

udca

University District
Community Association

Winter 2019

PO Box 21483
Detroit, MI 48221



Save the Date!

UDCA Home Tour, Sunday, September 13, 2020



UNIVERSITY OF
**DETROIT
MERCY**

DETROIT MERCY BASKETBALL

MEN'S HOME SCHEDULE

1 PM	12.07	EASTERN MICHIGAN
3 PM	12.14	TOLEDO
7 PM	12.19	NORTHEASTERN
3 PM	12.21	SIU-EDWARDSVILLE
7 PM	1.03	NORTHERN KENTUCKY
1 PM	1.05	WRIGHT STATE
7 PM	1.23	IUPUI
1 PM	1.25	UIC
TBD	1.31	OAKLAND
7 PM	2.13	YOUNGSTOWN STATE
1 PM	2.15	CLEVELAND STATE
7 PM	2.21	GREEN BAY
1 PM	2.23	MILWAUKEE



WOMEN'S HOME SCHEDULE

LOYOLA	11.05	7 PM
AKRON	11.23	12 PM
VALPARAISO	12.05	11 AM
TOLEDO	12.14	12 PM
EASTERN MICHIGAN	12.21	12 PM
OAKLAND	12.28	12 PM
MILWAUKEE	1.09	7 PM
GREEN BAY	1.11	1 PM
CLEVELAND STATE	1.16	7 PM
YOUNGSTOWN STATE	1.18	1 PM
IUPUI	2.06	7 PM
UIC	2.08	1 PM
NORTHERN KENTUCKY	2.27	7 PM
WRIGHT STATE	2.29	1 PM



#DETROITSCOLLEGETEAM

DETROITTITANS.COM/TIX

COMMUNITY NIGHTS!

\$5 MEN'S GAMES - GENERAL ADMISSION
\$3 WOMEN'S GAMES - GENERAL ADMISSION

HOME GAMES AT CALIHAN HALL
FOOD, GAMES + FUN



DEC. 19 - 7 PM - CALIHAN HALL
MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. NORTHEASTERN

DEC. 28 - 12 PM - CALIHAN HALL
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. OAKLAND

JAN. 3 - 7 PM - CALIHAN HALL
MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. NKU

FEB. 21 - 7 PM - CALIHAN HALL
MEN'S BASKETBALL VS. GREEN BAY

FEB. 27 - 7 PM - CALIHAN HALL
WOMEN'S BASKETBALL VS. NKU

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udca NEWSLETTER
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Receiving UDCA emails?

Sign up for our emails at 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

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.



www.udca.info

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(Between Pickford & Curtis)

WE ALSO STEAM COOK ALL SEAFOOD

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Accepting





Thanks for Your Support!

By Lucius and Kimberly Gunn

As our terms on the board come to an end, we want to thank everyone for their support over the last few years. We couldn't have accomplished the outcomes we've achieved without the help of the residents and the assistance of our committee and board members. As many of you know, my wife and I have served as Membership Committee chair since 2013 and as UDCA board President and Vice

President for the last 3 years. Looking back at our tenure, we are proud of the following accomplishments:

- Introduced UDCA annual membership packages including the UDCA yard signs, the Safety Whistle Campaign, and the Merchant Discount Program
- Launched annual New Resident Meet & Greet event
- Received over \$16,000 in grants from Rep. Wendell Byrd
- More than doubled annual UDCA memberships
- Recruited several of the current board members
- Initiated our Annual Summer Picnic
- Supported major upgrades to Belden Park
- Re-affirmed our support and partnership with Palmer Park Preparatory Academy

As we move forward, these are some of the issues that we feel the UDCA should address:

- Senior Outreach or engagement
- SAD resolution
- Professional Security for our neighborhood
- Expanding Traffic calming efforts
- Newsletter cost reductions
- Re-establishing our long-standing relationship with Gesu parish
- Expanded support for Palmer Park Preparatory to become a world class school
- Keeping an eye on the Palmer Park Golf course and making sure the decisions made include surrounding community input

In order for the UDCA to build on the progress which has been made, and to accomplish all these things we need participation from more residents. In our opinion, that will be the key to our success going forward. Thank you very much for your trust and support!

Neighborhood Pride

By Lisa C. Jones

What does it mean to be a resident of Detroit and the University District?

If I could use one word to describe what it means to me... it is Pride. The pride of ownership, pride of community, pride of history, and pride of neighbors who often become friends.

