

# Westsider

A quarterly publication for Lansing, Michigan's Westside Neighborhood

Westside  
Neighborhood  
Association



## Westside Neighborhood Association Annual Meeting



Friday Evening, January 28, 2011  
Sexton High School cafeteria 6:00 8:00  
Welcome at 7:00 from the Mayor's Office

**FOOD and BEVERAGE PROVIDED**

*Enter a drawing to win movie tickets and restaurant certificates!*

This is the neighborhood's once a year get together to elect new board members. Help us get the new year off to a great start and support your neighborhood association. Hope to see you there. New neighbors are welcome and encouraged to attend.

## Call for Nominations!

The Westside Neighborhood Association (WNA) seeks to address the issues and concerns of Westside Neighborhood residents; to bring neighbors together to support, enhance, and maintain the Westside's unique qualities as an area that values diversity among its residents; to support excellence in its schools; to improve the quality of life for all residents; and to celebrate the beauty and diversity of its people, housing, parks, and byways. To these ends, the WNA may develop, implement, and administer programs, plans, and policies; receive and disperse funds; and act as a representative of the Westside Neighborhood to any government body or public or private organization. Do you want to be a part of making our community a better place to live? Join the WNA Board of Directors! Contact Iian Mull at 517-899-3161 to be added to the slate of nominees at the annual meeting.

## Highlights from the Fall Social

John Putnams' quilts were a definite hit at the Westside Neighborhood fall social in September. So was Harry Emmon's snazzy yellow 1931 Reo Royale coup. Rep. Joan Bauer and Sylvia Hernandez, Riddle's principal, were welcome guests. Patricia St. George won the goody bag door prize. Many thanks to all who volunteered to make the event a success and to the many neighbors who attended and enjoyed a taste of our neighborhood hospitality!

## Want to Stay Connected?

Send an email to Danielle at [dcasavant@ameritech.net](mailto:dcasavant@ameritech.net) with the subject "WNA" and you will receive email reminders for WNA events and updates on WNA activities. Your address will only be used for official WNA business and will not be shared outside of the WNA.

## Westside Neighborhood Association

### Board of Directors

**President** - John Granger

**Secretary** - Iian Mull

**Treasurer** - Michael Schury

### Board Members

Danielle Casavant

Jonas Chenault

Keith Kris

Douglas Meeks

John Putnam

Carol Rall Carol Skillings

Jocelyn Starr

Diane Thompson

Rudy Wilson

### Board Meetings:

The Westside Neighborhood Association Board of Directors meets the third Wednesday of each month at Lett's Community Center located at 1220 W. Kalamazoo St. Meetings begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. All neighborhood residents are welcome to attend. Please join us as we, together, shape the future of neighborhood. We look forward to meeting you!

### 2011 Meeting Schedule

January 19	February 16
March 16	April 20
May 15	June 22
July 20	August 17
September 21	October 19
November 23	December 21

### Free Home Energy Fitness Visits

Only 160 **FREE** home energy fitness visits are available for qualifying Lansing homeowners and renters who live within the city limits of Lansing! These visits include:

- An energy efficiency specialist inspecting your home to assess your current energy usage (\$200 value)
- An expert consultation on how to reduce your future electric, gas and water consumption and bills
- Installation and demonstration of energy-saving weatherization products (\$100 value)
- How-to information for ongoing energy savings at home

Act quickly to take advantage of the Lansing Energy Fitness Program. Call us at 517.337.0422 and select option 4 or visit the website: [MichiganEnergyOptions.org/programs/home-energy-fitness](http://MichiganEnergyOptions.org/programs/home-energy-fitness)

*To qualify your annual household income must fall within the guidelines noted in the table above.*

# of People in Household	2009 Income must be below:
1	\$36,900
2	\$42,200
3	\$47,450
4	\$52,700
5	\$56,950
6	\$61,150
7	\$65,350
8	\$69,600

### Westside Holiday Tradition Inspires

Located on the traffic island at S. Genesee and Bartlett Streets is a large pine tree. In the past, this tree was adorned with holiday lights. The tree was planted by Mr. Gilbert Hebblewhite in the late 1940's and he began the tradition of decorating the tree for the Holiday season. After he died, in 1973, Mr. Harvey Sackett took over this tradition. A retiree of Lansing Board of Water and Light, Mr. Sackett established power to the tree and the services of the LBWL to string the lights each year. Upon his death, the service continued and the lights were stored by Ms. Sandra Hurlbutt. In 1998 the service was discontinued and the tradition fell into history.

