



ORCHARD HILLS-MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION

www.ohmha.org

OHMHA NEWSLETTER

February 2020

Join Your Neighbors at Community Forum

**Sunday, March 15, 2020
5:45 pm - 7:00 pm**

**Location: Zoup! at Traver
Village**



Community Forum 2019 featured a lot of great info sharing.

Get the very latest news on:

- Orchard Hills-Maplewood, Bromley, Thurston & Clague Communities
- Thurston Nature Center
- Nixon Road Developments
- OHAC and Dolfin Pools
- Thurston Players

The entire neighborhood is invited to join us for an informative Community Forum on Sunday, March 15 at 5:45 pm at Zoup! at Traver Village.

While OHMHA is coordinating the Forum, it is open to everyone who lives in the surrounding area. Consider bringing your neighbors and friends and also enjoying some soup as a way of thanking Zoup! for hosting us. We look forward to seeing you on Sunday, March 15. ■

Neighborhood Garage Sale

**Saturday, June 20, 2020
starting at 9am**



13th Annual OHMHA Fall Festival provides neighborhood fun!

The 13th Annual Fall Festival was held on Sunday, October 6, 2019. Attendance remained strong with about 180 residents from the Orchard Hills and Maplewood subdivisions as well as several friends from the Bromley neighborhood just to our west. We all enjoyed several hours of music, food, and activities for young and a bit older alike.

The Thurston Elementary 3rd, 4th and 5th Grade choirs again made a well-received appearance on our stage under the direction of their wonderful teacher, Yael Rothfeld. Lannis Smith of the Leslie Science and Nature Center presented a terrific wildlife demonstration including a hognose snake, snapping turtle, cobra, and skink. Various community organizations attended our Festival again. CPR and Mah Jongg demonstrations were a new feature of the festival, thanks to Amy Seetoo and Stuart Baggaley.

Apples, cider, and donuts were again provided to all festival attendees courtesy of OHMHA through our annual dues collections. Individuals who contributed to the success of our Festival included Bo Bunnell and volunteers from OHAC and the Thurston Nature Center. The Ann Arbor District Library displayed fun and educational items for the young and young at heart alike. The Ann Arbor Police Department (AAPD) was represented.

We look forward to the fun at our next OHMHA Fall Festival in late September 2020! ■



Lannis Smith of Leslie Science and Nature Center introduced the crowd to this skink (a type of lizard).



Lannis Smith and the beautiful cobra delighted the crowd.

Capital Improvement Campaign Underway for OHAC Pools

by Bo Bunnell

In November 2019, Orchard Hills Athletic Club (OHAC) began a 6-month Capital Improvement Campaign for its two pools. As you may know, the pools have been a fabric of summertime in our neighborhood for more than 55 years and are maintained through a strong backbone of volunteers and donors, without the benefit of association fees.

During 2017-2018, the OHAC Board of Directors invested more than \$200,000 in our pools, funded through an agreement with First Martin Corporation, a local developer with whom we negotiated the transfer of Residential Footing Drain Equivalents to the City of Ann Arbor by replumbing how the backwash from our pool filters is discharged. Through these investments, you may have noticed improvements to the bathrooms at both pools, and a new shade structure and pool surface at OHAC pool. You may not have noticed needed upgrades in our pump rooms and new roofs at both pools.

During 2020-2021, however, the Board needs to undertake at least three new infrastructure improvements that would otherwise deplete our savings for expensive emergency repairs. These may include

- installing new concrete around the perimeter of OHAC Pool
- repairing the plumbing of the main drain at OHAC pool
- replacing the original damaged tile at Dolfín Pool.



To kickstart this campaign, we received a \$25,000 donation by the Song family. With this momentum, we are hoping to raise an additional \$55,000 to celebrate 55 years of our neighborhood pools. As of January 7, 2020, we have raised more than \$28,000 or 51% of our goal, from 41 individuals or families.

Before the campaign ends on May 5, 2020, please consider making a tax-deductible donation to help us reach our goal. Please reflect on the intrinsic value of these pools to you and your families- perhaps as a place where your child learned to swim or joined a team, or as a place where you and your family made lasting connections and friendships within our community. We appreciate ALL contributions. Donations of at least \$500 will be recognized on a special community donor wall at OHAC Pool that can commemorate your contribution to our community.

