

# udca

University District  
Community Association

Winter 2017

PO Box 21483  
Detroit, MI 48221



UDCA WINTER MEETING,  
DECEMBER 7<sup>TH</sup>, 6:30 PM GESU SCHOOL

YOUR  
LOCAL  
ADVISOR



**Michael E. Carmona, MBA**  
Registered Investment Advisor  
&  
University District Resident

# Market Insights

Dear Neighbors,

As 2017 comes to a close, many of you will soon be going over your investment portfolios with a fine tooth comb. Whether with your advisor or on your own, you'll be looking for patterns in the market and re-balancing your asset allocation based on your goals and your predicted outcome: using every tool at your disposal. What does all of this mean for your portfolio? What should we change and what should stay the same?

Recently, our Chief Investment Officer, Anthony DiGiovanni, wrote an insightful article regarding the state of the market, tools that are being released for individual investors and how both will effect our upcoming investment decisions.

## The Rules Haven't Changed

"As 2017 comes to a close, it is clear that not much has changed from earlier in the year.

To summarize:

- \* The market continues to rise in a slow and steady manner with very few pullbacks.
- \* Interest rates and inflation remain subdued.
- \* International markets rising faster than US markets.
- \* Investors continue to pour into passive index funds pushing the FANG+ stocks higher (though not all participated in the 3rd quarter).
- \* While pricey, the market is not in a bubble. In other words, a major 30% correction or more is not in our forecast. Still, because of the very low volatile environment, a 10% correction will feel painful. That could happen at any time, but we can't predict when.

The index theme is an interesting phenomenon, and one worth watching. Theoretically, if everyone invested using a market price based index (which is how the S&P 500, representing the largest 500 companies in the US, and the Russell 3000, representing all companies in the US, are constructed), then the markets themselves would be terribly inefficient. Our economy depends on price signals. The companies that do well and whose stock price rises draws competition into their sector. If all stocks moved only based on how big they are, then it wouldn't matter how well a company was doing and that price signal would be lost. While 100% indexing will never happen, it is safe to say the market becomes less efficient as more investors use passive investments.

Counter to this trend is the increasing use of artificial intelligence (AI). AI is essentially a computer algorithm that can learn and perceive things much in the way a human does. This technology is in its infancy, and so still cannot compete with the human mind in general. Still, there are some very specific AIs that have surpassed human capability. IBM's Deep Blue computer (precursor to Watson) famously beat Garry Kasparov in a chess match 18 years ago and has only gotten smarter. One could argue that no human will ever beat Deep Blue again.

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## **Receiving UDCA emails?**

sign up for our emails at [www.udca.info](http://www.udca.info) to receive information on upcoming events and news around the neighborhood.



Keep up with UDCA meetings, events, bulk pick-up and recycling days, and more by visiting our UDCA calendar on our website. [www.udca.info/calendar](http://www.udca.info/calendar)

The University District NEWSLETTER is published in March, June, September, and December. Its purpose is to inform residents of activities and matters of common interest and concern. Residents are encouraged to submit articles and advertisements. The NEWSLETTER retains the right to edit articles and refuse publication.

# udca

## **udca NEWSLETTER**

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# Letter From The President

by *Lucius Gunn*



## Season's Greetings from the Gunns

Holiday Season is upon us again! A great time to count our blessings and celebrate friends and family. We wanted to share some of the ways our community has celebrated the holidays in the past. The community has had Christmas decoration contests, door to door caroling, and several blocks in our community celebrate by having strolling door to door dinners, or holiday potlucks.

Muirland-8 does a holiday strolling dinner where they travel from home to home, pausing for cocktails, appetizers, main course and dessert and coffee. This is a great way to spread the work and enjoy more homes and holiday décor.

Our block, Parkside-3, has had an annual pot luck for the last 13 years. It has proven to be an excellent way to stay connected in these busy times, and with all the new residents moving in, it is an excellent opportunity to get acquainted with our neighbors in a single evening. While taking an opportunity to catch up on the past year, we also use this annual event as our collective reminder to pay our dues (we all get the \$10 early pay discount). This is the main reason we are one of the top participating blocks for membership in the community – we make it easy to participate.

Please consider reaching out to your block captain and neighbors in your block to organize an activity during this holiday season. Share your ideas with us. Let us know if we can help. We are always looking for ways to improve our community and connect with each other. We have heard over and over from new residents that living in a friendly community is one of the main reasons for choosing the University District. We are Looking forward to an exciting 2018!

Here is wishing you and your family a Happy and Prosperous Holiday season.

