

ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.ohmha.org

OHMHA NEWSLETTER

May 2015

Learn about City Council Issues impacting us

**Guest Speaker: City Councilman
Kirk Westphal**

Program

Join your neighbors on the evening of **Friday, June 5** for the OHMHA General Meeting and Election, starting at **7 pm** in the Thurston School Media Center. At 7:30 pm City Council Member Westphal will give a short talk on hot topics in City Government: Transportation, Development, Budgeting and more, followed by time for questions and answers. ■



City Councilman Kirk Westphal will speak at the OHMHA Annual General Meeting on Friday, June 5 at the Thurston School Media Center.

2015 Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale!

Saturday, May 9, from 9 am

OHMHA will run ads and will post signs at neighborhood entrances and major intersections. All you have to do is set up your sale and enjoy the day! New this year: you can support the OHAC Pools through the Garage Sales (see page 4).



Vote in OHMHA Annual Election

WHO:

You are eligible to vote if you have paid your 2014-2015 dues. Not a member but want to vote? Simply pay your 2014-2015 dues and then cast your ballot!

DEADLINE:

June 5, 2015.

HOW:

See instructions on page 7.

DUES:

After June 5, we will be accepting dues (\$20) for the 2015-16 fiscal year (6/1-5/31).

WHY JOIN OHMHA?

Your dues directly support our neighborhood by financing such projects as entryway landscaping and signage, newsletters, website costs, garage sale publicity, fall festival, and more. ■

OHMHA Proposed 2015-2016 Budget

	Budget 2014-2015	Actual 2014-2015	Budget 2015-2016
Balance at Start of Year			
General Fund	8242	8242	8333
Legal Fund	3834	3834	3834
Anita Jones Memorial Fund (transferred to General Fund)	245	245	0
Front Entrance Fund (transferred from General Fund)	0	0	1000
Total	12321	12321	13167
Transfer between Funds			
Legal Fund (no changes)	0	0	0
Anita Jones Fund (balance transferred to General Fund)	245	245	0
Entrance Repair Fund (transfer from General Fund)	1000	1000	1000
Anticipated Income			
Interest	2	3	3
Annual Dues and Contributions	2500	4258	4000
Undeposited/ unlisted dues from previous fiscal year	465	465	0
Thurston PTO Shared Fall Festival Expense	0	500	0
Total	2967	5226	4003
Anticipated General Expenses			
Burbank Entrance Garden	600	600	0
Grounds Maintenance	300	80	160
Neighborhood Social Events	1500	1940	2000
Newsletter Expenses	950	810	950
Garage Sale	120	161	120
Organizational Fee	40	40	40
Bank Fees	50	37	0
Website Fees	50	0	50
Donation to Nature center	300	300	500
Room Rentals for School Use	155	15	180
Candidates Night		125	200
Liability from previous year	500	222	0
Plans drawn for Entrance Repair	0	50	0
Total	4565	4380	4200
Balance at Year End			
Operating Fund	5644	8333	7136
Legal Fund	3834	3834	3834
Anita Jones Memorial Fund (transferred to General Fund)	245	0	0
Front Entrance Repair Fund	1000	1000	2000
Undeposited Dues	0	0	0
Total	10723	13167	12970

Important Updates From Around the Area

Pedestrian Improvements

To improve pedestrian safety, these projects are planned for this spring:

- **A new sidewalk will be constructed on the east side of Nixon Road**, from the Clague School driveway entrance to Haverhill Court.
- A rectangular rapid flashing beacon (RRFB) will be installed at the crosswalk on Green Road, west of Kilburn Park Circle.

