



# Rosedale Park News

Serving a Friendly Neighborhood

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

## Rosedale Residents Have Fun Times at Detroit's Jewel

### RPIA SPONSORS TRIP TO DIA

Sat., June 6, thirty-six neighbors, including seven children, boarded a bus at Greater Ebenezer for an afternoon at the Detroit Institute of Arts. After a delicious lunch, three tour groups formed, each with a docent.

"We wanted to expose our community to the arts and the DIA treasure in our own back yard," said board member Deborah LaViolette.

The three groups toured various sections of the museum. "The DIA has an excellent collection of art from various African countries," explained LaViolette. "We also saw contemporary works by African Americans like Kehinde

Wiley and Detroit's Tyree Guyton, the developer of the Heidelberg Project."

The kids not only viewed some of the DIA's collection but also participated in the 'Drop-in Workshops' where kids can create works of art to take home.

LaViolette also pointed out to the group the large paneled sculpture, *Spirit Renewal* located on the corner of Farnsworth and John R. (across from the DIA) created by Rosedale Park resident and world-renowned artist Charles McGee.

"This was a wonderful experience for everyone," said RPIA President Dorothy Roman. "It's so refreshing to see history blossom right before your eyes."



*Residents begin filling the bus for the ride to the Detroit Institute of Arts (top). On left, the Rosedale group poses for a photo before entering the DIA for a grand tour.*

### GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING ON TUESDAY, SEPT. 8

Mark your calendars and plan to attend the September 8th RPIA General Membership meeting at 7 PM at the North Rosedale Community House, 18445 Scarsdale.

- The topic is Neighborhood Safety, and the agenda includes information from the City of Detroit's Municipal Parking Department about a citywide upgrade to the city's metered parking system that utilizes advanced technologies.
- Candidates for 2016 RPIA officers and board positions will be introduced.
- And light snacks will be provided by RPIA board members. See you there!!

## Still Time to Add Color to Our Islands

**ROSEDALE PARK'S ISLANDS ARE A UNIQUE FEATURE OF OUR NEIGHBORHOOD – AND IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO ADD FLOWERS.**

Melanie Howard, who lives on Grandville between Midland and Keeler, was weeding some of the hosta beds in late June. "We planted begonias because they are easy to care for and don't need a lot of watering," said Howard.

If your island needs a tune up, contact some of your neighbors to put together a simple, inexpensive plan. Tina Castleberry, a master gardener who lives on Faust, is the owner of the new garden store in the neighborhood called The Garden Bug. "A simple way to spruce up your island is to weed and add mulch which improves the curb appearance," said Castleberry. "Along

with the normal perennials, annual flowering plants that add color to the islands are marigolds, salvia and begonias. They are inexpensive, drought tolerant and last through October."

Castleberry, one of RPIA's Island Beautification Committee judges, says the judging will begin near the end of July, so it is not too late to spruce up the islands.

The Garden Bug, located on the corner of Stahelin and Grand River, is now offering to block captains or persons responsible for island maintenance, a special price for flats of flowers for \$7, before July 8.



*Great job on the island, Warwick (Midland to Keeler).*



*Melanie Howard weeds the island beds on Grandville (Midland to Keeler).*

## Special Assessment District Could Provide 24/7 Security

Sometime next spring, resident volunteers from Rosedale Park, North Rosedale, Grandmont #1, Grandmont and Minock Park, will circulate petitions to homeowners in the five areas seeking permission to create a Special Assessment District (S.A.D.). If this initiative passes, the city will assess a special yearly tax of around \$250 for each home in the five areas. This money will pay for street and sidewalk snow removal, plus provide 24/7 neighborhood security.

### **PUBLIC SAFETY MAJOR CONCERN**

Public safety is one of the top concerns for all Detroit residents. Fear of crime is one of the main reasons long-time residents move out of our community and out of the City altogether. Without improvements in public safety, it will be impossible to stabilize our neighborhoods. Our residents want more consistent and visible patrol presence and a quick response when crime occurs.

Surveys conducted within our community indicate a majority of residents support the creation of a Special

Assessment District within the Grandmont Rosedale neighborhoods to provide improved security and snow removal services, as long as those funds are controlled by a neighborhood entity and spent according to a locally determined plan.

### **PATROLS BY OFF-DUTY OFFICERS**

The S.A.D. tax will fund an armed off-duty Detroit police officer with arrest powers and a ride-along security guard in an older Detroit Police car that will patrol our streets and respond directly to us if we need immediate help.

"Creating a Special Assessment District is a unique opportunity to stabilize funding for security, and snow removal of streets and sidewalks, which will improve the value of the homes in our neighborhood," said Phil Schloop, Rosedale Park resident on Ashton. For more information, call Grandmont Rosedale Development Corp., Community Security Program, 313-387-4732 or email: [safety@grandmontrosedale.com](mailto:safety@grandmontrosedale.com).

