

Drake Neighborhood News



LETTER FROM THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Welcome spring and welcome new residents!

The Drake Neighborhood Association has cabin fever. We've cooked up this special edition newsletter to let all of our members and new residents know that we're getting ready for spring! We've got a lot of events happening this spring and summer, so feel free to join in on any and all of them. There should be something for everyone with interest in the neighborhood.

Can you believe that over the winter we've had almost 100 new families move into the neighborhood? For all of you new residents, welcome to the neighborhood! We hope you will find the Drake area a great place to live and would like to invite you to become a member of the association. The DNA holds several events throughout the year but we're best known for the pride we take in the neighborhood. Join us at our next quarterly meeting, May 8th, to find out more about the association and what we do.

Now that our tulips and daffodils are starting to make their appearance, we can be confident that spring is on the way. Take a look through our special edition spring newsletter and see what inspires your spring fever! We hope that you will all join us!

--Drake Neighborhood Association Board of Directors

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!!!

DNA needs volunteers to man the water station for the Drake Relays On the Road Race which will be April 26th from 7:30 a.m. - approximately 11:00 a.m. Contact Debra Austin to sign up to volunteer, or for more details as the event gets closer. 515-249-4314 or DebraDNA@aol.com Thanks!

DNA EVENTS

April 5th

Scrub Day

April 20th

Drake Relays Parade

April 24-27th

Drake Relays

May 8th

DNA Quarterly Meeting
First Christian Church @ 7 p.m.
25th & University

June 7-8th

Drake Neighborhood Tour of
Historic Homes
Greek Food Fair

June 11-14th

NCAA Div. I Nat. Championship
Drake Stadium

Drake Neighborhood News Special Edition Spring 2008

Published by the DNA

Subscription is free to members.
Annual membership rates: \$20/
household, \$30 business or
organization.

DNA Quarterly Meeting May 8th, 2008

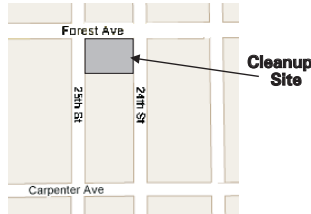
Please join us for the second quarterly meeting of 2008 at the First Christian Church at 7:00 p.m. in the Fellowship Hall. We'll have a guest speaker present to discuss gardening topics as well as tips for getting your own garden ready. We'll also be discussing the upcoming house tour and the farmer's market. This is a great opportunity to meet some of your neighbors and get ready for spring!

SPRING CLEANUP DAY

Saturday, April 5, 2008

7:00AM To Noon

Free Containers Will Be Located In The Drake University Parking Lot Located at 24th Street & Forest Avenue.



Automobile tires will be collected!

Oil, paint, antifreeze, batteries and pesticides will **NOT** be accepted.

As part of a PILOT project appliances such as air conditioners, refrigerators, dehumidifiers, microwaves, stoves, washers, dryers, dishwashers and hot water heaters will be accepted **FREE OF CHARGE!**

To schedule curbside (weekday) pickup of appliances (\$35 charge per appliance), Call Public Works at 283-4950.

In order to reduce costs, the City requires that **ALL** yard waste and debris be taken directly to the MWA Compost Center at 1601 Harriet Street. **NO** yard waste or debris will be accepted at the Drake University Parking Lot Site.



For more information, call Bob at 277-0139
Or visit
http://www.dmgov.org/departments/PW/scrub_2008.htm

(NOTE: The City of Des Moines may randomly check identification of people bringing items to the cleanup to ensure they either reside or own property in the city of Des Moines.)

Water Please!

This year the Neighborhood Beautification committee will again be planting and maintaining garden beds on Kingman Boulevard. The beds we will be planting are on the end caps at 42nd street (east side), 35th street (east and west side) and 31st street (east and west side) for a total of 5 beds.

We are looking for volunteers to help maintain and water these beds during the months of June-September, especially the beds on 42nd and 35th street.

If you would like to help out with the maintaining and water of either of these beds or have any question about creating a bed of your own in a different location please contact Kevin Venhaus at 277-1833 or email kcvenhaus@mchsi.com

DNA Board Members

President

Marty Schmitt

255-9293 tschmitt@dwx.com

Vice President

Bill Lahay

277-6848 blahay@msn.com

Secretary

Betsey Qualley

333-4620 betseyfrench11@mac.com

Treasurer

Trisha Davis

255-3416 TKEDavis@earthlink.net

Board Members

Debra Austin

249-4314 DebraDNA@aol.com

Dean Blum

279-5364 deanynot@msn.com

Bill Cappuccio

274-1861 billc3@netins.net

Bonita Crowe

277-1657 afinetime4wine@aol.com

Barbara Freeman

299-0108 freemab@nationwide.com

Eldon 'Mac' McAfee

274-1910 emcafee@bevinglaw.com

Dolph Pulliam

271-3084

Vince Rubino

274-4903 vince@vincerubino.com

Claudia Schabel

243-5043 scabel.claudia@principal.com

Kevin Venhaus

277-1833 kcvenhaus@mchsi.com

Bruce Wilson

274-4413 BLW1540@aol.com

Board Meeting Minutes for the DNA Board Meeting can be found on the DNA website at : www.drakeneighborhood.org

2008 Drake Neighborhood Home Tour

Now that we've made it through the winter (and what a winter we made it through) our minds turn to the spring activities we thought would never arrive. Be sure to schedule the Drake Neighborhood Historic Home Tour on your calendar. It will be held the weekend of June 7th and 8th. The tour runs from 11:00 to 5:00 p.m. both Saturday and Sunday.

