



Rosedale Park News

Serving a Friendly Neighborhood

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July/August 2012

www.rosedalepark.org

Summer Fun at the RPIA June Day Picnic

By Chris Remus

As the saying goes, “a good time was had by all”!
That summarizes our 2012 RPIA Picnic.

First, a big THANK YOU to all the volunteers who made our picnic a great success:

- Richard & Betsy Quick
- Emily & Nancy Bitzarakis
- Phil & Mindy LePere
- Dorothy & Glynn McKnight
- Megan & Isabella Miller
- Charlotte & Ron Patnaude
- Dorothy Roman
- Tina Castleberry
- Mary McLeod
- Bonnie Mead
- Carolyn Akpe
- Clarenda Webb
- Stacy Pugh
- Burt Carp
- Deborah LaViolette
- Kristi Sloan
- William Brown

And a special thank you to Wayne County Commissioner Burton Leland for donating the Port-a-Potty.

A couple of highlights from our picnic --

- Detroit Fire Department, Engine Company #57, located at Burt Road and Schoolcraft, arrived with an engine and four firefighters – Lieutenant Catalano, Fire Engine Operator Ross, and Firefighters Stiles and Schaecher. To a group of about 30 youths, our firefighters demonstrated and explained the equipment on the fire



Detroit firefighter and friends.

engine, and everyone had a chance to operate the fire hose! The firefighters discussed fire safety tips, and showed the children what types of protective equipment they wear. A big thank you to Engine Company #57!

- I would like to acknowledge two individuals who were quite creative and spent time with the youth at the picnic -- Tina Castleberry (aka “the garden bug”) and Carolyn Akpe. Tina Castleberry brought seed, soil and cups for the children to plant flowers and vegetables to take home. Carolyn Akpe brought a number of interesting games plus a full drum set; Carolyn was very good at engaging all the children.

As you can see in the photos on page 13, it was a fun time. Besides being fun, however, our annual picnic helps build community and gives meaning to our motto, “City living is great. It’s best in Rosedale Park!”

2012 RPIA Dues – Second Invoice to Arrive Soon!

If you are reading this article, you probably have already paid your 2012 dues. However, a few of you may have paid last year but forgot to send in your check back in February when the invoices first arrived.

Never fear....a second invoice mailing is currently being prepared. To date, almost 450 households have paid. That leaves more than 1,000 that have not paid because the residents either forgot, the homes are empty, or the bill arrived when other, more pressing financial issues existed.

If you have already paid, THANK YOU. If you have not, please respond favorably when your invoice arrives. We need the participation and help of every household in Rosedale Park to continue the snow-plowing, social programs, newsletter, web site, weekly electronic eblast, and general neighborhood maintenance items that your dues support. Please pay your dues - working together, we can keep Rosedale Park beautiful!

Carolyn Cruse
RPIA President Emeritus

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President's Message

I am writing this message on Saturday, June 2nd, the day of our RPIA June Day picnic. What a great celebration of families, friends and neighborhood it was!

There are days when it is easy to become discouraged, both by news reports and what we see with our own eyes. It can be understood when there seems to be little hope of change. Then, if you let it happen, the strength and beauty of a community of people committed to each other reveals itself.

At today's picnic, there were wonderful smiling faces of kids playing well with each other. There were the loving arms of grandparents wrapped around beloved grandchildren. There were neighborhood activists sharing trials and tribulations as well as stories of a brighter future. There were families newly moved into homes joining families who had lived in their homes for years, all basking in the sunshine and the amenities of a well maintained neighborhood park.

Take advantage of any opportunity you find to reinforce your belief in the good that is our Rosedale Park. Stop by the baseball and soccer fields and watch the kids' games for a while, even if you don't know the players. Shop the Farmers' Market on a Thursday afternoon for fresh food and great conversation. Attend the September General Membership Meeting for information and

fellowship. Introduce yourself to new neighbors as you work outside your home.

At this time of year, RPIA Board members and other residents of our community are actively looking for volunteers to join the RPIA Board. We need people who are willing to give about six to eight hours a month to engage in a variety of activities:

- organize, supervise, and evaluate association activities
- develop and oversee the association's budget
- maintain and improve on outreach efforts
- respond to concerns of our members
- represent RPIA at community events.

This is an opportunity to get to know other Rosedale Park residents and to develop a deeper appreciation of the wealth of knowledge and experience we have right here. If you are contacted, please consider why you chose Rosedale Park as your home and agree to give of yourself to maintain the community. Better yet - don't wait to be called! Just send me a message of your interest in becoming a Board member. We welcome both long-time and new residents.

I hope everyone is enjoying a beautiful summer and I look forward to seeing you all at our September General Membership meeting.

