

# Bailey Newsletter

BAILEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



Chairperson: Konrad Hittner  
Editor: Sally Silver  
Circulation: Rilla McHarris

April 2017, Vol. 38, No. 2

## BAILEY ANNUAL MEETING

- PLACE:** Orchard Street Pump House  
368 Orchard Street
- DATE:** Thursday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017
- TIME:** 7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m.
- BCA BUSINESS:** 7:00 - Call to Order; Agenda Approval;  
Introduction of Current B.C.A. Board Members  
7:05 - Treasurer's Report  
7:10 - State of the Neighborhood/  
Report of Association Activities  
7:15 - Election of Officers and New Board  
Members (see back pages for list of nominees)
- TOPIC:** 7:20 – Downtown Development Projects, and  
The Comprehensive Plan
- SPEAKER:** *Tim Dempsey*, Director of the Planning,  
Building, & Development Department

Please attend the Bailey Community Association Annual Meeting on Thursday, April 27th from 7 – 9 p.m. at the Orchard Street Pump House at the corner of Orchard and Chittenden. After BCA Chair, *Konrad Hittner*, summarizes the BCA's actions over the past year and conducts the election of officers and board members, *Tim Dempsey*, Director of the city's Planning, Building, & Development Department, will talk about the Comprehensive Plan, and downtown development projects.

The Planning Commission has been working on a major overhaul of the city's Comprehensive Plan, which looks forward to the future direction of land use development for the city. Because the Bailey neighborhood sits adjacent to the downtown and M.S.U.,

many of the city's most important development decisions will affect our neighborhood. In addition, the new plan includes potential changes to the 600 block of Grove Street and the 400 block of Bailey and the block of Elizabeth to the west of the Bailey/Elizabeth intersection. The City will soon unveil this plan to the citizens at large.

At the same time that the city will unveil its new master plan, it is considering major urban developments in the downtown with proposals for new apartments/condos, a hotel, and new retail development. You will want to hear about these proposals from someone who knows the scoop. Please come, and bring your questions!

**Second Meeting on Bailey Park Improvements**  
**Wednesday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, 7 p.m.**  
**Hannah Community Center – 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor large meeting room**

The City will host a follow-up meeting to its first meeting on March 16th to solicit the views of neighbors to the Bailey Park regarding optimal improvements to the playground. Improvement options and costs for some of those will be discussed. In addition to this announcement, the city will send invitations to the meeting to those in the larger vicinity. Please see the article below describing the first meeting. (Thanks to Wendy Wilmers-Longpre for this information.)

**!!! SATURDAY JUNE 3rd - PUMPSTOCK !!!**

**Bailey Park, 300 Bailey Street, 2-8 p.m.**

**A \$10 donation is suggested, kids free.**

**For more information consult [www.facebook.com/pumpstock](http://www.facebook.com/pumpstock)**

This is Mid-Michigan's favorite American Roots Music Festival and it is coming again to the lawn of the Bailey Community Center. While enjoying great music, you will also find local food vendors, arts and craft, face painting, t-shirts, the playground, and more. This year's lineup of stellar acts includes:

**Phil Lee:** The Best Songwriter in Nashville

**Nora Jane Struthers and the Party Line:** America meets bluegrass!

**The Springtails,** Lansing's own

**The Annie & Rod Capps Band**

**The Nellie Clay & Megan Palmer Band:** Austin meets Nashville!

**And MORE !!!**

A second stage will include your local favorites.

**Come spend the day! Bring a blanket and a chair, your children and your friends!  
Have lunch and dinner! And HAVE A GREAT TIME!**

## **City Seeks Neighbors' Advice on Bailey Park Improvements**

As the new construction of senior apartments and offices on the site of the former Bailey School continues, the City of East Lansing is looking into making improvements to the Bailey Park to coincide with the completion of that work. When Capitol Area Housing Partnership (CAHP) presented its proposal for this project to the City Council, it offered to give the city \$25,000 in compensation for removal of the play area for small children. Since then, the Kiwanis Club has graciously offered to match that amount. It is also possible that some community block grant funds might be added to this total. The city invited Bailey residents in the Park's vicinity to a meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup> to begin a discussion of what improvements neighbors wished to see. About 25 residents attended the meeting.

Wendy Wilmers-Longpre, the Assistant Director of the Department of Parks, Recreation and Arts, and Robert Ford, a landscape architect and facilitator, conducted the meeting. In a presentation on the current state of the construction, neighbors learned that one set of swings (along Collingwood, including toddler and handicap swings) and the small ages 2-5 climbing structure are to be removed, but the swings along Bailey and the larger ages 5-12 play structure will remain. The parking lot north of the new building, however, will approach disconcertingly close to the south edge of the remaining play structure, raising safety concerns and the potential need for a physical barrier.