*Lucius & Kimberly Gunn*

UDCA President & Vice-President

# UDCA Membership Signs are Back!

*by UDCA Membership Committee*

UDCA membership signs were originally introduced in 2015, as part of the membership package, for residents that paid their 2015 UDCA dues. The signs were extremely popular, but there are still over 500 homes that don't have a sign in their yard because they missed paying 2015 dues.

The UDCA Membership Committee has ordered an additional 125 yard signs for the 2018 membership year. Unfortunately, we will run out again! If you missed paying your dues in 2015, here is your opportunity to get a UDCA lawn sign.

The 2018 UDCA membership package also includes an 'important-number' refrigerator magnet, membership card and key tag and a 2018 tag to install on your current sign to recognize you as a 2018 paid member. We want 2018 to be a record year for memberships in the UDCA. Remember to take advantage of the early bird discount by paying by December 31st. It saves you an additional \$10 and it helps the UDCA establish a budget early to plan community activities for the upcoming year.

For payment convenience, we have delivered a UDCA dues invoice and return envelope to every home. There is also an invoice in this newsletter and you can pay online on our website at [www.UDCA.INFO](http://www.UDCA.INFO).

Don't delay – pay your UDCA 2018 dues today!



# Remembering Vivian Gladden A Dedicated UDCA Resident

**Vivian Lynette Myers Gladden**

October 22, 1948—October 3, 2017



Vivian grew up in River Rouge with sisters Beverly Walker, Charlotte Sabbath, Pauline Willis and their brother, Arthur Milton Myers. Her family includes her daughter Sharon Ann Gladden, and son Gregory Gladden (Veripi), and granddaughters Olivia, Juliana, and Angelina.

Important in Vivian's life beyond family were her graduation from River Rouge High School, and working at the post office before moving to the University District in the 1970's. These days people are talking about what happens in the dashes—the time between date of birth and date of death. Vivian filled in the dashes very well. She was active with Jobs for Justice. Vivian was an asset to the neighborhood as well, volunteering at [then] Hampton School when her children were young. She served on the board of directors of the University District Community Association as its Secretary-Treasurer. For many years she was co-captain of her block club. Vivian also worked with the zoning committee, and was a valuable source of information on zoning. At the time of her death, Vivian was still an active member of University District Radio Patrol.

Neighborhood friends knew Vivian as a talented, hard-working, reliable person who did not seek the spotlight. Nonetheless, the radio patrol called her fearless. Whether Vivian was shaking an index finger at young men jumping fences playing hide-and-seek late at night in the yards of sleeping neighbors, being the dedicated Costco shopper pursuing the best food samples, or being courted by a dog who was convinced she couldn't only like cats, Vivian always kept things interesting.

We treasure our memories of Vivian. A memorial mass celebrating her life was held on November 10, 2017, at Gesu Community Center. Friends gathered after Mass at Traffic Jam, 511 West Canfield, to dine and share fond recollections of Vivian. She will be missed.

# ATTENTION RESIDENTS!

The University District enjoys one of the safest communities in the City of Detroit thanks to our vigilant residents and our CB and Radio patrols.

Unfortunately, at times things happen and when they do, please make a police report. This allows the police department to gather statistics and target their resources to combat crime. Remember, it is important that you make a report even if you consider the incident minor.

**Use the Detroit Police Department Call Telephone Crime Reporting (TCRU) at 313-267-4600 to make a non-emergency report in the following instances:**

- File a police report for an incident that already happened (break-in, auto theft, and illegal dumping)
- Get information about someone in police custody
- Report an abandoned vehicle
- Make a noise complaint
- Make an animal or drag- racing complaint after the incident is over
- Report an open fire hydrant
- Report neighbor trouble
- Report cable or utility theft

## **Report your vehicle stolen**

Vehicle owners seeking to file a stolen vehicle report that occurred within the city, must do so in person at any Detroit Police Precinct.

## **Call 911 for Police Emergency Response Only**

- Crimes in progress
- Immediate medical assistance
- To report a fire
- To report a downed electrical wire or lighting pole fire
- To report illegal dumping in progress
- To report suspected hazardous material spill

# Detroit's College Team and Detroit's University District

*by Curtis Smith*

I moved to the University District in 2013. In addition to having a strong residential community, a local golf course, nice restaurants nearby and stunning houses full of character, we have the University of Detroit Mercy (UDM). I am a huge basketball fan. Living only a few blocks away from a NCAA Division 1 basketball program at UDM provides many months of exciting sporting entertainment. Historic Calihan Hall is a great venue for sports. I became a huge UDM fan a couple of years ago after attending a basketball game and the Athletic Director, Robert Vowells, walked the stands to thank the fans. Further, the costs of attending basketball games for UDCA members is only three dollars! UDM sponsors 19 Division 1 varsity sports for your enjoyment. For more information about UDM sports and game schedules, visit <http://detroittitans.com>.

