



NECAA'S ANNUAL MEETING
OCTOBER 24, 2006 7:00 PM
YANKEE CLIPPER LIBRARY

Please join us at our annual meeting. We will have a number of candidates running for state and county offices at this meeting. The candidates will be available at the end of the meeting to meet with anyone who wishes to speak with them.

NEWS IN YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD
Update on Zoning Changes and Developments

- **2100 E. Beltline (NE corner Knapp & E. Beltline)**
As we predicted another request to build an even larger commercial development at this corner was presented by the developer and rejected by the Planning Commission and the City Commission. We will have to wait and see what the developer proposes in the future.
- **1625 Leonard**
The neighborhood Association is working with the City's zoning and police department to stop the semi-truck parking in the parking lot. Area truckers should work out an agreement with a company in the Oak Industrial Park to park their cabs and trailers. Semi-truck (cab and trailers) parking is not allowed in commercial or residential areas.
- **Beckwith Center**
The expansion is complete. We can look forward to new business in the near future.
- **Chesapeake Housing Development**
Residents in this area met with our Commissioners and City Attorney a number of weeks ago to discuss a pending law suit filed by the housing developer. The discussion centered on a new court ruling that did not play well for our case. Since then the City Attorney is working on the details to move this project forward.

TOP 10 COMPLAINTS FILED BY NEIGHBORS, ABOUT NEIGHBORS THESE ARE QUALITY OF LIFE ISSUES, BE KIND TO YOUR NEIGHBORS

- 10) **Not shoveling sidewalks**
Possible consequence: The City will have the walks shoveled and put a lien on the property.
- 9) **Not picking up pet waste**
Possible consequence: Police can ticket the offender.
- 8) **Letting pets roam with out a leash.**
Possible consequence: Police can ticket the offender.
- 7) **Parking boats, trailers and motor homes in a residential area.**
Possible consequence: Police can ticket the offender.
- 6) **Not mowing the lawn.**
Possible consequence: The City will have the lawn mowed and put a lien on the property.
- 5) **Not maintaining a house or garage.**
Possible consequence: The City's housing department will require compliance and in extreme cases take the owner to court.
- 4) **Having more than 6 un-related people in a home.**
Possible consequence: The City will require compliance and in extreme cases court action will be taken.
- 3) **Barking dogs.**
Possible consequence: Police can ticket the dog owner.
- 2) **Parking cars between the sidewalk and the house.**
Possible consequence: Police can ticket the offender.
- 1) **Speeding.**
Possible consequences: Neighbors can petition for speed bumps or the police can ticket the violator.

If you have a neighbor who is violating one of these laws you can contact any NECAA board member and file a complaint. NECAA's name is registered on the complaint, not yours, which helps to maintain peace between neighbors while eliminating the problem.

NECAA Crime Prevention

Coordinators and Block Captains Needed

NECAA is currently looking for 3-4 people to be crime prevention coordinators for our area. The responsibility of a coordinator is to set up each block, in their area, with a captain who will create a block map and calling list of all people on their street. The coordinator will obtain crime stats from the police department on a monthly basis and hold periodic meetings to notify captains of any issues developing in their area. In the event of a crime a calling tree will be established so the neighbors will know there is a problem in their neighborhood.

Please contact Lynn or DeAnn if you are interested in becoming a coordinator or block captain. They will be happy to give you all the information needed to get started!

ALERT

We are having problems with tires being slashed in the Plymouth and Leonard area, mainly at the apartments. The police are working on the situation but could use your help. Be aware of people coming and going, report anything that does not feel right to the police 458-3403 or 911 if you think you are seeing a crime being committed. Your attention to activities in the area will be a big help in stopping crime.

Halloween Safety: Safety Alert

A few safety tips from the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission can protect children who plan to go trick-or-treating this Halloween.

Treats: Warn children not to eat any treats before an adult has carefully examined them for evidence of tampering.

