

DUNDEE- MEMORIAL PARK ASSOCIATION



DMPA Meeting

**This Month's Meeting
October 10th**

**Speaker: Kara Eastman,
Healthy Kids Alliance**

Location and times:

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

Bring a friend or two.

**Next DMPA meeting
November 14th**



Dundee-Memorial Park Association Newsletter

"Dedicated to Preserving the Community"

www.dundee-memorialpark.org

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President's Report

As we head into fall, it is not too early to start thinking about our flower baskets for next spring. In the coming weeks, block captains will be contacting neighbors to collect donations for the flower baskets on your street. We need to collect these funds before the end of the year so that we can pay for the plantings that will go into next year's baskets. The trademark of Dundee-Memorial Park is the beautiful flower baskets that we have each spring and summer. Other neighborhoods are envious of our commitment and ability to maintain over 400 flower baskets. Unfortunately, we had several blocks this past year that did not collect donations and thus did not have any flower baskets. If your block was one of these, I want to encourage you to become a block captain and ask your neighbors to donate what they can. In the wise words of Woody from Toy Story, "If you don't have one, GET ONE!" Peter Manhart is always looking for volunteers to be block captains so if you are interested in helping, you can contact him at 350-3890.

In addition to our flower basket program, we also have volunteers who take care of the several island flower beds throughout the neighborhood. Every year, we see wonderful plantings on these islands but it takes the efforts of volunteers to do this. Millie Miller does a tremendous job and she too is always looking for reliable volunteers to take an island and help care for it. If this is something you might be interested in, please give her a call at 558-6023.

You may have noticed that during September the City removed the gravel road in Memorial Park. I know many people, including myself, were never happy to see that eyesore run through the middle of the park. With the annual July 4th concert having been moved to the south side of the park, there was no longer a need for the road. I want to thank Councilman Pete Festersen for working to get the road removed.

As the leaves begin to fall in the coming weeks, I was reminded by someone in the neighborhood about the importance of making sure that debris is cleared from your curb and storm drains. If the drains are not clear, there is nowhere for the runoff to go. Often this water ends up in basements and garages which is never good. It only takes a few minutes to do but it can make a huge difference. If you find your storm drain is completely blocked by gravel and debris that you cannot remove, please be sure to call Public Works at 444-5555 to report it.

Fall is also a good time to trim your trees over public sidewalks. Not only does it make your property look better and provide a safe area for pedestrians, it is the law.

Continued on page 4.

Dundee-Memorial Park Association

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drschinzel@hotmail.com
402-708-0792

Molly Romero, President Elect
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Peg Gibbs, Secretary
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Committees

Newsletter Publisher/Editor
Ellen Shurson, 402-551-6787
shurson@msn.com

Street Captain Coordinator
Peter Manhart, 350-3890

Problem Solving
B.J. Reed, 402-556-5509

Program Coordinator,
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Membership Data
Eli McNichols, 551-5246
elimci@cox.net

Beautification
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NoDo (North of Dodge)
Ellen Zinn ellenzinn@hotmail.com

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DMPA MEETINGS CALENDAR

Next Meeting October 10th

Speaker: Kara Eastman,
Healthy Kids Alliance

November 14th

Jeff Koterba,
Omaha-World Herald

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President's Message

Continued from front page.

Unfortunately, there have been some armed robberies in the neighborhood businesses in the past weeks. As always, watch out for your neighbors and report any suspicious individuals or activity to 911.

Dundee-Memorial Park is an active member of the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance which brings together 16 midtown neighborhoods. One of the main fundraisers for the Alliance each year is Celebrate Midtown. The event is this year will be on Saturday, October 22nd from 6:00 pm to 10:00 pm at Joslyn Castle. Don't worry, Nebraska plays at Minnesota at 2:30 pm so you can go after the game. This year's event will also be a costume party and prizes will be awarded for the best costumes. The cost is only \$15 and tickets can be purchased at Hy-Vee on Center Street. I certainly want to encourage people to support this worthy fundraiser. Dundee-Memorial Park continues to benefit from Midtown Neighborhood Alliance projects like Re-Tree Midtown. We just applied through the Midtown Neighborhood Alliance for funding for new trees on 51st Street and 50th Avenue. Proceeds from this fundraiser go directly into funding tree plantings.

