



North End Connection

The Newsletter of the Creston Neighborhood Association

Spring 2011

CNA Strengthens Neighborhood Connections with Three Dynamic Projects

By: Deborah Eid

CNA neighbors hoping to build a better Briggs Park this spring

In early March, KaBOOM! will join CNA and the City of Grand Rapids in a second playground renovation, this time at Briggs Park.

Our first KaBOOM! playground in September of 2009 at Sweet St. playground was a huge success and involved several years of advocacy to save the old playground from demolition.

This new project will “be a breeze” by comparison, according to Jay Steffens from the City of Grand Rapids Parks and Recreation. The location is surrounded by families with kids and is ideal for the footprint envisioned for a new play space. Palmer, the neighborhood public elementary school, is a block to the south with St. James Lutheran a block to the north.

March 16th is the expected Design Day for this project, when parents and kids meet with neighbors to talk about what this new playground might look like. Neighbors will join with each other



Photo by: Julie Tabberer, Winter 2011

KaBOOM!, CNA, and the city of Grand Rapids plan to begin renovations of the playground at Briggs Park in March.

to seek donations for the \$8500 community match and to recruit teams of volunteers for the exciting week of the actual build, on a lucky Friday - May 13th!

The Better Buildings program brings lower utility costs to Creston Neighborhood

Grand Rapids was chosen as one of the communities through-out the state of Michigan to participate in a program that brings energy saving right to our doors.

CNA has an active committee helping neighbors to live green in Creston and this new program is a perfect fit for continuing their mission of making our neighborhood greener and keeping money in our pockets.

450 homes in our neighborhood have been chosen in a new partnership with the City of GR and West Michigan Environmental Action Coalition to receive free and low-cost energy improvements.

How Can You Contribute to a Safer Creston?

By: Mac Brown

Assault is the most prevalent crime committed in Creston, accounting for more than 50% of reported crimes since the beginning of 2011. No doubt a majority of this number can be attributed to domestic violence. The reasons why domestic violence is high in our neighborhood can consist of many different variables.

A popular theory noted in many criminal justice studies is the Social Disorganization Theory. The theory states that residents of structurally disadvantaged areas are more

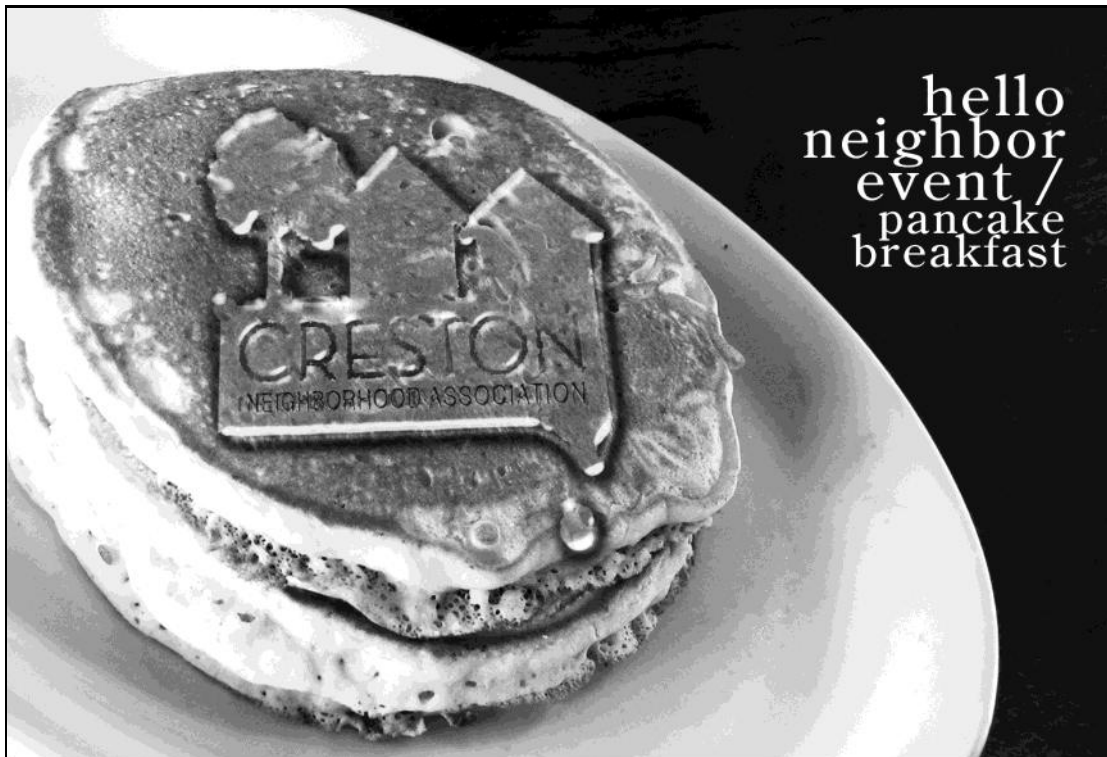
likely to have weakened social bonds. What does this mean in terms of domestic violence?

