DUNDEE-MEMORIAL PARK ASOCIATION



DMPA Meeting

This Month's Meeting Oct 11th

Speaker: Captain Trevor Towey, Omaha Fire Department

Location and times:

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

Bring a friend or two.



Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

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

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President's Message

all is my favorite season. By the time you read this letter fall will officially be here but I already see the telltale signs. It's a little cooler now. The air at night has a slight chill and we wear long sleeves and jeans when we take our evening walk around the block. I see fallen leaves here and there that remind me that some yard work and winterizing will be needed soon. In fact, all summer my daughter has been growing pumpkins in our backyard and I swear the vine has to be more than twenty feet long. It looks like the plant from the Little Shop of Horrors and it will easily take me an entire afternoon to wrestle it out of the ground. Luckily, I'll have football on the radio. I find it comforting to hear public address announcers call football games from across the park at UNO. Halloween, one of my favorite holidays, will cap a great month. My daughters plan to go as black "kitty cats" but I'm sure that will change numerous times over the next few weeks.

First off this month, we have some changes to the DMPA Board that I would like to announce. Jen Goodman has signed on to coordinate our annual Flower Basket planting. As you can imagine, this is no small task and a very important one, too, so we are glad to have someone as capable as Jen heading up this project. I would also like to recognize Millie Miller for her efforts here. In addition to her responsibilities as our Beautification chair, Millie has led the Flower Basket planting for the past four years and is due for a well-deserved break! Rodney Olden, a man I've watered flower baskets with for the past several years, has agreed to be our new Treasurer. Rodney's financial services background makes him well suited for this role. Rodney replaces Jeff Royal who has served as Treasurer for several years. We thank Jeff for all he's done to support the association and look forward to working with Rodney in the future. Finally, Dave Mullins has agreed to be our new Program Coordinator, filling the position I left vacant when I became President-Elect. Dave has already done a great job helping me coordinate our fall programming and I'm sure this will continue as he has some great speakers in mind for the spring. Please give Jen, Dave and Rodney a warm welcome if you see them in the neighborhood. We're glad to have them on board!

Speaking of programming, thanks again to Sarah Johnson and Gerard Wellman for making our first DMPA meeting of the year a success. They were both great speakers and I found their "Livable Omaha" presentation to be very engaging. If you missed it don't fret as they plan to present it again at other neighborhood associations in the metro area. Be sure to mark your calendars on October 11th as we have another great

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DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

October 11th-

Captain Trevor Towey, Omaha Fire Department

November 8th

Creighton Athletic Director, Bruce Rasmussen

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Revised list, members current 8/10 To join as a business member, send dues with the form on the inside back page. Please send to Elizabeth McNichols, address

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President's Message

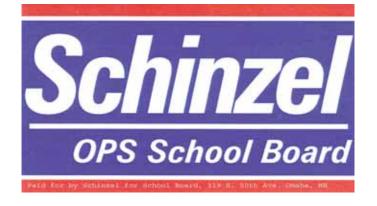
Continued from front page.

program planned for you. Our featured speaker will be Captain Trevor Towey of the Omaha Fire Department. Capt. Towey will be discussing the different services provided by the OFD, emergency responses within our neighborhood, staffing needs and the costs to you. Prior to Capt. Towey's presentation, we will offer local candidates in this year's primary election the opportunity to address the association. There will be time during the social to meet the candidates, too. And as a reminder, we are excited to have Creighton Athletic Director Bruce Rasmussen as our featured speaker on November 8th.

For those that are interested, there are two beautification projects in the works for our neighborhood. One is for a community garden at the northeast corner of 49th and Farnam. Please contact Mike Elson (402-670-2899; agroplus@cox.net) for more information. The other project is to improve the grounds at Sorenson library. Pat Specht (pspecht@childrensomaha.org), who used to write the "Doc on the Block" articles for the DMPA newsletter, is leading this initiative. Both of these projects are in the early planning stages and need interested volunteers to ensure their success. Thanks to Mike and Pat for stepping up and taking the lead on these projects.

Finally, the Dundee-Memorial Park Association is now on Twitter! Check us out @DundeeMemorial. You can find us by searching "DMPA" or "DundeeMemorial." We will use Twitter to keep connected by posting updates relevant to the neighborhood in a quick, efficient and timely manner. Please help us get the word out!

Ben Rouch



News from **Dundee Elementary**

Students, parents and staff at Dundee Elementary are bracing for a busy fall.

The Dundee PTA's direct giving campaign, Dundee Direct, continues this month. The campaign supports the activites of the PTA, providing funds for enrichment activites, family night events and teacher grants.

