



# Colonial Village Newsletter

Volume 8

www.cvnanews.com

October 2007

## CVNA Board Members

Anita Beavers, President  
 Anne Wilson, Vice President  
 Thelma Dempsey, Treasurer  
 Willie Vinson, Secretary

### Area Representatives

Michael Morofsky, Area 1  
 Mary Bechtol, Area 2  
 Vacant, Area 3

Check out CVNA's Website:

[www.cvnanews.com](http://www.cvnanews.com)

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## Vi Baas Longtime Colonial Village Neighbor

Submitted by Anne Wilson with Special Help from Ervie Bush

Viola Baas was born in 1918. She is 89 years young and a longtime resident of Colonial Village Neighborhood. She bought her home on Pattengill in 1950 when a barn, wheat field and apple orchard stood where the Colonial Village Shopping Center is today. Her home has one of the prettiest back yards, as Vi is an avid gardener.

certificate. She taught south of Hastings for two years. During World War II, when gas and tires were

In the fall of 1943, she left teaching to work in the U.S. Army Ordnance at REO Motors in Lansing where trucks were made for the U.S. Army. She worked there three years as a clerical worker.



In 1945, Vi went to Michigan State University to renew her teaching credentials. She taught at the Stoner School for seven years. In 1954, she went to Japan to teach the

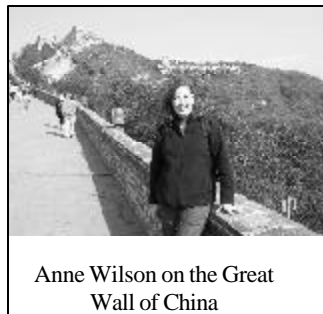
Upon graduating from high school, Vi went into a government program working and going to school. She graduated from Central Michigan University with a

scarce and travel to work was often difficult, Vi once shared she could change a tire in ten minutes flat.

See Vi continued on page 5

## No Seventh Term For Anne Wilson

By: June Kentfield



Anne Wilson on the Great Wall of China

President for the past six years. Anne was born and raised in the Lansing Area and has lived in Colonial Village since 1996.

She has a special interest in Meet the Candidates Night, where she often serves as the MC, because of her strong belief in exercising our right to vote.

Anne became involved with CVNA by attending monthly meetings and helping with projects and events. Anne has worked on nearly every CVNA activity from picnic to the Christmas Lights Contest.

In addition to her CVNA activities, Anne is very active in Civil War and historical groups in Michigan and N. Carolina, sends care packages and cards to friends serving in the military, helped the City

See Anne continued on page 5

Who thinks that Colonial Village's greatest asset is the neighbors? That's Anne Wilson who has served as CVNA's Vice

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# From the President

Anita Beavers

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## *Colonial Village known For its "Walkability"*

"Walkability," a term popular with community developers and realtors, certainly fits the Colonial Village neighborhood. We can walk to three elementary schools, three churches, and two parks. Fast food places, a Laundromat, dry cleaners, PX, car wash and variety of old and new businesses border the neighborhood on Martin Luther King Blvd. and in Logan Center.

The Colonial Village Shopping Center is one of the first shopping centers in Lansing and provides the neighborhood with the ability to walk to a food store, bank, drug store, restaurant, two beauty shops and nail shop. You can find a lawyer, a dentist and doctor all within walking distance.

L & L Food Center manager Dennis Meersdom welcomes the many seniors, young families, and the people stopping at his deli to pick up dinner on their way home from work. The meat department at L & L is highly regarded as are the friendly staff at the store.

John Johnson and the staff at Rite Aide appreciate the friendliness and loyalty of Colonial Village shoppers.

National City Bank branch manager Ann Cook enjoys the small town congeniality of customers and bank staff calling one another by name.

The China Garden restaurant and Fantastic Sam's Beauty Salon are busy places with many repeat customers.

There is a busy law practice in an adjacent building. Thomas C. Walsh and his associates Robert L. Refior II and Elias G. Kafantaris serve many of the local businesses and have been here since 1988.