Mary

Mary McLeod, President
Rosedale Park Improvement Association



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Block Captains' Corner

Hello, neighbors! Summer is here, and brings with it a host of considerations for the warmer months in the neighborhood. First, we'd like to extend a warm welcome to all the new neighbors who've moved in recently. They seem like old neighbors, though, because of their friendliness and the way they've come in full-force taking care of their new homes. Neighbors old and new are out cutting grass, trimming hedges and trees, and just doing a good job of blending right in as a good neighbor should.

Also, school is out for summer, so that means more youth are out and about throughout the day, enjoying their vacations and outdoor activities. Please make sure to watch out for them as you're driving through the Park. If you're willing and able, perhaps even consider helping the older kids to find jobs or activities to keep them busy. Churches with youth programs should continue to reach out with activities to instill or wake up the good in our kids.

Crime is all around us, but we need not be afraid--be careful, be vigilant, be caring and watch out for each others' well-being. Be a neighbor, even if you have personal differences. Additionally, be wary of scams such as individuals who claim to be utility company employees in order to "case" your property. Pay attention and be suspicious; trust your instincts—it's better to be safe rather than sorry, or worse. Always look before opening your door.

A few other things worth mentioning: basketball hoops are not allowed in the streets! Let our kids know this. Play in your driveways if you have your own hoop, or at the park. Please continue to be safe and considerate in our roadways. For those of you who have paid your dues, thank you, and for those who haven't, please do so; your dues help to get things done and to keep our park functional and beautiful. Safety meetings are the last Thursday of every month; the meetings are informative and important so please join us.

**BLOCK CAPTAINS'
MEETING**

Sunday, August 5, 4-6 PM
at the GRDC Office, 19800 Grand River

Tasty refreshments and the latest neighborhood news and information!

In closing, please welcome Mrs. Deborah LaViolette as our new block captain coordinator! She takes over for Molly Eklund-Easley, who has moved to a new area. Molly will be missed, but we are so grateful for the enthusiasm and energy that Deborah brings to the job, and to the neighborhood! Deborah, who hails from Chicago, loves people and has some wonderful ideas for the community.

Be blessed,

Deborah LaViolette
dlaviolette@hotmail.com
(313) 279-3077

Dorothy McKnight
glynnndot@yahoo.com
(313) 838-3265

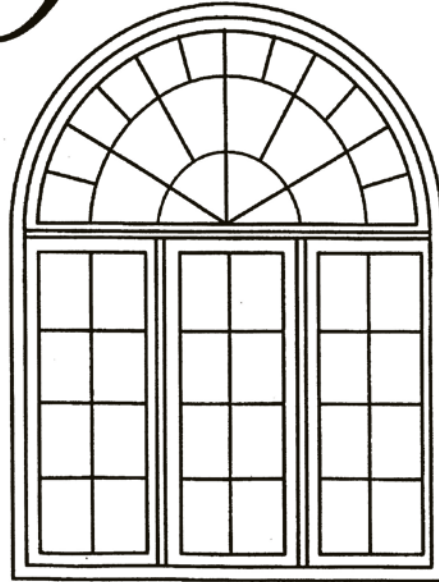
Block Captain Coordinators

IN MEMORIAM – Jerry Haygood

A Rosedale Park neighbor on Faust died suddenly in early June. His name was Jerry Haygood and he lived at the corner of Faust and Lyndon. You would often see Jerry out in his yard or sitting on his porch. He always waved and spoke to everyone going past. Jerry paid his RPIA dues faithfully through the years and was a vigilant "watcher" of everything going on around him, always looking out for his neighbors and entirely devoted to his neighborhood. Jerry will be missed by his neighbors on Faust, and by all in the neighborhood who knew him.

The RP News would like to acknowledge important events in the lives of Rosedale Park residents. If you wish to share the news of a birth, death, marriage, graduation, please submit a brief announcement to rosedaleparknews@yahoo.com.

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Oops! My Fault! An Update from the Outreach Committee

by Chet McLeod

I'm sorry. Even with all the reading, editing, and proofing, the address for the Rosedale Park Facebook page was incorrectly listed in our last newsletter. The correct connection to our page is [Rosedale Park Improvement Association](#). I'm aware that if you searched just Rosedale Park, it was a frustrating task. Please attempt to look for us after you have logged into your Facebook account. Following up on that miscue, let me remind you that our Twitter account is @RPIA2.

The outreach committee is pleased to report that our web site is looking good. We continue to provide a "weekly" summary of issues, events, and items of interest to Park residents through our eBlast. Our Twitter and Facebook accounts post more frequent reminders of community and city activities, as well as local news stories.

We are happy to report that the pages have had an increase in activity during the last month. Now that you have the correct name of our Facebook page, that could increase even more. When we launched these two new "outreach tools," we were unsure how it would all develop. Although it's still really too soon to tell, we plan to continue to explore these approaches to keeping our Rosedale Park residents informed. We believe these

electronic forms of communication are important and will become even more important as the City of Detroit redefines itself. Already the impact of the budget reductions can be seen around the neighborhood. It is a fact that, through the hard work of our RPIA leadership and support staff, some issues have been addressed and worked out to keep our neighborhood looking clean and well maintained.

