



UNIVERSITY DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION NEWSLETTER

The University District strives to maintain and support the integrity of the neighborhood, provide communication of events and issues to its residents, promote a quality education in our local school while maintaining health, safety and happiness in a family friendly diverse community.

PO BOX 21483 • DETROIT, MI 48221

SEPTEMBER/FALL 2011

2011 Top Ten UDCA Beautification Award Winners: (From left to right.) Row 1: Kathy & Tom Bauer, Margit Ervin; Sharon Harper-Lee; Row 2: Terri Randall & Dale Randall, Pat Murray & Jim Edwards, Evelyn & Rainy Hamilton, Jr.; Row 3: Bill Lee, Preston West; Row 4: Mary Farris, Darryl & Denise Dugans. (See article on page 6.)



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Nathan K. Ford
President

Tiffany N. Alexander
Vice-President

Danielle Sanders
Secretary

Roger Short
Treasurer

Gregory B. O'Neal
Block Captain Chair

Sidney H. Bailey III
Parliamentarian

Henry Conerway

Angela Gardner-Street

Rainy Hamilton Jr.

Lawanda Harrison

Shirley Lusby

Deadra K. Rahaman

Addie Smith

Calesther Smith-Arnold

Raymond Womack

**Are you a
UDCA
Member?
PLEASE
PAY your dues!**

Help preserve the services provided to our community - street plowing 3"-6" of snow, landscaping services on 6 and 7 Mile Roads, and other community projects and services.



The President's Message

PRESIDENT'S LETTER TO THE COMMUNITY



Where does all the time go? I have no answer to that question, but I do know that it is time for our children to go back to school. As we make sure our children have everything they need to excel in the classroom, I suggest we also use this time to examine some of the critical subjects that will impact our community in the coming months.

- **Demonstration Areas:** If you haven't already heard, I am proud to announce that the University District has been included as part of one of three demonstration areas that the city has designated for extensive revitalization. This effort is the first major policy initiative of the Detroit Works Projects and reinforces Mayor Bing's commitment to neighborhoods. During this process, the city will work closely with community groups in the targeted areas, including UDCA, to best leverage foundation, state, federal, city and non-profit resources for the betterment of our neighborhoods and residents. UDCA will keep you updated as more details become available and we look forward to everyone's input to make this effort a total success.
- **Neighbors Helping Neighbors:** It's an old-school concept that never goes out of style. We are much stronger as a community when neighbors look out for each other. The back-to-school season often brings on tighter schedules and more responsibilities for everyone. However, as we tend to our added individual and family duties, let's not forget about our neighbors. If you know of someone who is elderly, disabled, or just in need of a kind word, please extend a hand when you can. The smallest acts of kindness can go a long way towards helping our neighbors and maintaining a level of community harmony that makes the University District special.
- **Security:** The back-to-school season also signals a scaling down of some outdoor activities and gatherings. Nonetheless, it's important that we all do our part to ensure a safe community throughout the year. In addition to our safety patrol, all residents can and should participate in our neighborhood watch efforts. Please do not hesitate to report any suspicious activities, including unfamiliar vehicles that appear to be abandoned. Also, become familiar with the schedules of your neighbors, including any children who walk to and from school. If possible, come out on your porch at times when your neighbors usually return home or watch from a window. And if there is ever a time when you do witness wrongdoing, in addition to calling the police, please share this information with your neighbors and UDCA. An informed community is a safe community.

Like the children in our neighborhoods, we all have assignments and homework to perform in the upcoming weeks and months. If we approach our tasks with pride and attention to detail, there is no doubt that we will maintain the beautiful, safe and vibrant University District that we all love!

Sincerely,

Nate Ford

UDCA Board President

Attention UDCA Residents!

The UDCA Board meets at 7:00 P.M. on the first Tuesday of each month (except July and August) at the Gesu Community Center (17180 Oak Drive). Everyone is welcome! You can simply drop in to observe a meeting. If you would like to present an idea or concern, contact the UDCA President or Vice-President to request a spot on the Community Voices Agenda. See page 11 for contact information.

2012 UDCA HOME & GARDEN TOUR

Volunteers (home owners) who are willing to show their home and/or garden; are requested to contact:

Jessie Casida
2012 UDCA Home Tour Chair
(313) 204-7665
jcasida@gmail.com

All ABoard! Announcing the 2011 UDCA Board Elections

by Sidney H. Bailey, III, Nominating Committee Chairperson

Why become a Board Member?

Because you have the ideas, talent, knowledge, wisdom and energy that our community needs to continue to prosper! Because you know that you cannot be “in it and not of it.” Because you believe that “from those to whom much is given, much is expected”! Because you see things in the University District and say: “we can do better than that!” Because you are looking for specific ways to improve the safety, security and desirability of our community! Because you are ready and eager to do your part! Because you know that together: YES WE CAN! Now is the time to serve your term on the University District Community Association Board of Directors. It’s the perfect place to make a positive difference. Join us and be sure your voice is heard!

