



Rosedale Park News

Serving a Friendly Neighborhood

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September/October 2012

www.rosedalepark.org

RPIA Board Slate of Nominees

At the RPIA General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, November 13, 2012, all dues-paying RPIA members will have the opportunity to vote for the team of Rosedale Park leaders who will be sworn in at the Annual Meeting in January 2013. The following is a list of the nominees.

The position of Second Vice President remains vacant as well as three additional Board positions. If you are interested in serving your community in this capacity, please contact current Board President Mary McLeod at (313) 272-1704 or marytmcleod@aol.com.

President.....	Stacy Pugh
First Vice President	Stephanie Young
Second Vice President	(Vacant)
Treasurer.....	Thom Gatson
Board Members	Edmon Carmichael
	Dale Cathey
	Rhonda Pugh
	Dorothy Roman
	Pam Weinstein

September General Membership Meeting

RPIA General Membership Meetings provide a great forum to interact with others in the neighborhood who share your commitment to and love of Rosedale Park. At the same time it is an opportunity to gain valuable knowledge about issues impacting us all. The September 11, 2012 General Membership Meeting is no exception. It will feature lots of important information.

RPIA 1st Vice President Stacy Pugh and RPIA Board Member Stephanie Young will give us an update on the Neighborhood Benefits District initiative. They will be able to explain to us the current progress of the program and what next steps need to take place. This initiative can have significant impact on crime and safety in the Grandmont Rosedale area.

GRDC Executive Director Tom Goddeeris will provide information about several projects, successes and challenges at work through the Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation. GRDC has been a driving force in neighborhood preservation for many years. It continues to expand and seek new opportunities that will benefit our community.

David Broome, DTE Director of Customer Marketing & Community Lighting, and Manish Rukadikar, Manager of Energy Efficiency Education at DTE will address ways in which we can all save money and support the environment. If you have not taken advantage of the free energy efficiency audits that DTE provides, this will be your opportunity to hear more about this and to sign up.

Mark your calendars for Tuesday, September 11, 2012 at 7 PM at the North Rosedale Park Community House. Knowledge is power!

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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!



President's Message

I can't believe that it is time to say good-bye to another summer. What a summer it was with record heat and little rain. This certainly provided ample opportunity to reconnect with folks we had not seen for awhile.

I was reminded recently that we are moving toward the 100-year anniversary of the construction of the first home in Rosedale Park. On November 15, 1917, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Barkley moved into their new home with their infant son. Their home on the northwest corner of Ashton and Chalfonte remains as one of the finest (and largest) homes in our neighborhood and is the current home of Harvey and Austerine Hambrick, long-time neighborhood and community supporters. This has made me think of what a rich and important history is contained in the generations of families who have called Rosedale Park their home.

I met a young couple in August who had recently moved from Novi with their two young sons to a home on Penrod. They indicated that they chose Rosedale Park because they were looking for community and wanted to "come home." They have already connected with neighbors on their block to address needed clean-up and planting work on their island. Their sons have signed up for the Rosedale Soccer League. The house they purchased needed some work but has very good bones. New paint, carpeting, and kitchen countertops have begun the process of making this home their own. Their enthusiasm and commitment is contagious.

This encounter reminded me of how happy my husband and I were to be able to purchase our home on Rosemont in 1972. With our two-year-old daughter, we moved in and started the "clean up, fix up, paint up" routine that is seemingly never ending. Wallpaper on every wall needed to be stripped. Old window coverings needed to

be replaced, etc., etc. One year we were able to redo our kitchen thanks to the design and construction help of my newly retired uncle. Another year we contracted with a Rosedale Park neighbor to gut and rebuild a bathroom. Just this year we replaced the original boiler which had been converted from coal to oil to gas. This newer, much more efficient model has certainly saved us energy costs already. However, the maintenance list continues since we intend to preserve this home for future families.

