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September 2005

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE ARCADIA COMMUNITY OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Board of Directors

2004 - 2005

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Alma Dietz
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344-5305

Hans Engelke
640 Weaver, 344-1463

Bill Fritsch
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Frank Kovach
921 Berkshire, 372-2204

Ruth Krueger
3706 Barrington, 375-0114

Andrew Phillips
3649 Lancaster, 375-2393

Sue Stapleton
632 Weaver, 383-3461

Bob Totten
3220 West Michigan,
375-5480

Jamie Whitmore
854 Weaver, 345-5808

Doug Williams
858 Dobbin, 375-6926

It only happens once per year!

The Arcadia Neighborhood Association annual meeting will be from 7:00-8:30 PM, Monday, September 26, in the gymnasium at Arcadia Elementary School. Our guest this year will be Randy Schau, Deputy Attorney for the City of Kalamazoo. He will prepare to answer questions about our residential zoning code and help us evaluate ideas for improving enforcement of occupancy and noise controls. We will also review our Neighborhood Watch and New Neighbor Welcoming programs. Finally, we will elect next year's Board of Directors, including a new president and vice-president. If you are interested in joining or helping the board in any capacity, please contact Doug Williams or Frank Kovach by September 20. We need new faces!

What's happening on West Michigan Avenue?

Tree removal along West Michigan Avenue is complete. Road construction on this portion (widening, resurfacing) will not begin until spring, 2006. Hoffman Bros. Construction Company will begin street construction (pavement milling) along KL Avenue between Drake Road and W. Michigan Avenue starting September 9, weather permitting. The southbound two lanes of traffic will be closed with traffic rerouted to the two northern lanes of the road. Two-way traffic (westbound and eastbound) will be maintained throughout the construction project. Access will also be maintained to all business driveways on both sides of the street. Please note that as work is done on the southern lanes, temporary ramps will be built to connect businesses to the lanes of traffic. At this time, left turns will be allowed from the traffic lane. However, if traffic flow is significantly impacted, it might be necessary to restrict left turns in the construction area during certain hours of the day. If you want to receive e-mail updates for this project, please send a request to Deb Droppers at eventkzoo@chartermi.net.

WHO TO CALL:

Public Safety - Emergency 911
Non-emergency 337-8120
Cory Ghiringhelli, CPO,
337-8391

Animal Control 383-8775
Zoning/Trash Violations
337-8221

Parking Violations 342-6383
Public Works 337-8002
Silent Observer 343-2100
KVET (suspicious drug
activity) 337-8880



Great Neighborhoods

WHERE
THE
SEASONS
FLY
BY!

Hello, Neighbor!

Most of you know that this time of year brings transition to the neighborhood. If you are new to Arcadia – Welcome - we look forward to meeting you! If you know of a new neighborhood resident, please take time to introduce yourself. If you find someone who is new to the Kalamazoo area, please contact Ruth Krueger at 375-0114 or Doug Williams at 375-6926 so that we can greet them with a packet of information.

Neighborhood Watch

Our next Neighborhood Watch meeting will be at 7 PM, Tue, September 20 in the Arcadia Elementary School library. Please join us and meet with our City enforcers if you have concerns about noise, traffic, parking, trash, or zoning violations. Residents who are unfamiliar with the rules for living in single-family neighborhoods are also encouraged to attend.

Watch where you park

Some basic rules

- Parking is not permitted on any paved city street between the hours of 2-6 a.m., unless otherwise posted.
- Parking against the flow of traffic is prohibited.
- Parking on streets with curbs is only permitted on the roadway (not on the curb or between curb and sidewalk).
- Lawn parking is permitted on streets without curbs but only in the area immediately adjacent to the roadway.
- Parking in a front or side yard on any dirt or grassy surface is not permitted.

Please, use the sidewalks

In July, we reminded you about respecting the use of bicyclists to use the road. Now that summer has ended, we remind parents to be sure that their children use the sidewalks when going to and from school. The intersection of Middlebury and Boswell can get busy at the opening and closing of school each day.

Thanks for the good times

Doug Williams — Association President

Serving as your neighborhood association president for the last two years has been both challenging and fulfilling. They have been significant years for Arcadia.

The new West Side land use plan has created increased development options for the WMU Foundation to the north of the soccer fields. As in previous years, we turned out impressively and convinced the Planning and City Commissions to postpone approval for a new roadway from Drake to Kendall (pending future studies). We also preserved and clarified a long-standing commitment to set aside the northernmost, wooded portions of the “basswoods” from future development.

Our Neighborhood Watch program is relatively small and informal, but effective and well regarded by City staff. Our Web site, launched in May 2004, regularly attracts 35-40 visitors per day.

Many of you have participated in surveys, hearings, planning meetings, garage sales and occasional parties. Some of you have consistently delivered newsletters, occasionally on short notice. We thank those of you who came forward to help or speak out at critical times. You have affirmed my faith in the Arcadia community.

In October, I will step down as president but will remain active on the board and in Neighborhood Watch for the coming year. Frank Kovach, with whom I have had the pleasure to serve, will step down from his role as vice-president.

At this time, we are seeking up to 4-5 new directors, including a new president and vice-president. Most of the time, the work is light and breezy. Lots of neighbors get to know you and say nice things about you. You have the best neighborhood secretary and treasurer in the City. You can write (almost) anything you want in the newsletter! Give it some thought. We'll see you on the 26th.

ANNUAL DUES — \$5.00/residence

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

PHONE _____

I would like to hear more about serving on the Board or helping in other ways.

Mail to: Hans Engelke, 640 Weaver, Kalamazoo, MI 49006