When my husband and I moved to the University District into our forever home in 2013, we did not know how deeply we would feel about our new neighborhood. Recently married and merging two homes; one in Madison Heights and one in Chicago, I was determined to live in Detroit. "I am a city gal", having grown up in Brooklyn, NY and relocating, for work, to places like Philadelphia and Chicago, "I knew I couldn't live anywhere else but Detroit". My husband, also from Brooklyn but having spent more than 20 years or so in Oakland County, was not yet convinced. On September 16, 2012, my stepdaughter and I joined hundreds of people at the University District's 2012 Home Tour; after visiting the first home on the tour, I knew that I wanted to live here and began my "hunt".

Seven (7) years later, the rest is history. My husband and I are fully immersed in the community; him – volunteering for neighborhood patrol and also helping neighbors when and where he can. Me - UDCA Board member, Social and Membership Committee member and most recently, Home Tour Committee chairperson.

Our 2020 Home Tour will take place on Sunday September 13, 2020 and has already become a labor of love. We are currently looking for a few more homes to expand our Tour. We are also looking for people to join the Home Tour committee to provide any time and energy to help make this bi-annual event even more successful. Last year we had over 500 Tour goers and in 2016 the number (and weather) was even better. We anticipate another banner Tour for 2020!

If you are as proud of our neighborhood as I am, please think about how your talents can help in the following areas:

- ***Put Your Home (or Garden) on Tour*** – show off how your creativity and hard work has made your house a home
- ***Marketing and Promotion*** – getting the word out to fellow neighbors, vendors, sponsors, donors as well as potential Tour goers

Neighborhood Pride *Continued*

- **Logistics** – mapping out, based on the which blocks the Tours homes are on, what are the best routes for our visitors and tour shuttle bus(s) to take
- **Research** – helping our Tour homeowners find out the hidden “secrets” of their homes via archives, city records, etc.
- Layout and Design of the Home Tour brochure will be handed out to all Tour goers
- **Photography** – taking pictures of the exterior of the Tour homes for inclusion in the brochure
- **Beautification** – sprucing up our streets and lawns in the weeks and days leading up to the Tour”
- **Tour Guide (Docent)** – committing to spending 3-4 hours at a Tour home, sharing the homeowners’ stories and guiding guest through the home
- Greeting Tour goers on the day of the Tour at the registration location
- Tickets Sales - in advance and the day of
- **Any other talents you can contribute...**

The Home Tour Committee will begin having regular meetings in December to kick off 2020 strategic planning and organizing.

If you can join us, please contact me:

- ◆ E-mail address: lcj702@gmail.com
- ◆ Cell phone: 312-933-0188
- ◆ On NextDoor

Thank you in advance,

Lisa C. Jones - 17605 Parkside

Seeking Editor for UDCA News Magazine

By Brenda Goss Andrews



It has been a pleasure serving as your UDCA news magazine Editor for over 3 years. The UDCA has been diligent in sending out to over 1200 homes 3 to 4 times a year about noteworthy events and news in our community and city. Just another example of your UDCA dues working to improve our neighborhood.

I have enjoyed working with so many outstanding neighbors who have served on the committee throughout the years. Special thanks to all those that have volunteered their time and expertise in ensuring that our neighborhood received an informative and professionally produced news magazine.

Now it is time to pass the editorial mantle on to someone else who can continue providing the type of publication that our community deserves.

The UDCA is seeking an energetic volunteer as Editor for the UDCA news magazine beginning January 2020. Duties include but are not limited to the following:

- Collecting and reviewing articles of relevance to the neighborhood
- Working with printer and graphic artists on publication layout
- Serving on UDCA Communications Committee
- Prepare, rewrite and edit copy as necessary
- Assign events, stories and topics to feature writers
- Establishing deadlines for articles & advertisements
- Approving final proof for publication and mailing
- Reporting to UDCA Board on timelines, issues and concerns regarding publication

If you are interested in this position, please contact me at newsletter@udca.info or you may also contact any UDCA Board member.

The position will begin January 2020.

And lastly, I would like to thank the Newsletter Committee Curtis Smith, Asenath Andrews, Willie Brake, Meredith Steinhauser, Robert Friday, Joyce Reid, Doug Pederson, Ashley Coutant, Mary Jo Smith, Elizabeth Mays, and Corrine Lyons who served at various times over the years and dedicated time and expertise to producing an outstanding publication. A special thanks to UDCA President Lucious Gunn and Vice President Kim Gunn for their support and guidance. I also appreciate the assistance of the UDCA Board in the news magazines production. Additionally, to Sidney Bailey and Mary Jo Smith who always submitted their articles on time.

