

OCTOBER 2017



Dates to Remember:

OCTOBER 7
OktoB-Erfest

OCTOBER 7
Sounds of Music Concert 3

OCTOBER 18
Fall General Meeting

NOVEMBER 5
Soul Food Sunday

NOVEMBER 16
Membership Happy Hour

DECEMBER 9-10
Holiday Home Tour Weekend

Visit historicbostonedison.org
for additional event details!

Background Photo by Michelle and Chris Gerard

Saturday, October 7th
610 W. Boston Blvd. | 5:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Everyone is German tonight!

OktoB-Erfest comes to Boston-Edison

Join us for a fun time with neighbors, family and friends for the first ever Boston-Edison Oktoberfest on Oct. 7, from 5-9 p.m. at 610 W. Boston Blvd. Tickets are \$12 in advance and \$15 at the door. Family and friends are invited.

A special keg of Oktoberfest Beer from Batch Brewing will be served. We'll be drinking Festbier (Märzen) - brewed with German pilsner, Munich and Vienna malts. It is a pale amber lager with light toast and bready notes. Clean, crisp and very drinkable.

Dinner includes bratwurst, sauerkraut, German potato salad, apple cider, water and dessert.

Join us as we sing around the fire pit. Prizes will be awarded to the best themed dressed female and male, also for the best beer steins. There will be games such as corn hole and badminton. You will not want to miss this party.

Let us know you and your family and friends are coming. Buy your tickets at goo.gl/pGy3WM

“Sounds of Music” Concert Series Closes Out the Season with World Jazz



The 2017 “Sounds of Music” series comes to an end on Saturday, October 7. Concert begins at 7:30 pm and will feature the world jazz sounds of the award-winning strings and percussion ensemble, **Musique Noire**. “Sounds of Music” director and Boston-Edison resident, Michelle May, leads the six-piece group.

Tickets are \$45 until September 26 and increase to \$55 beginning September 27. Ticket price includes a full buffet dinner; the address of the home hosting the concert will be provided with ticket purchase. For more information, please go to www.historicbostonedison.org, or call (313) 865-1149.

Save the Date! Soul Food Sunday

November 5th
2:00 - 5:00 p.m.

B.E. "Chefs" are at the table planning a soulful meal. Mark your calendars for the entire family to join us 2:00 pm - 5:00 pm. Stay tuned for upcoming details

Picnic in the Park Photos



Do You Feel It?



Do you feel it? I do. It is the feeling of exciting transformational changes in our beloved Boston-Edison, and in our city. As your servant leader I am so excited about the increased number of neighbors volunteering for committees and helping out in membership-related activities.

We are all responsible for the success of our neighborhood. It just does not rest with your board of directors. If you find you now have the time to be involved on a committee, or ad hoc committee, or become a one-day event volunteer, we have a place for you.

I am excited as we attend block club meetings to see the number of neighbors who are engaged. Thank you to Mary Zatina, facilitator of the East Chicago Blvd. Block Club (between Woodward and the Lodge); Akosua Barthwell Evans, president and Greg Sikora Mowers, vice president of the West Boston Boulevard Block Club Association; Dan McBryde, Chair and Frank Griffith, vice chair of the Longfellow Block Club; Larry Gaines, president of the Longfellow Block Club; Sandra Davis, vice chair of the Chicago Lodgers Block Club (where I proudly serve as chair) and Cassi Meitl and Debbie Iam who are co-chairs of our newest group, the Rose Woods Block Club. Thank you for your leadership in guiding neighbors to identify goals and activities that strengthen Boston-Edison. If I have missed a block club it is only because you have not contacted your HBEA Board member representative, and/or the Membership Committee and/or myself. So please let us know you are out there doing great work too.

I'm excited about new neighbors with their ideas, and longtime neighbors wanting to bring back some of the things we used to do. Now all we need are champions to take up a task and/or lead an effort. There are a lot of great ideas floating around. But who will step forward to lead and/or join in? Why not you.

Feel the excitement, and become a part of the change we want for Boston-Edison.

