

# MORNINGSIDER

#### THE OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF MORNINGSIDE



Three Mile Munich Park will be the site of the inaugural Morningside Summer Sizzler. Image courtesy of Jeffrey D. Lewis II

### Morningside Summer Sizzler in August

#### The Morningsider

Detroit — We've had some sizzling hot days this summer, which is one good reason to call Morningside's mega-block party a "Summer Sizzler." Join your neighbors at Three Mile-Munich Park on Saturday, August 5 from 1-4 p.m. for a celebration of summer and our community.

We'll have some great dance music, thanks to DJ Marty Bulger, who also happens to be the Principal of East English Village Preparatory Academy at Finney in his other life. Don't worry if you're not up on the latest dance steps. We're providing free hustle lessons too.

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## **Unleash Your Creativity at Arts & Scraps**

Ang Adamiak | Contributing Writer



Children contributing to a mural installation. Image courtesy of **Arts & Scraps** 

This Saturday is a #SafeSpaceSaturday! That means that the classroom in our Community Store at 16135 Harper Ave. will be open to you from 11 a.m. to 4 p.m. to craft, listen to music, eat, participate in instructor-led activities, and relax!

Join us for an exciting summer of Safe Space Saturdays! We can't wait to unleash your creativity and bring joy to your weekends. Experience captivating art projects, uplifting music, delicious food, and a welcoming atmosphere. Don't forget to shop at our renowned Arts & Scraps Detroit Community Store. Mark your calendars to be a part of this inspiring community.

I want to invite you to a very special Safe Space Saturdays on July 15th! This will be the grand finale of our fundraising campaign: Rally for Arts & Scraps. Join us for an incredible day filled with fun, inspiration, and celebration as we cross the finish line together. With your support, we can make this event even more impactful and memorable! There's still time to donate ahead of the event, click here:

https://givebutter.com/2yIrBc to give today! Can't wait to see you!

Arts & Scraps has been serving our community for 35 years. Visit our website to learn more about us and how you can help keep us going for another 35 years!

Ang Adamiak is the Executive Director of Arts & Scraps



The Morningsider

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## To Mask or Not to Mask, That is the Question

The Morningsider



Smoky haze from the Canadian wildfires fills the air in downtown Detroit. Image courtesy of Beth Reeber Valone

Just when we thought it was okay to stash the N95 masks, we're being told we need to wear them outdoors now to protect ourselves from the effects of smoke from Canadian wildfires. We're all dealing with mask burnout after three years of Covid, so it's easy to ignore the most recent warnings and just go on about our business.

Unlike the masks we wore during the worst of the pandemic, which protected an entire community, now masking only affects the people wearing them, so it's important to consider individual health risk factors.

Sometimes the air quality affects only those who are older or have particular health problems, and sometimes the air is bad for everyone. This <u>article from NPR</u> spells out what you need to know to make an informed decision about masking during periods of high air pollution.

Although the risk from the current wildfires has waned, we know that heat and droughts caused by climate change are increasing the likelihood and severity of wildfires. There will be a next time, so be ready for it.

# TALK TO US! Letter to the Editor

One of our goals is to make *The Morningsider* more interactive and resident-driven. To that end, we invite you to send us your ideas and opinions – what do you like about the newsletter, what should we be paying more attention to, what pressing issues are Detroiters facing? Please keep your communications brief - about 200 words - and respectful in tone. Send your comments to

<u>morningsidecommunity2@gmail.com</u>. Letters, edited as necessary for space and clarity, will be published each month.

## Continued... Morningside Summer Sizzler in August

If dancing makes you hungry, you can enjoy free hot dogs, chips, and water. Hot dogs not your favorite? How about soft tacos from Tacos Hernandez, a Morningside food truck? They're not free, but they're delicious – chicken, beef brisket, or vegan, made with homemade corn tortillas. And cool off with a snow cone from another Morningside food truck.

Of course we'll have arts and crafts for the kids, as well as games for all ages.

Parking will be limited, so walk, ride your bike, or slide over on your skateboard if you can.