Thank you once again for allowing me to serve you.

Help Wanted!

UDCA Committee Volunteer Needs

Check out our committees' top 3 volunteer needs right now. Email volunteer@udca.info

Membership Committee

1. Delivering packages, signs, invoices (2x/year@ 2 hrs/session)
2. Membership Call-athon (2x/year@ 1-2 hrs/session)
3. Stuff annual membership packages - (1x/year @ 3 hours/event)

Special Assessment District Committee

1. Volunteers to do phone calling for signatures
2. Volunteers for follow up visits and targeted door to door

Newsletter Committee

1. (PRIORITY) Marketing/Advertising - person would be responsible for seeking advertisements for newsletter; set up data base of current, previous and future advertisers.
2. Feature Writers
3. Proof Readers

Residential Standards Committee

1. At least 2 civic minded neighbors with legal or public administration experience willing to assist in developing pragmatic solutions to neighborhood concerns
2. Someone with good writing skills to draft quarterly updates for inclusion in the Newsletter regarding committee challenges and successes
3. Someone proficient in Microsoft Excel to maintain the spreadsheet to track violations

Communications Committee

1. Communications writers - Help write emails, social media posts, editorial calendars, etc.
2. Graphic designer - someone to help create graphics for our events, social media posts, emails, etc.

Youth/School Committee

1. General volunteers to help flyer and market events to community
2. General volunteers on day of events

Social Committee

1. General volunteers to help plan upcoming events
2. General volunteers for day-of events

New Board Members for 2020-2022 Term

The UDCA elected three new board members and returning members Amber Hunt and Curtis D. Smith to a two-year term beginning January 1, 2020. We welcome these members and look forward to working with them to improve and beautify our neighborhood.



Standing left to right: Amber Hunt, Curtis D. Smith, Faye Mabry-Knox, Linda Bernard, not pictured Neil Tambe

UDCA Membership – Service to Others



University District residents who become paying members to the University District Community Association (UDCA) affirm their commitment to making our community an awesome place to live and rear a family. Your fifty dollar (\$50) membership contribution is used to support a myriad of activities to enhance our community such as, having community meetings at Gesu School, supporting the block captain activities, snow plow services, distributing a newsletter to each household, providing residential standards, improvements to Belden Park, neighborhood beautification, supporting our neighborhood schools and hosting resident activities, and providing a beautiful glossy news magazine to every resident several times a year; to name a few.

This fall your UDCA board members met at the home of UDCA Board President, Luke Gunn and his wife Vice President Kim Gunn to stuff over 1,200 membership notification envelopes for distribution to each household in the University District. Board members had a fun time together, talking and laughing during the letter stuffing event.

The University District is a friendly community where neighbors look out for each other. Your support via paid membership to the UDCA is very important and very much appreciated. Get involved; join a committee today.

Board Testimonials

MEET: *SID BAILEY*



Years ago, before I joined the Board, a former Board member and block captain asked me: “When are you going to take your turn on the Board?” I thought about that question and remembered that no organization nor community succeeds without someone doing the work to make it so. I realized that I needed to do my part to maintain and improve our homes, neighborhood and the quality of life across the UD...I continue to be impressed by the talent, hard work, dedication and enthusiasm of the other

Board members. My Board experience has taught me many things. Most importantly, it's the neighbors that make the neighborhood!

- Sid Bailey, UDCA board member

MEET: *AMBER HUNT*

Being part of the UDCA board has been a great learning experience for me. Being new to the city, it has taught me a lot about how city and community organizations work and communicate, and being connected with long-time residents has shown me how and why this neighborhood has



grown during some of Detroit's most difficult years. I am a better community member and friend to my neighbors due to my involvement with the board.

- Amber Hunt, UDCA board member

2020 Membership Dues



Thanks to our volunteers for delivering the 2020 membership dues to our residents! Pay before the end of the year to receive a \$10 discount.

For only \$50 annually, your dues support:

- Quarterly newsletter
- The UDCA website
- Snow plowing
- Beautiful flowers around the perimeter of our neighborhood
- Landscaping along McNichols Road
- Belden Park
- Handsome signs that identify our community
- Participation in and benefit of various community projects and activities like Motor City Makeover, Annual Picnic, New Resident Meet & Greet, etc.
- Discounts from local merchants
- The satisfaction of being part of the stabilization of our most valuable asset – HOME.