Well, let me put it this way: we are more likely to help a neighbor in trouble if we know them. Imagine you overhear a neighbor being abused by their significant other. If this is someone that you know, you are less likely to rationalize the situation as 'not your problem.' Stronger social bonds amongst neighbors leads to a neighborhood stand against violence.

With this said I can't think of a better reason to start a block club in your area; to

establish and strengthen those bonds with neighbors. But why even start a block club if your neighborhood suffers from poor housing quality or a high rate of foreclosures? There may seem to be no reason to invest in your block if it feels like no one wants to live there.

The bottom line is that everything is connected. You can contribute to a safer Creston neighborhood by getting to know your neighbors a little better, helping to organize your block or working with CNA to influence quality housing policy. Contact Creston to see how you can connect!



Saturday, March 19 9-11:30am

at Second Congregational Church 525 Cheshire St NE

featuring Rosalynn Bliss, Ruth Kelly and Donijo DeJonge
in a town hall style community meeting, guests speak at 9:30am

Fun activities for the kids Adults \$6 Children under 12 \$3
Children under 4 FREE Family \$15
Order advance tickets by phone 454.7900

crestongr.com

Editor's Corner: Graffiti? Not in My Playground!

By: Pete Tabberer

I love graffiti. I think it is beautiful and endlessly fascinating. I also love playgrounds. Not only do I still enjoy a good swing every now and then, but I also think it is good to have a safe place for kids to stay out of trouble. I do not, on the other hand, love graffiti and playgrounds being in the same place. I prefer graffiti confine itself to the undersides of railroad bridges.

My wife and I had some friends over awhile back and we thought it would be fun to take the kids to the playground. The kids had a blast. We, on the other hand, spent most of our time thanking our stars that the kids were not old enough to read. Most of the playground equipment was covered in graffiti. And I'm not talking about the cool, elaborate, fun to look at kind of graffiti. I'm talking about prurient, public restroom style filth. It was filled with all kinds of important details, such as who smokes what and who has, uh, loose morals, all in the most descriptive terms offered by modern slang. This is neither the sort of graffiti I enjoy looking at, nor the sort of place I enjoy looking at it.

Since then, much of the graffiti has been cleaned up or painted over. Just the other day, though,

we saw some unsavory words on the new Sweet Street playground. Clearly, this is something we need to stay on top of as neighbors. So, what can you do?

First of all, the parks close at dark. We can safely assume that whoever is tagging our playgrounds are probably not doing so in broad daylight. Therefore, those people hanging around after dark marking up our playgrounds are breaking the law. Twice. If you see someone in a park after dark, call the police. Keeping the lawbreakers out of the park after hours is a good step toward keeping our playground's PG rating.

If the graffiti-ing has already happened, there is a website that allows you to report it to the city. You can find it here: <http://www.grcity.us/683>. And for those of us with a smartphone, there is an app for that. Alternatively, you can give CNA a call and we'll take care of it.