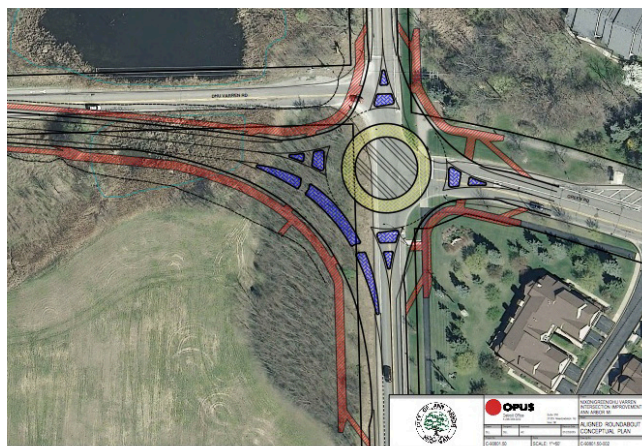
A Federal Safe Routes to School Grant was secured to help fund these improvements

For more info, see the project page on the city website. Easiest way to find it is to google "Clague Safe Routes (Nixon Road Sidewalk) Project" ■

Nixon/Green/Dhu Varren Intersection

A consulting firm has studied the Nixon/ Green/Dhu Varren intersection and **recommended a roundabout.**

For more info, see the project page on the city website. Easiest way to find it is to google "Dhu Varren - Nixon - Green Intersection Improvements Project" ■



Thurston Pond and Wetland Restoration

There was a fantastic turnout (see photo) for the April 15 public meeting on the Thurston Pond and Wetland Restoration. To get on the mailing list for the latest news, email Frank Commiskey at frank@thurstonnaturecenter.org. ■



Community Swimming Pool News for 2015

The Orchard Hills Athletic Club (OHAC) is a separate organization from the Orchard Hills Maplewood Homeowners Association (OHMHA). Pool News is included here as a neighborhood courtesy.

OHAC and Dolfin Pools have always been an integral part of our neighborhood. Last year was a banner one! Not only did we celebrate OHAC's 50th birthday, but we also increased membership for the first time since 2011 and offered new programs to increase usage by all members of our community.

If you thought OHAC and Dolfin pools were for kids- you are right! We have outstanding programs for children all summer: the swim/dive team, synchronized swimming team, swim lessons, and water polo. Plus- we have many social parties where youngsters can make great memories with other neighbors.

If you thought OHAC and Dolfin were for adults- you are right! There is a long tradition of lap swimming, and we have recently added a Master's swimming program and Water Aerobics to offer even more fitness opportunities. Finally, parents enjoy socializing with one another at the pools while their kids go down the slide at OHAC or off the diving board at Dolfin.

Although 2014 gave our neighborhood pools positive momentum, the OHAC Board is committed to communicating the financial realities associated with maintaining our two pools over this year. To that end, we held a Community meeting in March, where nearly 40 attendees learned about the Board's vision to 1) increase revenue- not by raising membership fees- but by trying to increase membership and usage, and 2) reduce costs- by making targeted cuts that aim to minimize

the impact on our membership. You can find out more information on this meeting at our website (www.ohacpool.org) and look for more meetings to be scheduled over the summer. The Board seeks community input to help guide decisions.

In the meantime- if you are wondering what you can do to help sustain these pools- here are a few ideas:

- **Join the pool and become an OHAC ambassador** to help increase membership!

Recruit a new family membership and receive a \$50 rebate off your own family membership.

- **Recruit business sponsorships for OHAC** - a great way to advertise!

- **Help us with the upcoming OHMHA**

Garage Sale on May 9. Save items for us to sell and/or help us during the sale (see details at www.ohacpool.org).

- **Volunteer to join the Board!** We currently have an opening in Maintenance and anticipate a couple more after this summer.

- **Make a donation!** Those \$100 and up receive three family guest passes.

Please visit the pools website for more information (www.ohacpool.org). The pools open on Saturday, May 23, 2015. Come visit either pool for free during our open house on Sunday, May 31. ■



CELEBRATE . HELP OUR SCHOOL. SAVE OUR POND.