"Be the change that you wish to see in the world." — Mahatma Gandhi

Your Servant Leader,

Dianne Bostic Robinson
HBEA President

2017 Picnic in the Park Proves Successful, Fun and Tasty for Neighbors

With more than 100 neighbors and friends attending, the 2017 Picnic in the Park was a huge success! The food provided by Jackson 5 Catering was a highlight, as well as the first ever dessert contest and the new children's activities.

Thank you to a great committee of Alyse Wesorick as vice chair in charge of children's activities; Deniera Davis, who arranged for the catering, Sandra Davis and Cassie Meitl, who developed the dessert contest; Linda Almon, Alex Davidson and Alexa Moring, who were in charge of the Pooch Parade, Pierre Haden and his team, who were in charge of logistics and setup; the decorating team led by Pat Pickett; bingo by Ray and Christie Lazano; PR and registration team led by Michael Mowers and Greg Sikora Mowers; the prizes committee led by Pamela Malone and Tristen Putman; Brenda and Lafayette West and Jon Sanders for their all-round help and suggestions. Thank you to our board members and all of the other volunteers that were able to lend a hand.

The dessert contest was a sweet success! Eleven delicious treats were entered in the contest and judged by picnic attendees. The contest awarded one overall first-place winner and two category winners for the confections. Bragging rights for her first-place baking skills and a \$25 gift card went to Imani for her lemon cake from a recipe passed down by her beloved grandmother.

Lillian, Eleanor and Henry Saunders, otherwise known as the Boston Boulevard Bakers took home the Youngest Baker award for their homemade peanut butter cups.

Michael Mowers received the Best Use of Fruit award for his Blueberry Pantry dessert. Lastly, Imani also won the Best Dessert You Can Eat with No Teeth.

The contest, for sure a success in its debut, will return next year!

Picnic in the Park Photos



Ice Cream Social gives neighbors fun in the sun!

The Membership Committee had a summer to remember!

Our Annual Ice Cream Social was a huge success, with the traditional scoop ice cream and new this year -- a pop up playground for the kids. Residents came out for the food and fun, and stayed around for the camaraderie of fellow neighbors, not to mention the perfect sunny weather. Our thanks to all who came out and as always, the volunteer efforts that made this event possible. Be sure to join us next year for more ice cream and to see what else we have in store!

43rd Annual Holiday Home Tour & VIP Twilight Tour

The Holiday Home Tour is scheduled for Sunday, Dec. 10 from 9:40 a.m. to 4 p.m.; the VIP Twilight Tour is scheduled for Saturday, Dec. 9 from 4 p.m. to 10 p.m. More information, including ticket availability, will be communicated via email and postcard to all residents in our neighborhood.

As in past years, our home tour is our largest HBEA fundraiser. It will feature five beautifully decorated Boston-Edison homes that guests can tour. Beginning at Sacred Heart Seminary, the two-hour tours will be timed throughout the day and guests will be transported via bus. Tickets are \$40 each and can only be purchased online.

VIP Twilight Tour

The VIP Twilight Tour will take place on December 9, will feature a sixth home, offer food and beverages, and other special touches as part of the ticket price. Tickets are \$75 and can only be purchased online.

Think about decorating...

As we clean-up outside and prepare for cold weather, you may want to make a plan for your holiday decorations. Our Holiday Home Tour brings hundreds of guests to our neighborhood (and hopefully some potential home buyers) and we would love to greet them with our Boston-Edison holiday spirit!

Think about volunteering...

Our Holiday Home Tour weekend requires a ton of volunteers as docents, tour guides, cookie bakers, reception volunteers, check-in folks and more. If you can volunteer - a little or a lot - please contact Holiday Home Tour Chair, Karen Seaman at (248) 227-0892 or kseaman@historicbostonedison.org.

From the "Cookie Monster"

Cleo Hamilton, "The Cookie Monster," is looking forward to contacting you. Remember that the Boston-Edison Home Tour is famous for its cozy reception at Sacred Heart Seminary. Home-baked items cookies, sliced tasty breads, small cupcakes, brownies and the like are very desirable. If you purchase cookies, make sure they are something you would like to eat! We also accept monetary donations and cookies will be purchased on your behalf.