I'd love to be able to take kids to the park without having to worry they might learn too much about who did what with what girl and at what number she can be reached. So, please, do your part to keep our playgrounds graffiti free!

Creston Neighborhood Association

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www.crestongr.com

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a community newsletter published 4 times a year with a circulation of 1000 and is distributed in various local businesses. Advertising space is available. Contact our office for rate information.

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Riverside Tree Walk Showcases Our Urban Forest

By: Linda Ortman

Saturday, February 19th was cold and clear. The snow from the big blizzard had almost melted and people were ready to get out and enjoy nature. The Living Green in Creston Committee planned a tree ID walk with Vic Foerster to learn more about the trees in our beautiful north end park.

Vic is a consulting certified arborist for West Michigan Tree Service and has provided tree care to clients for over 34 years. He volunteered to lead our hike using the map of Riverside Park trees that he developed last year.

Vic mapped and labeled 50 of the most interesting and important trees in the park. The map will be available through Friends of Grand Rapids Parks. The Friends are working to make maps of other parks throughout the city. The trees have blue metal tags with corresponding numbers that let people do their own self guided tour.

Our walk started with a greeting by the Creston Neighborhood board president, Sandy Stuckhardt. About 35 walkers got a cup of hot cocoa or coffee and a muffin provided by Red Ball Cafe and Vic led us to our first tree, number one on the map.

Vic gave us so many interesting facts about our urban

forest here in Riverside and important tree care tips for our backyards. One fact that most people don't know is that 90% of a tree's roots are at the surface, usually only 6 to 12 inches deep. Trees get oxygen from these roots, which is why it is so important to keep mulch to only 2 inches. Heavy soil, rocks or mulch can kill a tree in just a few years.

Vic talked about several species of trees, how the cotton wood and sycamore like to be planted in moist soil and how elms died off in the 1950's due to Dutch elm disease. We learned that trees in Riverside are at the most only 100-120 years old because of the massive clear cutting of our native forests in the 1800's. Many are closer to 50 years old and at the north end there are some that were just planted last year.

The problem of the ash trees is one that Vic has been

focusing on since the ash borers were discovered in Grand Rapids. There are about 600 ash trees in Riverside Park. They make up about 20% of the trees in the park. Many already show signs of being infested by the ash borer and Vic predicts that in 5 years all will be dead if left untreated. The City is working on a plan for treatment but due to costs, may have to limit their work. Ten trees between Graceland and Guild have been treated with the chemical Triage, which if done correctly and in a timely manner can save the tree. These trees are marked with an orange dot metal tag and seem to be doing well.

I think everyone on the walk will agree with me that this was a great way to spend a Saturday morning: with neighbors and friends, learning more about one of the Creston Neighborhood's most important assets, trees!



Photo by: Pete Tabberer

Vic Foerster, consulting arborist for West Michigan Tree Service, gives a guided tour of the urban forest in Riverside Park on Saturday February 19th.

Getting to Know Your Working Trees

By: Caroline

Urban trees are often overworked and unappreciated. They line our streets and populate our parks without complaint as they cool and clear the air, store carbon dioxide, mute city noise, prevent erosion, intercept would be storm water run-off, and quietly add to our neighborhood quality of life and sense of place.

In my yard, I have one tree of respectable size, 24" in diameter perhaps. It is a street tree, and it is a maple, and with just this general bit of information, I went to the National Tree Benefit Calculator (www.treebenefits.com) to see what sort of work my tree put out this year.

After inputting some basic information about my tree: species, diameter and location, the website returned a wealth of information on the benefits my tree provided. For instance, my tree held 2,867 gallons of

rainwater (\$78 in savings of storm water mitigation). It reduced atmospheric carbon by 937 pounds (in comparison, a flight from NY to LA adds 1400 pounds per passenger). And it conserved 284 kilowatt hours of electricity. Other benefits were also calculated, but what can't be figured in numbers was the pleasure I derived from this tree throughout the year without more than a thought now and again. And I did next to nothing for this tree, though it is usually the first on the block to show its autumn colors, it regularly hosted sometimes noisy, but always enjoyable, squirrel rivalry as well as provided a nesting cavity for a family of downy woodpeckers.

