weed, mulch, and many other tasks. And don't forget we always need volunteers to clean trash out of the stream corridor, assess problem areas, and pull garlic mustard. If you would like to be added to the Adopt-Elmwood-Park/Stream e-mail list or if your group would consider hosting a clean-up please contact me at trilety@hotmail.com. When you're in the neighborhood don't forget to stop by the new Dundee Community Garden where you'll run into neighbors, friends and volunteers! I know because I ran into Peg Gibbs, a new Adopt-A-Park volunteer, during a community work party at the Garden!

Expert healthcare In our neighborhood

The highly skilled team of doctors and healthcare professionals at Creighton Medical Associates Dundee Clinic are ready to serve you in our new, larger location at 5002 Underwood Avenue opening August 18.

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Midtown Neighborhood Alliance Report

The Midtown Neighborhood Alliance met May 20th at the Neighborhood Center. Hanscom Park Neighborhood Association has asked to join and they had a representative attend the meeting.

The Re-Tree Midtown effort continues to move forward. Requests for bids from local nurseries went out May 1st and Indian Creek Nursery has been chosen to do the work. Dundee-Memorial Park's part of this initial project is along 52nd Street between Underwood Ave. and Cass St. We should hear about the final grant application with Mutual of Omaha in the next few weeks. It is hoped that the actual planting can be done during Re-Tree Nebraska Week which is Sept. 19-26.

The annual Midtown Neighborhood Alliance Fireworks Show is scheduled for Sunday, July 5th at 10:00 pm. The fireworks will again be shot off at the Field Club of Omaha, 36th & Woolworth Ave, and should be visible throughout Midtown.

Infinite Store Update

Two of the Infinite stores in south Omaha have been leased to a new corporation that appears to be yet another attempt by the current owner to get a liquor license in someone else's name. The lawyer for the owner has stated that they are not leasing the 52nd St. store. However, cars from Missouri have been seen at the store in recent weeks which is where this new owner is from. The State Fire Marshal has been contacted about safety concerns concerning the abandoned gas pumps at the station. According to the State Fire Marshal, Infinite has been very uncooperative in following orders they have issued to secure these pumps. They are now working with the Douglas County Attorney on possible legal action. The store has been hit by graffiti numerous times this spring. If you see any, please report it immediately to the Mayor's Hotline, 444-5555.

Dave Schinzel

**To reserve barricades for your block party,
call B. J. Reed 556-5509.**



If you've been waiting for your share of the government bailout money, your time has come. While you're not going to get the big bucks that the miscreants at AIG got, the government is offering meaningful money for homeowners. Specifically the federal government is offering tax credits for homeowners who improve the energy efficiency of their homes and this is especially good news if you own an old house. But the rules and requirements are bit tricky. So, to get a good fix on how all of this works, I spoke with an expert in the home improvement field, Jon McCormick, president of American Building Supply, an Omaha company.

"Tax credits are available at 30% of the cost, up to \$1,500, for existing homes for: windows and doors, insulation, certain HVAC upgrades and a few other products," says McCormick. The tax credits apply to improvements placed in service between January 1, 2009 and December 31, 2010. "Unfortunately", McCormick notes, "energy efficiency upgrades made last year don't qualify, but going forward there are opportunities never offered before. Homeowners can put more money back in their pockets at tax time and save now by cutting their energy costs. It's a win, win situation."

But McCormick cautions, "Every product out there does not qualify for the tax credit. For example, not every window manufacturer has a window that meets the (government's) requirements. If you put new windows in service between January 1 and June 1 of this year those windows must meet Energy Star criteria to qualify for the tax credit. After June 1 the requirements are more stringent. Just meeting Energy Star criteria is not enough. After this date windows have to have a U Factor equal to or less than .30 and Solar Heat Gain Coefficient equal to or less than .30. And, guess what, the government may not just take your word for it. You could be audited. So take the Manufacturer's Certification stickers off the windows and keep them in a file with your tax returns along with your purchase receipts in case of the government checks up on you. So what consumers need to know is to do business with a reputable com-

pany, a reputable manufacturer so the product tests out to what it says it will and you get your stickers." Improvements made in 2009 can be claimed when you file your taxes next year. Go to www.irs.gov for Form 5695 (2009 Version).