Cleo will call and email as many folks to donate as she can in early December. If she misses you, do not hesitate to donate anyway. Please let Cleo know your plans to donate by calling (313) 865-6306 or email james.hamilton@wayne.edu.



Successful Boston-Edison Attic Sale drew hundreds

One of our most popular events, The Annual Attic Sale did not disappoint! Hundreds of visitors came to Boston Edison seeking goods from 66 households that participated in the weekend sale. A big thank you to the event chairs Larry Gaines and Pierre Haden, as well as all the volunteers who arranged to make this event a hit!

Parking Restrictions in Boston-Edison

The city of Detroit zoning ordinances limit what can be done in residential districts (like Boston-Edison) to prevent blight and keep the neighborhood attractive. These zoning ordinances include restrictions on where vehicles can be parked and stored in Boston-Edison.

Privately Owned Passenger Vehicles

Privately owned passenger vehicles can be parked on the street, or on private property subject to the following restrictions:

- Vehicles must be operable.
- Vehicles on private property must be parked in a garage, on a paved driveway, or on paved parking areas located in the rear yard.
- Vehicles may not be parked on lawns or other unpaved areas.
- Vehicles parked in the driveway may be parked in the rear, side, or front yard, but may not overhang the sidewalk or street.

Residents considering constructing, expanding, or replacing driveways or parking areas should remember that these are regulated in size and placement, and any work done must be approved by the Detroit Historic District Commission.

Inoperable Vehicles and Vehicle Maintenance

Vehicles that are inoperable may not be parked or stored anywhere in Boston-Edison. Repairing vehicles is allowed, as long as:

- The vehicle repair is done privately, and not as a business venture,
- The vehicle is located in a garage or the rear yard (repairs are prohibited in the front yard, side yard, or the street).
- Any vehicles located outside of garages may not remain disassembled for more than two weeks.

Recreational Vehicles and Equipment

Recreational vehicles (RVs) and equipment (such as boats, snowmobiles, and the like) may be parked in the neighborhood. However, the regulations are more restrictive than those on personal passenger vehicles.

- Any RV or recreational equipment parked in the neighborhood must be properly registered and licensed according to the state of Michigan requirements.
- Parking or storage of RVs or equipment is allowed in a garage or in the rear yard, as long as it is on a paved area located no closer than three feet from the property line.
- RVs may not be parked in the street or side driveway. However, temporary parking (under 24 hours) in the street or driveway is allowed for the purpose of loading or unloading.
- RVs may not be used as living quarters.
- No more than one RV or boat is allowed on a single lot.

Commercial Vehicles

“Commercial vehicles” fall into two categories:

- (a) Pickup trucks, vans or passenger vehicles that have been substantially modified (for example, with the attachment of a cherry picker or hoist) and all other larger commercial vehicles. These commercial vehicles may not be stored or parked on a residential street, or anywhere on private property, unless the vehicle’s operator is engaged in providing a commercial service at the time, or loading/unloading the vehicle.
- (b) Pickup trucks, vans or passenger vehicles that have not been substantially modified (i.e., they “look like” personal vehicles). These vehicles are treated like privately owned passenger vehicles, and have no further restrictions on parking.

Doing home improvements?

The Historic District Commission must pre-approve exterior work as historically appropriate.

HDC staff can advise on appropriateness and help with pre-approval. Contact them early when planning.

Jennifer Ross
(313) 224-8907
RossJ@detroitmi.gov

Audra Dye
(313) 224-6543
DyeA@detroitmi.gov

B-E Business Directory

Do you live in Boston-Edison and own your own business? Let us know!

Email Sandra Davis at sdavis@historicbostonedison.org and we will get you signed up on our new directory!

NEZ Provides Financial Flexibility For Homeowners

Many residents are interested in learning more about a program that could provide a substantial reduction in their property tax, and for residents of Detroit that reduction could equate to real financial flexibility!

The NEZ (Neighborhood Enterprise Zone) Act, PA 147 of 1992, as amended, provides for the development and rehabilitation of residential housing located within eligible distressed communities. This tax relief program initially targeted new construction and rehabilitated or restored building projects to attract people, create jobs, encourage growth and revitalize our communities.