To join, go to: udca.info/join/#join

Welcome New UDCA Membership Committee Chairs: Eric & Septima Childress



Eric and Septima Childress moved to the University District in 2010 and quickly became engaged in the community, starting with attending the General Membership meetings and becoming the block captain for Oak Drive, block 7. Eric has also been very active with the Special Assessment District initiative, so you may have seen him going door-to-door, soliciting petition signatures.

Eric and Lucius have a long history, starting with their tenure working together at the Detroit Department of Transportation. As a matter of fact, Lucius encouraged Eric to consider the University District, when he heard Eric was looking for a new neighborhood, knowing that Eric and Septima would be a great asset to the community and would want to engage.

As we move on from our current UDCA leadership roles, we wanted to make sure that we leave our posts in good hands and so are working with Eric and Septima to ensure a smooth transition.

Please join us as we extend a hearty welcome to Eric and Septima Childress, our new UDCA Membership Committee Chairs!

Get Involved with the UDCA



Our organization runs 100% on the volunteer effort of our residents. The more hands on deck, the more we are able to accomplish and faster. We're looking for folks like yourself to give a little of your time to help keep our community strong.

Season's Greetings!

Wishing you a joyous holiday season

Lucius Gunn, UDCA President
& the UDCA Board of Directors

Block Captain Highlight: Frank Benedict

by Curtis D. Smith



There are many residents in the University District who volunteer to make our neighborhood a awesome community. I want to extend a special thanks to Frank Benedict who is a long time resident of the University District and works tirelessly in our neighborhood. Frank is a Block Captain on Muirland XX and a UDCA Board member. Frank leads the beautification committee. Frank is the person responsible for University District's participation in the Motor City Makeover, coordinates the snow plow services, helps contractors take down trees, works with Residential Standards group and does many other activities that enhance the physical attractiveness of the University District. We thank Frank for his dedicated volunteerism to our neighborhood.

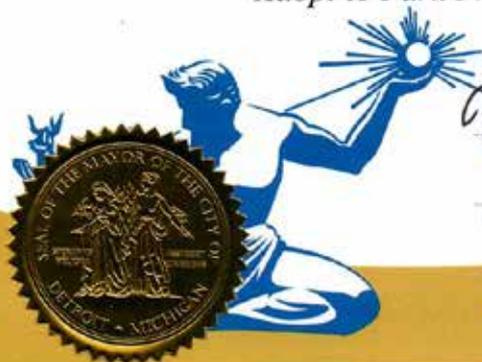
Certificate of
APPRECIATION

On behalf of the citizens of
the City of Detroit, I extend my heartfelt
appreciation to

**UNIVERSITY DISTRICT COMMUNITY
ASSOCIATION**

Thank you for your Outstanding Contribution to

***Belden/Santa Maria Park
Adopt-A-Park Program***



Michael E. Duggan

Mayor

November 15, 2019

Date

CITY OF DETROIT



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
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 /
Social Media /
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: _____

New Lights at Titan Field



While driving down West McNichols, you may have noticed the night lights at the University of Detroit Mercy campus. For the first time in nearly 55 years, University of Detroit Mercy's outdoor varsity athletic teams will play home contests under lights.

There is now permanent lighting at Titan Field, located in the northeast corner (Six Mile and Fairfield) of the University's McNichols Campus. The lights — four poles each housing an array of LED.

The state-of-the-art addition is one of the initiatives in The Campaign for University of Detroit Mercy, a \$100-million fundraising effort that supports student scholarships, academic programs, faculty research and facilities. The campaign, which marks a significant milestone in the University's history, reached its \$100-million goal in January 2019, one year ahead of schedule; it will conclude on Dec. 31.

The total cost of the lighting project is \$600,000, funded completely through philanthropic gifts from nearly 30 donors.

Titan Field is home to Detroit Mercy's NCAA Division I varsity men's and women's soccer and men's and women's lacrosse programs. Each of the University's 17 varsity athletic programs uses Titan Field and its facilities for training, conditioning and offseason workouts.

The installation of lights headlines the initial phase of Detroit Mercy's Athletic Village project, a \$2.25-million investment in the University's student-athletes and the community. Detroit Mercy is continuing its fundraising to complete the Athletic Village and create an endowed maintenance fund to help preserve the upgrades for years to come.

