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Fall General Meeting

Thursday, October 29 at 7:00 PM

The UPNA Fall General Meeting will be held Thursday, October 29, 2026 at 7:00 p.m. at the Central Community of Christ Church at 1645 Penn Avenue. Guest Speakers include Ganesh Ganpat, DSM Parks and Recreation Cemetery Supervisor, who will share interesting stories about our cemeteries. He will touch on the history, legends, and other fun information. He has a cemetery story about an ax murder. Linda Westergaard, Ward 2 City Council Member and other elected officials will bring us up to date on city and neighborhood issues. We also will welcome Theresa Greenfield with Invest DSM. The agenda includes a review of UPNA activities and events in 2026 and election of officers. There will be door prizes. Please feel free to bring a bag of candy to the meeting for the Thompson Treat event. The Central Community of Christ Church is located on the corner of Penn Avenue and Cherokee Avenue. There is plenty of parking available. Union Park Neighborhood Association has a long-standing policy that candidates for elected office may not campaign at our meetings.



UPNA Officers/Contacts

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Treasurer / Membership

Paul Cole
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www.unionparkdsm.com

Visit our website for news and information.

Halloween Night in Des Moines is October 31 from 6 to 8 p.m.

Thompson Treat is 6 to 8 p.m. on Thompson Avenue between East 14th Street and Glenbrook Avenue. New this year to Thompson Treat is the addition of East 13th Street between Mattern Avenue and Thompson Avenue.



THOMPSON TREAT

OCT 31
6-8PM

CANDY, DRINKS,
& HOTDOGS



POLK COUNTY
Board of Supervisors



UPNA

Meeting Invitation

The Union Park Neighborhood Association holds a Spring and Fall General Meeting. We also have bi-monthly board/member meetings that are held the 2nd Tuesday of odd months (Jan., Mar., May, July, Sept. & Nov.) Meetings start at 7:00 pm at Grand View University in the Humphrey Center ("Old Main") on the 2nd floor. These are all open meetings and any neighborhood resident is welcome to attend. The more of us that can get involved the better, so consider this your invitation to attend any meeting. If you can't make it to every meeting that's ok but we would love to have you come whenever you can. Everyone's input is welcome, whether you would like to help with a special event or project or just come to meet your neighbors. UPNA is accomplishing more each year so the more people that are involved the more good we can do!

Halloween Safety Tips:

- Take a digital photo of your kids. While great for the scrapbook, it's important to have a recent and detailed description in the event of an emergency.
- Make sure your child's costume is safe. Is the fabric fire retardant? Does their mask have proper eye, nose and mouth openings? Can they walk easily in it?
- Use a buddy system. If you are headed out with a group, make sure there is a buddy system in place. It's easy for a child to get left behind or mixed in with other groups.
- Know who your kids are trick or treating with. Exchange phone numbers with your child's friends and their parents. In the event of an emergency, you can notify them.



FALL Fest
Crafts, Games, Pumpkin Decorating,
Hot Apple Cider, Fall Fun, & Changing Leaves

November 7, 12 - 4 p.m.
Union Park

CITY OF DES MOINES
PARKS AND RECREATION
All Ages, FREE

UPNA

Membership Dues

Remember that Annual Membership Dues are due the first of the year at January. Dues are on a calendar basis. Dues are \$10 for individual membership, or \$25 if you want to be a Supporter and \$30 for a Business Membership. If you have any questions about your Dues, please feel free to contact Paul Cole—Membership Chair. A membership renewal form is on the back of this newsletter.



COMMUNITY CAR CHECK-UP 2026



SATURDAY, OCTOBER 31, 2026 | 9 AM - 12 PM

NORTH HIGH SCHOOL - 501 HOLCOMB AVE. DES MOINES, IA 50313

Get your car ready for winter at our **FREE Community Car Check-Up!** Join us and community partners for free vehicle services and resources. Services are available for the **first 500 cars.**

Want to help us make another amazing event happen? **Scan the QR code** or reach out to the email below to volunteer.

SCAN TO VOLUNTEER



FREE SERVICES PROVIDED TO COMMUNITY MEMBERS:



Tires Checked
& Filled



Exterior Lights
Changed Out



Fluids Topped Off



Vaccinations



Wiper Blades
Replacement



Overall Safety &
Car Seat Check



Goodie Bag
& Resources

THANK YOU PARTNERS AND SPONSORS:



Questions? Please email admin@urbandreams.org!

A Reminder from Des Moines Public Works

With fall on the way, here's a friendly reminder to help us keep storm sewer intakes clear of leaves, trash and other debris!

