



[www.unionparkdsm.com](http://www.unionparkdsm.com)

Volume 21 Issue 1

June 2021

## UPNA RETURNS TO IN PERSON MEETINGS

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[www.unionparkdsm.com](http://www.unionparkdsm.com)

Visit our website for news and information.

### THE NEW NORMAL - STARTING AGAIN

Starting July 13, 2021, the Union Park Steering Committee will once again meet in person at our regular meeting room in the Rodholm Room, Humphrey Center, on the Grand View University Campus. Meetings are 7:00 to 9:00 pm. In November 2020, we tried ZOOM as a trial run and it worked satisfactorily for those who have a computer with a camera. We continued having Zoom meetings until June 8, 2021, which was our last Zoom meeting. We look forward to seeing you face to face.

### Birdland Master Plan

We are excited about the possibilities and discussions surrounding the proposed changes in the Birdland Marina at 2100 Saylor Road in the Union Park area. The Birdland Master Plan will bring big changes for the Birdland Marina, the Des Moines Rowing Club and Captain Roy's and bring recreational opportunities to the area that we never dreamed of, such as fishing, kayak rentals, playgrounds, a skating ribbon and a splash pad. The \$54M price tag will include reconfiguring and expanding current biking and walking trails, dredging the lagoon, restoring wetlands and adding three fishing piers. It is envisioned that a two story Birdland boathouse will be built, with the Des Moines Rowing Club occupying the lower level and Captain Roy's new home on the upper level. A playground and splash pad for children and families is planned to the east of the lagoon, along with restrooms and a place for skaters. To the south will be a new marina with 150 boat slips. This Plan has had the input from stakeholders and a diverse advisory committee. There were at least three public meetings to gain input. The consultants and designers listened to every comment and considered every aspect to develop the Master Plan. The plan, once adopted, will be implemented in phases. Although the Birdland Master Plan is separate and independent from the Central Iowa Water Trails project, the two projects will complement each other.

Once the Birdland Master Plan is adopted it will be posted on the City website and the Union Park Neighborhood Association website.

## Clowns at the Carousel August 1st - Save the Date

Save the date: Clowns at the Carousel will be Sunday August 1st, starting at 4:00 pm to 7:00 pm. It's all at the Heritage Carousel located in Union Park of Des Moines. This annual event is held during National Clown Week and features the local Korn Patch Klowns. Bring the kids.

Don't miss this free and exciting event.



## Heritage Carousel

We Have New Programs For You!

The Heritage Carousel kicked off the 2021 season May 29th during Memorial Day Weekend and is open Tuesday through Sunday from 11 am to 7 pm through August 22. The Carousel will be open after that on weekends through the Fall.

We have some great new programs for you. This year we are introducing our Ride Every Animal Challenge! Purchase our Ride Every Animal passport and get your passport stamped each time you ride a different animal. When the passport is completed, turn it in for a fun prize!

We are also thrilled to announce three Story Time at the Carousel events this season. We are partnering with the Des Moines Public Library to bring these to you. The dates are: Friday June 11, Friday July 9 and Wednesday August 4.

Rides are just 50 cents for children, \$1 for adults. For more information about the Heritage Carousel, go to [www.heritagecarousel.org](http://www.heritagecarousel.org).

Jackie Cacciatore,  
Executive Director  
Heritage Carousel of Des Moines



# 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 Suppporter 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.

## City of Des Moines Department of Public Works 2021 SCRUB Calendar

Date	Location	Hours
6/19/2021	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St. <b>Capitol Complex Lot #3</b> , west of E. 14th south of Court Ave. <b>[MEGA SCRUB]</b>	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM <b>7 AM - 1 PM</b>
7/17/2021	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St.	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM <b>7 AM - 1 PM</b>
8/21/2021	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St.	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM
9/18/2021	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St. <b>Bell Avenue Business Park</b> , 1901 Bell Ave. <b>[MEGA SCRUB]</b>	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM <b>7 AM - 1 PM</b>
10/16/2021	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St.	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM
11/20/2021	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. MWA Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St.	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM

## Confused about holiday garbage collection?

### HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

When the holiday listed below falls on a weekday, the garbage and yard waste collections will be delayed one day for the rest of that week.