Seeking Candidates

The UDCA board is seeking candidates and/or nominations for five board vacancies for the term of 2012 through 2014. Ballots will be distributed to UDCA paid members in November.

Eligibility

To be eligible to run and sit on the board, a resident must be a current paid member of the University District Community Association and remain a paid member throughout the three-year term.

Requirements

Board members attend a monthly meeting and the semi-annual General Membership meetings, vote on issues, attend UDCA-sponsored social functions, serve on at least one committee and report on activities as required, and represent the Board to the community. Board members are also encouraged to submit articles to the newsletter.

How to Become a Candidate

It’s easy! Prepare a short biographical sketch with the information listed in the “Candidate Biographical Profile” at the end of this article. Then submit it to: UDCA Elections Committee, P.O. Box 21483, Detroit, MI 48221. If you have questions, email Sid Bailey, Nominating Committee Chairperson: sbailey@udcaonline.com.

Deadline for Submitting Biographical Information

The deadline for submission is October 1, 2011.

The Voting Process

Residents who are paid UDCA members will receive ballots in early November. Ballots must be returned by the due date noted on the ballots. The votes will be tallied and newly elected board members will be notified and announced at the Annual General Membership meeting, currently scheduled for December.

The UDCA Board

The purpose of the UDCA Board is to:

- Maintain and support the neighborhood integrity
- Promote active partnership and membership
- Coordinate cultural and family events

- Maintain and enforce zoning ordinances and equitable tax assessments related the use of property in the District
- Promote and monitor public improvements
- Facilitate regular communications among the members

One third (5) on the Board members’ terms expire each year. This ensures that stability and consistency on the Board are maintained while assuring the opportunity for an infusion of “new blood.” The table below shows the current Board members’ terms in office.

Board Member Term Status as of January 2011

Name	Consecutive Terms Served	Year Current Term Began	Year Current Term Expires
Tiffany N. Alexander	1	Jan 2009	Dec 2011
Sidney H. Bailey III	3	Jan 2010	Dec 2012
Henry Conerway	1	Jan 2010	Dec 2012
Nathan K. Ford	1	Jan 2009	Dec 2011
Rainy Hamilton Jr.	2	Jan 2011	Dec 2013
Lawanda Harrison*	1	Jan 2011	Dec 2011
Shirley Lusby	1	Jan 2009	Dec 2011
Gregory B. O’Neal	1	Jan 2011	Dec 2013
Danielle Sanders	1	Jan 2011	Dec 2013
Roger Short	1	Jan 2010	Dec 2012
Addie Smith	2	Jan 2010	Dec 2012
Calesther Smith-Arnold*	1	Jan 2011	Dec 2011
Angela Gardner-Street	1	Jan 2011	Dec 2013
Raymond Womack	3	Jan 2011	Dec 2013
Vacancy	1	Jan 2010	Dec 2012

* *Lawanda Harrison and Calesther Smith-Arnold were appointed to complete the terms of Board members who resigned.*

Candidate Biographical Profile

When preparing your Biographical profiles (sketches) candidates must follow the format below. In order to be included in this election, the profiles must be submitted to the UDCA Election Committee on or before October 1, 2011.

1. Your name, street address, telephone number and email address
2. Describe your qualifications and skills – list your degrees, certifications, and previous experience in the community
3. State why you want to serve on the Board. Describe the changes you would bring about in the community
4. List your areas of interest
5. List the BES (Beautification, Education, Safety/Security) team(s) or projects you’d like to work on (e.g., Youth, Project Clean Sweep, Newsletter, Bylaws, Membership Drives, Residential Standards, Zoning, Property Taxes, Snow Removal, Dinner Dance/Cruise, Home & Garden Tour, Golf Outing, Garage/Yard Sale, Vacant Homes, etc.)
6. State how long you’ve been a resident
7. Tell us about your family

Note: Addresses and telephone numbers are for UDCA’s use only. This information will not be included with the ballot that is being sent to voting member residents.

Chicago High School Students Make University District Their Home for a Week

by Sarah James

The annual Warrington ice cream social had twenty-one additional energetic and friendly guests this summer! The week-long visit from high school students in Chicago doing service in Detroit and staying at Gesu Rectory coincided with ice cream social of a block around the corner. The organizers of the ice cream social thought it would be fun to welcome these students to Detroit and to our neighborhood.



On a lovely evening in mid-June, with the ice cream table set up with tasty Guernsey ice cream, the servers' eyes widened as a crowd of teenagers turned the corner heading their way - over twenty students and faculty leaders! Students quickly proved themselves at home, interacting with the neighborhood kids, joining in on hula hooping, playing ping pong, and chatting with the residents. What a delightful group of teenagers!



St. Ignatius High School, a Chicago college preparatory high school similar to University of Detroit Jesuit High School on 7 Mile but co-educational, brought students to Detroit for a second summer as one of the annual service trips their rising senior students can elect to go on.

