



A Quarterly Newsletter of the
Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association [SONA]
P.O. Box 12042
Des Moines, Iowa 50312

www.sonadsm.com

Edited by Barb Schmidt

Neighbors joining to build a better community

Vol. XXVII

Fall 2025

Fall SONA Quarterly Meeting

Thursday, Nov. 13

Salisbury House (North entrance)

6:00 Social with provided appetizers & desserts

6:30 Program

“What’s Happening on the Avenues”

Lauren Kollauf, Exec. Dir.

Brief business meeting

The Avenues of Ingersoll & Grand is a nonprofit that provides economic development, marketing & promotion, enhanced maintenance and beautification of this commercial, cultural and residential district located in the historical heart of Des Moines, Iowa.

The Avenues is rich with character, small shops, public art and a vibrant dining scene. Come live, shop, dine and play on The Avenues!



Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association Achieves 501(c)(3) Status!

The Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association (SONA) is proud to announce its official designation as a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization! This milestone marks a significant step forward in SONA's mission to enhance community engagement, preserve neighborhood character, and promote inclusive, sustainable development.

What This Means for SONA:

- Tax-Deductible Donations: Residents and supporters can now make charitable contributions that are tax-deductible, encouraging greater financial support for local initiatives.
- Grant Eligibility: SONA can now apply for a wider range of public and private grants to fund beautification projects, community events, and safety improvements.
- Stronger Community Voice: With nonprofit status, SONA gains increased credibility when advocating for neighborhood needs with city officials and other stakeholders.
- Transparency & Accountability: The designation reinforces SONA's commitment to responsible governance and financial stewardship.

This achievement opens new doors for collaboration and growth, and SONA looks forward to working with neighbors and partners to build a vibrant, connected community. Stay tuned for upcoming events and opportunities to get involved!

Learn more about SONA and our neighborhood by attending the next SONA neighborhood meeting on November 13 at the Salisbury House..

Editor's note...A huge thank you to Mark Slocum for preparing all the paperwork to secure the 501 c(3) status for our neighborhood association!

Interested in being part of the SONA Board???

Learn about City of Des Moines issues that are affecting our neighborhood

Be involved with ideas for activities and events in our neighborhood

Get to know more neighbors

Positions up for election at the January 29, 2026 are:

President, Secretary, Director (1 yr.), Director

All terms of office are 2 years unless otherwise noted.

Contact Angel Erickson, President, angel.m.erickson@gmail.com

SONA's Houses Have History;

An American writer who was a pioneer in dealing with controversial topics in novels for young people once lived at 231 42nd Street in our neighborhood!



Jeannette Hyde Eyerly

Born June 7, 1908, in Topeka, KS; died August 18, 2008, in Des Moines, IA. Publicist, health-care executive, novelist, and author. Eyerly was a fifty-something mother of adult daughters when she began to write novels for young adults. She had worked at her local library as a publicity director and as a board member and president of the Des Moines Child Guidance Center. Eyerly was married to Frank Eyerly who was Editor of the Editorial page at the Des Moines Register.

She ventured into fiction writing with firsthand knowledge of teenagers and, at least indirectly, the serious challenges faced by many teenagers at the middle-mark of the twentieth century. That is what she wrote about. Eyerly's novels were typical of their time as cautionary tales for adolescent girls, but they stood out from the rest in several ways. Eyerly was one of the earlier novelists to veer away from the relatively frivolous issues of boys and report cards and parents who don't seem to understand.

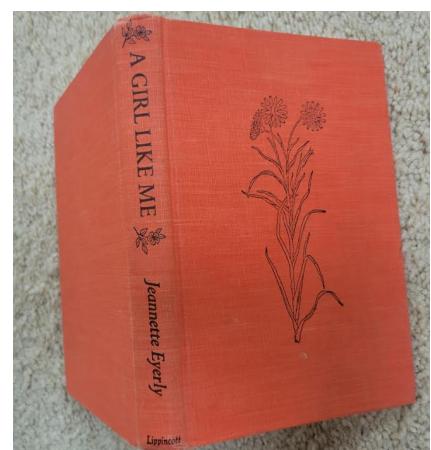
She wrote about the very serious issues that have always traumatized young people, but were only beginning to attract adult attention in the 1960s: drugs and alcohol, teenage pregnancy and abortion, parental and sexual abuse, depression and suicide, and an increasing school dropout rate, among others. Eyerly reached out to young people directly, embedding her moral messages in stories that she hoped would entertain more visibly than they preached. Not all critics rated her efforts as literary masterpieces, but many recommended them as insightful educational resources with engaging plots that teenagers would enjoy reading.