While our Sewer Operations Division works hard every day to keep our drainage systems flowing, they can't be everywhere at once.

Help them address issues before they arise by easily reporting them online, or calling our 24/7 Customer Service line.

If you're more of a hands-on type and would like to clean it out yourself, we just ask that you do so safely — watch for traffic, wear gloves/protective clothing, and only clear off what's on top of the grate. DO NOT try to enter or reach into storm drains.

Thank you for helping us prevent sewer blockages and protect our waterways!

See a clogged storm drain?

Be a good neighbor.



Option 1: Report online at DSM.city/Report
Option 2: Safely clear out and dispose of debris



HAPPY HALLOWEEN!



GRAND VIEW UNIVERSITY PRESENTS

Julefest

CHRISTMAS MARKET & CONCERT

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 5

TWO PERFORMANCES featuring the GV Choir, Wind Ensemble and Drumline
All to support music programs at Grand View!

LIVE MUSIC • FOOD • FESTIVE CRAFTS & GIFTS
FAMILY ACTIVITIES • CHRISTMAS TREE LIGHTING

Julefest is Grand View University's Advent and Christmas gift to the community, featuring the Grand View Choir and Wind Ensemble. This highly attended event continues to serve as a free staple of the holiday season! Performances will be held at 3 p.m. and 6 p.m.

We are looking for local vendors to sell items at the market. Please note this event filled up last year, so applications are first-come, first-serve.

<https://www.grandview.edu/.../julefest-christmas-market...>

The Julefest Christmas Market will be open 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m. Vendors should plan to arrive and check-in by 11:30 a.m., be ready to sell by 12:00 p.m., and stay until the conclusion of the market at 6:00 p.m. For questions or additional information, please contact Angela Hall at ahall@grandview.edu.



Public Safety Map Portal

The Des Moines Police Department is pleased to announce a new online Crime Mapping Tool, providing the community with convenient access to information about reported crime throughout the city.

The Crime Map can be found on the Des Moines Police Department home page under Quick Links by selecting "Public Safety Mapping," or accessed directly here: Crime Map | City of Des Moines – Public Safety Data Portal

<https://experience.arcgis.com/.../4941b89f.../page/Crime-Map>

The interactive map allows users to explore reported crime throughout Des Moines. Users can focus on a neighborhood or other area of interest, filter information by date and crime type, and select incidents on the map to view additional details.

This tool is another way for DMPD to make public safety information more accessible and help residents, neighborhood associations, and community partners stay informed about crime activity in their area.



The Heritage Carousel

Thank you for a wonderful 2026 Season at The Heritage Carousel. We are closed for the winter, but that doesn't mean you can't rent the Carousel! As weather permits, consider planning your birthday party, a photo session, or celebration with us. Or plan a party for warmer weather in the spring!

Rent the Carousel at: <https://heritagecarousel.org/rent-the-carousel>

And watch for Light Up the Carousel coming at the beginning of December. We'll light the tree and Santa will be there with other fun activities. Watch for the event to come!



December 6th — Light up the Carousel



THE HERITAGE CAROUSEL OF DES MOINES

JOIN US SUNDAY 12/6
5:30pm-7:30pm Lights go on at 5:30!

Light up the Carousel
for the holidays

*Free Carousel Rides, Cookies & Hot Chocolate
 Holiday Music & Decor, & A visit from Santa Claus*

heritagecarousel.org

Help Police and Firefighters Find Your House



Some of the brightest and most important lights on a fire truck or ambulance are called "scene lights." Not only do they help firefighters and medics perform critical tasks at your home or business, they also help us find you. Des Moines' municipal code requires numbering on all existing buildings—including houses—so that, if an emergency strikes you or a loved one, we can reach you as quickly as possible.

- Be sure your house number is easily visible from the street.
- Apply numbers that are white or black and stand out against their background.
- Use numbers at least 4" high, if your home or business is within 100 feet of the street.
- Use numbers 6" high, if your home or business is more than 100 feet from the street.

E-bikes and e-scooters might be faster than you think. A faster ride comes with more risk. Before they ride, know the ride. Let's keep kids safe with smart choices and helmets every time.

Before they ride, know the ride.

E-bikes and e-scooters can differ greatly in speed, power, and potential for serious injury.

Here's what parents should know. →



Some go faster than you think.



15-25 mph



20-28 mph

Some devices may go even faster than these standard ranges. Check the speed range before purchasing an e-scooter or e-bike for your child.

More speed means less time to react.

Know what they're riding. Know where they're going.

No matter how we travel, what matters most is that we all arrive safely.