The PTA's goal this year is \$18,000, the same amount it collected last year. Anyone can contribute. Donations can be made to Dundee Direct, Dundee Elementary School, 310 N. 51st St., Omaha, NE 68132. For more information, contact Kim Craig, event co-chairperson, at kimytcraig@gmail.com

In September, Dundee welcomed Fuddrucker's to the Family Night family. On the third Thursday of every month, the restaurant will contribute 15 percent of the Dundee supporters' tabs to the school. Just mention Dundee when you dine that night.

Meantime, Walking Wednesdays are back, giving students, staff and parents an extra incentive to get moving.

Four "walking school buses," led by teachers and staff, pull out at 8:30 a.m. every Wednesday from the intersections of 51st Street and Underwood Avenue, Happy Hollow Boulevard and Chicago Street, 48th and Davenport Streets and 51st and Farnam Streets. The buses reverse their routes each Wednesday afternoon and return students to their stops by 4 p.m.

The walking school buses will run through the end of November and start up again in March. Like their automotive counterparts, staff and teachers wear bright yellow. Please keep an eye out for them.

And for those who enjoy a good read, Dundee's Scholastic Book Fair again will be open to the public. Parents, grandparents and others can stock up on reasonably priced books for children and adults.

This year's super-charged theme is "Here's to Our Heroes: Reading Saves the Day." The fair will be open Oct. 14 from 9 a.m. to 8 p.m.; Oct. 15 and Oct. 18 from 3:45 p.m. to 4:45 p.m. and Oct. 19 from 7 a.m. to 8 p.m.

Those itchin' for a spookin' can catch the school's Halloween Parade on Oct. 29.

Costumed students will leave school about 2:15 p.m. They will walk north on 51st Street to Underwood Avenue, turn west on Underwood to 50th Street, go south on 50th Street to Chicago Street and proceed west on Chicago back to Dundee.

Julie Anderson Dundee PTA

HALLOWEEN HEALTH AND SAFETY TIPS

S	Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be short, soft, and flexible.
A	Avoid trick-or-treating alone. Walk in groups or with a trusted adult.
F	Fasten reflective tape to costumes and bags to help drivers see you.
E	Examine all treats for choking hazards and tampering before eating them. Limit the amount of treats you eat.
H	Hold a flashlight while trick-or-treating to help you see and others see you.
A	Always test make-up in a small area first. Remove it before bedtime to prevent skin and eye irritation.
L	Look both ways before crossing the street. Use established crosswalks wherever possible.
L	Lower your risk for serious eye injury by not wearing decorative contact lenses.
O	Only walk on sidewalks or on the far edge of the road facing traffic to stay safe.
W	Wear well-fitting masks, costumes, and shoes to avoid blocked vision, trips, and falls.
E	Eat only factory-wrapped treats. Avoid eating homemade treats unless you know the cook well.
E	Enter homes only if you're with a trusted adult. Otherwise, stay outside.
N	Never walk near lit candles or luminaries. Be sure to wear flame-resistant costumes.

For more information about these tips, visit: www.cdc.gov/family/halloween

The Meditation Garden

Rebecca's Garden

As a final gift to the neighborhood in which Rebecca Abbott grew up and then spent her last years, her friends and family are donating a meditation/healing garden that will be installed near the the intersection of Dodge and Happy Hollow, in the southeast portion of Memorial Park. In the image to the right, the yellow arrow indicates the approximate placement of the garden. See pictures of the site here.

The garden will be modeled after a traditional Japanese garden meditation space. See the image below for an example of such a space installed in the Vancouver Botanic Gardens. The centerpiece will be a single large piece (between 4' to 5' tall) of natural granite, unadorned by man, and created solely by nature. Natural moss and lichen will grow on its surface.

The stone will be contemplated from a single granite bench that will be nestled into existing conifers, positioned so that the view is of the stone and the park woods beyond. Thus, it will be a place where people can step away from the rest of the world, to think, to rest, and to heal.

"...a place to think, to rest, and to heal..."

In addition to the stone and the bench, the garden will include a planting of hundreds of daffodils that will burst forth each spring from under an appropriate ground cover that will dress the area the remainder of the year. A gravel pathway will connect the garden with the walking/biking path that now traverses the eastern boundary of Memorial Park.

The image below is of a stone resting in the quarry from which this garden's centerpiece will be selected. The stone will be as much like this one (or the one in Vancouver) as it is possible to locate.





The planned garden is simple: an upright natural stone, a natural stone bench (left), a gravel path leading in, and hundreds of daffodils under a new ground cover.