**For additional information about UDM Athletics, contact Detroit Mercy Director of Athletic Marketing & Promotions Jeremiah Hergott at 313-993-1700 ext. 7330 or at [hergotjw@udmercy.edu](mailto:hergotjw@udmercy.edu).**





**Calihan Hall**  
Celebrating 65 years  
of memories!  
1952-2017

## **It's Basketball Season!**

The 2017-18 college basketball season begins in November, so make sure you don't miss a single game at historic Calihan Hall by using the special UDCA membership voucher to attend every Titans game for just \$3 dollars.

For more information on the Titans men's and women's seasons, including their schedules visit:

**DETROIT-TITANS.COM**



**2017-18 UDCA Detroit Mercy Basketball**

**\$3 TICKET VOUCHER**

UDCA Members make sure you swing by Calihan Hall this season to use your \$3 ticket to every Titans basketball game, while getting in **FREE** to every other sporting event on campus!

 **UNIVERSITY OF  
DETROIT MERCY**

Call **(313) 993-1700**  
for more information.



**#DetroitsCollegeTeam**

# 2017 UDCA Accomplishments Report

## *“Your Membership Dues at Work”*

The UDCA Board of Directors has approximately 10 board meetings each year and special meetings when necessary. However, our committees and Board are hard at work all year to improve the quality of life for our residents. We thank all of you for your membership. We encourage and welcome your feedback. Listed below are the activities and events for the calendar year 2017.

### **JANUARY**

- UDCA Board retreat at University of Detroit-Mercy; an all-day retreat geared toward planning UDCA programs, events and budget for upcoming year..

### **FEBRUARY**

- 1st Block Club Captain meeting of the year

### **MARCH**

- UDCA website overhaul and update

### **APRIL**

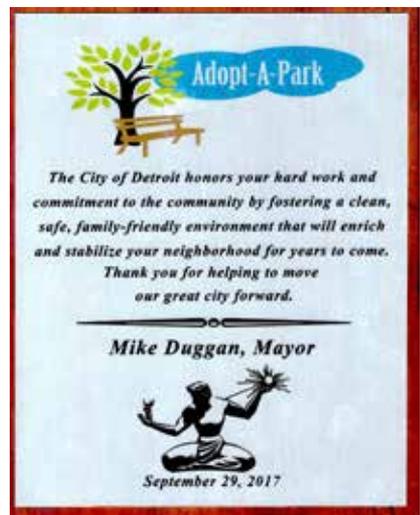
- UDCA Annual Spring Meeting- Speaker- Alvin Horhn, Assessor, City of Detroit

### **MAY**

- Belden Park Clean up during City’s Motor City Makeover\*
- Launched Special Assessment District (SAD) Petition Drive
  - For the latest updates on SAD, visit the UDCA Blog @ [www.udca.info](http://www.udca.info)

### **JUNE**

- 4th Annual New Resident “Meet and Greet”
- UDCA Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale



## **JULY**

- Beautification Committee coordinated Belden Park clean up and repair with a volunteer non-profit organization

## **AUGUST**

- UDCA Community Picnic at Palmer Park
- Sponsored FREE golf for UDCA members at Palmer Park Golf Course

## **SEPTEMBER**

- UDCA Youth Committee sponsored breakfast for Palmer Park Preparatory School teachers to kick off the 2017-2018 school year.
- Sponsored FREE golf for UDCA members at Palmer Park Golf Course

## **OCTOBER**

- Showcased and toured UDCA with students from University of Michigan real estate class
- Youth Committee organized successful Harvest Fest at Belden Park
- Donated bags of candy to the 12th Precinct for their annual “Trunk or Treat” event

## **DECEMBER**

- UDCA Annual Winter Meeting (December 7th); speaker, Maurice Cox, Director City Planning Department

## **RESIDENTIAL STANDARDS ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

- Based on the results of UD resident surveys the Residential Standards Committee (RSC) initiated, pursued and followed through with testimony at Detroit City Council to help City (Buildings & Safety and Fire) Departments revise fire code to include no grilling on porches and within 10 feet of structures. Council approved in May 2017.
- RSC members regularly attended District 2 Community meetings to observe & report to UDCA Board & residents on issues affecting the University District.
- RSC members attended hearings to monitor court actions on violations in the University District not resolved by ticketing.
- RSC members contacted (followed up with) City Departments’ staff on potential code violations (home business without licenses, squatters, abandoned vehicles, apartment building permit compliance and others) through resolution.

