"Only those with tenacity can march forward in March" — Ernest Agyemang Yeboah

March is so many things. It is Credit Education Month, Reading Month, Women's History Month, the beginning of Spring, and daylight savings time. It is also a busy time for Bailey Park Neighborhood Development Corporation. Read on to see what's in store.

Quick links

- [Resident Speed-hump request form](#)
- [A Courageous Voice Preregistration](#)
- [Virtual Learning Support Group Pre-registration](#)
- [Virtual Learning Support Group Zoom](#)
- [Be the Match Bone Marrow Registration](#)
- [Math and Reading Tutoring Sign-up](#)
- [Spring Fest Pre-registration](#)

Calendar of Events

**McDougall-Hunt Community Meeting**
- Saturday, March 13, 11 am
- Dial in: (727) 731-8932 or join online
- [https://join.freeconferencecall.com/kwatkins25](https://join.freeconferencecall.com/kwatkins25)
- Password: Bailey22
- For additional assistance connecting to the meeting text “Call Me” to the Dial-In number above and you will be called into the conference. Message and data rates may apply.

**Credit Consciousness for Adults**
- Wednesday, 03/17 6:30 pm
- Zoom or Facebook Live
- Detroit, MI 48207

**Credit Consciousness for Teens**
- Wednesday, 03/17 6:30 pm
- Zoom or Facebook Live

**Virtual Learning Support Group**
- Saturday, 03/20, 2 pm

**A Courageous Voice Healing Group**
- Saturday, 03/27, 12 pm
- Pre-registration required

**Celebrate Easter and Spring at the Hub**
- Saturday, 04/03, 2 pm - 5 pm*
- 2617 Joseph Campau
- Detroit, MI 48207
- *Weather permitting. Rain/mud/cold date-04/10
Letter From Executive Director, Katrina Watkins

We often hear a lot of talk about environmental justice. Someone reading this article might ask, what is environmental justice and why is it important. Environmental justice is a social movement seeking to address the inequitable distribution of environmental hazards among the poor and minorities. Where you live has a great impact on your health. It’s no surprise that communities that often feel the greatest impacts from environmental justice often are marginalized and underserved.

Here are some very good examples of environmental justice issues that may hit home. The Flint water crisis, not having access to a quality park, flooding. Having to plant your vegetable garden in raised beds because the soil is too contaminated with lead and other pollutants to plant in the ground. Living in a heavily industrialized area and being exposed to pollution, truck fumes, toxic lead, and hazardous waste. Often leading to severe health consequences such as diabetes, asthma, cancer, and reduced IQ. Which leads to lower educational attainment, unemployment or underemployment, and ........homelessness.

Environmental justice advocates imagine a world where all people, regardless of their race or social standing, have the right to a safe and healthy environment. The fight to resolve environmental justice issues is complex and often beyond our individual control, but there are a few small things that we can do at the neighborhood level to improve our environment. We can increase and beautify green spaces within the neighborhood. This can be done by purchasing a sideloit to beautify, develop a pocket park, Install a rain garden, plant a tree, pick up the trash, recycle and learn about climate change.

Community members often feel powerless because their voice just doesn’t seem to matter. However, residents can organize and band together with local stakeholders, and environmental justice advocates to bring awareness and address environmental and health-related challenges that exist in their community.

--Katrina Keeby-Watkins

The Greatest Generation Takes on Tech

Refusing to lost in the digital divide, a group of local senior citizens asked our Executive Director, Katrina Watkins, to teach them how to access and use Zoom. In the two sessions they have held so far, the group has been quick to pick up the program that is now so ubiquitous in our socially distanced world. The youngest of the group is 77, and the eldest is 88. "This group proves you're never too old to learn a new skill," said Watkins.

Their next challenge will be to connect with a group of University of Michigan students working on a class project about the legacy of McDougall-Hunt.
Community Member Spotlight: Chef Jeffrie Toney

Chef Toney is the quintessential local boy who made good. He and his mother moved to Detroit in the early ‘80s. Growing up in a single-parent household, Toney saw how hard his mother worked during the day, to just work equally hard at home in the evenings. He wanted to make at least one thing easier for his mother so he began to study her move in the kitchen with the plans to have dinner waiting for her at the end of the day. Something must have clicked because when he went to college, he worked his talents on the campus of Howard University cooking for fellow students on the weekends. If you’ve been to a Chef Toney catered event, or interacted with him in any way you know it’s no secret as to why this affable chef is such a success with an impressive client list.