The tax credit as applies to setback thermostats, certain heating and air conditioning equipment and insulation, among others. There are many energy upgrades which will improve the comfort in your old house and make a serious dent in your gas and electric bills. McCormick advises "consumers to bundle together energy-saving products to maximize the amount of their tax credit. You get the pay-back plus the added valuation in your home." But bear in mind the tax credit only applies to the product itself, not the installation costs. So when you get bids for your energy upgrade projects, make sure the bidders break out the product costs separate from the labor costs so you can calculate the amount of your tax credit.

There are a few other--less common--home improvements which also qualify for the Federal Tax Credits for Energy Efficiency. Visit www.energystar.gov for the details.

"The energy efficiency tax credit stimulus is really targeted toward old houses like those in Dundee," McCormick observes. "The goal is to bring old houses up to the energy-efficiency standards of new home construction and reduce the carbon footprint. Improving your home not only takes advantage of the tax credit but also is a way to be responsible and green."


Connections

If you have a question, or a subject you'd like addressed in a future column write to me at:

The Old House Mechanic
5207 Cuming Street
Omaha, NE 68132

e-mail: dbrowsers@cox.net

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

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2008 DUNDEE DAY SATURDAY AUGUST 29th PARADE APPLICATION

Please help us have a happy, well-organized Dundee Days Parade. We plan to start the parade at 10:30 A.M. at the entrance to Memorial Park. Participants need to fill out this application and return it to the Dundee Dell as soon as possible along with your check. Each participant group must pay \$10.00 with checks payable to Dundee Merchants Association.

Everyone is welcome!

Name of organization/contact person or individuals marching:

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Number of Individuals Participating: _____

Mail to: Dundee Dell Attn: Pat 553-9501
5007 Underwood Avenue Omaha, NE 68132
Michael Kozlik Parade Captain
397 1200w 657 3400c

Old House Services Directory

If you have employed a contractor to work on your old house in the past two years and have been pleased with their work, please take the time to go to our website dundee-memorialpark.org to get a form. You can recommend more than one contractor, but please use a separate form for each. Recommendations will only be accepted from Dundee Memorial Park residents.



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Friends of the Omaha Public Library Book Sale

Friday, June 5th 10 AM to 8 PM

Saturday June 6th 10AM -5:30PM

Members of FOPL may attend the preview sale

Thursday, June 4th 6 PM to 8:30 PM

Swanson Branch Library, 90th & West Dodge

Memberships available at the sale, starting \$15.

Mini-Book Sales during regular library hours:

Check out the Book Cart at Sorensen, Florence, Willa Cather and Washington branches
and "Honors Sales", lower level at Swanson Branch.

Neighborhood Clean-Up Day

When: Saturday June 6, 9 AM – 2 PM

Where: Brownell Talbot lower East Parking Lot
Behind the Streetcar Wall

To volunteer, or for questions, call Adam
and Heike Langdon at 561-0586

ITEMS NOT ACCEPTED:

**YARD WASTE OF ANY KIND, PAINT, OIL OR
OTHER HAZARDOUS MATERIAL, CON-
CRETE, STONE, TIRES OR APPLIANCES**

*The Friend of the Library will be there accepting
monetary donations...*

a dollar or two really adds up.

Volunteers needed to accept donations for
the Library Center

To sign up for one hour shifts contact
Kay Bashus 553-5203

We will have Electronics Recycling....

Check out the insert included with this
newsletter for all the details!



**Don't Throw Out
Your Electronics....
Recycle Them!
At Clean-Up Day**

Dundee Community Garden

49th & Underwood

Ice Cream Social Sun. June 14, 3-5 p.m.

In three short months, the Dundee Community Garden has gone from the dream of a small group of people who first met in February, to the reality of a large sunny site full of garden plots in May. We would like to celebrate the beginning of a wonderful community resource by holding a Grand Opening Ice Cream Social at the garden on Sunday June 14, from 3-5 p.m. All are invited to visit the garden, have a brief tour, and enjoy ice cream and root beer floats. We'll have face painting and bubbles for the children.

