

# WAVELAND PARK NEWS

WINTER 2021



DES MOINES, IOWA

## ROAD WORK AHEAD

### UNIVERSITY AVENUE PRIMED FOR STREETSCAPING UPDATE.

Next Spring, the City of Des Moines plans to begin road work on the stretch of University Avenue passing through Waveland Park. The design calls for reducing the number of lanes from four to three, including a center turn lane, and provides an opportunity for other roadside improvements.

That's where you come in: What would you like to see happen along University between the Uptown Shopping Center (at 42nd St., below) and the Waveland Business District (near Polk Boulevard)?

Consider bike lanes and sidewalks, traffic signals and crosswalks, signage, electrical wires, and of course, parking. If you have any pain points that could be fixed or ideas to elevate our neighborhood aesthetics, you have two opportunities to weigh in:

Review proposals and share your thoughts via this digital survey by December 17, 2021.

<https://tinyurl.com/lyck9jxa>

Then, preregister to attend a public meeting on Zoom. December 15, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

<https://tinyurl.com/3b23f9t2>

Links for both the survey and meeting signup are posted on our Facebook page: [/WPNAfb](https://www.facebook.com/WPNAfb)

We'll provide updates as they happen, but we hope you'll help shape the project and share your ideas at this early stage.

### One of several proposals for the Uptown Shopping Center area:



# LIGHT UP WAVELAND PARK

It's time for our second-annual Holiday Lights contest—and there will be prizes! Have your displays ready to go the week before Christmas, and our judges will scope out their favorites in these categories:

- Best Outdoor Christmas Tree
- Prettiest Holiday House
- Best Use of Lights and Color
- Brightest Block Award

Meet our judges: The Buckles of Waveland Court.

Tyler Buckles, along with his wife, Izzi, and three children, Everly (6), Stella (4), and Rowan (1.5), below, won our “Prettiest Holiday House” in 2020. They’ll take their expertise on the road and seek this year’s best and brightest.

Waveland  
Parker  
Sherry Borzo  
interviewed  
Tyler about his  
ever-growing  
collection of  
vintage decor:



**Sherry Borzo (SB):** How long have you been neighbors of Waveland Park?

**Tyler Buckles (TB):** We moved to this home in 2014. Christmas decorations started growing and growing since we moved here.

**SB:** Tell us a little about what possesses you to decorate like this.

**TB:** It probably started when I was a little kid. We used to drive around and look at all the people's lights, and it was something that I looked forward to every single year. When I finally had the chance to do it myself, I thought I should pay it forward—maybe I can instill some of that Christmas magic for other families driving by. And of course, I saw the movie *Christmas Vacation* and thought, “Oh yes, this is what I need to do!”

**SB:** Did you have that moment when you plugged the [power cord] ends together and nothing worked?

**TB:** Yes, I've had that moment a few times. But now everything is on a digital timer, so I don't have to do the manual plugging-in every day. There's definitely been some times when things don't work out as planned. There's some troubleshooting involved.

**SB:** When do you have to start?

**TB:** I typically try to get started in November, right after Thanksgiving. [Last year] it was unusually warm, and I was working from home anyway, so I went out and did a little bit at a time. It was nice to do it when it was warm and I did not have to wear gloves.

Franklin Avenue Library

## CINEMA CLUB

Mark your calendar! The Franklin Cinema Club has announced its roster of films and dates for the new year. Hosted by Franklin Avenue librarian Kevin Kretschmer (who holds a masters degree in film studies), the cinema club operates on the same simple principle as book clubs. “Attendees just need to watch the film beforehand, then show up for some scintillating conversation!” Kretschmer says.

All titles are available in the library's DVD collection or on Kanopy, the library's free online streaming service. To learn about Kanopy, visit [dmpl.org/collections/kanopy](http://dmpl.org/collections/kanopy).

The Franklin Cinema Club meets at 6:30 PM on the third Monday of each month at Franklin Library (5000 Franklin Avenue).

*Upcoming titles:*

**Monday, January 24** (one week late due to MLK Day)  
*Memento* (2000), directed by Christopher Nolan.

**Monday, February 21**  
*The Watermelon Woman* (1996), directed by Cheryl Dunye.

**Monday, March 21**  
*Rashomon* (1950), directed by Akira Kurosawa.

All in all, it takes about two full days. Now I have it figured out and organized where I can pull something out and know exactly where it's going to go, so that's cut down on some of the time. But then again, I'm always adding something new every year.

**SB:** I heard through the Waveland grapevine that some of the decorations you have out there are vintage. How did you come to access these pieces?

