

# Active Neighboring News

## Distributed by Allen Neighborhood Center

### January 30, 2010

Dear Friends and Neighbors,  
Included in this bulletin:

- 1) **Buying a Home on Lansings Eastside**, Saturday, Feb. 6
- 2) **Composting Workshop**, Saturday, Feb. 6
- 3) **Food, Inc** kicks off GardenHouse Film Series, Feb. 5
- 4) **GardenHouse Book Club**, Feb. 23
- 5) **All You Can Eat Chili** at Resurrection on Feb. 6
- 6) **Mid-MEAC First Friday luncheon**, on Feb. 5
- 7) **Youth Gardening Conference** on Feb. 20
- 8) Quote of the Week from **Peter Drucker**

Joan

PS Some of you are received this weekly e-bulletin for the first time. To receive it regularly, hit reply, and indicate that you would like to receive these weekly updates of neighborhood news.

### **1) Buying a Home on Lansings Eastside** on Saturday, Feb. 6

Join us on **Saturday, February 6, from 10 am 12:30 pm at Foster Community Center, room 210, for all that you need to know to begin your search for a home in this affordable, friendly, and connected community.** You'll hear about **Eastside amenities** (parks, gardens, our lively and walkable commercial districts, and many neighborhoods, each with its own unique character and assets). And you'll hear from and have a chance to meet one-on-one with representatives from various institutions on **Financing Options**, including conventional and rehab mortgages, IDAs, down payment assistance, how to purchase a foreclosed home, and more.

**Discover why people are choosing to live on Lansings Eastside in order to enjoy the best of an urban lifestyle!** For further information or to pre-register, call Tom Curtis at 367-2468, ext. 2015 or email him at [tomc@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:tomc@allenneighborhoodcenter.org). (*Sponsored by Allen Neighborhood Center and James Pyle of Lana Wagner and Company.*)

### **2) The Art of Composting...**

**February 6, 2-3:30 pm, in the Hunter Park Community GardenHouse, Free Workshop**  
KAnna Burton, an instructor with over 20 years of experience with composting methods, will show you how to turn food and garden waste into black gold for your garden, limiting land fill usage and maximizing the nutrients your plants need to grow strong and healthy. We'll explore the basics of backyard composting, hot piles and indoor worm composting. Composting can be a simple process that creates excellent, fertile soil to successfully grow veggies & flowers! Forget the blue water; come down to the GardenHouse and learn the natural method for making miracles in your 2010 garden. For further information or to pre-register, call Allison Burkeholder at 367-2468 or email her at [allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org).

**3) *Food, Inc.*** *kicks off the Hunter Park GardenHouse First Friday Film Series on Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm.* Beginning this week, the GardenHouse will host a food-related film on the first Friday of every month. At 7pm on February 5<sup>th</sup>, we will kick off our film series with *Food, Inc.*. Bring a neighbor or two and come on down to the park to watch this amazing documentary. It just might change the way you think about food.

Here is what the official website for the film had to say:

*In Food, Inc., filmmaker Robert Kenner lifts the veil on our nation's food industry, exposing the highly mechanized underbelly that has been hidden from the American consumer with the consent of our government's regulatory agencies, USDA and FDA. Our nation's food supply is now controlled by a handful of corporations that often put profit ahead of consumer health, the livelihood of the American farmer, the safety of workers and our own environment*

The film features interviews with Eric Schlosser (Fast Food Nation), Michael Pollan (The Omnivore's Dilemma, In Defense of Food: An Eater's Manifesto) along with forward thinking social entrepreneurs like Stonyfield's Gary Hirshberg and Polyface Farms' Joel Salatin. **Come watch this with friends and stay for the conversation to follow, facilitated by Linda Anderson.**

Check out <http://www.foodincmovie.com/> for more details. Please call 517-999-3910 or email [allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org) to let us know you are coming. Admission is free; donations are accepted.

#### **4) Join the GardenHouse Book Club; read *Food Not Lawns***

For our next book, the rapidly growing GardenHouse Book Club will be reading a very explicit how-to for turning your yard into a garden and your neighborhood into a community. You can purchase *Food Not Lawns* by Heather C. Flores from Everybody Reads beginning later this week, and then join us on Tuesday, Feb. 23, 6:30 pm at the GardenHouse.

Here's what [amazon.com](http://amazon.com) had to say:

"...A source of both information and inspiration for one of the most hopeful and exciting movements of our time." -- Michael Ableman, author of *Fields Of Plenty*

"For activist readers who believe activism is a political pursuit, *FOOD NOT LAWNS: HOW TO TURN YOUR YARD INTO A GARDEN AND YOUR NEIGHBORHOOD INTO A COMMUNITY* offers a different viewpoint, maintaining that growing food where you live is a key method of becoming a food activist in the community. Chapters advocate planting home and community gardens with an eye to drawing important connections between the politics of a home or community garden and the wider politics of usage, consumption, and sustainability. Another rarity: chapters promote small, easy changes in lifestyles to achieve a transition between personal choice and political activism at the community level, providing keys to change any reader can use." -

*Bookwatch/Midwest Book Review, December 2006*

**For further information or to join this lively, stimulating book club, call Allison at 367-2468 or email her at [allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org](mailto:allisonb@allenneighborhoodcenter.org).**

## 5) 20<sup>th</sup> Annual All You Can Eat Chili Dinner at Resurrection

Sponsored by REACT TEENS and Alumni of Resurrection Cub Scout Pack #227  
*Saturday, February 6, 2010, 5:30-7:30 pm, Adults-\$4, Child (w/adult) - \$3, Family-\$15, at Resurrection Parish Hall at 1531 E. Michigan Ave.*

Bring the whole family and enjoy an evening out of All You Can Eat Chili!

**6) MidMEAC's First Friday lunch** will be held on next *Friday, February 5th*. A light buffet lunch (suggested donation \$5) will be available; all are welcome; no need to rsvp. The lunch is held at *Central United Methodist Church, 215 N Capitol Ave, from noon to 1.*

Ron Overton will speak on the subject of native plants and biodiversity. He'll define native plants for our area, explain why we should plant them, and convince you of the importance of maintaining biodiversity. A retired transportation planner and longtime Watertown Township planning commissioner, Ron is an advanced Master Gardener, conservation steward with MSU Extension, and volunteer coordinator for Beal Botanical Garden.

## 7) Youth Garden Conference

*February 20, Southside Community Center.* Register now for the *3rd Annual Youth Gardening Conference* at [www.youthgardeningcoalition.org](http://www.youthgardeningcoalition.org). If you are involved or would like to be involved with a youth garden, come learn about what is happening in the Lansing area. Gain knowledge and resources to help grow your youth garden and network with others growing school and youth gardens throughout the Lansing area. Both youth and adults are welcome.

## 8) Quote of the Week

**The best way to predict your future is to create it. Peter Drucker**

### **Reminder:**

**Join ANC staff every Friday at noon in Hunter Park & walk with us!**

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Joan Nelson, Director  
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