



Drake University News

Been wondering what's going on at the northwest corner of University & 31st Street? Drake University will soon begin work on the first of several entryway improvements to campus. A granite sidewalk will surround the 5 ft. high, 35 ft. long monument with aluminum backlit lettering. They expect to complete the 31st & University project July 15th and similar monuments will eventually be built at 30th & Forest, 24th & Forest, and 25th & University.

Neighborhood Enforcement Team members for the Drake Neighborhood:

Sgt. Bernell Edwards
DM Police Department
(515) 205-1312
bledwards@dmgov.org

(East of 35th Street)
Eric Moore
Housing/Health & Zoning
(515) 208-0303
elmoore@dmgov.org

(West of 35th Street)
Ed Leedom
Housing/Health & Zoning
(515) 208-0299
ellleedom@dmgov.org

Drake Relays

The 103rd edition of "America's Athletic Classic" is scheduled for April 25-28, 2012, at Drake Stadium. The best collegiate and elite athletes from across the world will again share the stage at the famed blue oval with high school competitors from the state of Iowa in the annual renewal of one of our country's great and historic sporting events.

Drake Neighborhood Association will once again host a runners aid station for the On-The-Roads Half Marathon & 8k Road Race. We'll be set up at the corner of 30th & Kingman and need volunteers to help cheer on the runners and hand out water. Come help us showcase Des Moines to the great athletes from across the country.

To volunteer contact Scott Johnson at scott.johnson@meredith.com.

Neighborhood Garage Sale

It's a Forestdale neighborhood-wide garage sale event! A number of Forestdale neighbors will hold garage sales on Saturday May 5th, from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. The Forestdale neighborhood is bordered by Forestdale Drive to 41st Street, from Forest Avenue to Germania/Maquoketa Drive. Signs will be posted at neighborhood entrances; additional details will be available on Craigslist on sale day.

It's Gardening Season!

PLANT SALE

The Drake Neighborhood Association will hold it's Annual Plant Sale April 28-29 during the Drake Relays. A variety of sun & shade perennials will be available in the Papa Johns Pizza parking lot at 42nd and Crocker on Saturday from 9am-4pm and Sunday from 9am-1pm. If you're dividing perennials and would like to donate to the sale contact Kevin Venhaus at 777-8031 kcvenhaus@mchsi.com.

COMMUNITY GARDEN

The DNA has a community garden space south of University Avenue on 27th Street. Garden plots are available to anyone interested from the neighborhood. There are a limited number and gardeners from previous years get first choice of plots. To get your name on the waiting list call 255-5630 or e-mail rosescott@yahoo.com.

CALENDAR

**Habitat For Humanity
Rock the Block**
April 19-21

Scrub Day
April 21
7am-1pm
Hoover High School

Drake Relays
April 25-28

**City of Des Moines
Free Flicks Night**
June 2
Witmer Park

Quarterly Meeting
Wednesday, June 13
7:00pm
See next month's newsletter
for more details

LEARN MORE:
www.drakeneighborhood.org
info@drakeneighborhood.org
515.339.9768

CONNECT WITH US:



RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

Drake Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 41128
Des Moines, IA 50311



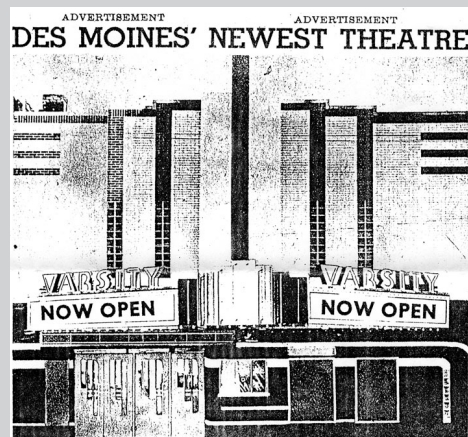
Presorted Standard
U.S. Postage Paid
Des Moines, IA
Permit No. 1821

BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Varsity Theatre

1207 25th St

This single screen theater that opened in the late 1930's has been a favorite of cinema fans in Des Moines ever since. You may not be able to see the biggest blockbuster of the summer; but that's only because the owner is adamant about sharing independent and foreign films and documentaries that may not otherwise be shared. Aside from seeing these thought-provoking films, two of this year's picks were Academy Award winners. The Varsity also boasts some of the lower cost ticket prices around and "the lowest concession prices in town." Next time you're thinking about getting away for awhile, support the Drake Neighborhood and visit the Varsity. You'll enjoy the couple of hours of relaxation that you spend in the Varsity and your wallet will too! Movies here change on an irregular basis so the best way to find out what's playing and show times is to call 515-277-0404 or visit: www.varsitydesmoines.com.



