

Bailey Newsletter

BAILEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION



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LUMINARIES

**BIG CHANGE: The Annual Luminaries Display Is Scheduled for 12/21/09,
Winter Solstice Evening** (see article below)

Canvassing Neighbors: SOON !
Block Captain Pick-Up Date: Sunday, December 13th, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m.
Pick-Up Place: Orchard Street Pump House
Display Date: December 21st Evening
Cost for Luminaries: \$5/set of 10 candles, 10 bags, 10 cups

! MORE BLOCK CAPTAINS NEEDED !

The sale of luminaries to light up the darkest nights of winter is the main income source for the Pump House. Please note the CHANGE of date for the display.. If you would like to pick up the sets for your individual household, you may go to the Pump House on December 13th. Block captains who cannot pick up on December 13th should use contact information below and reschedule. *If you would like to become a block captain or just want more information about this, please contact:* Wendy Rowan (jake_rowan@gmail.com, 203-0626) or Konrad Hittner (khittner@sbcglobal.net, 351-6354).

MORE GREAT PUMP HOUSE CONCERTS

Sunday, December 13th: Angaleena Presley, acclaimed by “The Nashville Scene” and writer of the song “Knocked Up.” For more information go to: <http://www.myspace.com/angaleena> and <http://www.tentenmusic.com/writers/angaleenapresley>.

Sunday, January 3rd: Mighty Medicine with Guest Star Mike Vial. These two talented musicians have eclectic tastes but prefer a mixture of jazz, rock and soul Mike is a Detroit native. For more information about each of them see: www.myspace.com/mightymedicine and www.myspace.com/mikevial.

Sunday, January 24th: Josh Davis and Rachael Davis. They are both Michigan natives, Davis's first solo record from 2005, "Fool Rooster," secured Album of the Year on WDBM's show, "Progressive Torch and Twang." Rachael received a Boston Music Award for Best New Singer-Songwriter and now lives in Bath, MI. For more information, go to:
<http://www.myspace.com/foolrooster> and <http://www.myspace.com/rachaeldavismusic>.

For concert TIMES go to: www.myspace.com/pumphouseconcerts. There is also a group on Facebook (search on Pump House Concerts). If you want to be on the concert email list, send an email to: pumphouseconcerts@gmail.com.

Thanks to Dudley "Smitty" Smith and a few other neighborhood music enthusiasts, the Pump House has recently hosted a series of concerts by remarkable musicians from as close as East Lansing and as far as Boston and Nashville. And interestingly, the Pump House has proven to be an intimate music venue that the musicians like. The concerts have included Grammy winners, solo acts, duos, and quartets. Styles have included Americana, Alternative Country, Ragtime, and Folk music, played by Guitars, Fiddles, Pedal Steel, and mandolins. Admission for the concerts is only \$10, and all the money goes to the musicians. Thanks to Smitty for all his work on these and for this information. **DON'T MISS OUT, BAILEYITES! THESE CONCERTS ARE SPECIAL !**

THE BAILEY VALENTINE'S PARTY WILL BE THE AFTERNOON OF FEBRUARY 7TH. MORE DETAILS IN JANUARY.

MORE ON LUMINARIES AND OTHER PUMP HOUSE NEWS: It has been a longstanding custom in the neighborhood to display luminaries in Christmas Eve. Block captains ask neighbors if they wish to participate, then pick up and distribute materials to those who do. But over time, neighborhood participation has fallen off, with many residents out of town or otherwise occupied on that date. For this reason, and after sounding out the block captains, [the Orchard Street Pump House Board decided to take up a suggestion that the annual Bailey Neighborhood luminaries display be rescheduled to occur on the evening of the Winter Solstice, Monday, 12/21/09](#), rather than on Christmas Eve.

Since the mass lighting of candles is seasonally tied to the widely held desire to light up the long nights as encouragement to the sun to lengthen its output of daylight, it made sense to the Board to move the event to the shortest day/longest night of the year, 12/21. Additionally, it's hoped that this move will increase the number of neighborhood residents who will be available and eager to participate in the luminaries display, without impinging upon other important family, religious, and holiday social activities.

All of the proceeds from the luminary sale support the revitalized and expanded use of the Orchard Street Pump House. In addition to the terrific concerts discussed above, in January the Pump House Board will begin a film series guided by East Lansing Film Festival's executive director, Susan Woods. Susan promises to bring us a selection of great films that haven't been in the area's big-box multiplexes, but shouldn't be missed, and perhaps some that did, but merit a second viewing. It is no exaggeration to say that the Pump House is becoming a cultural hub in our city, and in a wonderful impromptu way. (Thanks to Konrad Hittner for this information and thanks to the Pump House Board for all its hard work – a great Ice Cream Social and these splendid initiatives!)

