

ARCADIA NEIGHBORHOOD REMINDER

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September 2006

THE NEWSLETTER FOR THE ARCADIA COMMUNITY OF KALAMAZOO, MICHIGAN

Board of Directors

2005 - 2006

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HELP KEEP KALAMAZOO BEAUTIFUL *by Hans Engelke*

The City of Kalamazoo recently announced the A-Plus Neighborhood Initiative. The multifaceted project is designed (1) to increase home ownership in Kalamazoo, (2) improve housing code compliance, and (3) improve the appearance of the City's neighborhoods. Over half of Kalamazoo's housing stock consists of rental units and the city would like to see this whittled down.

Because Arcadia is primarily a residential community we strongly encourage this move. Please note that all residential rental units are required to be registered with the city and inspected for code compliance before occupancy is permitted. To see if a rental property has been registered and inspected, or to get more information on Kalamazoo's rental-housing requirements, call the Housing Division of the City's Community Planning and Development Department at 337-8026. For this and any other concerns you may have, you can go to our website (www.kalamazoomi.com/arcadia), click on the Hot Spot Form in the left sidebar, fill it out and submit. We will respond to your queries as quickly as possible.

Fall Leaf Removal/Monthly Bulk Trash Pick Up

by Jamie Whitmore

Most of you should have received your "View from the Curb" but in case you did not or found it confusing this is it in a nutshell. Fall Leaf pick up for all of Arcadia will begin on November 27th (City ordinance prohibits the raking of leaves out into the street prior to the scheduled collection). Monthly bulk trash collection varies for the neighborhood. If you drive to your house using Eldridge or Lancaster your pick up is the 1st Monday of the month. If you live on the streets off Dobbin, Weaver, Westmoreland, Westfall, Farrell or Kendall your pick up is the 2nd Monday of the month. If you have further questions or concerns please call Public Services at 337-8215.

Neighborhood Watch Update

by Jamie Whitmore

It is that time year again when school starts, cooler weather sets in and the hot spots begin to come in with rental concerns, traffic concerns and noise problems. One way to have your voices heard and your concerns known is to attend Neighborhood Watch meetings where you can talk directly to the Neighborhood Housing Inspector and Community Policing Officer among other city officials.

The previous newsletter stated that the next meeting would be September 19th but because the Arcadia Neighborhood Annual Meeting is the following week the Neighborhood Watch meeting will be held in conjunction with the Annual Meeting.

Our guest speakers at the Annual Meeting will be Quality of Life Inspector-Nancy Hess (Nancy used to be Housing Inspector but she will now deal with trash issues, unregistered rentals, and anything else that affects the quality of life in neighborhoods). Also invited are (we are still waiting on confirmation) Arcadia's new Housing Inspector-Dan DeCamp (who deals with inspecting the inside of rental properties and other rental issues) and a representative from Public Safety (Our CPO Jen Haba has a previous engagement with West Main Hill's Neighborhood Watch that evening). Please come and bring your questions and concerns to Arcadia Elementary School on Tuesday, September 26, 2006, beginning at 7:00 PM.

It's That Time *by Bob Totten*

This is the time of year when we drive into the country to buy cider. Therefore, it must be time for the annual meeting of the Arcadia Neighborhood Association. We will elect board members and officers and we always have a speaker on a timely topic. Since it's that time of year that students have recently returned, the speaker will review our zoning and behavior laws for ALL of us.

The meeting is at 7:00 PM on Tuesday, September 26th in the Arcadia Elementary School lunch room. Interested individuals are encouraged to volunteer for the board. Also, the rebuilding of West Michigan Avenue is almost finished. A timely update from Debbie Droppers will inform us what work will be finished this year and what will be delayed to the spring.

WHO TO CALL:

Public Safety - Emergency 911

Non-emergency 337-8120

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