



Neighbors Building Brightmoor

Neighbors Building Brightmoor seeks to mobilize our neighbors to work together to equip families and individuals to improve the quality of life in our neighborhood.

December 2016

Harvest Festival 2016 Photo Gallery



Huge thanks to Motor City Meals for the amazing food



Kids had tons of fun in the bounce house...many thanks to funds from Community Connections Grant and Kitz A Party



Many Thanks to Live Coal Gallery for coming out and sharing artwork



Great times with John Miller and his horses



Huge thanks to all the neighbors who came and helped make this Harvest Festival a success!

Dates to Remember

Dec. 1—NBB potluck and mtg, 6:30pm at St. Christine's

Dec. 12—Community Kitchen mtg, 7pm at 22739 Fenkell

Dec. 15—Brightmoor Alliance meeting, 5:30 at Gompers Elementary, 14450 Burt Rd.

Dec., all Saturdays—Brightmoor Freestore, 10am-2pm, Aldersgate UMC

Special Thanks:

- Brightmoor Liquor \$20
- St. Christine's for allowing us to use their space
- Compassion Funeral Home \$20
- Speedy's Gas Station \$20
- Inter-City Auto \$20
- Bo-Jack Carwash \$20
- Scotty's Fish & Chips \$20
- Metro PCS \$20
- Regal Spirits \$20
- Checkers Food and Liquor \$20
- Grandy's Coney Island \$20
- Pueblo Tile \$10
- BP Gas Station, Telegraph and Fenkell \$20
- Marathon Gas Station, Fenkell and Lahser \$20

NBB 2016-2017 Meeting Schedule

Always on the first Thursday of the month!

6.30 pm Potluck, 7 - 8.30 pm Meeting

At St. Christine's Soup Kitchen on the corner of Dacosta and Fenkell.

Dec. 1, Jan. 5, Feb. 2

NBB Honored By ACLU

NBB was honored by the American Civil Liberties Society of Michigan at its annual dinner on Friday, November 11, 2016. Along with individual plaintiffs

and other organizational plaintiffs, NBB was honored for its courage in joining the ACLU lawsuit against the City of Detroit and Wayne County, challenging unjust and discriminatory foreclosure practices and policies. Attending the dinner to represent NBB were: Cindy Dorman, Board President, Bill Hickey, Board Treasurer, Billie Hickey, and Sharon Cornelisen.



Youth Grow Brightmoor Celebrates a Good Season

Neighbors Building Brightmoor has two youth gardens – Brightmoor Youth Garden and Youth Grow Brightmoor (YGB). This is a brief report on YGB. A core of 10-12 young neighborhood people, ages 6-14, worked hard this summer at their garden on the west side of Dacosta, just south of Chalfonte. Adults who worked with them were, Louella Pizzuti, Luis Cuenca, and Billie and Bill Hickey. The young gardeners sold their produce at both Eastern Market, as part of the Grown in Detroit cooperative, and at the Fenkell Street Farmers Market. They shared over \$1,650 in profits, and learned a lot about how to garden, where their food comes from, how to work as a team, and how to market their produce. They also used trikes to take vegetables to neighbors who have a hard time getting out to shop, and made them available for a donation or for free. Neighbors Building Brightmoor has a lot to celebrate in its youth, and we should be especially proud of the young people of Youth Grow Brightmoor.



Good Neighboring – A Message from A Community Member

Dear friends and neighbors,

A good way to help neighbors survive the winter and build unity to overcome polarized and paranoid reactions to the election will be to reactivate and expand the crew of local members to insulate and repair people's homes. This year perhaps we could try to recruit more can do people with skills to get more done. In some cases, on big jobs trade or money or "McGuiver" methods might be required to get the job done - so be it. These activities can help give us the ties and group consciousness we need to handle challenges we face in the future. Thus far five people have signed up - we need more!

Call Bill G. if you can be part regularly or even just one time (313-808-2558). It all adds up on the plus side.

Thanks,

Bill G.