University of Detroit Mercy Library Provides Home for UD Block Captains

The University of Detroit Block Captains has found a new place to meet. A special thank you to University of Detroit Mercy Library Dean, Jennifer Dean and Associate Dean for Public Services , George H. Libby, for making space available in UDM's library to host the block captain's bi-monthly meetings. The University District Community Association Block Captains meeting were moved from the Gesu Parrish Community House because the church is redeveloping their policies on outside community use of Gesu facilities.

Associated Dean Libby welcomed the block captains to UDM. In addition, to talking about the many amenities of the library, that are available to UD residents, Mr. Dean also offered UDM library to be the repository of University District documents. UDM is the host location for documents for Palmer Woods and Sherwood Forest neighborhoods.

Block captains serve an important role in our community. These are the volunteers who are work to facilitate positive changes in our neighborhood. Block captains meet six times a year, once every two months, to obtain and share information for their neighbors. Please consider becoming a block captain. For more information, please contact Curtis Smith at 313-590-6317 or curtndi@aol.com.

For more information about UDM Libraries, you may reach Associate Dean, Libby at 313-993-1078 or email at libbeygh@udmercy.edu.



Palmer Park Prep Updates

The school year has gotten off to an exciting start at Palmer Park Preparatory Academy, the Detroit Public Schools Community District School in the heart of University District. The school is a Pre-K-8th grade school, offering Montessori education to Pre-K-3rd grade students.

Parent Teacher Association (PTA) Updates

The PTA was elected in September, and we're excited to report that three University District residents are serving as officers on the PTA! The Palmer Park Prep officers are:

Sharon Kelso – President - kaykelso@comcast.net

- *Lifelong Detroit resident and has 40 years of experience in the Detroit Public School system.*

Brandy Mitchell – Vice President - vopbrandy@gmail.com

- *UDCA resident and parent of two first-year Palmer Park Prep students in 1st & 3rd grade.*

Heidi Reijm – Treasurer - hreijm@gmail.com

- *UDCA resident and parent of a 3rd grader.*

Amber Hunt – Secretary – amberto@gmail.com

- *UDCA resident and board member. Parent of a Pre-K student.*

We strongly encourage community members to join the PTA. You do not need to have a student at the school to be supportive and invested in its success. You can join the PTA by choosing an “Individual” membership here: palmerparkpta.memberhub.store/ or by contacting any of the PTA members above if you'd prefer to pay in cash or learn more about the PTA. You can also use the same link to make a tax deductible donation to the PTA at any amount you choose.

You can also show your Palmer Park Prep pride by purchasing a t-shirt. We have child and adult sizes available. Child sizes (XS-L) are \$12. Adult sizes (S-XL) are \$15. Adult XXL is \$18. You can purchase shirts using the link above.

Outdoor Classroom

Over the summer, the UDCA sponsored a classroom transformation at the school. Community members transformed a previously unused space at the school into an outdoor classroom. A mural design was created by artist Cedric Tai, paint was donated by Sherwin Williams in Royal Oak, and the mural was painted, brick-by-brick, by the community. It's a great way for kids to get some additional outdoor time during the school day!

Volunteer Opportunities

We'd love for the community to volunteer at the school. To volunteer, you need to fill out a volunteer application which can be obtained at the main office (off the pickford entrance) and return it with a copy of your driver's license. It's an easy process, and once you are cleared you can help with some of these great volunteer opportunities:

- Reading volunteers in the Orton-Gillingham reading room
- Pickup/Dropoff outdoor volunteers
- Garden bed cleanup
- Noon-hour aide (paid position!)
- Grounds cleanup (night/weekend times available)
- Extracurricular coaching/programming

These are only a few of the opportunities available. You are also welcome to create your own opportunity if you have a specific skill that you are willing to share. Please reach out to the PTA if you have any questions or want more feedback on volunteering.

Strong Community Support

Additionally, there are many residents who are on the staff or serve on the school administration in some capacity and are doing an amazing job enriching these student's lives. Together, we are building a strong, inclusive community of lifelong learners and supporting a foundation of learning within University District.

There is no shortage of ways to join in and support this school. Please give a little of your time, effort or financial support to Palmer Park Prep. And if you are a parent, please tour this school in the heart of your neighborhood. Looking forward to your support!

