

THE ROSEDALE PARK NEWS

Sept/Oct 2026 • Vol. LXXIV, No. 4 • Rosedale Park, Detroit, MI 48223 • rosedalepark.org

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A Message from the President



King Louis Sernick celebrates the first year of his reign!

Dear Neighbors,

As we pivot into autumn, I want to start by extending a huge thank you to our Nominating Committee. They did an incredible job putting together a dynamic slate of community leaders and volunteers dedicated to keeping our neighborhood thriving. Take some time to review their bios right here in this issue. Please join us at our next general membership meeting on September 15 to meet our nominees in person, and mark your calendars for our official vote on November 10.

This upcoming transition carries a bit of extra personal weight for me. After two years serving as President, I will be stepping down at the end of this term. When I first took on this role, I had zero children at home; by the time I step down, I'll have two. It has been an absolute honor to serve RPIA, but my bandwidth has officially met its match! I am deeply grateful for the trust, support, and community spirit you have shown

Rosedale Meet-Ups!

Join us for a Rosedale Happy Hour on Thursday, Sept. 3 from 5-7 pm at Miss Eva's Speakeasy (NA options also available). Miss Eva's is located at 19566 Grand River, near PAGES Bookshop.

Can't make that date? Join us on Thursday, Oct. 1 – same time, same location. Y'all come!

me throughout this journey. I will continue on as President Emeritus to support our incoming president.

While I am definitely not ready to say goodbye to summer just yet, there is still plenty to look forward to as the weather cools down. I can't wait to celebrate with everyone at our Fall Festival on October 4. Thank you for everything you do to make our neighborhood such a special place to live.

Warmly,

David Sernick, RPIA President

Rosedale Park Kicks Off Autumn with Annual Fall Festival on October 4

By David Sernick, RPIA President

As the leaves turn colors and the cooler air settles in, RPIA invites neighbors to celebrate the season at the annual Fall Festival on Sunday, October 4, from 1-4 PM at Stoepel Park. Activities will be centered at the playscape and picnic shelter on the Outer Drive side. Easy parking in the lot entered from Westwood.

The afternoon features live music led by legendary Detroit jazz musician (and Greenview Block Captain) Ron English, along with local food pop-ups highlighting the culinary talent of a number of Rosedale resident chefs. Families can enjoy fresh apple cider doughnuts, a hands-on petting zoo, and a pumpkin decorating station for kids.

Whether catching up with old friends or meeting new ones, all residents are welcome to gather in Stoepel Park and celebrate the vibrant community spirit that makes Rosedale Park special.



ROSEDALE ELECTIONS COMING UP IN NOVEMBER

The Rosedale Park Improvement Association holds its annual election of officers and board members at its November membership meeting. Below we publish the names, photos, and short bios of all the candidates that will be on the ballot. Officers (president, 1st vice president, 2nd vice president, and treasurer) serve one-year terms. Board members normally serve three-year terms, but some may serve a two-year or a one-year term. Plan to attend the September membership meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 7 pm at the North Rosedale Community House, 18445 Scarsdale, where all these candidates will be introduced. Voting will take place at the following membership meeting on Tuesday, November 10.

OFFICER CANDIDATES

SEAN VANDENBRINK, Glastonbury Avenue President 2027

I've been a resident of Rosedale for 33 years and a board member for the past 2. This place has shaped me in many ways, and I hope to reciprocate through serving this community where I can. I have a master's degree in ceramics from Wayne State; I work as a clay sculptor at Ford. In 2012, I bought a Rosedale home now dubbed the Glastonbury Collective, an artist live/work space where we host sap boils, plant swaps, and art markets.



LATONYA WOODS-MURABITO, Greenview Road 1st Vice President 2027

LaTonya Woods-Murabito has enjoyed a portfolio career. She began her collegiate career at the University of Michigan School of Music, Theater, and Dance with a major in viola performance and education, but ended up with BA in Business Administration from Eastern Michigan University. She currently works for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan as a Senior Project Manager. An RPIA Board member since 2025, she chairs the Communications Committee and is our eBlast editor. She and her husband, Michael, moved to Rosedale Park in 2020.



SAMANTHA BRIDGES, Minock Street 2nd Vice President 2027

My name is Samantha Bridges, and I'm a proud Rosedale Park resident, born and raised here. I'm the Minock Street block captain, and the proud mother of four boys. I've worked at Ford Motor Company for more than 11 years and am an active community and labor organization member. As the new 2nd Vice President of the Rosedale Park Improvement Association, I'm committed to strengthening our neighborhood and building a brighter future together.



FRANK RABEN, Greenview Road Treasurer 2027

My name is Frank Raben; I have lived on Greenview Rd since 1978. I retired from a career in banking in 2009. I have served RPIA as a Block Captain for several years and currently



serve as a Co-Captain and your Treasurer for 11 of the past 12 years, I also served as RPIA President in 2024. I represented RPIA on the Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation Board from 1990 to 2020.

BOARD CANDIDATES

CYNTHIA LEWIS, Grandville Avenue Board member 2027-2029

I am a 30 plus year resident of Rosedale Park. I picked this vibrant neighborhood because of the strong sense of community, historic homes, and tree-lined streets. Through the years, I have had the privilege to serve as our block captain, and I continue to support activities with RPIA, and the Rosedale Reads book club. This has allowed me to meet amazing residents committed to keeping Rosedale Park a thriving community and being great neighbors to one another.