When we set up the Facebook and Twitter accounts, our goal was to open a two-way dialogue. We are more than willing to seek to keep YOU informed, but we need YOU to get involved, too, to become active, and share. As with any endeavor, the whole is greater than the sum of the parts. Have something to share? Have an interest you think we should look into? We are listening....

Please, if you take the time to visit the Twitter or Facebook page, "like" us and then "follow" us. Leave your comments, but if you would like to comment without "going public," you can send suggestions, comments, or community updates to RPDWeller1@aol.com.

Keeping Rosedale Park beautiful, clean, informed, and safe will take each one of us. City Living is Great. It's Best in Rosedale Park.

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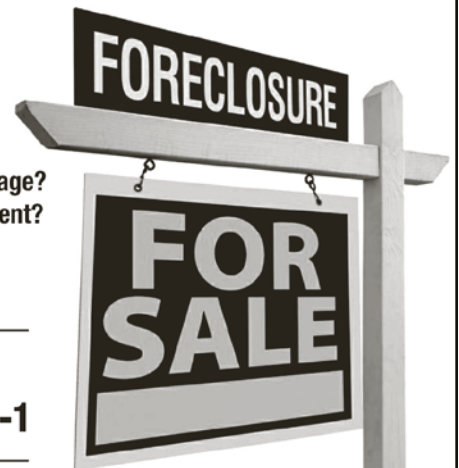
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Creating a Neighborhood Benefits District (NBD) in the Grandmont Rosedale Communities

GRDC is spearheading a campaign to establish a Neighborhood Benefits District (NBD) in the Grandmont Rosedale area. A NBD is a type of Special Assessment District (SAD); the committee changed the name from SAD to NBD to emphasize the positive changes the project will bring to the neighborhood and city. It is an innovative crime prevention strategy that will provide a substantial and sustainable source of funds needed on an annual basis to effectively reduce crime, provide snow removal and improve public safety in our community. A task force of neighborhood residents and a GRDC staff person are leading the effort.

The NBD is authorized under Michigan Public Act 287 of 2011 (as amended). Before an NBD can be established, the City of Detroit must pass an ordinance describing the procedures under which a NBD will be created and operated. The ordinance shall authorize the use of petitions to initiate the establishment of a special assessment district. The record owners of not less than 51% of the land comprising the actual special assessment district must sign the petition to approve a special assessment in the area.

Once the NBD is established, every property owner within the district will be assessed a special fee of approximately \$50-\$100 per year, in addition to their regular property tax. The funds collected will be used to provide services by private contractors to that specific district. The services will

supplement, not replace, normal city services.

Unlike the voluntary dues collected currently, once 51% of the residences sign the petition for the NBD, participation from all homes in the area will be mandatory. Each neighborhood will identify which services it needs. The neighborhood residents will customize their programs to meet their individual security and/or snow removal needs.

The GRDC neighborhoods have also encouraged other neighborhoods throughout the city to join forces in support of the NBD and have started a City-Wide Coalition. The City-Wide Coalition is seeking Council's support and seeks to provide input on the Council's proposed ordinance.

NBD Timeline:

- April 2011: GRDC formed the NBD Taskforce
- Nov. 2011: City-Wide Coalition was formed in support of the NBD
- Dec. 2011: Michigan Public Act 287 of 2011 MCL 117.5i was updated to reduce the population threshold to 600,000 to enact the NBD in the City of Detroit
- April 2012: NBD was presented to the Standing Committee of Council
- May 2012: NBD was presented to Council as a whole and was supported by all Council members
- Currently pending: NBD Ordinance by the City of Detroit

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Citizens Radio Patrol: A Brief Guide

By GRDC Crime Prevention Coordinator Austin Grout

“Teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision...it is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results.”

– Andrew Carnegie

Through a partnership with the Detroit Police Department (DPD), radio patrol groups across the city have been supported for their crime prevention efforts since 1967. During that year, the Citizens Radio Patrol Assistance Program of Detroit was established to grant residents a unique opportunity to deter crime: observe our communities, report suspicious behavior to the authorities, and get mileage reimbursed for our efforts (other approved operating expenses MAY be approved for reimbursement as well).

A city as large as Detroit is dependent upon collaboration between the DPD and committed residents. It may seem too simplified, but criminals are not in the business of working harder; they are looking to avoid being observed, avoid contact, and avoid getting caught. Read on below if you are still interested in taking part in a growing strength of the city of Detroit...Citizens Radio Patrol.

What is it?

It is a community-driven process that gives residents the option of taking ownership over their neighborhood’s safety. Committed citizens act as patrollers, observers, or base operators—all crucial to the overall operation of the program (more on that later).

Who is it?

