

# Colonial Village Neighborhood Association

## CVNA NEWS



### City Launches Basement Backup Prevention Program

By: Suzanne Salay

Volume 17 October 2013

*If your basement floods call the city's 24-hour helpline at 483-4161  
 Website: [www.lansingmi.gov/pubserv](http://www.lansingmi.gov/pubserv) B2P2 website: [www.lansingmi.gov/basements](http://www.lansingmi.gov/basements)  
 Public Service: 483-4455 - B2P2 helpline: 853-7867*

The storm last June created headaches for a lot of Lansing residents, and a good number of neighbors in the Colonial Village Neighborhood woke up to water in their basements.

The rainfall was out of the ordinary – a 100-year

storm event according to the city – more than 4 inches in 24 hours.

But that knowledge does little to calm angry and frustrated residents who have endured multiple sewer backups over the past several years.

“Water in your basement is never a good thing” said Dean Johnson, city engineer.

It used to be when a heavy storm came the water was discharged into the river. But that is no longer an option

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2013 CVNA Board	
Karl Biasi, President	
Shawn Cox, Vice President	
Sara Weeden, Secretary	
Suzanne Salay, Treasurer	
Michael Morofsky, Area 1	
Michael Markey, Area 2	
Vacant, Area 3	

**Thank You!**

**Valuland**

for the printing of  
**CVNA News** and your  
 continued support of **CVNA**

### CVNA Seeking “Good Neighbor” Nominations For Bea Cristy Award

By: Anita Beavers

Each year the Lansing Neighborhood Council (LNC) invite neighborhood associations to nominate an outstanding volunteer who might be eligible to receive the Bea Christy Award. This award is given to good neighbors who are involved in a variety of activities in the neighborhood, in the community and is reliable (always willing to help out a neighbor.)

CVNA’s past nominees Randy Williams, June Kenfield, Evie Bush, Willie Vinson, Anne

Wilson and Anita Beavers have been honored, but not chosen to receive the Bea Christy Award.

The LNC selects three judges who review the nominations and, using a scale from 1-25, rate each nominee. The judges are unaware of who the nominees are and what area they are from until the recipient is chosen.

Consider the following when writing your nomination:

- Variety of activities

in the neighborhood

- Reliability
- Willingness to take on tasks
- Overall good neighbor
- Other services to the community
- Lives within CVNA boundaries
- Willing to attend LNC’s Award Banquet in February 2014.

If you have a neighbor you think would be a good nominee contact CVNA President, Karl Biasi at [kebiasi@att.net](mailto:kebiasi@att.net) or call 487-1713.

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## Backup Prevention Cont. from page 1

due to federal and state environmental restrictions.

“We’re not able to indiscriminately discharge sewage water into the river so we have to think of other solutions – some short term, some long term,” said Johnson.

One immediate solution is the city’s new Basement Backup Prevention Program (B2P2) which involves the installation of a backwater valve or a sewage pump. The program will reimburse homeowners up to \$4,750 of eligible costs (the first \$1,000 is reimbursed, then 75 percent of the next \$5,000).

About 40 homeowners who reported several backups were invited to participate in the pilot program. Homeowners who are interested, but not invited during the pilot period, will be placed on

a waiting list. More information about the B2P2 program can be found on the city’s website at [www.lansingmi.gov/basements](http://www.lansingmi.gov/basements) or by calling 853-7867.

Also check out the city website for more info on some of the causes of basement flooding, steps you can take to prevent them and what to do when your basement floods.

In the meantime, if your basement floods contact the city immediately. The city may not be able to help but it’s important they know the problem is ongoing and can track problem areas – don’t let the problem go unreported.

Keep the Public Service Department numbers handy, report every incident to the department, and call your insurance agent to see how you can protect yourself against major storm events.

## CVNA Picnic & Expo



Proud Winner of a new Bike provided by Valuland.

If you were unable to attend CVNA’s picnic this August, you missed a great afternoon of fun for all ages. Over 250 adults and children attended the picnic. Go to [www.cvnanews.com](http://www.cvnanews.com) for pictures.

CVNA has nothing but gratitude for all our sponsors. Neighbors are asked to help us show our appreciation by frequently shopping at these businesses.