Over the past forty years we have lived in this house we brought home two more babies, celebrated many birthdays and graduations, held large and small family gatherings, entertained friends and mourned losses. In the early years we were members of a food cooperative and a babysitting cooperative. We learned to try different vegetables and recipes and knew that our children were being well cared for by other parents. Our children developed a greater extended neighborhood family through the co-ops and their grade school. Those relationships continue for them into their adulthood, especially through electronic communication. Those moms with whom I shared child raising are now, in retirement, sharing a love of reading and exchanging ideas through a neighborhood book group that meets in our Rosedale homes once a month.

Neighborhoods don't just happen. A true caring community takes work and patience. Our new neighbors on Penrod understand that already and I know that they are not alone. Let's all remember each day to be grateful for the rich history that surrounds us and the example of those who have gone before us. As the cooler weather forces us indoors, be sure to keep those lines of communication open with the people who surround you.

Enjoy the Fall colors!

Mary

Mary McLeod, President
Rosedale Park Improvement Association



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Block Captains' Corner

Farewell, Summer

By Stephanie Young

For those of you who still have school-aged children, September tends to be one of the "happiest" times of the year. Back to school! Since June, many have spent time keeping the young people constructively occupied – they were enrolled in sports camps, academic camps, music camps, performing arts camps, Boy and Girl Scout camps and many more. Parents shuffled their work schedules to accommodate these activities and now it's time to get back into the swing of the school year.

As the young people return to school, we as a community need to ensure that those who walk to school or to the bus stop are safe. We can aid in achieving safety by doing a few simple things:

- ❖ Make certain there are no open and dangerous vacant homes on your block. To report a vacant property, call 313-836-4737 or email msdeborahkent@aol.com.
- ❖ If you have a dog, walk him between the hours of 7:00 and 8:30 AM, during the time most students are on their way to school.
- ❖ Plan to leave for work 5-10 minutes early to drive through the neighborhood, and don't forget to drive past your own house. Keep the criminal minds guessing.
- ❖ Parents should try to identify one or two "safe houses" where your child can go for help if your home is too far away in case of trouble.

These simple tips can help keep our young people safe during this school year.

Autumn vs. Fall – Fun Facts

Have you ever had a friendly debate regarding the correct term for the season that comes between Summer and Winter? During the debate you might hear statements like: Why would a season be called something you're trying to prevent – a Fall? or *Falling leaves are an indicator of the shift in seasons, what does Autumn represent?*

Well, here's what some have to say about the matter: The word **Autumn** comes from the Old French word *autompne* (*automne* in modern French), was later normalized to the original Latin word *autumnus*, and became common by the 16th century.

Before the 16th century, **harvest** was the term usually used to refer to the season. However, as more people gradually moved from rural to urban areas, the word "harvest" lost its reference to the time of year and came to refer

only to the actual activity of reaping, and "autumn," as well as "fall," began to replace it as a reference to the season.

Fall is mostly a North American English word for the season. It traces its origins to old Germanic languages. The term came to denote the season in 16th century England, a contraction of Middle English expressions like "fall of the leaf" and "fall of the year".

During the 17th century, English emigration to the British colonies in North America was at its peak, and the new settlers took the English language with them. While the term Fall gradually became obsolete in Britain, it became the more common term in North America, where autumn is nonetheless preferred in scientific and often in literary contexts.

All that being said, in the United States, the first day of Fall/ Autumn is the day of the year when the Sun crosses the celestial equator moving southward. This year the first day of Fall/ Autumn is September 22, 2012.

By the way ... I'm a FALL person! What are you? Email me and we'll post the results in our next newsletter! You can reach me at sayoung2011@yahoo.com.

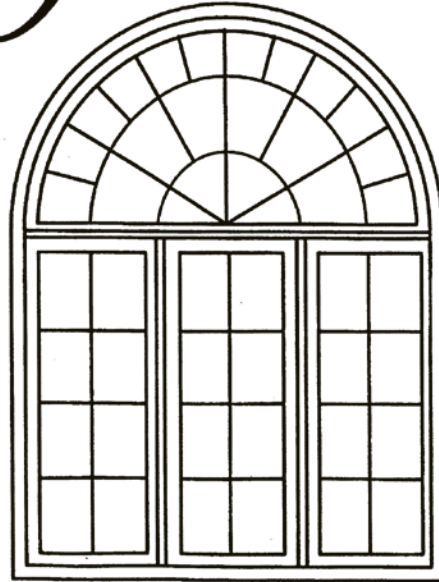
BLOCK CAPTAINS' MEETING

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

Tasty refreshments and the latest neighborhood news and information!