St. Ignatius organizes service trips in the U.S. for students – one in New Orleans and two in Chicago, but wanted to add another urban site. Detroit was added as one of the locations last year because of the strong Jesuit connections in Detroit. The trip is meant to encourage students to see themselves as people of services as they emerge into adulthood. Students spent most of their time at the Capuchin Soup Kitchen and Earthworks on Detroit's east side.

Highlights for the students were many, but many commented that they particularly liked the ice cream social. It allowed them to experience a vibrant Detroit neighborhood alive, one that works at community. Trip organizers hope to be back annually. Perhaps the Warrington ice cream social can be scheduled during the St. Ignatius visit next year so we can meet another group of idealistic young people and show them how we do community here in the University District.



The Theatre Company Season 41

University District's local professional theatre!

Four shows only \$41

The Theatre Company is a professional theatre inside of the Performing Arts Department at University of Detroit Mercy. Celebrating 41 seasons of award-winning professional theatre, the Theatre Company invites you to take advantage of our best deal on tickets and support the Arts in Detroit.



<http://theatre.udmercy.edu>
www.facebook.com/udmtheatre
 Most performances are held at the Marygrove Theatre.
 Individual tickets: adult \$18 student \$9

Eleemosynary
 by Lee Blessing

Sept. 30 - Oct. 10

Anatomy of Gray
 by Jim Leonard

Nov. 4 - 13

Subscribe now!
Save 45% off
 individual ticket prices

Feb. 3 - 12

Dogman's Last Stand
 by Rick Cleveland

Order today!
313-993-3270

Autobahn
 by Neil Labute

March 23 - April 1



UNIVERSITY DISTRICT COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION

2011 Annual Membership Application

January 1 through December 31, 2011

\$60.00

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE NUMBER _____ E-Mail _____

New Resident Returning Member Year you moved into the neighborhood _____

Make check payable to: **UDCA**

Mail to: **UDCA**
PO BOX 21483
DETROIT, MI 48221

Amount Submitted: \$ _____ Check # _____ Money Order # _____ Other _____

Your canceled check is your receipt. \$35 fee for returned checks.

Pay your membership fee ONLINE via PayPal* (with a fee) at www.UDCAonline.com

Your membership supports these benefits and services:

- You are in the loop to receive e-mails and special notices (*Please provide your email address to be included in this service.*)
- Quarterly newsletter and website
- Winter - Snow plowed streets
- Summer - Beautiful flowers around the perimeter of the neighborhood and landscaping along McNichols Rd
- Handsome signs identifying our community
- Participation in and benefit from the projects and activities listed to the right
- Most of all, the satisfaction of being a part of the stabilization of your most valuable asset – HOME.

Please volunteer for the project that best suits your interest.

- Beautification
- Block Captain/Club
- Dinner Dance
- Family Activities
- Historic Designation
- Home & Garden Tour (2012)
- Membership Committee
- Neighborhood Garage/Yard Sale
- Newsletter
- Residential Standards
- School Partnerships
- Subscriber Patrol
- Volunteer Radio Patrol
- Website
- Youth Projects
- Zoning

Thank You!

Administrative Use ONLY

Payment Received _____

UDCA Beautification Award Winners

The University District conducted its first annual Beautification Awards competition in 2011. The program was created at the request of UDCA President Nathan Ford, who has made neighborhood beautification a major goal of his term in office.

The newly formed University District Garden & Landscape Club undertook to design and implement a program. Michael H. Margolin provided a detailed proposal and notably contributed the phrase “Best in Show” used for the Award signs and certificates; Verlie Ruffin contributed goals and purposes to keep the design on track. An internet search turned up guidelines for nomination and selection posted by the city of Madison, Alabama, that were adapted by Michael H. Margolin for the University District.

With the approval of UDCA Beautification Chair Holly Clements and the UDCA Board, the awards competition was announced in June. Residents could nominate themselves and two did. Garden Club volunteers Patricia Harrington, Verlie Ruffin, Mary Leonard, Deb Taitt, Veronica Dostal, and Tamara Perrin scouted each of the streets to nominate gardens, with additional input from Mary Jo Smith. No home was included in the competition unless the Garden Club received specific permission to photograph the publicly visible front of the house. Sixty-three homeowners participated in the competition.

At a meeting of the nominators and other Garden Club volunteers, a “first cut” was made to determine the Top Twenty semifinalists. On July 30, 2011, three expert judges not previously involved in the awards program toured the University District to look at all twenty homes. The judges for 2011 were Bradley Dick, Director of General Services for the City of Detroit (who lives in East English Village, a neighborhood that has conducted beautification awards for some years); and our own neighbors, Nora Gessert, a Master Gardener, and Rowena Robinson, an Advanced Master Gardener, who are familiar with our growing conditions.

