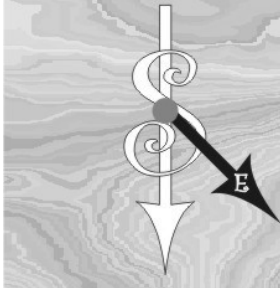


Southeast Marble Community Association
Spring 2009 Newsletter



SEMCA

SPRING NEWSLETTER

SPRING POTLUCK AND MEMBERSHIP MEETING
6:00 PM SUNDAY, APRIL 19, 2009
EDGEWOOD UNITED CHURCH
469 N. HAGADORN

PLEASE BRING A DISH TO PASS THAT WILL SERVE ABOUT A DOZEN. COFFEE, TEA, LEMONADE WILL ALSO BE SERVED. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN DINNERWARE AS SEMCA IS TRYING TO ELIMINATE MORE PAPER PLATES AND PLASTIC UTENSILS GOING TO THE LANDFILLS.

THIS MEETING IS FOR *ALL* RESIDENTS LIVING IN THE SOUTHEAST MARBLE NEIGHBORHOOD. YOU DO NOT HAVE TO BE A MEMBER TO ATTEND.

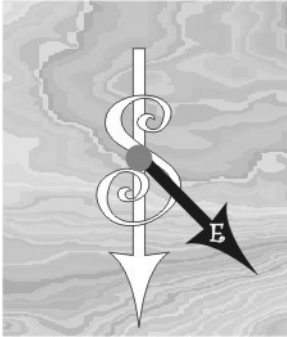
IT'S TIME TO SAY HELLO AND MEET AND GREET YOUR NEIGHBORS.

ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP MEETING AGENDA ITEMS INCLUDE:

MAYOR VIC LOOMIS - WHAT'S HAPPENING IN EAST LANSING.
NEIGHBORHOOD PARK UPDATE - NAME SUGGESTIONS
SEMCARES UPDATE
COMMUNITY GARDENING
BURCHAM PARK UPDATE
HOMETOWN HOUSING PARTNERSHIP (HHP) FORMERLY EAST LANSING
HOUSING & NEIGHBORHOOD SERVICES (ELH&NS)

QUESTIONS – CALL **TERRY HUNT** at 337-0213, or e-mail at mtnest1530@gmail.com

DONATED ITEMS FOR THE PARK FUNDRAISER MAY BE BROUGHT TO THIS POTLUCK. SEE PAGE 4 FOR FURTHER DETAILS.



SEMCA Board and Officers

Terry Hunt, President 337-0213	mtnest1530@gmail.com
Bruce Veltema, VP 351-2967	veltemam@comcast.net
Maggie Schuesler, Sec 332-0670	s.schuesler@comcast.net
Vicki Shafarman, Treas 351-1784	vshafarman@yahoo.com
Doris Siegmann 351-1740	ernstsiegmman@peoplepc.com
Sandra Amundsen 332-8185	sachirodoc@sbcglobal.net

S E M C A Schedule of Upcoming Events & Meetings

Spring Membership Meeting	Sunday	April 19, 2009
Board meeting	Sunday	May 3, 2009 – 6:00 p.m.
Park Fundraiser	Saturday	May 9, 2009 (rain date May 16)
Fall picnic	Sunday	Sept. 13, 2009 (rain date Sept. 20, 2009)

Thank You Snow Shoveling Angels

By: Many grateful neighbors

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU to those wonderful snow shoveling angels. Every block in our neighborhood seemed to have one or several of these angels. They were out there clearing their next door neighbor’s sidewalks or driveways. Some were even cleaning a whole block at a time. These angels may not have received an immediate “thank you”, but they should know that what they did was soooooooooooooo appreciated! This was an especially snowy winter, but the sidewalks kept getting shoveled by these angels. What great neighbors! Again, thank you!

Are you a single parent living in the Southeast Marble neighborhood? If so...you’re not alone!

Through SEMCares, you can now connect with other single parents in the neighborhood and help us build a support network to call on for emergency child or pet care, or help with your yard work or home repairs.

We know, firsthand, that time and child care can be hard to come by for single parents. So, don’t worry – you can be a part of this group without ever attending a meeting! Simply let us know who you are, what kind of support you might be interested in receiving from the group, and how other single parents on the list can get in touch with you.

For more information, and to join, please contact JoAnne Bratten at brattenj@gmail.com or 908-0055. We hope to hear from you.