There is simple beauty, quiet enjoyment, satisfying knowledge, even easy money, working without fuss in my front yard. Assuming my maple is a native maple, and not the alien and ubiquitous Norway Maple, I could craft a catchy song on the

value of the critically important insect biomass supported by native maples! And perhaps you have a song about your own working tree.

Upcoming Events:

April 7, 7 p.m.
GR Public Library, main branch
Parks for Everyone: The Story of Grand Rapids Parks- new exhibit opening, program, and reception

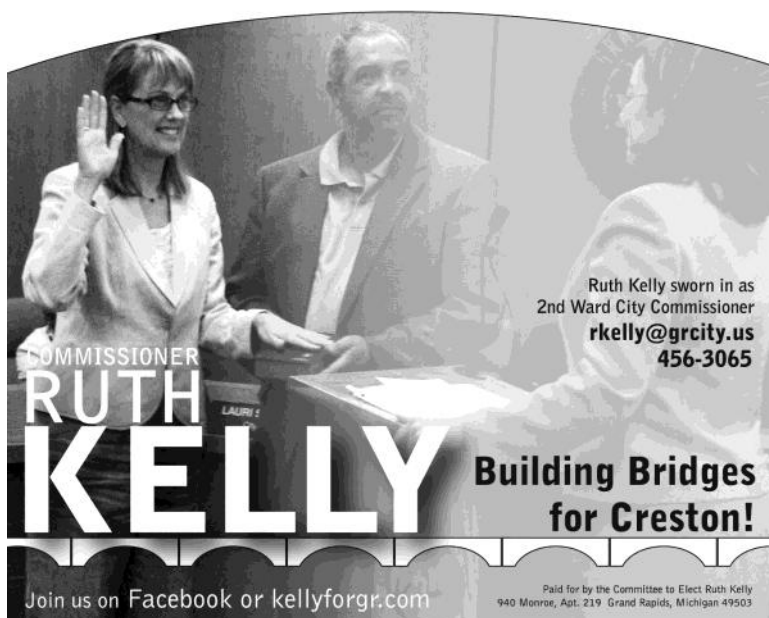
April 29, , time and location tbd
Arbor Day tree planting

April 30, time tbd
Garfield Park
Global ReLeaf of MI 2011 native tree and shrub sale (buy a tree for a park!)

14 May, Saturday, 10-12
Huff Park
Pulling Together Event: invasive species removal

May 20 & 21, time tbd
Multiple locations
I LOVE GR PARKS DAY

2 June, time tbd
Annual perennial exchange



Ruth Kelly sworn in as
2nd Ward City Commissioner
rkelly@grcity.us
456-3065

**COMMISSIONER
RUTH
KELLY**

**Building Bridges
for Creston!**

Join us on Facebook or kellyforgrr.com

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Ruth Kelly
940 Monroe, Apt. 219 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503



**A Message for Creston
from Commissioner
Rosalynn Bliss:**

*I hope you are all handling the cold weather!
Please contact me at 889-1277 if there
is anything I can do to be helpful.*

Rosalynn Bliss

**Connect in Person!
COFFEES WITH BLISS:**

**Monday, March 21
Noon, Vitales on Leonard**

**Monday, April 25th at 5pm
at the Greenwell**

**Visit blissforgrr.org for
periodic newsletters and
to join us on Facebook!**

Paid for by the Committee to Elect Rosalynn Bliss
p.o. box 3635 Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

Quality Housing Advocates in Creston and Grand Rapids Announce 1st Success

By: Deborah Eid

Grand Rapids City Commission has set a July 1st deadline for a single-family rental certification program design. 3,200 more homes became rentals citywide between 2006 and 2009.