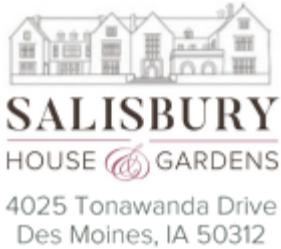
Eyerly won a Christopher Award for *Escape from Nowhere* (1969), about a girl who attempts to escape the emptiness of her home life in the artificial embrace of marijuana. For boys, she wrote *See Dave Run* (1978), the story of a runaway who ultimately chooses suicide over life at the margin of his peer group. Other novels appealed to both boys and girls. *Drop-Out* (1963) urges teenagers to stay in school, and *More Than a Summer Love* (1962) reminds young people not to grow up too fast or marry too young. Eyerly wrote more than fifteen novels, many of them based on information gleaned from troubled girls in treatment or guidance programs. Her last young adult novel was *Someone to Love Me* (1987), a story of teenage pregnancy.

Eyerly's few later writings consisted of nonfiction intended for adults. Several of her pieces appear under the pseudonyms Jeannette Griffith (a joint pseudonym with Valeria Winkler Griffith), Miriam Carlock, Linda Lee, and the male name Sandy McTavish.

Source: Des Moines Register Obituary

Note...what is the history of your house? Would you like to share it in the SONA Newsletter? Contact Barb Schmidt, Editor, bjschmidt@dmacc.edu





Upcoming Events

For additional information and event tickets go to the website www.salisburyhouse.org

Spirits & Sparkles: Holiday magic - shaken *and* stirred

December 5 6:00—10:00 General admission: \$100

Put an abundance of sparkle and a whole lot of spirit in your yuletide fun at our annual holiday party! Mingle and jingle with fellow party-goers, enjoy live entertainment, and drinks. Be the first to see the estate's decked halls at their glitteriest. 21 +

Holly & Ivy

December 6 & 7, 2025 10:00 am—4:00 pm Each Day

Explore Salisbury's decked halls and vote for the best decorated room in this holiday design contest. While you're here listen to live music played on the estate's one-of-a-kind Steinway D, enjoy a treat at the pop-up sweet shop, and pay a visit to old Saint Nick.

Tickets purchased Online by Nov. 5.....\$20

Online or At the Door, General Admission... \$25

Children (6-12) ...\$5, (5 & younger) Free



Cookie Decorating Workshop

10:30 AM Each Day (Dec. 6 & 7) \$75 (includes one ticket to Holly & Ivy)

Join Kristin from Biker Chic Cupcakes! Learn top tricks of the trade for decorating with royal icing, practice your new-found skills, and take home a half dozen of your own creations. No experience necessary; supplies are provided. 12 years +

Holiday Concert

December 7 General Admission \$65

Doors open at 6:00 pm, Performance starts at 7:00 pm with two 45-minute sets and 20 minute intermission.

Tina Haase Findlay is a powerhouse performer whose unique blend of blues, soul, and rock has garnered comparisons to legends such as Etta James and Janis Joplin. Arrive when doors open and enjoy a little holiday cheer while you mingle and tour the holiday decorated estate. Your ticket includes the concert, complimentary wine, beer, alcohol-free selections and desserts.

Calendar of Upcoming Events

November 13 **Quarterly meeting, Salisbury House, 6:00 social, 6:30 program**

December 3 **Board Meeting at Caribou Coffee on Ingersoll, 6:30 pm**

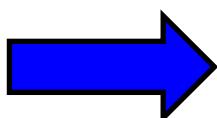
2026

January 29 **Quarterly Meeting, Salisbury House, 6:00 social, 6:30 program**

April 23 **Quarterly Meeting, Salisbury House, 6:00 social, 6:30 program**

August 4 **National Night Out & Picnic at Grrenwood Park, 5:30 social, 6:00 potluck**

November 12 **Quarterly Meeting, Salisbury House, 6:00 social, 6:30 program**



Renew or become a member for 2026

Salisbury Oaks Neighborhood Association (SONA)

Name(s): _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail _____

Dues: \$10 per household per calendar year **Join now for 2026**

Mail this form with your check to:

SONA, PO Box 12042, DM, IA 50312

OR use Venmo...



venmo

Support the association that supports you!!!

2024-25 SONA Board of Directors

President...Angel Erickson

Angel.m.Erickson@gmail.com

Vice-president...Martha Crist

Mc2crist@gmail.com

Treasurer...Mark Slocum

m.slocum@outlook..com

Secretary...J. Mark Schmidt

jmarkschmidt42@gmail.com

At-Large Directors:

Kyle Lovseth

Kyle.lovseth@gmail.com

Mariah Klemp

Mariah@sweethomedsm.com

Yolanda Cintron

ycblazek@gmail.com