The Top Ten winners received signs for their yards, a commemorative certificate, and a gift certificate donated by Blumz in Ferndale and downtown Detroit, owned by neighborhood residents Jerome Raska and Robbin Yelverton. The ten runners up received a commemorative certificate and a floral arrangement donated by Blossoms in Birmingham, owned by our Palmer Woods neighbors Dale Morgan and Norm Silk. All contestants receive the thanks of the community for their success in creating above average curb appeal that benefits the entire University District.

Look for the UDCA Beautification Awards to be conducted again next year, from June 16 through July 15, 2012. We will need many volunteers, especially nominators and photographers, to assist with timely completion. The Garden Club will host a planning session for aspiring gardeners and landscapers in late winter, and we will encourage entire blocks, neighborhood organizations and businesses to participate in the 2012 awards.

The Garden Club will appreciate receiving reactions from all residents to improve the UDCA Beautification Awards program going forward.

Please send your opinions and suggestions to: Mary Leonard
17524 Fairfield, Detroit, MI 48221
(313) 345-8036 or email udcagardens@gmail.com

See more photos online on UDCA’s Facebook page. Visit UDCAonline.com for the link!

2011 RUNNERS UP

17391 Warrington
Leonora Taylor

17556 Oak Drive
Joe & Yukima Everette

17596 Oak Drive
Robert & Carolyn Crisp

18105 Oak Drive
Mary & John Bishop

18114 Oak Drive
Gregory & Edna Adams

18084 Birchcrest
Marjorie Thomas

17384 Fairfield
Holly Harrison

18015 Wildemere
Millicent Daniels

18240 Wildemere
Claudette & Frank Varner

17194 Parkside
Cassandra & Gregory
Leatherwood

2011 Honorable Mention Nominees:

Warrington	Muirland
17195	17384
17380	17394
19001	17565
	18045
Quincy	18403
17427	18471
Oak Drive	Wildemere
18000	17514
18043	
18263	Parkside
18270	17304
18285	17567
18295	17585
18329	18044
18615	18055
	18085
Birchcrest	18093
17574	18254
18303	18295
18904	18465
18920	18466
	18506
Fairfield	18626
17203	18655
17354	18675
17587	18915
18415	

Announcement

Historic All Saints Episcopal Church presents

“Raise the Roof” Fundraiser

Jazz Concert featuring Jazz Musician Ron English and other local musicians

Saturday, September 17, 2011 ~ 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

Historic All Saints Church

3837 W. Seven Mile Road (at Oak Drive), Detroit, MI 48221

\$30 per person (includes concert and refreshments)

For more information, contact:

All Saints Episcopal Church (313) 341-5320 or Lenore Evans (313) 861-1955

University District Garden & Landscape Club

The University District Garden & Landscape Club meets the second Monday of every month, 7:30 p.m. at Gesu Parish Center, 17180 Oak Drive. For information, contact Mary Leonard at (313) 345-8036 or email UDCAGardens@gmail.com. Next meetings are September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12. All are welcome. To join the Garden Club email list, send us an email.

The University District Garden & Landscape Club will host a **PLANT EXCHANGE**, 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m., on Saturday, September 24, 2011, in the parking lot of the Gesu Parish Center, 17180 Oak Drive.

- Bring perennials, shrubs, vines, houseplants. even gardening books, supplies and tools.
- Bring as many plants as you want. The more variety there is, the better. Try to bring at least two of the same type of plant to prevent friendly squabbling over a highly desired prize.
- Plants should be divided in advance. Dividing on-site is time-consuming and messy.
- Plants must be in containers, not necessarily pots. Washed milk cartons are strong and can be recycled to hold plants.
- Plants should be labeled with their name if possible, and the type of conditions they grow best in (e.g., shade, sun, etc.).

Electrical Failures Related to Falling Trees & Limbs

During the past few years, and especially the first half of 2011, far too many of the residents in our community have witnessed power failures related to falling trees and branches found within our yards. Many of the falling tree limbs have resulted in widespread power outages subsequent to tree trimming tasks by DTE.

We should all be made aware that the power company is responsible for trimming limbs and branches of trees that are subject to come into contact with their wires due to high winds that cause wires to sway and branches to flutter around. We the **property owners are responsible for trees within our yards** that are in many cases old as, or older than our homes. The University District Community Association has generated a dialogue with City of Detroit agencies with hopes of addressing faulty trees found within public right-of-ways (berm areas).

Many of the trees within our community appear to be as solid as a rock as we look at the barks; however, many of those large damaging limbs that have become dislodged from trees during the past few years have shown a high degree of internal rot, that results in knocking down DTE, public lighting, AT&T, and cable company lines. When such events occur, our entire community suffers losses and inconveniences such as loss of food, no heat during winter months, lack of air conditioning during summer heat waves, and individuals who utilize electronic health devices to sustain life throughout the year.

We are aware of the distressed economy and what it will be like to incur the large expense to remove large rotting trees from our yards simply to protect power lines. We urge every University District homeowner to evaluate the trees in their yards with a goal of removing parts of trees that tower over power lines and are subject to fall during low and high winds that are subject to cause large sections of or community to be *powerless*.



