



npna

normal park neighborhood association

normalpark.org

spring 2008

General Meeting Information

Where: Community/Senior Citizen Center Rec Park
Date: Wednesday, August 6, 2008
Time: 7:30 – 9:00 pm
Program: The next general meeting of the NPNA will be held in conjunction with the annual Ice Cream Social! Enjoy the warmth of summer and the company of your neighbors over a tasty treat.

IN THIS NEWSLETTER

It was a long, cold, and snowy winter here in Normal Park, and you can feel the neighborhood bursting with anticipation to get outside and finally enjoy some nice weather! With summer only weeks away, this issue of the Normal Park Neighborhood Association newsletter brings you information on the exciting events in our area coming up over the next few months. Ypsi PRIDE, the NPNA annual Yard Sale, swimming at Rutherford Pool, enjoying our Community Gardens, and gathering together for the NPNA Ice Cream Social are just some of the activities in which you can participate in your community. Come outside, join your neighbors, and make this a summer to remember!

NEIGHBORHOOD YPSI PRIDE ACTIVITIES SATURDAY, MAY 17

Ypsilanti PRIDE (People Restoring Image & Developing the Environment) is celebrating its 14th anniversary this year. Each year, the PRIDE event gets neighbors together to beautify their neighborhoods: sweeping sidewalks, picking up trash, cleaning the parks, planting flowers, and making the community brighter. Organized through the Chamber of Commerce and the Ypsilanti Area Jaycees, the planners are seeking volunteer input on various levels, from Garden Planners, to Team Leaders at the various sites, to ongoing Garden Stewards.

Be sure to reserve the date of **Saturday, May 17 from 9:00 am to 12:00 noon**, so you can join in the rewarding fun of community volunteering, followed by lunch and entertainment at Riverside Park, from noon to 2:00 p.m. Contact Katie Jones on 482-4920 ext. 21 or on katie@ypsichamber.org, or visit the Ypsi Chamber website (www.ypsichamber.org) for further information on the city-wide effort.

As in years past, **NPNA will have a number of project sites right in our neighborhood.** Recreation Park and adjacent parks and garden areas need your help! This includes the Senior Center and Rutherford Pool (buildings and grounds), the Community Gardens, the Rose Garden, park play areas, as well as along Congress Street. Additional neighborhood project sites include Hefley Park, the landscaped end-caps on the boulevards as well as work at neighborhood schools such as Chapelle. Bring gloves and any appropriate gardening tools.

Please consider volunteering as a local Site Captain for an area noted below. Call **Sarah Weiss** for more information on 480-1823.

Recreation Park

- **Play Area*:** trash pickup, raking chips under slides and swings, spreading new chips, pruning tree suckers.
- **Parking and Picnic Pavilion:** Trash and stick pick-up
- **Senior Center:** Painting the exterior, and landscape maintenance and flower planting around the building.
- **Rose Garden:** Weeding, pruning, raking, planting, spreading chips.

Rec Park and West Middle School Community Gardens*: Projects as determined by the site coordinators.

Hefley Park*: Trash pickup, weeding, planting by sign & peace pole, raking, spreading chips, cutting shrubs on the East boundary

Congress Street: Summit to Mansfield trash pick-up.

* Projects suited to children are noted with an asterisk.

Neighborhood Greenscape Efforts

Our neighborhood is made more interesting, walkable and even safer by the volunteers who tend the landscaped end caps on the boulevards and at the Congress "V". We always need new additions to our crew or folks willing to help with periodic weeding and watering. No experience necessary. Please contact **Sarah Weiss** (480-1823) if you are willing to continue or are interested in tending an end cap.

NPNA ANNUAL ICE CREAM SOCIAL

WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 6 FROM 6:00 TO 7:30 PM

On Wednesday, August 6, from 6:00 to 7:30 pm, the NPNA is holding our annual Ice Cream Social in the Rose Garden behind the Community/Senior Center in Recreation Park. Every August our neighborhood gathers together for this special event to enjoy each other's company...and ice cream! Don't miss it!

RUTHERFORD POOL

OPENS MAY 23; REGULAR HOURS JUNE 7

The news of Rutherford Pool is getting out! While we thought we were doing a good job of promoting the pool and letting folks know that we have some concerns we are always amazed that people do not know that there is a pool or that it is ailing. The county is interested in keeping us open, and an organization called Pioneering Healthy Communities have taken the pool on as their "project." While I don't know what this all means at this point, I do know that we have new showers, updated electrical and there is a possibility that we might have wireless at the pool this summer. We are currently working on a website for the pool and a Yahoo email group.

Rutherford Pool is scheduled to be open Friday, May 23 for Family Swim. May 24, 25, and 26 will have normal hours. May 27-June 6 will only have Family Swim hours. Regular hours begin June 7.

Regular Hours

- 6:30 – 8:00 am: Adult Lap Swim (only Monday-Friday)
- 12:00 – 1:00 pm: Adult Lap Swim
- 1:00 – 5:00 pm: Open Swim
- 5:00 – 6:00 pm: Adult Lap Swim
- 6:00 – 8:00 pm: Family Swim

Prices have not been increased this year.

