

December is...	Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
National Awareness Month <a href="http://bit.ly/december">http://bit.ly/december</a>	1 Bread Basket	2 ENO Holiday Party	3	4 MIMEAC Land Use Lunch	5	6 National Hobby Month	7 ANC Closed
6 Garden-House Workshop	7 Bread Basket	8 Winter Market	9 Writer Market	10	11	12 Kinship Care Party	13 Garden-House open 2:30-4:30
13	14 Book Club (and Breadbasket)	15 Book Club Writer Market	16 Comm. Soup PP-Holiday Party	17	18	19	20 Garden-House open 2:30-4:30
20	21 Bread Basket	22 ANC Closed	23 ANC Closed	24 ANC Closed	25 ANC Closed	26 Garden-House open 2:30-4:30	27 Garden-House open 2:30-4:30
28 ANC Closed	29 ANC Closed	30 ANC Closed	31 ANC Closed	Happy New Year!			

For neighborhood meetings and ongoing ANC programs (Senior Coffee, Youth Service Corps, and regular Gardenhouse hours) please see the sidebar on the front

**Community Happenings for December**

**Dec. 2:** ENO Holiday Party, 6 PM at Foster Community Center, room 213. Please bring a dish to share—ENO will provide the main meal. Santa may be arriving at 7 PM.

**Dec. 3:** Soup Kitchen/ Food Pantry at Calvary Christian Fellowship, 1611 E Kalamazoo St, from noon to 2 PM

**Dec. 4:** Mid-MEAC's first Friday Land Use lunch in December will feature Dan Kildee, chair of the Genesee County Land Bank, talking about the Land Bank's participation in a plan to develop Flint to a size that fits its population and tax base. At the Christman Bldg, 208 N Capitol Ave, from noon to 1.

**Dec. 12:** Kinship Care Holiday Luncheon, 1:30 to 3:30 PM at Oak Park Community Center

**Dec. 15:** Regent Oaks Holiday Potluck at 6:30 PM at ANC. Please bring a dish to pass, table service and drinks provided.

**Dec. 17:** Soup Kitchen/ Food Pantry at Calvary Christian Fellowship, 1611 E Kalamazoo St, from noon to 2 PM

**Dec. 17:** Preheat your ovens for Prospect Protectors' 7th Annual Holiday Cookie Exchange at ANC, 6:30 PM. We are inviting everyone from P.L.A.C.E. neighborhood to join us as well! Please bring 3 dozen cookies to exchange and go home with an assortment of 3 dozen treats. Please bring an extra tray. We will have crafts for the kids, hot cocoa and tea. If you have any questions, please contact Corie at 482-8756 or [wahlcori@msu.edu](mailto:wahlcori@msu.edu).

**Community Happenings for January**

**Jan. 4:** The Association for the Bingham Community (ABC) will meet at 6 pm in Pilgrim Church, 125 S. Penn. Our topic will be: Where do you see ABC going next? We would love for you to come and help us make changes for the better. If you have

any questions/concerns please contact Denise Kelley at 484-9109 or [abcneighborhood@sbloglobal.net](mailto:abcneighborhood@sbloglobal.net)

**Jan. 7:** Soup Kitchen/ Food Pantry at Calvary Christian Fellowship, 1611 E Kalamazoo St, from noon to 2 PM

**Jan. 8:** Mid-MEAC's first Friday lunch will be on the second Friday (tricky!), January 8th. Harmony Gmazel and Nancy Kruipaz will talk about the Greening Mid-Michigan Project. The lunch will be at Central United Methodist Church, 215 N Capitol, noon to 1.

**Jan. 21:** Soup Kitchen/ Food Pantry at Calvary Christian Fellowship, 1611 E Kalamazoo St, from noon to 2 PM

**Ongoing**

**Breadbasket**, free food distribution on Tues., 1 to 5:30 at ANC.

**Tuesday Chess Knights** co-sponsored by the Lansing Chess Club and Gone Wired Café. Come to learn, play, and enjoy yourself. Players of all ages and skill levels are welcome. Informal instruction by David Sundeen and other chess enthusiasts. No membership required, no appointment, no fee, just drop in!

Every Tuesday from 6 to 8 pm, at Gone Wired Cafe, 2021 E. Michigan Ave. Come play chess!

**2010 Census Jobs Now Available:** Are you interested in obtaining a part- or full-time temporary census job? The 2010 Census is now accepting applications for jobs right in our neighborhood! These jobs offer great pay and flexible hours. Call Charles Ford, 517-318-5710 for more information, or visit [www.2010censusjobs.gov](http://www.2010censusjobs.gov).

**Mark Your Calendars:** The Eastside Neighborhood Organization's (ENO) Annual Souper will be on Saturday March 13, 2010 at Pattengill. More details to come.