100 YEARS OF A VERY SPECIAL LIFE

I would like to share a little something about my mother **Rheta Collins** who just turned 100. Some of my neighbors know her and have seen her on our walks in the neighborhood. Everyone waves and smiles. I'm also proud to say Rheta has always lived a loving helpful and productive life.

Unfortunately, she is presently confined to a wheelchair after a bad fall last winter. But she is doing well in her recuperation and is keeping her usual positive outlook. Normally, Rheta lives with me in Detroit or my Idlewild vacation home. She spends the rest of the year with her son in Grand Rapids. We tell her she is so important and special that she has three homes.

A Little Something about Rheta Collins

Rheta's interests and hobbies seem to overlap and include:

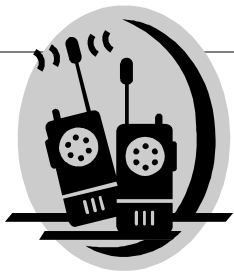
- Gardening, raking, digging, weeding, etc: She reminds everyone "**I'm a country girl.**"
- Children: One of her many natural gifts is nurturing. She loves all children, **related or not.**
- Family History: She loves to tell and **retell** the old stories.
- Garage Sales: We can count on her to say "**Wait-up.**"
- Shopping: She will always say "**I'll grab my purse!**"
- Food: She never gains a pound but eats like a construction worker.
- Helping others: She is always looking for ways to improve things. She says that she likes staying busy. I've never known her to complain about or avoid work.

Other Interesting things about Rheta:

Work: She has had many jobs during her life the last one being in her 80's, for the National Forestry Service. She received an award both for her work with the Service and for being the oldest worker in their Older Americans Program. **Longevity Secrets:** Rheta attributes her long, healthy life to her country up-bringing where most of what she ate and drank was actually produced on the family farm in Kentucky. In addition she's never been a smoker and was only an occasional drinker. She loves fruits and vegetables but can do without meat. Everyone admires her flawless skin and most think she is younger than she is. She has outlived five husbands. Her last marriage was at 90 years of age!

Those of us who know her, attribute her longevity to her beautiful, positive, giving, and loving personality. I'll stop here but there's plenty more if you wish. For example, several poems written about her (one published) by family members, a song, [Rheta's Song](#) with words and music by a great grandson (now out on a CD), a portrait by her son, a renowned artist and another by her grandson, an up and coming artist; and the tributes to this remarkable human being go on because the bottom line is – **To know her is to love her!!!**

*Submitted by her daughter, Barbra Johnson,
on behalf of Rheta's many Friends & Family*



Radio Patrol Update

by Mary Jo Smith, Radio Patrol

The coming change of season neatly coincides with some significant changes in city operations. On July 27, Mayor Bing announced a realignment of priorities in city services. Our neighborhood is in an area slated for increased enforcement of city code to diminish the risk of blight. The summer issue of the newsletter included a great summary of city codes most often overlooked. We will need to watch the dates for bulk pick-up and remember to put our Courvilles at the curb after six on Wednesdays and bring them in Thursday after pick-up. After the drought, grass might be growing again, and require cutting before we switch to leaf raking and then snow shoveling, as we continue to pick up litter from the middle of the street in front of us, to the middle of the alley in back—if we still have alleys...and even licensed, dogs don't get to run free. We will also need to pay more attention to what projects require us or our contractors to get a permit before we begin the work.

This effort to increase enforcement can bring interesting benefits. Much recent research indicates that places that are obviously well cared for tend to be targeted for criminal activity less often than areas that are already a mess. While much of the neighborhood does maintain standards, increased enforcement can help with our few problem spots. Neighbors living near our borders are rejoicing with the announcement that more will be done to stop illegal dumping; and they are joined by neighbors who have seen backyards of vacant homes turned into dumps. Combining these efforts with some of the incentives for people to move into the city, we might even see improvement in the real estate market.

Changes have also been underway in the police department. Commander James Moore now heads the Western District (10th and 12th Precincts), and Inspector Alicia Terry is the commanding officer at the 12th Precinct. Each was well acquainted with our area before these recent assignments were made. Both of these officers are committed to working with the community.

A change noticed by Radio Patrol is the transfer of administrative function from the Community Access Center (formerly Neighborhood City Halls) to the Community Services section of the Detroit Police Department. We look forward to the increased opportunity for improving our skills patrolling and in crime prevention made possible with this switch. Anyone who is interested in joining us in these efforts is invited to attend our meetings, the third Thursday of every month, 7:00 p.m. at the Gesu Parish Center, 17180 Oak Drive.

During the summer, city council worked on a verified response ordinance. Implementation details were not complete at the publication date, but the city will be requiring some retooling of burglar alarms to reduce the frequency of calls where the police are not needed. Analysis to date indicates that verifying the need for response before police are dispatched can provide the service equivalent of 127 additional full-time officers.

