

# Churchill Downs Newsletter

Churchill Downs Community Association

December 2022/January 2023

## Upcoming Events

### Annual Christmas Party

Dec 20, 6:30-8pm at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center. Potluck and voting for favorite Christmas lights.

### Christmas Card Party

Saturday, Dec 3, 2-6:30pm. Drop in any time to make cards for anyone you want. Supplies are provided. 5010 Conners Ave.

### Worship Nights

Enjoy a warm living room and music to worship Jesus together. Friday Dec 2, and Thursday Dec 15 at 6:30pm at 5010 Conners Ave

### Game Nights

Connect over board/card games and snacks. Friday Dec 9 and Friday Dec 30 at 6:30pm, 5010 Conners Ave

### 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward Constituent Contact

#### Meeting

Meet on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of the month at 10am at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center to converse with City Council member Adam Hussain. Not meeting in December.

*More events on next page*

*In Churchill Downs, we get together as neighbors to support and initiate activities that benefit our community, work cooperatively to solve problems, and establish communication links between neighbors and local government/other organizations. Everyone has a part to play in making our neighborhood an enjoyable place to live, and we are glad to have you with us.*

## Dreams for Wainwright Park



*Unused pavement north of Wainwright School.*

Wainwright Park feels like it extends all the way from Stillwell Ave to Wainwright Ave, even though the eastern half of it (including the playground) is owned by the Lansing School District, not Lansing Parks and Rec. North of the playground, on the school district property, is a degraded pavement space which used to include a basketball court. In our November meeting, a neighbor on Hepfer brought up their desire to see this old pavement put to better use. Several ideas were mentioned, including making it back into a basketball court (which had some resistance due to the issues we have had with basketball courts in the past), adding tether ball, skateboarding or dirt biking course, or even just ripping it up and turning it back to grass. If we could gather the resources and cooperation necessary, what would you like to see in this space (or at the park in general)? Email your thoughts/ideas to [hossinke@gmail.com](mailto:hossinke@gmail.com).

## CDCA Christmas Party

Save the date! Tuesday, December 20 we are having our annual potluck which involves food, voting on favorite Christmas light decorations from the neighborhood, a raffle, and games to help you get to know each other. This will take place from 6:30-8pm at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center in place of our December monthly meeting. Come join us as we connect with neighbors and celebrate the Holidays.

## Welcome Packets are Back!

After many years without them, Jeanne Fangboner and a team of neighbors have put together fresh welcome packets to give to new people moving into our community. These packets include some Churchill Downs swag, information about CDCA, and other pertinent flyers and brochures. If you see that someone has recently moved in near you, contact Jeanne at (517) 505-0619 and she will get you a packet that you can bring to your new neighbor. Thanks for being such a welcoming community!

If you have any events or activities you would like to share with your neighbors, even as simple as going on a walk to pick up trash, email that information to [hossinke@gmail.com](mailto:hossinke@gmail.com) for it to be posted in the next newsletter. Newsletters are written every two months. We also encourage you to use our Facebook group to invite neighbors to activities.



## Rejuvenating South Lansing is meeting again

Rejuvenating South Lansing is a group that meets to bring people together to share information, network, and work on problems and solutions together. Meetings will start up again on January 24 at 6:30pm at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center.

## Winter Markets

South Lansing Community Development Association is hosting three Winter Markets at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center (5815 Wise Rd). Come buy from 60+ local vendors selling a variety of crafts and goods:

- Sat, December 3, 10am-2pm
- Sat, February 4, 10am-2pm
- Sat, March 4, 10am-2pm

## Holiday in the Square

On Saturday, December 16 from 6-7pm join the South West Action Group for their tree lighting. Located at the Pleasant Grove Town Square on the corner of Pleasant Grove and Holmes.



## Share this newsletter with your neighbors!

Currently our email newsletter is only reaching about 10% of the households in the neighborhood. We want to make sure everyone has the opportunity to hear about what is going on. **If you are willing to help pass out physical newsletters to your street or block, please let Elizabeth know!** And please encourage neighbors to sign up to receive this via email (sign up on our website), as that is the only way we can assure they will receive it every time.

You can find past newsletters on our website: [Churchilldownslansing.info](http://Churchilldownslansing.info)

## Let it Snow

The City of Lansing expects residents to clear their sidewalks of all snow and ice within 24 hours of a snowfall event. Beyond the city's requirements, clearing snow helps to keep a safe and friendly environment for your neighbors, especially for those who still walk and bike through the winter. Let's keep creating a culture of caring for each other. While you are shoveling your sidewalk, consider offering a helping hand to neighbors who are not able to shovel for themselves. If you find yourself unable to clear your snow in time, please reach out to those around you.

## Get Involved

We meet on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of each month at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center from 6:30-8pm. This is a time to meet neighbors and talk about what is happening in the neighborhood. **Please note there is no meeting in January.** If you would like to be involved in some way other than the monthly meeting, consider any of these options:

- Attending or volunteering at neighborhood events
- Helping with communication like writing/distributing newsletters, putting up and taking down signs, making facebook posts, etc
- Distributing welcome packets to new neighbors
- Helping to write or implement grants for neighborhood projects

To get involved or if you have questions, contact Elizabeth Stepnowski.

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Conversation starter for holiday get-togethers:

1. If you could have a mediocre superpower (something that is mildly helpful to you but certainly can't be used to save the world), what would it be?
2. What have been some of the moments in the last year you felt the most encouraged or loved?

## Helpful contact info

### Churchill Downs:

Elizabeth Stepnowski

*CDCA President*

517-290-6955

[hossinke@gmail.com](mailto:hossinke@gmail.com)

Nick Miller

*CDCA Vice President*

[Nickamiller96@gmail.com](mailto:Nickamiller96@gmail.com)

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### City of Lansing:

Adam Hussain

*City Council 3<sup>rd</sup> Ward*

*Representative*

[Adam.hussain@lansingmi.gov](mailto:Adam.hussain@lansingmi.gov)

i.gov

Officer Briggs

*Community Police Officer*

[Glenn.briggs@lansingmi.gov](mailto:Glenn.briggs@lansingmi.gov)

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### Stay Connected:

For more regular updates visit our website:

[churchilldownslansing.info](http://churchilldownslansing.info)

Facebook Page:

Churchill Downs

Community Association

Facebook Group:

Neighbors

of Churchill Downs