Please plan on attending our next Association meeting on Monday, October 10th at Dundee Presbyterian Church. Come meet your neighbors and get involved!

Dave Schinzel

September DMPA Meeting Photo



Be a good neighbor...

Please Clean up
after your dog!!!

Dundee Updates

By Molly Romero

At the September DMPA meeting, we had a panel discussion of the Transportation Master Planning process currently underway at the city. The goal of the planning process is to develop a Transportation Master Plan that will guide the city to a balanced transportation system that is sustainable, efficient, and most cost effective for the city and its residents.

The panelists were: Derek Miller, Omaha city planning department, who gave a very interesting presentation about the process, data providing the foundation for making decisions, and how residents can be involved; Dr. Angela Eikenberry, associate professor in the UNO School of Public Administration, author, and a founding member of ModeShift Omaha, a group working to inform Omaha residents of transportation issues relevant to the current planning process; and Ryan McClure, the Sustainability Director in the Omaha city planning department. The discussion was moderated by Kevin Flatowicz-Farmer, who asked pertinent questions with the panelists responding with thoughtful and informative information. The process has been underway since November 2010, and is proposed to be completed in early 2012.

On September 15th, the city held a public meeting to inform Omaha residents about the process and the progress made so far, which includes identifying over 300 potential projects to be funded with transportation funds, including street widening, bicycle lanes and trails, and infill development projects. The city has identified a system of prioritizing the projects based on measurable factors. There were between 175 and 250 people in attendance and the dialogue in the question and answer portion was dynamic and revealed that those present had a deep interest in Omaha making the best decisions today for the best Omaha in the future. People understood that Omaha is now at a cross road and that the city planners, council representatives and residents must choose what kind of city we wish to be in 30 years, and the decisions made today will determine Omaha's well being, or lack of well being, through the next three decades. To view a video of that meeting in its entirety may go to the City of Omaha Planning Department website and click on "Transportation Master Planning." ModeShift Omaha has information about the process on its website.

There will be a final public meeting in early 2012 to present the Transportation Master Plan that will be proposed for adoption by the city council, and that will become the plan that governs Omaha's transportation choices for the next 30 years. This will be the final opportunity for residents to provide input on the plan prior to being placed on the agenda for council action.

The city is encouraging public participation in the process and has a website established for public input. Transportation choices made now will truly determine the kind of city Omaha will be, so people are encouraged to learn more about the issues and participate in the discussions.

Dundee Day 2011



Dundee/Memorial Park families and visitors enjoying a beautiful Dundee Day. Photos by Dave Schinzel.





Knock on wood. This old adage was meant to invoke good luck and it really does mean good luck if you are fortunate enough to own an old house with acres of

hardwood floors.

To my tastes, nothing is more stunning than well restored old wood floors. Not only are they more distinctive than wall-to-wall carpet, but they even beat out new wood floors. In the vintage Dundee homes the old floors were milled out of old, slow-growth oak, maple and, in the really rare cases, walnut. I've even been in one Dundee home with a dining room floor pieced together with an end-gain-exposed parquet of cedar. (Wow!) New growth wood doesn't have the tight grain and beautiful figure of the old wood.

It has been my experience that wood floor care is a bit of a contradiction. You have to be more careful with wood floors, but they require very little care.

Let's start with a choice of finishes. Homeowners have their choice of oil-based urethane or water-based urethane. Although the newer waterborne finishes are easier to apply and create a very hard surface, they are as clear as a glass of water. This lack of pigmentation gives hardwood a different appearance than the slightly ambered look most people are used to. The clear finish also highlights imperfections in the wood.

Waterborne finishes are far thinner than oil-based urethane. This means that it takes four coats of waterborne finish to provide the protection wood receives from two coats of an oil-based product. Since time is money, a four-coat finish often costs more per square foot than the traditional urethane finish.