Neighbors with burglar alarms may want to check with the alarm company to see what adjustments, if any, should be made. This also might be a good time to make sure that your alarm system cannot

Report Crime/Suspicious Activity
24 Hours a Day
7 Days a Week

RADIO PATROL NUMBER
(313) 447-0003

be disabled by burglars simply cutting a wire on the exterior of your home. There were instances this summer where burglars disabled the alarm before the intrusion. However, much of what we need to do is the old tried and true. A couple of blocks were reminded of the merits of Neighborhood Watch and maintaining a block directory when they suffered multiple burglary attempts over a couple of weeks. Being able to inform neighbors quickly is very important when an incident is occurring.

This is still a very dark neighborhood at night. Let's keep those front porch lights on. Let's work at getting motion detector floodlights around the rest of our property. Protect those big movable items, and park those cars in the garage—cars and garage both locked. We did not get hit with any of the waves of car thefts or vandalism this summer, but those random incidents add up. For some of our new neighbors who lost tires, this was not a good welcome to the neighborhood. Please remember to call the police to report crimes. If you observe suspicious behavior, please call the patrol number anytime: **(313) 447-0003. (H)our Power! Light the Night!**

Join the UDCA Radio Patrol and help deter crime in our district.

For more information, call:
Mary Jo Smith (313) 862-3754

Are You Looking For
Small Class Sizes And
Excellent Academics?
Try us FREE for 3 days!



- Experience our:
- Small class sizes
 - Rigorous curriculum
 - Flexible payment plans

Call
248-542-3757, x.22
or email
principal@lasalette-school.org

Experience the La Salette Difference!

Since April 2011, every Tuesday and Thursday beginning at 7:00 p.m., you might have seen a group of neighbors walking on Quincy, Six Mile, Warrington, and Santa Clara in an effort to promote a cleaner, safer, more sociable neighborhood. We have been pleased with our results.

The neighbors of the Quincington block club (Warrington 1, 2, and Quincy 1, 2) would like to express our appreciation to the neighbors who have supported us. First, we want to thank Men Walking, the Wildemere group, for their instructive example. Next we thank Greg O'Neal, Block Captain Chair and a member of Radio Patrol for joining us repeatedly. Finally, we wish to thank the members of Radio Patrol (and dogs) who take turns walking with us frequently. (H)our Power!



Jimmy Womack
Michigan House of Representatives
District 7

686 House Office Building
 P.O. Box 30014
 Lansing, MI 48909
 (517) 373 - 0589
 (888) JWOMACK
 jimmywomack@house.mi.gov



Committees
 Vice Chairman, Banking & Financial Services
 Health Policy
 Regulatory Reform

June 2011 Legislative Brief

Dear Friends of the Seventh District:

At the start of this year I began writing monthly news briefs in hopes of keeping you abreast of things happening in the legislature. While it's impossible for me to share every piece of legislation introduced, I hope to share legislation that has the greatest impact on you. On June 9, 2011, the Michigan House of Representatives passed House Bills 4625-4628. The four bills would revise Michigan's Teacher Tenure Law, the Revised School Code and the Public Employment Relations Act. While I support education and tenure reform that is in the best interest of our students I cannot support the package of legislation offered in these bills.

We must make certain that school districts have the personnel and resources needed to perform timely evaluations and document teacher performance so we can retain high quality educators and filter out the ineffective ones. House Bills 4625-4628 would give our educators fewer rights, stripping protection that shields them from being dismissed without 'reasonable and just cause'. If these bills were simply addressing the time and cost of the tenure process, I would happily support them. But they only masquerade as such and are at their core, a new vehicle to destroy collective bargaining in Michigan and further weaken our school systems.

As of June 14, 2011 the bills were referred to the Michigan Senate Committee on Education and they will likely come before the Senate Chamber for a vote. I need you to reach out to other legislators, specifically Senators, to let them know the grave affects legislation like this package has on our educational climate. We need dedicated instructors in our Michigan Public Schools and especially in our Detroit Public Schools. For more information on these bills please contact my office. And as always I welcome your comments, questions, concerns and bill request ideas and if my office can ever be of any assistance please don't hesitate to contact us.

Sincerely,

Jimmy Womack M.Div., M.D.
 House Democratic Caucus Chair
 State Representative
 District 7

Low Cost Insurance for Detroiters

from Virgil Smith, State Senator District 4



The lack of affordable auto insurance in the city of Detroit is a problem that affects everyone. Many believe that at least 50% of motorists in Detroit are driving without auto insurance, which is illegal, dangerous, and a detriment to encouraging people to move back into our city.

Why are Detroit drivers in this unique situation? Michigan is the only state that has complete coverage for catastrophic coverage, which is wonderful if anyone in our family ever has a closed head injury while driving. In order to pay for such coverage, which can cost millions of dollars, we:

1. Require every motorist to buy unlimited personal injury protection (PIP) coverage, which is basically health care while we are in a car; and
2. Pay into the Michigan Catastrophic Claims Association (MCCA). Once medical bills reach approximately \$480,000, the MCCA pays the bills of care, rehabilitation, and home health care.