50 YEARS OF THURSTON ELEMENTARY & THURSTON NATURE CENTER

THURSTON 5 K /WALK : MAY 16 from 9-11am

Register Online or By Mail

50th ANNIVERSARY DINNER : MAY 16 from 5:30pm

Ticket Orders Available Online or By Mail



May 16, 2015

MORNING: 5 K RUN/WALK & 1-MILE FAMILY FUN RUN

Join us for the Kiwanis-Thurston Run, celebrating 50 years of Thurston pride. The 5K course winds through Orchard Hills, Sugarbush Park, and Thurston Nature Center. The event is family-friendly with a 1-Mile Fun Run at 9:20 a.m., as well as a Walking Tour Around the Pond at 10:30 a.m. The money raised will go towards the Thurston Nature Center, Thurston Elementary, and Thurston PTO.

EVENING: 50th YR DINNER WITH TIME CAPSULES, REUNIONS, ART & REMINISCING

We are also holding a BBQ dinner at Thurston's Multi-Purpose Room to celebrate 50 years of Thurston Heron Pride on May 16; doors open at 5:30 p.m., dinner starts at 6:00 p.m.. Thurston Alumni are encouraged to attend to eat, visit, and reminisce.

MORE INFORMATION? REGISTRATION? TICKETS?

WEBSITE: <https://AnnArborMorningEditionThurston5k.wordpress.com>

CURRENT & ALUMNI: <https://www.facebook.com/groups/A2ThurstonAlumni>

EMAIL: (With Subject: Thurston 50) Mary Manthey - maryannasm@comcast.net

Siri Ibarguen - s_ibarguen@yahoo.com

REGISTRATION & TICKETS FOR KIWANIS -THURSTON 5K RUN/WALK THURSTON 50th ANNIVERSARY DINNER

Name _____ Phone Number _____

Address _____

Email _____

_____ 5K Run/Walk (\$22 per person before May 1; \$27 per person after May 1)

_____ 1 Mile Fun Run (\$10 per person)

_____ Thurston Dinner (\$50 per person — \$10 off the second ticket when paid by check)

Total Amount Enclosed _____

Payment : Credit Card via Paypal or Checks payable to "Thurston PTO"
Mail: Thurston Elementary School, c/o Mary Manthey, 2300 Praire St, Ann Arbor, MI 48105

WEBSITE: <https://AnnArborMorningEditionThurston5k.wordpress.com>

Kiwanis Ann Arbor Morning Edition & Thurston Elementary PTO

Community Forum Brings Sharing and Collaboration

The Community Forum at Zoup! on March 15, 2015 was a success.

Local residents heard the latest news from representatives of OHMHA, Thurston Nature Center, Bromley Neighborhood, OHAC and Dolfen Pools, Thurston Elementary PTO and Thurston Players.



Many thanks to Zoup! for hosting the event, Tom Teller for providing the audio equipment, speakers Frank Commiskey, Praveena Ramaswami, Bo Bunnell and Mary Manthey, OHMHA Board Members Emily Eisbruch, Martin Torch-Ishii and Nadine Wong for assisting and to all residents who attended and made it a worthwhile event. ■

Georgetown Entrance Monuments

By Peter Mooney

The OHMHA Board is continuing its efforts to address years of wear and tear on the “Georgetown Walls” at the intersection of Georgetown and Plymouth Roads. Over the years the freeze/thaw cycles plus moisture entering the walls from below and through the cupola have caused both the bricks and mortar to deteriorate.

As noted in our last issue, we sought your input at the Fall Festival regarding various possible courses of action – including restoration of the monuments with their present dimensions, replacement with a monument in the median or smaller wall in the same location as the current monuments. The most popular option among those responding was a smaller monuments in roughly the same locations as the current walls.

At this point, we are reaching out to the residents on whose properties abut and/or contain the walls to discuss the impact on their properties of this project, obtaining additional bids and confirming what approvals may be needed from the City of Ann Arbor.