Detroit Gardening – A Brief History

By Billie Hickey and the NBB Inclusion Committee

There has been a long history of using the good soils of Detroit for planting gardens: the Mound Builders, various American Indian tribes, the French, ribbon farms along the Detroit River that provided each farmer access to water for their crops, Mayor Pingree's potato patches starting in 1893 that helped many unemployed workers survive, the war time Victory Gardens to help prevent a food shortage for soldiers abroad, and the millions of African Americans who brought agriculture skills north to cities like Detroit during the Great Migration. When I moved to Detroit 17 years ago, the mayor's neighborhood city halls provided free transplants and seeds to promote gardening. Today there's "no free lunch" but there are great resources for gardeners. Keep Growing Detroit (KGD) through their Garden Resource Program has over 1400 member gardens in the city, (including many Brightmoor gardeners). For \$10 for a family garden, \$20 for a community or market garden, you get almost more seeds and transplants than you can find space for! Another resource is Greening of Detroit which is committed to educating Detroiters on growing and preparing healthy food, along with their tree planting operations.

The amount of vacant land due to the demolition of houses has encouraged more gardening across the city. NBB is a Land Bank Community Partner that can help neighbors purchase a limited number of lots for \$100 each. Residents can also make use of the adjacent lot program in which you can purchase lots on either side or behind your home for \$100.

In the NBB area there are several kinds of gardens: typical family gardens, community gardens where neighbors can work together to grow food, youth gardens where kids learn how to grow a garden and sell their produce at farmers' markets, and larger scale market gardens where the growers are trying to make a living on what they grow. These are ones where you might see a sign that says "No Picking", for obvious reasons!

It's not too late to start preparing for gardening next spring. If you have any questions, I would be happy to find out the answer to your question, or check with the folks at Keep Growing Detroit (313) 757-2635 or Greening of Detroit (313) 237-8733. More information about the Garden Resource Program is on the web at detroitagriculture.net

Billie Hickey – Lamphere Community Garden (313) 414-4624

For more information about Neighbors Building Brightmoor contact us at neighborsbuildingbrightmoor@gmail.com or 313-687-4463.

Holiday Song Eve

Join neighbors for a evening of songs, music and snacks!

When: December 9th, 7:00-9:00pm

Where: Brightmoor Artisans Community Creation Space—22739 Fenkell

What: Bring a holiday snack or drink; bring a song to perform or share for sing-along, or just come and join us for group singing; feel free to bring a musical instrument

Updates from the Brightmoor Artisans—

Holiday Meal and Free Youth Cooking Class

Brightmoor Artisans Collective is partnering with Motown Meals to serve our monthly lunch at the BAC Community Kitchen on **December 18th from 1-4pm**. We will be passing out blankets, coats, toiletries, and kids gifts! Hope to see you there!



Brightmoor Artisans Collective is partnering with Gleaners to host free youth cooking classes starting January 11th, 2017. It's a six week "Cooking Matters with kids" course every Wednesday from 6-8pm. Students will be bringing home free ingredients and recipes to share with the family each week. **If you are interested in signing up youth ages 8-12, or for more information, please contact Brittany Bradd at 313-212-8851.**



Grayfield

Lisa Rivera 773-332-5031

Beaverland

Nicky Marcot 590-1965

Bramell

Tim Miller 687-2806
Gwen Shivers 533-9455

Chatham

none

Eaton

Jody Scarlett 537-7848

Lamphere

Bill Hickey 472-5295
Jeremy Kenward 701-2063
Jackie Adams 286-6003

Dacosta

Jerry Flaton 926-1412

Outer Drive

Bernice Walker 926-1975

Dolphin

Sophie Stockum 937-307 7976

Dolphin North

Cindy Dorman 405-2457

Iliad

Andrew Wilson 587-3299

Braille North

Willie Mae Jackson 808-1652

Acacia

Karen K. Plants 248-895-9825

Kentfield

Jacklyn Reese 535-2791

Patton

Dawn Wilson 255-3637

Bentler

Trena Ross 467-3891

Block Contacts