*\*UDCA has adopted Belden Park and received city recognition for our outstanding effort in improving this neighborhood park.*

# Winter is Coming to the University District

We experienced a fantastic fall, and sadly, winter is coming. Our University District Patrol officers will be switching to the winter hours to provide coverage as the days get shorter. Their hours will be from 7:00pm to 4:00 am.

We want to take this time to remind you that we are sending out the next set of invoices for the District Patrol. We know that the UDCA is also sending out invoices as well for membership in the community association.

We ask you to pay the invoices separately.

We have had some of you include your payment with the UDCA invoice, and we apologize for the mix-up it caused.

The University District Patrol invoice will be mailed to you, and you can pay for a full year (\$260), six months (\$130) or three months (\$65). You can pay by credit card on our website ([universitydistrictpatrol.org](http://universitydistrictpatrol.org)), or you can mail a check in the enclosed envelope.

The University District Patrol will continue to try to keep the neighborhood safe and secure for you, your family and your guests.



# A Special Belated Halloween for a Young Trick-or-Treater



If you are not actively using Nextdoor, a community website and phone app that allows neighbors to communicate and share news and recommendations, you may have missed a couple things.

First, University District residents were overwhelmingly happy with the turnout on Halloween. Neighbors shared stories of handing out candy (some to over 500 little ones!), seeing the joy on the faces of both parents and children enjoying the festivities, and remarked on the kindness and politeness of everyone that participated. The general consensus was that a great time was had by all, and that we are all delighted to live in such a safe and welcoming neighborhood.

But one little trick-or-treater missed out on the fun. A resident's grandson mentioned that her little T-Rex missed out because his parents got their signals crossed and didn't end up making it over in time to take him out. It's happened to the best of us – this parenting thing is hard work! He was disappointed, but University District residents came to the rescue! About 20 people in the neighborhood volunteered to help with a “do over” on November 1st! He collected candy all over the neighborhood and said that it was the best Halloween he has ever had.



The kindness and generosity of the University District residents really shined this year. Thanks to all those that helped make this the best Halloween ever. Stuff like this is what our neighborhood is all about.

# Harvest Fest At Belden Park

*by Anna Richardson, Youth Committee Chairperson*

Harvest Fest at Belden Park was a blast!! It was the prettiest Fall day ever. Participants munched on delicious chicken and other goodies. A variety of doughnuts were provided by Detroit's very own Dutch Girl on Woodward and from The Donut Cutter in Berkley with fresh apple cider from Franklin Mills.

"Kuddles the Clown" delighted the children with fabulous balloon twists and face painting. The children decorated and personalized their own goody bags and filled them up with all sorts of treats.

The Youth Committee would like to thank the volunteers from our community that helped make the event a great success; Madison Smith, Jovon Peninton both from Muirland Block 2, and Conner Harris from Muirland Block 3. We also thank the active members who pay their yearly dues so we can offer wonderful experiences like the Harvest Fest for our community.



# The Bailey Family Announces the Birth of Their 1<sup>st</sup> Grandchild

UDCA neighbors, Michelle Wright-Bailey and Sidney H. Bailey III (Muirland 3) proudly announce the joyous addition to the Bailey household; their beautiful granddaughter

## *London Michelle Davis*



Congratulations to her proud parents: Eve Wright & Nashad Davis!

London was born on the evening of October 24, 2017, at Henry Ford Hospital, Main Campus. She measured 21” and weighed in at 7 lbs, 10 oz. Welcome to the world, London!



***HAPPY HOLIDAYS & SEASON GREETINGS  
TO MY FRIENDS IN THE  
UNIVERSITY DISTRICT***

**WENDELL BYRD**

State Representative - District 3

Email: [wendellbyrd@house.mi.gov](mailto:wendellbyrd@house.mi.gov)

Call Toll Free: 855-564-4673



# University District Community Association Membership Payment Form = \$60.00

Please complete this form and submit it with your payment.