Therefore, Michigan has some of the highest auto insurance rates in the nation and the most complete medical coverage in the nation.

Detroiters pay some of the highest rates in the state, and that is due to the fact that they pay more for collision and PIP coverage. The insurance companies charge Detroiters more because they believe it costs more to ensure residents in large urban areas.

How do we offer Detroiters more affordable insurance? For years elected officials have offered solutions that would pit Detroiters against their suburban neighbors or insurers vs. health care providers, but I introduced a bill that hopefully all sides can agree to. The bill will:

- Provide consumers the option to purchase PIP coverage (medical coverage) that will cover \$50,000 and \$100,000 of their health care bill. This is called "PIP choice." Most auto accidents do not require more than \$50,000 of health care bills and why should someone who has health care from work be required to buy more PIP coverage?
- Provide "PIP choice" to residents in Detroit.
- Offer it to residents who make 300% or less of the federal poverty level.
- Offer it to motorists who have a good driving record.
- Require the state to notify consumers of this low-cost policy and also mandate that the state provide yearly studies on its viability.
- Try the bill as a five year test period.
- Allow all insurance companies to sell the policy, but not mandate that they sell it.
- Provide this coverage for vehicles worth \$20,000 or less.

Also, this bill will determine if insurance companies really are likely to sell a true, low-cost bill to Detroiters and whether this low-cost policy will be purchased by Detroiters.

The bill is in the Senate Insurance Committee where I am a Vice Chair, and the committee will be holding a hearing on this bill soon.



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UDCA Standing Committees & Project Contacts

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Project Clean Sweep.....	Holly Clements..... 736-3738
Signage.....	Holly Clements..... 736-3738
COMMUNICATIONS	Tiffany N. Alexander, <i>Chair</i>
Newsletter, Website, Email Communications.....	Tiffany N. Alexander..... 342-6406
ELECTION	Sidney H. Bailey III, <i>Chair</i>
Board Elections.....	Sidney H. Bailey III..... 862-2716
Bylaws, Policies, Etc.....	Sidney H. Bailey III..... 862-2716
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Membership Drive.....	Raymond Womack..... 864-4766
New Residents Welcome Package.....	Elaine Gilbert..... 864-5332
PLANNING/DEVELOPMENT	Rainy Hamilton Jr., <i>Chair</i>
Historic Designation.....	Rainy Hamilton Jr..... 862-7200
Zoning.....	Vivian Gladden..... 341-0289
SAFETY & SECURITY	Lawanda Harrison, <i>Chair</i>
12th Precinct.....	Desk..... 596-1200
Abandoned Cars.....	12th Precinct..... 596-1200
Curfew Violations.....	12th Precinct..... 596-1200
EMERGENCY DISPATCH.....	911
Gangs (e.g., groups, assistance with graffiti removal).....	447-0003 www.NoMoreBrokenWindows.com
Police Reports by Phone.....	267-4600 or 267-4602
UD Radio Patrol.....	447-0003
	Mary Jo Smith, <i>President</i> .. 862-3754
UD Subscriber Patrol.....	459-0770
Vacant House Registry.....	UDRP..... 447-0003
SCHOOL	Angela Gardner-Street, <i>Chair</i>
Neighborhood Schools and Student Column.....	Shirley Lusby..... 862-1233
	Ray Womack..... 864-4766
Youth.....	Angela Gardner-Street..... 864-0327
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Snow Removal.....	Nate Ford..... 862-4272

SOCIAL	Roger Short, <i>Chair</i>
Dinner Dance.....	Roger Short..... 342-5675
District Garage/Yard Sale.....	Addie Smith..... 863-4706
General Membership Mtg.....	Nate Ford..... 862-4272
Golf Outing.....	Henry Conerway..... 861-7623
	Nate Ford..... 862-4272
Home & Garden Tour 2012.....	Jessie Casida..... 204-7665
	Deadra K. Rahaman..... 585-6158
Involvement with Outside Organizations.....	Nate Ford..... 862-4272

UDCA Block Captains

Gregory B. O'Neal, Block Captain Chair	345-3767
Dave Marquardt, Block Captain Co-Chair	861-5629

Residents are encouraged to contact their Block Captain to share and obtain information about activities within the district. *The following list was last updated April 16, 2011.*

WARRINGTON

1... Shirley King.....	862-7313
2... Mary Jo Smith.....	862-3754
3... VACANT	
4... Sundiata Mateen.....	861-2754
5... Terri Conerway.....	861-7623
6... VACANT	
7... Cynthia Banks.....	345-4278
8... Shirley Northcross.....	863-8251

OAK DRIVE

1... <i>Gesu</i>	N/A
2... Evelyn Foreman.....	861-9490
3... Toney Hughes.....	861-0287
4... VACANT	
5... Selma Goggans.....	861-1223
6... <i>Palmer Park Prep. Acad.</i>	N/A
7... James/Kim Beasley.....	861-1568
8... Anita Sevier.....	345-5004