**Valuland**  
**RSVP**  
**SLCDA**  
**A Complete Rental**  
**Mancino’s Pizza & Grinders**  
**PNC Bank**

*See Picnic on Page 3*

## Meet The Candidates Night

By Anne Wilson

The Colonial Village Neighborhood Association's 13th annual Meet the Candidates Night was held Wednesday, September 18, 2013 at the Grace United Methodist Church on the corner of Mt. Hope Avenue and Boston Blvd in Lansing. Over 50 residents were in attendance.

A welcome reception was held from 6:00-7:00 p.m. with great treats and cool beverages. Candidates for the Lansing Mayoral race, Lansing City

Council at-large seats, 4<sup>th</sup> Ward seats and City Clerk all had a chance to share a little about their campaign in a three minute timed component. Then there was a five minute question and answer session for the candidates based on audience questions.

Candidates also answered residents’ questions on a one-on-one basis after the presentation. “This is one of our most popular neighborhood events,” said Anne Wilson, and timekeeper at this

year’s event. “It is a great way to learn about your state and local leaders close up and really involves regular citizens in the political process.”

Thanks to moderator Mary Bechtol and many volunteers things kept moving along smoothly. This year CVNA partnered with Averill Woods and Lewton Rich Neighborhood Associations and Lansing Neighborhood Council to hold this event. *See event pictures at [www.cvnanews.com](http://www.cvnanews.com)*

**Neighbors in Action**

**Elmhurst Park Play Ground**

On September 11, around 11 a.m., Elmhurst play ground received a facelift. The City of Lansing Parks and Recreation delivered a truck load of wood chips to the park. Volunteers Michael Morofsky, Diane and Ken Corrigan worked four and half hours spreading the chips stopping only for lunch and water breaks. Kudos to you.

**Area Representative Aaron Beavers**

A graduate of Everett High School and student at LCC studying Chemical Engineering, Aaron Beavers still took time to volunteer as CVNA’s Area 3 Representative. He has also worked for Sandia National Lab in New Mexico as an intern for two summers.

“I had fun and it was interesting to see how things worked. I plan to go to MSU next year.” said Aaron. He is a committed young man who cares about our neighborhood and who has served CVNA well for two years. Due to studies Aaron will not be able to continue with CVNA. Thank you Aaron for all you have done for CVNA. Kudos to you and best of luck with your studies and career.

**CVNA Will Have Its Election of Officers—November 20, 2013**

CVNA will have election for board members at the November 20 meeting. The Association is volunteer based. Being involved with CVNA is a great opportunity for anyone interested in learning leadership skills and getting experience working within a volunteer environment.

All neighbors are encouraged to consider being a member of the Board. New and fresh ideas are welcome. There are eight meetings a year. Below is a summary of duties. Contact Karl Biasi 487-1713 or email [kebiasi@att.net](mailto:kebiasi@att.net) for more specific information.

**President:** Presides at general membership and board of director’s meetings, serves on program /speaker committee and responsible for deposit and signing checks in absence of Treasurer. Represent CVNA at city and other organizations as needed.

**Vice President:** Assume the executive duties in absence of President, signs checks in absence of the treasurer and president.

**Secretary:** Records and prepares minutes to be distributed at meetings; assume correspondence duties as required and maintain association files and records.

**Treasurer:** Receives and deposit all funds to CVNA account. Is authorized to sign checks as needed.

CVNA Area 1 Neighborhood Representative represents and is main contact for residents located between Mt. Hope to Victor and Pleasant Grove to MLK.

CVNA Area 2 Neighborhood Representative represents and is main contact for residents located between Mt. Hope to Victor and Pleasant Grove to Boston.

CVNA Area 3 Neighborhood Representative represents and is main contact for residents between Victor to Holmes and Pleasant Grove to MLK.

**Picnic** Cont. from page 2

Expo participants RSVP, Capitol Area District Library, Colonial Baptist Church, National Park Mysteries, and Valuland provided valuable community information.

Thank you to everyone who brought a dish to pass. A special thanks to our wonderful volunteers for setting up/cleaning up, serving food and handling overall activities. Michael Morofsky and Commissioner Victor Celentino

stood in the smoke of the BBQ until every last hot dog was cooked and served.

Lansing Police car, Lollipop Tree and inflatable climber were once again very popular. New this year was Klinker the Clown who continued to make hats and animals until every adult and child had a hat and/or animal of their choice. Thank you all.