We are hoping that our residents will join us in this project. We need your help and input to develop new designs, and raise funds. If you are interested please email the board at ohmha-board@hvcn.org. ■

OHMHA 2015 Election Ballot

All residents who are paid members for the 2014-2015 fiscal year are eligible to vote, one vote per household.

BOARD MEMBERS: The following candidates have been nominated for Board membership, and would serve a two-year term (2015-2017). Please vote for up to six candidates.

_____ Wendy Carman
_____ Emily Eisbruch
_____ Peter Mooney
_____ Jerry Schulte
_____ Amy Seetoo
_____ Nadine Wong
_____ Write-in* (name, address, phone)_____

*If submitting write-in candidates, please make sure they are eligible for board membership (that is, they are current OHMHA members, and you have their permission to submit their names). If you are interested in becoming a board member yourself, please contact any current board member or attend an upcoming meeting.

PROPOSED BUDGET FOR 2015-2016 (see page 2)

_____ Approve _____ Do not approve

HOW TO VOTE

- Drop ballot in OHMHA ballot box at Thurston Ice Cream Social, June 5, 7:00-8:30 pm
- Drop off or mail to Wendy Carman, 2340 Georgetown, Ann Arbor, MI 48105, by June 5
- **NEW in 2015**, You can Pay online via PayPal at www.OHMHA.org

ORCHARD HILLS ~ MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR JUNE 1, 2015 ~ MAY 31, 2016

(Make check for \$20.00 payable to OHMHA ~ additional contributions gratefully accepted.)

NAME _____ TELEPHONE _____

ADDRESS _____ AMOUNT PAID _____

EMAIL ADDRESS _____ ☐ Please remove my name from your email list.

COMMENTS (we welcome suggestions and/or offers to volunteer on OHMHA projects):

Mail or deliver your dues to: Wendy Carman, OHMHA Treasurer, 2340 Georgetown, Ann Arbor 48105

NEW DUES PAYMENT OPTION: Pay your OHMHA dues online via PayPal at www.OHMHA.org

OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS

Jack Cederquist	2145 Ardenne	665-2282	President
Greg Jagst	2080 Yorktown	846-6332	Vice President
Wendy Carman	2340 Georgetown	761-8693	Treasurer
Peter Mooney	3352 Yellowstone	213-0440	Secretary
Anne Karabakal	2405 Bunker Hill	669-2084	Webmaster
Martin Torch-Ishii	3366 Bluett	474-1249	
Nadine Wong	3092 Lexington	222-1716	
Jerry Schulte	3334 Yellowstone	668-2590	
Frank Commiskey	2647 Antietam Ct	369-0992	
Rabia Shafie	3325 Bluett Dr	668-6430	
Amy Seetoo	3111 Cedarbrook	332-0390	
Emily Eisbruch	2561 Bunker Hill	665-0533	Newsletter & Facebook (eisbruchs@gmail.com)

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Christopher Taylor (Mayor)	794-6165	CTaylor@a2gov.org
Kirk Westphal (Council Member, Ward 2)	660-9955	KWestphal@a2gov.org
Jane Lumm (Council Member, Ward 2)	677-4010	JLumm@a2gov.org

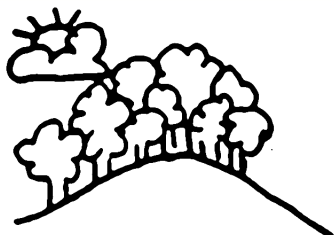
How do I get on the neighborhood email list? Answer: email wjcarman@umich.edu

How do I get on the neighborhood watch list? Answer: email gjagst@gmail.com

Also remember to "like" OHMHA on Facebook: www.facebook.com/ohmhaneighborhood

OHMHA
2145 Ardenne
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
www.ohmha.org

You're invited to:
Annual General Meeting,
Friday, June 5 at 7pm
at the Thurston School
Media Center.



NEWSLETTER

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