

## Board of Directors

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### Jeffrey Friedle

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### Chris Barton

Member | 1325 Lilac Ave  
ckbckbckb@hotmail.com

### You!

There are vacancies on the board.  
Email Ruth Stump if interested!

## Police Liaisons

### Jeff Horn (& K9 "Scott")

Police Liaison | (517) 319-6897  
jhorn@cityofeastlansing.com

### Lt. Adrian Ojerio

Police Liaison  
aojerio@cityofeastlansing.com

## Links

- [RCCA Website](#)
- [Nextdoor](#)
- [East Lansing Info](#)
- [Lansing State Journal](#)
- [State News](#)

# RCCA Newsletter



Summer | 2022

Red Cedar Community Association

## Connect with Neighbors on Nextdoor

by Brendan Boyle

Anywhere anyone lives, their greatest resource for help, safety and the enjoyment of community is their neighbors. Like family, neighbors are seldom chosen, but the variety of people with differences and similarities to your own can make for a strong and interesting alliance.

### Getting to know your neighbors:

Face-to-face conversations are the best way, but the weather, work, and lately a pandemic, can limit the feasibility of this route. The Red Cedar neighborhood was one of the first in the area to join [Nextdoor](#), an online resource and mobile app that helps neighbors communicate with their neighbors.

The functions of Nextdoor I have found most useful are:

- A place to report lost or found pets
- Recommendations from neighbors for or warnings about providers of home or appliance repair providers
- Neighbors who register to make themselves available for occasional helping neighbors with shopping, dog sitting, transportation etc.
- A way to get rid of unwanted items that may be of use to a neighbor

Like any on-line forums there are unwanted commercials or people requesting things that are already available from charitable agencies and the like. However, the benefits of Nextdoor far outweigh the drawbacks and you can set the limits of the kind of postings and the geographical area you want to be your neighborhood.

So, if you are not already a participant in Nextdoor, please give it a try. Go to [Nextdoor.com](#) and follow the directions. It costs you nothing and could benefit you and your neighborhood greatly.

## Save the Date: Sept. 15 RCCA Annual Meeting

The RCCA Board plans to hold its Annual Meeting on the evening of Thursday, September 15<sup>th</sup>. The meeting will be held at Emerson Park (unless renovation prevents it, in which case we will meet outdoors in the Red Cedar Elementary School amphitheater).



# Update from the RCCA Board

by RCCA Board Member Jeffrey Friedle

It's been a challenging several years for all of us as individuals and as organizations, and the Red Cedar Community Association (RCCA) was no exception. The RCCA has not been comfortable organizing the events that it held in the past: Neighborhood Nights Out at local restaurants, potluck dinners, ice cream socials, or even our own annual meeting.

The board schedules meetings monthly and meets via Zoom as the need demands. Not all the members of the RCCA board have been able to meet regularly due to work demands, virtual schooling, and home situations. However, board members have been working hard on your behalf:

- representing and advocating for the neighborhood via Zoom at City of East Lansing and MSU commissions, committees, and work groups;
- serving on the City Planning Commission, the Building Board of Appeals, the Council of Neighborhood Presidents, and the MSU Community Relations Workgroup;
- supporting our neighborhood schools, teachers, and students, most recently in facilitating communication for the [Safe Routes to School](#) organization;
- facilitating discussion with the City regarding [updates to Emerson Park](#); and
- maintaining positive relationships with our city liaisons and the East Lansing Police Department.

As we move into a "new normal," the board would like to host its first annual meeting in years. We've set aside the evening of **September 15** — time to be announced. We as a neighborhood need to discuss issues of interest and plan for the future. The RCCA board needs new faces, new energy, new life! We need you, our neighbors, to step up and volunteer. Think about how you might help.



## Got a great idea for the Red Cedar Community? Let us know!

*In the past, some of the RCCA's best initiatives – neighborhood signs, flowers, thank you gifts – have come not from the board, but from community members. If you have an idea for something that would benefit the community, submit your ideas to the board!*

**Remember:** If your request involves RCCA funds, please contact RCCA board members by the 15<sup>th</sup> of the month before funds are needed, in time for RCCA board meeting discussion. Include the purpose, neighborhood benefit, and the amount of funding you are requesting so the board can give your request appropriate consideration.

## WHAT'S NEW?

Red Cedar neighbors can now pay their annual Red Cedar Community Association dues of \$10 per individual or \$20 per household via credit card or PayPal.

We did not ask for or collect dues in 2020 or 2021, but as the RCCA Board returns to a more active role in 2022, we invite you to do so now.

To donate securely online, visit the RCCA website and look in the right column, or simply click the "Donate" button below to be taken directly to the donation page.

### Contact

Ruth Stump,  
RCAA President  
[Email](#)

Red Cedar neighbors can pay their annual Red Cedar Community Association dues of \$10 per individual or \$20 per household via the PayPal button below:

Donate



# CALENDAR

**Aug 14** 3pm

Volunteer training at the Flowerpot Sign & Garden

**Aug 21** 6-8pm

“Music in the Park, with Neighbors” see pg. 4  
Emerson Park

**Aug 24**

First day of classes for EL Public Schools

**Aug 26-28**

Move-in dates for MSU resident hall students

**Aug 31**

First day of classes at MSU

**Sept 2** 7pm

 MSU vs Western MI

**Sept 3** TBD

Red Cedar Neighborhood Garage Sale see pg. 4

**Sept 4** TBD

Red Cedar Neighborhood Free-cycle Day & Stroll

**Sept 6** TBD

Unwanted Garage Sale Items Pick-up

**Sept 10** 4pm

 MSU vs Akron

**Sept 15** TBD

RCCA Annual Meeting

**Sept 24** TBD

 MSU vs Minnesota

## The Flowerpot Sign and Garden Need You

by RCCA Board Member Austin Kaufmann

For more than a decade, the Flowerpot sign at the corner of Marigold Street and Harrison Road has been lovingly maintained by Flowerpot residents Nancy Dixon and Kathy Jacobs. They have faithfully planted, weeded, and watered the garden, keeping it looking lovely for the neighborhood, even taking responsibility in having it rebuilt when a car accident destroyed the previous sign.