Driven community members who dedicate their time, effort, and, on occasion, own money to establish a new standard of safety in their neighborhood. More or less, it is made up of residents who share a similar interest in crime prevention working with local law enforcement officials—collaboration at its finest.

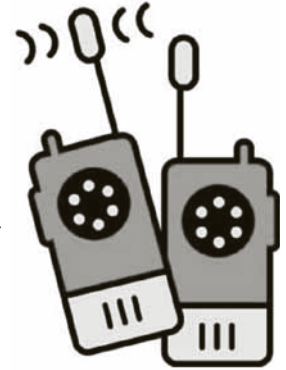
What’s the point?

Crime deterrence. Increasing the presence of citizen patrollers in a neighborhood shows would-be criminals that the community is not going to sit by as crime runs rampant. The efforts are initiated to reduce crime but can lead to something much more: an increased quality of life.

How does it work?

Each “team” consists of three people: a driver, observer, and base operator. The driver and observer patrol the neighborhood in a designated vehicle with bright orange vests and observe a specific area. They communicate with a base operator (standing by at home) with radios or cell phones. Anytime a suspicious behavior or criminal act is

observed, the observer contacts the base operator who contacts the proper authorities. If it is an emergency, the observer directly calls 911.



What are the benefits?

Joining a Citizens Radio Patrol could not only increase your neighborhood’s safety but also foster a sense of community. Volunteers work together with a shared purpose/goal and find themselves further invested in crime prevention efforts.

The collaboration between the DPD and residents opens up lines of communication that may have not existed before. Residents provide useful information, as they act as the “eyes and ears” of a police force that cannot be everywhere all the time. It’s a mutually beneficial partnership...it could use your help!

Is it dangerous?

No. Citizens Radio Patrol is for observation only, not a group of vigilantes running the streets. During the course of identifying criminals and observing suspicious behaviors patrollers may be confronted with dangerous situations, but they are instructed to NOT get involved and call the police.

The Citizens Radio Patrol has put together a number of rules that the program is bound by:

- Members must be at least 18 years old.
- Two members must always be in a patrol car.
- No weapons of any kind can be carried...Period!
- Crime and serious situations must be reported immediately to the base operator for relay to the police.
- Patrollers are not to engage in high-speed chases.
- Patrollers must remain in their vehicles, except to perform “Good Samaritan” acts.¹

I am interested...how do I join?

North Rosedale Park: Clarenda Webb—(313) 330-7844
Rosedale Park: William Brown—(313) 330-7867
Grandmont: “Coach” Muhsin Muhammad—
 (313) 980-7799
Grandmont #1: Harold Harris—(313) 272-9165

If you are interested in joining the Citizens Radio Patrol, contact the 6th/8th Precinct Community Relations Officers for general information: Email—Officer Childrey-Sims (childreys693@detroitmi.gov) & Officer Gordon (gordonm704@detroitmi.gov); Phone—(313) 596-5617 or (313) 596-5600.

Or call a community representative from your neighborhood to help get you started!

¹ For more information, visit the following links: <http://www.detroitmi.gov/DepartmentsandAgencies/CommunityAccessCenters/CACServices/CitizensRadioPatrol.aspx>; and for “Good Samaritan” Law: <http://www.cprinstructor.com/MI-GS.htm>

Garden Club News

Gardening time is in full swing! Your Garden Committee is out in full force to view all of the hard work and subsequent beauty rendered by our dedicated residents. We have begun viewing the islands earlier this year, so be ready! Those blocks with Winner's Circle islands, be ready; we are judging yours, as well! Winner's Circle islands are asked to maintain the high quality standard that allowed them to win in the first place. The garden committee was impressed by an increased level of participation during the last planting season. We look forward to an even higher rate of participation this year. Many blocks have started early with the spring planting and are busy doing maintenance for our full summer blooms. We have compiled a list timely gardening tips for our green-thumbed residents:

TIPS

- Be sure to prune your roses often.
- An alternative rose food is 1 cup of Epsom salt mixed in 1 gallon of water.
- Coreopsis flowers received last year also need to be pruned after the flowers die off for re-blooming.

- Make sure mulch is two inches away from the base of the plant.
- Draw your fingernails across a bar of soap before working in your garden to prevent dirt from accumulating under your nails.
- Use the water left over from steam-cooking your vegetables to pour over your patio plants. Your plants will love this nutritious "vegetable soup."
- Old coffee and tea grounds can be used to acidify the soil of acid-loving plants such as azaleas, rhododendrons, camellias, gardenias & even blueberries.
- Spray vegetable oil on the line of your string trimmer before installing it into the trimmer in order to prevent jamming or breaking.
- Herbs can be dried quickly by arranging them in a single layer on top of newspapers placed inside your car with all doors and windows closed.

Some of the above tips were borrowed from HGTV.

Questions on your plants from last year can be directed to our gardening expert at 313-273-2303. Happy planting!



