

Westsider

Westside
Neighborhood
Association



A quarterly publication for Lansing, Michigan's Westside Neighborhood - www.wnalansing.com

Westside Neighborhood Association

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Board Meetings:

The WNA Board meets the 3rd Wednesday of each month at Letts Community Center located at 1220 W. Kalamazoo St. Meetings begin promptly at 7:00 p.m. All neighborhood residents are welcome to attend. You can email us at:

board@wnalansing.com

At A Glance

Upcoming Events & Activities.

June 15	WNA Board Meeting
June 20	Last day to sign up for Yard sale
June 25	Westside Yard Sale
June 26	Westside Garden Tour & Yard Sale
July 20	WNA Board Meeting
August 17	WNA Board Meeting

Spring Fiesta Recap

The annual Westside Neighborhood Fiesta and Silent Auction was held at the Irish Pub & Grill on April 29th. The event is the primary source of funding for the two \$1,000 scholarships given out to graduating high school seniors who either live in the Westside or attend Sexton High School.

This year, over 126 friends and neighbors turned out to bid on over 60 donated items and enjoy a delicious taco and nacho buffet. The event brought in \$3,712 to help pay for this year's and next year's scholarships!

Also at the event, the two scholarship winners were announced. The two winners of this year's Westside Neighborhood Association Scholarship are both seniors at J.W. Sexton High School.

Heather Simpson, coming in her freshmen year to Sexton from Our Savior Lutheran School, excelled from day one and has now achieved a graduating grade point average (GPA) of 4.267. Not only has Heather maintained an exemplary record while at Sexton High School, she has been concurrently attending LCC where she has also achieved a 4.0 GPA. While many students might view this achievement as challenge enough, Heather is also a member of the National Honor Society, National Art Honor Society, the Japanese Club, the Our Savior Lutheran Youth Group, and the world-class Robo-Reds robotics team, of which she is co-captain and lead programmer. Last summer, Heather participated in an elite group of students doing cancer research at Michigan State University. Heather is going on to Hope College this fall, where she will undoubtedly make J.W. Sexton and the City of Lansing proud.

Keshabi Chapagai transferred to J.W. Sexton her sophomore year from Jhapa, Nepal, where she lived in a refugee camp after being forced out of her home country of Bhutan in 1992. Spending the majority of her life in the refugee camp, Keshabi learned the value of basic medical care, which she saw too many refugees fail to receive. She knew then she wanted to dedicate her life to medicine. While living in Nepal, Keshabi volunteered with childhood reading and sanitation programs. When she came to Lansing in 2008, Keshabi hit the ground running, immediately overcoming the language difference to achieve a 4.0 GPA her first semester. Keshabi hasn't slowed down since, tackling every science, math, and AP class she can fit into her schedule. She will be continuing her studies this fall at Michigan State University where her incredible determination will stand her in good stead.

Congratulations to both winners and a huge thanks to the donors (both monetary and auction items), attendees, and the Irish Pub and Grill!



Scan this QR Code with your Smart Phone to read this and previous newsletters online.

It's Time for the Garden Tour!

The Westside Garden Tour will be held Sunday, June 26th from 2:00PM-6:00PM in the Westside Neighborhood. The walking tour will showcase seven urban gardens, each with their own unique style. From backyard raised vegetable beds and the latest water conservation measures to chickens clucking alongside a charming rock-terraced garden, to an architecturally in-tune landscape of pergolas, perennials and privacy nooks, this year's gardens are bound to appeal to all interests and gardening appetites.

Tickets are \$15.00 each; proceeds will go to Advent House Ministries in support of their programs. The tour will also feature a raffle with two top prizes. The first is a quilt by Westside Neighborhood resident John Putnam. The second top prize is an art glass bowl by Craig Mitchell Smith. Pictures of the prizes may be seen at the Advent House web site <http://www.adventhouse.com/events.html>. Raffle tickets are \$2.00 each or three for \$5.00. (State of Michigan Raffle License number R11778.)