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2012 Island Beautification Awards

By Judith Rogan, Rosedale Park Garden Club

What a glorious time! What a spectacular view! And we've all got a front row seat, right here in Rosedale Park. During one of the most scorching seasons on record, some islands looked parched. Yet there have been those beautiful oases found in many of our block islands. It's like finding a large pool of water in the desert. As we cruised slowly through our neighborhood, we also saw evidence of dampened spirits, lowered economy, and just plain old lack of time to spend on island upkeep. However, for many of the islands, the view was spectacular. While judging the islands, we looked for grass upkeep, creative planting, pruning, weeding, and watering. Although we've been out all season, we formally viewed all of the islands in June. We narrowed it down to the islands with the most upkeep and viewed them again in early August. The results of the judging are as follows:

1st place:

Artesian, Keeler to Grand River

2nd place:

Warwick, Fenkell to Chalfonte

3rd place:

Warwick, Keeler to Midland

Most Improved:

Faust, Chalfonte to Fenkell

Honorable Mention:

Rosemont, Eaton to Chalfonte
 Rosemont, Fenkell to Chalfonte
 Grandville, Fenkell to Keeler

Winners Circle to be awarded:

Ashton, Fenkell to Chalfonte



2012 island beautification award-winner, Artesian between Keeler and Grand River.

One of the charms of our neighborhood is the unique beauty of each block, none of which looks alike. For example, the island that won second place (Warwick, Fenkell to Chalfonte), was as charming as walking through Wonderland. This unique island had beautiful curved trees that looked like a view from the looking glass. It was mesmerizing! We also want to commend our new Winners Circle island (Ashton, Fenkell to Chalfonte). The pruning on this very long island was impeccable; the island looked even better in August than in June! Well done! We urge all of our neighbors to enjoy their neighborhood. Our neighborhood is a gem, that when kept polished, is a sparkling stone!

In January, at our annual banquet, awards will be given out to all six of our winning islands. We are proud

of our Park and of all of the hard work displayed on our islands. As always, last year's first place winner, Ashton between Fenkell and Chalfonte, will be awarded the Winners Circle plaque, which they will be able to proudly display on their island in the spring. This year's first place winner, Artesian, from Keeler to Grand River will be viewed again next year during the 2013 season. If their island maintains its high standards, the Winners Circle will be awarded to them. Happy planting!

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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.



NOMINATE NEIGHBORHOOD VACANT PROPERTY VOLUNTEERS!

Do you clean up vacant properties in your neighborhood? Or maybe you know someone who mows a vacant property on your block? Someone like Rosedale Park Block Captain Anthony Bunkley, pictured here, who routinely takes care of the lawn of this burned out house on Faust.

GRDC will honor all vacant property volunteers at a community-wide "Vacant Property Volunteer Recognition Ceremony" in October. But we need your help to make sure we recognize ALL the deserving volunteers who often give of their time and money, quietly, without anybody noticing or telling them to do so.

We want to include the names of all vacant property volunteers in our event program, and send them invitations to attend the event. If you, or someone you know, volunteers to help minimize the impact of abandoned and vacant properties in our community by mowing overgrown lawns, clearing debris, painting over graffiti, removing piled up handbills, etc., we want to know about it! Please send us your name or the names of neighbors you know are contributing to these efforts to maintain our community standards. Report volunteer names and contact information to Becki Kenderes at 313-387-4732, ext. 117, or by e-mail at bkenderes@grandmontrosedale.com. **DEADLINE is September 28, 2012.**

RITE AID KIDS' DAY ON SEPT. 13 AT NORTHWEST DETROIT FARMERS' MARKET !