Designers love light, bleached, or white/pastel-stained hardwood floors. Many homeowners become disenchanted with these finishes because the flooring often has a splotchy look caused by the differing absorption levels of various pieces of wood. Also when the wood becomes dry, dark cracks appear. These cracks are a natural phenomenon and will disappear with a change in humidity but are far more obvious in bleached or white/pastel-stained wood. Scratches, too, are far more noticeable with bleached floors. I remember touring one Dundee home where the family dog had wreaked havoc with sharp toenails on a bleached floor.

When it comes to old house, I consider myself a brave (foolhardy?) renovator. But one project I won't even think about tackling is floor refinishing. It's a job for pros. But there are things you can do to make your life more pleasant when your floors are being refinished.

Remove all furniture, pictures and wall hangings from the room. Drape or tape plastic or sheets over openings leading to other parts of the house since sanding creates a great deal of dust no matter how careful your floor refinisher is.

Even though the refinishers are constantly sweeping and vacuuming, there will still be a good deal of dust on

the walls and ceilings. The temptation is to grab buckets of water and frantically start washing. **DON'T DO IT!** After the finish is thoroughly dry, vacuum the walls and ceilings.

Furniture can be replaced 24 hours after job is completed. However wait two weeks before placing rugs and other floor coverings on the new finish.

Dirt and grit are hardwood floorings worst enemies. Use dirt-trapping, walk-off mats at all exterior doors to help prevent dirt, grit and sand from getting inside the building. Keep doormats clean. Use throw rugs just inside of entrances to trap the remainder.

Hardwood chemicals oxidize in strong light causing the wood to change color. To avoid an uneven appearance, move area rugs occasionally and drape or shade large west-facing windows.

Put fabric pads or fabric-faced glides on the legs of all furniture. They will allow furniture to be moved easily without scuffing the floor. Clean glides regularly to keep grit from becoming imbedded in the fabric. Change ball type casters to barrel type roller casters to avoid damaging wood. Gray, non-marking rubber casters are best. Avoid any type of plastic caster.

Sweep or dust mop daily and vacuum regularly. Never use a household spray dust treatment.

Wipe up spills promptly with a dry cloth, tissue or paper toweling. For general cleaning, add 1/2 cup of white vinegar to 1 gallon of water and wash with a damp--not wet--mop or rag and follow with an old bath towel to dry the floor.

Never wax a hardwood finish. Once waxed, the floor cannot be merely buffed and recoated but will have to be completely sanded down to raw wood to restore the finish

Connections

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<http://www.dundee-memorialpark.org/>

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Meet the Merchants

The Dundee Florist - Six Decades of Flowers

By Molly Romero, Marks Bistro



What do sand sculptures, wind chimes, Japanese lanterns and shelves full of colorful ribbons have in common? They can all be found at the Dundee Florist. Established in 1947, Dundee Florist has been owned and managed by John Kirchofer since 1992. John, an Omaha native, has an associate's degree in horticulture with emphasis on floral design and flower shop operations, and has been in the plant and flower business for many years. But he found his current home with Dundee Florist when the founder's daughter, Jenny McCarthy, sold the business to John in January 1992. Formerly known as McCarthy's Dundee Florist, Phil McCarthy, along with partner Bernie Conway, founded the business at some other Dundee location close to Dodge, and moved it to its present location in the 1950's, when Dundee's Underwood business district was apparently undergoing quite a bit of development.

Prior to entering the flower business, John knew he wanted to create a career doing some sort of art or craft, giving careful consideration to woodworking, glass blowing, and other art forms. He eventually settled on the flower business, in large part because he believes a florist is in the business of producing a beautiful product with the intent to cheer and brighten the day of those receiving flowers. , John spent several years working in other flower shops before acquiring the Dundee Florist, first with Francis Simonds (whose most recent location is now Voila! on Dodge), and Ray Gain (near 42nd and Leavenworth). John's purpose as a florist is grounded in the desire to help people express their feelings with flowers. In quoting his mentor, Francis Simonds, John says, "Sending flowers is always appropriate."