New Years Day  
Memorial Day  
4th of July  
Labor Day  
Thanksgiving Day  
Christmas Day

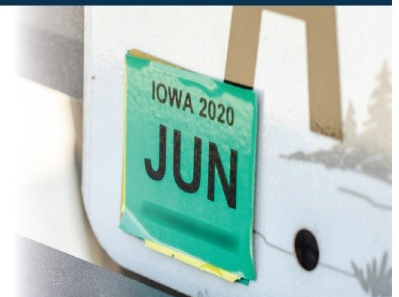
Holidays not listed will not cause collection delays.

**Example:** Thanksgiving falls on Thursday, so Thursday collection moves to Friday, and Friday will move to Saturday

For questions, contact Public Works 24/7 at 515-283-4950

## Avoid a Parking Ticket 101

Did you know it's a violation of Des Moines Municipal Code to park a vehicle on a city street or on city property without the license plate displaying the current registration sticker? Registrations may be renewed during the month before and the month after the registration month (normally the birth month of the registered owner). To avoid a parking ticket, apply early, and immediately put the sticker on your plate when you receive it. Remember, the sticker shows the month and year it expires.





## 2019 and 2020 Lawn of the Week Award

The Lawn of the Week Awards program continues in 2021! The Lawn of the Week Awards program started in 1992 by the UPNA Steering Committee, to identify and honor front yards that exhibited both good landscape design and consistent quality of yard maintenance.

Yvonne and Tom McDermott are the Lawn of the Week Award Coordinators. During the summer they walk and drive through the area to identify outstanding front yards of neighbors whose lawns exemplified both neatness and beauty. As they find a “winner”, Tom and Yvonne place a green and white sign in the yard for one week to proclaim the yard as the “Union Park Neighborhood Lawn of the Week”. Sometimes the sign is left in the yard for a little bit longer if the McDermott's get busy.

### **Congratulations to these 2019 neighbors:**

John and Linda Lee -2619 Cornell  
Elizabeth and Michael Simons—417 Hull  
Walt Bennett—1629 Milton  
Debra Craven—2122 E 12th  
John Coulter—817 Boyd  
Larry Youngs—1500 Arthur  
Richard and Susan Heathcoate— 2012 E 12th  
Ron Miklus—828 E Sheridan

### **Congratulations to these 2020 neighbors:**

Andrea Cook - 819 Boyd  
Clark Cornell - 701 Morton  
Linda and Virgil Croy - 509 Grandview  
Brooke and Nathan Walter - 1645 Milton  
Chris Rogers - 1701 Penn Ave  
Pat Meyers - 421 Arthur  
Chris and Sara Davis - 1707 E 8th  
Ryan Anderson -706 Wisconsin  
Rick and Carrie Rosno - 1710 E 9th