With such an illustrious career, I was curious about why he chose to come back, not just to Detroit, but McDougall-Hunt in particular. For him, it was a combination of seeing an opportunity and keeping a promise. Way back when the cooking bug bit, he promised that he would become a celebrity chef, but would also reinvest that fortune in his community. “This neighborhood is a good investment opportunity. I was able to get some nice pieces of land for a good price. But I’m glad to be witness to the transformations rather than just coming in at the end after everything is done.”

The pandemic fallout has hit the Chef especially hard. Several projects that were in the works have either fallen apart or been put on indefinite hold due to the uncertainty of the industry. Early on he began to do meals for front-line medical staff because they were doing so much and working long hours with limited options for food. That expanded to him becoming a one-man show doing meals to go from home. It was a big shift to go from directing a sizable staff to being back doing all the work himself, but it is good to keep busy, he says.

Chef Toney has a history of partnering with various non-profits like Backyard BBQ, The Heidelberg Project, and works with Golightly Career Technical Center advising and mentoring rising culinary arts students. “[I] believe in giving back with sincerity. [It’s] extremely rewarding to do top chef style stuff for regular people who wouldn’t normally experience it.”

Chef has big plans for when the weather breaks. He would like to take his to-go catering to the next level by offering a pop-up style dining experience at the corner of McDougall and Vernor. He is also working on a greenhouse to grow produce to make a variety of pickles and other options. He also hopes to take his talents to TV in the future. To keep up with his latest projects you can find him online at his website http://www.cheftoneycatering.com/, or on social media at https://www.facebook.com/HouseofToney/.
We are working behind the scenes to begin to offer new programs through the Hub. We are will be offering academic support in math and reading, extracurricular activities like game design and coding, telehealth appointment assistance, book clubs, and more. Programs will be virtual, live, on-demand, hybrid, and in-person. We want to make sure we are as accessible as possible. You don't have to live in McDougall-Hunt to participate in programs either. We are open to all! Stay tuned to our newsletter and website for updates.

<table>
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<tr>
<th>Ongoing Events</th>
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<tr>
<td>2nd Saturdays- Community Meeting- online or call-in</td>
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<td>3rd Saturdays - Virtual Learning Support Group- Zoom online</td>
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<tr>
<td>4th Saturdays - A Courageous Voice Healing Group- Zoom online</td>
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In-person services like PPE pick-up and food pantry access are available by appointment. Please email info@baileyparkndc.org to schedule an appointment.

If you have ideas about programs you'd like to see (or run) email our Director of Programs, Amanda (amanda@baileyparkndc.org) with your ideas.

Credit Education for Teens and Adults

The weight placed on having good credit is heavier now than ever. What does "good credit" even mean? How do you get there? Is it ever too early to start thinking about credit and finances? What are good credit habits and how do you avoid pitfalls? Our panelists will discuss the lessons they wish they had as a youth, what credit measures, and more.

When: Saturday, March 20
Time: 12 pm
Pre-register: bit.ly/credit4teens
Where: Zoom or Facebook Live

The weight placed on having good credit is heavier now than ever. What does "good credit" even mean? How do you get there whether you're starting from no credit, or trying to repair it? We know it's more than just skipping a latte or foregoing Netflix. Our panelists will discuss what it takes to get from negative to great, what credit measures and more.

When: Wednesday, March 17
Time: 6:30 pm
Pre-register: bit.ly/credit4adults
Where: Zoom or Facebook Live
We are now accepting applications for FREE reading and math interventions from our partners Brilliant Detroit and Math 4 Success. The sessions will be virtual, for now, but accommodations are available if your internet access or devices aren't up to par.

To register, please fill out this form and someone will contact you to complete the process.

If you would like to volunteer your time to tutor or if you need assistance in another subject area please contact Amanda amanda@baileyparkndc.org.