## ***Interested in supporting the UDCA? Please check the area(s) that best suit your interest!***

- |   |   |   |
|---|---|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beautification               | <input type="checkbox"/> Safety / Security  | <input type="checkbox"/> Home / Garden Tour   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Block Captain / Block<br>Cub | <input type="checkbox"/> School Partnership | <input type="checkbox"/> Membership   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Social and Events            | <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Projects     | <input type="checkbox"/> Newsletter / Website /<br>Social Media /<br>Communications |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Family Activities            | <input type="checkbox"/> Historic Society   | <input type="checkbox"/> Senior Activity Committee                                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Residential Standards        | <input type="checkbox"/> Zoning             |   |
|   | <input type="checkbox"/> Garage / Yard Sale |   |

UDCA Property Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Year you Moved Here: \_\_\_\_\_

UDCA Resident Contact Information (Fill in for at least one resident and please print)		
First Name	Last Name	Cell Phone
		Email


**Payment Options:** You can pay your membership dues online by visiting <https://www.udca.info/join>, or fill out the form below and send it to **UDCA, PO Box 21483, Detroit, MI 48221**.

**Amount Submitted:** \$ \_\_\_\_\_ **Payment Type:**  Check  Money Order  Cash  
**Check or Money Order Number:** \_\_\_\_\_

**CREDIT CARD AUTHORIZATION FORM:**

**Card Type:**  Visa  MasterCard  Discover  American Express

**Credit Card Number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Exp Date:** \_\_\_\_/\_\_\_\_

**Billing Address:** \_\_\_\_\_ **City:** \_\_\_\_\_ **State:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Zip:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name on Card:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Authorized Signature:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Would you like to be placed on recurring billing?** If you select recurring billing, you will receive a \$10.00 discount and we will automatically charge your card every year to renew your membership.  Yes  No

**Administrative Use Only:** Rec By: \_\_\_\_\_ Rec Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Dep Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Web Activation By: \_\_\_\_\_ Web Activation Date: \_\_\_\_\_

### **If you're shopping:**

Don't let your guard down just because you are rushing.

Be aware of your surroundings.

Be prepared when approaching your vehicle; have your keys ready.

Park in well-lighted areas and as close to the store as possible.

Hide packages in the trunk or under the seat.

Do not carry large amounts of cash; pay with a check or credit card if possible.

Make sure that you do not carry all of your packages at the same time.

Ask for an escort to your vehicle, if necessary.

If possible do not carry a purse, put a wallet in an inside coat or front pants pocket.

Wear comfortable clothes and shoes.

Beware of con artists. If it sounds too good to be true, it probably is.

If you take your children shopping, teach them to go to a police officer or a store security guard if they get separated or lost.

*Holiday*

### **Leaving your home/ Out for the evening:**

Set an automatic timer for your lights.

Ask your neighbor to watch your home, shovel the walks, pick-up newspapers, collect mail, and park in the driveway from time to time.

Be sure to hide any gifts that may be left in the house while you are away.

Turn on lights and a radio or the TV so that it appears that someone is home.

Lock all doors and windows while you're out, even if you plan to be away for a few minutes.

Do not place packages or gifts near windows or in other high-visibility places.

# Safety Tips

## **If you're traveling:**

Make sure your car doors are locked.

Travel on well-lit roads.

Be aware of your surroundings.

Be cautious of accident scams such as intentional bumping of vehicles. (If this happens and you feel uneasy drive to the nearest police station)

## **ATMs:**

Never use an ATM that is not in a well-lit location.

Try not to go alone (especially at night).

Always wait until the person in front of you pulls off the lot before proceeding.

Always lock your doors.

## **Bus Stops:**

Try to stand in a well-lit area (If possible at an intersection).

If someone is approaching that looks suspicious, cross the street until they leave.

## **Gas Stations:**

Try to get gas in the daylight hours.

Be aware of who is not pumping gas before you pull into the station.

If there are suspicious persons at the pump try another location.

Never leave your personal belongings (purse, Laptop, Briefcase) in view when exiting your vehicle.

Never leave your keys in the vehicle.

## **Banks:**

Put all money away before exiting bank.

Be aware of bank scams.

Say "No" to Solicitors standing outside of banks.

# UD Residents Enjoy a Night Out

The UDCA Board and residents spent a lovely evening together enjoying a live performance by Alexander Zonjic at Boo's Music Bistro in Royal Oak. Tickets included a delicious buffet and two shows.





# UDCA Resident Fighting Poverty

## One Person at a Time

*by Curtis Smith*

Detroiters experiencing or recovering from homelessness are being helped by the hard work of University District resident, Jenny Poma. Ms. Poma has been leading the HandUp Detroit program. Jenny is the Chief Operating Officer at the South Oakland Shelter, a local homeless service agency. Jenny has worked there since 2014 to bring HandUp Detroit a web-based crowdfunding platform for nonprofits.