John, along with his capable design staff, Ron and Joyceane, combined have over 88 years of experience designing flower arrangements and consulting with clients on the many aspects of using flowers for events. During the busy times, such as Mother's Day and Valentine's Day, John supplements his staff with additional designers and delivery drivers, allowing him to handle the sudden surge of volume. Speaking of delivery service, John has some delivery drivers that have been with him for 15 years, and they deliver far and wide – from Gretna to Bennington, Council Bluffs to Elkhorn, and Bellevue to Blair.

The Dundee Florist provides high quality flowers for all sorts of events, including weddings, special parties,

birthdays, anniversaries, and all sorts of special occasions, and for customers who come in for flowers, as John says, "Just because." There is never a day that cannot be made a bit brighter with the beauty of fresh flowers.

While Dundee Florist is best known for its fresh flower arrangements, it offers much more than that. When you enter the store, you will find lush and healthy green and blooming house plants, seasonal wreaths of artificial flowers, leaves and fruit, fresh fruit gift baskets, room scents, exquisite note cards and even boxed chocolates. It is a great place to drop in for a last minute gift. John travels to Atlanta twice a year to trade shows, seeking charming gift items that strike his fancy and that he expects will pique his customers' interest as well. In his shop, he has created a delightful display of unique gift items. It is a joy to browse slowly to see all there is. Among the many items are beautiful sand sculptures, elegant, interactive pieces that mesmerize. Turning one upside down begins the creation of something new, grain by grain, as the sand gently falls like snowflakes to the bottom, with the white and black sand forming Zen-like images of a distant landscape. I felt like I could have watched them for hours, suspended in delight without thought of the hustle of daily life.

When John is not creating floral arrangements or at trade shows searching for the unique gift items for his shop, he might be out on his bicycle – the Wabash Trace is a favorite trail of his – or out camping in Nebraska or up in the Colorado mountains, where he can go hiking and be out in the fresh mountain air. His other interests include reading good books and taking his two Bichon dogs for walks on the Field Club Trail.

Stop by sometime and meet John's tiny red-eared finches that bring a bit of wildlife to the inside of his shop, listen to gentle tinkle of the wind chimes, or pick up a bouquet of gorgeous color with the scent of the outdoors to enjoy for days.

The Dundee Florist, just north of Underwood, at 675 North 50th is open Monday through Friday 8:00 to 5:30 and on Saturday from 8:00 to 3:00. If you can resist browsing the many visual delights, you may place orders for delivery over the phone by calling 402-551-2442. Most local deliveries can be made the same day.

UNL Extension: Backyard Farmer

Winterizing Your Home Lawn

Nebraska's growing season is drawing to a close, but there are still a few things you can do to make sure your lawn emerges green and healthy next spring.

Mowing

Continue mowing as long as your lawn keeps growing. Grass un-mowed late in the season can become matted under snow, making the turf more prone to snow mold diseases. Continue to return grass clippings to the lawn.

If you raise and lower your mower settings throughout the season, the recommended late fall setting for Kentucky bluegrass is 1.5-1.75 inches and for Tall Fescue 2.5 inches. If you mow your lawn one height all season, continue with the recommended height of 2.5-3.5 for Kentucky bluegrass and 3-3.5 inches for tall fescue. In the past, recommendations were common to raise and lower mower height settings during the growing season, however research has shown very little benefit from this practice, compared to mowing at a slight taller setting throughout the entire season. Plus, it certainly is easier for most homeowners to set their mower at one height in spring and leave it for the entire summer.

Fertilization

Even through foliage growth stops in fall, turfgrass roots continue to absorb and utilize nutrients. Late fall fertilization is important for extended fall color retention, early spring lawn green-up, root growth, and increased stress tolerance. Choose a fertilizer with at least 50% slow release nitrogen, including IBDU, sulfur-coated urea, or urea formaldehyde.

