

BHNA Officers

President:

Jennifer Castner
205 Oakland
2014-2017

Vice President:

Kay Ruekberg
227 Oakland
2014-2017

Treasurer:

Alan Munn
164 Oakland
2015-2018

Secretary:

John Boughman
216 Maplewood
2013-2016

Communications:

Dawn Parker
253 Oakland
2013-2016

At-large:

Beth Blythe
144 Oakland
2013-2016

Jeffrey Johnson
144 Maplewood
2014-2017

Ed Swanson
245 Maplewood
2014-2017

Mike Benedict
147 Oakland
2015-2018

Philip Eisenlohr
236 Oakland
2015-2018

Email the board:
board@brookfieldneighborhood.net

Neighborhood Picnic & Annual Meeting – Sep 11

By Jennifer Castner

Join us on Sunday, September 11, 4-6p on Maplewood Dr. for our annual neighborhood association meeting and potluck gathering. Rain date – Sep 18.

In addition to sharing food and conversation, you can catch up on neighborhood news, participate in the Association's official annual meeting, and elect Association board members.

September is also the time to pay your 2016-2017 dues! A bargain at \$20 per year, here are some benefits:

*Neighborhood Association representation and a voice at East Lansing government meetings

*Our fabulous website and mailing lists

*Funds to provide for replacement trees along our beautiful streets

If you can't make September 11, drop your dues by Treasurer Alan Munn's home @ 164 Oakland Dr.

Make your check out to Brookfield Heritage Neighborhood Association!

CATA-BRT coming to Grand River?

By BHNA board members

Capital Area Transportation Authority (CATA) has been strongly promoting a new Bus Rapid Transit (BRT) plan. CATA asserts that BRT will streamline transit, promote development, and improve safety and sustainability along the Grand River/Michigan Ave corridor between Marsh Road (Meridian Township) and the Capitol in Lansing.

CATA is seeking \$133 million in federal and state

funding to cover the costs of new buses and build route infrastructure. CATA claims that existing monies will cover future operational costs. Because the route travels state-owned roads, local municipalities have only an advisory role.

The BRT plan would build dedicated bus lanes, new "stations" with fare machines, level boarding, covered waiting areas, and real-time transit information. CATA documents assert that service along the 8.5-mile corridor would run every 6 minutes

Coming Soon! Little Free Library

Following a successful fundraiser in mid-July, plans are underway to build and install a Little Free Library at 165 Oakland Drive in our neighborhood.

Increasingly popular, these small cabinets mounted on a post are places to leave unwanted books and/or acquire a new read. Ours will serve both children and adults and will be maintained by neighbors.

Thanks to the many of you who are involved. Contact Michelle Fulton for more information: mjcomstock@yahoo.com.

through 27 stations using exclusive bus-only lanes with stops usually planned near major intersections for safe access of passengers at existing zebra crossings.

For Brookfield residents, this project could have significant impacts along our Grand River border, with planned additional dedicated outer bus lanes to avoid the current blockage of the outermost car lane when buses serve passenger at the two stops near Oakland Dr. As we have all experi-

Continued on p. 2.

The Brookfield Heritage Neighborhood Association's mission:

- To preserve the neighborhood's unique treescape and environment – your dues help pay to replace trees along our streets!
- To promote the safety of the neighborhood.
- To foster community through annual picnics and social events
- To protect the single-family character of the area through representation in city government.

Maple-loving Pest in Brookfield? Protecting Our Forest

By Kay Ruekberg & Jen Castner

An invasive pest, the Asian long-horned beetle, is a wood-boring insect that neighborhood residents should learn to spot.

Preferred tree hosts include maples (Norway, sugar, silver), ash, chestnut, sycamore, poplar, elm, and willows. Sugar maples are apparently a particular target.

As the illustration (r.) shows, it is a distinctive insect, reaching about 1-1½ inches in length! Females bore fingertip-sized depressions into tree trunks to lay their eggs. Larvae feeding inside the tree weaken and

eventually kill trees.

To date it has not been reported in MI, but should it invade, the beetles can destroy broadleaf forests, including the silver maples that line our neighborhood. It has been reported in Ohio and Toronto, and earlier sightings occurred in Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, and New York City.

As our trees need replacing, we must consider balancing our species composition for protection.

More information on the

beetle and how to identify it can be found at these (shortened) links:

MSU Extension – How to spot them
<http://bit.ly/2ail2FS>

MSU's Fact Sheet
<http://bit.ly/29YDoMZ>

USDA "Find It"
<http://bit.ly/2aily6l>



STAYING IN TOUCH

Our primary communication tool is the neighborhood forum on our website!
<http://brookfieldneighborhood.net/forum>

You can also interact with neighbors on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/brookfieldheritageneighborhood

Questions?
Contact Jennifer Castner at pennifer@gmail.com or call her at 510-393-5525. For technical support, contact Carl Lira at ctlira@gmail.com

CATA-BRT, continued

enced, this intersection is quite busy, especially when MSU is in session. Adding dedicated bus lanes in this area could transform our access to the neighborhood via Grand River, as well as possibly affect traffic through our neighborhood.

There are many questions about this project. Is there or will there be sufficient ridership to justify the project? Where will the extra space come from to create dedicated bus lanes?

CATA maintains a website dedicated to this project - <http://cata-brt.org/>

Project opponents on FB: <http://bit.ly/2aiqecj>

Read more about the changes envisioned for the

Hagadorn-Grand River intersection on our website: <http://bit.ly/2a3s4fl>

A video to help visualize: <http://bit.ly/2aitCnX>

Brookfield Tree Fund

Our neighborhood is known for the beautiful trees lining our streets. Did you know that your dues contribute to a tree replacement fund?

If you have recently lost a street-side tree contact neighbor Pat Robinson to coordinate neighborhood tree replacement with East Lansing's Environmental Operations department.

Contact her at ohandley@cvm.msu.edu or (517) 351-6958.

Switch from Listserve to Web Forum

We will be eliminating our listserv (announcements@brookfieldneighborhood.net) and replacing it with a web forum on Sep 30, 2016.

With an email subscription, the web forum is akin to a listserv, but the web forum has better support for conversation "threads" and is an easy way to keep track of past topics. Participation in the forum is limited to neighborhood residents.

Visit <http://brookfieldneighborhood.net/forum-transition> for easy instructions on how to make the switch.

Thanks again to Carl Lira for his volunteer webmastering!