Visit <https://www.ohacpool.org/pages/capital-improvement-fundraiser> to learn more about recognitions at different contribution levels and donate with a credit card or PayPal. We prefer donations with a check to avoid processing fees paid online. Please make checks payable to

Orchard Hills Athletic Club and mail to
PO Box 131277

Ann Arbor, MI 48113-1277

To request your check be picked up, please email treasurer@ohacpool.org. ■

Thurston Nature Center News

by Elizabeth Morehead, Thurston Nature Center Committee Chair

This winter has been quite mild so far, and enjoying the Nature Center has been a joy. We on the Thurston Nature Center Committee hope that you have been able to come and enjoy.



With the fall storms Mother Nature threw at us the pond saw high water levels with flooding at various locations around the Nature Center. But later water level equalized. On many days, make sure you dress your feet in waterproof boots.

The **Thurston Nature Center Committee will have several open seats** later this year for community members who wish to be involved in the stewardship of the Nature Center. Please contact current chair Elizabeth Morehead at chair@thurstonnaturecenter.info if you are interested in joining.

We appreciate your support of the Thurston Nature Center activities and efforts and especially want to thank all our volunteers!

We invite you to follow the Thurston Nature Center on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/ThurstonNatureCenter> and to visit our website at <https://thurstonnaturecenter.info>. ■



The Georgetown Entrance Garden

OHMHA thanks the Reichert family, both Cole and Brynn, and their parents, Erin and Zach, for maintaining a beautiful appearance of the flowers and shrubs throughout the summer of 2019. ■

Autonomous Vehicles: Trends and Reality

at Traverwood Branch Library

Wednesday, April 8 at 7:00 pm

by Amy Seetoo

Join University of Michigan professor and Mcity director Huei Peng for a presentation and discussion of Mcity, 7:00 PM-8:30 PM, on Wednesday, April 8, 2020 at Ann Arbor District Library Traverwood Branch (3333 Traverwood Dr, Ann Arbor 48105). See event details at: <https://aadl.org/node/400012>

A stone's throw away from OHMHA neighborhood, there is another "city" south of Plymouth Road! The OHMHA Board has been working with the Ann Arbor District Library to invite Professor Peng to Traverwood Branch so that our home owners and neighbors can learn more about this interdisciplinary project so close to the neighborhood. Mcity is a public-private partnership devoted to advancing the development of connected and automated vehicles. The project operates the world's first purpose-built proving ground on its 32 acres for testing these vehicles under controlled and realistic conditions. <https://mcity.umich.edu>.

Whether you are car owners, drivers, riders, auto engineers, insurance agents, human behavior researchers, or attorneys, you can learn something about the vision of the future in transportation.

Huei Peng, Roger L. McCarthy Professor of Mechanical Engineering at the University of Michigan, received his Ph.D. in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley in 1992. His research interests include adaptive control and optimal control, with emphasis on their applications to vehicular and transportation systems, as well as human model development.

He has served as the principal investigator or co-principal investigator of more than fifty research projects, with a total funding of more than \$30 million. He has authored more than 240 technical publications, including 100 in refereed journals and four books. He is a fellow of both the Society of Automotive Engineers and the American Society of Mechanical Engineers. He is a Changjiang Scholar at the Tsinghua University of China. ■



Huei Peng, Roger L. McCarthy Professor of Mechanical Engineering, shown here with Mcity in the background.

Photo credit: Doug Coombe

Bluett Sidewalk Bump-outs - What's Up?

Have you been wondering about the long-term plan for curb extensions at the Bluett Crosswalks at Clague Middle School?

The City of Ann Arbor plans to install permanent curb extensions in the summer of 2020, replacing the current temporary extensions (called bump-outs).

Reconfiguration of the Clague Middle School entrance for improved student safety is in a planning phase for the next 12 to 18 months. ■



Bluett Road near Clague Middle School

Welcome to the Neighborhood Initiative

OHMHA's "Welcome to the Neighborhood" initiative makes it easier for new families to find out information about our neighborhood and to feel at home. The way it works is that an OHMHA Board member or other neighbor stops by with a page of helpful information and links.

If you are aware of new neighbors moving in, please contact OHMHA Board member Jerry Schulte (schulte6@comcast.net) with a street address so that we can be sure to welcome them. ■

ORCHARD HILLS - MAPLEWOOD HOMEOWNERS ASSOCIATION MEMBERSHIP DUES FOR June 1, 2019 - May 31, 2020

Name _____ Phone _____

Address _____ Amt Paid _____

Email _____ Please remove me from email list

Dues are \$20 yearly. Additional Donations welcome. We also welcome suggestions and/or offers to volunteer on OHMHA projects.