We owe a big thank you Chip James of Lockwood Development for letting us use the lot at the northwest corner of 49th and Underwood for the site of the Dundee Community Garden.

In early May, we marked out 48 four-foot by 10-foot garden plots. Within two weeks we had all the plots assigned, and we've had to start a waiting list.

Our garden design calls for flowerbeds along the outside perimeter of the garden, raspberry bushes along the western edge of the plot; and corn and sunflowers planted along the north (alley) side of the garden. We're planning to donate fresh vegetables to local food pantries throughout the summer.

We've had great support from local businesses and would like to recognize our sponsors: Dundee Bank, Holland Basham Architects, Marks Bistro, Bread Oven, Dario's Brasserie, and the Dundee Dell. And a special thank you to Granpa's Food Mart for the picnic tables and umbrellas.

Ideas are sprouting about how to make the garden classy, quirky, beautiful, and functional. Dundee can be proud of this evolving garden and the care and talent that are going into it.

Sharon Conlon and Mary Green, Co-Directors
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Register online for the Summer Reading Program with your child's library card at www.omahapubliclibrary.org starting May 1. Check out Omaha Public Library books and beginning June 1, record the items that you've read or listened to. Prizes include a back pack, a free book, free admission to CoCo Keys, to an Omaha Royals baseball game and lots of coupons.

Free Children's Programs

Preschool Storytime Wednesdays @ 10:30 (June 3-July 29)
 Stories, songs, and finger plays for ages 2-5
 No registration required.

Explore the Arts @ Your Library

Tues @ 1:00 (June 9 -30, July 7,21,28) no class on July 14
 Listen to stories, explore the work of great artists and practice their techniques, make musical instruments, create a puppet story, and perform a readers theater. For ages 6-12.

Babysitting Clinics Thursday, June 11 or July 9 10:30-4:00

Presented by the Douglas County Extension Office
 This class is designed to develop or improve your babysitting skills. For ages 11 years and up. Please bring a sack lunch and drink. Limit 25.

Wildlife Encounters Friday, June 5 @ 1:00

Learn more about wild animals up close. The program includes ten different live animals : birds of prey, a snake, an alligator, a kinkajou, a serval (wild cat), a tortoise, a fox, a kangaroo and a skunk.

Rose Theater Friday, June 12 @ 1:00

Fun Tall Tale Heroes: Paul Bunyan, Sally Ann ThunderAnn Whirlwind Crockett, Pecos Bill & You"

Do you like exaggeration? Do you like super strong and smart heroes? Join us as we act out great tall tales like riding a cyclone, lifting cows, wrestling bears, and eating 10,000 flap-jacks. You'll act out the famous tall tale heroes and heroines and meet some new tall tale heroes. We'll even create our own tall tales about ourselves. Limit 30. Grades 2-6

Jeff Quinn's Magic and Fun Friday, June 19 @ 1:00

Enjoy the magic of Jeff Quinn. A longtime favorite, this magic man is back again for "Be Creative @ Your Library"! A must-see-what's-up-his-sleeve adventure. No registration required.

Mad Science Friday, June 26 @ 10:15-11:00

High energy program with "Supersized" experiments with many relating to art and music. There will also be at least one "guest appearance" by a famous scientist of the past.. No registration required.

Hands on Herps Friday, July 17 @ 1:00

Snakes, snakes and more snakes. Presented by the Douglas County Extension office.

Get Creative with Music @ Your Library Fri, July 24 @ 1:00 New Horizons, a five piece clarinet ensemble with the US Air Force Heartland of America Band, will perform live music.

LEGO Building @ the Library Friday, July 31 @ 10-2

Design and create your own work of art using LEGO bricks. Prizes will be awarded for three different grade levels: K-3, 4-6, 7-8. No model kits may be used only LEGO bricks and your imagination. Call Kay Scarpello for more information.