# The Eastside Neighbor

*A publication of Allen Neighborhood Center*

1619 E Kalamazoo St, Lansing MI 48912 — (517) 367-2468  
[www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org](http://www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org)

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## 2010 Census Jobs!

Jobs available — more on p. 4.

## Neighborhood Meetings

**ABC:** Jan. 4, 6 PM at Pilgrim Church  
**ENO:** Dec. 2, Holiday Party, 6:00 at Foster, bring a dish to share; Jan. 6, 7:00 at Foster  
**FAIR:** Dec. 3, Jan. 7  
**Foster Your Neighborhood:** Dec. 11, Holiday Party, 6:30 to 8 PM at Gone Wired; Jan. 20, 7 to 8:30 PM at Foster Community Center  
**HERO:** Dec. 22, Jan. 26  
**Holmes School:** Dec. 10, Jan. 14  
**PLACE:** Dec. 8, Jan. 12  
**Prospect Protectors:** call 482-8756  
**Regent Oaks:** Dec. 15, Jan. 19  
**We Care:** Dec. 21, Jan. 18  
*(all at 6:30 PM at ANC unless noted)*

## ANC Events

**Breadbasket:** Tuesdays, 1 to 5:30  
**Kinship Care:** Dec. 12, Holiday Party at Oak Park Comm. Ctr., 1:30 to 3:30 PM; Jan. 9, 1:30 - 3:30 PM  
**Youth Service Corps:** every Tuesday and Thursday, 3:30 to 5:30 PM  
**Community Soup:** Dec. 17, Jan. 21, 5:30 to 8 PM at Unity, 230 S. Holmes  
**Senior Coffee:** every Wed., 10-noon  
**GardenHouse:** Monday to Friday 3:30 to 5:30 PM; Saturday and Sunday 1:30 to 5:30 PM; special holiday hours Dec. 24 to Jan. 4 (see p. 3)  
**GardenHouse Workshops:** Dec. 6, Jan. 16, 2 to 3:30 PM; Jan. 26, 6:30 to 8 PM; Book Club, Dec. 15, 6:30  
**Winter Market:** Dec. 9 and 16, 3:30 to 6:30 PM, at the GardenHouse

**The Eastside Neighbor** is published every two months by Allen Neighborhood Center. Please contact the editor, Meg Sparling, at [megs@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:megs@allenneighborhoodcenter.org) by January 14 with submissions for February-March.

## Happy Holidays!

ANC staff and board wish you a merry Christmas, happy Hanukah, joyous Kwanzaa, spirited New Year, and generally invigorating end-of-year!

If you're looking for holiday gift ideas, consider a DVD of the **Craftsman Style** documentary from ANC. It's only \$15 — contact Meg at 517-999-3921.

## Allen St. Farmers Market: Winter Markets

Come to the Hunter Park Community **GardenHouse** for two small yet wonderful winter mini-markets! On **December 9th and 16th**, from 3:30 to 6:30 PM, we'll have fresh greens, baked breads, syrups, birdhouses and holiday crafts, and so much more. EBT and debit/credit friendly. If you haven't seen the GardenHouse yet, this is a great opportunity to check it out. Tell your neighbors and friends, and see you at the market!



**Active Neighboring News: Get the Latest!** Want to keep up with neighborhood news? Get on ANC's email list for the latest updates! To join, send an email with the subject "Add me" to director Joan Nelson at [joann@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:joann@allenneighborhoodcenter.org), or watch for updates on our website at [www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org](http://www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org)

## Eastside Food Forum

We invite Eastside eaters, gardeners, cooks, grocers, restaurants, and other interested parties to join us for the Eastside Food Forum, on Wednesday, **January 20** at Foster Community Center Room 213, from 6:30-8:00 PM. Through a facilitated conversation with Vince Delgado, we'll look at our food system's successes and challenges, and figure out where to go from here.

Gather with other Eastside stakeholders for a lively discussion of our neighborhood food system (gardens, green house, farmers market, grocery stores, restaurants, pantries, churches, schools and more). Bring your thoughts, ideas, questions and suggestions!

A neighborhood food system starts with the producers and distributors here on the Eastside: the Farmers Market, restaurants, pantries, and grocery stores like Apple, Kroger, and Sunshine on the distribution side, and the GardenHouse, backyard gardens, and the Garden Project as producers. These exist within a larger, mid-Michigan food system that includes farmers outside the city and large stores like Meijers. We'll look at how these systems interact, how to improve them, and how to enhance the local network of food resources.

If you'd like to learn more on our history of food activism, contact Joan at [joann@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:joann@allenneighborhoodcenter.org) (or visit our website) for our recent report on Eastside food activism.

