

# Edison Neighborhood Association

## Annual Report for 2012

To empower the Edison Neighborhood to maximize the quality of life and sense of community



## Community Events

### Edison Block Luck:

This event was attended by residents who had participated in Building Blocks over the years and those who are involved in a Block Watch group. Prizes were awarded and everyone enjoyed an array of wonderful homemade food.

### Edison Blossoms:

1,001 flats of flowers and vegetables were given to Edison's residents to plant in their yards, gardens and on the boulevards to make Edison a beautiful blooming place.

### Edison National Night Out:

Over 250 residents attended this year's National Night Out event. Several organizations set up booths with free information and/or hosted youth activities, while everyone enjoyed viewing the police equipment, police dogs, and talking with their public safety officers. Attendees were treated to complimentary pizza.

### Edison Dick Bass Award:

Sherry Tomlinson was unanimously awarded this year's Dick Bass Memorial Award in recognition of her tireless dedication and volunteer efforts supporting the Edison Neighborhood Association.

### Edison Holiday Food Drive:

Businesses and residents helped by collecting food and toys to support families in the area for this year's food drive.

## Programs

### Ashley Joyce Fire Safety Awareness:

Smoke detectors and pamphlets about fire safety were given to residents in the neighborhood at no charge in order to encourage fire safety in remembrance of Ashley Joyce, a little girl who died in a fire because fire safety precautions were not in place.

### Edison Tool Share Program:

318 tools were shared for free with Edison residents, so they could do a variety of property improvement and repair projects.

### Edison Hot Spots:

101 Hot Spot sheets were received from residents and forwarded to the City for resolution

### Edison Building Blocks:

Edison's Building Blocks projects were hosted on Egleston Avenue. 31 households participated to accomplish 41 exterior improvements in the neighborhood and they volunteered a total of 2,180 hours to the project. Improvements include landscaping, driveway repair, window replacements, door replacements, trash removals, and new porches - just to name a few of the projects completed.

### Edison Website:

edisonneighborhood.com The Edison Neighborhood Association has a PayPal account, to make donating easier and we are now on facebook, LIKE us and tell us why you love Edison.

### Edison Voice:

Six issues of the Edison Voice Newspaper were created and sent out via email this year. Are you on the email delivery list?

### **Edison Post Light Program:**

We installed 115 post lights this year. You can see the new ones on VanZee Street, Duckett Drive, James Street, Reed Street, and Marketplace Boulevard.

### **Edison Go GREEN Deconstruction Program:**

Three houses were deconstructed, 12 people trained, and nearly \$4,000 was recovered in materials so far that will not be increasing our urban footprint in the landfill.

### **Edison Clean-Ups:**

We hosted two large clean up events throughout the neighborhood this year.

### **Edison Housing Referral:**

196 residents received housing information about home ownership, home repair, and homelessness programs in the area.

### **Edison Go GREEN:**

83 CFL lightbulbs were passed out to Edison residents and environmental/energy saving tips were given during our "Green Minute" at Neighborhood Watch Meetings.

### **Edison Gardens:**

Two gardens were created this year. One on Egleston Avenue and one on Portage Street.

## **Meetings**

### **Edison Neighborhood Watch:**

We hosted 11 Neighborhood Watch meetings this year, giving residents helpful information about crime and safety tools that have been used to make our neighborhood better.

### **Edison Garden Club:**

During the spring, summer and fall, Edison residents met at different locations throughout the neighborhood to admire each other's gardens, get helpful planting/growing information, and to share garden plants with one another.

### **Edison Block Watch:**

6 Block Watch groups were formed to provide resident groups with information on various community resources and strategies that they can apply on their blocks.

### **Edison Board of Trustees:**

The Edison Board of Trustees met 10 times this year to discuss and vote on issues that affect the neighborhood and your association. Their tireless dedication to making this neighborhood great has been crucial to the success of all the programs, events, and initiatives administered through our organization.

### **Community Room:**

105 people used Edison's Community Room to host family activities and several non--profit organizations used the room to host various activities such as yoga, cooking, and homeownership classes.

## **Other Activities & Partnerships**

**Community Promise Federal Credit Union:** in 2012 they recieved thier charter and will be located in Washington Square at 1313 Portage Street in January 2013, **Summer Youth Employment Program:** The Edison Neighborhood Association partnered with YOU and the City of Kalamazoo to host a group of youth who worked on beautification projects in Edison's alleyways, **Market Place Houses:** All 23 new houses are complete, and most of them now have new homeowners, **Kalamazoo Creamery:** Is gone and a new greenspace with labrynth is installed, **Portage Creek Re-Direct:** has nearly been completed from Alcott to Crosstown Parkway, what an incredible difference.

## **Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You, Thank You**

The Edison Neighborhood Association would like to thank the following: Barnard Building & Construction, Building Blocks of Kalamazoo, Chemical Bank, Citizens Republic Bank, City of Kalamazoo, Karl Freed, Edison Business Association, Edison Neighborhood Association Board of Trustees, Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KCF), Local Initiatives Support Corporation (LISC), Pfizer and RREC Construction, United Way, and Wild Bunch for contributing funding in 2012.

The Edison Neighborhood Association would also like to thank all of the wonderful people who have contributed materials, donated time and energy to support our efforts. In 2012 we had 335 people volunteer a total of 4,037 hours to neighborhood improvement activities.

If you would like to make a financial contribution, you have a great idea for making Edison better or you would like to volunteer for a specific, or general activity, please contact us at 269.382.0916 or by email at [edison@chartermi.net](mailto:edison@chartermi.net).