Styrofoam Recycling

Mary Szlachetka has once again volunteered to make her monthly trips to Dart Container in Mason to deliver the styrofoam items for recycling. Please drop off your clean styrofoam materials on Mary's porch at 1626 Mt. Vernon during the weeks of: April 13-17, May 11-15, June 15-19, July 13-17, Aug. 10-14 and Sept. 14-18. Please read which items can and cannot be recycled at: www.dartcontainer.com

Community Resource Guide

This idea has been floating around for awhile, so we have decided to take some steps towards making it a reality. Wouldn't it be terrific to have at hand a list of skilled folks living right here in the neighborhood who are ready, willing, and able to provide services of different kinds either for a fee or for barter? We are soliciting your input. If you or someone you know in Southeast Marble would like to be listed in a neighborhood resource guide, please share that information with us. While we develop this further, we are offering some free advertising via our newsletter. Don't hesitate to check out the following.

Ellis Arbor Care, 530 Timberlane, 455-2636. Alex Ellis is a **certified arborist** who does tree and shrub pruning, tree removal, cabling and bracing, tree and shrub planting, plant health care. He gives free estimates.

Andy Spielberg, 896-2502, lives on Snyder St. and is a **general contractor** whose specialty is home remodeling. He has a wide variety of home maintenance and repair skills and is willing to take on small jobs.

Sandra Amundsen, D.C., 1729 Melrose, 324-3807, has been practicing **family chiropractic health** care for 24 years. She is also affiliated with the Sukyo Mahikari Centers for Spiritual Development and you can experience the unique spiritual practice of Giving Light on Mondays and Wednesdays from 5 to 8 pm at her home.

Heather MacLachlan, 410-3021, lives on Snyder and offers therapeutic massage, facilitated stretching, Reiki, and esoteric healing at her office on Lake Lansing Rd.

Sue Fierro, 303-4457, lives on Mt. Vernon and is developing a home care business. She offers personal assistance in the home for folks needing daily care. Free consultation available. Her usual fee is \$20 per hour or negotiable based on ability to pay.

If you would like to be listed in our SEMCares resource guide, please contact Vicki Shafarman, 351-1784 or vshafarman@yahoo.com.

SEMCares Affinity Groups

Are you interested in making new friends and/or strengthening your connection with the community in which you live? SEMCares can help you start a group or get involved in an existing one by linking you with like-minded individuals right here in the neighborhood. We

presently have a monthly canasta night and a monthly women's nite at the movies. Many other suggestions have been made for potential affinity groups. Check out the following list and get in touch with us. Please feel free to volunteer to share, teach, or facilitate in a small group setting.

SEMCares Affinity Group Ideas so far:

book exchange	walking club	euchre
creative writers	laughing club	gourmet potluck
game night	parent/single parents	Spanish conversation
sewing circle	aging in place discussion	French conversation
soup and schmooze	folk singing	organic gardeners
play reading	learn to dance	

For more information or to get involved, contact Maggie Schuesler, s.schuesler@comcast.net or 332-0670 or Vicki Shafarman, vshafarman@yahoo.com or 351-1784.

Neighborhood Park Fundraiser

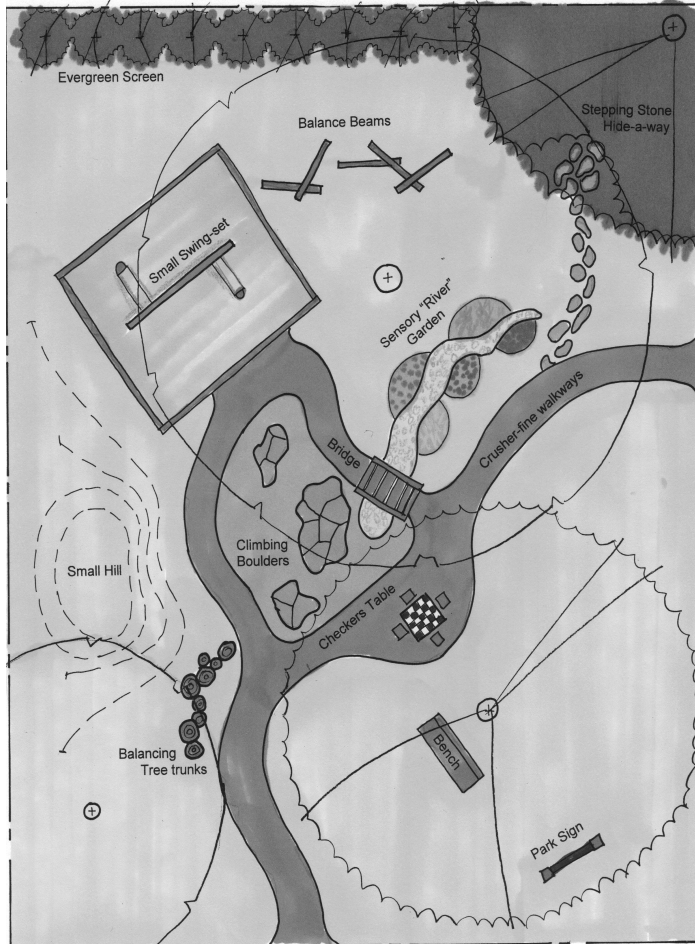
Mark your calendars for Saturday, May 9th. We are excited! SEMCA is having a fundraiser to support the development of our new park (see map and park article). Please consider donating items for this sale. All proceeds will go towards park improvements. We are particularly interested in your home made arts and crafts and other unique treasures, along with books, furniture, house wares, and plants. We will also gladly accept donations in the form of your time and talents that could be auctioned or sold in the form of a gift certificate, such as hairstyling or massage or yard work. Whether or not you have anything to donate, plan to come and shop. The sale will take place at the park which is located at the corner of Mt. Vernon and Moorland from 11 am to 4 pm. If you are having your own garage sale that same day, consider making a cash donation to the park. If you would like to help with this event, contact Ginger Ogilvie at brightsky75@yahoo.com or 664-2604. The rain date will be Saturday, May 16th.

