

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

QUARTER 4: Winter 2023

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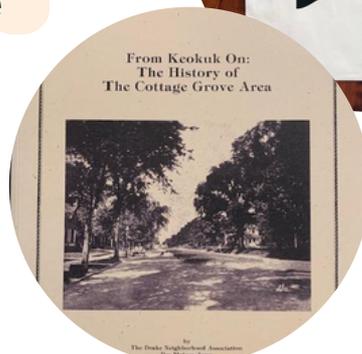
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ASSOCIATION UPDATES

New Updates on the website!

STORE

Show your neighborhood pride and support all of the wonderful work your Drake Neighborhood Association does with the DNA Store!



ASSOCIATION UPDATES

BOARD RETREAT

On January 11, 2023 the board held their annual board retreat. Drake graciously offered their beautiful Alumni House for space. Your board met to complete onboarding for new members and strategic planning for 2023. Your board is hard at work planning for the next year.

Areas of focus 2023

Communication

WITH MEMBERS
WITH THE QUINTILES
AMONG THE BOARD

Membership

GROW BUSINESS &
NEIGHBORHOOD
MEMBERSHIPS

Events

PLAN MEANINGFUL
EVENTS AND ENGAGE
THE COMMUNITY

Welcome to our newest board members!

December is the month for the annual potluck and elections.

Brylie loves living in the Drake neighborhood and is pretty vocal about it! She and her partner bought their first home over three years ago in the neighborhood. They enjoy weekends walking their two dogs exploring the area. She loves home design and has spent time renovating their home with grants from InvestDSM. She is excited to be in an investment district! Brylie's main goal as a board member is to use her connections and skills to help promote Drake as a wonderful place to dine, entertain, and live.

*Brylie
Turner*

James is a public high school teacher and father of a one-year old. His family is third-generation west side Des Moines residents. James's goals for the board are to spotlight growth and change in the neighborhood, build partnerships with local community organizations, and encourage an economically diverse neighborhood association through outreach, programs, and membership.

*James
Anthofer*

Shannon is a realtor with RE/MAX and works quite a bit in the Drake and surrounding neighborhoods. She is dedicated to helping her clients find the home of their dreams. She has historically felt like she should be more involved in what is going on in the neighborhood as a resident, but also would like to be more of an information source for her clients.

*Shannon
Coryell*

ASSOCIATION UPDATES

HOW YOU CAN GET INVOLVED

1. Be a member

You can join or renew as a member of the Drake Neighborhood Association (DNA) two ways:

- (1) Pay with a credit card at <https://dna.wildapricot.org/>
- (2) Mail cash or check with your name, address, telephone #, and email address mailed to: Drake Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 41128, Des Moines, IA 50311.

Membership is \$20/year or \$80 for five years. Benefits include: access to our quarterly newsletter, email updates, invitations to events, the ability to vote for and be nominated to board seats, plus opportunities to meet neighbors and get involved in making our neighborhood even better. Membership dollars help support our all-volunteer association.

Join as a business! We have business memberships starting at just \$50.

2. DNA meetings

The DNA board meets quarterly at **6:30 PM the 2nd Wednesday of the month**. The public discussion begins at 7 PM. We have options for virtual and in-person attendance. Check for updates on our Facebook page, on the Nextdoor app, and <https://dna.wildapricot.org/> for additional details.

Upcoming meetings:

- March 8, 2023
- June 14, 2023
- September 13, 2023
- December 13, 2023

3. Volunteer on a committee

The DNA board members are operating three main committees to accomplish their goals this year. Each committee needs neighborhood members to accomplish tasks.

- Communications
- Membership
- Events

4. Assist with Projects

Take on just one or multiple small, time-limited tasks. Some of the projects that need assistance include the following:

- Write short articles of interest for the quarterly newsletter.
- Clean up the Kingman neighborhood boulevards and plant new flowers.
- Set up/tear down for events.

5. Like and follow on Facebook & Instagram

Social media is a great way to stay in the loop about what is happening in the neighborhood, find volunteer opportunities, and connect with our neighbors.

So, please, find, like and follow us:



@DrakeNeighborhoodAssociation

WE have an UPDATE!

