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# Red Cedar Community Association

October 2006

Dear Neighbor,

We are your neighborhood association - 15 neighbors, all of whom are listed to the left. Our purpose is to preserve the quality & stability of our neighborhood. We attempt to do this by providing a forum and, hopefully, resolution for any neighborhood problem brought to our attention. Our meetings are usually held on the second Thursday of the month at 7:30pm at Goodrich's ShopRite in an upstairs meeting room. Please feel free to attend our meetings or contact one of us if we can be of any assistance.

We will try to keep you informed about any new projects that are being proposed for our neighborhood or adjacent properties. RCCA has recently been involved in the following:

1. The redevelopment of University Village, which was built in the 1950's as married housing. Over the years, the residential needs of the university have changed. Earlier this summer, the old buildings were razed & new undergraduate student living units are being built. Some adjustments to the site plan (the closing of both the pedestrian walk & the driveway onto Marigold) were made as a result of a meeting between MSU & our neighborhood. We have requested that MSU gives us a tour before they are occupied.
2. Another proposal to build an apartment complex marketed for students, behind the Howard Johnson motel on Trowbridge came before the City Planning Commission in August. The RCCA Board voted unanimously to oppose this development for many reasons, mainly because of it's non-commercial use & the need for a special use permit. Planning Commission's recommendation to City Council was to deny the request (7 to 1). City Council will consider this proposal at its Wednesday, Nov. 8th meeting.
3. Trees on the north side of Marigold along the state police site were trimmed up to a height of 5 ft leaving no landscape buffer. Since MSU owns that property, the RCCA Board has worked with the MSU landscaping staff & have approved new plantings that will serve as an attractive buffer along the fence. Watch for this change to begin in the near future.
4. Parking is still a problem during football games & Breslin Center events, primarily in the Flowerpot area. This past summer, "No Parking At Any Time" was extended west on one side of each street from Larkspur to the end of the street. In a meeting with the City's Parking & Code Enforcement, it was stressed that while they routinely patrol our area during events, they must respond to complaint calls first. So if illegal parking is occurring, please report it to **PACE at 351-4220.**



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5. The RCCA Board is also developing a website! Kathy Jacobs has been working with some MSU students to create an informative & attractive website for us to share information, ideas, stories and events. It is still under construction but will be a great way to stay informed. All ideas and suggestions are welcome.

**Red Cedar Neighborhood Arts Cafe - January, February and March 2007**

Ana Cardona & Tama Hamilton-Wray have proposed and volunteered to produce the first in a series of once a month Art Cafes that run January through March. Red Cedar and Ivanhoe Neighborhoods are rich with artistic talent. Our neighborhood has dancers, film-makers, poets, actors, musicians, painters, and architects, traditional and non-traditional artists of all ages. Wouldn't it be great if one evening per month during the darkest nights of the year (January, February and March) we came together as a neighborhood to get to know each other better through the arts?

Neighborhood sites would host the Cafes would run from 6:30 - 8 p.m. The format will be:

- Featured artist - 30 minutes
- Open MIC/Gallery - 30 minutes
- Coffee and conversation - 30 minutes

To get started, Ana & Tama need to:

1. Know what you think about this idea and what evening of the week works best for you;
2. Identify featured artists willing and available to share their art with neighbors;
3. Identify others interested in supporting the Red Cedar Neighborhood Arts Cafe via the Open MIC/Gallery; sound/AV/tech support; hosting a cafe; helping with set-up, coffee, and clean-up;

We hope this becomes a new Red Cedar tradition, but first we need to hear from you, from the artists, painters, film-makers, poets and dancers of all ages. To volunteer and share your thoughts, please contact:

Ana Cardona at <[nianala@gmail.com](mailto:nianala@gmail.com)> or Tama Hamilton-Wray at <[hamil136@msu.edu](mailto:hamil136@msu.edu)>

Lastly, at our August meeting, the RCCA Board elected new officers. We would like to express our thanks to Cynthia Craig who has served as president for the last few years.

Joanne Russell, President  
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