**TB:** I've always had this affinity for older Christmas decorations. I wasn't living in the 50s, 60s, or 70s, but for some

reason that look just captures the Christmas spirit for me. Over the years, through thrift stores and online marketplaces, I've been able to slowly start collecting. Most of the lights are LED because of power usage, but a lot of display pieces are old school.

**SB:** Are your kids involved in the decorating?

**TB:** Yes! The six and four year old come out and help. They hold lights and they try to be involved which is



The Buckles' 2020 holiday light display

pretty cute. So maybe they'll get started early and I can pass on the hard work to them.

**SB:** And what do your neighbors think of all your decorating?

**TB:** Well, they tell me to my face that it looks good and they like it, so we'll keep it at that. It's a fun thing to do, and as long as it gives somebody a smile this season, I'm 100 percent okay with it.

## EMBRACE WINTER DSM

Friends of Des Moines Parks is hosting a series of outdoor, all-ages winter adventures, including a jaunt through our very own Waveland Golf Course. Specific activities will depend on the weather and are subject to change. Follow [friendsofdmparks.org/events](https://friendsofdmparks.org/events) for updates.

**Saturday, January 8, 1-4 PM**

**Union Park**

2009 Saylor Rd

Compete in a scavenger hunt, ride on the carousel, and try your hand at snow painting before warming up at neighborhood gem Captain Roy's.

**Saturday, January 15, 1-4 PM**

**Gray's Lake**

2101 Fleur Dr.

Stretch your legs on the walking loop, do some bird watching, and end up at Confluence Brewery.

**Saturday, January 22, 4-7 PM**

**Waveland Golf Course**

4908 University Ave.

Hike or snowshoe to the Observatory for a star presentation and some cocoa, then head inside the clubhouse for pizza and drinks.

# INSIDER'S TOUR

Meet Lu Spaine, owner of Zumi at 42nd and University. Stop in to help celebrate Zumi's 20th anniversary and to shop for wonderful gifts from all around the world



Circle one, La Mie for:  
 Breakfast     Lunch

Where do you spend your wooden nickel at Campbells?  
*I like to support Roosevelt High School.*

The best last-minute gift in the neighborhood?  
*Fair Trade accessories from Zumi, of course! Campbell's Nutrition also has some really great handmade gifts.*

What do you shoot at Waveland Golf Course?  
*Zero!*

Tennis or pickleball at the McCollum courts?  
*I love to play tennis when I have the time and can find an opponent.*

Friederichs Coffee order?  
*Their coffee is the best! I am pretty boring and just order a tall of the regular for the day.*

What's the last or best thing you saw at the Des Moines Playhouse?  
*The best thing I saw was a hilarious version of Hitchcock's 39 Steps.*

## JOIN THE WPNA!

NAME/BUSINESS NAME \_\_\_\_\_  
 ADDRESS \_\_\_\_\_  
 PHONE \_\_\_\_\_  
 E-MAIL \_\_\_\_\_

### MEMBERSHIP LEVELS

Note: Waveland Park Neighborhood Association is a nonprofit organization. Your membership may be tax deductible and could be eligible for a matching gift from your employer.

- Renewal
- New Membership
- \$20.00 Individual/Family Membership
- \$75.00 Business Membership

### PAYMENT INFORMATION

Please make checks payable to WPNA and mail to:  
 WPNA P.O. Box 30112  
 Des Moines, IA 50310

Payment via PayPal is available at [wavelandpark.org](http://wavelandpark.org) under MEMBERSHIP tab. Include your name, address, and email as a NOTE attached to your payment.

## ABOUT THE WPNA

### Board Members

**President:** Anna Mason  
**Vice President:** Todd Snell  
**Treasurer:** Richard Knapp  
**Secretary:** Chris LoRang  
**Communications Director:** Katy Kiick Condon  
**Historian:** Mark Johnson  
**Members at Large:** Charlie Chedester  
 Nick Coleman  
 Carol Lunde  
 Jacob Ross  
 Joe Wallace

The WPNA is a non-partisan nonprofit organization in which all meetings, programs, and events are free and open to the public. It is the purpose of the WPNA to enhance and maintain the quality of life in Waveland Park.

For questions, comments, or to become a member contact: Waveland Park Neighborhood Association, P.O. Box 30112, Des Moines, IA 50310  
 Email: [info@wavelandpark.org](mailto:info@wavelandpark.org)  
 Web: [wavelandpark.org](http://wavelandpark.org)  
 Facebook: /WPNAfb



## GIFT GUIDE

**WPNA Logo gear:**  
 For the Waveland Parker who has everything.

- Round yard sign, left, \$35
- T-Shirts, new this year!
- Choose small or large image, \$25
- Window decals, \$6

[wavelandpark.org/shop](http://wavelandpark.org/shop)