KYLE OFORI, Stahelin Avenue Board member 2027-2029

My wife and I moved to Rosedale Park in April 2022, and we are proud first-time homebuyers. This is my eighth year living in Detroit overall. I enjoy running and biking, so you may see me around the neighborhood or at Stoepel Park on occasion. I'm also getting into gardening this year and will take any tips about keeping plants alive and healthy. I look forward to meeting more of you all!



MONA ALI, Warwick Street Board member 2027-2029

I've called Rosedale Park home since 2020 and love being part of the community. A lifelong Detroit resident, I previously lived in the Cody Rouge and Aviation Sub neighborhoods for 32 years. I've worked in the Mayor's Office for 13 years, previously serving as District 7 Manager and currently as a Senior Advisor on the Neighborhood Economic Development Team. Outside of work, I enjoy gardening, home projects, and spending time with my husband & family.



REGGIE TUNSTULL, Artesian Street Board member 2027-2028

My name is Wayne Reginald Tunstull, but you can call me Reggie. I have lived in Rosedale



Park for 41 years. I worked for Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan for 36 years as a Trainer for Nurses and Doctors for the Managed Care unit, and as a Project Manager prior to my retirement in 2007. I currently work for Home Depot and am having fun doing so. I will enjoy working for my community as well as being a Board member.

TONIA A. HOLLOWAY, Rosemont Avenue
Board member 2027–2028

A native Detroiter, Tonia A. Holloway graduated from Detroit Redford High School and earned a B.S. in Health Systems Management from Ferris State University. She is a health insurance professional with over 30 years experience. Tonia has served as Block Captain for 10 + years, as well as in various roles on the RPIA board since 2022. She currently serves as a member of the Redford Theatre and the Detroit Redford High School Alumni Nonprofit Organization.



JO MORGAN-STERENBERG, W. Outer Drive
Board member 2027

Jo and her husband, Chad, moved to Rosedale Park in 2013 and recently welcomed a



daughter, Simona. Jo is a stained glass artist, urban gardener, and social worker-therapist in Detroit. She enjoys walking her dog around Rosedale to admire gardens and chat with neighbors. She also loves a good potluck, growing backyard fruit and vegetables, cooking with friends, bopping around the city's art and music world, and playing in Michigan parks, lakes, and trails.

DALE THOMSON, Rosemont Avenue
Board member 2027

Native Detroiter Dale Thomson and his wife, Anne, have lived in Rosedale since 2001. He's a former RPIA board member and long-time (~20 years) board member (recent president) of Grandmont Rosedale Development Corporation. He coached for many years in the Rosedale-Grandmont Little League, serves on the board of Connect Detroit, and was a founding member of Citizen Detroit. He is a professor at UM-Dearborn who researches urban revitalization and politics.



HELP US REACH OUR 2026 MEMBERSHIP DUES GOAL!

Dues are \$45, or \$25 for residents of Outer Dr. and Evergreen. You can pay your dues online at rosedalepark.org, or by mailing a check to RPIA, P.O. Box 23113, Detroit MI, 48223. Make checks payable to RPIA.

\$17,000 to date

\$0

GOAL: \$27,000

RPIA CONTACTS LIST 2026

WHO TO CONTACT

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RPIA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT David Sernick	1ST VICE PRESIDENT Ivan Johnson	2ND VICE PRESIDENT Tonia Holloway	TREASURER Frank Raben	PRESIDENT EMERITUS Frank Raben
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RPIA BOARD OF DIRECTORS

2024–2026	Larry Castleberry	Pedro Coracides	Zack Moulton
2025–2027	Ulysses Freeman	Sean Vandenbrink	LaTonya Woods
2026–2028	Bonnie White	Samantha Bridges	Veronica Williams

OTHER CONTACTS

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Rosedale's Standout Scholars

By Kimberly Uhuru, Scholarship Committee Chair

This year, RPIA was able to increase our scholarship awards from two to three students. The 2027 winners are Greenview resident Raven Webb (Ferndale High School), Artesian resident Jeffrey Bridges (Cass Technical High School), and Greenview resident Adonis Hines (Detroit Edison PSA High School). We are so proud of these graduates and wish them the very best in their future endeavors.



Raven participated in varsity cheer. She served as a cheer coach for the Police Athletic League, helped set up the Michigan State Fair, and volunteered at Forgotten Harvest. Her hard work helped her snag the Dean's Award at her high school. At Madonna University, she will study to become an ultrasound technician.



While studying at Cass Tech, Jeffrey stayed busy with robotics and chess team. He gained career training at Little Caesars Global Resource Headquarters and the State of Michigan Department of Natural Resources. It became clear to Jeffrey that his primary interest was science. He plans to major in Chemical Engineering at Michigan State University this fall.



Adonis' extracurricular activities included varsity baseball, bowling, and mentoring younger boys in the National Inspirational Role Model Visionary program – while holding down a 3.89 GPA. For fun, Adonis turns to gaming and coding with a goal of starting an e-sports streaming business. This fall he will major in Information Technology at Grand Valley State University.

Winner's Circle Winner!

By Ruth Remus, for the Island Beautification Committee

The RPIA Island Beautification Committee is pleased to announce that we have a new Winner's Circle Winner. The beautiful island on Glastonbury between Fenkell and Chalfonte is again the 1st Place Winner! Having achieved the first place award for three years in a row, this island now earns the coveted Winner's Circle Award.

Don't miss the RPIA General Membership Meeting on Tuesday, September 15 at 7pm at the North Rosedale Community House (18445 Scarsdale), when the rest of our 2026 Island Beautification Winners will be announced.