Francis Mendoza's Hair Design Salon with its four stylists has been a staple for over 25 years. It boasts many devoted customers. Dentist W. A. Burchill has been practicing in Colonial Village for fifteen years. A new business is the Natural Nail shop

## We need your help

CVNA has been very active and continues to keep you informed of events in our area. We welcome new residents and encourage you to attend our Wednesday meetings and to check out our website [cvnanews.com](http://cvnanews.com).

We have a variety of speakers to provide information on various topics. In addition, representatives of our local governments provide information about matters that affect you.

To continue our efforts we need you to: volunteer for our activities; consider being a board member; donate financial support either at our meetings or by sending your donation to Thelma Dempsey, CVNA Treasurer, 1609 South Holly Way, Lansing, MI 48910.

We hope you will support CVNA.

offering a variety of nail care and pedicures.

All in all, Colonial Village offers the ideal "walkability." We are fortunate to live in this friendly neighborhood

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## CVNA Annual Events Well Attended

*Thanks to CVNA volunteers, sponsors and supporters two of the Association's most popular events were once again a great success.*

### **Neighborhood-wide Garage Sale**

More neighbors participated in the neighborhood-wide garage sale this year than ever before. Refreshments were provided by some and good conversation by most creating a festive and fun atmosphere.

Children's clothing, toys, furniture, etc. were popular items with beginning families. Books, furniture and other household items were also very popular ticket items.

### **Picnic**

Well over 200 neighbors and friends stopped by to enjoy the fun, free food,

and prizes, at the annual picnic. A big attraction was the Lansing Parks and Recreation Department Obstacle Course. McGruff, the crime fighting dog, and the Red Robin Restaurant Mascot came, delighting the children. The Lollie Pop Tree was enjoyed by all.

National City Bank provided Frisbees and raffle prizes; The Colonial Village L & L Food Center provided the hot dogs, beverages and supplies; The Lansing City Market and Tricia Spain, a local realtor, provided information; Lisa Hale, Southside

Community Coalition provided face painting and program information; County Commissioners Dale Copedge and Vic Celentino helped with hot dog grilling. Mayor Virg Bernero, Police Chief Mark Alley, and state representative Joan Bauer took time from their busy schedules to attend the picnic.

None of this could have been accomplished without volunteers and the donations from local businesses, Carol Wood, Bill Matt and a grant from the Mayor's Advisory Board. Go to [cvnanews.com](http://cvnanews.com) for more photos.

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# Working Together For a Safe Neighborhood

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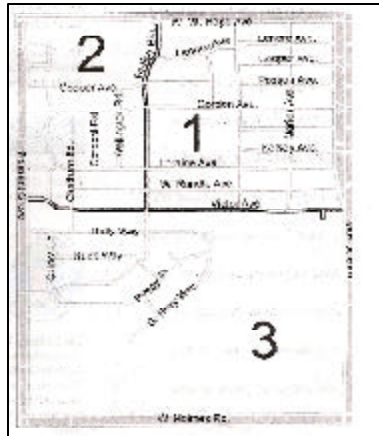
## Colonial Village Neighborhood Association (CVNA)

CVNA was organized in 1998 with the purpose of contributing to the well being of the neighborhood and establishing effective communication links with residents, local and state governments and community organizations.

The Association is a member of the Lansing Neighborhood Council and is supported by donations from its members, local businesses and grants. CVNA is a registered non-profit organization. Donations are tax deductible.

CVNA meets the third Wednesday of each month, 7:00 p.m. at Grace United Methodist Church located on Boston at Mt. Hope Avenue.

CVNA is made up of three areas as shown on the map. Each area is



assigned an area representative who is available to help with neighborhood concerns. They are: Michael Morofsky, Area One and Mary Bechtol, Area Two Representatives. Area Three position is currently vacant.

### Michael Morofsky, Area One Representative

I have been a life long resident of Elmhurst, Colonial Village, for over 60 years. My commitment to our neighborhood is as strong today as it ever was.