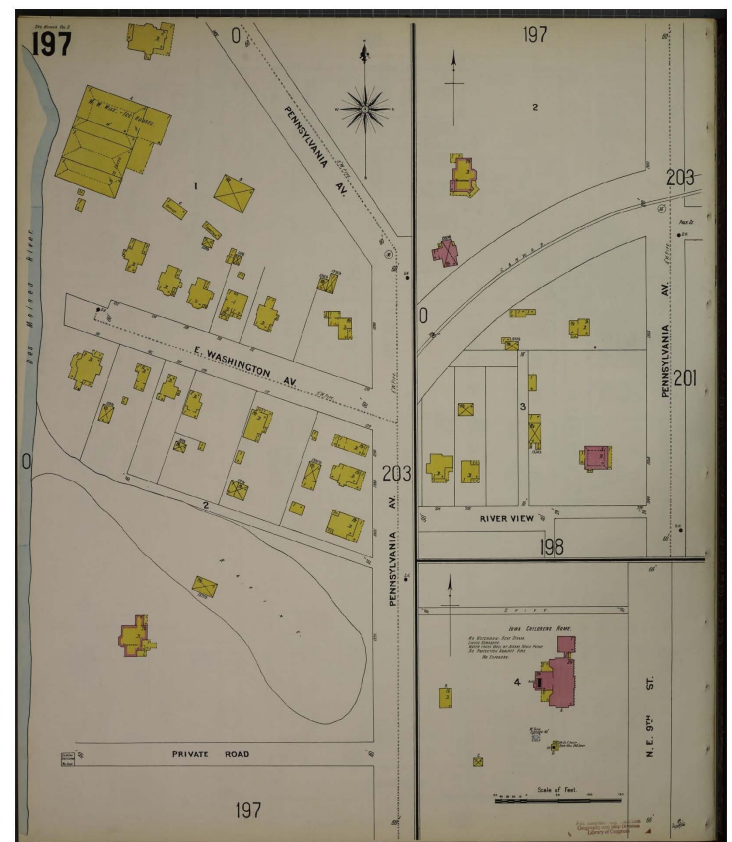
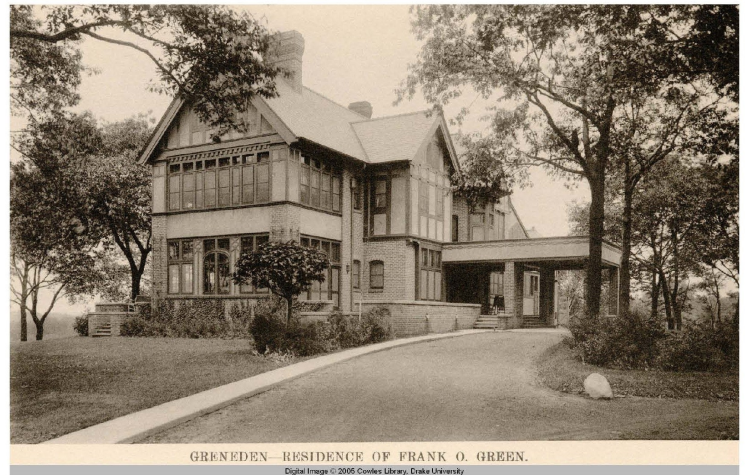
Although there is not a formal process for this award, nominations are appreciated and gratefully accepted. Yvonne says that they follow up on nominations that are submitted by friends and neighbors but sometimes the owner does not respond when contacted. The owner's approval is needed before a sign can be put in the yard. Contact with the home owner will be by phone, letter or email only. Please send your suggestions for a 2021 Lawn of the Week to [info@unionparkdsm.com](mailto:info@unionparkdsm.com)

*Good Neighbor Tip:  
Be Kind!*

Say “Hello!” to your neighbors. Get to know the people on your street. Look after them and they'll look after you.

## 1420 Pennsylvania Avenue — A look back

Here is something fun. Steve Nelson-Vaux sent us a couple of the pictures of the river view from 1420 Penn. Jack found the picture of the spectacular house that was at that address, but unfortunately is no longer around. It would have been about 15,000 square feet on 3 floors! Technically this was located in the Capitol Park Neighborhood area but it is interesting. Enjoy.



Sanborn Fire Map 1901 V2 P197



These pictures are also on our Facebook page if you want to save them or view them in a larger format.



## ROCKET SLIDE UNDER REPAIR



### **Des Moines Parks and Recreation — May 25**

The rocket slide at Union Park is currently being repaired. The center slide is closed and is scheduled for removal. It will be rebuilt and put back in place later this summer. We appreciate your patience during this process and will provide updates as the project progresses.

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### **NOTICE:**

The UPNA Newsletter is offered to our members, neighbors and friends in digital form only from now on. Paper copies may be requested for those who are unable to receive the newsletter digitally. If you are uncertain about your membership status, contact the UPNA Membership Chair, Paul Cole 263-1885 / [Colepw2005@gmail.com](mailto:Colepw2005@gmail.com)