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**DOUBLE UP
FOOD BUCKS**

Fresh, Local Food!

Join us for our seventh season of good food and fellowship! Every Thursday from June 7 through October 11th, you can buy fresh, locally grown produce, right here in our neighborhood.

Bushnell Congregational Church hosts our market in their SOUTH parking lot. Our vendors offer fresh Michigan fruits and vegetables, baked goods, local honey, coffee, teas, spices, granola, dips, and more!

Come shop at the market! Get delicious, nutritious food and have fun, too!



**Every Thursday, 4-8 PM
June 7– Oct. 11, 2012**

**Bushnell Congregational Church
South Parking Lot**

**15000 Southfield Service Drive
At the Grand River/Fenkell Exit**

For more info and to volunteer,
call Pam Weinstein, 313-387-4732,
ext. 103.



NORTHWEST DETROIT FARMERS' MARKET FEATURES COOKING DEMO'S AND HEALTH SCREENINGS

The Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market has added a couple of new twists this season – cooking demonstrations and health screenings – thanks to generous grants from the Health and Wellness Foundation of Greater Detroit.

Cooking Demo's by Chef Antonio

Chef Antonio Moore wants everyone to understand the benefits of healthy eating. "I will be preparing simple but delicious recipes, using fresh, healthy, locally grown produce that everyone will enjoy," he explained. Don't miss these demonstrations on July 12, August 9, Sept. 13, and Oct. 11!

FREE Health Screenings

In partnership with Sinai Grace Hospital, the market will also be offering FREE health screenings on designated Thursdays – come find out what your blood pressure, cholesterol, and blood sugar are! These screenings are scheduled for July 19, August 16, Sept. 20, and Oct. 11.

We Take Plastic – All Kinds!

The Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market accepts credit and debit cards and the Bridge card, as well as Project FRESH and Market FRESH coupons. The market also offers the highly popular Double Up Food Bucks program for Bridge card users, which matches up to \$20 of a Bridge card purchase with an additional FREE \$20 in Double Up Bucks, for the purchase of Michigan-grown fruits and vegetables.

For more information, and to volunteer to help at the market, contact Pam Weinstein at 313-387-4732, ext. 103, or pweinstein@grandmontrosedale.com.

HOME FOR SALE ON ASHTON IN NORTH ROSEDALE PARK

GRDC's home renovation and sales program continues to make progress, with the latest project at 15435 Ashton, in the North Rosedale neighborhood currently undergoing renovations. All GRDC homes for sale are available for viewing through our realtor, Cheryl Davis (313-477-4564). NOTE: you could receive \$10,000 in down payment assistance if you qualify for a new mortgage on this home.



For more information, go to <http://www.grandmontrosedale.com/homes/homesforsale.html>

LOW-COST ENERGY AUDITS

AVAILABLE – GRDC is partnering with BetterBuildings for Michigan to offer low-cost energy audits for Detroit residents that could save you hundreds of dollars on your energy bills. A similar program offered last year to 480 Rosedale Park residents had 100 participants.



This comprehensive audit includes an air leakage and insulation test using a blower door and infra-red camera, installation of a programmable digital thermostat, replacement of incandescent bulbs with high-efficiency CFL bulbs, and installation of a low-flow showerhead - all for just \$50!

This program is available to residents of the Grandmont Rosedale communities for a limited time - visit www.regionalenergyoffice.org/betterbuildings or call Kendal Conerly at 313-566-4801, ext. 721, for details. Be sure to tell them GRDC referred you!

AUSTIN GROUT RECEIVES COMMUNITY SERVICE AWARD



Our own Austin Grout, GRDC Community Security Program Coordinator, recently received a Community Service Award presented by the Detroit Board of Police Commissioners. Austin was selected by the Northwest District's 8th Precinct to receive this award, which is presented to individuals who have gone "above and beyond" to assist the community! We're proud of Austin's efforts to help make our neighborhoods safer!

COMMUNITY POLICING

PILOT PROGRAM – At the May Neighborhood Safety Meeting, the Manhattan Institute, in cooperation with the Detroit Police Department (DPD), Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC), and the GRDC Community Security Program,

unveiled a new 90-day Community Policing Pilot Program for the Grandmont Rosedale neighborhoods.

This pilot includes increased police activity on the streets beginning June 4, 2012 (i.e., “broken-window” policing); pro-active home visits to the men and women who have caused the most harm by invading OUR homes (i.e., committing B & E’s); and increased citizen participation, the backbone of this program and every form of community policing. Residents must accept the responsibility of “see something, say something,” and incorporate it into their everyday lives. Learn more about this initiative’s scope and the role of local residents in the *Guidelines for Community Policing & Checklist: How to Identify and Report Suspicious Behavior*. Get your copy of the guidelines from GRDC Crime Prevention Coordinator Austin Grout at 313-387-4732, ext. 109, or agrout@grandmontrosedale.com

SUMMER BREAK FOR NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY MEETINGS – The monthly Neighborhood Safety Meeting will take a brief summer hiatus in July and August. But don’t fret; regular meetings return on Thursday, September 27 from 6-8 PM, when we expect to have a preliminary update on the ongoing Community Policing Pilot Project, as well as a presentation from Karen Johnson Moore regarding the Neighborhood Benefits District (NBD).