I do what I can to contribute, as best as I can, in the Association's purpose by cooperatively solving problems affecting the health, safety and general welfare of CVNA residents.

Over the years I have collected a series of telephone numbers of City and County officials who can help with various issues that may occur. A copy can be found on page 5.

Contact me at: 517 487 9012

### Mary Bechtol, Area Two Representative

I would like to welcome our new neighbors to the Colonial Village Neighborhood and encourage them to get involved in our Neighborhood Association. It is a great way to meet your neighbors and find out what is taking place and what future events we have planned for 2008.

As I drive through our streets I see all of the beautiful flowers that have been planted in the turn-arounds and I want to thank all of the volunteers who not only plant the flowers but maintain them from Spring to Fall. It adds so much and expresses the pride we have in our neighborhood. See you at our next meeting October 17th!

Contact me at: 517 487-3907

## Neighborhood Watch

*Crime is not only a police problem, but a community problem as well.*

The Neighborhood Watch Program involves citizen participation and involvement in a self-help battle against crime. It is the first logical step for any community organizing against crime.

### How does it work?

The Area Coordinator is the liaison between the neighborhood and the Community Services Unit who identifies Block Captains. The Block Captains secures and updates names, addresses and phone numbers of those residents who wish to be Neighborhood Watch members and forms a telephone tree.

Area coordinators, alerted to criminal activity that has occurred within their watch area, passes this information along to Block Captains who, in turn, call members listed on the telephone tree. Within a very short time an entire neighborhood can be alerted to a problem within the area.

To start a program for your street or area, contact Officer Sarah Nolen South Neighborhood Watch Officer Lansing Police Department 272-7487. Her email is: [snolen@ci.lansing.mi.us](mailto:snolen@ci.lansing.mi.us)



# Make Voting Easy By Being Prepared on November 6

Information From: Chris Swope, Lansing City Clerk

## Take Your Photo ID to the Polls on November 6

Due to a 1996 change to Michigan law, all voters are required to show photo identification to vote at the polls. Voters without identification will be required to fill out and sign an affidavit in order to receive a ballot.

Accepted forms of photo identification are:

- Driver's license or personal identification card issues by Michigan or another state.
- Federal or state government issued photo identification.
- US passport
- Current student identification with photo from high school or accredited institution of higher education.
- Military identification card with photo.
- Tribal identification card with photo.

The identification requirement does not apply to persons voting by absentee ballot.

## Precinct and Polling Place Changes

The City of Lansing has made revisions to our Precinct boundaries and some of our Polling Places that may affect you. These changes went into effect with the August 2007 Primary Election and will continue for the November 6, 2007 General Election. If these changes affect you, a Voter ID card was mailed to your registered address in May.

If you are not sure where to vote, you can find out in the following ways:

- Call the City Clerk's Voter Services Unit at (517) 483-4133.
- On the City Clerk's Web Site ([clerk.cityoflansingmi.com](http://clerk.cityoflansingmi.com)) go to the "Elections" section, and click the link for "Where do I Vote." Provide the requested information and you will be given your voting location.
- Email the City Clerk's Office at [clerk@ci.lansing.mi.us](mailto:clerk@ci.lansing.mi.us).

## Need an Absentee Ballot?

Under Michigan law, you may vote an absentee ballot if you:

- are 60 years of age or older;
- are physically unable to attend the polls without the assistance of another;
- expect to be absent from the City of Lansing for the entire time the polls are open on Election Day;
- cannot attend the polls because of the tenets of your religion;
- are an appointed precinct worker in a precinct other than the precinct where you reside; or
- cannot attend the polls because you are confined to jail awaiting arraignment or trial.

To request an absentee ballot you may use the form on the City Clerk's web site ([clerk.cityoflansingmi.com](http://clerk.cityoflansingmi.com) under the Elections link). Mail or fax a signed request stating the reason from above why you qualify to the City Clerk's Office, 124 W. Michigan Ave., 9th Floor, Lansing, MI 48933. The fax number is 517 377 0068.