This winter neighbors from Creston went to City Hall to present their concerns about the impact of poor housing conditions on our neighborhood's vitality. Their participation was part of a wider citywide housing policy effort by area non-profits and housing developers which began in May of 2009.

A goal of this group is to improve housing quality for the increased numbers of families in these rental homes. CNA was involved in a citywide taskforce which included Ruth Kelly, 2nd Ward Commissioner and produced a detailed report on

the impact of the housing crisis on neighborhoods.

Diana Fischer, a member of the CNA board, spoke out on February 8th. "My block now has nine rental homes out of 20 dwellings and two are vacant (one foreclosure and one rental). I am concerned that the rental owners will not keep up their properties as needed and have noticed some dipalidation already occurring. We need a policy that will keep this from happening."

Creston neighbors were also present at the December 21 meeting when these policy recommendations were presented at City Hall. Many reported surprise to learn that the City did not already

have a program in place to inspect rental properties and certify them as being safe for occupation.

All are invited to attend the upcoming hearings on this new addition to the City of GR's housing code. Speak out to support quality housing for all of Creston neighbors. Date of public hearing is yet to be announced. Follow CNA on facebook, our website or call us at 454-7900 !

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Become a Member!

"Share this membership form with a neighbor. If your neighbor commits to a new membership your name will go in a drawing for a \$25 gift certificate to a local restaurant of your choice to be awarded at the CNA Annual Membership Meeting in October.

Sandy Stuckhardt,
CNA resident and member

☐ Yes, I want to support CNA

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City _____ Zip _____

Phone
Home _____ Work _____ Cell _____

Email _____

- ☐ I wish to receive my newsletter and alerts electronically
- ☐ I would like to be contacted about volunteer opportunities

Please check any options that apply:

- ☐ I wish to pay annual resident membership dues of \$25 per household
- ☐ I wish to pay annual business membership dues of \$50 per non-profit organization or \$75 per for profit organization
- ☐ I wish to make a contribution of _____
- ☐ I was referred by _____

Total Memberships and contributions enclosed _____

Please make check payable to Creston Neighborhood Association and mail it with this application to: Creston Neighborhood Association
205 Carrier St. NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505

- ☐ Check here if you prefer not to be listed in our newsletter

Projects

continued from pg. 1

The eligible homes will receive direct mailings inviting them to come to informational meetings in March. Other homeowners and landlords in Creston are eligible to apply for low cost loans and other opportunities for home energy efficiency improvements. Call CNA to find out more at 454-7900.

Cheshire Corridor Improvement Group promises a new look, new name

A committee of area business owners, City Commissioner Ruth Kelly and CNA have been meeting since Fall of 2010 to develop a vision for Plainfield Ave. They have been brainstorming on what kind of image they'd like to create through our revitalization projects along Plainfield and how to improve the business district.

Working with the designers in the Creston business community has added momentum to this work and the group has announced a spring pub crawl event timed to roll out the umbrella name and logo which will tie the two business districts together under the hoped for Corridor Improvement District. Special thanks to Jen Mikrut, ICONSIGN and Rink Heule, Heule-Gordon, for leading and hosting the marketing and branding team.

Community Gardens and You

By: Andrea Hensen

Are you interested in growing your own food? Eating local and fresh produce? Meeting people who live in your neighborhood? If you answered yes to any of the above then renting your very own community garden plot might be just what you are looking for!

There are two new community garden sites that will be sprouting this growing season. The first, made available by St. Alphonsus Catholic Church, is located on Carrier Street, behind the Carrier Crest apartments. The second was made available by Creston Christian Reformed Church and is located behind their ministry center on Carman Avenue. Through grant funding, the garden design will be inclusive, supportive of all ages and provide wheelchair accessibility and adapted gardening tools.

We hope these community gardens will become green spaces full of beauty and inspiration for the neighborhood as well as sites where the love and skill of gardening and community building can be shared and experienced.

There are many reasons to consider tending your own garden.