Update on the installation in Memorial Park of Rebecca's meditation garden. The large vertical stone that will be the centerpiece will leave soon on its trip from Maine to Nebraska. If all goes smoothly, it will be delivered on October 13th and set in place that same day. At that point, work on the surrounding garden will commence (removing sod, tilling soil, installing pathway) and by Sunday, October 17th most of the ground cover and 1000 daffodils will be planted.

We will, however, leave a number of symbolic bulbs and plants to be planted by Rebecca's family, friends, and neighbors on that Sunday afternoon, and you are invited to participate. We will be there from 2-4PM, and are planning nothing formal, just a gathering of those who loved Rebecca and want to remember her by participating in the creation of something special for the town and community she loved.

If you are not sure where the garden is being installed go to the website:

http://www.rebeccaabbott.com/2009/The_Meditation_Garden.html





ore than two centuries ago Alexander Pope warned his readers "A little learning is a dangerous thing." What history fails to tell us is whether or

not the poet was standing in a wet basement talking with a home improvement contractor at the time.

No foolproof cure exists for a wet basement despite what a confident contractor or glib salesman may tell you.

A dry basement for work, hobbies, storage or extra living space can be an asset to any home. Unfortunately many Dundee basements are damp, musty annoyances. Taking the time to be familiar with some of the causes and potential remedies for a waterlogged basement may save you piles of cash if you repair the problem yourself. Even if you can't or don't want to do the work yourself, this is a case where a little learning can be a valuable thing.

The first step to eliminating the problem is to determine the source of the water. Is it coming from outside the basement or inside? Tape a twelve-inch square of aluminum foil to wall prone to dampness, sealing all four sides with tape to make the surface under the foil as airtight as possible. In a day or two, if the side of the foil that was against the wall is wet your problem is seepage. If the side of the foil facing inside your basement is wet, it's condensation.

Condensation problems may be solved as easily as buying and using a dehumidifier during the high humidity times of spring and summer. Also look for ways to control other sources of moisture--such as moving clothes hung to dry on basement lines, repairing leaky plumbing or using an insulation wrap on cold water pipes to eliminate a place for moisture to collect.

Water coming from the outside can be difficult to keep out, but try the simplest, and most obvious solutions first.

Dense shrubbery and other plantings close to the foundation can hold in moisture and prevent good ventilation. Trim heavy growth or consider moving bushes to another location away from the house.

The most consistent basement leakage troublemakers in our neighborhood are defective, clogged, leaky or just plain non-existent gutters and downspouts. Given the age of many Dundee homes, roof drainage systems are often in a bad state of repair, so it should be no surprise that water saturates the soil near basement walls.

The solutions are obvious: First, monitor your drainage systems during a good downpour to see where the water goes.

Second, repair gutters and downspouts as soon as the need appears. Extend downspouts to keep the water far away from your foundation. Also keep gutters free of leaves and twigs.

Lawns that are flat or slope toward the foundation permit rainwater and melting snow to enter basement walls through cracks and other openings. Slope the ground away from your house. (A good slope is about one inch per foot).

Another do-it-yourself solution is to repair basement walls. Caulk cracks and seams with a high quality latex/acrylic or silicone caulk. Waterproofing paint applied to interior walls can solve minor capillary seepage.

If all of these methods fail to solve your problems, then it may be time to call in a contractor. However, don't let the contractor waste time (and your money) on random attempts to solve the problem. Make sure the contractor has pinpointed the exact cause of your water leakage problem.

Contractors may suggest any one of a number of possible cures. While a detailed discussion of those solutions is beyond the scope of this article, I might suggest a little research at the library or online will give you some unbiased information about the pros and cons of potential solutions. Also check with the Better Business Bureau.

A free pamphlet from the BBB provided some of the background for this article and is worth reading. Also the Bureau can advise you on the reliability of any contractor, so this is an opportunity to turn a little learning to your advantage.

Connections

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

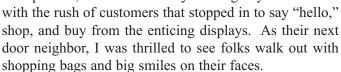


Meet the Merchants

By Molly Romero, Marks Bistro

Premium Jeans (Not Beer) and More at Dundee's Newest – Denim Saloon

One of the delights of writing this column is meeting new Dundee merchants. On Dundee Day (Saturday, August 28), Sarah Troia and her younger sister, Jenny Farha Galley, opened their charming new retail business, Denim Saloon. Spending much of the previous night unpacking jeans, tops and T-shirts, arranging in highly professional displays, and readying the store for its first patrons, Sarah and Jenny were giddy



At the Denim Saloon, you will not find beverages on the bar. If you sidle up to the bar, and there is a "bar," you will be snuggling up to a pair of soft, comfy jeans. Denim is what reigns – jeans of many different styles, and brands, some of which are new to the Omaha area. In addition to jeans, they offer tops of many varieties, all for both men and women. Sarah and Jenny also described how they will be offering "novelty" pieces, most of which will be "fashion forward," in style and colors, with only five or six pieces of each, and when they are gone, they will be gone, with no more coming in. With this pair of retail adventurers, you can never be sure whether what you see today will be there tomorrow.

