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Volume 18 Issue 2

October 2018

Fall General Meeting

Tuesday, October 9 at 7:00 PM

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Jay N. "Ding" Darling Shelter House in Birdland Park 2100 Saylor Road

The UPNA Fall General Meeting will be held Tuesday, October 9, 2018 at 7:00 pm at the Jay N. "Ding" Darling Shelter House in Birdland Park.

Our guest speaker will include Polk County Supervisor Tom Hockensmith. We also will hear from the Public Works Director, Jonathan Gano. The Des Moines Rowing Club will be there to talk about their activities.



Also on the agenda is election of officers and a brief report on UPNA's accomplishments this year. Always, we will have cookies to munch on.

The Ding Darling Shelter in Birdland Park is located near Guthrie and Saylor Road at 2100 Saylor Road. There is plenty of parking. For information about the Ding Darling Shelter go to <http://www.dmgov.org/Departments/Parks/Pages/Birdland.aspx>

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Visit our website for news and information.



The 18th Annual “Cruise to the Carousel”



The 18th Annual “Cruise to the Carousel” was Sunday, August 26th at the Heritage Carousel in Union Park. In spite of an occasional misty rain and oppressive humidity, 183 beautiful and diverse cars were registered for the show. The auction was quite successful and the 50/50 raf-

fle went over \$1000 and they sold out on most of the food. Union Park Neighborhood Association sponsored the coveted “Neighborhood Association Award” this year which was awarded to Larry Powell for his 1951 Pontiac station wagon (Stock Category). Proceeds from the show support The Heritage Carousel and help keep the rides for children at 50 cents each. Rollin Relics usually presents the Carousel with a check in November. A big “Thank you” goes out to all who supported the show by organizing, entering, donating to the event and/or attending. The Rollin’ Relics is the largest annual contributor to the Heritage Carousel.



The Heritage Carousel Celebrates Held its 20th Birthday on Saturday, June 9

The Heritage Carousel turned 20 years old this year and their birthday party was a huge success. They offered free rides, food, door prizes and entertainment. There was a magician, face painting and balloon animals, super hero and an art project. Rollin Relics had many of their beautiful and interesting cars and trucks. The lead horse on the Heritage Carousel officially received her name on June 29th. The name “Buttercup” was submitted by Lilly in the “Name the Horse Contest” in celebration of the 20th Birthday. If you missed the 20th Birthday Party, you can still make a memory – the Carousel is open Saturdays and Sundays through October 14th and check out the discounted merchandise. Carousel rides are still just 50 cents for kids!



UPNA

Meeting Invitation

The Union Park Neighborhood Association holds a Spring and Fall General Meeting. We also have bi-monthly steering committee meetings that are held the 2nd Tuesday of odd months (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept. & Nov.) Meetings start at 7:00 pm at Grand View University in the Humphrey Center ("Old Main") on the 2nd floor. These are all open meetings and any neighborhood resident is welcome to attend. The more of us that can get involved the better, so consider this your invitation to attend any meeting. If you can't make it to every meeting that's ok but we would love to have you come whenever you can. Everyone's input is welcome, whether you would like to help with a special event or project or just come to meet your neighbors. UPNA is accomplishing more each year so the more people that are involved the more good we can do!

UPNA

Membership Dues

Remember that Annual Membership Dues are due the first of the year at January. Dues are on a calendar basis. Dues are \$10 for individual membership, or \$25 if you want to be a Supporter and \$30 for a Business Membership. If you have any questions about your Dues, please feel free to contact Paul Cole—Membership Chair. A membership renewal form is on the back of this newsletter.

The Views Forward Project

Grand View students are back on campus for the 2018 academic year and that means that another year of the **Viking Ticket Program** has begun. The Viking Ticket Program is a commitment by Grand View University that anyone from the neighborhood is welcome to come to campus for regular season sporting events or music and theater performances **FREE of CHARGE**. GVU is proud of the skilled and committed Vikings and we think you will be too. GVU wants to instill pride in our neighborhood while providing families and neighbors with free options for entertainment. To get your tickets, just go to this link <https://www.grandview.edu/forms/views-forward-project> and enter your information and request your tickets. The email confirmation will serve as your group's tickets. Only one reservation is necessary and there is no limit to the amount of tickets you can request.

Grand View University kicked off the gardening planting season in May with a ribbon cutting ceremony at a nearby undeveloped lot. It is a part of the View Forward Project.

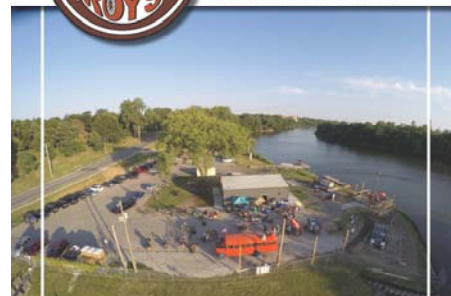


CAPTAIN ROY'S

1900 Saylor Road
at Birdland Marina



OPEN FOR
LUNCH DAILY



Closed Mondays



New Fall Festival

October
13

Mark your calendars for Saturday, Oct. 13, then head to Union Park for the inaugural Fall Festival.

