

The Eastside Monthly

Fast Happenings in the Neighborhood

1619 E. Kalamazoo St., Lansing, MI 48912 — (517) 485-7630
 www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org — allenneighborhood@sbcglobal.net

Volume VI, Issue VII

July 2006

Inside this issue:

Allen Neighborhood Center Update	2
Across the Neighborhood	3
Growing in Community	4
Community Builder's Toolbox	5
Healthy News	6

Neighborhood Meetings

July 5: ENO 7:00 Foster

July 6: FAIR 7:00

July 11: PLACE 6:30

July 12: Friends of Hunter Park 6:30

July 19: Foster Your Neighborhood 7:00 Foster

July 24: ANC Board 4:30

July 27: Green Oaks 6:00 Christ Lutheran

The Eastside Monthly is a publication of Allen Neighborhood Center. For general comments or to submit news for the next edition, contact Dan Stanaway at 485-7630 or email ancdan@sbcglobal.net by **the 12th of the preceding month.**

Funding for the Eastside Monthly is provided in part by the Michigan State Housing Development Authority.

Cooperative Effort Reducing Red Tagged Dwellings

Over the past two years, organized neighborhood groups, including those on the Eastside, have worked continuously with City Council members, the mayor's office, and Code Compliance to reduce the number of homes in Lansing that are red-tagged. We've covered these efforts before in the Eastside Monthly, most recently in February. Since then, we've seen some significant progress.

According to Jim McCue of Code Compliance, reducing the length of time a dwelling is red-tagged is a priority of his department. To do this, McCue reports that Mayor Bernero has proposed the formation of a Red Tag Response Team, consisting of four new full time employees, a full-time Code Compliance Officer and three full-time premise officers. This team, with support from the Law Office, will maintain an inventory of red-tagged houses, follow up on correction notices, and, for those building owners who fail to make the required improvements, submit their properties for court ordered compliance or demolition.

Over the last 12 months, judges of the 54-A District Court have seen more than 95 cases, resulting in 47 of the oldest red-tagged units being fixed. The remaining cases are in various stages of the process. Owners of red-tagged houses will also now face fines for each month their unit is red-tagged, making inaction very expensive.

Alert

Eastside neighborhood watches and associations (ENO and many smaller groups) work continuously to improve our neighborhoods. ACORN, a national organization, has targeted the Eastside and red-tagged housing for recruitment and fund-raising. Please think twice before donating money to an organization that has come lately to this issue and whose local operation is run out of Ann Arbor.

2nd Annual Hunter Park MusicFest

We have confirmed the line-up for the 2006 Hunter Park MusicFest! The Lash, Ritmo, and another band yet to be announced, will be rockin' in the park from 4:00-8:00 PM on August 19. This is a free event hosted by Friends of Hunter Park. Volunteer help is needed! Please come to the July 12 meeting at 6:30 to learn how you can contribute to this Eastside event.

Hunter Park Update

Path: The Hunter Park Path, the half-mile long, 8-foot wide recreational path, funded by the Cool Cities grant awarded last year, is expected to be complete by July 10...or else! Once the path is installed, ANC will be organizing walking clubs. Watch for details next month. In the process of laying the path, BBR Progressive Concrete will dismantle the chain-link fence on the north side of the park, as well as prepare the Garden House site.

Garden House: If all goes according to plan, the Hunter Park Garden House will be erected in July. Currently, the Lansing Building Safety Division is reviewing the project. Once the review is done, ANC will oversee the assembly and equipping of the Garden House. The Food Team has organized a Garden House Planning Committee and has hired a new Youth Garden Coordinator to manage youth programming. If you are interested in being a part of this project, please contact Judith at 367-2468.

Pool Improvements: Lansing Parks and Recreation has applied for a grant from the Michigan Natural Resources Trust Fund for pool improvements that include a zero depth entry, mechanical upgrades, a new drain system and the addition of a splash pool. We will know the outcome of this grant by fall. Currently, Parks is repairing the drain system and hopes to complete this by July 4. In the meantime, the pool at Moores Park is open.

ANC Update

Activities and programs offered by Allen Neighborhood Center

YSC Member of the Month

July's YSC Member of the Month is Demaurie Holloway. Demaurie is a 6th grader at Bingham school. Demaurie was chosen for his work ethic and enthusiasm. Congratulations Demaurie!



Kid News from YSC

This summer, YSC meets 1:30-3:30 PM, on Tuesdays and Thursdays. Besides mowing lawns, the youth will be attending camps and raising funds to send five YSC members to the PeaceJam International Conference in Denver this September. The five have been invited to meet the Dalia Lama and nine other Nobel Peace Prize Laureates, and learn from master peacemakers. If you would like to donate to this effort, please make checks payable to the Allen Neighborhood Center, with "International PeaceJam" in the memo. The kids have raised 1/2 of the \$7000 needed, so if you can help out, we would very much appreciate it.