University District Patrol Updates

Have you heard about the current challenges facing the University District Patrol? After nearly half a century of service to the neighborhood, the UDP's board is working valiantly to resolve their difficulties. In the meantime, University District Radio Patrol, [yes!] we have two patrols and radio patrol is the volunteer group] has a few recommendations. First, we all need to remember that our neighborhood has its reputation for safety only because of the many efforts of many people to ensure that safety. Then, we need to be sure that we each do our part. The two patrols will continue to work together to get the best results possible from our efforts.

UDP has lost some of its support because many of us have concluded, incorrectly, that we are now a Special Assessment District. Not so, and the earliest now that we could be an operating Special Assessment District is January, 2021—not too far from the next Presidential inauguration Please consider—and remember--that research consistently shows that neighborhoods with patrols in addition to police patrols typically see a reduction in crime of 70% or more, compared to similar nearby neighborhoods. There are three observations we find most interesting. Before Sherwood Forrest had a patrol, our burglary numbers were about ¼ their rate, and their neighborhood is much smaller. Unpatrolled Martin Park had a rough first quarter one year with nearly a burglary a day. In the same three months, we had fewer than 20 compared to their 87. When Bagley operates its radio patrol, we have watched their reported crimes drop, week by week.

Convinced? You can assist UDP with subscriptions and/or contributions. A neighborhood well on its way to endorse Special Assessment District for a second time seems like a neighborhood that should support an interim patrol program. If financial support is not a good choice for you, please consider volunteering for Radio Patrol. You must be 18 and be eligible for a police clearance. At sixteen or, seventeen year teens may patrol with parents. [Does anybody need a service project? Time to talk?] As long as we can schedule a partner, you can pick your patrol time. We have opportunities for drivers, observers, and base operators. Radio patrols are recognized by city ordinance; we work with the police department as eyes and ears, not as people who intervene. [Call radio patrol at 447-0003. UDCA will provide information on any change in contact information].

Patrol Updates *(Continued)*

If patrol support of any variety is not for you, remember that some of the simplest things can help with safety, no high technology or expense is required.

- Make sure that first responders can see your house number from the street, day or night. [Lots of us need help with this one.]
- Turn on a front porch light at night. [Go greener if you wish, with motion activated lights there and elsewhere on your property].
- Have some lights on at home at night. [Try timers if you aren't at home].
- Pick up the flyers, blowing trash, and other things that may suggest to a burglar that the homeowner is not paying attention.
- Park your car in the garage, or as far off the street as you can. [Check with DPD, CATS unit for additional recommendations].
- If you are the target of a crime, file a police report. For most “minor” and some major crimes you can report by phone at 313-267-4600—TCRU the telephone crime reporting unit. If you want assistance with reporting, call radio patrol.
- Don't join the group of neighbors who have decided that parking at fire hydrants is wonderful. You risk tickets and towing for yourself, and in case of fire, you jeopardize your neighbors and your car. [Fire departments do what they need to when they have to reach a hydrant. There are some interesting pictures on line of hoses through cars].
- **Follow the traffic laws.** In our neighborhood we have had too many deaths and injuries along with damaged homes.
- When the snow falls, move it off your sidewalks....no Special Assessment District assistance this winter, for sure.

Fortifying our homes individually may help with individual safety. Neighborly efforts help with neighborhood safety, a much broader goal. Can we count on you?

REMINDER

When snowfall is expected to exceed 4" please remove your vehicle from the street to ensure efficient snow plowing



Money Talks You Should Be Having With Your Aging Parents

By Scott Matteson, Michigan State University Extension - October 3, 2019



“Silence is golden” or so the saying goes, but is it always a good idea? Silence is not golden when it comes to the subject of your parents’ living expenses, healthcare and elder care costs. According to the Fidelity Intra-family Generational Finance Study (FIGS) 4 out of 10 families have not had a conversation with their elderly parents about living expenses, healthcare, and elder care costs. One reason, as stated in the study, is that parents worry that their adult children are counting too much on a future inheritance; while children don’t want to upset their parents.

Because of this reasoning the subject of money becomes taboo and needed conversations are not happening.

According to the FIGS study children and parents didn’t believe having a conversation about living expenses, healthcare, and retirement was difficult to start. The difficulty comes with the depth and the detail of the conversation and when to start having the conversations. The important thing to remember is don’t wait until an emergency to have the conversation.