The tentative schedule includes:

- Food eating contests begin at noon
- Youth band showcase, 1 p.m.
(in partnership with the Des Moines Music Coalition)
- Pumpkin walk with youth and adult carving categories and prizes, 5 p.m.
- Family scavenger hunt, 5 p.m.
- Free Flicks, 7:30 p.m.
- Carousel, 5 to 7 p.m.

Watch dmparks.org for more details.

October
30

Beggars' Night, the greater Des Moines area's annual tradition of children trick-or-treating and telling jokes, will be held from 6 to 8 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 30.

National Night Out

Union Park National Night Out was August 7th and another huge success. Each year the Union Park United Methodist Church hosts National Night Out Celebration for the Union Park neighborhood in the church parking lot, located at 2305 East 12th Street.

A free cookout was enjoyed and games for the kids and conversation for the adults. New this year was

live music. The Bike Collective was there to discuss bike maintenance and did small repairs. School supplies for children were available and went very quickly! The Des Moines police and fire departments were a big hit with the kids. And Neighborhood Finance had information for the adults about the Front Porch, LIFT Program, and Home buyers assistance programs.

National Night Out is designed to heighten crime and drug prevention awareness; generate support for and participation in local anticrime programs: strengthen community spirit and police neighborhood cooperation; and most importantly, to send a message to criminals that neighborhoods are fighting back against crime.

Graffiti! – NEW INFORMATION

If you get hit with graffiti on your property, it is considered vandalism and may be a gang sign. You do not want it to stay there very long. It should be reported immediately to Jody L Rouse, Graffiti Program Coordinator at 515-248-6331.

Important information to include when reporting graffiti:

Location of graffiti– an address, nearest cross street, building or landmark.

Description of the graffiti. Is it on private property? Is it on your private property? Your contact information and a photo if possible then send it to jlrouse@dmgov.org

If you can't send a picture describe the graffiti.

The tag will be covered up, typically with white paint. The owner may opt to provide the matching paint to cover the affected area.

If it is on an unpainted structure, siding, etc., it will be power washed to remove it.



New Bike Racks

New bike racks were installed this summer at the Heritage Carousel and at the splash pad. UPNA used grant money for the concrete and the bike racks (Thank You Jack Daugherty for installing) so bicyclist may have a safe place to park their bikes while enjoying the amenities of the park.



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Union Park Presbyterian Church

1307 Thompson Avenue

We invite you to join us for worship
on each Sunday, at 10 a.m.

Phone: 266-4700

Union Park Street Car Loop

Earl Short, Founder of the Des Moines Streetcar Friends group, has provided information about the discovery of one of only two known “street car loops” left in Des Moines and it is located in Union Park. When the Union Park Loop was in service, it was at the end of the line and allowed the street car to turn around and head back to downtown. Later the line was extended further north to Hull Avenue to “Snuzville”. A 1922 map of the streetcar system showed a loop at the intersection of Alpha Avenue and East 9th. A metal detector operator has found evidence of the rails that were buried after busses took over street car operations in the 1950’s. When the ap-

proximate area of the Union Park Loop was staked out it, the measurements were similar to the Waveland Trolley Loop at 49th & University and were projected onto an aerial map.

Streetcars were bringing passengers, north to the area now known as Union Park almost 30 years before it became a City of Des Moines park. Horse drawn streetcars started coming to Union Park in the 1860’s. The land for Union Park was acquired from the Thompson family in 1896. It was named Un-

ion Park because it was situation partly in Lee Township and partly in Des Moines Township. Before air conditioning and large meeting halls, Union Park was a favorite site for many picnics and outdoor events.



Save the Date for the 13th Annual Union Park Neighborhood-wide Garage Sale May 25, 2019

The neighborhood-wide garage sale this year was another success with hundreds of garage sales popping up in the neighborhood on May 26th and continuing through the weekend. Useful items changed hands and residents cleared out things they no longer needed. The date is set for the 2019 Union Park garage sale on May 25, 2019. Start getting

ready for this big event next year and plan to join your neighbors in the Neighborhood-wide garage sale.



Clowns at the Carousel

Clowns at the Carousel was Sunday, August 5th. “Though it was a little warm, it was a fantabulous day!” according to Debbi Cooper, organizer of the event. About 1500 people attended the event. Over 1200 free rides on the Carousel were given. The Des Moines Fire Department was there with one of their “Big Red Trucks”. This free family friendly event gave away 2500 pieces of pizza and there were inflatables, Safety Street, bike helmets, free clown noses, yogurt, music, games, juggling, dancers, stage entertainment and of course, clowns, clowns and more clowns. Board member John Nelson,

said “Clowns at the Carousel is definitely a labor of love. Many people tell me what a fun event Clowns at the Carousel is. I always say it takes a lot of hard work to have this much fun. It is worth every second of the work we put in.” Thank you to the Korn Patch Klowns, their sponsors and all the volunteers for this annual event. Kids have been enjoying this feature since 2003. Save the date, August 4, 2019, for the next Clowns at the Carousel!