HandUp Detroit is a unique partnership between eight homeless service agencies in Oakland County and Detroit that include: South Oakland Shelter (Oakland), Community Housing Network (Oakland), Community Home Supports (Detroit), COTS (Detroit), NSO (Detroit), Central City Integrated Health (Detroit), Travelers Aid Society of Michigan (Detroit), and Neighborhood Legal Services of Michigan (Detroit).

HandUp Detroit directly links donors with people experiencing or recovering from homelessness through online personal profiles featuring their individual story and fundraising goals. Donors can then directly support an individual by donating towards their goal or by posting encouraging words of support.

This holiday season, your family can give directly to a person in need. Please visit [www.handup.org/detroit](http://www.handup.org/detroit) to contribute to someone's goal in rising above poverty and see ongoing updates on how they are doing. One hundred percent of the funds donated go directly to meet individual goals!

“HandUp Detroit gives people experiencing homelessness an opportunity to share their story, in their own words, and advocate for their most immediate needs. The Detroit collaborative allows the community to play an active role in ending homelessness for many Detroiters.”, says Jenny. “You don't see many nonprofits fundraising together, let alone nonprofits across Oakland County and Detroit. This is such an important and unique collaborative, and I am honored to be a part of it.”

HandUp Detroit donors have raised over \$200,000 to support over 600 individuals. As the holiday season approaches, consider making a tax deductible donation in support of a Detroiter in need of a HandUp at [www.handup.org/detroit](http://www.handup.org/detroit).

For more information you may contact Jenny Poma at [jenny@oaklandshelter.org](mailto:jenny@oaklandshelter.org)

# 5 Ways To Prevent Your Holiday from Being Hijacked

It's no secret that shiny new mobile phones and tablets are high on many wish lists this holiday season. Protecting the devices you and your loved ones unwrap is one resolution that shouldn't be too hard to keep, thanks to tips from All About Technology.

**1. Lock It** - Don't leave your tablet or phone vulnerable. Keep it secure with a passcode, PIN or biometrics. One of the challenges with security is convenience versus security. Biometrics helps to make that experience less of a hassle.

**2. Stay Current** - Operating systems, applications and devices cycle out of date fairly rapidly. Making sure to update your operating system — and your device when it no longer supports operating system updates — means you will benefit from security patches created to fix known vulnerabilities. Even if you just purchased a device, don't assume it uses the most current operating system or will for very long. It's more critical when you are dealing with apps that handle financial transactions and medical and health information. You should always check. When you get a new device, you don't know exactly when that device was packaged.

**3. Be Password Savvy** - Never store your passwords on your device, and avoid using the same password for multiple accounts and profiles.

Consider using a password phrase rather than a hard-to-remember string of letters and numbers to ensure you are deploying strong passwords.

**4. Beware Of Public Wi-Fi** - Although it's tempting to jump on free public wireless while out and about, be aware that you could be an open book to fraudsters looking for a target.

People can eavesdrop on the traffic and a lot of things go over the Wi-Fi network unencrypted, so you have to be very cautious about it. They could be sitting in the parking lot where you may not even see them.

**5. Be Proactive With Settings And Security Features** - Encrypt your device's data whenever possible. Some operating systems encrypt automatically and others offer it as an option. If yours does, use it. Back up your data in case you decide to remotely wipe your device's data because of a possible lost device.

Likewise, be picky about permissions and which applications you allow to share your location settings, camera, contacts and other information. Don't share more than necessary.

Also, be sure to check your notification settings. If your device falls into the hands of someone with bad intentions, don't make it easy for them to see sensitive notifications on your screen.

*Willie E. Brake is a Computer Expert and Industry Analyst at All About Technology, a Certified Minority Business Enterprise and Microsoft Authorized Refurbisher, located at 6450 Michigan Avenue in Detroit, Michigan.*

# UDCA Unsung Hero



He is quiet and walks with a big stick; his stick is a shovel, broom or rake. You may see him around the neighborhood along 6 Mile or 7 Mile sweeping the curb and picking up trash. He may be spotted on any given day getting out of his car within the neighborhood, broom in hand cleaning debris and leaves from the street.

He was responsible along with his Beautification Committee for replacing damaged planters within our community, planting beautiful flowers and ensuring they were pampered throughout the summer.

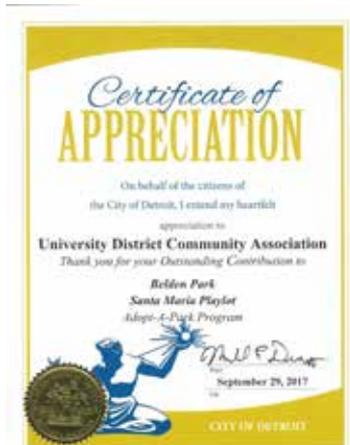
His crown jewel has been the hard work that he and the Beautification Committee has put into cleaning up and improving Belden Park. The park has not looked this good in years. He coordinated a group of volunteers that cleaned and hauled away truckloads of weeds and overgrowth outside and within the park.