In talking with the two, it is clear they have the trade jargon down and understand how to dip into the fashion world and pull out what fits their store's style. They aim at casual fashions that gracefully move from day into night, can be dressed up or down, and are comfortable, unique, and "soft."

But it is when she talks jeans that Sarah rhap-sodizes – she glowingly says, "A good pair of jeans will change your life." She adds that jeans are a true staple for the closet, and a good pair of "premium" jeans is a solid investment. One of her favorite pairs is 10 years old, still in fashion and still comfortable. She explains that wearing a pair of perfectly fitted premium jeans is not like any other pair of pants – or even like any other pair of jeans. It is almost like she is talking about a match-making service, matching their customers to the one pair of jeans that would be uniquely his or hers. Jenny adds, "Premium denim, once you own a pair, it is hard to go back." Both





Jenny and Sarah are passionate about their jeans, and about helping their customers find that perfect pair of jeans – his or her "jeans mate."

Jenny says that they also offer a fitting service and alterations, to assure the most perfect fit and extreme comfort. They carry every shape, and

cut, flares, skinnies, low-rise and high-rise. They can even fit the tallest of tall women with skinny jeans available with an extra long inseam (37 inches) that fit a woman friend who is over 6 feet tall.

Sarah and Jenny come from a family of four girls, and their two other Farha sisters are ready to help, coming by to try on jeans, giving them the "bend test," and giving Sarah and Jenny feed-back on all aspects of their inventory and displays. Sarah and Jenny also call on the four Farha brothers-in-law for similar counsel with respect to the menswear lines, currently dominated by stylish plaid long sleeved shirts perfect for autumn, in addition to the men's jeans.

Sarah, the older sister, has been in retail for 15 years, working as district manager of Abercrombie & Fitch, Bed, Bath & Beyond, and Pacific Sun. Jenny, the younger, received her experience in marketing while working with an insurance carrier, returning to Omaha after living in San Francisco and Atlanta. When the idea for their new retail venture began to take shape, they knew they wanted to locate in Dundee, so they asked, "What does Dundee need?" They also asked themselves, "What do we love to wear?" The answer to the first question grew from the answer to the second.

When talking about what is special about they way they operate their business, Sarah and Jenny emphasized the personalized service they love to give. They plan to develop an understanding of their customers' wardrobes – not in general, but the character and nature of each customer's clothing preferences. This will allow them to search for products for customers, more like a clothier of times long past. They would love it if people would come into their store and describe the kind of clothes they like, so they can keep their shoppers in mind as they shop at trade shows.

Meet the Merchants

Continued from page 8.

Sarah and Jenny are using social networking to keep friends, family and customers up to date on Denim Saloon's activities. On their facebook page, you can see photos of the building under construction, as well as images of the shop, and some of the clothing they carry. They also use Twitter, blog, and maintain a website at Denim Saloon.com. They truly are comfortable in the hip culture of today, but the demographic they serve ranges in age from 18 to 65, since, as Sarah says, "Jeans are ageless."

Stop by and welcome Sarah and Jenny to the neighborhood, take a look at the enticing display of jeans and tops, then give their grandfather, Arthur Farha, a nod as you leave – he is the gentleman inside the logo on the sign hanging over the window. I am sure he would be most pleased with his two granddaughters' energy, business acumen, skills and talents.

Location: 4914 Underwood Avenue

(the former Laundromat)

Hours: Mon -Thurs 10-7, Fri 11-9, Sat 10-6

Phone: 885-8880

Website: DenimSaloon.com

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Dundee Day Book Sale



Another great sale to benefit the Sorensen Library Communitiy Center!

This annual event sponsored by the Dundee Memorial Park Association brought in \$516.00 at the August Dundee Day celebration. Replacement chairs and other furnishings will be purchased with this year's proceeds.

Many thanks go to all the people who donated books, the Dundee Bank for housing these books prior to the sale, and of course, the shoppers. Special thanks goes to the volunteers who helped set up the booth and sold books throughout the day:

Millie Miller, Nancy & Jim Mulhall, Bob Wachter, Paul Bashus, Lannie McNichols, Judith Schweiker, Kathy White and Lucretia Danielson.