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## CAPTAIN ROY'S



*1900 Saylor Road*  
*at Birdland Marina*



**OPEN FOR  
LUNCH DAILY**



*Closed Mondays*



# *Captain Roy's*

## ★ SUMMER CONCERT SERIES ★

### JUNE

2 BIKE NIGHT WITH HONEYCHILD  
5 THE SNACKS  
12 DAVE ZOLLO  
19 DUCHARME-JONES BAND  
26 BROTHER TRUCKER

### JULY

3 MATT WOODS BAND  
7 BIKE NIGHT WITH HONEYCHILD  
10 FAHRENHEIT/ SUMMER GAMES  
17 MALCOLM WELLS AND THE TWO TIMERS  
24 HONEYCHILD  
31 SOUL SEARCHERS

### AUGUST

4 BIKE NIGHT WITH HONEYCHILD  
7 BROTHER TRUCKER  
14 RAINBOW PENLEY BAND  
21 MALCOLM WELLS AND THE TWO TIMERS  
28 BONNE FINKEN WITH JAMES BIEHN

### SEPTEMBER

1 BIKE NIGHT WITH HONEYCHILD  
4 THE UNFORTUNATE SONS  
11 THE STRING PROPHETS  
18 BROTHER TRUCKER

### Contact City Council

If you have an idea for a solution to improve your neighborhood, we encourage you to start a discussion with your elected officials. For 2021, these are your City Council representatives:



#### MAYOR

T.M. Franklin Cownie  
fcownie@dmgov.org  
(515) 283-4944



#### AT LARGE

Carl Voss  
carlvoss@dmgov.org  
(515) 210-0237



#### AT LARGE

Connie Boesen  
connieboesen@dmgov.org  
(515) 240-7929



#### WARD 1

Bill Gray  
billgray@dmgov.org  
(515) 273-1623



#### WARD 2

Linda Westergaard  
lindaw@dmgov.org  
(515) 988-4288



#### WARD 3

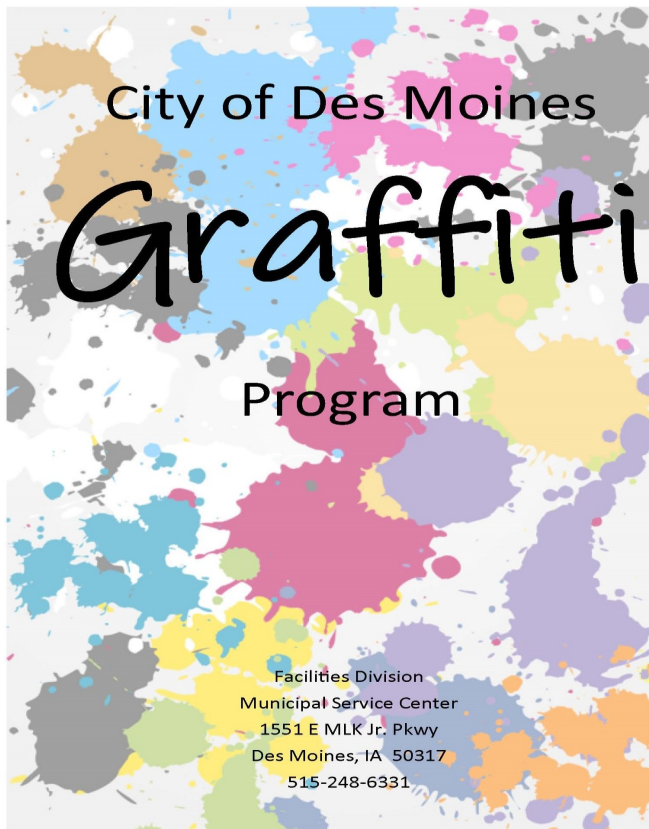
Josh Mandelbaum  
joshmandelbaum@dmgov.org  
(515) 250-3384