It can help save on grocery bills, it allows you to practice a more active lifestyle, and it gives the joy of seeing seeds grow into something you can hold in your hand, and eventually eat and share with others. If nothing else, it's an excuse to get your hands dirty, experiment with something new, and have some fun outside!

If you are interested in renting a plot (approx 10x10 ft.) please pick up an application at any of the following locations: The Creston Neighborhood Association, St. Alphonsus Church, Plainfield United Methodist Church, or Creston Christian Reformed Church. Applications can also be downloaded from the garden website or emailed to you upon request. The rental fee is \$20 plus a \$10 deposit that can be refunded at the end of the growing season.

If you have any questions, would like to assist with soil preparation or planting, or if you have perennials or garden tools for donation please contact the garden supervisors, Andrea and Lance.

crestoncommunitygardens@gmail.com
www.crestoncommunitygardens.org

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Photo Courtesy: <http://www.pharmacy-in-vegetables.com/>

Local History: The Story of Creston's Parks

By: Julie Tabberer

The north side is known as the playground of Grand Rapids, with our numerous parks and green spaces attracting visitors from all over the city. Many of these parks are what they are today because of the efforts put in by neighbors.

Aberdeen Park

Aberdeen Park was officially dedicated in a city commission meeting on February 16, 1948. The nearby Aberdeen Elementary School had been built in 1925, and the city wanted a place for a public playground and recreation center in the area as well.

By the early 1980s, though, Aberdeen Park was in rough shape. The buildings and equipment were dirty and in need of repairs and there was evidence of drug use.

An area neighbor led a community effort to improve the park, working alongside the North End Neighborhood Association (later merged with CNA). They hosted clean-up days and worked with the city on greater improvements.

The annual Celebration in the Park was started in 1981 as an invitation to area neighbors and families to reclaim the park. It took about 10 years, but in 1992 a new and improved Aberdeen Park was dedicated. The rehab included all new playground equipment, picnic tables, tennis courts, a basketball court, trees and a pavilion and restroom.

Huff Park

Taking its name from the former elementary school across the street, Huff Park offers 80 acres of recreational facilities and natural areas.

Huff Elementary School was built in 1934, long before the park was created. The original elementary school was at the northwest corner of Knapp Street and Fuller Avenue, but was relocated after a fire.

In 1961, Grand Rapids Public Schools purchased the land for the park. Huff Park was operated jointly by the city and the school system until 1990, when the city took full ownership.

In 1993, a boardwalk was built into a wetland area, providing low-impact access to natural areas in the park. The boardwalk, constructed by volunteers, is another example of the difference that neighbors can make.

Sweet Street Park

This small neighborhood park faced elimination only a few years ago. Once again, neighbors made the difference, with people stepping up to fight for the park.

Before hosting a playground, the site was part of a neighborhood. As Creston High School expanded, the school district acquired more land and built the playground in 1972, just before completing a full addition to the high school in 1978.

Thirty years later, though, the playground hadn't seen any upgrades and no longer met safety standards. The school district planned to remove it, but neighbors, with the help of CNA, stepped in. The property was transferred to the City of Grand Rapids in 2009 and a new playground was built, with CNA, KaBOOM! and Amway Corp. working together with 200 volunteers to make it happen.

Learn more about Briggs, Riverside and other city parks at the Grand Rapids Public Library! Beginning in April 2011 and running through the summer, "Parks for Everyone: The Story of Grand Rapids Parks" will be displayed on the 4th floor of the main branch.



In a 1943 Grand Rapids Herald photo, lifeguard Ned Stults shows the crowd at Briggs Park a dive.

Photo Courtesy: Grand Rapids Public Library GRHSC

Business Profile: The Book Corral

By: Adam Scott

The Book Corral's owner and operator, Nancy, has a passion for books.