Summer Sizzler flyer. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall

## Loved One in Crisis? You May Not Need to Call the Police

#### The Morningsider

We're seeing over and over again how encounters between the police and mentally ill people in crisis can quickly turn deadly. If you are the loved one of someone in a crisis, you may not know who else to turn to. This article from Michigan Radio provides some helpful resources you can turn to before the situation escalates out of control.



Harm Reduction Specialist Donia Hanaei of the Pre-Arrest Diversion Initiative. Image courtesy of the Atlanta Journal Constitution

## Mixed-Use Development Breaks Ground on East Warren

Latisha Johnson | Contributing Writer



Officials celebrate the groundbreaking of The Ribbon. Image courtesy of the city of Detroit

It was a joyous occasion as I stood shoulder to shoulder with Eddy Carrington of Flux City Development, Mayor Duggan, funders, community leaders, and neighbors to celebrate the

momentous groundbreaking ceremony of "The Ribbon." This remarkable event marked a significant milestone in developing a new mixed-use project in East English Village!

This dynamic development will provide 18 affordable housing units on E. Warren Ave, answering the pressing need for affordable housing options within our beloved community. We have not seen this kind of development in decades; and never has a project like this been led by a local Black developer. Detroiters do development differently, as evidenced by the deep affordability in a market of rising rental rates and property values.

I have lived two blocks from this location for 18 years, and I can remember so many years when this was a blighted corridor, and we were doing everything we could to salvage properties.

We probably thought it was all for naught, but we're here today. We all came together collectively and intentionally to ensure we revitalize our neighborhood commercial corridors. I can't wait for the completion of the project, and I look forward to Gajiza Dumplings opening and providing a muchneeded sit-down restaurant in the community.

Story continues on page 7...



Principal developer of The Ribbon, Edward Carrington. Image courtesy of the city of Detroit

## **Upcoming Community Programs at the Jefferson Branch Library**

Megan Summers | Contributing Writer

## Chair Yoga For Adults With Good Vibz Yoga

Wednesday, August 9 from 6 - 7pm EDT

Chantia Thompson of Good Vibz Yoga will host a series of Chair Yoga workshops for adults this summer. Chair yoga involves relaxing seated poses and support with a chair. It is a gentle form of yoga that is good to take anywhere. You will learn some seated and standing poses and modifications will be offered to make the practice accessible for everyone. The program will be limited to the first 15 attendees, so be a bit early to be one of them.

#### Michigan Small Business Development Center: How to Write a Business Plan

Monday, August 14 from 6 - 7:30pm EDT (Rescheduled from June 26)

Host Jacqueline Jones Love will assist both entrepreneurs who are looking to write a business plan for the first time and those who already have a plan they would like to improve. The program will be limited to the first 24 attendees, so be a bit early to be one of them. Learn more about the Michigan Small Business Development Center by visiting their website at <a href="https://michigansbdc.org/">https://michigansbdc.org/</a>.

#### **Coffee Hour With State Rep. Veronica Paiz** Monday, August 21 from 6:30 - 7:30 pm

State Rep. Veronica Paiz (D-Harper Woods) is serving her first term representing the 11th House District, which stretches from northeast Detroit to St. Clair Shores. Rep. Paiz is a second-generation Mexican American, whose family moved to Michigan from Texas in the 1960s to work in the auto industry. A longtime resident of the district, a former Detroiter and a native of Macomb County, Paiz brings to the Legislature a unique insight into the community she represents and the challenges they have faced. Visit <a href="https://housedems.com/veronica-paiz/">https://housedems.com/veronica-paiz/</a> for more information.

#### **Preparing Your Garden for Winter On Zoom**

Wednesday, August 30 from 6 - 7pm

The dog days of summer may be upon us, but it's already time to start thinking about preparing your garden for winter. Are some of your plants disappointing? Is one plant too happy (and eating its neighbors)? Are you interested in saving seeds for next year? Lindsey Kerr, Consumer Horticulture Educator from MSU Extension, will answer all your questions in this interactive Zoom presentation. Register for the online presentation here: <a href="https://www.eventbrite.com/e/preparing-your-garden-for-winter-on-zoom-tickets-658590932207">https://www.eventbrite.com/e/preparing-your-garden-for-winter-on-zoom-tickets-658590932207</a>

Megan Summers is a Librarian II at the Jefferson Branch Library on E. Outer Dr. just north of E. Warren



Jefferson Branch Library. Image courtesy of Jefferson Branch Library

## Continued... Mixed-Use Development Breaks Ground on East Warren

Our unwavering commitment to affordability ensures that "The Ribbon" will provide residents with comfortable homes while ensuring long-term financial sustainability. Moreover, this transformative project includes first-floor retail spaces, fostering economic growth and creating opportunities for community engagement.