Attention volunteers: YSC is need of adult volunteers. If you are willing to dedicate a few hours a week to deserving youth, we want you. If interested, contact Rosa at 485-7630 or an-crosa@sbcglobal.net.

Commercial Grants Available

Facade Improvement Grants are still available. The application is on our website: www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org, and at ANC. For more info, contact Kate, our Economic Development Coordinator, at 367-2468 or anckate@sbcglobal.net.

Wednesday Morning Senior Coffee

(Non-seniors are welcome, too!)

July 5: Movie: Whale Rider (2002): On the coast of New Zealand, the Whangara people believe their origin dates to a single ancestor, Paikea, who escaped death. From then on, the Whangara chiefs, the first born sons, have been considered Paikea's direct descendants. Pai, an 11-year-old girl believes she is destined to be the new chief. But her grandfather Koro is bound by tradition to pick a male leader. Pai loves Koro more than anyone in the world, but she must fight him and a thousand years of tradition to fulfill her destiny.

July 12: Michigan Groundwater Stewardship: Stephaney Keroson, an AmeriCorps member with the Michigan Groundwater Stewardship Program, will educate residents about ways they can reduce risks to groundwater supplies. She will present on a number of topics; environmentally friendly lawn and garden care, household waste management, stormwater management, wells and septs, and more.

July 19: Michigan Princess Riverboat: We will be taking a ride on the Michigan Princess Riverboat. Free to the first 25 individuals who sign up. Additional individuals may go for \$35. Anyone interested needs to RSVP by July 12 to Martha at 775-2310.

July 26: Cross-Cultural Presentation, Japan: Ayaka Nangumo of Japan has graciously offered to visit us and share the culture, history, economics, and agriculture of Japan. This series is offered through the MSU Study Abroad and International Student programs. We are grateful for the members of the international community that educate us in the various cultures from around the world.

Edible Eastside Youth Gardening

Funding from Project for Public Space has enabled us to add two wonderful and talented persons to the Food Team. Please welcome:

· **K'Anna Burton:** Masters of Arts in Education, Outdoor/Environmental Education, MSU, whose background ranges from holistic health to earth education program development.

· **Kate Nault:** B.A. Social Science, Major in Anthropology, MSU, whose focus is sustainable development and food security within our community (Allen Street resident).

These two women will create and orchestrate the Youth Gardening Program by leading youngsters from soil to seed to plants to harvest. Activities will take place in the Community Garden Project plot at the Paradise Lot this summer and the Hunter Park Garden House in the fall.

Breadbasket

Breadbasket is moving to Tuesdays! Beginning **July 11**, the Breadbasket Program is moving to Tuesday afternoons 1:00-6:00 PM.

The **over-the-counter medicines** will be distributed on July 18, and every third Tuesday of the month from 1:00-4:30 PM.

ANC is closed June 30-July 4. No programs will be offered during this time.

Allen Street Farmers Market

The Center will re-open July 5 with the Allen Street Farmers Market. Come on down to see what July brings! On **July 19**, the market is going to be **Cookin' with Herb**, where numerous uses and benefits of herbs will be explored.

Across the Neighborhood

Neighborhood News

Kinship Care: Are you taking care of a relative's child? If so, this group is for you. The next Kinship Care meeting is **Saturday, July 8 from 1:30-3:00** at ANC.

Hunter Park MusicFest: We are busily preparing for the August 19 Hunter Park MusicFest! Many helping hands are needed for planning, flyering, and volunteering. If you want to be a Friend, come to the July 12 Friends of Hunter Park meeting at 6:30 to help plan a great event.

PLACE: There is a neighborhood-wide garage sale July 21-22. Contact Jennie for more info, 484-5756.

Neighborhood Junk Day: Kick it to the curb! Clean up the basement. Clear out the garage. It's a neighborhood junk day! To participate you must be a resident on Lansing's Eastside between Shepard and Clippert Streets and between Michigan Ave and I-496. ANC will host a series of block gatherings in late July to discuss details and how you can help. Watch for flyers in your neighborhood. Allen Neighborhood Center is coordinating this event with support from City of Lansing, Lansing Township, FAIR neighbors and members of SSUN.

Attention Eastside Teens! Reach Studio Art Center, located at 1804 S. Washington Ave., **offers free Open Studio for Teens on Wednesdays from 3:00 - 6:00, June 21 through August 16.** Lansing teens are invited to register for this free activity, which will enable them to choose a focus art media and be mentored by art students and volunteers to learn and practice. Space is limited so please register! Teens, age 13 - 19, may attend as many Wednesdays as they want and come anytime between 3:00-6:00.

There are many media possibilities including: clay, jewelry, painting, photography, drawing, fiber art, print making, puppet making. To register, go to www.alicebrinkman.com/reach_studio_art_center.htm or contact Alice at 862-1443 for info.