If you regularly vote by absentee ballot, the Lansing City Clerk's Office wants to make it even easier for you by placing you on the permanent absent voter list. When on this list you will automatically receive an absent voter application for every election. No phone calls, no time crunch, no lines, no hassle.

You may add your name to the permanent absent voter list by completing the Permanent Absent Voter List Request portion of the Absentee Ballot Application form on the City Clerk's web site or by sending a signed request to the City Clerk's Office.

## Younkers hosts a Community Day- Elmhurst School Fundraiser

By: Anne Wilson

Twice a year, Younkers hosts a Community Day of shopping and fun. This year it is a great opportunity for Elmhurst Elementary PTA to raise much-needed funds. We invite you to be a part of it!

Elmhurst Elementary PTA will be selling coupon booklets for \$5.00. The coupon booklet will contain a \$10.00 coupon along with various percentage coupons. All proceeds will go to Elmhurst Elementary PTA. Elmhurst PTA staff members and

other volunteers will be at the Lansing Mall Younkers:

- October 13th from 4-6pm and
- October 27th from 10:00am until noon.

If you can't make it to the mall, the PTA will be selling the booklets during Parent Teachers Conferences at Elmhurst (corner of Gordon and Pattengill) November 5th and November 7th from 4:00pm until 8:30pm. The Community Day event will take place Saturday, November 10, 2007. For more information, contact [elmhurst.pta@hotmail.com](mailto:elmhurst.pta@hotmail.com)

children of military families stationed there. After two years she was assigned to Germany in the Dependent Schools. In 1957, she returned to the United States and began teaching at Cavanaugh School in Lansing until her retirement in 1975.

Besides gardening, Vi is very active in a number of hobbies and groups. She is an active member of South Baptist Church in Lansing. She is a member of the Women's Overseas Service League (WOSL) a national organization of women who have served overseas in or with the Armed Forces. She has volunteered with the Wharton Center and worked in Sparrow Hospital's gift shop. She is a supporter of the Lansing Symphony and she is very active in the Colonial Village Neighborhood Association.

Vi is a great neighbor!

Information prepared & submitted by Michael Mbrofsky, CVNA  
Area One Representative

**Self Help Phone Numbers**

**These numbers should be of some help/be persistent/do not give up/keep calling!**  
Make sure you document Date, Time, and person whom you spoke with

**Neighborhood Upkeep:**

Building Safety/Permits Main Office.....	483-4355
Code Compliance Main Office.....	483-4361
Front Yard Parking.....	483-4361
Weeds/Junk.....	483-4361
Code Compliance officer—Greg Scrimger.....	483-7620
Code Compliance Manager.....	483-4385
Forestry/City Street Trees.....	483-4218
Potholes/Street Repair.....	483-4161
Street Lights/Damaged or Burned out.....	702-5000 / 702-6006
Snow Removal/Sidewalks.....	483-4455
Street Signs/Damaged or need repair.....	483-6034

Bill Matt – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Ward City Council.....	410- 828
Kathie Dunbar – City Council at large.....	483-4171
Brian Jeffries- City Council at large.....	483-4180
Derrick Quanny- City Council at large.....	483 4170
Carol Wood City Council at large.....	483-4188

Victor Celentino - County Commissioner-1 <sup>st</sup> District.....	321-7020
Dale Copeage – County Commissioner-6 <sup>th</sup> District.....	388- 603
Police General Info.....	483-4600
Sgt. Frank Koenigsnecht Team 9.....	272-7488
Mark Alley Chief of Police Lansing Police Dept.....	483-4801
Complaints Concerning Lansing Police Dept.....	483-4002

**If you do not receive a polite response or the problem is not resolved, direct as many calls as necessary to the Mayors' Office. They have assistants to resolve these complaints.**

Mayors' Office..... 483-4141

**Most Common Complaints:**

- Snow removal: commercial or private property**
- Abandon vehicle or vehicle parked after 2 a.m.**
- Front yard parking**
- Unregistered Rentals**
- Weeds/Junk/Un-mowed Lawns**

Number to call when witnessing business establishments selling tobacco products to children under 18..... 887-4586 / 887-4315  
Number to call to report suspected truant students, Operations.....483-4603

MHM Rev. (8-17-07)

**Anne Wilson** from page 1

Rescue Mission with their Fall Backpack program for kids in need, served as a youth mentor for many years and is a PTA member at Elmhurst Elementary even though she does not have children. And Anne works full-time for the Michigan Health Association. In her spare time, Anne loves to travel. The photo of Anne, on page one, was taken on the Great Wall of China during her recent visit.