## Trash Container Repairs are FREE!!

### DOES YOUR COURVILLE TRASH CONTAINER NEED REPAIRS?

Many containers in our neighborhood have lost their lids or their wheels and some even have holes in their sides. No problem... you can get them repaired for FREE! Just call Advanced Disposal at 844-233-8764 and ask to have your container repaired. They will send a technician out to fix it up, at no cost to you!

## Suspect Squatters? Call the Rosedale Vacant Property Committee!

If you notice people going into a vacant house on your block, and you suspect they do not have legal access to the property, please report the location to one of your Rosedale Vacant Property Committee Members right away:

- Pam Weinstein – 313-231-2244
- Nancy Bitzarakis – 313-408-8420
- Jill Laufer – 313-673-6697

## High Grass and Weeds? Request a Ticket!

Some Rosedale properties are not being properly maintained – high grass and weeds make our neighborhood look terrible! Do yourself and all Rosedale residents a favor and call the City of Detroit Environmental Department at 313-876-0974 to report the location for investigation. The property owners may qualify for a ticket, which often motivates people to address this problem. Be sure you have an accurate street address to report the location when you call.

## Solid Waste Schedules Available – Request Your Copy!

Confused about when to put out your recycling and when to put out your bulk and yard waste? No problem – we’ve got a printed schedule that you will be able to follow with ease. Call to request your copy from Rosedale Clean and Safe Committee Co-Chair Carolyn Akpe at 313-493-0824.

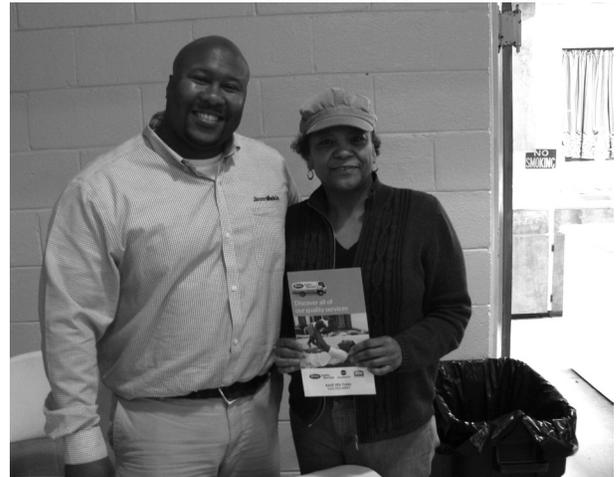
## Block Captains' Quarterly Meeting

Sunday, August 23, 2015 • 4-6 PM  
at the GRDC office • 19800 Grand River

**TASTY TREATS FOR ALL!**

## May General Meeting Report

At the May general membership meeting, presenters offered tips on lawn maintenance, planting rain gardens and the use of rain barrels. A raffle closed the meeting with many in the audience winning useful items to help maintain their home landscapes.



Mildred Patrick, right, wins free lawn maintenance from Scotts representative, Michael Nickleson, left.



Erma Leaphart, a North Rosedale resident and Sierra Club representative, and Larry Castleberry, RPIA board member, demonstrating how easy it is to put together a rain barrel.

# RPIA Contact List 2015

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### COMMUNITY INFO LINE WEBSITE EBLAST CRIME ALERTS

- eBlast – sign up with an email to [rpiablast@gmail.com](mailto:rpiablast@gmail.com)
- Web site – go to [www.rosedalepark.org](http://www.rosedalepark.org)
- Community Info Line – leave a message at 313-927-1089
- Crime alerts – send an email to [grandmontrosedalecrimealert@googlegroups.com](mailto:grandmontrosedalecrimealert@googlegroups.com)

## JOIN



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

- Annual dues of \$45\* enclosed.  
(Make check payable to RPIA.)
- Pay online at [www.rosedalepark.org](http://www.rosedalepark.org)
- I want to volunteer. Contact me.
- I want to receive the weekly eBlast.

Mail payment to RPIA  
P. O. Box 23113  
Detroit, MI 48223

\*Outer Drive and Evergreen residents pay \$25.



Block captains discuss issues at the May meeting. For more information on RPIA's block captains network, call, Pam Weinstein, 231-2244.

## Our Vision & Our Mission

The Vision of the Rosedale Park Improvement Association is a vibrant residential and commercial community that is thriving through collaborative excellence.

The Mission of the Rosedale Park Improvement Association is to encourage neighbors to maintain and increase the beauty, safety and ambience of urban living, through community efforts and the preservation of the historic integrity of the neighborhood.