TRAFFIC DIVERTER EXPERIMENT ON BUTTERFIELD: Ever since DTN Management proposed to add to its apartment complex on Burcham Road across from Butterfield, there has been heightened concern about traffic flow and safety at and around the Burcham/Butterfield intersection. Because DTN's apartment addition included a new entry/exit onto Burcham, Bailey residents in the vicinity were concerned about increased cut-through traffic going to and from these apartments onto Butterfield. They also worried that the added complexity of traffic movements caused by the new exit/entry on Burcham could create more hazardous traffic conditions nearby.

**BAILEY COMMUNITY TRAFFIC VOLUME STUDY
AVERAGE DAILY TRAFFIC***

WEEK OF:	COUNTER LOCATION:	TOTAL	NB	SB	EB	WB	PEAK HR ANALYSIS
5/4/09	Division-S of Burcham	1051	572	479			8 A.M. and 3 P.M.
6/1/04	Division-S of Burcham	982	542	440			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
4/20/09	Burcham-W of Snyder	9231			4004	5227	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/27/08	Burcham-W of Snyder	8722			4121	4601	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
3/19/07	Burcham-W of Snyder	7911			3541	4370	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
5/4/09	Burcham-E of Butterfield	9142			4199	4943	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
4/20/09	Burcham-E of Butterfield	8660			4104	4556	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/27/08	Burcham-E of Butterfield	8442			4076	4366	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
3/19/07	Burcham-E of Butterfield	7584			3454	4130	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
5/4/09	Burcham-E of Alton	9340			4473	4867	8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
5/4/09	Bailey-S of Burcham	1273	716	557			10 A.M. and 6 P.M.
4/20/09	Bailey-S of Burcham	1084	592	492			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/27/08	Bailey-S of Burcham	990	524	466			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
4/2/07	Bailey-S of Burcham	1004	553	451			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
4/20/09	Butterfield-S of Burcham	609	374	235			11 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/27/08	Butterfield-S of Burcham	1408	772	636			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
3/12/07	Butterfield-S of Burcham	1274	744	530			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
4/20/09	Snyder Rd-S of Burcham	1972	991	981			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/27/08	Snyder Rd-S of Burcham	1674	839	835			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
3/12/07	Snyder Rd-S of Burcham	1944	1143	801			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
11/13/06	Snyder Rd-S of Burcham	1595	868	727			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/27/08	Butterfield-S of Snyder	679	312	367			8 A.M. and 6 P.M.
5/4/09	Alton-N of Burcham	4080	1914	2166			8 A.M. and 4 P.M.
3/19/07	Alton-N of Burcham	3954	1680	2274			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
10/23/06	Alton-N of Burcham	3437	1483	1954			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
5/4/09	Gunson-S of Burcham	2404	1208	1196			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.
3/26/07	Gunson-S of Burcham	2165	1089	1076			9 A.M. and 6 P.M.

Notes:

Division: 7% incr. in traffic from 2004 to 2009.
 Burcham: 6% incr. in traffic from 2008 to 2009.
 Bailey: 17% incr. in traffic volume from April to May 2009.

Butterfield: 55% decr. in traffic from 2008 to 2009.
 Snyder: 18% incr. in traffic from 2008 to 2009.
 Alton: 3% incr. in traffic from 2007 to 2009.
 Gunson: 11% increase in traf. from 2007 to 2009

*** Traffic delineator installed on April 8, 2009.**

After a failed attempt to stop the addition to the DTN complex, the B.C.A. sought ideas to reduce the impact of the addition. One idea was to place a diverter at the intersection of Burcham and Butterfield such that northbound traffic on Butterfield had to turn right and eastbound traffic on

Burcham had to turn right to go south on Butterfield.

Before and during the positioning of the diverter, the city's traffic engineers measured traffic volumes on Butterfield and streets in the vicinity, as can be seen in the chart above. The diverter succeeded in reducing traffic on Butterfield by 55%, but increased traffic on Snyder and Bailey by unacceptable amounts. Residents on Snyder were especially concerned because the triangular intersection at Snyder and Collingwood and the smaller, landscaped island at the intersection of Snyder and Burcham are difficult to navigate and the new increase of traffic made these intersections even more hazardous. In addition, the city's engineers examined the data to see if the apartment expansion and new exit/entry onto Burcham increased accidents in the area, and found it did not.

Since the purpose of the diverter experiment was to improve the situation on Butterfield **without appreciably increasing traffic** on other streets, the Bailey Community Association board did not pursue a permanent diverter when the trial harmed adjacent streets. Instead, the Bailey board decided that a sub-committee on traffic should be created in order to study traffic patterns and flow as a whole and to address the traffic problems that exist throughout the entire Bailey neighborhood. This committee was chaired by Anne Grevstad-Nordbrock of Collingwood Drive and included other representatives from Butterfield, Bailey, Kedzie, and Collingwood streets.