- Family Pass: \$125
- Individual Adult Pass: \$60
- Daily admissions
 - Youth: \$2.00 (3-17)
 - Adults: \$3.00 (18-61)
 - Seniors: \$2.00 (62+)
- Swim Lessons: First child /session \$50, next child /session \$45 each
- Swim team: \$60 / second child \$55.

Again, our big fundraiser this year is **The Wurst of Ypsilanti**, a sausage festival on June 14. We out grew the Corner Brewery last year and have moved to the Washington Street stage. The DAY is assisting in putting on this event. Tickets are \$20 for adults in advance, \$25 at the door; children are \$5. Your ticket gets you unlimited food, lemonade and music. Alcohol will be available from Pub 13.

We will need volunteers to work at Ypsilanti PRIDE (May 17) and the Wurst. For PRIDE bring your garden tools and elbow grease. We will be working from 9:00 am to 12:00 pm. Sign up at the Pool to help with the Wurst.


Please keep the pool in mind while spring cleaning. If you find you need to update your plastic chairs-donate the old usable ones to the pool. If you run across last year's swimsuits, please donate those to the pool for lenders.

Mark your calendar for the Summer Solstice Potluck and games on June 20. Bring a dish to pass to eat between 5:00 – 6:00 pm and then enjoy the games on the pool deck afterwards.

The pool phone number once we are open is 482-4401.

If you have questions, ideas, donations of goods or money please contact Cathy Thorburn at 485-9457 or catabates@hotmail.com

Thank you and see you at the pool – Cathy



DR. KATHLEEN DVORAK
Chiropractic Physician

DR. LINDA S. BERRY, Chiropractic Physician
RENÉE RUTZ, Massage Therapist
LISA DARROW, Massage Therapist
KIRSTEN MOWREY, Massage Therapist

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COMMUNITY GARDENS

Gardens continue to sprout up everywhere! Recently, a new community garden was built at the nearby Gateway Apartments, at Wallace & Michigan Avenue. That makes a fourth garden added to the gardens in the vicinity of the Normal Park Neighborhood, which also include Recreation Park Community Garden located behind the Senior Center, West Middle School Community Garden behind the school, and Midtown Community Garden at the corner of Normal & Congress Streets. All of these gardens were founded with the assistance of Growing Hope to help residents grow fresh vegetables, herbs and flowers. If you couldn't get a plot at one of the community gardens this year, don't despair! You can still participate in community growing through the Four Square Society sponsored by Growing Hope, an initiative for people who are excited about growing food in small (especially urban) spaces. Growing Hope is encouraging people all over Ypsilanti to meet the challenge of growing an area of at least four by four feet. Learn more about Kitchen Garden Kits and the Four Square Society by contacting Growing Hope at (734) 786-8401 or www.growinghope.net.

Lots of activities are planned for our west side community gardens this year. We will all participate in a Walking Tour of Gardens that will include WMS, Rec Park, Midtown and Frog Island Community Gardens and will end up with a beverage at the Corner Brewery. The Walking Tour will take place on Friday, July 18. We will meet at 5:30 pm at the WMS Garden. Also, Recreation Park Community Garden will offer a few fun educational programs as well as some garden art programs. You are welcome to join us on Thursday, May 29 from 6:00 – 8:00 pm as we paint signs for our gardens, or on two Thursdays (July 31 and August 7) from 6:00 – 8:00 pm to create garden gnomes! Stay tuned for more details.

The west side gardens each have a bulletin board where upcoming events are posted, plus we'll keep you informed through the Normal Park email list. (Not on the list and want to be? Send an email to listserv@normalpark.org.)

NPNA NEIGHBORHOOD YARD SALE

SATURDAY, JUNE 7, 2008 FROM 9:00 AM TO 4:00 PM

The NPNA Yard Sale draws people from near and far and is a great way to get rid of clutter, meet some neighbors, and make money. This event is the biggest fund raiser of the year for the NPNA, helping pay for neighborhood projects. If you're planning on participating, help support your neighborhood association by registering early!

A \$10 registration fee will get your home included on a neighborhood map with descriptions of your items for sale. The NPNA provides newspaper ads, posts signs at the boundaries of our neighborhood, and distributes the neighborhood maps. Use this opportunity to get rid of a lot of cool stuff you no longer need. There are always hundreds of eager customers.

You keep all the money you make. Your registration fee pays for the advertising and the rest goes into the NPNA fund to help pay for neighborhood projects.

Send your registration form in by **Friday, May 30**. You can use the form below or print one from the NPNA website at normalpark.org. If you cannot get your form in by May 30, the NPNA will stop by and collect your registration fee on the day of the yard sale.

Send the form by mail or drop off at: NPNA Yard Sale, c/o **Megan Brown**, 1210 Grant St., meg.jeff@comcast.net.

Checks should be made payable to **NPNA**.