Major Sponsors: Lansing Board of Water of Light; Tomie Raines, Ilona Sabo-Shuler, Associate Broker; Comerica Bank, Eastwood Towne Center; Lansing City Clerk, Chris Swope, John Putnam and the Advent House Board of Directors. **Additional sponsorship support comes from:** Mary Eckart; Coldwell Banker Hubbell Briarwood, Brian Huggler, Associate Broker; Wease Halloran, PLC; M3 – Motion, Marketing & Media; Andy Provenzano, Meteorologist, WILX Television.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the following locations:

Biggy at the Triangle, 2002 W. Saginaw Street

October Moon, 119 E. Grand River


Udder Creamery, 4131 W. Saginaw

Hickory Corners Nursery, 325 City Market Dr.

Mole Hole Gift Shop, 4758 Marsh Rd,

Smith Floral & Greenhouses, 1124 E. Mt. Hope

Decker's Coffee Company, 220 S. Washington St.



An exceptional place for young children

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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.

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Changes at Ascent

This summer the view around the Ascent sculpture near the Letts Community Center will be changing! The City of Lansing has agreed to the WNA Neighborhood Improvement Committee removing the grass in the triangle of land to the east of the sculpture. Full Circle Gardens (owned by fellow Westsider Libby Rice) has designed a Michigan-native perennial-plantings landscape to replace the grass. As part of the permission process, the city has already repainted the sculpture and it looks beautiful!



Any contributions to pay for the purchasing of soil amendments, mulch, and plantings would be much appreciated. Checks can be made out to "Westside Neighborhood Association" and mailed to 1611 S. Genesee Drive, Lansing, MI 48915. Include "Neighborhood improvement" in the memo line.

Sparrow Hospital St. Lawrence Campus Mural Project in Early Development

Those driving past Sparrow St. Lawrence Campus in the next year might notice a few, bright changes to the parking structure. Local artists, Sparrow representatives and community members gathered on Wednesday, June 8 at the Sparrow St. Lawrence Campus to begin discussing the development of a mural to be placed on the parking structure.

Led by a group of community partners, the initial plans and brainstorming to create a mural are underway. The project will be funded in part by a donation from Capital Area Women's LifeStyle Magazine (CAWLM), published by Motion Marketing & Media on Lansing's Westside. The funds were raised at the magazine's first-ever 80s Flashback Fundraiser held in March. Along with celebrating a great decade, dancing and sporting fanny packs and scrunchies, party-goers and generous community sponsors put on the party specifically to benefit the Westside Commercial Association (WCA)'s Youth Mural Arts Program.

The mural will cover the side of the parking structure at the St. Lawrence Campus that faces West Saginaw Street. It will be comprised of panels, which will cover the now open side of the parking structure. The number of panels and the size of the mural have yet to be determined, but it will spread across at least a portion — if not the entire — side of the structure.

Community efforts and collaboration for the mural are important parts of the project as expressed by those at the meeting. The inclusion of youth groups from all around the Lansing Community is a strong emphasis for the mural, as it was with the mural across from the Sparrow St. Lawrence Campus which covers a side of Shanora's Wigs.

The project will also take the collaboration of many local artists, including some members of the Sparrow marketing team, who have offered to give their assistance.

First and foremost, however, the mural will be the vision of the youth in the community. Although still in the early planning stages, it is hoped that the end result will reflect the values shared by children in the community as well as values held within Sparrow Hospital.

Anyone interested in helping with the mural project in the form of volunteers, sponsorships, donation of supplies or more is welcome. There is also a need for local artists and any children's youth groups or organizations to help bring this mural to life. Please contact Emily Caswell at CAWLM, (517) 203-0123 or emily@cawlm.com. — Brandon Kirby



We at The Irish Pub & Grill

Invite our Westside neighbors to join us, whether it's for a meal,
a round of drinks, or a game of pool.

Join the fun at 1910 W. Saginaw St.

We proudly feature:

- * 2.99 kids meals every day from 4-8pm (Dine in only, no sharing)
- * Happy hour from 3-6pm - \$1 off drinks
- * 12 TVs, darts, pool, keno, pull tabs, and video games
- * 17 Ice cold beers on tap - many from Michigan breweries
- * Great value on the best food in town with generous portions
- * Tuesdays and Wednesdays - DJ trivia from 8-10pm
- * Thursdays - Open mic night
- * Fridays - Live Entertainment (and we never charge cover!)
- * Sundays - ½ off burgers and fries - \$6 pitchers - 50¢ Wings



Welcome to Our New Neighbors!