This year's edition of the annual



RITE AID Kids' Day at the Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market promises to be the best one yet! There will be bouncers on the church lawn and face painting – free farmers' market t-shirts to the first 100 kids - and free bike helmets to

the first 100 kids, courtesy of AAA Michigan – should be a great day!

To cap it all off, Chef Antonio will be on hand to do a cooking demonstration of healthy recipes specially geared to kids – learn

to prepare fruits and vegetables in ways that will appeal to your youngsters!

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.

COME WORK FOR GRDC! – Would you or someone you know love to focus your energy on making the Grandmont Rosedale Communities a wonderful place to live, work, and play? Then check out the job openings at GRDC! We are looking for hard-working, dedicated, enthusiastic people to join our team. The job descriptions and application procedures can be viewed on our website, www.grandmontrosedale.com.

NEIGHBORHOOD SAFETY MEETINGS RESUME SEPT. 20 – After a brief summer break, our regular monthly Neighborhood Safety meetings resume on Thursday, September 20 at 6 PM and will continue thereafter every 4th Thursday of the month at the North Rosedale Park Community House, 18445 Scarsdale, between Glastonbury and Avon.

At the Sept. 20th meeting, we will hear an update on the 90-day Community Policing Pilot Program announced at the May

Neighborhood Safety Meeting, which included participation by the Manhattan Institute, in cooperation with the Detroit Police Department (DPD), Michigan Department of Corrections (MDOC), and the GRDC Community Security Program.

The Neighborhood Safety Meetings are open to the public. Please join your neighbors, local law enforcement officials, and guest speakers as we learn and share crime prevention strategies. Each meeting provides important information to help keep us and our neighborhoods safer! For more information, call 313-387-4732, ext. 109.

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.

Performing Arts Program for Neighborhood Kids

GRDC is pleased to announce the launch of a FREE performing arts program for kids ages 11-13 as part of the Michigan State University Extension's 4-H Program.

This program, which will include clowning, dance, drama, and music, is a non-formal, educational opportunity that uses hands-on approaches to allow kids

to express their creativity in a supportive and engaging atmosphere.

For more information and to express your interest in joining, contact Tammy McCrory at 313-585-3507 or trmccrory06@yahoo.com.



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Long-time RP NEWS Editor Celebrates 70th Birthday!

Rosedale Park resident and former RP NEWS editor Bonnie Mead celebrated her 70th birthday on Saturday, August 11. Friends and neighbors gathered at the home of Mary & Chet McLeod for an afternoon of food, friendship, and birthday wishes. A retired high-school teacher and department head, Bonnie has been at home on Piedmont in Rosedale Park for almost 38 years. Every Thursday from June through October, she can be found at our neighborhood Northwest Detroit Farmers' Market, where she has volunteered for the past several years. Feel free to stop by and wish her a belated "Happy Birthday" before the end of the market season!



Bonnie Mead and friends.

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RPIA Board Meeting Minutes

Summary of RPIA Board Meeting of August 6, 2012

Highlights of the meeting included a review of proposed items to cover at the September General Membership Meeting, a report from the Nominating Committee regarding updates for the 2013 Board slate, assignments for the upcoming newsletter, future RPIA celebrations, the open house series sponsored by the Detroit

Works Strategic Framework Planning Group, and the Treasurer's Report.

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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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!**

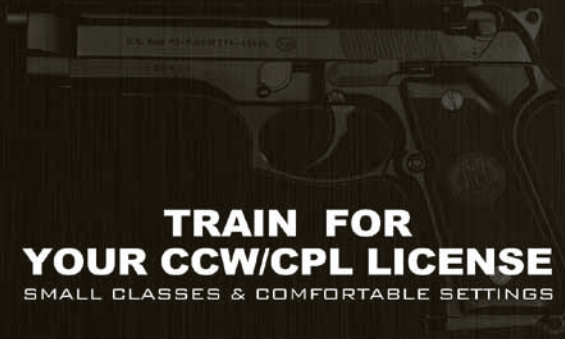


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For more information and to place an ad, please contact Advertising Coordinator Kevin Cozey at 313-570-2673 or kevcozy@aol.com.