TO PAY DUES: Mail or deliver dues to: Dave Hibbs, OHMHA Treasurer, 3196 Lexington, 48105

or

Pay OHMHA dues online via Paypal, see www.ohmha.org

Master Plan News

by Wendy Carman

Ann Arbor has started a process intended to result in the creation of a new Master Plan that will guide the physical development of Ann Arbor in the future. It is Planning Commission's intention to keep this new document to about 100 pages and to base it on City's Values. The City will be hiring a consultant firm to determine the City's Values and create the new Master Plan.

A City's Master Plan is a policy document outlining the City's vision of the future. Master Plans help guide communities in their decisions on land use development and preservation. Master Plans can be written by the local Planning Commission. Though a Master Plan serves as the foundation for a City's zoning and land use laws and regulations, the Master Plan itself is not an enforceable document and it is not law.

Many Master Plans are written as one document but they can be more effective when written as multiple documents corresponding to geographical areas or with functional subject matter. On May 21, 2019, the Planning Commission approved a Master Plan Resolution confirming the following 8 City Master Plan elements:

1. Sustainability Framework (2013)
2. Land Use Element (2009) including State Street Corridor Plan (2013)
3. Downtown Plan (2009)
4. Transportation Plan Update (2009)
5. Non-motorized Transportation Plan (2007) and Update (2013)
6. Parks and Recreation Open Space Plan (2016)
7. Natural Features Master Plan (2004)
8. Treeline Allen Creek Urban Trail Master Plan (2018)

In addition to these Master Plan elements, the Planning Commission relies on another 18 resource documents to provide additional detail for interpretation and implementation of the 8 elements. The Michigan Planning Enabling Act requires local governments to assess their Master Plan every five years to decide if it needs to be updated. Ann Arbor currently meets the 5-year requirement by reviewing various elements on a regular basis, updating when necessary.

The City of Ann Arbor wrote a request for proposal (RFP) to hire a consulting firm to conduct the work necessary to write a new Master Plan. The RFP called for changes in the current Master Plan based on City Values and asks for a significant public engagement process. Planning received 10 eligible proposals. City Council was not part of this process and did not review the RFP or the proposals.

A search committee of 13 people including staff, 2 planning commissioners, the University Planner, and 6 members of the public appointed by the Mayor and council members from each of the 5 wards reviewed the 10 proposals and 5 firms were chosen to be interviewed. Jane Lumm and Kathy Griswold chose Wendy Carman to represent the second ward. Interface Studio, a firm from Pennsylvania, has now been designated to be the consultant, but no contract has yet been signed. We will continue to keep you informed about the process and when you will have an opportunity to participate.■



OHMHA BOARD MEMBERS

Jack Cederquist	2145 Ardenne	665-2282	President
Greg Jagst	2080 Yorktown	846-6332	Vice President
Peter Mooney	3352 Yellowstone	213-0440	Secretary
Dave Hibbs	3196 Lexington	205-8993	Treasurer
Emily Eisbruch	2561 Bunker Hill	665-0533	Newsletter (eisbruchs@gmail.com)
Anne Karabakal	2405 Bunker Hill	669-2084	Webmaster
Jerry Schulte	3334 Yellowstone	668-2590	
Amy Seetoo	3111 Cedarbrook	332-0390	
Joe Trulik	2529 Bunker Hill	761-5561	
Debbie Torch	3366 Bluett	369-1244	
Jane Klingsten	2750 Georgetown	369-2348	
Wendy Carman	2340 Georgetown	761-8693	

ELECTED REPRESENTATIVES

Christopher Taylor (Mayor)	794-6165	CTaylor@a2gov.org
Kathy Griswold (Council Member, Ward 2)	657-7900	KGriswold@a2gov.org
Jane Lumm (Council Member, Ward 2)	677-4010	JLumm@a2gov.org

How do I get on the neighborhood email list? go to www.ohmha.org/contact

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

How to "like" the OHMHA Facebook page? <https://www.facebook.com/ohmhaneighborhood/>

OHMHA
2145 Ardenne
Ann Arbor, MI 48105
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Wondering if you paid your dues? Check the mailing label - if your name is listed, we thank you for your contribution for this fiscal year. If not, please consider contributing by using the form in this newsletter or online at www.ohmha.org or scan QR code below.



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