An opening day ad from Christmas 1938

Iowa House & Senate Candidate Public Forum

On Tuesday, April 24th from 6:30 to 8:00pm a public forum will be held for candidates for the Iowa Legislature in House District 36 and Senate District 18. The location of the forum will be at the Northwest Community Center, 5110 Franklin Avenue, Des Moines.

The forum is being hosted by representatives from the neighborhoods of Beaverdale, Drake, Waveland Park, Meredith, Merle Hay, and Webster Township. House District 36 and Senate District 18 represent portions of these neighborhoods in the Iowa legislature. All residents are encouraged to attend. The primary on June 5, 2012, will select one candidate from each party for the general election in November. All declared candidates are invited to attend.

A moderator will give each candidate the opportunity to speak and respond to questions from the audience. The candidates for Iowa House that have been invited are Marti Anderson (D), Cara Kennedy-Ode (D), William Rock (D) and Larry Steele (R). The candidate for Iowa Senate that has been invited is Janet Petersen (D). Other candidates who declare prior to the filing deadline will be invited.

Lead Based Paint Program

Lead based paint is still the primary source of lead poisoning in Iowa. Two-thirds of our housing was built before 1978 when lead based paint was banned. Every child deserves a lead-free home. If you are a homeowner or landlord in Polk County you may be eligible for assistance from The Metropolitan Partnership for Lead Safe Housing. For more information contact them at metroleadsafe.org or (515) 286-3596 or (515) 286-2115

Get Involved

Looking for a way to make a difference in your neighborhood? These committees are looking for help:

Beautification/Parks & Trails

Kevin Venhaus
kcvenhaus@mchsi.com

Business Partners

Jennifer Sayers
jen@bijougrafix.com

Housing/Rental Committee

Kristina Johnson
kj4kristina.johnson@gmail.com

Membership

Denise McAfee
mcafee@mchsi.com

Newsletter

Scott Johnson
scott.johnson@meredith.com

Volunteer Coordination

Erica Luna
esimbroyahoo.com

Your DNA Board

President

Deric Gourd
deric.gourd@gmail.com

Secretary

David Courard-Hauri
david.courard-hauri@drake.edu

Treasurer

Dean Blum
deanynot@msn.com

Board Members

Trish Davis
TKEDavis@earthlink.net

Kendall Dillon
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Scott Johnson
scott.johnson@meredith.com

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Jen Sayers
jen@bijougrafix.com

Jennifer Thompson
jen.a.thomp@gmail.com

Kevin Venhaus
kcvenhaus@mchsi.com

Rock The Block

Rock the Block is a focused housing outreach approach that assists low income residents with needed repair, maintenance, weatherization, safety, accessibility and beautification of homes. Each Rock the Block event occurs in a targeted neighborhood where major rehabilitation and new construction are already underway or planned for the near future.

Last year the program helped to improve 23 houses on 22nd and 23rd Streets north of Forest and another event is planned for this April 19-20-21. Several hundred volunteers will converge on the neighborhood this year to improve 22-25 houses in the northeast quadrant of Drake Neighborhood. New paint, siding, front doors, and retaining walls will beautify the streets. New steps & railings on many homes will address safety concerns.

Volunteers are still needed for the weekend of April 19-21 and also in the weeks leading up for prep work. Call Des Moines Habitat for Humanity at 471-8686 and ask for Danielle or to join in this great cause.

Become a Member

Is it time to renew your membership? Do you have a neighbor is not a member yet? Fill out the form below and mail it with your check, payable to "Drake Neighborhood Association."

New Member Renewal

Name _____

Street _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail Address _____

Membership Level

Resident \$20.00

Business \$30.00

What are you interested in?

Parks & Beautification

Business Development

Website & Newsletter

Events & Volunteering

Please mail to:
Drake Neighborhood Association
P.O. Box 41128
Des Moines, IA 50311