About the time of the last mowing for the season, or between October 15 and November 15, Kentucky bluegrass lawns should receive 1 to 1.25 pounds of Nitrogen per 1,000 square feet, and Tall fescue lawns one pound of Nitrogen per 1,000 square feet. Do not apply fertilizer after the turf has become brown or if the soil is frozen.

Raking

Homeowners with large, mature trees in their landscapes need to manage tree leaves on the lawn. A thick layer of leaves left on the lawn can become wet, matted and smother the underlying grass, making conditions more conducive for snow mold development. A thick leaf layer also provides great habitat and protection for voles, which can cause significant amounts of damage to a lawn from their winter-feeding activities.

If the lawn does not have thatch problems then a light layer of leaves, up to two inches, can be chopped up with a mower and allowed to filter back to the soil surface. Heavier layers of leaves should be removed. Add tree leaves to your compost pile; they are a great source of carbon-rich organic matter.

For more lawn care information visit:
<http://byf.unl.edu/web/byf/LawnWinter>

SORENSEN LIBRARY BENEFITS FROM DUNDEE DAY BOOK SALE

Thanks to the generosity of Dundee volunteers and book donors, Dundee Bank employees, Dundee Merchants Association and DMPA, \$550 was sent to Sorensen Library to apply to purchase of cabinetry needed for DVDs.

Many tasks are involved with conducting the sale, such as set-up, selling books, take-down and transporting unsold books to Swanson Library for future Friends of the Library book sales which benefit all 12 branches of the Omaha library system.

Special thanks to all the good neighbors who volunteered their time and talent to the sale:

Jim and Nancy Mulhall, Lannie McNichols, Jane Rumbaugh, Millie Miller, Denvia Capozio, Judy Schweikert, Kathy White, Dan Wach, Annie and Jana Donahoe, Paul and Blair Rumbaugh, Kay Bashus, and Linda Paul.

Where do all those thousands of donated books go? Answer: near and far. While most of the book purchases find new homes in the Omaha area, among the SOLD books is one wending its way to Bogotá, Columbia, as a Christmas gift. That's Long Distance, for sure! And it reflects the international mix of people attending our Dundee Day.

**To reserve barricades
for your block party,
Contact B. J. Reed via email:
Breed@unomaha.edu**



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

Kids' Activities

Fit Club - Saturday, October 1 | 2 PM

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

Homework Hangout - Tuesdays | 4:30 PM

(Gr. K-12) Get basic homework help, use Tutor.com or type a paper on one of our teen computers.

Storytime - Wednesdays | 10:30 AM

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

Bilingual Storytime - Thursdays, Oct 6 & 20 | 10:45 AM

(Ages 3-5) Immerse your preschooler into the Spanish language through a variety of interactive activities and stories.

Gr. 2-5 Book Club - Thursdays | 4:30 PM Book selection to be announced at a later date.

Baby & Me Storytime - Fridays | 10:30 AM

Mother Goose on the Loose. Parents, babies and toddlers will enjoy this nursery rhyme program that incorporates rhyming games, puppets, songs and musical instruments.

Medusa Storytime - Saturday, October 8 | 1 PM

(Gr. 3 & Up) Help celebrate the release of Rick Riordan's new book "Son of Neptune" by joining us for this terrifying retelling of the classic Greek Legend. Not intended for young children, or those with squeamish constitutions.

LEGO Club - Wednesdays, October 12 & 26 | 4:30 PM

(All Ages) Use your imagination to build anything you want with LEGOs. Snack provided.

Teen Activities

Homework Hangout - Tuesdays | 4:30 PM

(Gr. K-12) Get basic homework help, use Tutor.com or type a paper on one of our teen computers.

Teen Book Club - Saturday, October 15 | 2 PM

Come to the Library & discuss "Kaleidoscope Eyes" by Jennifer Bryant! Snacks will be provided.

Gr. 6-12 Teen Read Week Poster - Wednesday, October 19 | 4:30 PM

Help us celebrate Teen Read Week by creating a poster featuring a quote that has personal significance from any book for a chance to win a prize! Registration required.