The committee on traffic met regularly throughout the summer of 2009 and included Todd Sneathen, Director of Public Works for the City of East Lansing, in its brainstorming sessions. This committee examined how traffic flows through the Bailey neighborhood. Although there were differing opinions about the severity of the traffic problem (volumes and speed), it was concluded that traffic is not necessarily generated solely from within East Lansing and the MSU student population, but from a larger commuter pattern that originates at outlying communities, such as Haslett, Okemos, and DeWitt. Because of the Bailey neighborhood's proximity to MSU and downtown East Lansing, car traffic finds routes through the Bailey neighborhood in order to reach Grand River Avenue and the Collingwood gate into the MSU campus. In order to lessen the impact on the Bailey neighborhood, this traffic committee discussed how signage and the designation of one-way streets could change traffic patterns, how other border routes (such as Gunson and M.A.C., for example) should be emphasized for drivers, and how a possible diverter at the Collingwood/Grand River intersection could help to re-direct traffic away from the Bailey streets when cars seek to enter and leave campus at that MSU gateway. Discussions are in a preliminary phase and nothing will be done without a good deal of public discussion and agreement.

In summary, the Bailey Community Association's committee on traffic will continue to meet to investigate how to protect the Bailey neighborhood and to keep it a safe, stable, beautiful, and human-scaled environment. This will be an especially relevant discussion when both the city and the university consider more genuinely "urban" plans for our community, which include an expanded Farm Lane, the construction of the MSU Art Museum, and the potential reconfiguring of downtown city sections. (Thanks to Anne Grevstad-Nordbrock and Todd Sneathen for help with this report.)

COMMITTEE TO STUDY LITTER & SNOW REMOVAL: The Bailey Community Association has long been concerned with problems of litter and snow removal in the neighborhood. To help address these problems, the BCA board invited Tom Yeadon, East Lansing's assistant city attorney, and Officer Wright from the East Lansing Parking and Code Enforcement Department (PACE) to its October board meeting. Officer Wright also attended the follow-up discussion in November.

Mr. Yeadon indicated that the due process aspects of the constitution require that warning notices be given to occupants of properties with litter, as well as time to correct the violations. One cannot assume that litter on a property is caused by the occupants. A code change would be needed to allow citations to be issued without notice to repeat offenders, or to impose higher fines on repeat offenders. Officer Wright also noted that a large majority of properties were cleaned up after receiving warnings.

The BCA then formed a subcommittee, including two lawyers, Michelle Lane and Ellen Armentrout, to look into issues surrounding litter and snow/ice removal in the neighborhood. The committee has already contacted some other cities, such as Madison, Wisconsin, to see how they approach these issues, and will continue to study the matter over the next few months. One idea suggested that Officer Wright will pursue is to create an **on-line complaint form** to improve ease of reporting. Currently, one must go to City Hall to fill out a form. Other ideas are to alter the law to allow citations without a prior warning for repeat offenders, and using advertising to change littering behavior.

If you have any questions or ideas for helping solve these problems, please contact Michelle or Ellen at: glenellen@comcast.net and lanemichelle@sbcglobal.net.

HOMEOWNER REHABILITATION PROGRAM: The Bailey Community Association board would like to publicize a rehabilitation loan program for East Lansing homeowners. This program is managed by the Community and Economic Development Division of the City of East Lansing and uses federal funds from HUD. It offers 0% interest loans to qualified homeowners who are interested in making improvements to their homes. These loans do not require monthly payments and are 50% forgivable if the homeowner continues to live in their residence for an additional seven years.

There are strict guidelines for the application process according to HUD requirements. (1) Applicants must be in a moderate to low-income bracket. (2) The properties cannot be rentals. (3) Funds cannot be used for cosmetic work such as kitchen remodels or additions. (4) Funds must go towards safety compliance and energy efficient projects such as roofs, windows, furnaces, etc. (5) All renovation and rehabilitation projects are managed and directed by the City's Community and Rehabilitation staff.

This is a generous resource for permanent residents and homeowners of the Bailey neighborhood. While the application process and the initiation of rehabilitation work can be more lengthy than if a homeowner were to finance these projects on their own, it is well worth the extra effort. For more information, visit the City's Planning and Development Dept.'s webpage at: [www/cityofeastlansing.com/Home/Departments/PlanningDevelopment](http://www.cityofeastlansing.com/Home/Departments/PlanningDevelopment) and then click on "Community and Economic Development" and then click on "Homeowner Rehabilitation Program" listed under "Housing Programs." (Thanks to Anne Grevstad for this report.)