The story of this tree inspired a group of Westside neighbors to form an independent volunteer group called the Westside Neighborhood Beautification Team. If you are interested in learning more about their efforts to beautify the neighborhood, please contact Jesse Keys at 517-285-4671 or email [keysjessew@yahoo.com](mailto:keysjessew@yahoo.com)

### Share your Westside News! Advertise your Westside Business!

The Westsider is delivered to about 2,000 homes in the Westside Neighborhood. We welcome your article suggestions, community announcements, and ads for your local business. Submission deadlines are:

February 28, May 31, August 31, & November 30

All community announcements should refer to events that occur at least one month after the submission deadline. Contact Danielle at [dcasavant@ameritech.net](mailto:dcasavant@ameritech.net) or call 517-402-2785. Ads must attached in JPG, BMP or GIF format. Per issue advertising rates are: 1/8 page, \$40 (2.5" h x 3.5" w); 1/4 page, \$60 (5" h x 3.5" w); and 1/2 page, \$100 (5" h x 7.5" w). There is a 25% discount to place the same ad in four consecutive editions of the Westsider.



### Mid-Michigan Cat Rescue

is an area non-profit group that provides numerous cat related services and programs, including low cost spay and neuter assistance. You can find more information by calling 517-622-4653 or on our website at [www.mid-michigancatrescue.com](http://www.mid-michigancatrescue.com)

### Westside Scholarships

Lansing's Westside Neighborhood Association (WNA) is again offering its annual scholarship for current high school seniors. The Westside Neighborhood Association Scholarship provides two student scholarships worth \$1,000 each toward the 2011-2012 academic year.

One scholarship is based on academic success, leadership, and personal goals. The second scholarship takes into account financial need of the applicants. Applicants must either attend Sexton High School or reside within the boundaries of the Westside Neighborhood, which are Oakland Ave, MLK Jr. Blvd, the Grand River and the west border of the City of Lansing.

The application for the WNA Scholarship is on Page 4 of this newsletter. The deadline to complete the enclosed form and submit it, along with supporting documents, for consideration is Tuesday, March 15, 2011. If you have any questions, please contact Iian Mull, Scholarship Committee Chair, at 517-899-3161.

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Douglas Meeks is a general practice attorney committed to promoting justice and ensuring fairness for all citizens in the legal system.

Mr. Meeks is also a Westside Neighborhood resident and member of the Westside Neighborhood Association Board of Directors.

## Single Stream Recycling



Single Stream Recycling is here! No sorting required! Just place items in your green City of Lansing recycling bin. Many more materials accepted, including:

- ◆ File folders, office paper & gift wrapping
- ◆ #1, #2 and #4-#7 Plastics - No Styrofoam!
- ◆ Newspapers, magazines, brochures & inserts
- ◆ Paperboard boxes (e.g. cereal, tissues & pasta)
- ◆ Corrugated cardboard & brown paper bags
- ◆ Aluminum & metal cans
- ◆ Household scrap metal (including pans & small appliances)
- ◆ Greeting cards, phonebooks, regular & junk mail
- ◆ Glass bottles & jars (all colors!)
- ◆ Bulky rigid plastics (lawn chairs, toys & buckets)

No need to remove paperclips, stamps, address labels, staples, metal fasteners, cellophane address windows, rubber bands, spiral bindings or plastic tabs. For all cardboard, flatten and cut down to 2'x2' pieces. Empty and rinse all containers.