## Coming Soon

A new workshop series: "Basics of Buying & Beautifying an Eastside Home—Four Wednesdays in February!" For more information, contact Meg Sparling, 517-999-3921.

## Allen Neighborhood Center News

### Community Soup

See you in the Kitchen!  
5:30 - 8:00pm



- Every 3rd Thursday of the month (Dec. 17, Jan. 21)
- Unity Spiritual Renaissance Church, 230 S. Holmes Street, Lansing, MI 48912

It's great fun to cook with others and then even more fun to sit down and enjoy the 4-6 dishes that have been prepared by all.

Children are welcome when supervised by an adult.

### Goodbye, Lily and Maggie!

Maggie Kantola, assistant manager of the Allen Street Farmers Market and general food / nutrition staff-member, and Lily Torres, ANC Volunteer Coordinator, are both leaving ANC to pursue new opportunities. Maggie will begin the MSU Student Organic Farm certification program in March 2010, while Lily will be going back to school! We have been very fortunate to have these two energetic and talented women, and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors!

### New Faces at ANC

Please join us in welcoming three new AmeriCorps VISTAs to Allen Neighborhood Center! **Steve Couch**, a recent MSU graduate with a degree in Nutrition, has become an invaluable member of our Outreach Team, focusing on both housing and health. Also joining the Outreach Team is **Heather McAlvey**. Heather has a degree in Spanish from MSU, loves living and working on Lansing's Eastside, and has volunteered at ANC for some months prior to coming on as a VISTA. **Heather Hymes** recently moved to the Eastside, and has a strong interest in community development as well as experience organizing and supervising volunteers. This will come in handy as she takes on the role of ANC Volunteer Coordinator, and assisting in Food/Health programs.

### Wednesday Senior Coffee

Every Wednesday, 10 AM until noon. Everyone is welcome! We have a different speaker or event every week; the following are confirmed:

**Dec. 2:** Bill Nelson from Capitol Area Library will present a film on how Lansing has changed over the years.

**Dec. 9:** MSU International Speaker

**Dec. 16:** We will be making a Christmas decoration.

**Jan. 6:** Pot Luck Luncheon for people with birthdays in Oct., Nov., Dec. Bring a dish to pass.

**Jan. 13:** MSU International Speaker

**Jan. 20:** Ruth Doughty from Ingham County Extension Service will present "How to save money shopping".

**Jan. 27:** Field Trip to Innova Spa

### Thank You!

Special thanks this month to:

**Jackie Dillinger, Jasmine Samar Angelini-Knoll, and Linda Anderson** for volunteering so many hours in the GardenHouse!

All our **GardenHouse Volunteers** for the consistent dedication we need to stay open and serve the public. We wouldn't be here without you!

**Harold Armour and Tom Weber** for their generous support of our GardenHouse initiative.

**Gary Heilig and Matt Smar** for teaching engaging and informative sessions of the Urban Gardener Certification Course.

**Paul Dykema and Murdock Jemerson** for the portable bathroom in the Hunter Park.

**Ingham County Health Department** for another year of support for health outreach and so much more!

**Komen Foundation** for another year of funding for Breast Health Education and Outreach.

**Dave Muylle and Steve Stiers** for co-hosting with ANC the Hard Hat House Party on November 7!

### Thank You (continued)

**Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan Garden Project** for a generous donation of gleaned produce for distribution at Breadbasket.

**Dick Baker, Jody Washington, and James Pyle** for working on special projects related to housing.

**Dave Stewart** for use of his warehouse this month.

**Brian McGrain and the Chris Lewless Campaign** for their donation.

**John Grettenberger** for his generous support of Community Soup.

**Rob Yelvington** for support for our volunteer appreciation event.

All of Lily's wonderful **Neighborhood Navigators**, and **all other volunteers** who take time out of their day to contribute to ANC!

**James Bell** for his hard work during Outreach Canvassing.

**Pilgrim Church and Metaphysical Church** for use of their kitchens for Community Soup.

**Ruth Leyrer** of Bancroft Flowers for presenting the Thanksgiving Centerpiece workshop at the GardenHouse.

For assistance and contributions to Youth Service Corps: **Baskin Robbins** on Clippert, **Jessi De La Cruz, Steve King, Kristi Nelson, Meg Sparling, Wharton Center, and Junior Achievement** of Gr. Lansing **Lansing Community Pharmacy, Bake N' Cakes, Sparrow Marketing Department, Ingham Regional Medical Center, Rina Risper, and Frank and Janis Toleson** for helping with the Kinship Care Halloween bags. Thank you also to **all the caregivers** for supporting Kinship Care during the last Farmers Market.