Mr. Ford had done an inventory of the park and adjacent sidewalk, noting problems with the perimeter fence, some of the play equipment, the cracked asphalt near the building, portions of the sidewalk, and other surface treatments. He then asked attendees how different parts of the park were used. Neighbors to the park indicated that most of the park was used often: the asphalt was used for bouncing balls, teaching bike riding to young children, and chalk games among other things; the play equipment was used as expected; the picnic tables and benches saw a fair amount of use; and the green space was used for soccer and other games as well as for dog exercise. But attendees also indicated that much of the park and its equipment needed repair or replacement.

Given that the city does not have a large fund to make improvements, Mr. Ford asked neighbors what features they would prioritize for improvements. No votes were taken and many items were mentioned by residents, including repair of the asphalt, repair or replacement of the perimeter fence, installation of a fence between the apartment parking and the play areas, improvements to the park benches and tables, retention and improvement of the toddler play area, and replacement of trees lost to construction. Several people pointed out that there were few publicly available toddler play areas anywhere in the city, emphasizing the importance of that particular now-lost amenity.

Although many people seemed to believe that the present uses and configuration of the park were fine, a few people thought it would be useful to come up with a more ambitious overall design for the park, even if its implementation could not be achieved soon. Some also noted that some of the items discussed should fall within the city's general maintenance budget and not be counted as part of the improvements discussion, also noting that the sidewalks were not part of the park.

Mr. Roberts stated that he would cost out some of the suggestions made by the neighbors and report his findings at a follow-up meeting. That meeting will take place on May 10<sup>th</sup>. Please see the complete announcement above! (Thanks to Charles Hoogstraten for help with this article.)

### **Advance Notice for 2017 Ice Cream Social**

This year's Ice Cream Social will take place on Wednesday, July 12<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:30 p.m. The rain date will be July 13<sup>th</sup>. Please make a note of it! A fuller announcement will appear in the June newsletter.

### **Thanks to All Neighborhood Helpers!**

This is the time of year when we thank all those who have contributed to the neighborhood over the past year – members of the Bailey Community Association board of directors, members of the Pump House Board, members of the Community Relations Coalition, the many people who help with the Valentines Party, those helping with the “Bailey Newsletter” and its distribution, luminary captains, and those who work in so many ways to make the Bailey Neighborhood a great place to live. The online version of this newsletter that will appear by May 1<sup>st</sup> will include a fuller description of what neighbors have done and a mention of some of their names – too long a list to put in this shorter paper addition of the newsletter. But we are very grateful to all of them and to all of you for being a part of the neighborhood! Please see: <http://www.eastlansingneighborhoods.com/Bailey>.

### **Editor's Note**

Dear Neighbors, I regret to inform you that after over thirty years of writing for or editing the “Bailey Newsletter,” I will be stepping down from this post. My husband and I will be moving out of East Lansing to a senior citizens complex in Ann Arbor. This will be a sad day for us, because we love the neighborhood and our neighbors. Bailey is the most convenient place to live in all of East Lansing and has the greatest variety in housing styles and people. I hope all of you living here will work to keep it that way!

I would like to thank everyone who has helped with the newsletter. I would especially like to thank those who deliver the newsletter in all types of weather, and above all, the newsletter's distribution manager, Rilla McHarris, and her main assistant, Marybeth Meyer. The good news is that the newsletter will be in excellent hands. Justin Booth has agreed to edit it. Thanks again to all! Sally Silver

### **List of Board Nominees for 2017**

#### **Officers (one-year term):**

**Chairperson: Konrad Hittner\***, 639 Kedzie Street (351-6354). Bailey resident for 18 years. Lawyer by training and licensure, but not by recent practice. Wife Suzette, one high-school aged son and one college-aged son. Member of the Zoning Board of Appeals, a leader of the Pump House board, and the incumbent B.C.A. chairperson.

**Vice-Chairperson: Ed Wagner\***, 630 Snyder Rd. (cell 215-806-5493). Bailey resident for

five years. Wife Suzanne and two young sons, two-year old Owen Allan and 7-year old Toby. Political scientist/assessment specialist at Educational Testing Service (ETS). Member of East Lansing Housing Commission. Incumbent B.C.A. vice-chairperson.