Free Teen Programs

June 4 (THUR) 1-2pm **Decorate Flip-Flops** Summer is here and it's time to break out the flip-flops! Come to the library and decorate your very own pair. Limited to 15.

June 11 (THUR) 2-3:30pm **Found Sounds** Musical instruments come from other people's creativity, but in this program you will learn how you can find sound almost anywhere. Be sure to bring something with you that you think will make an interesting sound. Limited to 20.

June 18 (THUR) 1-2 pm **Sidewalk Chalk** Graffiti Art Contest Come to the library and participate in our first ever Sidewalk Chalk Graffiti Art Contest. 1st 7 2nd place will win a prize!

June 25 (THUR) 1-2 pm **Make a Balloon Animal** Learn how to create different balloon animals, hats and swords. Limited to 25-30.

June 26 (FRI) 10:15-11 am **Mad Science** Meet a famous scientist from past while doing super-sized scientific experiments!

DMPA

Sorensen Library – Center Committee

Volunteers needed to accept donations for
 the Library Center
 Spring Clean-up Day June 6

To sign up for one hour shifts contact
 Kay Bashus 553-5203

* * * *

Book donations welcome for the annual
Dundee Day Book Sale.

Books may be delivered to the Dundee Bank
 beginning August 24th
 (Please do not deliver to the library
 as there is no storage space).

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The following is the Artist's Statement for the new sculptor in Memorial Park . Dedication is June 6th at 10 am

ASCENSION

Sculptor: Jake Balcom
Memorial Park Rose Garden

"I felt that an organic shape would be best in a nature setting, something that would exist in harmony with the gardens, interacting with and complimenting the roses during the summer and standing up to become the focal point in the winter. It also seemed appropriate to respect the memorial south of the gardens and I wanted something airy so as to not completely block the view of the Memorial Wall. A design emerged which seemed to explode with life, rising powerfully out of the ground, yet soft and elegant in form, a form that seemed to adequately represent growth and the vibrant nature of a garden full of beautiful flowers. I chose the name ASCENSION because it felt like the sculpture was still evolving, as if this was just an early snap shot in its life cycle, and it would keep growing larger and larger, rising to a monumental scale."

ASCENSION was commissioned by the Dundee/Memorial Park Association with funds contributed by an anonymous donor. It was dedicated to the city of Omaha on June 6, 2009.

DUNDEE CLASSIFIED /WANT ADS

Denny's Handyman Service

Carpet Restretch & Repair
Painting & Home Repairs
397-4223 Area References

NEED YARDWORK DONE?

We do mowing, garden clean-up, planting, garden design and more! Call Jesse today at 547-9340.

VineyardPainters.com

Preparation Spells
A Pro Painter
Dundee Resident
References Available
402.208.9127

Reserve this spot for next month

For pennies per household.
Call 551-6787

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, P.O. Box 31485, 68131. Call 551-6787.**

Dundee Presbyterian Church

Loving God, Sharing Jesus Christ

Underwood at Happy Hollow · 558-2330

9 & 11 am Worship
10 am Church School for all ages



We look forward to sharing Sunday with you!

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 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

Shurson Publishing
P.O. Box 31485
Omaha, NE 68131

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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 P. O. Box



4501 Leavenworth Street
Omaha, NE 68106

Chris Oldenhuis **Owner**

Phone 402.573.8125 Fax 402.934.5637 Mobile 402.669.1669
Email info@oldenhuiscontracting.com www.oldenhuiscontracting.com

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Updated Kitchen
Open Stairway
10 Panel Doors
LL Family Room
2 Car Garage
Service One
Warranty

CLASSIC BRICK & STUCCO TUDOR IN THE HEART OF DUNDEE. HARDWOOD FLOORS, CROWN MOLDINGS, NATURAL WOODS. ENJOY THE SUNROOM AND ENTERTAIN IN THE WONDERFUL BACKYARD



"THE AHLVERS GROUP"

Jerry & Hedy 677.3020 Raquel 301.7653



"Working Together For You"

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Jack Kubat, Owner since 1991. Dundee resident.