Money Talks You Should Be Having With Your Aging Parents *(Continued)*

Below is a list of topics and ages when discussing retirement issues that can help avoid future emergency conversations:

Age 50	AARP Eligible, Senior Discount Programs, Catch up contributions of \$1,000 for IRA and \$5,500 for 401k, 403b and TSP
Age 55	401k or retirement withdrawals without 10 percent early penalty
Age 59 1/2	Take from any retirement account without 10 percent early penalty including Roth IRA, as long as it's been held for 5 years.
Age 62	Earliest age to collect social security. Eligible for reverse mortgages.
Age 65	Eligible for Medicare (Apply 3 months before 65th birthday) – otherwise Medicare part B and prescription drug coverage part D may cost more money
Age 66	Full retirement if born between 1943-1954 Can collect social security without reduction and no offset on amounts earned.
Age 70	Maximum social security accrual – time to start.
Age 70 1/2	IRA and 401k contributions must stop. Must begin taking required minimum distributions

Before beginning a conversation on a sensitive subject such as money, you have to realize that the conversation is not a democracy; your parents have made decisions about their money all of their life and they are not about to stop now. Remember it is your parents' money and their decision. On the next page are ten suggestions to aid in having a conversation concerning retirement, living expenses, healthcare, and elder care.

Money Talks You Should Be Having With Your Aging Parents *(Continued)*

- 1 **Start Discussions Early.** – Do not think that it will only take one talk. The earlier you begin discussions the more time will be on your side and the easier the discussions will become.
- 2 **Include all family members.** – Make sure all siblings are included in the discussions. This way everyone in the immediate family is fully aware of all decisions made and are not getting information passed on to them that may or may not be accurate.
- 3 **Explain the purpose of your conversation.** – Communication is integral. Explain your concerns about how your parents will be cared for and how they feel about their financial future.
- 4 **Understand your parents' need to control their own lives.** – The conversation is not about preserving your inheritance. It is about your parent's right to be able to live their life how they want to live it.
- 5 **Agree to disagree.** – It is okay to disagree; the conversation is not about who is right or who is wrong.
- 6 **Use good communication skills.** – Listen to understand not to reply. If you don't understand then ask for clarification.
- 7 **Ask about records and documentation.** – Do not be afraid to ask where pertinent records are located and who would need to be contacted concerning them are.
- 8 **Provide information.** – If you come across information you deem to be useful in helping to make appropriate decisions provide it to everyone involved in your ongoing discussions.
- 9 **Re-evaluate if things aren't working well.** – Do not be afraid to take some steps backwards if conversations are not being productive.
- 10 **Treat your parents with respect.** – Always respect your parent's wishes regarding decisions concerning their living expenses, healthcare and elder care.

For more in depth information about talking with aging parents about retirement please click on the following links: [Aging and Money](#) and [When to Start Receiving Retirement Benefits](#). Additional information can also be found at www.socialsecurity.gov/planners

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Did you know that the University District has a Xfinity sales professional assigned to serve you? Sean McDowell has been with Comcast for over 12 years. He is ready, able, and willing to assist you with all your residential and business, cable, internet, phone, home security, and mobile communication needs. Are you in need of new services or looking to upgrade current services? Please contact Sean McDowell by phone at 248-756-4886 or by email at sean_mcdowell@comcast.cable.com. Let him solve all your communication needs.





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In Memoriam 2019

The UDCA Board would like to honor those in our neighborhood that have passed this year. We appreciate their contributions to the neighborhood and they will be missed.



George Ashford

Esq.-Muirland
8- April 5, 2019



NO PHOTO

Mildred Kemp

Parkside 7, 30 years+
UDCA resident; Retired
DPS school bus driver



Kenneth "Ken" Sanders

Birchcrest; 10 year UDCA
resident & Former UDCA
Board member; 2/9/19



Brian Andrew Wims

Oak Drive 4; August
6, 2019; mother UDCA
resident Sara Wims

Mary B. Cocanougher

I am sad to inform everyone of the passing of Mary Cocanougher. She was very active in the community and was the current block captain for Wildermere 8. Curtis could you please pass the information along the to the block captains. All the information I have is in the link below. Please copy and paste. If anyone else gets anything additional please let us know and I will do the same.

Mr. Phillip Mitchell

Passed away in December of 2018. Mr. Mitchell was a UDCA resident on Muirland block #6 for over 50 years. He raised his family here and was a wonderful neighbor. We miss his knowledge and wittiness. Rest in peace Mr. Mitchell.

**University District Patrol
PO Box 21041
Detroit, Michigan 48221**

Security Patrol Invoice

Invoice Date 12/01/2019

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 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 or send us a letter to the address above.

Thank you for becoming a subscriber!