The support "The Ribbon" received from the Strategic Neighborhood Fund (SNF) and the Detroit Housing for the Future Fund (DHFF) exemplifies our collective dedication to uplifting communities and crafting enduring solutions for affordable housing that cater to the diverse needs of Detroit residents. These partnerships signify a shared vision for fostering inclusive neighborhoods and driving sustainable development. I'd be remiss if I didn't take a moment to give a special THANK YOU to Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan; without their support the E. Warren resurgence might be light years away.

Latisha Johnson represents our community as the District 4 Councilmember on the Detroit City Council



The exterior wall for The Ribbon development is starting to rise. Image courtesy of Jeffrey D. Lewis II

#### Cornwall Gets a Haircut

#### The Morningsider

With the help of volunteers from Greening of Detroit, Gaston and Charon Nogues are making great progress on the Corn Wall on Cornwall project near their home on Nottingham.

Last week they were hard at work cleaning out curbs choked with grass and weeds, and stripping the top layer of grass from the berm. The next step will be improving the soil on the berm to prepare it for flowers. Stay tuned to see the fruits of their labor in next month's newsletter.



Charon Nogues (2nd to right) and Greening of Detroit volunteers remove overgrown sod for the Corn Wall on Cornwall project. Image courtesy of Jim West

## Neighborhood Bike Ride to Balduck Park, Saturday, July 22

#### Nicolas Hall | The Morningsider

Join us for a neighborhood bike ride Saturday, July 22, from 10am - noon. Our destination is a true eastside gem, <u>Balduck Park</u>.

Home to one of the most beloved sledding hills in Detroit, Balduck Park is one of thirteen Regional Parks in the City of Detroit park system. Located at 18151 East Warren in District 4, the 56-acre site is divided by Chandler Park Drive into a more active South end and a natural North end. The South end features a playground, baseball fields, basketball courts, soccer fields, walking path, and the sledding hill. The North end also has a playground, picnic shelter, dog park, and trails through the natural forest.



Participants from June's bike ride. Image courtesy of Nicolas Hall

Participants will meet up at Morningside's Three Mile Park (4600 Three Mile Drive) at 10:00am. From there we'll cruise into EEV and Cornerstone Village and eventually end up at Balduck Park. After exploring the park for a bit, we'll ride back to our starting point in Morningside. The ride will be about 5 miles in total and wrap up by noon.

All riders are encouraged to wear bike helmets. If you have questions or concerns, please call Nic Hall at (815) 354-2092.

Nicolas Hall, At- Large MCO Board Member, works for the Blue Oval Company and loves to ride his bike throughout Morningside



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## Secret Garden Gallery Isn't a Secret Now

Susan Newell | The Morningsider

A lot has happened in Denise Moore's professional life since we first featured her passion project, ZAB Cultural Collective, in the December 2019 issue of The Morningsider. After a months-long shutdown due to the pandemic, she's thriving again and expanding her efforts to "build community through art, culture, and co-working."

Denise's latest project is The Secret Garden Gallery, an outdoor art market and garden she's created next to her contemporary art gallery and co-working space for artists on E. Warren. Every Saturday this summer from 11 a.m. to 6 p.m., you can browse or buy the work of local artists and enjoy the growing collection of murals, most painted by Denise herself, and other permanent outdoor art. You can transform yourself into a butterfly between the wings painted on one wall, or buy a cool drink and rest on a couch made of grass.

You'll also find plants, flowers, and vegetables for sale. "I consider flowers to be art," says Denise. "There's art created by humans, and art you find in nature. They're both important." She's creating a free seed and plant library – similar to the free libraries of used books you see in the neighborhood.