In the meantime, the GRDC Community Security Program and the Crime Prevention Task Force are

putting together several summer workshops and presentations that will highlight crime prevention information to engage our audience in a new and unique way. Watch the GRDC e-blast for more details, or contact GRDC Crime Prevention Coordinator Austin Grout at 313-387-4732, ext. 109, or agrout@grandmontrosedale.com

COMMUNITY GARDEN NEEDS YOU! – The Grandmont Rosedale Community Garden at Bushnell Church welcomes new participants. Whether you are an experienced veteran or a complete novice, you are welcome to come join us. We will be planting (and harvesting) strawberries, tomatoes, cucumbers, squash, beets, lettuce, Swiss chard, collard greens, arugula, green beans and more!

Come to learn, come to share your knowledge, come to have fun digging in the dirt! For more information, contact Pam Weinstein at 313-387-4732, ext. 103, or pweinstein@grandmontrosedale.com.

VOLUNTEER ON FRIDAYS WITH GRDC – GRDC will host a series of volunteer days this summer on the 1st and 3rd Friday of each month, from May until August. Please contact Brittany Moore to volunteer: 313-387-4732 x116 or bmoore@grandmontrosedale.com

FACING TAX FORECLOSURE? We can help! Join us for a presentation by Ted Phillips, Director of United Community Housing Coalition. Learn how to:

- Stop falling behind on your taxes
- Challenge tax increases
- Get relief from future taxes
- Get more time to pay
- Get free legal help
- Get financial assistance

Following Ted’s presentation, **one-on-one**

counseling sessions will be available to discuss your individual concerns.

The workshop will be held Wednesday July 25th 2012, from 5:30 - 8:30 PM at the GRDC office, 19800 Grand River. For more information or to RSVP, contact Becki Kenderes at bkenderes@grandmontrosedale.com or 313-387-4732, ext. 117.

VACANT HOUSE and SQUATTER ALERT – Do you have any vacant houses on your block? Do you suspect squatters may be occupying a vacant house on your block? If so, please give GRDC Vacant Property Intern Becki Kenderes a call at 313-387-4732, ext. 117, and report the addresses and as much other information posted or available to her (or send an email to info@grandmontrosedale.com).

NOTE: In Rosedale Park, contact Stacy Pugh (313-574-8889) to report suspected squatters and contact Debbie Kent (313-836-4737) to report vacant property. If the house or suspected squatters are in North Rosedale Park, contact Clarenda Webb (313-330-7844). If the house or suspected squatters are in Grandmont, contact Diane Patterson (313-836-3736).

It takes a LOT of people to keep track of and take care of all of the vacant houses in our neighborhood. Please do all that you can to maintain the yards of the vacant houses on your block – pick up trash and flyers, and do what you can to make the house look occupied. If you are already taking care of vacant houses in your community, THANK YOU and thanks for being a good neighbor!

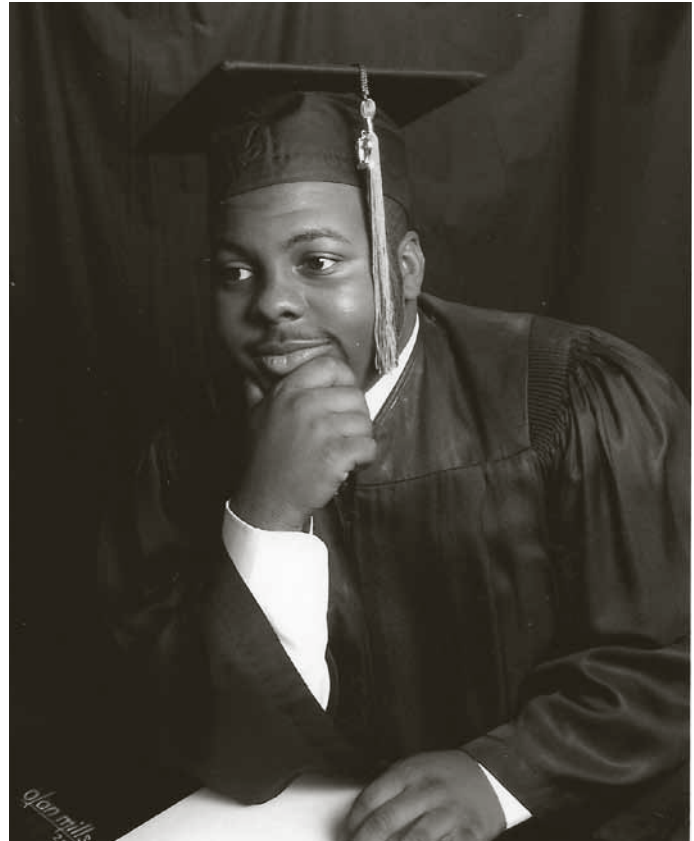
GET THE GRDC E-MAIL BLAST! – GRDC sends out a regular weekly electronic newsletter, to let everybody know what’s going on in our neighborhood. Don’t miss out on the latest! If you want to know what’s happening, send us your e-mail address. We’ll add you to our electronic mailing list and send you information of interest to the neighborhood. Send an e-mail to tmccrory@grandmontrosedale.com and ask to be added to the list.