When I stopped in, she was helping a customer look for western novels he hadn't read yet. Nancy rattled off a list of authors from memory, for him to consider next time he stopped in. "She's very helpful when you come in and don't know what you're looking for. She probably knows 99% of the books in here," he proclaimed. Considering the store is currently home to around 40,000 used books, that's quite a feat. I threw out the most obscure title I could think of and she knew exactly what I was talking about. This self-proclaimed 'book hound' knows her stuff and loves her work.

Nancy has owned the Book Corral at 2460 N. Plainfield for the past 21 years. When she was looking for something to do after retirement, owning a yarn store was at the top of her list. But, the Book Corral happened instead. One fateful day she stopped in with her daughter and learned the current bookstore owner was looking to move. This prompted Nancy's daughter to turn to her and say,

"Mom, you buy it!" So, she did. And over two decades later, the Corridor Improvement District will help revitalize the neighborhood, especially considering how many local businesses have left the area.

The bookstore is a hobby she loves. The neighborhood is pleasant, a lot of interesting people stop in, and she sees customers from all over West Michigan, some even come from out of state.

Even though the economic slump has affected many local businesses, Nancy is still able to offer used books at very

reasonable prices. She believes the Corridor Improvement District will help revitalize the neighborhood, especially considering how many local businesses have left the area.

So stop by the Book Corral on your day off! Avid readers are sure to find a fresh book to dive into, and Nancy can always point you to some great new authors and titles. She even offers trade-in credit if you have used books in good condition and need something new to read.



Photo by: Pete Tabberer

The Book Corral at 2460 Plainfield is the prefect place to find a new book or to donate your old ones.



O'Brien & O'Brien, D.D.S., P.C.

Dr. Jon G. O'Brien

(616) 361-2617 • FAX: (616) 361-2390
1503 Coit NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Volunteers: Get Your CNA On!

By: Sandy Stuckhardt

Grassroots community organizing is a dynamic process that requires constant attention and effort. It is a strategy that revitalizes communities and allows individuals to participate and empower social change. You don't get to a certain point and then say "Our neighborhood is perfect, it's time to stop organizing." The process is a continuation of addressing issues, reaching out to residents, mobilizing volunteers and empowering leaders to effectively advocate on their own behalf. Creston Neighborhood Association

is the place where the tools can be found, but Creston neighborhood is where the volunteers are found and leaders are made.

Here's how you can get involved: You can organize a block club, or get to know your neighbors at a block party. As a group you can develop an idea to maintain the neighborhood you live in or you can develop a way to improve something in your neighborhood that will make it a better place to live

in. CNA is a place where you can be creative and bring your ideas to the table. Check out the Volunteer Application Form on page 11 in this edition of the North End Connection and get your CNA on!



Photo Courtesy: www.voicesofafrica.info

Volunteer Opportunities at CNA

YES! Count me in:

Communication Committee: Promotes the work of CNA

- ☐ Writing for print newsletter
- ☐ Selling business ads for print newsletter
- ☐ Mail preparation for print newsletter
- ☐ Delivery to local establishments

Electronic Communications: Social Media to promote the Creston neighborhood

- ☐ Website expansion
- ☐ E-newsletter
- ☐ Facebook
- ☐ Media Releases

Hello Neighbor Committee: Plans & implements events to increase CNA membership base

- ☐ Pancake Breakfast
- ☐ Aberdeen Celebration In the Park
- ☐ Walking & delivering flyers/announcements
- ☐ Delivering yard signs
- ☐ Volunteer recruitment & appreciation

Fundraising Committee: Plans & implements events to sustain CNA services and programs

- ☐ Planning
- ☐ Art Battle
- ☐ Texas Hold'Em

Living Green in Creston: Promotes the environment health of the Creston neighborhood

- ☐ Planning
- ☐ Perennial Exchange
- ☐ Parks & Playgrounds
- ☐ Rain Barrel Workshops

You may contact me at:

Name: _____ Phone Number: _____

Email Address: _____

Mail to: CNA, 205 Carrier NE, Grand Rapids, MI 49505 or by Phone at 454-7900

Welcome New & Renewing Members!