The RCCA would like to help facilitate care of the garden to lighten some of the day-to-day burden on Nancy and Kathy, and to help generate a sense of community and shared responsibility and pride.

Members of the board propose some general goals and seek volunteers from the community to help make them happen:

- **Beauty:** We want to continue the hard work of those who have given so much to sustain this garden’s beauty year after year.
- **Sustainability:** We hope to plant a few more perennials and/or native Michigan plants to reduce annual labor, expense, and the need for fertilizers or chemicals.
- **Involvement:** We also hope to recruit more able-bodied volunteers to help with the regular tasks of weeding and watering. For those unable to volunteer their time or offer gardening expertise, donations of money or materials would also be appreciated.

**Join us for Volunteer Training on Sunday, Aug. 14 at 3:00 pm.**

1. **Learn how to do the watering.** The apartment building on the corner of Marigold and Harrison allows us to use their hose. Learn how!
2. **Learn how to do some weeding.** It’s not rocket science, but to make sure you’re not pulling out something you shouldn’t, come and learn!

### Here's how to Donate:

Donating is the same easy process as paying your dues online, except that you’ll specify the purpose of donation. **1.** Visit the [RCCA’s city webpage](#). **2.** Click the “Donate” button (found in the right-hand column). **3.** Enter the amount you wish to donate. **4.** Near the end of the process it will ask you, “What’s this payment for?” Type “Flowerpot Sign and Garden.”

Donate to  
**Red Cedar Community Association**  
\$ \_\_\_\_\_  
USD

Amount of your choosing

What's this payment for?  
Flowerpot Sign and Garden

Specify what your donation is for

**Save the Date!**

# Red Cedar Elementary School Updates

Members of the RCCA Board reached out to East Lansing Board of Education Member **Kath Edsall**, to Red Cedar Elementary Principal **Rinard Pugh**, and to Red Cedar Elementary Administrative Assistant **Jessica Clements** for updates on the school.

## Continued Bond Project Construction

The 2017 Elementary School Bond raised approximately 94 million to rebuild five elementary buildings and significantly remodel Red Cedar. The final stage of the bond includes funding for outdoor learning spaces at all six elementary buildings. The outdoor learning space at Red Cedar will be a covered area with tables for students to work outdoors. Red Cedar has also been allocated funds to rebuild the amphitheater and to create an age-appropriate play space in the courtyard for the preschool programs housed at Red Cedar. All three projects should be completed prior to the start of school on August 24th.

## Solar Panel Array

Red Cedar, along with all other East Lansing elementaries, are now equipped with solar panel carports and an array of panels. These panels provide renewable clean energy for the school.

## Programming

Red Cedar Elementary will be Kindergarten through Grade 5 next year. The school will house two sections of kindergarten and 1st grade and one section each of 2<sup>nd</sup> through 5th grades. Red Cedar is also home to two sections of Young Fives, two sections of Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP), and one section of Early Childhood Special Education (ECSE).

## Music in the Park, with Neighbors!

Sunday, August 21 — 6:00 to 8:00 PM



**Come spend time with neighbors in Emerson Park, singing songs, reading poetry, and telling stories!**

There is no set line-up of performers, but **Austin Kaufmann** will share a few songs, and **Brendan Boyle** will serve as emcee. No need to sign up beforehand. We'll simply have a sign-up list on the day of the event to help facilitate the order. We'll start with a 2-song or 10-minute limit. The theme for the evening is "Neighbors," but don't feel compelled to stick to that theme.

**Anyone** is welcome to sing, read, or perform, regardless of their age, proficiency level, or style so long as all content is family friendly. There is also no pressure to perform. If you simply want to come and listen (or hum along), that is encouraged, as well.

Please note that Emerson Park has no electricity, so all performances will be acoustic and unamplified.

### BRING YOUR OWN:

- Lawn chairs, blankets, hammocks
- Beverages & snacks (none provided)
- Mosquito repellent
- Instruments, poems, stories, and songs!

**NOTES:** There is no electricity at Emerson Park (yet), so all performances will be acoustic and unamplified. If Emerson Park is under construction/renovation at this time, we will find an alternative location for the event.



# Red Cedar Neighborhood Garage Sale

Saturday, Sept. 3. — Make *your* junk someone *else's*!

All that stuff you've been meaning to purge might be useful to someone else. Let's have a one-day sale, in driveways across the neighborhood, on **Saturday, Sept. 3<sup>rd</sup>**. Then, those who choose to can follow up with a free-cycle day and neighborhood stroll on **Sunday, Sept 4<sup>th</sup>**. Arrangements will be made to have Volunteers of America or Urban Scrappers clear away remaining items on **Tuesday, Sept. 5<sup>th</sup>**. If you're interested in holding a sale or offering a refreshment table for the free-cycle stroll on Sunday, contact organizer **Liz Harrow** ([lizharrow@gmail.com](mailto:lizharrow@gmail.com)) for more information.