**Allen Street Farmers Market Volunteers:** Paul Spence, Penny Gilbert, Amanda Levingood, Stacia Lafet, Jenny Buckley, Craig Long, Ken Bond, Shawn O'Connner, Tom Wright, Kate Nault, DelRae Finnerty, Jack Stauffer, Jeremy Dowsett, Brooke Fobes, and Christy Miller.

And our **Market musicians:** Mighty Medicine, Time to Play, Michael Mofat, and Old Medicine Crow!



### ANC Receives Grant

In October, ANC received a grant from the Komen Mid-Michigan Affiliate to support breast health education, encourage early detection, and increase mammography rates among women on the Eastside.

Kristi Nelson, an MSU intern, has joined our team for the year to help ANC:

- Assist with appointments for free mammograms for uninsured and underinsured women ages 50 to 64.
- Enroll people in our Breast Health Club to receive our educational, monthly self-exam reminder postcards. (Redeemable at our Farmers Market for flaxseed and walnuts!)
- Expand our breast health website; and compile a toolbox of resources for Eastside residents.

To contact Kristi, call 517.999.3918.

### Need health coverage?

If you are (1) uninsured, (2) live in Ingham County, and (3) fall within the IHP income guidelines, you may qualify for coverage under the **Ingham Health Plan (IHP)**.

IHP covers doctor visits, prescriptions, x-rays, lab tests and urgent care for a \$5 co-pay. We can also help you find a primary care doctor to serve as your "medical home". **For more information about IHP, breast health, or other resources in the Lansing area, call Tom or Steve at ANC at 367-2468.**

## Health, House, Garden

### Hunter Park Community GardenHouse

As the weather cools down, join us in the GardenHouse during new regular open hours for gardening education and something warm to drink.

**Winter Hours:** (Nov. 1 to Mar. 1) Mon.-Fri. 3:30-5:30 PM, Sat.-Sun. 1:30-5:30 PM

**Holiday Exceptions:** Between December 24 and January 4, our only open hours will be on the Saturday and Sunday immediately following Christmas and New Year's Day (Dec 26 and 27 and Jan 2 and 3), and we will be open from 2:30 - 4:30 pm. Regular winter hours resume on January 4.

### GardenHouse Workshops

**Info Session: Urban Chickens and Egg-Loving Neighbors** Chickens are taking over the neighborhood! If you are interested in raising urban chickens, please join us **Dec 6<sup>th</sup> from 2-3:30PM**. We will discuss current City regulations and strategies for lobbying for urban chickens.

**Planning your Gardening Year** Did you know that an important part of vegetable gardening happens in the dead of winter? It's the very necessary planning and perusing, designing and drawing, dreaming and scheming, all done indoors where it's warm and snug! At this workshop, led by Linda Anderson, you will learn when different garden tasks should be done throughout the year. how to decide what to plant, and how to lay out your vegetable garden. There will be time at the workshop for you to dig in and get started on your plans, with access to lots of garden catalogs and books as well as experienced gardeners to answer your questions. Come get a jump on the 2010 gardening year! This workshop will be offered on **Jan. 16<sup>th</sup> from 2:00 - 3:30 PM** and will be repeated on **Jan. 26<sup>th</sup> from 6:30 - 8:00 PM**.

This workshop is first in a series for beginning vegetable gardeners. Stay tuned for others, to be offered "just in time" as you face the next big step.

### Weatherization Days: By Popular Demand

Weatherization assistance is still available for households with income below 200% of the federal poverty line. Join us *any* day during regular hours, or come to **Weatherization Days** at ANC on **January 13<sup>th</sup> from 5:30PM-7:00PM**, or **January 23<sup>rd</sup> from 9:00AM-1:00PM**. To RSVP, or to sign up, call Steve at 517-367-2468, or go online to our website: [www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org/weatherization](http://www.allenneighborhoodcenter.org/weatherization). **The deadline to RSVP for Weatherization Days is January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2010.** When you RSVP, we will tell you the documentation you will need to bring.

Many people on the Eastside are already feeling the "warm" rewards of Capital Area Community Services' generous Weatherization Assistance Program, both in their home and in their wallet. These rewards include:

- Increased insulation
- Furnace and water heater inspection
- Sealing around doors & windows
- Refrigerator testing and more!

ANC staff are trained to walk you through the process of enrolling in this very generous weatherization assistance program. Call us at 367-2468 today for information or to schedule an appointment.

The **GardenHouse Book Club** will have its second meeting on Tuesday **Dec. 15<sup>th</sup>** at 6:30 PM in the GardenHouse. The book choice will relate to urban agriculture and be announced on Nov. 20. Everybody Reads, on the corner of Clemens and Michigan Ave. has offered a 20% discount off of the chosen book each month to anyone who mentions the GardenHouse Book Club at the register. If you have any questions or recommendations regarding the book club, please email Allison at [allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org). Come ready to have a great conversation with your Eastside neighbors!