Starting in February, we are adjusting the frequency and formatting of meetings. We will have two types of meetings.

BOARD MEETINGS - monthly meetings for board business

COMMUNITY MEETINGS - start with a short board meeting and engage the community in more of the resources and organizations available.

Do you have NEWS TO SHARE?

Please send details (including the time, date, and location, brief information about the event) to

info@drakeneighborhood.org

March 1, 2023 to be considered in the next quarterly newsletter released in **April 2023.**



Take the Invest DSM Survey

Invest DSM is embarking on a strategic planning process to guide the vision and action for the next three years. As a part of that process, we would like to gain feedback from residents in our four Special Investment Districts and key stakeholders to help guide our future direction.

Please take two minutes to complete this brief survey at [Your feedback will be instrumental in strengthening our neighborhoods. Take the survey here.](#)



UNCOVER THE BLACK PANTHER PARTY'S IMPACT ON DES MOINES

BLACK PANTHER PARTY

POWER TO THE PEOPLE

Location: Olmsted Center - Sussman Theater
 Date: February 1, 2023
 Time: 6:00 pm - 7:30 pm

REGISTER NOW!

Eventbrite registration is required.
jazlin.coley@drake.edu

OFFICE OF EQUITY AND INCLUSION . CENTER FOR HUMANITIES . OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ENGAGED LEARNING

Black Panther Party Event: Power to the People

As part of Black History Month celebrations for February, the [Drake Office of Equity and Inclusion](#), the [Office of Community Engaged Learning](#) and the [Center for Humanities](#) invite you to learn about the **Black Panther Party's** impact in Des Moines through their community service activities, organized through their Survival Programs.

The event is on Wednesday, Feb. 1 from 6-7:30pm in Olmsted's Sussman Theater.

Hear from **State Representative Ako Abdul-Samad**, who was involved in the Black Panther Party movement and formed a non-profit organization. He will be joined by a few other panelists, including a Drake student sharing about her community engagement experiences while at Drake and a representative from a local non-profit organization to share about current ways people can get involved.

A timeline of photos will also be displayed at the event, chronicling the history of the Black Panther Party as it relates to today's neighborhood. Refreshments will be provided.

Please RSVP: [Click HERE](#)

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS



Seasons change...
and so does the landscape...

The landscape on 42nd Street that is. The beloved store that has been a part of the Uptown Center for more than 20 years closed in December and will be a new home goods store. Not to fear! According to Zumi's website, the company will still offer a diverse collection of African Art, women's ethnic wear and a wide variety



of clothing accessories, home décor, gifts, and more from Africa, Asia, and South America. You can find these items at Zumi Collection, LLC online. Where culture inspires fashion!
<https://www.zumi.com>

The new home goods store, Huckleberry Home is expected to open in February with a variety of retail. The social media for the new store states that they will have "vintage furniture & decor, original art, houseplants and much more." We will welcome in the new retail opportunities and look forward to the opening!



THROUGH TIME

Let's go back further in time to the 1930's. These photos are of Roosevelt Shopping center and 42nd/University respectively.

Roosevelt Shopping center was built in 1937 and was the cities first commercial strip mall.

Although the building remains, too many changes have been made to it over the years to be historically protected.

The intersection you see at 42nd/University once had major retail developments on both sides. However all that remains today is the two story building on the south east corner.



Information and pictures were gathered from the Drake Neighborhood Architectural and Historical Survey

NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

Choose To Be Green This Valentine's Day

A message from the Metro Waste Authority:

Show your loved one AND the planet how much they mean to you!

As you're spreading love this Valentine's Day, don't forget to show the planet some love, too. No matter the giving spirit, there's always a way to be greener when gifting. Keep these tips in mind while you're shopping:



Shop Local

If you're cooking a homemade meal, choose ingredients from local sources. If you have plans to dine out, consider a locally owned and operated restaurant. It feels good supporting your local community and often means your meal has local ties too!

Opt for Intangible Gifts

Give the gift of an experience instead of more stuff. Think of a new activity to try or get a manicure or massage. As a bonus, you could relax and enjoy these options together!