As a result, the park has been used by the residents of UDCA and even hosted the October Harvest Fest. The park is now seeking grant funding to purchase new play equipment, park tables and benches and camera equipment.

Shining the Spotlight on our UDCA “Unsung Hero”- Frank Benedict (Board Member & Chairperson, Beautification Committee)

Thank you Frank for all the work you do on behalf of the University District. On September 19, 2017, Mayor Mike Duggan presented the UDCA, the “Adopt-A-Park award as a result of Franks’ and the Beautification Committees’ tireless commitment to improving our community.

***Congratulations Frank!***



# SAD NEWS

Our friend and University District neighbor for over 30 years, Benjamin L. Pruitt, was called home on Monday, October 30th.

Benjamin Pruitt moved to Detroit in 1966 after graduating from Arkansas AM&N College and working as an educator in Magnolia, Arkansas. Ben taught and directed music within the Detroit Public School (DPS) system with stops at Wilson Jr. High (1966-1972), Henry Ford (1972-1987), and Cass Tech (1987-1999) and eventually became the DPS Fine Arts Supervisor before retiring in 2010.

Several ensembles directed by Ben have been recognized locally and nationally. The Cass Tech 'CassJazz' ensemble appeared regularly at the Detroit International Jazz Festival, the Michigan Tastefest, and was invited to perform at the 1998 Midwestern Music Conference in Ann Arbor.

Ben toured nationally with the Joe Simons Rhythm and Blues Band led by acclaimed jazz artist Charlie Gabriel. Ben was the leader of the 18 piece jazz orchestra, Ben's Friends, which performed regularly across the metro Detroit area, at the Detroit International Jazz Festival, and at the Birmingham Jazz Festival.

Ben was recognized by The Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association as Teacher of the Year for 1977, 1996 and 1999.

Mr. Pruitt served as the Minister of Music at Plymouth United Church of Christ from 1989-2002 and at Body of Christ Community of Faith since 2004. Ben had also served as the Director of the Detroit Police Department Community Concert Band and the Charles Young American Legion Post Concert and Marching Bands.

Settling in the University District during the early 1970's, Ben knew no strangers and developed a true sense of community among the families of Fairfield Block 4. As block captain through much of the 80's & 90's, Ben championed numerous block parties, informational gatherings, and neighborhood safety tips. Having raised a beautiful family in the University District and becoming empty nesters, Ben and Caroline chose to downsize and moved shortly after 2010.

The Pruitt family will always be a part of the Fairfield Block 4 and UDCA families. Please keep Caroline, Benjamin Jr. (Skip), and Paunice in your thoughts and prayers during this time.

# An Amazing Statistic....and how to keep more good news coming!

Earlier this year, our neighborhood went almost eight months without any reported burglaries at occupied houses. We did have a bump-up and had some burglaries in late summer, but the rate is down again. Part of that success comes from watchful neighbors, sharing information about suspicious behavior with the patrols and or the police. It used to be an old joke that a nosy neighbor was the best protection against crime in a neighborhood. Now statistics are showing that nosy neighbors who pass information along are indeed great crime fighters. And yes, barking dogs can get some good marks too.

It has been fascinating for radio patrol members to attend our regular meetings with the 12th Precinct and to hear stories from other areas. One neighborhood got great pictures of a man going through cars parked in the neighborhood. The police were unable to use those photos in any prosecutions because nobody in the

neighborhood reported any of the thefts from their cars. We urge everybody to make those police reports. There is no guarantee that making a report will remedy your situation, but you can guarantee that things will not improve if you fail to make a police report. If you really are concerned that your insurance rates will go up if you make a police report, let the radio patrol know, and we will pass the information along to the police department so they will at least know what to watch for. For radio patrol and subscriber patrol overnight, please call (313) 447-0003.

A less pleasant statistic was the one reported by our 12th Precinct Commander Sims. In one week this summer while the traffic unit was assigned to work in the University District, the traffic officer wrote 200 tickets. The majority of the ticket recipients were our neighbors. Some of the officers who have patrolled our neighborhood report that as many as 90% of the offenders live here. Two children were struck by cars this summer. We need to pay more attention to speed limits, stop signs, and children at play. We were very fortunate that no child died and the physical injuries were minor.