QUINCY

1... Michelle Lowe.....	341-3841
2... John Hooper.....	864-9562

BIRCHCREST

1... Esther Epps.....	863-1235
2... Esther Epps.....	863-1235
3... Ev Belfon.....	341-1996
3... Vivian Gladden.....	341-0289
4... VACANT	
5... Paula Green-Smith.....	861-6315
5... Reginald Cunningham*.....	342-8755
6... Steven Ellison.....	862-7016
6... Vincent Smith.....	345-2898
7... Mya Ndiaye.....	414-1945
8... Jeffrey C. Gisstennar*.....	407-6265

BELDEN

1... VACANT	
2... Jamie Ferguson.....	345-2578

FAIRFIELD

1... Jeff Stema.....	861-5858
2... Faye Knox.....	863-6011
3... Myron Watts.....	864-6763
4... Robert Hunter.....	863-5675
5... VACANT	
6... Preston West.....	342-3356
7... Frank Benedict.....	342-7535
8... Calesther Smith-Arnold.....	862-1302

MUIRLAND

1... VACANT	
2... Pauline Robinson.....	863-1222
3... Sidney H. Bailey III.....	862-2716
4... Judy Betts.....	862-0568
5... Robert Carpenter.....	861-0151
6... LaDonna Dean.....	342-4401
7... VACANT	
8... Sandra Complas.....	341-5962

WILDEMERE

1... Joyce Khalfani.....	248-632-0907
2... Sheila Womack.....	864-4766
2... Odell Bridges*.....	862-2551
3... Joyce Reid.....	342-0435
4... Rick Thues.....	615-6701
5... Frank Varner.....	864-2449
6... Jim Zemboy.....	345-7227
7... Virgil Spight.....	863-2406
8... Lawanda Harrison.....	345-3882

PARKSIDE

1... Tamara Perrin.....	342-6731
2... Bettie Carter.....	861-9196
3... Lucius Gunn.....	341-4866
4... Carl Chatman.....	345-5517
5... Rosetta McCamey.....	864-3915
6... Ed Stuckey & Elizabeth Miller.....	345-3671
7... VACANT	
8... VACANT	

* Denotes Co-Captain

Block numbers are listed in order from McNichols to Seven Mile Road.



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Tiffany N. Alexander, *Editor & Board Representative*
 Nate Ford, *Board Representative*
 Sarah James, *Assistant*
 Mary Jo Smith, *Assistant*

Thank you to all of the writers, contributors, and advertisers.

The University District NEWSLETTER is published in March, June, September, and December. Its purpose is to inform residents of activities and matters of common interest and concern. Residents are encouraged to submit articles and advertisements. The NEWSLETTER retains the right to edit articles and refuse publication.

For more information or share comments, call the UDCA Hotline at 341-UDCA or write to us at UDCA NEWSLETTER, P.O. Box 21483, Detroit, MI 48221.

For more news and information, visit:
[**www.UDCAonline.com**](http://www.UDCAonline.com)

UDCA Garage & Yard Sale

The UDCA Garage and Yard Sale is planned for Saturday and Sunday, September 10-11, 2011, and we will have an added feature this year. Each participant that pays the \$5.00 fee will have their street number shown on the website map to help channel shoppers to their treasurers. Listed below are a few helpful hints to aid with your planning and preparations. Remember, being organized is critical for reduced stress and increased success!

There will be advertising in the UDCA Newsletter and daily newspaper on the week-end before and the weekend of the event. Come join us and earn some money.

Contact: Board Representative Addie Smith at (313) 863-4706

Helpful Tips



- Place price tags on items to be sold before the sale. Use stickers, index cards, etc.
- Make sure you have small change.
- You may want to place like items together (e.g., kitchen wares, jewelry, furniture, tools, etc.)
- Keep doors locked to prevent strangers from entering your home while you are occupied selling your goods.
- Keep your money in a secure location.

Noteworthy News

- UDCA Garage Sale** September 10-11
 9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M. *(See details on left.)*
- University District Landscape & Garden Club Meeting** *(See page 7 for details)*September 12
 7:30 p.m., second Monday of each month
 Gesu Parish Center, 17180 Oak Drive
- All Saints Church Fundraiser**September 17
 5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m., 3837 W. Seven Mile *(See page 6.)*
- University District Landscape & Garden Club Plant Exchange** *(See page 7 for details)*September 24
 10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
 Gesu Parish Center parking lot, 17180 Oak Drive
- UDCA Elections: Biographical Profile Deadline for Candidates** October 1
See page 3 for details.
- University District Landscape & Garden Club Meeting**..... October 10
 7:30 p.m., second Monday of each month
- Bulk Trash Pick-Up** October 21
- Winter Newsletter Content Due**..... October 31
- University District Landscape & Garden Club Meeting**..... November 14
 7:30 p.m., second Monday of each month