Pick Flowers or Plants That Last

Flowers such as tulip bulbs can be replanted or plants such as air plants will be around to enjoy much longer than traditional cut flowers. If you still want a beautiful bouquet, choose flowers or plants that are in season.



Choose Eco Friendly Packaging

Sometimes big boxes aren't always necessary and there are options that involve less wrapping such as buying loose candies from a specialty shop. Just remember, candy wrappers of all shapes and sizes go in the garbage!

Recyclable Gift Bags and Wrapping Paper (as long as it's not glittery, shimmery, or shiny)

Keep recycling in mind when shopping for gift bags and wrapping paper. If it glimmers, shimmers, or shines, it is not recyclable and doesn't belong in your Curb It! cart. With gift bags, keep them around to use again or when it's time to recycle them, remove the handles first.

Valentine's Day can be a special day for you and your loved ones but, this year, show the planet some love too!



For more information on what's recyclable, how to dispose of items, green tips, and more, visit www.WhereItShouldGo.com or give us a call at 515.244.0021.

IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

These activities have been happening in the neighborhood!

And ACTION! The Varsity Cinema is back

The Varsity Cinema reopened its doors on December 15, 2022 after a \$5 million restoration was complete finally giving arthouse and indie films a home in Des Moines again. Local film folks finally have a place to gather – one that combines a unique history with all the essential modern movie-going conveniences filmgoers love.

The theater boasts a refurbished space both inside and out. Renovations include an added second auditorium, an expanded lobby, upgraded concessions with a full bar, and the building is now fully accessible. The goal was to preserve the historic touches of the cinema while improving the space for a classic yet modernized movie-going experience.

About The Varsity: After the theater closed its doors December 31, 2018, Des Moines Film purchased the building– the last remaining historic theater in Des Moines– and began a massive renovation to bring back the movies and preserve the designated local landmark. Community support rallied behind the effort with city, county and state government; corporate foundations, and more than 1,000 individuals donating to the project.

Photo Credit Below: Polk County Iowa



Photo Credit: Invest DSM



Photo Credit: Indira4DSM

Check out their website <https://varsitydesmoines.com/> or facebook page @TheVarsityDSM for shows and times.





IN CASE YOU MISSED IT

2nd Annual Dogtown Lighting Event

Dogtown Lights had its second year celebration during the weekend of November 12, 2022. Live music, food, community and of course, lights warmed up the chilly weekend. Lighting displays run on University across Drake and through Dogtown.

This lighting ceremony brought more than double the amount of lights as last year. In 2021, the holiday lights extended from 23rd to 24th streets. This past year the lights stretched all the way to 25th Street.

According to Christopher Civitate, the neighborhood development manager for Invest DSM, the goal of the event is to make "the neighborhood safe and fun to use year-round."

The lights will stay up until February and will change to recognize events such as Black History Month and the Lunar New Year.



Photo Credit: Invest DSM



Photo Credit: Jason Stuyvesant



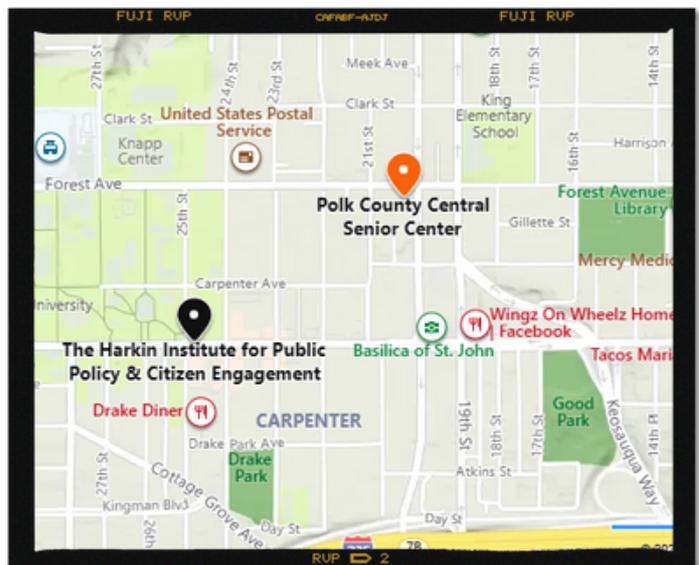
In case you missed it... notes on UPCOMING EVENTS