#### WARD 4

Joe Gatto  
joegatto@dmgov.org  
(515) 402-2626





## Anyone Can Report Graffiti

There are several resources to report Graffiti

**GRAFFITI EMAIL** [reportgraffiti@dmgov.org](mailto:reportgraffiti@dmgov.org)

**GRAFFITI HOTLINE** 515.248.6331

### CITY OF DES MOINES WEB PAGE

<https://www.dsm.city>

⇒ DEPARTMENTS

⇒ CITY MANAGER

⇒ GRAFFITI REMOVAL

**REPORT GRAFFITI**



**THE MOBILE AP MYDSMMOBILE**

## To Report Graffiti In Progress Call

**911**

### HELPFUL INFORMATION TO KNOW FOR REPORTING GRAFFITI

- When reporting graffiti, provide as much detailed information as possible.
- Include **EXACT** address of private property, name of park, building, intersection, and/or nearby landmarks.
- Photos are an excellent tool for reporting graffiti. Photos can be emailed or uploaded by the mobile ap or web page.
- Please provide your name and contact information for more details regarding graffiti. However, reports can remain anonymous.
- Reporting Graffiti to the Graffiti Program is not a police report.
- Please contact the Graffiti Hotline or Email with questions regarding reporting graffiti or the graffiti program.



### PRIVATE PROPERTY REMOVALS

- Private property owner **MUST** sign liability release prior to removal. No removals will be completed unless the release is received from owner.
- Only the effected area will be covered.
- A power washer, sandblaster or chemical solvents may be used.
- The paint used will not be matched in color. Private property owner can provide matching paint if desired.
- There is no cost to the private property owner for the removal or coverage.

The intent of the City of Des Moines Graffiti Program is to remove or cover graffiti that appears in our neighborhoods, City and other public property including the City Parks system, and upon permission of property owner, on private property.

Graffiti is the marking of public or private property without the consent of the owner. Private property includes places of business, houses, garages, fences and other buildings. Public property includes bridges, overpasses and underpasses, freeway walls on the non-DOT side, utility boxes and poles, trees, sidewalks, and park property.

Schools, the DOT, the Railroad System, Mid-American, DART Bus System, and private garbage removal businesses address graffiti issues on their property, including trash dumpsters. Graffiti removals only are removed on stationary locations. Construction trailers, temporary construction barricades, vehicles, and working construction sites, for example, are excluded. Removals are exterior only—removals are not done inside private property structures.

Not all areas of graffiti are accessible to the Graffiti removal team for removal. Removals over water, as well as buildings involving heights and other unsafe locations are reviewed and documented but are not always removed due to safety regulations and restrictions. Graffiti removals are performed as weather and temperatures allows, typically slowing in the winters months.

The City's graffiti program is administered by the Facilities Division, which coordinates the removal or coverage of graffiti and shares information with the Des Moines Police Department which tracks the locations and messages to monitor for possible gang activity. The Graffiti program relies on the eyes of police patrols, neighborhood organizations, and the public to report graffiti.

The Graffiti Program is only for locations within the city limits of Des Moines.





## Report Concerns:

***If you see suspicious activity,  
call 911.***



**ONE LOW  
COST, EASY  
TO DO**

**\$39**

BASED ON A STRATEGY  
RECOMMENDED BY POLICE, SHERIFFS  
AND FBI FOR OVER 50 YEARS

**ORDER TODAY**

**MyPropertyID.net**

\*\$39 for a 10-tag student kit. Larger size kits available online.

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Did you know that the City of Des Moines Public Works Department offers a drop-off site for the purpose of recycling cardboard only? We ask that you please break down boxes before placing them in the available bins. The site is open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week and is located at 108 SE 5<sup>th</sup> Street. For more information, call (515) 283-4950



## Ride Every Carousel Animal!



**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**



# Birdland levee repairs expected to cost up to \$12 million

By Kathy A. Bolten, Business Record Senior Staff Writer

Design flaws are causing water to seep under the levee, potentially causing erosion

In 2002, the Army Corps of Engineers completed a study of the Birdland levee system that was supposed to protect North High School and surrounding homes and businesses from floods.

In 2008, a levee breach caused millions of dollars in damage to the Birdland area.

Two years later, and without any further analysis, construction of a new levee system began. The construction portion of the project, completed in late 2011, cost \$8.1 million. Subsequently, the city began reinvesting in the area. New homes have been built, businesses have made improvements to their properties, and a new stadium has been constructed.