**Need a
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Kits are available from coordinator,
Bill Nolan,
who can be reached at 313-838-9035 or
sweetgrass59011@gmail.com.

Congratulations, Graduate!

BRANDON D. BROWN, son of Mr. and Mrs. Andre Brown of Rosemont, graduated from Frederick Douglass College Preparatory Academy for Young Men. Brandon graduated with honors, maintaining a GPA of 3.0. He plans to attend Point University in Valley, Alabama in the fall. Brandon's parents are truly proud of his accomplishments.



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Nancy Bitzarakis and Dorothy Roman.



Bonnie Mead and Clenda Webb.



Tina Castleberry and the Jordans from Stahelin.



The fire truck was a big hit.



Young musicians.

Make Your Home More Comfortable!

Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation (GRDC) is partnering with BetterBuildings for Michigan to offer a low-cost Energy Audit for residents of the City of Detroit. This audit could save you hundreds of dollars on your energy bills. A similar program was offered to 480 Rosedale Park residents in early 2011, and nearly 100 residents participated!

For \$50, Grandmont Rosedale residents will receive a comprehensive audit conducted by a BPI Certified Building Analyst. The audit includes an air leakage and insulation test using a blower door and infra-red camera, installation of a programmable digital thermostat, replacement of your incandescent bulbs with high efficiency CFL bulbs and installation of a low-flow showerhead. They will also check all appliances for gas leaks and provide a personalized report on your home energy usage, along with quotes for recommended energy-saving home improvements.

Residents are eligible to save hundreds of dollars on their energy bills, and get cash back on energy-saving investments in their homes. This could include 0% APR financing or up to \$3,000 in incentives toward any energy-saving projects you choose!

This program is available to residents of the Grandmont Rosedale Communities for a limited time. You can visit <http://regionalenergyoffice.org/betterbuildings/sign-up/> or call Kendal Conerly at 313-566-4801, ext .721 for details. **Be sure to tell them GRDC referred you!**



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Rosedale Residents Participate in DIA's *Reveal Your Detroit Project*

The Detroit Institute of Arts recently issued a challenge to residents of Detroit to "Reveal Your Detroit" in photos. Fifteen Rosedale Park households accepted that challenge and used the disposable cameras provided by the DIA to capture images that reflected their thoughts, feelings, and experiences about the city in which we all live.

Select images will be on display this summer at the Main Branch of the Detroit Public Library on Woodward Avenue. Unlike digital cameras, the disposable cameras did not allow participants to preview any of the photographs they took. The DIA collected the cameras, with the images to be

developed by them, so the final product will be a surprise to all of us.

At the conclusion of the exhibition, RPIA will receive a digital frame containing the pictures that were taken by our group. We plan to have that frame available for viewing at the General Membership meeting in September, as well as the Annual Banquet in January. Include a trip to the Main Branch Library in your summer plans and celebrate city living while viewing our city from a wide range of perspectives.

The exhibition runs from June 15 through August 15, 2012.



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RPIA Board Meeting Minutes

Summaries of RPIA Board Meetings of April 23 and May 21, 2012

Highlights of the April planning meeting included reports from the finance committee, outreach committee, events committee, code enforcement committee, and vacant housing committee. There was also an update regarding the initiative from the neighborhood benefits district, and a report from the RPIA president.

Highlights of the May planning meeting included updates from GRDC representative, reports from the outreach

committee, finance committee, code enforcement committee, neighborhood benefits district. The board also held discussions related to political campaigning at future general membership meetings and formed a nominating committee for potential board member recruitment in the coming year.

For a listing of these minutes in detail, you can find a complete copy on the RPIA website at www.rosedalepark.org.

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RPIA General Membership Meeting Minutes • May 8, 2012

The meeting was called to order at 7:16pm by RPIA Board First Vice President Pam Weinstein.

Welcome and Introductions

Pam welcomed all in attendance and acknowledged the block captains, officers, board members and residents that were new to Rosedale Park.