The colorful art scene of the Secret Garden Gallery at Zab Cultural Collective. Image courtesy of Jim West

If you're lucky, you may even find a small treasure hidden somewhere in The Secret Garden Gallery. "We hide pieces of art in the garden," she says, "and if you find it, you keep it. Last week no one found the little painted flower pots we'd hidden."

As long as you're at The Secret Garden, check out the gallery and studio next door, which has paintings, pottery, and jewelry for sale, created by some of the fourteen artists who rent working space at ZAB Collective. There's also a space in the back which can be used for events related to the arts, community, or education.



Denise Moore becomes a butterfly with wings she painted in The Secret Garden. Image courtesy of Jim West

Denise will also be happy to tell you all about the "niche artist communities" that she wants to bring to ZAB Collective, especially the "tiny art movement." Fascinating examples of tiny art are ACEO's - Art Cards Editions and Originals- which are paintings or drawings on cards the size of standard baseball cards. And like baseball cards, ACEOs are bought and sold or traded. Each card is unique and original and may sell for as little as 50 cents or as much as \$60-70.

Story continues on page 12...

## Another Streetscape in the Planning Stages for Morningside

#### The Morningsider

Over the past year or so, there's been growing excitement over the streetscape nearing completion on the E. Warren business corridor. But let's not forget the other streetscape being planned on Mack Avenue that will run from Conner to Moross. Here are some graphics illustrating current design plans as well as ways you can still provide input. Residents living close to the Mack business corridor – planners especially need to hear from you!

To read the project summary provided for the January 2023 Morningsider issue, click here.



Mack Avenue Streetscape plan. Image courtesy of Eastside Community Network

## Continued...Secret Garden Gallery Isn't a Secret Now

As if that weren't strange and intriguing enough, there's also a whole community of "sticker people," Denise says, who create original stickers, often in the style of Japanese anime. Not sure what that is? Just ask Denise any Saturday this summer between 11 a.m. and 6 p.m. at The Secret Garden Gallery, 16927 E. Warren, just west of Cadieux. For more information, check out her Facebook page or website here.

Susan Newell, retired nurse and resident of MorningSide since 1984. Serves as the Associate Editor of The Morningsider



The Thirst for Knowlege mural by Kiyomi Spirit. Image courtesy of Susan Newell

### Let's Talk Trash

#### The Morningsider

Are you tired of running out of space for trash in your Courville dumpster each week? Consider recycling. It will cut down dramatically on the amount of trash you accumulate, and you can even get a recycling container for free. Click <a href="here">here</a> for more details about Detroit's recycling program.

Thursday, July 20 Thursday, August 3 and 17



A variety of trash items sits alongside Linville Avenue. Image courtesy of Jeffrey D. Lewis II

## Give A Smile, Get A Smile

#### The Morningsider

There are a variety of ways to start off your morning routine. Some exercise, meditate, or even recite their favorite passage for motivation.

There's one gentleman in Australia who has a very unique way of starting off his day. It's so unique that he even has willing participants who partake in the bonding experience.

Watch how the morning commute of these subway passengers slowly transforms from ho-hum to joyful.

Check out the joyous event by clicking here.



Commuters sing Somewhere Over the Rainbow. Image courtesy of Things You Don't Know

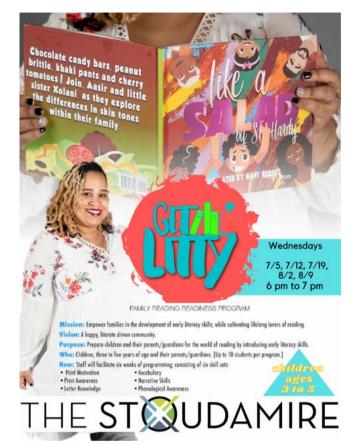




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## Resources & Upcoming Events

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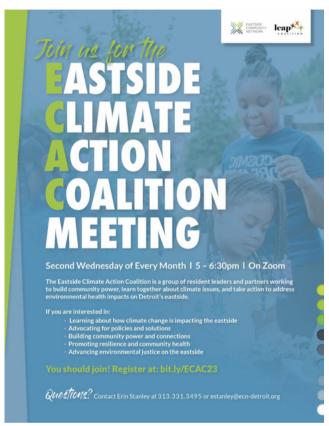




## Resources & Upcoming Events

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