Pedestrian Safety: Young children should always be accompanied by an adult or an older, responsible child. All children should WALK, not run from house to house and use the sidewalk if available, rather than walk in the street. Children should be cautioned against running out from between parked cars, or across lawns and yards.

Choosing Safe Houses: Children should go only to homes where the residents are known and have outside lights on as a sign of welcome.

- Children should not enter homes or apartments unless they are accompanied by an adult.
- People expecting trick-or-treaters should remove anything that could be an obstacle from lawns, steps and porches. Candlelit jack-o'-lanterns should be kept away from landings and doorsteps where costumes could brush against the flame.

Flame Resistant Costumes: When purchasing a costume, masks, beards, and wigs, look for the label Flame Resistant. Although this label does not mean these

items won't catch fire, it does indicate the items will resist burning and should extinguish quickly once removed from the ignition source.

Costume Designs: Purchase or make costumes that are light and bright enough to be clearly visible to motorists.

- To easily see and be seen, children should also carry flashlights.
- Costumes should be short enough to prevent children from tripping and falling.
- For greater visibility during dusk and darkness, decorate or trim costumes with reflective tape that will glow in the beam of a car's headlights. Bags or sacks should also be light colored or decorated with reflective tape. Reflective tape is usually available in hardware and sporting goods stores.
- Children should wear well-fitting, sturdy shoes. Mother's high heels are not a good idea for safe walking.
- Hats and scarfs should be tied securely to prevent them from slipping over children's eyes.
- Apply a natural mask of cosmetics rather than have a child wear a loose-fitting mask that might restrict breathing or obscure vision. If a mask is used, however, make sure it fits securely and has eyeholes large enough to allow full vision.
- Swords, knives, and similar costume accessories should be of soft and flexible material.

HERE IS YOUR CHANCE TO GET INVOLVED

Would you like to help yourself, your neighbors and the entire NECAA area? We need volunteers to serve on the Board, to serve as Block Captains, deliver newsletters, attend Planning and City Commission meetings and participate in our Crime Prevention Committee. The letterhead shows our boundaries which covers over 3,000 households. Contact Lynn Rabaut at 233-9086, or any current board member for more information.

If this information has been helpful to you or if the Association has helped you in the past in any way please consider sending in your association dues. There is a cost to creating and printing this newsletter and we would like to continue providing this service well into the future.

CURRENT BOARD MEMBERS

Name	Address	Phone
Lynn Rabaut	1071 Cherrywood Lane NE	233-9086
DeAnn Jannereth	1415 Spencer St NE	451-3720
Joan Flikkema	1060 Cherrywood Lane NE	456-1813
Guy Greene	2096 Cranbrook NE	235-2007
Ron Osgood	1850 Forland Ct NE	831-9473
Ben Rapin	1050 N. Hampton Dr. NE	242-9723
Anke Pearson	1952 Orchard Lane NE	363-0258
Nathan Smith	1709 Sweet NE	451-2371
Greg VanderVen	1732 Leonard NE	634-8025
Mark Walker	1051 Applewood Dr. NE	456-1622
Nori Goodhue	1641 Mason NE	531-5243
Rupe McGinn	254 Holmdene Blvd NE	458-9846
Jim Treece		451-0202

THIS IS YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD ASSOCIATION

If you are within the boundaries of our logo map, consider yourself a member! Please complete and mail this form, plus the annual \$5.00 family membership to cover the cost of newsletters and special notices.

Your support of NECAA is greatly appreciated.

NAME: _____

PHONE: _____

ADDRESS: _____

EMAIL: _____



I would be interested in helping with the following (check all that apply):

- Board Membership
- Newsletter Delivery
- Newsletter Production (Content & Layout)
- Yard & Garden Tour Participant



Please mail this slip and dues to:

NECAA
1071 Cherrywood Lane NE
Grand Rapids, MI 49505

THANK YOU!

