

# DANA Update

The newsletter of the  
Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association

Spring, 2014

Volume 19, Issue 2

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

Please plan to attend the DANA General Meeting on Tuesday, March 11, at 7:00 PM. Tom Hockensmith, Polk County Supervisor will attend and provide the neighborhood with his semi-annual Polk County report. The meeting will be held at Staves Methodist Church, 2747 E. Madison.

## DANA President's Message

After a long, cold, and snowy winter, we can finally see the light at the end of the tunnel and spring is (hopefully) just around the corner.

Please see the revised 2014 calendar on page 3 and note that a couple of dates have been changed. This is the correct calendar which you can save for future reference.

One of the things that makes the Douglas Acres neighborhood such a great place to live, work, and play is the number of volunteers we have. Volunteers tell us that they feel a greater connection to their neighborhood and to the people who live nearby. As we spend more time outside in nicer weather, keep an eye open for a neighbor who might need something. Maybe an older neighbor could use a hand with some spring clean up around the yard. Maybe a new family has moved into the neighborhood and would appreciate learning about your favorite local restaurant or where to go for hardware (or ice cream).

Be sure to visit Sargent Park this spring, there is a lot there for everyone to enjoy. And remember that the Gay Wilson Bike Trail now extends to the north from Sargent Park. Enjoy a bike ride a walk on this paved trail. We have a new project arriving in DANA this spring, see the article on page 2 regarding **Free Little Libraries** for more information.

If you receive this newsletter but have never been to a DANA meeting, why don't you think about coming to our meeting this Tuesday? We're a pretty good group of neighbors and we'd love to have you join us.

## First Scrub Day of 2014 on March 15

The first Scrub Day for 2014 will be on **Saturday, March 15**. The MWA Transfer Station at 4198 Delaware Ave will be open from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm and Des Moines residents can drop off trash, furniture, televisions, tires, lawn mowers (with all fluids drained), and appliances. The Compost Center at 1601 Harriett (just north of the Des Moines River and east of SE 14th St) is also open from 7:00 am to 2:00 pm and residents can drop off yard waste, including grass clippings, leaves, tree branches, etc. Please remember to bring proof of Des Moines residency (driver's license or current utility bill).

*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)*

## Volunteers Available

DANA has learned that Walnut Creek Church has volunteers who can assist residents who need help with yard work or other small projects around the home. The volunteers are available May 23-May 26. To learn more, contact Shaly Moyal, Walnut Creek Church, 323 E Locust, Des Moines, 515-770-1392 (cell) or 515-279-8312, ext 111 (office)

## Annual Garden Exchange

Don't forget DANA's annual garden exchange. If you have extra garden seeds or seedlings, vegetable plants, annuals, perennials, etc, after you plant your garden this spring, please bring them to the May meeting. Chances are, your neighbors can use what you have left over and you might find some special things for your garden. Indoor and outdoor plants are also included.

## Fish Fry

Capitol Hill Christian Church, 3322 E. 25th St, is hosting a fish fry on Friday, March 14 and Friday, March 28. Dinner will be served from 5:00 pm to 6:30 pm and a \$10.00 donation is suggested. For more information, contact the church at 266-6283.

## Grove Construction

General construction including garages, decks, remodeling, door & window replacement, roofing, etc. Free estimates. Jim Grove, 250-9359

*(Paid Ad)*

## Free Little Libraries Come to DANA

Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association has purchased 3 **Free Little Libraries** that will be installed in yards as soon as the ground thaws. Please visit the website [www.freelittlelibrary.com](http://www.freelittlelibrary.com) to learn more about this program.

**Free Little Libraries** are designed to encourage literacy and help neighbors become more involved with their neighborhood. The library itself is a small weather proof box mounted on a post and is usually installed in a front yard near the public sidewalk. As children or adults walk past the library, they can borrow a book and are expected to return the book when they are finished reading it. Many of us have books and magazines lying around the house that we can use to get the library started.

We are starting with 3 libraries and are deciding on the locations where they will be installed. We'd like to expand this program and if you would like to donate money toward purchasing a library, please let one of the Board members know. If you are able to build a **Free Little Library**, either for your front yard or to sell to DANA, let a Board member know. There are many plans available at the website listed above. We could also use someone with some artistic talent to help paint and decorate the libraries.

## Business Advertising

If you live in the Douglas Acres neighborhood, you can advertise in the DANA newsletter. Business card-sized ads are available for \$10 per issue.

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.

# 2014 DANA Calendar

## Douglas Acres Neighborhood Association

**January** Lasagna Dinner, Euclid Room

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    | 1  | 2  | 3  | 4  |
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| 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  |
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| 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  |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | 31 |    |    |    |    |    |

**April**

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |    |    |

**May** Plant Exchange

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |

**June** Neighborhood Garage Sales

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 |
| 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 |
| 29 | 30 |    |    |    |    |    |

**July** Ice Cream Social, Euclid Room

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |

**August** National Night Out

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
|    |    |    |    |    | 1  | 2  |
| 3  | 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  |
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| 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 |
| 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |
| 31 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**September**

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
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| 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  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 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  |
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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
| 30 |    |    |    |    |    |    |

**December**

| S  | M  | T  | W  | T  | F  | S  |
|----|----|----|----|----|----|----|
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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

- Board of Director's Meeting (2nd Monday of each month) Meetings held at 7:00 pm at the Euclid Room, 2540 E Euclid (next to Hy-Vee)
- General Meeting, 2nd Tuesday of every other month beginning in January. 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