Now Corps officials have determined that about two-thirds of the 1.7-mile levee do not meet federal engineering standards for under-seepage. It will cost up to \$12 million to bring the levee up to Corps standards, officials estimated. The city of Des Moines will be expected to contribute 35% of the cost, or up to \$4.2 million.

The City Council is expected to vote Monday on a request to provide \$210,000 to help pay for new engineering designs, which will be completed by the Corps.

Flaws with the levee were discovered in late 2017 by an engineer hired by the city to design a detention basin east of Birdland Pool. Further analysis by the Corps confirmed the engineer's findings.

There are no immediate threats to nearby residences, schools or businesses, said Jason Smith, senior project manager for the Corps. But, he added, "Continued high-water events may increase the risk associated with the under-seepage issue."

Under-seepage occurs when pressure from the river pushes water under the levee, moving sand and bedrock out of its way. On the non-river side of the levee, sand boils can form, an indication that under-seepage is occurring, Smith explained. The erosion caused by the under-seepage could reduce the level of protection the levee was designed to provide, he said.

The layer of clay under the levee should be at least 10 feet thick in order to minimize the risk of sand boils occurring, Smith said. In some areas of the levee, the clay layer is below the 10-foot threshold.

In the early 2000s, borings of the layers of earth under the levee were taken, which showed an adequate thickness clay. However, Smith said, the boring samples "were not representative of the entirety of the levee."

Additional studies were not done after the 2008 flood, or after Congress appropriated money in 2010 for the reconstruction of the Birdland levee, Smith said. "We had a very short [time period] in which to get the project constructed, so we relied on the information we had collected in the past. ... It was the best available data at the time."

Solutions to fixing the problem include building a cutoff wall that would be installed down the center of the levee and reach to the bedrock; building relief wells on non-river side of the levee that would be spaced 10 to 25 feet apart; or installing toe drains, which are designed to capture seepage.

The options all have pros and cons, Smith said. The solution will likely be a combination of the three, he said.

The Corps has received funding to prepare designs to repair the levee, which will take 12 to 18 months, Smith said. Congressional approval will be needed to move forward with the project, which will take up to two years to complete after funding is secured.

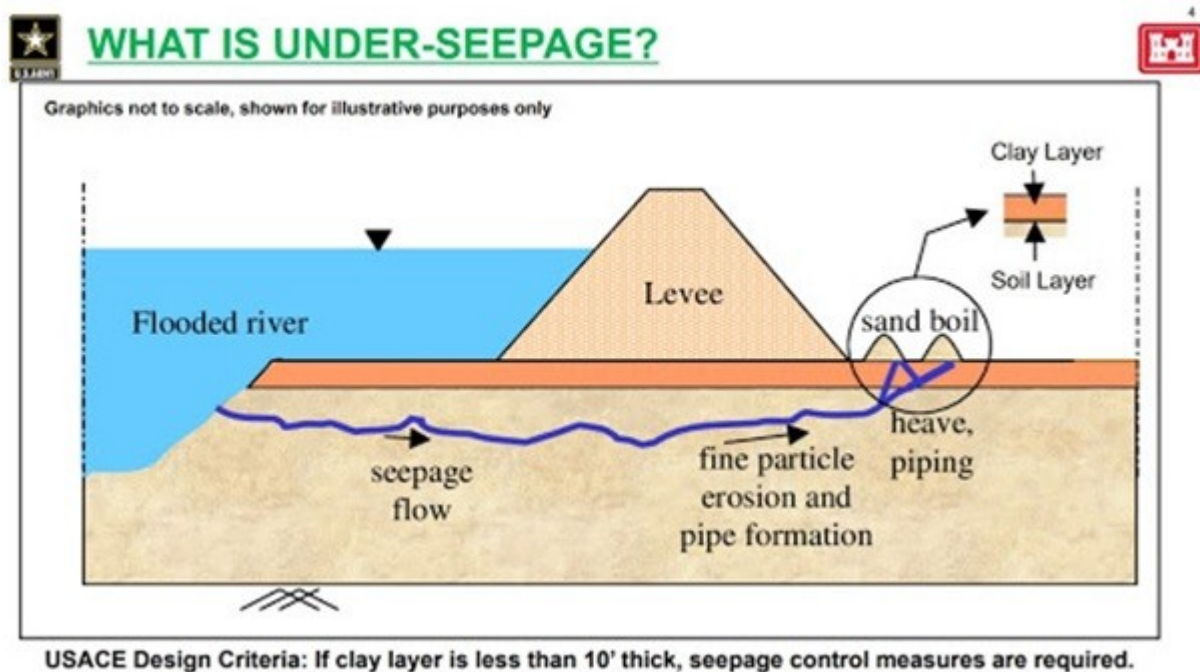
The cost of the new design work is estimated at \$600,000. The city's portion of that cost is about \$210,000. The council is expected to approve the expense at its meeting on May 4, 2020.