Your Subscription Renewal Options	
Subscription Period	Price
12 Month Subscription	\$260.00
9 Month Subscription	\$195.00
6 Month Subscription	\$130.00
3 Month Subscription	\$65.00
1 Month Subscription	\$25.00

3 Month Payment 6 Month Payment 9 Month Payment 12 Month Payment

Extends your coverage to: **03/31/20** **06/30/20** **09/30/20** **12/31/20**

Renewal Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

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

Payment Option: 3 Months _____ 6 Months _____ 9 Months _____ 12 Months _____

Expiration Date: 03/31/20 06/30/20 09/30/20 12/31/20

For Office use only: Check Number <input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>	Deposit Date <input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>	Payment Date <input style="width: 80px;" type="text"/>
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Invoice Date 12/01/2019

Return with Payment

A Christmas Giving Wish

by Asenath Andrews

I have spent a lifetime working in education, but even before I started working, I was acutely aware of a few of the kids in my school who had lost one of their parents and their family struggled more than the rest of us in the neighborhood. Those families were helped during the Holidays by the churches they attended. Back in the olden days everyone I knew was affiliated with a church.

When I became a teacher, the Goodfellows brought packages to students who someone had identified as needing some extra help to make their Christmas bright. I never knew which of my kids were going to get the Goodfellows' box, but I did know that the boxes were very well thought out and planned. They included clothes, gloves, hats, the occasional jacket or coat with leggings (leggings were what one might today call snow pants - they were made out of the same fabric as your coat and hat and you wore them under your dress, because whoever heard of going to school in anything other than a dress or skirt?). What pleased me most however, was that the boxes also included toys. New "trendy" toys. Everyone had that one Aunt that would give you underwear or clothes for Christmas. What a letdown. So, for these kindly old people to be thoughtful enough to include toys made me happy for my students and their families. I don't know why, but the whole time I was a teacher I thought of the "Goodfellows" as kindly, old, almost Santa-like men of good spirit. The toys were wrapped so the kids had to wait until Christmas morning and be surprised like the rest of us.

Years later I went on to become the principal of Catherine Ferguson Academy, a school for pregnant and parenting teens and their children. The first few years we were housed in a beautiful Salvation Army Building. The "Army" was very generous in helping families. Many mothers came in early November to sign up for holiday help. The staff at the Fort and West Grand Blvd. building always provided gifts for our girls, their babies and the school staff - beautiful thoughtful gifts.

I don't know when or where the church tradition of giving a Christmas gift bag that had apples, oranges, nuts and hard candy came from, but oh my how we couldn't wait to say our Christmas speeches so we could receive our bags on the way out. One of the principals of a really big Detroit high school, who I think was raised in the south, continued that holiday tradition by passing out these Christmas goodie bags on the last day of school before Christmas break. Kindness became a tradition.

A Christmas Giving Wish *Continued*



As our school became more recognized, we were the recipients of many, many gifts for moms and babies. Sometimes we received so many things we would hold on to them and give them out during the new year. One organization adopted us and brought car loads of beautiful baby things. For those moms who worried about giving their son or daughter a happy first, second, or third Christmas, these gifts were lightning in a bottle. Though we were always most appreciative of this incredible generosity, I wished I could have asked these givers to please remember the girls and babies at other times of the year.

I worked in an employment readiness program and one of my students taught me how to take full advantage of my Iphone. I wish I could ask all of the loving, giving, generous people who want to share their joy during the holidays to put reminders in their phones *throughout* the year. In **January** they could set a reminder to call their nearest school to volunteer and help struggling students improve so they don't fail. In **February**, donate hats and gloves. In **March**, donate a case of umbrellas. In **June**, they could ask members of our organization to sign up to assist with "Eat Up Meet Up" a summer feeding program. In **July**, buy books for students so they don't experience summer learning loss. In **August**, they could buy uniforms and deliver to nearby schools (back packs and school supplies seem to be covered). Your phone can help you remember. Our younger neighbors already know how to make their phone their assistant. For those who don't have a phone to help, you can write a reminder on your wall calendar.

People need help all year long, not just dinner at Thanksgiving and gifts at Christmas. However, if you really need to give and share of your personal blessings at the holiday season please continue to do so. Every organization I know of that serves those in need will be so grateful for your giving.

There are so many things that can cheer you, schools, and families throughout the year so don't spend all your loving kindness chips in November and December. Spread it out! Spread the Giving.



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Winter 2019

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Community Association**
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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.

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