Summertime Activities for all ages at Foster Library:

- Open storytimes for the littler ones on Tuesdays at 10 AM.
- Preschool Crafts on Wednesday, July 12 and Wednesday, July 26 at 10 AM. No charge, but register by July 10, so we are sure to have enough materials on hand.
- Teens will want to come meet graphic artist Tom Woodruff as he shares drawing and career hints. Thursday, July 13 at 2 PM.
- Adults are invited to join our Book Discussion Group on Thursday, July 20 at 10:30 AM. We will be discussing Philip Roth's American Pastoral. New members welcome.
- On Thursday, July 20, the mascot of the Detroit Tigers will be visiting and on July 27 ventriloquist Vikki Gasko and friends will be on hand. Any questions, call Jean at 485-5185.

Lansing Civic Players: Will perform "The Monsters Under the Bed" and "Seth's Anxiety" July 20-23. Call 484-9191 or log onto www.lansingcivicplayers.org for more information.

Sparrow Needs Volunteers: Seeking volunteers to work in the St. Lawrence Outpatient Surgical Lounge, weekdays from 6:00-9:00 AM. The volunteers play a key role in registering the patients and keeping family informed throughout the patients' stay. Other opportunities include discharging patients, working in the gift shops, or behind the scenes in an office. For more

information call 364-7177.

ontheeastside.org: This new resource, developed by Larry Carr of Dancing Crane, highlights Eastside businesses, entertainment, arts, and even real estate. If you are searching for the pulse of the Eastside, look no further than www.ontheeastside.org!

Free Summer Meals for Kids: The Summer Food Service Program offers summer activities and FREE nutritious meals to children 18 and under. Children attending "open" sites in eligible neighborhoods can participate without completing any application papers. For more info, or to find a site near you call the Food Bank Council of Michigan, (800) 552-4483.




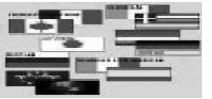








New from Lansing School District

Bilingual, Bicultural Immersion Program: LSD is offering Full Day Bilingual-Bicultural, Chinese/English Immersion Preschool Program at Post Oak Elementary. This 5-day a week-program is open to all preschool students regardless of race, ethnicity, or gender. Students do not need to know any Mandarin Chinese language. To be eligible for the program your child must be 4 years old by December 1, must be a resident of the Lansing School District, and meet eligibility criteria. To enroll call, 325-6242.

Eastern High School: Congratulations to Eastern, as it becomes only the third high school in Michigan to offer the International Baccalaureate program. This program is a recognized leader in the field of international education, encouraging students to be active learners, well-rounded individuals and engaged world citizens. Founded in 1968, the IBO promotes intercultural understanding and respect as an essential part of life in the 21st century. We are proud of Eastern's selection for this significant honor.

July 2006

A Calendar of Eastside Events

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<i>July is... National Doghouse Repairs Month</i> 	<i>July is... Hitchhiking Month</i> 	<i>July is... National Recreation and Parks Month</i> 	<i>July is... National Foreign Language Month</i> 	<i>July is... Family Reunion Month</i> 	<i>July is... National Grilling Month</i> 	1
2	3 ANC Closed Happy Holiday EMJ: 8:00-11:00	4 ANC Closed 	5 SC: 10-noon FM: 2:30-6:30 ENO: 7:00	6 YSC: 1:30-3:30 FAIR: 7:00	7	8 Kinship Care: 1:30-3:00
9	10 EMJ: 8:00-11:00	11 BB: 1:00-6:00 YSC: 3:30-5:30 PLACE: 6:30 TCK: 6:00-8:00	12 SC: 10-noon FM: 2:30-6:30 FHP: 6:30	13 YSC: 1:30-3:30	14	15
16	17 EMJ: 8:00-11:00	18 BB: 1:00-6:00 YSC: 3:30-5:30 TCK: 6:00-8:00	19 SC: 10-noon FM: 2:30-6:30 FYN: 7:00 Foster	20 YSC: 1:30-3:30	21	22
23	24 ANC Brd: 4:30 EMJ: 8:00-11:00	25 BB: 1:00-6:00 YSC: 3:30-5:30 TCK: 6:00-8:00	26 SC: 10-noon FM: 2:30-6:30	27 Green Oaks: 6:00 Christ Lutheran YSC: 1:30-3:30	28	29
30	31 EMJ: 8:00-11:00	<i>July is... National Purposeful Parenting Month</i> 	<i>July is... Social Wellness Month</i> 	<i>July is... Roots and Branches Month</i> 	<i>July is... Herbal/ Prescription Awareness Month</i> 	<i>July is... National Ice Cream Month</i> 

YSC= Youth Service Corps
SC= Senior Coffee
BB= Breadbasket
ENO= Eastside Neighborhood Organization
PP= Prospect Protectors
TCK= Tuesday Chess Knights at Gone Wired Cafe
FYN= Foster Your Neighborhood Assoc.
QT= Quit Tobacco Support group
FHP= Friends of Hunter Park
EMJ= Eastside Musician's Jam Session at Magdalena's Teahouse
FM: Allen Street Farmers Market
All events at ANC unless otherwise indicated
Call 485-7630 for information.