DTE Energy Reliability Improvement Plan

DTE Representative used a PowerPoint presentation to give residents an overview of how the electrical system in our neighborhood is designed and runs in the Rosedale Park area. There are six circuits that are responsible for the power distributed throughout our area. The main factors that contribute to power outages are trees and wind. DTE will come out and trim trees and vines that cause potential liabilities to circuits and lines around homes. The Reliability Improvement Plan consists of steps that DTE will take to decrease power outages in a more proactive way. They plan to patrol and inspect circuit poles and equipment for potential hazards, implement a fusing study that will alert DTE of potential circuit outages before they occur, and replace copper wiring with aluminum wiring that will not snap when trees fall on it, to name a few of the parts to the plan. DTE is already working in the Grandmont area with a completion date sometime in June. At that time, DTE will begin implementing these changes in the Rosedale Park area. The floor was opened for questions while DTE representatives stayed after the meeting to discuss any billing issues residents may have had.

Detroit Works Project: Long-Range and Short-Range Plans

Representatives from the Detroit Works Long-Term Strategy team was in attendance to discuss the strategies they have devised to improve the quality of life for Detroit. He provided residents with a handout that identified key imperatives that they are using to set a direction to improve the city. There are three additional phases that will follow this, including Phase 2: Directions, Phase 3: Strategies, and Phase 4: Create the Roadmap. Residents were provided a handout that detailed this initiative. For more information, residents were encouraged to contact Detroit Works directly at 313-259-4407.

Home Improvement Project through “Rippling Hope.org”

State Representative David Nathan reminded residents of the Rippling Hope home repair program that is being made available to residents in the Rosedale Park area. Rep. Nathan said they had received over 500 applications, which are currently being reviewed. Neighbors will be notified at the end of this month if they have been selected to receive the free home repairs. Volunteers will soon begin working on the homes of those selected. The whole program is devised to assist in strengthening area block associations.

Announcements

Upcoming event dates:

Motor City Makeover, May 12th; Neighborhood Safety Meeting, May 17th; Rosedale Recycles, May 19th; RPIA Board Meeting, May 21st; June Day Picnic, June 2nd; Northwest Detroit Farmer’s Market Opens, June 7th; Rosedale Recycles, June 16th; 30-Block Garage Sale, June 23rd; RPIA Board Meeting, June 25th.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:45pm.

Minutes submitted by Priscilla McDonald, RPIA Administrative Secretary.

**Mark Your Calendars for
“Hot Nights and Cool Music”!**

A free evening of live music, dancing,
and family fun presented by the
Grandmont Community Association

Saturday, August 19, 2012 • 5:30-8:30 PM

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**For individuals and young people only – not for adult-owned businesses; must be text only, and 50 words or less.*

A Message from the Code Enforcement Committee

As we embark on the summer, the Code Enforcement Committee (CEC) asks you to keep in mind a few simple things that you can do to keep our neighborhood looking its best. We ask that you do the following:

- Keep your lawn maintained and cut (at a minimum, every 2 weeks)
- If your property's backyard borders the Southfield service drive, cut that area as well (at a minimum, every 2 weeks)
- Report any improperly parked vehicles to the CEC
- If you see basketball hoops or residents playing basketball in the street, report this activity to the CEC

The Code Enforcement Committee has also provided the City with a list of residents who are currently violating parking enforcement codes for what we hope will be a focused effort in the neighborhood to ticket and/or tow these illegally parked vehicles. This effort will focus not only on cars that are illegally parked on the street, but will also take into account vehicles that are in the back yard (or anywhere else on the property) that are inoperable, unlicensed, and unregistered.

It is our hope that with these small improvements will make Rosedale Park a better place to live. Here's how you can contact the Code Enforcement Committee:

- by calling the RPIA Hotline at 313-927-1089 and leaving a message
- by visiting the RPIA web site at www.rosedalepark.org and clicking on the tab, "RPIA Code Violations" and completing the complaint form (this can be anonymous)
- by sending an email to Code Enforcement Committee Chair Stacy Pugh at pughsl2002@yahoo.com

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Calendar of Events

JULY

Sat., July 21Rosedale Recycles,
10 AM-2 PM,
18605 Pierson

AUGUST

Wed., Aug. 1Advertising deadline for
Sept./Oct. issue of RP NEWS

Sun., Aug. 5RPIA Block Captains'
Meeting, 4-6 PM,
19800 Grand River

Mon., Aug. 7Bulk pick-up (*North of Fenkell*)

Fri., Aug. 10Article submission deadline
for Sept./Oct. issue
of RP NEWS

Mon., Aug. 14...Bulk pick-up (*South of Fenkell*)

Sat., Aug. 18.....Rosedale Recycles
10 AM-2 PM,
18605 Pierson

**ROSEDALE PARK
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

P.O. Box 23113
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313-927-1089

Editor: Amanda LeFranc
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General Membership Meeting



Tuesday, September 11 at 7 PM
North Rosedale Park Community House
18445 Scarsdale
(off Bretton Drive at Glastonbury)
All Residents Welcome!



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Saturday, July 21
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