**Make sure
#WeAllArrive**



A faster ride comes with more risk.

Ambulance



E-bike and e-scooter injuries are on the rise.



A recent study shows **children accounted for more than 45% of e-scooter related injuries**, including head injuries, traumatic brain injuries and broken bones.

16+

The American Academy of Pediatrics recommends children under 16 do not ride motorized e-scooters.

Make sure everyone wears a helmet every ride.

A helmet can help protect your child or teen from a serious brain or head injury.

Make sure your child's helmet is:

- Right for their age
- Certified for use
- Worn consistently and correctly

Before allowing your child to ride an e-bike or e-scooter, ask these questions:



- 1 How fast does it go?
- 2 Where will they ride?
- 3 Are they wearing a helmet?
- 4 Do they know the rules?
- 5 Can they control it safely?

SCRUB stands for SPRING CLEANUP to REDUCE URBAN BLIGHT. It is the City's mission to enhance the City's neighborhoods by allowing residents an opportunity to remove yard waste and debris from homes and yards to reduce the blighted areas within the City.

What kind of SCRUB events does the City of Des Moines sponsor?

MEGA SCRUB: An event that is hosted by select neighborhoods within their section of the City. Any Des Moines Resident may participate.

Transfer Station SCRUB: An alternate drop-off location used for SCRUB events. The Metro Waste Transfer Station is located at 4198 Delaware Ave.

Compost Site SCRUB: A drop off site designated for yard and tree debris during SCRUB events. The Des Moines Compost Site is located at 1601 Harriett Street.

SCRUB Event Reminders Free Drop off - Delays Possible
Proof of Residency is required - Bring a photo id or current utility bill.

Before each event, please review the SCRUB guidelines.

MEGA SCRUB events now offer Household Hazardous Waste Disposal. (MEGA SCRUB sites only)

SCRUB events are free to Des Moines citizens, therefore you may experience longer wait times based on participation.

Questions - If you have questions about SCRUB events, please call at 515-283-4950. More information is available on the City website.

Confused about holiday garbage collection?

HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

When the holiday listed below falls on a weekday, the garbage and yard waste collections will be delayed one day for the rest of that week.

New Years Day

Memorial Day

4th of July

Labor Day

Thanksgiving Day

Christmas Day

Holidays not listed will not cause collection delays.

Example: Thanksgiving falls on Thursday, so Thursday collection moves to Friday, and Friday will move to Saturday

For questions, contact Public Works 24/7 at 515-283-4950

LAST SCRUB DAY OF THE SEASON!



City of Des Moines
Department of Public Works
2026 SCRUB Calendar



Date	Location	Hours
11/21/2026	MWA Transfer Station, 4198 Delaware Ave. City of Des Moines Compost Center, 1601 Harriett St.	7 AM - 2 PM 7 AM - 2 PM



Car Winter Survival Kit Checklist



Flashlight
& Extra Batteries



First Aid Kit



Snow Shovel



Ice Scraper
with Brush



Blankets/Sleeping Bag



Non-Perishable Food
Granola Bars, Dried nuts, etc.



Bottled Water



Booster Cables



Extra Clothing
Hats, Mittens, Parkas, Boots



Sand/Kitty Litter
Used for Traction



Cell Phone
& Charger



Flares/Triangles
& other Bright Objects

Union Park Neighborhood Association

PO BOX 16113

Des Moines , IA 50316-9402

info@unionparkdsm.com



BECOME A MEMBER

Name _____

Address _____

9-digit zip code _____

Form is also available on our website at www.unionparkdsm.com

Phone (optional) _____ E-mail _____

Yearly Dues: Three levels of Membership: \$10.00 Family membership, \$25 Supporter, \$30 Business

We accept cash, checks or Venmo only

Please mail to UPNA Treasurer, PO BOX 16113, Des Moines, IA 50316-9402

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Paul Cole at Colepw2005@gmail.com

If you do not have a printer, that is ok. Just write your contact information on a piece of paper and enclose it with your check or cash and mail to:

UPNA Treasurer, PO BOX 16113, Des Moines, IA 50316-9402

Your information is always kept private. We do not sell or give your information to ANYONE.



venmo

@UPNAPayment

IMPORTANT: If using Venmo, PLEASE fill out the membership form as well so we may properly credit your membership account and mail to: **UPNA Treasurer, PO BOX 16113, Des Moines, IA 50316-9402**

Did you miss our last newsletter issue or would you like to catch up? Our newsletters are posted on our website at www.unionparkdsm.com

All memberships are due on January 1st of each year.

UNION PARK NEIGHBORHOOD