In 2015 Brilliant Detroit was created to provide a radically new approach to kindergarten readiness in neighborhoods. The idea was to create a unique delivery model in our approach to early childhood development by using underutilized housing stock to create early child and family centers in neighborhoods. Input was gathered and a model that is designed with, for, and by neighbors was built. Brilliant Detroit homes provide holistic services for kids 0-8 predicated on evidence-based programs around health, family support, and education. Brilliant Detroit was born to create kid success neighborhoods. Today, in each location, neighbors come together for fellowship, activities and learning to assure school readiness, and provide needed support for families.

Learn more about their work in other neighborhoods and programs available. [https://brilliantdetroit.org/](https://brilliantdetroit.org/)

Math 4 Success is a professional educational service provider. We strive to provide quality, flexible, and affordable educational services to the students of Metro Detroit. Our goal is to design programs that empower excellence and confidence in all our students. We believe that all students, despite their background or zip code deserve the opportunity to be successful.

Our mission is to bring talent from corporate America to the students of Detroit, MI. Our talent is sourced locally and consists of engineers, tech experts, and mathematicians. With their passion for math and their drive for the students of Detroit, our impact is like no other. We strive to be the most flexible program within the city by tailoring our services to the needs of the students of the community. Our ultimate mission is to create the necessary change in all communities across the nation to give our students the best resources to bring them success. It's on all of us to create that change.

Learn more about their work and programs. [https://www.math4success.org/](https://www.math4success.org/)

Come join us as we welcome Spring and celebrate Easter at the Hub. There will be games, fun, candy, and a COVID responsible visit from the Easter Bunny.

COVID protocols include social distancing, outdoors, masks

Everyone is welcome!

This is an outdoor, weather-dependent event. In case of rain, it will be moved to Saturday, April 10.

**Diversify the Match Virtual Bone Marrow Drive**

*EVERY THREE MINUTES SOMEONE IS DIAGNOSED WITH BLOOD CANCER*

Thousands of patients with blood cancers like leukemia or other diseases like sickle cell anemia, need a marrow transplant to survive. Most patients don’t have a fully matched donor in their family — and that’s when they turn to Be The Match®.

Please Join the Be The Match Registry ONLINE: You must be between the ages of 18 and 44 You must be willing to donate to anyone in need You must be in general good health – no history of heart disease, cancer, clotting disorders, or major autoimmune disorders

To join online, pull out your phone and visit: [bit.ly/bpndcmarrow](http://bit.ly/bpndcmarrow)

Adding more members with diverse ethnic backgrounds to the registry increases the variety of tissue types available, helping more patients find the match they need.

Be The Match Facts:
- Only 10% of people who join Be The Match will ever get contacted as a potential match.
- Less than 1% will donate.
- Most donors donate stem cells through a painless process that involves two IV’s. Only 25% of donors donate bone marrow.
- Because you are under general anesthesia for the procedure, there is no pain involved.
- Most donors are achy, sore, or stiff afterwards.
- From the time you’re contacted to the time you’re done donating, it is only 20 – 30 hours of your time.
Traffic Calming in McDougall-Hunt

Traffic calming uses physical design and other measures to improve safety for motorists, pedestrians, and cyclists. It has become a tool to combat speeding and other unsafe behaviors of drivers in the neighborhoods. It aims to encourage safer, more responsible driving and potentially reduce traffic flow. In Detroit, one option is to request speed humps. NOTE: Speed humps installation is only considered when requested by residents.

What is a speed hump?

Speed humps are rounded raised areas of asphalt or prefabricated rubber constructed across the roadway width.

Why install speed humps?

Speed humps are designed to reduce vehicular speed on residential local streets that have a single travel lane in each direction.

Get Involved! Join a Community Workgroup

To develop a more equitable neighborhood, it is important to have residents at the forefront of the decision-making process. And we are doing this right now. We have several workgroups that residents can participate in.

Open space - Focus on new uses for vacant land at a range of scales, from side lots to large areas of land management, as well as a parks strategy and site-specific projects that promote resilience.

Mobility - Mobility and transportation recommendations include a range of transportation types, focusing on safer and more welcoming streetscapes throughout the neighborhood, and ideas that support neighborhood identity.

Residential - focus on support for existing residents and ensuring long-term affordability, while looking toward rehab opportunities.

Commercial - Commercial recommendations focus on opportunities on periphery corridors to build equity for local property owners, prioritize adaptive reuse and mixed-use development, and support existing businesses.