In 2006 the City of Detroit began a program offering tax relief to specific geographic areas for homeowners. Eligible residents who live within designated areas could receive up to 15 years tax relief under the NEZ Homestead plan. Under current law you have to have purchased your home after Jan. 1, 1997 and it must be your principal residence. You must also complete at least \$500 in home improvements within the first three years once approved. Two-family properties are also eligible if it is the owner's principal residence. Beneficiaries of the NEZ program range from residents in riverfront condos to modest-single family homes in suburban-style subdivisions.

You must apply in person at the City Assessor's Office, located in the Coleman A. Young Municipal Center, Two Woodward Avenue, Room 804, Detroit, MI 48226, (313) 224-3011

- You will need to bring your current driver's license and property deed.
- Applications (Form 2704B) received between April 1 and October 1 of the current year are eligible for tax relief in the upcoming tax year.
- Applications received after that period will be included with the following year's recipients.
- You do not have to reapply every year.

Additional information is available online at www.Michigan.gov or www.detroitmi.gov.

Ad-hoc committee needs your views on Becoming a Special Assessment District

Are you interested in serving on an ad-hoc committee to develop and implement a plan to meet with the community to decide if our neighborhood wants to become a Special Assessment District? If so, please submit your name for consideration by contacting Dianne Bostic Robinson (see Directory).

Historic Boston-Edison Association Board of Directors | 2017-2018 Directory

Zone A | Woodward-Hamilton

Edison Street

Patricia Jernigan 313-869-6889
pjernigan@historicbostonedison.org

Longfellow Street

Karen Seaman 248-227-0892
kseaman@historicbostonedison.org

Chicago Boulevard

Cole Allen 248-974-6274
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W. Boston Boulevard

Raymond Landsberg 313-384-5834
rlandsberg@historicbostonedison.org

At-Large

Larry Gaines 313-613-9279
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Zone B | Hamilton-Rosa Parks (12th)

Edison Street

Vacant
info@historicbostonedison.org

Longfellow Street

Vacant
info@historicbostonedison.org

Chicago Boulevard

Dianne Bostic Robinson 313-477-0264
dbosticrobinson@historicbostonedison.org

W. Boston Boulevard

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At-Large

Sandra Davis 313-506-1571
sdavis@historicbostonedison.org

Zone C | Rosa Parks (12th)-Linwood

Edison Street

Mike Morgan 313-868-0581
mmorgan@historicbostonedison.org

Longfellow Street

Tina Patterson 313-418-1469
tpatterson@historicbostonedison.org

Chicago Boulevard

Kimberly Williamson 313-305-7530
kwilliamson@historicbostonedison.org

W. Boston Boulevard

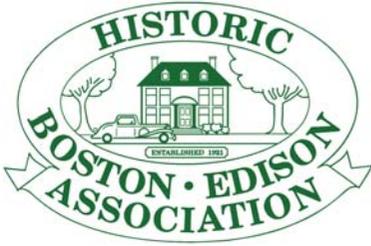
Michael Mowers 313-236-0433
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At-Large

Lawrence Williamson 313-305-7530
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{ **President** Dianne Bostic Robinson; **1st Vice President** Michael Mowers; **2nd Vice President** Sandra Davis;
Secretary Tina Patterson; **Treasurer** Raymond Landsberg; **Executive Secretary** Marilyn Mitchell }

OCTOBER 2017 NEWSLETTER



HISTORIC BOSTON-EDISON
ASSOCIATION

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FALL GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING

Wednesday, October 18, 2017
7:00 p.m. at Sacred Heart Major Seminary
**See more details and information inside.*

B-E Connected!

Are you receiving Boston-Edison emails for neighborhood events? If not, email us and we will add you right away! Email: info@historicbostonedison.org

Care to share on the BE Discussion Google Group? (For HBEA Dues-Paying Members) Email: discussion-boston-edison@googlegroups.com to join or contact us at info@historicbostonedison.org and we will add you.

Want real-time Security Alerts? (A Security Group for DSS Subscribers) Contact the Security Committee for information 313-883-4360 Security *Mailbox 3

Connect with us on social media!



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