**Membership Secretary and Treasurer, Jim Liesman\***, 436 Division St. (517-337-9339). Bailey resident for 42 years. Wife Alicia Dudek and two adult children. M.S.U. technician. Jim is a current board member and a past B.C.A Chair. He is the incumbent B.C.A. treasurer and membership secretary.

**Recording Secretary, Irene McDonnell Cahill\***, 657 Virginia Avenue in Avondale Square (517 580-3034). Bailey resident for seven years. Irene is a horticulturalist. She has worked as a forestry supervisor for the City of Lansing, for the U of M's Matthaei Botanical Gardens, and for NYC Parks and Recreation. She is the former board president and current board member of the Michigan League of Conservation Voters and is currently involved with tree preservation among other things. She is the incumbent recording secretary.

### **New Board Members (two-year term):**

**Two M.S.U. student representatives from the Community Relations Coalition to be named next Fall.**

**Justin M. Booth**, 710 Chittenden Drive (977-5040). Justin has lived in Bailey since 2002 with his spouse, Bridget. The Booth's have two children in the East Lansing schools. He previously served on the Bailey Board from 2003-2005 and is excited to get back to work supporting the neighborhood. Justin is employed at MSU as an IT Professional for Academic Technology. He enjoys gardening, morning walks and riding his bike in the woods.

**Mary Fata**, 610 Dunbar Ct. (337-4085). Bailey residents for 22 years. Husband Jim and three children. Richard (24), Marie (22) and Gretchen (18). Administrative Assistant at East Lansing High School and husband owns Jimmy's Pub and the Sidebar both located in East Lansing.

**Tali Faris-Hylen**, 609 Beech St. (517-896-2945). Bailey residents for 12 years. Husband Travis and three children, Lucia (8), Piper (6) and Jude (3). She is the owner of Ripple Public Relations and an active volunteer at Marble and Abbott Nursery School, where her children attend.

### **Incumbent Board Members Beginning New 2-Year Term:**

**Charles Hoogstraten\***, 617 Snyder Road (hoogstr3@msu.edu). Bailey resident for 14 years with his wife Rebecca Hoogstraten (a small animal veterinarian) and three daughters: Sarah, 14, Alana, 8, and Katherine, 4. Associate Professor of Biochemistry & Molecular Biology at MSU.

**Jim Secor\***, 605 Butterfield Drive (cell/text 989-430-6785). Bailey resident since March 2009. Three adult daughters. Owner of Ieuter & Secor Insurance in Midland (retired); owner/manager of Perrine Pointe (54 residential rentals) in Midland (retired). Member, East Lansing Housing Commission.

**Returning Board Members Who are Not Beginning New Terms  
(excluding officers):**

**Thomas Baumann\*, Nancy Cuddeback\*, Charles Overbey\*. and Mary Lou Terrien\*.**

**\*A returning board member.**

**About the Bailey Community Association**

The Bailey Community Association was founded to enhance the residential quality of life for those living in the Bailey Neighborhood. The Bailey neighborhood extends from Hagadorn to Abbot, and from Saginaw to Grand River. Anyone living within the boundaries of the neighborhood is welcome to join the association. The BCA Board of Directors meets on the second Thursday of each month except August at 6:30 p.m. at the Orchard Street Pumphouse. Meetings are open to the public, and all residents are urged to attend meetings with their concerns. If you have questions, please contact Chairperson Konrad Hittner at [khittner1@gmail.com](mailto:khittner1@gmail.com) or Vice Chairperson Ed Wagner at [eddiwags@gmail.com](mailto:eddiwags@gmail.com).

Dues help the Bailey Community Association to organize meetings where viewpoints and concerns can be aired, organize “meet the candidates” forums; organize and complete Bailey park and neighborhood clean-up days; work with MSU’s Community Relations Coalition; work with the Pump House Board to organize social events such as the Ice Cream Social and Valentine’s Party; and publicize these through emails and newsletters. Don’t forget the **Bailey website** for updates and more information: found under <http://www.eastlansingneighborhoods.com/Bailey>.

**BCA MEMBERSHIP and ANNUAL DUES FORM**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_ ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_ PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_

ANNUAL DUES:

\$10.00 for couples and families.

\$5.00 for singles.

\$5.00 for couples and singles over 65 or for students.

(Please send dues to Jim Liesman, 436 Division Street, East Lansing, MI 48823. Checks should be made out to the Bailey Community Association. If you are sending annual dues, please make a note of the date for your records so you do not send another payment by mistake in the same year period. Thank you!)

**Thanks to the City of East Lansing for helping to pay for the copying of this *Newsletter!***