If you would like to participate in any of these committees, please contact Katrina Watkins at (313) 437-2020.
In our efforts to best serve all of the communities within our LEAP District, we’ve updated the Resident Resource: Community Needs Assessment. This survey is designed to assess our residents’ current needs to best guide and steer our service to the community. Please share the link below with your networks and residents: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/LEAPresidentneeds

Accounting Aid Resumes Tax Prep in a Virtual World

VITA ACE - ACCESSIBLE, CONVENIENT AND ELECTRONIC

VITA ACE is a safe and reliable way for Accounting Aid Society to prepare your federal, state and city tax returns without in-person contact and at no cost. Using a secure, IRS-approved software, VITA ACE lets you use your smartphone, tablet, or computer’s camera and email address to upload your tax documents and electronic signature - without leaving your home.

VITA ACE is limited to most families and individuals with incomes up to $46,000. If you meet this criteria, you’ll need to have the following items:
- Smartphone, tablet or computer with a working camera
- A valid email address you can access on the device you’ve selected from above
- Identification and tax documents - for a complete list of what you’ll need, click here.

HOW IT WORKS

- Schedule a phone appointment through this simple online form or by calling 1-844-806-5780. You’ll need to answer a few questions first to make sure VITA ACE is the right tax preparation choice for you.
- Gather your tax documents and smartphone, tablet or computer before your scheduled phone appointment.
- During the date and time you selected for your appointment, an Accounting Aid team member will call you to help you use your device camera to share your tax documents to a secure link. The team member will send you an email with the upload link during your phone call, so you can upload your documents while they remain on the phone with you.
- After collecting your documents, Accounting Aid’s IRS-certified tax team will prepare and review your tax return.
- Within a week, we’ll call you to let you know your tax return is complete and ready for your electronic signature. Once signed, we’ll electronically file it for you and it will be processed by the IRS.

3031 W. Grand Blvd., Suite 470, Detroit MI 48202
(313) 556.1920 info@accountingaidsociety.org accountingaidsociety.org
Does your family need help with utility bills?

The Heat and Warmth Fund (THAW) provides utility assistance to low-income Michigan families in need.

To apply for assistance:

1. Complete the application online at www.thawfund.org or download the paper application and mail it to:

   THAW, 535 Griswold, Suite 200, Detroit, MI 48226

2. Sign and date the application.

3. Include copies of all required documents.

If you want to apply for the Michigan Energy Assistance Program (MEAP), you will need to first request State Emergency Relief (SER) at https://newmibridges.michigan.gov

Call the Utility Assistance Center at 800.866.THAW if you have questions or need more information.

Detroit at Work
detroitatwork.com

Find a job and more. Join the Detroit at Work online community. There are programs to help with resume building, interview skills, High School/GED completion, starting your own business and more. Click the link above or call 313-962-WORK (9675). Career Center Hours: Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-5 p.m.
Know Your Local Leaders

District Manager - District 5
Melia Howard
Mayor's Office
Department of Neighborhoods
howardm@detroitmi.gov
313-236-3528
"If Not Me, Then Who; If Not Now, Then When"

Social Media Links for our office:
Please "LIKE" these pages for the latest updates
Facebook - https://www.facebook.com/DONDistrict5
Instagram- https://www.instagram.com/detroitdistrict5

7th Precinct
3501 Chene St Detroit, MI 48207
(313) 596-5700
Commander Nicholas Giaquinto
Captain Conway Petty

McDougall-Hunt Neighborhood Police Officer
Clyvester Hill
(313) 300-7191
hillc649@detroitmi.gov

Bailey Park Neighborhood Development Corporation Board
Robert Siporin, Board President
Kalissa Maxwell, Treasurer/Secretary
Duane Ashford
Robert Lodge
Sandra Williams
Carmalita Bullock

McDougall-Hunt Neighborhood Association Board
Duane Ashford- President
Cynthia Holloway- Vice President
Katrina Watkins- Secretary
James Brown
Sharron Rambus
Deborah Logan-White
Temperance Watkins

Are there things you'd like to see in the newsletter or programs you'd like to see offered by Bailey Park NDC? Email our Director of Programs amanda@baileyparkndc.org with your comments and suggestions. Submission deadline is the last Wednesday of the month prior to publication.