*See picnic pictures online at [www.cvnanews.com](http://www.cvnanews.com)*

<p><b>CVNA Outreach</b></p> <p><i>Check out CVNA activities online and help us have the best website/ Facebook pages in Lansing.</i></p> <p>Making it easier to reach us is: Brandess Wallace, Suzanne Salay and Willie Vinson. Brandess is CVNA’s new Facebook administrator. Willie is CVNA’s newsletter editor and Suzanne and Willie are working together on <a href="http://www.cvnanews.com">www.cvnanews.com</a>. We need your suggestions, stories, &amp; pictures.</p>
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**Fall Leaves & Snow Removal**

City ordinance prevents the raking of leaves in the street. For safety reasons and to save our sewers, please rake, bag your leaves and place them by the curb for pickup on trash day.

Also Don't get fined for not shoveling snow off your sidewalks this winter. Snow must be removed with 24 hours of a snow fall.

**Holiday Lighting Contest**

This annual tradition is enjoyed by all. All homes decorated for the holidays are automatically entered and the selection committee chooses the winners.

Winners will be announced on 2/19/14 at CVNA's first meeting of the year.

If you would like to volunteer for the selection committee, contact Karl Biasi at 487-1713 or email [kbiyasi@att.net](mailto:kbiyasi@att.net).

**Dates to Remember**

**Oct. 30 4 pm—7pm** **Open House—Fall Fun At Elmhurst**  
Ever wonder what is going on in the Elmhurst School Building? Here is your chance to check it all out and see what programs are being offered to the public. Wednesday, October 30 from 4pm – 7pm. Join in the open house fun with storytelling, make and take crafts as well as Active fun in the gym. Call the Community Learning Center 755-4966 for more information

**Nov. 9 10 am-2pm** **Alternative Holiday Gift Fair & Bake Sale—**  
Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston. Gift items from KIRABO'S Fair Trade Store, jewelry and crafts from Women At Risk, Intl., Healing Hands Nicaraguan Ministry, Church World Services, Zimbabwe Ministry, Soaring Unlimited Haiti, Mayan Women of Guatemala, Nyaka Aids Orphans, Ghana Bolga Baskets, Haven House cookbooks, Greensky Hill Native American Church, & more. New this year – children's activities. For more information call: 482-5750

\*Bake Sale to benefit the Food Bank. Like us on Facebook at Alternative Holiday Gift Fair

**Nov. 16 7—8:30 pm** **Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting.**—Election of Officers. Meetings are held at Grace United Methodist Church, 1900 Boston Blvd. corner of Mt. Hope.

**Feb. 19 7—8:30 pm** **Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Meeting.**—Agenda to be announced.  
**NO MEETINGS IN DECEMBER OR JANUARY DUE TO HOLIDAYS**

**CATA Extends Service to Colonial Village Area**

Residents will soon notice **Route 11 Waverly/Colonial Village** buses traveling the northern portion of the Colonial Village neighborhood.

Beginning January 6, 2014, CATA will extend the route further east on Mt. Hope to provide service to the Colonial Village Shopping Center while preserving current routing and departure times in the area. New bus stops will be located on Mt. Hope east of Pleasant Grove and Boston Blvd. Buses will also serve the neighborhood just south of the shopping center, with a bus stop on Lenore west of Pattengill.

The route will continue to serve Pleasant Grove between Cooper and Victor.

The decision follows recent public hearings hosted by CATA. Route 11 operates Monday through Friday from 6:20 a.m. until 7:40 p.m. with service every 60 minutes. Call CATA at 517.394.1000 for more information.

**CVNA On Facebook**

Greetings Colonial Village Neighborhood residents! My name is Brandess Wallace. I am a mom of two, proud military spouse and an 8 year resident of Colonial Village. I am the administrator of the Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Facebook page and would love for you to visit the page and "like" us!

The Colonial Village Neighborhood Association Facebook page will provide regular updates on local events and opportunities as well as any relevant

information that may be important for you to know about the neighborhood and Lansing community.

It may also be used as a forum for Colonial Village residents to introduce one another, voice concerns, share photos or plan events. The page is intended to be interactive and we hope that residents use it to connect with one another.

Find us on the web at [www.facebook.com/CVNA NEWS](http://www.facebook.com/CVNA NEWS).

**Congratulations!**  
**To**  
**Jim Beckwith**  
**Winner of**  
**October 16 Meeting**  
**Door Prize**