Bachle Fifer, Anne & Mark Fifer
 Batt, Sandy
 Bennett, Richard L. & Janet F.
 Botwinski, Charles & Laura
 Boyle, Shirley
 Brillhart, Marjean & Clayton
 Brownell, Tony
 Buhl, Janette
 Capps, Larry & Sue
 Cavanaugh, Ed
 Culver, Duane & Mari-Clare
 D'Addario, Kimberly
 DeBoer, Neil and Doris
 DeMaagd, Tuti and Pete
 Diduch, Theresa & Ted
 Eggleston, Robert and Donna
 Essenberg, Penny
 Firlik, Michael & Terri
 Fisher, Randy and Diana
 Gerwig, Lori
 Gottschalk, Thomas and Laura
 Gruenwald, Daniel & Cheryl
 Haan, Paul and Nietling, Julie
 Hansen, Joette
 Hathaway, Richard and Joan
 Hennessy, Carol & Nysson, Kenneth
 Heule, Carl
 Higgins, Laura
 Huyck, Susan & Jeffery
 Jensen, Elizabeth & Miller, Bruce
 Johnson, Molly A.
 Kirvan, Dave & Mary

Koopman, Don and Terry
 Kooyer, William & Doris
 Kozal, Anne
 Kozlowski, Emily
 Kruis, Noah and Megan
 Kuhn, Kathy and Terry
 Locke, Richard & Joyce
 Lovall, Jeff & Shellie
 Mazur, Kristy & Matt
 McDonald, Katherine
 McDowell, Beau and Rebekah
 Meendering, Tim & Ruth
 Mieras, Rose
 Miller, Nicole & Krupnik, Mike
 Milliken, Michael
 Mitchell, Kim
 Moore, John & Paula
 Morse, Katey & Andrew*
 Morsink, Dr. Helen
 Mulder, Ryan C.
 Murray, Patrick & Darling-Murray, Pat
 Noel, Nancy
 Noorthoek, Charlotte*
 Noorthoek, Marcia
 Paasche, Linda & Bob
 Page, David
 Pell, Carolyn
 Preston, Glenn H.
 Rodgers, Patricia
 Ruzicka-Savage, Mary
 Sage, Paul
 Sapp, Karen

Savage, Dan & Rene
 Savickas, Ann
 Scanlon, Daniel and Jan
 Schmidt, John
 Schriber, Shirley
 Soechtig, Dr. Eugene and Patty
 Spaulding, Denise & Larry
 St Amour, Amanda
 St Martin, Peter
 Stanford, Barbara & Coleman, Mark
 Straight, Don & Sharon
 Sundstrom, Greg & Audrey
 Swart, Henry & Jeane
 Usakowski, Ann
 VanderLende, Gary
 VanOort, Robert
 Whittington, Bill & Jane
 Wierzbicki, Mrs. Evelyn
 Wittkoski, Jerome & Irene
 Younts, Cassandra and Scott
 Zomermaand, Janine & Robert

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- Patterson & Broadmoor S.E.
- Burton St. S.W., 3 lights from U.S. 131



Ph. 616-452-2161
Toll-free 888-729-6728
www.mpcu.org





Creston Neighborhood Association
205 Carrier NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

Community Calendar

PANCAKE BREAKFAST
March 19
9:00 am - 11:30 am @
2nd Congregational Church
(525 Cheshire NE)

5th Annual Creston Art Battle
May 4
time tbd
Sazerac Lounge
(1418 Plainfield NE)

KaBOOM! Build Day
May 13
time tbd
Briggs Park

Perennial Exchange
June 2
time tbd
place tbd

CNA BOARD MEETINGS
March 24, April 28
May 26, June 23
6:30 pm @ CNA Offices
(205 Carrier NE)

BLACK SQUIRREL SOCIAL HOUR
April 18, May 16, June 20
5:30 pm @ Sazerac's Lounge

crestongr.com

Spring 2011



North End Connection