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Name: _____ Address: _____

Phone: _____ Email: _____

Please list items you would like to have printed on the map (e.g. furniture, books, antiques, toys, miscellaneous household items)



HOMES FOR SALE/HOMES RECENTLY SOLD

The following homes are for sale in our neighborhood:

1305 N Congress	\$ 79,900
9 Wallace	\$ 99,800
1304 N Congress	\$114,800
923 W Cross	\$115,000
1124 Pearl	\$124,900
1314 Congress	\$129,900
1208 Grant	\$134,900
1115 Grant	\$139,900
912 Sheridan	\$139,900
1109 Westmoorland	\$147,900
916 Pearl	\$149,900
952 Sherman	\$149,900
907 Pearl	\$159,900
1223 Sherman	\$160,000
1207 W Cross	\$164,900
1120 Grant	\$169,900
907 Grant	\$169,900
1202 Grant	\$174,900
312 N Wallace	\$179,500
1303 W Cross	\$179,800
1119 S Congress	\$179,900
106 Mansfield	\$179,900
915 Sherman Ct	\$179,900
1118 Grant	\$184,900
1209 Sherman	\$189,000
1006 W Cross	\$189,000
96 Oakwood	\$198,500
1107 W Cross	\$229,800

The following homes have sold recently:

1127 N Congress	\$ 65,000
1123 N Congress	\$ 73,000
914 Sherman	\$ 92,000
1229 Westmoorland	\$194,000

Elisa Guyton, a NPNA resident and buyer's agent for Trillium Real Estate, provided the above information. Please do not hesitate to contact her at (734) 476-5432 or elisa@trilliumrealtors.com with all your real estate questions.

NEIGHBORHOOD WEB SITE AND EMAIL NEWS

Keep up to date on the latest information and events happening in our neighborhood and city. Visit our website at normalpark.org. While there sign up for the NPNA Email News. To sign up send your email address to listserv@normalpark.org.

If you have news items of your own that you would like to send to the neighborhood, email npna@umich.edu. The website also has an extensive list of links to city, community and businesses.

SUPPORT THE NPNA

Dues are one of the NPNA's main sources of funding. They are not required but they do help our neighborhood pay for projects like Recreation Park improvements. Dues are \$10.00 per household and anyone who contributes \$40.00 or more receives a NPNA coffee mug. Payment of cash or check made to NPNA can be given to any of the board members.

2008 BOARD MEMBERS/CHAIRPERSONS

Co-President:	Sean Stidd	483-8301
Co-President:	Open	
Secretary:	Open	
Treasurer:	Megan Brown	482-2181
CoPAC:	Joe Schultz	484-1314
Greenscape Chair:	Open	
Social Chair /	Jeff Guyton	239-4624
New Neighbor:	Sean Stidd	483-8301
Newsletter:	Adrienne Meyer	484-4677
Website:	Christine Moellering	482-7179
Zoning/Ordinance:	Joe Schultz	484-1314
At-large members:	Rebecca Dunkle	482-9330
	Patrick McLean	485-5852
	Ariel Moore	483-0122
	Bea Otis	482-8567
	Lisa Wozniak	483-5013
	Sarah Devaney	480-9018

If you have questions about our neighborhood, items you would like discussed at the next board meeting, or information on opportunities to volunteer, please contact a board member.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

For more information on our neighborhood events, visit normalpark.org.

- **Ypsi PRIDE Day** May 17
Throughout the city, 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
- **Rutherford Pool opens** May 23
Regular hours start June 7
- **Memorial Day Parade** May 26
Starts at 9:00 am
- **Crossroads Music Festival** June 6
Free outdoor concert every Friday, downtown Ypsi.
<http://ypsicrossroads.org/schedule.asp>
- **Normal Park Neighborhood Yard Sale** June 7
Normal Park, 9:00 am – 4:00 pm
- **Wurst of Ypsilanti** June 14
Washington Street, 4:00 pm – 10:00 pm
(Music acts include *Hullabaloo* and *Third Coast Kings*)
- **Summer Solstice Potluck** June 20
Rutherford Pool
- **Independence Day Parade** July 4
Starting at Wallace & Cross, 11:00 am
- **Michigan Elvisfest** July 11-12
Riverside Park
- **Walking Tour of Gardens** July 18
Starting at WMS Garden, 5:30 pm
- **Shadow Art Fair** July 19
Corner Brewery, 12.00 pm to midnight
- **NPNA Ice Cream Social** Aug 6
Community Center, Rec Park, 6:00 - 7:30 pm
- **Heritage Festival** Aug 15-17
Riverside Park, Depot Town, Frog Island and Downtown Ypsilanti

ADVERTISE IN THE NEWSLETTER

The NPNA newsletter is printed 2-3 times a year and reaches over 800 households in Ypsilanti. A business card sized ad is only \$30 per issue or \$100 for 4 issues. In addition to dues and the annual yard sale advertisements are a key way to fund the printing of this newsletter. Interested in advertising in the newsletter? Visit normalpark.org.