There are two additional things to remember at this time of year. Keeping our porch lights on at night is a good plan for reducing crime. With the longest nights of the year, and the typical pattern of increased burglaries in the winter, we need to get those lights on. The other item, *even more seasonal*, has to do with snow. After a snowfall, we know we have to clear the sidewalks. We were recently reminded that we also need to clear our fire hydrants—3 feet snow-free--all the way around. With the transfer of our firefighters out of the Curtis/Livernois firehouse, it is even more important that firefighters be able to get to work putting out fires the instant they arrive. If you can't clear a hydrant in front of your home, call radio patrol, your block club, the community association, somebody to help address the problem!

Let's keep up the good work for a great holiday season and a wonderful new year!  
Best Wishes from University District Radio Patrol, your all-volunteer patrol.

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## UD Residents Learn CPR



UD residents Kim Gunn (UDCA Board & VP), Brenda Goss Andrews and Rob Hunter attend 2 1/2 hour adult and child CPR and basic first aid class taught by Angela Wilfert (standing). The class was hosted on November 18th in the home of UDCA Board member Brenda Goss Andrews. These residents will receive a certificate that is renewable every two years.



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Detroit, Michigan 48221**

**Security Patrol Invoice**

Invoice Date 11/01/2017

Dear Neighbor:  
Please detach the lower portion of this invoice and return it with your payment.

You may also go to our website at [www.universitydistrictpatrol.org](http://www.universitydistrictpatrol.org) and use our PayPal link. When you visit our website, please join our email list.

For billing issues or general inquiries, please email us: [subscribers@universitydistrictpatrol.org](mailto:subscribers@universitydistrictpatrol.org) or send us a letter to the address above.

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Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Amount Enclosed: \$ \_\_\_\_\_ #Months Paid (if not below) \_\_\_\_\_

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# Happy Holidays and Best Wishes for a Wonderful New Year

To Our University District Neighbors

Thank You For Your Support  
President Lucius Gunn &  
The UDCA Board Of Directors

**2017 District 2 Meeting Schedule - 6:30PM to 8:00PM**

**Kim Tandy, District Manager**

**tandyk@detroitmi.gov • 313-236-3494**

**December 12th**

**Northwest Activity Center • 18100 Meyers Rd., Detroit**

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List your business in the UDCA newsletter only \$25 up to 5 lines. Limited space for this advertising opportunity. Don't miss the next deadline:

Spring 2018 Newsletter- all ads due February 16, 2018;  
Newsletter Published March 2018

Visit [www.udca.info](http://www.udca.info) to submit your ad for 2018.  
Questions??? Contact us at [newsletter@udca.info](mailto:newsletter@udca.info)

# Help Wanted!



## Beautification Committee

Do you have gardening skills or just like to get your hands dirty? This committee helps keep and maintain the planters at the end of all our streets and coordinate District-wide clean ups. Give us a hand. Recently, this committee has coordinated the 6 mile and Belden Park clean ups and they continue to clean up and beautify our community.

Contact Frank Benedict Email: tinmanofdetroit@juno.com

## Block Captain

We still need captains for several of our blocks. Only a little bit of your time each month will go a long way to make UDCA one of the best and safest communities in the city.

Contact Val McPhaul Email: valmcpaul@aol.com

## 360 Degrees of Communication

Wish you could contribute to the collective consciousness of our neighborhood? UDCA wants to make sure we reach all our neighbors whether by newsletter, website, social media, email or just old fashioned door to door campaigns. We are looking for residents with the interest and skills in helping to coordinate these various aspects of communication into a

cohesive message for UDCA. Contact Luke Gunn Email: lgunn806@aol.com or Amber Hunt Email: amberto@gmail.com

## Newsletter Advertising Representatives

Our newsletter reaches over 1200 homes in UDCA. Our publication needs to be self-sustaining. To do that, we are seeking that go-getter who can market and sell ads for our upcoming issues (Winter 2017, Spring 2018). We are also seeking those that want to be feature writers.

Contact Ashlee Coutant, Advertising Manager Email: newsletter@udca.info



## Other Committees (Youth, Social, Senior)

The UDCA wants to provide fun activities for our youth and residents as well as “good and welfare” checks on sick and shut in residents. We are seeking those that want to assist in coordinating events and activities for our residents. To volunteer, contact any Board Member or email newsletter@udca.info

Check out our new and improved website;

<https://udca.info>

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Winter 2017

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The University District strives to maintain and support the integrity of the neighborhood, provide communication of events and issues to its residents, promote a quality education in our local schools while maintaining health, safety, and happiness in a family friendly diverse community.

Join our mailing list at [www.udca.info](http://www.udca.info)