> Kay Bashus Sorensen Library Community Center Committee



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48th & Cass Streets

Library Info: 444-5274 ww.omahapubliclibrary.org Tues & Thurs 10 am - 8 pm Wed, Fri, Sat 10 am - 6 pm Closed Sunday & Monday

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

Toddler Storytime - Wednesday, October 6th, 13th, 20th & 27th @ 10:30am

Family Storytime - Thursday, October 7th, 14th, 21st & 28th @ 6:30pm

Enjoy a storytime filled with lots of fun, songs, and crafts. **Homework Help** - Tuesdays & Thursdays in October from 4:30-5:30pm

(**Gr. K-12**) During this time, get basic homework help, use Tutor.com, research or type a paper on one of our Teen computers.

LEGO Club - Wednesday October 6th & 20th @ 4:30pm (All Ages) Play the new board game LEGO Creationary or use your imagination to build anything you want with regular LEGOs.

Gr. 2-6 Gaming Lock-In - Friday, October 8th from 6-9pm Come to the library and hang out with your friends! Enjoy pizza and refreshments while playing

Active Life Outdoor Challenge for Wii and Wii Sports. A signed parent permission slip is required!

Movie Day: "How to Train Your Dragon" - Friday, October 22nd @ 1pm Come to the library and watch a movie about an unlikely friendship between a young Viking boy and a dragon. Popcorn will be provided!

Gr. 3-6 Family Book Club-TBA

Call the library for more details (444-5274).

Teen Activities

Teen Movie Day: "Footloose" - Saturday, October 2nd @ 1pm

Celebrate Banned Books Week by watching Footloose which is a movie about small town censorship starring Kevin Bacon & Sarah Jessica Parker.

Wii Fit Club - Saturday, October 2nd @ 2pm

Gr. K-12) Have fun while working out at the library! Try out yoga, do strength training, aerobics and even balance games.

Teen Craft: "Mini Marshmallow Popper" - Wednesday, October 20th @ 4:30pm

Make a mini marshmallow popper and then try out different ammo to see what works best!

Game Time: "Just Dance 2" - Thursday, October 21st from 4-7pm

Get up and get down! Play the brand new "Just Dance 2" for Wii while having fun and hanging out with your friends. Compete to see who has the best moves!

Gr. 6-12 Gaming Lock-In - Friday, October 22nd from 6-9pm

Come to the library and hang out with your friends! Enjoy pizza and refreshments while playing Active Life Outdoor Adventure for Wii and Guitar Hero for Wii. A signed parent permission slip is required!

Teen Book Club - Saturday, October 23rd @ 2pm

Read & discuss Dive (Book One: The Discovery) by Gordon Korman or choose your own book. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Teen Advisory Board (TAB) - Saturday, October 23rd @ 3pm

Join TAB and see what it's all about! Enjoy snacks and refreshments while talking about issues,

sharing your ideas and helping out at the library.

Adult Activities

Adult Game Time: "Scrabble" - Friday, October 1st, 8th & 15th @ 1pm

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

Sorensen Readers Book Club - Saturday, October 2nd @ 1pm Read and discuss A Tree Grows in Brooklyn by Betty Smith.

Under the Dundee Sun Book Club - Tuesday, October 5th @ 4:30pm Read and discuss The Other Boleyn Girl by Philippa Gregory.

Adult Movie Day: "Invictus" - Wednesday, October 13th @ noon

Bring your lunch to the library and watch the movie "Invictus" starring Morgan Freeman & Matt Damon. Popcorn will be provided!

Plains Pages Book Club - Saturday, October 16th @ 1pm Read and discuss Memoirs of a Geisha by Arthur Golden.

Adult Computer Class: "Ancestry Library Database" - Friday, October 29th @ 10:30am

(Limit 3) Learn all about one of the library's genealogy databases "Ancestry Library".

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!

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Email: shurson@msn.com or call 551-6787.

Join us on Tuesday, Nov. 9th 10:30 am – 12:30 pm. We will have a great time enjoying each others company.

A V Sorensen Recreation Center

48th and Cass Street Health Fair

Thursday, October 7th

Starts at 8:00 a.m. -12:00 p.m. Free testings. Many vendors .

Creighton University will be providing FREE cholesterol screenings and blood sugar checks from 8am-12pm (Just remember to fast 8 hours before the cholesterol screening for an accurate result.) There will also be blood pressure checks, back screenings, ear checks, and more. FLU & PNEUMONIA SHOTS: FREE TO MEDICARE-ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS Provided by Kohll's Pharmacy & Homecare

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