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The lavender on the aerial view of the Birdland levee, located along the east side of the Des Moines River, indicates areas where there is concern by the Army Corps of Engineers that under-seepage will occur. The Corps is now planning to make repairs to the levee, which was rebuilt about nine years ago. *Photo courtesy of Army Corps of Engineers*



A graphic designed by the Army Corps of Engineers explains under-seepage, which is happening along the Birdland levee system.

# THOMPSONS CITIZENS OF THE YEAR 2021



Bill and Pam Thompson

Congratulations to our friends Pam and Bill Thompson for being named Citizens of the Year by FuseDSM: Your Chamber of Commerce.

This award is given annually to those who have given freely and selflessly of their time, talent, and energy to the East, North or South Des Moines community. Their impact must be one that can be seen within the East, North and South areas of the City of Des Moines.

The mission of Fuse DSM is to support East-South Des Moines economic health through our efforts in membership, economic development, education and advocacy. Its vision is to be a resource for the business community to prosper.

## SAVE THE DATE

**20TH ANNUAL  
CRUISE TO THE CAROUSEL  
CAR SHOW  
SUNDAY AUGUST 29TH**

(Rain or Shine)

**Heritage Carousel**

**UNION PARK**  
E 9th & Thompson  
Des Moines, Iowa

**Car Show Charity: Heritage Foundation**

*The Cruise to the Carousel  
is presented by the*





## 2021 Mayors Annual Ride and Run Lake to Lake



Get signed up now for this year's Mayor's Annual Ride and Run on Saturday, Sept. 18. Meet us at Principal Park (1 Line Drive) to kick off the day with a 4-Mile Run and Family Fun Walk, starting at 8.a.m. The 20-mile bike ride follows at 10 a.m. and the route starts and finishes at Principal Park and will go lake to lake (Gray's Lake to Easter Lake). Event proceeds go towards funding fix-it stations along our trails.

Cost:

- Adults 18 and up: \$35 per person
- \$5 per youth (5 - 17); no t-shirt included
- Free for children 4 & under
- For an additional \$5 participants can enter both the run and ride

All adult registrants are eligible for a drawing to win a new Giant Contend 3 bike, valued at \$775, courtesy of [Bike World](#). Register online at [bit.ly/2021MARR](http://bit.ly/2021MARR)

## National Night Out August 3, 2021

National Night Out (NNO) will be returning to the traditional date on the first Tuesday of August. It was cancelled in 2020 due to the covid-19 pandemic. We are happy to announce that NNO will once again be hosted by the Union Park United Methodist Church, 2305 East 12th Street (corner of E 12 and Guthrie St) in their parking lot on August 3rd from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. They always do a great job and everyone is invited to enjoy food, beverages, fun, games and prizes and socializing with your neighbors. Meet city officials and representatives from the Des Moines Police and Fire Department. Don't miss this fun event.



# Union Park Neighborhood Association

PO BOX 16113

Des Moines , IA 50316-9402

## BECOME A MEMBER / SIGN UP TO VOLUNTEER

Name\_\_\_\_\_

Address\_\_\_\_\_

9-digit zip code\_\_\_\_\_

Form is also available on our website at [www.unionparkdsm.com](http://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.

☐  
☐  
☐

I want to have my newsletter e-mailed to the e-mail address above.

I do not have an e-mail address. Please send my newsletter to my home.

Please send me information about \_\_\_\_\_

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