A WALKABLE COMMUNITY AND HOLIDAY SHOPPING: Many of us live in Bailey because we want a walkable community. We can walk to work, our children can walk to school, and we can all walk to the library and the post office. But a walkable community also needs a commercial district. Downtown East Lansing is part of Bailey. Although it does not have the diversity of stores it had when Knapp's and Jacobson's department stores were here, it still has many good and unique stores, which can't be found elsewhere. **But they need our support!** When you are shopping

this holiday season, **please buy some of your holiday gifts from your neighbors!** To demonstrate the diversity of sellers of durable goods in our larger downtown, here is a list of many of them, starting with stores on north-south streets because they are off the beaten path and following with stores on Albert, and ending with the stores on Grand River. Happy Holidays!

Stores on North-South Streets: *first block of Abbott, upstairs:* **RetroDuck.com** and **Toad** (both sell t-shirts etc.); *300 block of Grove Street:* **Grove Gallery Co-op** (great crafts) and **Woven Art** (knitting and weaving supplies + fiber arts and gifts); *200 block of MAC:* **Underground Printing** (t-shirts); *100 block of Division:* **Trillium Gallery** (arts and crafts at good prices, fair trade items, Michigan and local products, stocking stuffers) and **Footgear** (great brands of shoes, purses, shoe repair).

Albert Avenue: *100 block:* **The Refinery** (clothing); *200 block—Ann St. Plaza:* **Kirabo Fairtrade, Mackerel Sky Gallery of Contemporary Craft** (for outstanding arts and crafts), **Mad Eagle** (clothes & accessories); *300 block—University Place:* **Silver & Beyond** (jewelry & accessories); *400 block:* **Fortress Comics and Games, and Saper Galleries and Custom Framing.**

Grand River Avenue: *100 and 200 blocks:* **Spartan Corner, American Apparel, Urban Outfitters, Neds Bookstore, Sundance Jewelers, and Agog Arts** (posters & frames); *300 block:* **Curious Book Shop** (a treasure trove), **Silver Streak, Collegeville Textbook, and Barnes and Noble** (has children's toys and books, dvds and cds in addition to books); *400 block:* **Student Book Store** (with art supplies, backpacks, children's books and puzzles in addition to books); *500 block:* **Campus Corner, Scavenger Hunt** (vintage clothes, downstairs), **Vinyl Addict Records** (downstairs), **In Flight, Campus Street Sportswear, 21st Century Comics & Games** (upstairs), **Flat, Black, and Circular** (vinyl records, CDs, DVDs, upstairs), **Oz Gallery & Hand-Blown Glass, Moosejaw Mountaineering** (great winter outerwear and camping supplies); *600 block:* **Take 2 Authentics** (clothes), **La Bodega** (fair trade boutique), **Blockbuster**; and *the 1300 block—Brookfield Plaza:* **Replay Entertainment Exchange** (moved from 300 block).

Are you surprised at the number and diversity of the stores in our downtown, and have you visited them recently? **If you value having an interesting downtown, SHOP DOWNTOWN this holiday season!** (Thanks to Jim Liesman for this article.)

THANKS TO ALL THOSE WHO HELPED WITH THE BAILEY YARD CLEAN-UP DAY ON JULY 18th ! Special thanks to Elizabeth Anderson for organizing the event, and to Justin Booth for helping to manage all the weeding, hauling, trimming and pruning. Thanks also to Amber Smith, the center's custodian, and her husband Joshua, for spending much of their day helping out!

PLEASE JOIN THE BAILEY COMMUNITY ASSOCIATION! The BCA is a neighborhood organization that advocates on behalf of all residents within the Bailey neighborhood. The BCA board tracks and responds to issues that affect the safety, sustainability, and the political/social structure of our community.

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.

The BCA Board of Directors meets on the second Monday of each month except August at 7:30 p.m. at the Bailey Community Center. Meetings are open to the public, and all residents are urged to attend meetings with their concerns. If you have questions, please contact Chairperson Suchitra Webster at hingwesu@msu.edu or Vice Chairperson Ellen Armentrout at glenellen@comcast.net.

BCA MEMBERSHIP FORM

NAME: _____ **ADDRESS:** _____

EMAIL: _____ **PHONE:** _____

ANNUAL DUES: **\$7.00 for couples and families**
 \$4.00 for singles
 \$3.00 for couples and singles over 65 or for students

Please send dues to Anne Grevstad-Nordbrock, 700 Collingwood Drive, East Lansing, MI 48823.
Checks should be made out to the Bailey Community Association.

THANKS TO THE CITY OF EAST LANSING for helping to fund the printing of this Newsletter!