AD TYPE	COST/ISSUE
Business card	\$24
Quarter page	\$60
Half page	\$120
Full page	\$240
Personal classified*	Free for RPIA members!

NOTE: Prices above are for space only. An additional one-time set-up fee may be charged for new ads and revisions of existing ads. Fees vary depending on complexity of set-up. Copy for new and revised ads is due the 1st of the month prior to the month of publication.

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

A Thank You to Residents for Helping Keep Vacancies Mowed and Clean

By Nancy Bitzarakis

Saturday morning, August 11, ten residents answered the call and came out to clean up a seriously neglected home on Ashton. This is an abandoned home in Rosedale that has just gone downhill because no one claimed responsibility for keeping it maintained. We wanted to get this done Saturday so that we could have the branches, trees, grass, weeds, etc., picked up during bulk pick-up the following Tuesday.

A special big “thank you” goes out to these neighbors who joined me in attacking the overgrown jungle: Creighton Adams, Jill Laufer, Phil Schloop, Dale Reid, Charlene Studstill, Margie Weber, Pam Weinstein, and Donna Wilson and her mom, Joan!

This hard-working group got everything cut down and to the curb in about three and a half hours--all in all, a total of almost 30 hours of work in that amount of time. People Power! Thank you to everyone!

In addition, a big “thank you” to DPW Director Ron Brundidge and his employees for the great job they did in Rosedale Park with bulk pick-up last month. What a lot of stuff they carted off! Thank them when you see them next.

Now, it's up to us homeowners, and this means YOU: once we clean up one of these seriously neglected homes, it cannot fall to the same 10 people in the Park to keep returning to clean. Blocks, residents, Block Captains, and

neighbors have to discuss this challenge and come together and divide up the work, or get out together and keep those homes from returning to such a neglected state.

Your volunteer Vacant Housing Committee keeps making calls to owners or banks or whomever to come take care of their properties. Sometimes we are successful, sometimes

we are not. And by the time they become HUD homes or Fannie Mae homes, the condition of the house is severe and no one responds.

So, when you see a house become vacant on your block, call your Vacant Housing Committee to let us know and, then, **start figuring out right away**

how you and your neighbors can help, by keeping the lawn cut (front and back) and removing circulars and other papers from the door and porch. This makes the home look occupied and less likely to be vandalized and keeps it more pleasant for you to look at while you wait for a new family to move in.

We know there are a lot of you neighbors who are already mowing the lawns next door and cleaning up. There are some homes that are vacant that we don't even know about because of your hard work in making them appear occupied! The foreclosures are not over, so now that we are smarter and know what to do, keep it up, and thank you.

The GRDC wants to recognize all vacant-property volunteers at a community-wide ceremony in October. If you or someone you know has helped to maintain a vacant home, send their (and your) name and address before September 20th to bkenderes@grandmontrosedale.com. An invitation will be sent to you and the volunteer you recognize.



L to R: Nancy Bitzarakis, Jill Laufer, Charlene Studstill, Creighton Adams, Joan Wilson, Donna Wilson. Not pictured are Pam Weinstein, Dale Reid, Phil Schloop, and Margie Weber.



The results of the clean-up!

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Calendar of Events

SEPTEMBER

Tues., Sept. 11 RPIA General Membership
Meeting, 7 PM
North Rosedale Park
Community House
18445 Scarsdale,
off Bretton Drive at Glastonbury

Sat., Sept. 15 Rosedale Recycles, 10 AM-2 PM,
18605 Pierson

OCTOBER

Mon., Oct. 1 Advertising deadline
for Nov./Dec. issue of *RP NEWS*

Wed., Oct. 10 Article submission deadline
for Nov./Dec. issue of *RP NEWS*

Sat., Oct. 20 Rosedale Recycles, 10 AM-2 PM,
18605 Pierson

**ROSEDALE PARK
IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION**

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**Need a
New Neighbor Kit?**

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



ROSEDALE RECYCLES

**Saturday, September 15
Saturday, October 20**

**10 AM - 2 PM
18605 Pierson Street**

**City living is great.
It's best in
Rosedale Park!**