For more information contact the Waste Reduction office: 483-4400 or visit: [www.lansingrecycles.com](http://www.lansingrecycles.com)

## Adopt a Class for an Afternoon Snack

It has become apparent that the children at Riddle Elementary School are hungry in the afternoon and have no afternoon snack. In order to alleviate their hunger and create the best learning environment possible, a new program was created. The *Adopt a Class for an Afternoon Snack*\* program will allow caring organizations, individuals and businesses to address this need. Riddle Elementary is a K-5 school with 14 classes and 344 students. Riddle is an English Language Learners elementary school and, therefore, over 20 different languages are spoken. It is an exciting and wonderful mix of cultures.

The *Adopt a Class for an Afternoon Snack* programs offers you or your organization the opportunity to help these elementary school children by committing to bring non-perishable, individually wrapped snacks to the school for one class during the school year. **You can sign up for 22 weeks** (beginning the first week in January and continuing weekly until school ends the week of June 6, 2011); **9 weeks** (beginning the first week and continuing weekly through the month of February); or **13 weeks** (beginning the first week in March and continuing weekly until school ends in June). Cost is approximately \$10 per week to provide a classroom of 30 students with one healthy afternoon snack per week. Snack suggestions include: Kashi cereal bars, Quaker granola bars (peanut butter or chocolate chip), Kars sunflower seeds, boxed raisins, individually packaged dried fruit, Stretch Island Fruit Leather, and Whole wheat Goldfish crackers.



For more information about how you can help, please contact Diane Thompson, Riddle School volunteer, at 517-230-5821. Both she and Sylvia Hernandez, Riddle School Principal, thank you for your consideration and hope you will choose to participate in the *Adopt a Class for an Afternoon Snack* program.

\*The *Adopt a Class for an Afternoon Snack* program is an independent volunteer program, not a program of the Westside Neighborhood Association.

**Westside Neighborhood Association (WNA)  
Scholarship Application 2011**

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Social Security Number: \_\_\_\_\_

High School Name: \_\_\_\_\_

High School GPA: \_\_\_\_\_ High School Rank in Class: \_\_\_\_\_ /out of \_\_\_\_\_ graduating seniors

I hereby certify that I will be: 1.) 2011 graduate of Sexton High School **OR** 2.) A resident in the Westside Neighborhood of Lansing, Michigan, and will be a 2011 graduate of another high school.

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Please include the following information:

A copy of your most recent official high school transcript.

A list of any extracurricular activities (clubs, volunteer experiences, sports, music etc.) in which you participated at your high school and within your community.

A list of any work experience you had while in high school. (Attach a resume if you wish.)

A letter of recommendation from a teacher or advisor.

A detailed explanation of why you should be the recipient of this scholarship. (No more than 500 words.)

If you would like to be considered for the need-based award

A written statement explaining your family situation as it relates to financial need and any difficulty you might experience in paying for college.

A copy of the Federal Student Aid Report (SAR) you received after completing the 2011-2012 FAFSA.

Applications must be submitted by **Tuesday, March 15, 2011**. Please send application packet to:

Westside Neighborhood Association  
c/o Ian Mull  
405 S. Jenison Avenue.  
Lansing, MI 48915

**Recipients will be announced at the Westside Neighborhood Association (WNA) Spring Fiesta and Silent Auction Fundraiser, Friday, April 29 at VFW Hall, Post 703, 123 N. Rosemary St., Lansing, MI 48915**

**SCRIBBLES AND GIGGLES Child Care Learning Center**

609 N. Verlinden Ave Lansing MI 48915 - 517-482-1551 - [www.scribblesandgiggleschildcare.com](http://www.scribblesandgiggleschildcare.com)

Scribbles and Giggles Child Care is remodeling its playground in the spring and needs help in raising funds. Scribbles & Giggles will host a community garage sale on May 7<sup>th</sup> 2011. All proceeds will go directly to purchase a new playground. You can support the garage sale by donating your unwanted household items (clothes, toys, furniture, electronics - anything you no longer need) Donated items can be dropped off at Scribbles & Giggles any time up until the day before the sale. If you have any questions please contact Scribbles & Giggles Child Care the phone number above or email:

[brynn.kelley@scribblesandgiggleschildcare.com](mailto:brynn.kelley@scribblesandgiggleschildcare.com)



**Scribbles & Giggles Child Care Learning Center** provides a nurturing environment for the children of working parents. We provide Child Care (Day Care) Services for children 2 weeks to 12 years old. We have infant, toddler, preschool, and summer camp programs. The center makes every effort to assure that the children in its care are well supervised, fed nutritious meals/snacks, and are given the individual attention necessary to provide for their comfort and growth during these important years of their lives.



