

Churchill Downs Newsletter

Churchill Downs Community Association

January-February 2024

Upcoming Events

Churchill Downs

Community Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month,
6:30-8pm, Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center. We will
not be meeting in January.

3rd Ward Constituent

Contact Meeting

Meet on the 2nd Saturday of
the month at 10am at the
Alfreda Schmidt Community
Center to converse with City
Council member Adam
Hussain. The January
meeting is cancelled due to
the snow storm.

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.

Successful Christmas Party



Neighbors had a lot of fun at the Christmas Party this year. We ate lots of good food, had a raffle, kids decorated cookies, and people enjoyed catching up with each other. Thank you so much to Claire and Jay who put in so much effort to make the night happen. Everything was decorated beautifully, and we look forward to it again next year.

Share this newsletter with your neighbors! We are still only reaching about 13% of our neighbors with this email newsletter. If you have neighbors who might want to know what is going on, print out a copy and give it to them. Or have them sign up for the email newsletter on our website.

Shining Light Award



This year we are pleased to present Luke Perry with the Shining Light Award, for consistently going above and beyond for his neighbors. Thank you for being such a good example for us, Luke!

Good Neighbor Awards were also presented to:

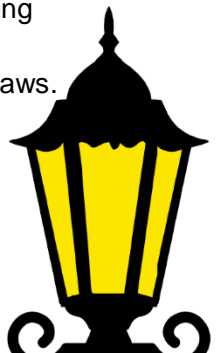
Jose and Deb Velasquez
Heather Daniel
Mike Redding
Jay West
Claire Healey

If you would like to thank your neighbor for adding to this community, you can nominate them for a Good Neighbor Award on our website, churchilldownslansing.info.

Bylaws Revision

For part of our February and March meetings, we will be reading and voting on some revisions to the CDCA bylaws.

A team of neighbors has been working hard to make the bylaws more complete and relevant, and we look forward to seeing the fruit of their labor.





At the Christmas Party you all voted on which Christmas light decorations you liked the most. The winners this year are Maybel (left), Lucie (top right), and Stillwell (bottom right).

3-1-1

The City of Lansing has made it easier to get your questions answered and find the city services you need with the phone number 3-1-1. Argie Martinez, the director of the City of Lansing's 3-1-1 program, came to our October meeting and shared with us about how helpful it can be to call 3-1-1. This number acts like the front desk for the city. You can call with any question about Lansing's services and they will either answer your question or direct you to the person who can. Many needs can be addressed right there over the phone, including reporting issues with the streets or sidewalks, scheduling inspections, starting/stopping services, and more. Receptionists are available Monday-Friday from 8am to 5pm. Martinez was very enthusiastic about the way he and his team are able to help Lansing residents and he highly encourages us to call.

Get Involved!

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center from 6:30-8pm. We will not meet in January, so the next meeting will be February 20. This is a time to meet neighbors and talk about what is happening in the neighborhood. Follow our Facebook page for other ways to be involved.

If you hear of any cool things happening in the neighborhood that should be shared in the next newsletter, please contact Elizabeth Stepnowski.

Hot Topic: Code Compliance

One theme that surfaces in several of the Churchill Downs community meetings is city code compliance. Particularly, the issue of neighbors not following city code in their yards, and the city not enforcing it as much as some neighbors wish they would. If you see a neighbor's yard that is not up to code and you would like them to fix it, please go talk to that neighbor about it first before reporting them to the city. Your neighbor might benefit from your conversation with them, as not everyone is aware of the rules. Among those who are aware, some are dealing with difficult circumstances that make it challenging to keep up their yard, and your helping hand might make a world of difference to them. If you have a neighbor whose yard is repeatedly causing issues and they are unwilling to work out a solution with you, you can report the code violation [here](#).

If you would like a refresher on how your yard space is supposed to be maintained in Lansing, here is a [flyer](#) with the city's guidelines for yard maintenance.

In case you didn't know:

As we anticipate some snow this winter, we want to remind you that the city requires you to clear your sidewalks within 24 hours of the end of a snowfall. If you would like more information on this ordinance, you can read an FAQ [here](#).

Helpful contact info

Churchill Downs:

Jay West
CDCA President
517-940-0993

Nick Miller
CDCA Vice President
Nickamiller96@gmail.com

Elizabeth Stepnowski
Communications Chair
517-290-6955
hossinke@gmail.com

City of Lansing:

Adam Hussain
City Council 3rd Ward
Representative
Adam.hussain@lansingmi.gov

Officer Rudd
Community Police Officer
DeLaurence.Rudd@lansingmi.gov

Stay Connected

For more regular updates visit our website:
churchilldownslansing.info

Facebook Page:
Churchill Downs
Community Association

Facebook Group:
Neighbors
of Churchill Downs