This and That:

The “Triple Double” is gone! Soul Spice is a new restaurant that has opened up at 910 East Hull Avenue (formerly Triple Double) and now has new owners and a new menu. Give them a try and support your local businesses! They are on Facebook and you may call in your order at 515-262-3775

Congratulations to Yvonne McDermott. She recently became a grandmother to TWINS!

Home Inc and Habitat for Humanity have been busy this spring and summer in the Birdland area. Take a drive, bike or stroll through the area and admire what they have accomplished and welcome the new homeowners! The “pocket neighborhood” will have 23 new homes.

The 2018 Parkapalooza on June 3rd and June 8th was a big success. This free family friendly event is sponsored by the Grace Church (4200 East 25th Street). The Sunday night event was awesome with over 750 people served free food and then on Friday night over 950 people came out to the park for free fried chicken and root beer floats.

Neighborhood Finance Corporation – Front Porch program includes forgivable loans for home improvements of up to \$10,000. Learn more at <http://bit.ly/29CyUcu> or call: 515-246-0010.

Parks and Recreation Department has approached the UPNA Steering Committee for input on changing the design of the flower gardens in Union Park. The current flower beds are long strips in an out-of-the way location and are difficult to water. They would like to replace those with mul-

tiple gardens throughout the park that would be easier to water and more enjoyable to view. We have been assured the square footage would not change.

Remember: Grass clippings do not belong in the street. The phosphorus and nitrogen in the clippings contaminate storm water runoff causing water quality issues in lakes, ponds and streams. It also is a violation of a city ordinance and is totally preventable.

Did you have water in your basement? Was it raw sewage? The Private Property Protection Program will help. For more information <http://bit.ly/DSMpppp>

ROR (Rendezvous on Riverview) was a huge success again this year in spite of moving to a temporary location at Union Labor Park on Morningstar Drive and cancellations due to flooding and severe heat. People used the shuttle or bike trail or managed to find a place to park nearby. The fireworks were postponed to the last Friday of July but that just added to the magic that still is RIVERVIEW! ROR will be back on Riverview Island in 2020 when the new Prairie Meadows Riviera Stage will be completed.

The UPNA Steering Committee has a committee working on a holiday event that will encourage residents around Union Park to turn on their Christmas decorations and get in the spirit of the season. We hope this event will expand and turn into a yearly event. More information will follow.

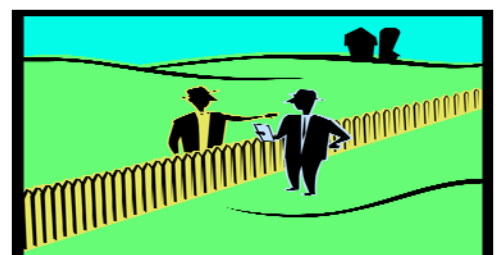
Union Park welcomed the DMOS Race Team/Race Like a Squirrel races on four occasions this summer. It

is a fun time for the racers and the neighbors to enjoy the fun by watching and cheering.

Yoga in the Park was moved to Union Park during the month of September on Saturday mornings while shoreline stabilization work was done at Gray’s Lake.

The WRA (Wastewater Reclamation Authority) will close Penn Avenue at East Jefferson sometime in October for about two weeks to run sewer pipes to the pumping station on the other side of the street. About 6,000 cars a day go through there. Detours will be suggested. The bike trail and access to Capt. Roy’s and the Des Moines Rowing Club and Marina will be affected.

The Union Park Grace Fellowship Church at 832 Grandview Avenue is having their annual Turkey Dinner on Saturday November 10, 2018 from 4:00 to 6:30. Menu includes turkey, mashed potatoes/gravy, dressing, green beans, 2 salads, rolls/butter, pie and drink all for \$9 for adults and \$6 for children 5 thru 10. Kids under 4 are free. Meals are also available for carry out and delivery by reserving your meal by calling the church office at 262-4555 or 779-3638 no later than November 7, 2018. Also check out the Bazaar and Bake Sale at the church from 2:00 until 6:30 p.m. The Church is located on the corner of East 9th Street and Grandview Avenue.



Union Park Neighborhood Association

PO BOX 16113

Des Moines , IA 50316-9402

Fall General Meeting
Tuesday, October 9 at 7 pm
Jay N. "Ding" Darling Shelter House
Birdland Park 2100 Saylor Road

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

BECOME A MEMBER / SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER

Name_____

Address_____

9-digit zip code_____

Form is also available on our website at www.unionparkdsm.com

Phone_____ E-mail_____

Yearly Dues: Three levels of Membership: \$10.00 Family membership, \$25 Supporter, \$30 Business
please mail to UPNA Treasurer, PO BOX 16113, Des Moines, IA 50316-9402

If you have any questions, please feel free to call Paul Cole at 263-1885.

All memberships renew on January 1st.

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Please send me information about _____