This year we are touring the section of neighborhood that lies just east and north of the Roosevelt Cultural District, which includes the Roosevelt Shopping Center. The tour will begin this year at the Playhouse, and on Saturday (only) a full tour of the playhouse will be available with your Home Tour ticket.

We have many opportunities to assist with the home tour as the month of May approaches. We always need lots of folks on tour weekend to work a shift as a ticket taker at each host's home. It is an enjoyable job, usually seated on a front porch in a lawn chair or on the porch swing. Benefits include:

-your own free tour ticket \$10 value

-an invite to the Post Tour Party potluck meal with friendly neighbors \$20 value

-knowing you've assisted in showcasing the Drake Neighborhood to the rest of the community: Priceless

Call Carole Venhaus 277-1833 or email her at kcvenhaus@mchsi.com for more information on how you can be a part of this year's tour.

Join the Dog Pack!

DNA is organizing a "dog pack" for the Drake Relays Parade. We're calling on all Drake area residents and your canine friends. That's right, if you have a dog that is well socialized, current on vaccinations and licensed within the city of Des Moines, bring them to the dog pack! Dogs must be on a leash and accompanied by an adult handler. Would prefer if they (the dogs) could be wearing something in Drake blue colors -- a collar, bandana, t-shirt, etc. Participants will either ride on a trailer or march alongside the trailer. No training required, per se; we will simply walk or ride in the parade. (Although if anyone has a baton-twirling canine, we want to know about it!). Interested residents should contact Bill Lahay at 277-6848 or blahay@msn.com and we'll get organized the week before the parade.

Free plants! Free plants! Free plants!

Every year the City of Des Moines Parks and Recreation Department offers the residents of Des Moines a chance to create fabulous flowering gardens on public property. It's part of an on-going community greening project the city has sponsored for the past 6 years.

Plant a bed of Petunias and Marigolds on a street corner. Create an eye catching end-cap on a boulevard with Salvia, Cosmos, Begonias and Celosia. If you know of a area of public land that you would like to plant, and maintain, please take a look at the plants that are available on the order form in this newsletter.

Fill out the form completely by April 10, and send it to: Kevin Venhaus, 1004 40th Street, Des Moines, IA 50311 or email it to kvenhaus@mchsi.com.

If you need another copy of the order form, or have any questions please email Kevin or call 277-1833. Make sure you put down contact information and the location of the area you want to plant.

Plants will be available for pick up by 1:00 p.m., Friday May 16th, and Saturday, 8:00 am to 7:00 p.m.. May 17th at 1004 40th Street Des Moines (That's just south of Kingman Boulevard on 40th street).

If you can't pick up your order on those days please contact Kevin and arrange a time for pick-up.

Neighborhood Based Service Delivery Contacts

Contact any member of the Neighborhood Based Service Delivery (NBSD) team with questions or concerns regarding neighborhood issues.

Health & Zoning
Eric Moore (East of 35th)
(515) 283-4759
elmoore@dmgov.org

Police Department
Sgt. Dave Mulford
(515) 283-4923
dmmmulford@dmgov.org
Non-Emergency: (515) 283-4811

Police Department
(Robbery & Homicide)
David Ness
(515) 283-4869
dmness@dmgov.org

Health & Zoning
Ed Leedom (W of 35th)
(515) 283-4183
elleedom@dmgov.org

Police Department
Ben Ihde (Traffic Unit)
(515) 271-4672
bjihde@dmgov.org

Police Department
Det. Lorna Garcia
(515) 237-1499
jlgarcia@dmgov.org

Parks & Recreation
Teva Dawson
(515) 323-8907
tldawson@dmgov.org

Public Works
Albert Aguilar
(515) 283-4950

A Note to New Residents: The Neighborhood Based Service Delivery team is available to help the Drake Neighborhood residents. If you have a police related concern please feel free to contact Sgt. Dave Mulford, the officer assigned specifically to our neighborhood or 911. If you have questions about code enforcement including abandoned cars, junk & debris in yards, or any other neighborhood improvement concerns, please contact Eric Moore to register your concern or complaint. Both Sgt. Mulford and Mr. Moore want all Drake Neighborhood residents to feel comfortable contacting them with questions and concerns relating to their services.

If you would like to share information through our newsletter, please be considerate of the deadlines; articles for the next newsletter must be sent to Betsey Qualley at betseyfrench11@mac.com no later than February 15th. This is a coordination of volunteer efforts.

Des Moines, IA 50311-0503
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