Although Anne plans to continue her membership and volunteer for projects from time to time, she has decided not to run for a seventh term as Vice President of the Association.

The Colonial Village Neighborhood Association would like to extend our heartfelt thank you to Anne for her major contributions to CVNA. We will miss her on the Board, but we look forward to her continued support with other activities.



Anita Beavers, Anne Wilson and Melanie Houston, winner Hollywood Video Gift Card. CVNA Picnic 2007

For more pictures of CVNA's Picnic and Garage Sale, go to [www.cvnanews.com](http://www.cvnanews.com)

***You are Cordially invited to  
attend CVNA's  
Meet the Candidates Event***

Are you concerned about city taxes? Do you have children in the Lansing Public Schools? Do you or a member of your family take classes at Lansing Community College? If you say yes to any of these questions, than you can learn about the people who will be making the decisions; about our schools, our taxes and the path Lansing will take.

CVNA's annual Meet the Candidates Night can help. The event gives residents and businesses alike a chance to meet the candidates for the Lansing City Council, Lansing Community College Board and Lansing School District Board races. This provides you with an opportunity to decide who the best candidate is for the office before you go to the poles.

**Date:** Wednesday,  
October 17, 2007

**Time:** 7:00 - 7:30 p.m.  
Refreshments  
7:30 - 9:00 p.m.  
Program & Meet

**Location:**  
United Methodist Church  
1900 Boston Ave.,  
Corner Mt. Hope,  
Lansing, MI

**Contact:** Anita Beavers  
Telephone:  
(517) 882-0015  
Email:  
aobeavs@yahoo.com

**Don't Put Leaves in  
the Street**

**City of Lansing Ordinance  
prohibits raking leaves in the  
street.**

The City provides a convenient, weekly collection of leaves and other yard waste materials. Residents are required to bag them using paper yard waste bags. There is no limit to the number of bags that can be placed at the curb for pickup.

When leaves are placed in the street it can create hazardous driving conditions, plug catch basins and cause flooding or worse.

Michael Morofsky, CVNA Area One Representative asks residents to please handle your leaves responsibly by using the City's convenient curbside pickup.

Residents who witness their neighbors raking leaves into the street can call: City Ordinance 517-483-7633.

**CVNA Newsletter  
Committee**

**Writers:**

Anita Beavers  
Anne Wilson  
Mary Bechtol  
Michael Morofsky  
June Kenfield

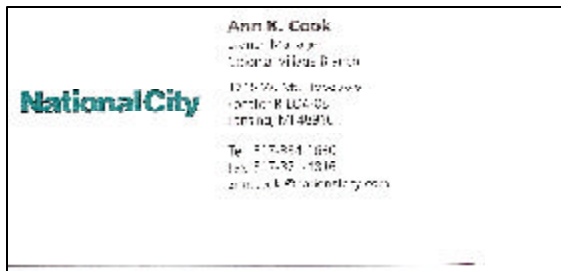
**Photos**

Evelyn Bush  
June Kenfield

**Editors**

Willie Vinson  
Anita Beavers

**Sponsorships & Supporters  
Thank You**



***Thank you Ann Cook, National City Bank for sponsoring the printing of this newsletter.***

Thank you to everyone who donated gift certificates, products, time and money in support of the Association.

***L & L Food Center    Subway, Holmes Road  
Rite Aide                Dr. Otto Graesser***

***Residents are asked to please frequent these businesses to show our appreciation.***