

Churchill Downs Newsletter

Churchill Downs Community Association

October-December 2023

Upcoming Events

Churchill Downs

Community Meeting

3rd Tuesday of the month,
6:30-8pm, Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center.

Card-making Party

Saturday, Dec. 9, 12-4pm
5010 Conners Ave.

Come make Christmas
cards for friends and family
at the Stepnowski house.
Drop in any time, supplies
are provided.

Holiday Potluck

Tuesday, December 19,
6:30-8pm, Alfreda Schmidt
Community Center. Food,
raffle, contest winners.

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.

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.

Word of Encouragement

We were all affected in some way by the storm that tore through our neighborhood on the evening of August 24. Despite all the damage, it created a unique situation the next morning where everyone was out in their front yards and greeting each other, some for the first time. Neighbors were helping each other move branches, sharing tools, and checking in on each other. It made sense on that morning when we had no electricity, Wi-Fi, or way to get to work. But that kind of community doesn't need to be reserved for natural disasters. As we move into fall and winter, what ways can we continue living in a strong community where we care for each other? Do you know your neighbors well enough to look out for them, especially the elderly and vulnerable ones?

Welcome Our Newest Board Members

At our September meeting we elected Garrett Amstutz as our treasurer and Denise King as an at-large member. Our current CDCA board is as follows: Jay West (President), Nick Miller (Vice President), Garrett Amstutz (Treasurer), Anita Wilson (Secretary), Jeanne Sayer (At-large), Jeanne Fangboner (At-large), Denise King (At-large), Elizabeth Stepnowski (At-large, Communications), Veda Dove-Washington (At-large).

Good Neighbor Awards



Our first round of Good Neighbor Awards was distributed this fall. Thank you, Denise King, Greg Hall, Larry McConnell, and Carl & Jeanne Fangboner for being good neighbors! If you have any neighbors you would like to thank, fill out [this form](#) on our website or in person at our monthly meetings.

Do you have a neighbor that *consistently goes above and beyond* for our neighborhood? Do they set a good example for our community? Please nominate them for our annual **Shining Light Award** by emailing Elizabeth at hossinke@gmail.com. The winner will be announced at the Holiday Potluck and will receive a gift.

The Village Trunk or Treat

The Village Lansing is providing an alternative place to trick-or-treat on Halloween. Their Trunk or Treat provides a safe place for kids to collect candy in one location rather than wandering through a whole neighborhood. Neighbors of Churchill Downs can park their cars together to represent our neighborhood.

October 31, 6-8pm
3525 S. MLK Blvd.
Lansing, MI 48910

Find more details at
[The Village Facebook page](#)





At the Lugnuts (pictured above)

On September 3, Churchill Downs neighbors watched the Lansing Lugnuts vs. West Michigan Whitecaps game from the City of Lansing's suite. We celebrated as the Lugnuts won! This opportunity is likely to happen every summer, so pay attention at our May meeting next year for more details.

Crosswalk Completed



Neighbors had fun painting crosswalks in our neighborhood this September. We ended up having enough paint to complete two crosswalks, one at the intersection of Jerree St. and Stillwell Ave., and another at the intersection of Brighton St. and Tennyson Ave. If you would like to organize a painting at an intersection near you, we will happily walk you through the process. Just reach out to Elizabeth at (517) 290-6955.

Get Involved!

We meet on the 3rd Tuesday of each month at the Alfreda Schmidt Community Center from 6:30-8pm. Our next meeting will be October 17. This is a time to meet neighbors and talk about what is happening in the neighborhood. If you are looking for other ways to be involved, contact Jay West.

Hot Topic: Speeding

Many residents of Churchill Downs are concerned about speeding cars throughout the neighborhood. Here are a few ways to tackle the problem:

1. Gather signatures and submit a traffic calming request to the Public Services Department. Information on their process for traffic calming can be found [here](#). On that page there is also a form to request radar trailers and other speed enforcement.
2. Put "caution, kids at play" and other similar signs in your yard by the road.
3. Report speeding cars to the police by calling 517-483-4600. They can't do anything about it in that moment, but your report adds data points which they use when they consider where they should station officers. Helpful information to include would be the road it is happening on, the direction of travel, and any details you can give about the specific cars.

Holiday Potluck and Light Contest

Each year we have a Christmas Light Contest, so get ready to decorate your house for the cold months! You do not need to do anything to enter the contest – a neighbor will drive through the neighborhood in mid-December and take pictures of the 10 best decorated houses. We will then vote as a community on the top three houses at our Holiday Potluck. This potluck will take place of our normal December meeting. Bring your family, a dish to pass, and cash for a raffle. At the potluck we will also announce the Shining Light Award winner and any other updates we have for the community.

Helpful contact info

Churchill Downs:

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CDCA President
 517-940-0993

Nick Miller
CDCA Vice President
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Elizabeth Stepnowski
Communications Chair
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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