By now, many of you have probably noticed that the former Holy Cross site at 1611 W. Oakland is no longer vacant! St. Andrew Dung Lac church has moved from their old home on Lansing's south side to this site. This move gives the growing congregation some breathing room and ample room for the future as well.

After two years of vacancy, the church has begun refurbishment of the facilities. There was some damage from the extended period during which no one was on site, but thanks to an army of volunteers, the improvement is already drastic.

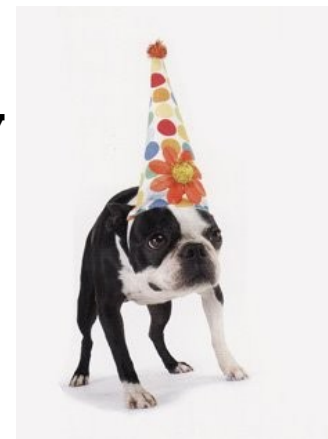
The WNA extends a heartfelt welcome to St. Andrew Dung Lac. We hope that they enjoy their new home, and we look forward to being neighbors for many years to come.

By the way—if you are a fan of Vietnamese food, you should do yourself a favor and check out the bake sale they run after services. You do not have to be a member of the church, and your taste buds will thank you.

Happy Birthday Mike!

That's right, I bought an ad that goes to every house in the neighborhood instead of a card this year.

That's really all I had to say though, so here's a dog in a party hat to fill the space:

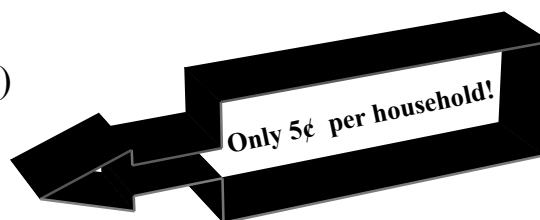


Share your Westside News! Advertise your Westside Business!

Deadlines for article and ads are February 28, May 31, August 31, & November 30 of each year. The newsletter is delivered to about 2,000 addresses in the Westside Neighborhood. Articles for upcoming events should refer to dates at least one month after the submission deadline. The Westsider also welcomes ads from your business! Email for more information westsider@wnalansing.com.

Per issue advertising rates are:

- ◆ Eighth-page = \$40 (2.5" h x 3.5" w)
- ◆ Quarter-page = \$60 (5" h x 3.5" w)
- ◆ Half-page = \$100 (5" h x 7.5" w)



There is a 25% discount for purchasing identical ads in four consecutive newsletters with full payment due upon first ad placement.

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Summer 2011 Westsider

Neighborhood Yard Sale

June 25-26 (Saturday & Sunday) 8:00 am - 4:00 pm each day

The time is almost here, and there is still time for you to be a part of the action! The WNA is once again sponsoring a neighborhood yard sale. This year the event will be held on the 25th and 26th of June from 8:00 am to 4:00 pm. There are over 20 yard sales already registered, and while there is no requirement to contact us to participate, registering with us will make sure your sale is included on a map which will be handed out to shoppers. The WNA will also take out advertisements in local newspapers, so you don't have to make any effort to advertise if you register your sale. There is no cost to participate, and since the Garden Tour is happening Sunday the 26th, there should be plenty of foot traffic. If you were considering having a yard sale sometime this summer, or if you were on the fence about participating in the neighborhood sale, this is the time to get off the fence and go for it. It certainly looks like this will be a very successful event, and that means that this will be a wonderful opportunity for you to get rid of unwanted clutter and put some extra cash in your pockets at the same time.

How to register:

Please contact Mary Derby, this year's coordinator at yardsale@wnalansing.com with your name and street address. Only addresses will be listed on the flyer which will be handed out to shoppers. No names or other personal information will be shared.

Once again, there is no cost to participate, and you will receive **free** advertising!

Be sure to register no later than June 20th.

Don't have yard space? Register for a table at the Letts Community Center. This is for Saturday June 25th, 10 am - 4 pm. Call the Letts Community Center at 483-4311.