- \*Better Business Bureau Accredited
- \*5 Star Center
- \*Child Care Food Program
- \*Secure Keycode Entry(Each family has their own number)
- \*Large Classroom
- \*Large outdoor play area(Purchasing brand new playground in spring)
- \*Large indoor gym with climbers, bikes, balls and scooters
- \*High quality care at affordable price
- \*Private internet secure log in parent page



Visit our website (see above) for more information about our center, schedule a tour and view our blog. We can also be found on Facebook!

**See Click Fix!**

There is a simple new way to report **non-emergency** issues you encounter in our community. You can report on a street light out, an abandoned car, a trash-strewn property, potholes, missing signs, desired new striping of bike lanes, etc. from the comfort of your living room. Just visit the website called "SeeClickFix" ([www.seeclickfix.com/lansing](http://www.seeclickfix.com/lansing)) and click on "Report an Issue!"; enter the address of the issue and state the problem. It's a good idea to look at the existing open issues first in case someone else has reported this issue. If so, you can click to indicate that you support their report and add any additional information about the problem. Another benefit of SeeClickFix is that issues remain open until they are resolved. Resolved issues may be reopened if the problem was not adequately resolved, in the opinion of the SeeClickFix users.

Emails about each issue are sent to "Watchers." "Watchers" are notified based on key words in the report or based on the address of the report, and include municipalities, utilities and elected officials. Try **SeeClickFix** next time you see something that needs to be fixed!

**2010 WNA Scholarship Winner  
Katie Glossop**

Katie Glossop graduated from Lansing Catholic High School with a 3.4 GPA and is currently completing her first semester at Aquinas College as a theatre major. She chose Aquinas because she knew a small school was going to be a good fit for her. Upon her first visit to campus, it felt like home. She appreciates the smaller class sizes and one-on-one attention provided by professors.

Katie says the WNA scholarship has allowed her to follow her dreams and has helped her to be able to attend the college of her choice in order to pursue her dreams. Katie also notes that the Westside Neighborhood means a lot to her. She grew up in two different houses within the neighborhood, attended kindergarten through 8th grade and church within our neighborhood. It is her home and she feels blessed to have grown up in such a safe and family orientated place. She noted that the strong sense of community that our neighborhood possesses is a rarity and should be appreciated.

**We wish Katie well in her academic pursuits!**



## Winter 2010 Westsider



### **Show Your Support!**

The Westside Neighborhood is one of the oldest and most diverse neighborhoods in the City of Lansing. The Westside Neighborhood Association (WNA) works hard to ensure that our neighborhood is a strong and vibrant community. Some of the activities organized and implemented by the WNA Board of Directors included:

- Candidate Forums to help neighborhood residents make informed decisions when voting in local elections
- Neighborhood clean-up and beautification projects
- Academic and need-based scholarships for graduating high school seniors in our community
- Opportunities for neighbors to come together socially to strengthen neighborhood bonds, learn more about issues that impact our neighborhood, and raise funds for the scholarship program
- Quarterly *Westsider* newsletter to share community information and announcements

But, the board can't do it alone. We need your help and financial support! Did you know that the WNA is a 501c(3) organization? That means your contribution could provide you with a deduction at tax time. Please consider a donation of \$25, \$50, \$100, or any amount you can afford. Checks should be made payable to the **Westside Neighborhood Association** and mailed to:

Westside Neighborhood Association  
c/o Mike Schury, Treasurer  
1611 S. Genesee  
Lansing, MI 48915.

Thank you for considering this request. We wish you and your family a Happy Holiday season!