



# DANA Update

The newsletter of the  
Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association

November, 2014

Volume 19, Issue 4

[www.DouglasAcres.org](http://www.DouglasAcres.org)

## Mark Your Calendars for These Coming Events

Please plan to attend the upcoming General Meeting of Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association on Tuesday, November 11 at 7:00 pm. The meeting will be held at Staves Methodist Church, 2747 E Madison. Coffee and cookies will be served. Our guest speaker will be Clay Daggett from Rebuilding Together who will be presenting a new program called Safe at Home. This initiative will focus on preventive measures in the form of home modifications for low-income homeowners aged 60+.

The annual meeting and election of officers will be held Tuesday, January 13, 2015 at the Euclid Room (next to Hy-Vee). A Lasagna dinner will also be served. Please put this date on your calendar and stay tuned for additional details.

## DANA President's Message

The last six months have been a busy time for real estate in our neighborhood. We currently have 8 homes for sale, 6 homes that are "pending" (under contract but not yet closed) and 16 homes have been sold. I am seeing more for sale signs in the neighborhood than what we have seen for quite a while. Remember, as a designated neighborhood with the city of Des Moines buyers are eligible to purchase homes and receive a \$10,000 grant plus closing costs. Tell your friends and family about what a great place Douglas Acres is to live. I also really enjoyed the beautiful yards this summer. Every year the yards in our neighborhood get better looking. Thank you to Joe Youngwirth and Phyllis Kellogg for handling the "Yard of the week" award in the neighborhood. Please feel free to contact a board member of myself should you have any questions about DANA.

Also, a sincere thank you to Jim Grove who has served on the DANA Board of Directors for the last 9 years. Jim has now moved out of the neighborhood and is living in Elkhart. Thank you, Jim, for serving the neighborhood for so many years, you will be greatly missed.

## Neighborhood Safety Tips

(provided by Officer Doua Lor, DMPD Neighborhood Resource Officer)



- Move all valuable items in the car out of sight such as GPS, purse, package, radar detector, and etc.
- Don't leave a running car unattended in the street or drive way.
- Lock all car doors and roll up all windows.
- Don't leave your keys in the car. (Even if the car is in the garage.)
- Let GOOD NEIGHBORS know you are gone for extended periods of time and advise them to contact the police when they see suspicious activity.
- Try to have packages and mail picked up by family or trustworthy neighbors so they are not piling up on the porch.
- Arrange to have garbage containers moved to the street and picked up if you are gone on garbage day.
- Have adequate lights around the house and close all blinds/curtains so valuable items can't be seen in plain view.
- If you have a security alarm system, PLEASE USE IT.
- Record make, model and serial numbers of your property.
- Take pictures of jewelry and other items that do not have serial numbers.
- When you see people walking in your neighborhood and acting suspicious, let them know you see them. If a burglar knows you see them, they are unlikely to commit criminal activity in your area for fear of being caught. (Do not be confrontational. (If possible, take down vehicle plate and description of person/vehicle.)
- When leaving your home, look around to make sure no one is watching you leave.
- KNOW YOUR NEIGHBORS. Have block parties or barbeques. Outdoor activities will help neighbors get to know each other.
- If you're going to be away from home for an extended period of time you can always use the police department to assist with VACATION WATCH. Officers will check your property when time allows. CALL 283-4811.
- Never park in an unlit area, no matter how convenient it is.
- Don't over burden yourself with packages. (Don't buy more than you can carry!)
- Always have your keys in hand when approaching your vehicle.
- Always look through car windows before enter into the vehicle to assure no one is hiding in the back.

DANA appreciates the support that officer Lor provides to the Douglas Acres neighborhood. Officer Lor attends DANA meetings and provides us with updates regarding crime in our neighborhood. Please remember the safety tips above and stay safe.

Do you have news that you think would be interesting to your Douglas Acres neighbors? Let us know and we'll put it in the next newsletter. Call Neal Westergaard at 988-4288 or send an email to [nealwes@gmail.com](mailto:nealwes@gmail.com)

Of course I/we want to join DANA (or renew my/our membership)

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

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

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

- \$5 Individual     New Member
- \$10 Business     Renewal
- Send information on Business Advertisements
- I am interested in helping:
- Officer             Board of Directors
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

Please make checks payable to DANA and bring to the next DANA meeting or mail to: Phyllis Kellogg, DANA Treasurer, 2920 East Douglas, Des Moines, IA 50317

## Free Little Library Update

Would you like to host a Free Little Library? If so please let a board member know and we will work to get you a library. We currently have libraries at four locations in the neighborhood. We are also looking for books so feel free to stop by and take a book or leave a book. Free Little Libraries are designed to encourage literacy and help neighbors become more involved with their neighborhood. I have a little library in my front yard and it is fun to see neighbors stop by and take a book or leave a book. We would like to expand our program so if you would like to host a library please let us know. We have a neighbor, Doug Hesseltine, who is now making the libraries for us and they are very sturdy and attractive. Doug and his wife are currently working on additional libraries for our neighborhood.

Thank you Doug for making the libraries for us.



## Your DANA Officers and Board Members

Position	Name	Contact
Chair	Linda Westergaard	988-4288
Vice Chair	Joe Youngwirth	266-2569
Secretary	Matt Evans	
Treasurer	Phyllis Kellogg	262-5132
Board Member	Tony Short	266-8995
Board Member	Betty Short	266-8955
Board Member	Margaret Heger	266-4181
Board Member	Roger Henry	266-0265
Webmaster	Dennis Dyer	<a href="mailto:webmaster@douglasacres.org">webmaster@douglasacres.org</a>
Board Member	Henry Hawkens	557-0261
Board Member	Bill Martin	
Board Member	Marita Consolver	
Newsletter Editor	Neal Westergaard	991-8772

Please visit our website, [www.DouglasAcres.org](http://www.DouglasAcres.org), where you can find out what is happening in your neighborhood. You can also find a link to the DANA Facebook page.

# 2015 DANA Calendar

## Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association

Lasagna Dinner, Euclid Room

**January**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**February**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28

**March**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

**April**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

Plant Exchange

**May**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

Neighborhood Garage Sales

**June**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

Ice Cream Social

**July**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

National Night Out

**August**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

**September**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

**October**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

**November**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

**December**

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

- Board of Director's Meeting (usually on the 2nd Monday of each month or the Monday preceding the DANA General Meeting) Meetings held at 7:00 pm at the Euclid Room, 2540 E Euclid (next to Hy-Vee)
- General Meeting, 2nd Tuesday of January, March, May, July, September, and November. Meetings held at Staves Methodist Church 2747 E Madison **except** January and July meetings which are held at Euclid Room, 2540 E Euclid (next to Hy-Vee)

For more information, contact Linda Westergaard, 515-988-4288

Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association  
4009 E 23rd Street  
Des Moines, IA 50317

PRSR STD  
ECRWSS  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
EDDM RETAIL

*Time sensitive material, please do not delay delivery*

Local  
Postal Customer

## You're Invited!

**What:** DANA General Meeting  
**When:** Tuesday, November 11<sup>th</sup>, 2014  
7:00 PM  
**Where:** Staves Methodist Church  
2747 E Madison



Are you on Facebook? Search for "Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association" then click "Like" so you can keep up on what's happening in your neighborhood. You can also visit our DANA website, [www.DouglasAcres.org](http://www.DouglasAcres.org)