Gr. 6-12 Teen Cooking: Pumpkin Seeds - Thursday, October 20 | 4:30 PM

Have fun cleaning out pumpkins, gathering the seeds and then seasoning and baking them in the oven for a tasty treat!

Movie Day: "Green Lantern" - Friday, October 21 | 4 PM

Watch a movie about the newest recruit to the Green Lantern Corps while enjoying popcorn.

Gr. 6-12 Halloween Lock-In - Friday, October 21 | 6-9 PM

Come to the Library and hang out with your friends! Enjoy food and refreshments while playing Wii and Xbox 360 games.

You must wear a costume or part of a costume to attend as well as have a signed parent permission slip!

Game Time: Just Dance 2 - Saturday, October 22 | 2-4 PM

Get up and get down! Have fun with your friends as you compete to see who has the best moves!

Movie Day: "Pirates of the Caribbean: On Stranger Tides" - Friday, October 28 | 1 PM

Watch what happens when Captain Jack Sparrow crosses paths with a woman from his past while enjoying popcorn.

Teen Craft: "Chip Bag Purses and Wallets" - Saturday, October 29 | 1 PM

Learn how to create recycled chip bag purses and wallets using only chip bags, duct tape and Velcro strips!

Adult Activities

Sorensen Readers Sun Book Club - Saturday, October 1 | 1 PM

Read and discuss "Winter Study" by Nevada Barr.

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

Read and discuss "The Painted Drum" by Louise Erdrich.

Adult Game Time: Scrabble - Thursdays | 1 PM

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

HisMys Book Club - Saturday, October 8 | 10:30 AM

Read and discuss "Christine Falls" by Benjamin Black.

Movie Day for Adults: "Jane Eyre" - Wednesday, October 12 | NOON

Watch the movie "Jane Eyre" about a mousy governess who softens the heart of her employer, but soon discovers that he is hiding a terrible secret. Popcorn will be provided.

Plains Pages Book Club - Saturday, October | 1 PM

Read and discuss "Booked to Die" by John Dunning.

LOCAL Control

Alcohol Outlet Beverage Sales Ordinance: Safe for families. Safe for neighborhoods. Good for business.

Supporters of the LOCAL Campaign continue efforts to make Omaha a safer and healthier place by working to get an ordinance adopted that addresses negative consequences associated with alcohol outlets.

The Campaign is in the final stages now. A draft of the proposed ordinance has been submitted to the City's Planning Department. In its current form, the drafted proposal will provide guidelines outlining where new alcohol outlets may be placed. It also establishes public nuisance abatement standards for both new and existing alcohol outlets to address quality of life issues, crime and violence.

Since the Campaign kickoff in October 2010, supporters have heard from individuals who live, work and shop near alcohol outlets question their safety, expressing concern to walk in their own neighborhoods or visit parts of the city where crime is more prominent.

The adoption of an ordinance that addresses problems associated with alcohol outlets has been gaining momentum, winning support from critical leadership throughout the City. Recently, the City's Legal Department gave its nod to move forward with the concept the proposed ordinance hopes to achieve. Deputy City Attorney Tom Mumgaard wrote in a legal opinion, "I recommend that this proposed ordinance be considered; it has good qualities. It can achieve more local control over liquor sales."

Well before this point, however, the idea of controlling the growth of alcohol outlets and their associated harms was put forward by Environment Omaha's recommendations adopted by the Omaha City Council on a 7-0 vote in 2010 and included in the City's Master Plan.

We thank those individuals, neighborhood associations and organizations that have lead in this effort by signing the resolution of support. If your neighborhood association or organization has not yet signed the resolution, we encourage you to contact the LOCAL Campaign for a copy and to receive real-time updates. To contact the LOCAL Campaign, e-mail thelocalcampaign@gmail.com or join our Facebook page at "The LOCAL Campaign" to receive important updates.

We can't achieve a safer and better place for families and children without your leadership and backing. Thank you for your support.

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.



It's time to start planning and gathering monies for next year's flower baskets.

Peter Manhart is always looking for volunteers to be block captains so if you are interested in helping, you can contact him at 350-3890.

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