Neighborhood Gardening Group

Do you grow vegetables in your back yard? Are you interested in becoming a vegetable gardener and need/want to develop skills? Home gardens are a great way to save money, get exercise, and improve your diet. SEMCares invites you to join other neighborhood gardeners who are eager to build community spirit and improve the quality of our lives. We have begun to meet regularly to develop plans for communal garden plots, composting, seed and plant sharing, field trips to local organic farms, sharing tillers and other equipment, and putting food by (canning, freezing, drying). Want to learn more? Contact Ginger Ogilvie, 664-2604 or brightsky75@yahoo.com or Vicki Shafarman, 351-1784 or vshafarman@yahoo.com.

POCKET Park Update

Good news! The lot on the corner of Moorland/Mt. Vernon (known as 1735 Mt. Vernon) was officially approved as 'park land' at a City Council meeting in March, as part of the Parks Master Plan Update. This means that the space will be maintained and improved by the Parks & Rec Department, and will not be subject to sale/development. Southeast Marble has a park for the first time in history!



Mooreland/Mt. Vernon Concept Plan

Our next step is making sure that there is enough money put aside in the city's budget to make improvements to the park, such as installing a swing set. This process is going on right now, and I am staying in close contact with Parks & Rec. The department has said that they will be bringing over a picnic table for us to use during the summer months.

There are **THREE THINGS** you can do to help make our new park a success!

First, contact me if you have ideas for **IMPROVEMENTS** you would like to see in the park. Primarily I have been pushing for swings and perhaps benches. Your ideas are very welcome.

Second, contact me with ideas for a **NAME** for the park. For now the city has been referring to it as the Mt. Vernon/Moorland Park. We can do better than this! Anything referring to the history or unique nature of our neighborhood or region would be great, but all names will be considered. I'd like to have a list to present at our upcoming neighborhood meeting.

Third, please **USE THE PARK!** Start thinking of it as a destination for a walk. Let your kids run around and break in the space. Bring a folding chair and sit in the sun. This is the best way to make it our own, and understand what improvements need to be made.

Thanks for your input and support of this project!

The proposed park plan includes: wheelchair accessible paths, a T-shaped swing set (2 swings), a small hill for climbing and sledding, climbing boulders, a chess table, a bench, stepping stones, balance beams and balancing tree trunks, a bridge, and a sensory 'river' garden. The river garden would have stones laid to look like a creek bed, and plants that are sensory (interesting smell or feel). A privacy screen of shrubs would be added at the North end. The swings and boulders would have a surface for playing on (e.g. wood chips).

Ginger Ogilvie
664-2604 brightsky75@yahoo.com

City of East Lansing Special Events & Important Information

Special NO-FEE Yard Waste Collection Days are April 6, April 20 and May 4

PROJECT PRIDE is Saturday, May 30.

For more information call EL Public Works 337-9459 (daytime) or 351-4999 (evenings)

Visit the City's web page at www.cityofeastlansing.com

Visit SEMCA'S Website

Thanks to our good neighbor LeRoy Harvey, SEMCA is one of only two East Lansing neighborhood associations which has its own website. Visit www.southeastmarble.org to learn about what's happening in your own neighborhood. While you're there, sign up for the neighborhood e-mail, www.re-news.net/marble. If you have news you want to share quickly with the neighbors, this is how you can do it.

South East Marble Community Association website: www.southeastmarble.org

Volunteers Needed

Volunteers are needed to help deliver the fall picnic flyer and the fall newsletter. If you have an hour available to do this, please contact Doris Siegmann at 351-1740 or ernstsiegman@peoplepc.com.

Are You a Member of SEMCA?

Now is the time to become a member or renew your membership with SEMCA. Annual association dues are only \$5 per household, \$3 for senior (65+) households. Dues may be paid at the upcoming Spring Potluck meeting on Sunday April 21, 2009