- **February 1:** Girl Scout Cookie sales go live online
- **February 1:** Black Panther History from 6-7:30pm in Olmstead's Sussman Theater
Drake Office of Equity and Inclusion, the Office of Community Engaged Learning and the Center for Humanities invite you to learn about the Black Panther Party's impact in Des Moines through their community service activities, organized through their Survival Programs.
- **February 5:** Kids & Teen Cooking class @ Kitchen Spaces: 12PM-2PM [Click HERE to preregister](#)
- **February 9 :** 25 Years of the Anderson Gallery Celebration and Book Release @ Drake 5:00-7:00 PM (Free admission)
- **March 12:** Daylight Saving Time (Spring Forward)

Wednesday Nights: Dough Co. Pizza Trivia Nights @ 7:00 PM

UPCOMING DNA MEETINGS

- **February 8, 2023 - Board Business Meeting**
@ Harkin Institute (2800 University) @6:30 pm
- **March 8, 2023 - Board Business and Community Meeting**
@ Polk County Senior Center (2008 Forrest Ave., Des Moines) @
- **April 12, 2023 - Board Business Meeting**
@ *Tentative Location* Harkin Institute (2800 University) @6:30 pm
- **May 10, 2023 - Board Business Meeting**
@ *Tentative Location* Harkin Institute (2800 University) @6:30 pm





RESOURCES



WHO TO CALL

DNA BOARD OFFICERS

• **President:**

Courtney Ackerson
515-329-0169
cackerson@live.com

• **Vice President:**

Not filled.

• **Treasurer:**

Lori Calhoun:
515-240-6090
zotlc@aol.com

• **Secretary:**

Annelise Tarnowski
763-807-1509
madebyannelise@gmail.com

In an emergency, call 911



NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED SERVICE DELIVERY TEAM

• **Des Moines Police**

Sgt. Mark McKinney: 515-778-4218,
mamckinney@dmgov.org

• **Des Moines Housing Inspector**

Eric Barker: 515-283-4980,
ejbarker@dmgov.org

OTHER KEY CONTACTS:

- Des Moines Police (non-emergency): 515-283-4811
- Drake University Security: 515-271-2222
- Des Moines Public Schools Security: 515-242-7621
- City of Des Moines Info Center: 515-283-4500
- Animal Control & Shelter: 515-242-2720
- Graffiti Hotline: 515-248-6331
- Weed Control: 515-286-3005
weedcommission@polkcountyiowa.gov

HELPFUL RESOURCES FOR DIFFICULT TIMES

COVID-19 INFORMATION

<https://covidrecoveryiowa.org/>

FINANCIAL & LEGAL AID

• Families looking for rental, energy, food, or other assistance can call IMPACT at 515-518-4770, Monday-Friday 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

• For help with rent or mortgage payments in a crisis, explore the rent/mortgage assistance program through Iowa Finance Authority.

<https://www.iowafinance.com/iowa-rent-and-utility-assistance-program/>

• [Iowa Legal Aid](#) provides free legal help to eligible Iowans in all 99 counties and offers advice on legal issues

HUMAN & CIVIL RIGHTS

• The Iowa Department of Human Rights advocates for underrepresented Iowans & educates individuals, businesses, & government entities about the needs, rights, & responsibilities of all Iowans.

• The Iowa Civil Rights Commission enforces state and federal laws that prohibit discrimination in employment, public accommodations, housing, education, & credit by investigating and litigating civil rights complaints. It also provides conflict resolution services including mediation and conciliation for civil rights matters.

SUPPORT SERVICES

• If you are struggling with mental illness or addiction or concerned about someone who is, contact Your Life Iowa by calling 1-855-581-8111, texting 1-855-895-8398, or using the online chat functions @ yourlifeiowa.org. or **call 988**

• National Suicide Prevention Hotline: If you are feeling suicidal or are concerned about someone else who is, call 1-800-273-8255 (TALK).

• Narcotics Anonymous meetings @ Hope + Elim (2500 University) are held on MWF from 12:00-1:00

• Alcoholics Anonymous are Mon 5:30-6:30 and Sat 9:00-10:00