



Neighborhood News

Bryan Park Neighborhood Association

January, 2015

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Snow Removal and Snow Angels



The winter season is upon us, and if it's anything like last year, it could be a white, white winter! Many of our neighbors utilize the sidewalks to walk or bike to school, work, and activities throughout the year, but accumulation of snow and ice on sidewalks can pose a safety threat to the community (and our postal workers!). Please keep in mind and adhere to the City's snow removal policies, so that our walkways will remain safe for the community!

- * It is the property owner's responsibility to shovel sidewalks connected to the property within 24 hours following snowfall.
- * If you rent, please be sure to clarify with your landlord as to who is responsible for snow removal.
- * Try to clear the snow down to the sidewalk surface and lay salt or sand, if possible, to prevent a layer of ice from forming
- * If you are out of town, snow removal on your property is still your responsibility!

Removing snow from sidewalks and driveways can be a challenge or health risk for some Bryan Park Neighborhood residents.. The BPNA Snow Angels program connects volunteers willing to shovel snow with residents who are in need of assistance. Snow Angels provide this service at no cost. If you are interested in becoming a Snow Angel and helping others this season, please e-mail BPNA at bryanparkna@gmail.com.

Determining School Closings

The safety and well-being of students and staff is a top priority during inclement weather. The Directors of Building Operations, Transportation, and Planning/Safety begin the process of deciding if schools should be closed early, generally about 3 a.m., by driving roads, checking with local law enforcement and city, county and state highway officials.

When all information is collected, a recommendation is made to cancel or delay.

If the decision is based solely on temperature rather than inclement weather, the wind-chill factor is taken into consideration. For example zero degrees without wind may not be as hazardous as a temperature of 10 with a wind-chill factor that brings the temperature to -5.

On some occasions a decision will be made to delay the start of school rather than to cancel for the day. This is especially true when the forecast projects frigid weather, fog, or snow. A delay usually assures that students will be picked up during daylight and perhaps the sun will take away some of the chill.

Tips for Removing Snow and Ice

- * Shovel carefully.
- * Do not lift too much or it can lead to back strain.
- * Clear the snow down to the sidewalk surface. You may want to spread salt, sand or kitty litter to help remove the ice and aid in traction.
- * Break away heavy ice with an ice chopper or straight-edge hoe. Deep digging may result in damage to the sidewalk.
- * A good shovel with an ergonomic handle is a valuable tool when attempting to clear snow or ice.
- * Some neighbors may not have a snow shovel, please consider sharing.

The Pest House

By Mary Lou Mitchell

On December 15, 1902, Indiana University purchased a two-story house sitting on five acres where Templeton Elementary School now stands for people with communicable diseases. At that time it was 1/8th of a mile from any other residences. The price was \$2,700.

Harvey Pryor, who had had smallpox in his family, was placed in charge of the house. He and his wife lived rent free and had a \$50 fuel allowance. The first patient cost \$30 a week and \$10 a week for each additional patient.

In 1905 the total cost for seven patients was \$360.01 plus \$19.50 for disinfecting.

In April of 1915 a cesspool was recommended and the zinc bath tub was to be replaced with a more modern and sanitary one. The second floor rooms had wide boards for the floor with cracks from 1/8 to 1/4 inch space between. Double beds were replaced with single beds—cost—3 beds \$26.55 and 3 mattresses \$13.50.

In February 1918 there were 13 patients- 12 with scarlet fever and 1 with smallpox. The 1918 flu epidemic didn't hit this part of the country until fall of that year.

After World War II the area around the house was converted to a trailer court to accommodate soldiers with families returning and attending IU.



After reports of smallpox increasing within the state of Indiana, IU's President William Lowe Bryan took preventive actions to secure a site for a smallpox hospital. IU purchased this two-story farm house on South Henderson Street, approximately one mile south of the campus on the outskirts of Bloomington (at the time) to be used as a hospital for students with infectious diseases.

The house was turned into a rental at that time also. The family living there was told that their children would have to go to Elm Heights school as the school district line went through the middle of the house. This was so ridiculous as Hillside School, now Templeton, was only a few feet away. They were told that wherever the children slept would determine where they would go to school so they simply moved the bedrooms from the north side to the south. Problem solved.

With "modern" medicine the house was no longer needed as a hospital. In the 1950s the IU Health Center was built on Jordan.

In 1957 the house was demolished. This is the only picture available. It is now part of the Bryan Park Neighborhood history.

Neighborhood News is a quarterly publication of the Bryan Park Neighborhood Association edited by Danielle Magid and designed by Jan Sorby. We welcome your contributions. Please send announcements, stories, and items of interest to bryanparkna@gmail.com. Thanks

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Your Neighborhood Association

Meetings are on the fourth Tuesday (except in August and December) of each month at 7:00 p.m., at the Free Methodist Church, Grimes Lane and S. Lincoln Street.

All neighbors are welcome, you don't have to be a homeowner to be a member.

Get Involved!

There are many ways to get involved and stay informed!

We would love to hear your thoughts and suggestions!

- Sign up to be a block captain
- Submit a story to the newsletter
- Attend our monthly meetings
- Volunteer at one of our events



15th Annual Block Party— Another Success!

On Friday, August 22, BPNA hosted its annual party in the 1200 block of S. Palmer. Somehow, we lucked into the only dry day in a week of generally stormy skies and were rewarded with a crowd of over 200 neighbors! Sponsored in part by the City of Bloomington's Housing and Neighborhood Development (HAND) "Small and Simple" grant program, the goal of the block party is to strengthen community ties, welcome new neighbors, and have a good time together! Craig Brenner &

Friends played their traditional boogie-woogie dance tunes, Joe Lee entertained children and adults with his Famous Clown Act, and Mark Flanigan awed the crowd with his solar telescope. This year BPNA raised funds by holding

its first silent auction of items donated by local businesses Bloomingfoods, Bloomington Paint & Wallpaper, Feast Bakery Cafe, Mira Salon and Spa, Neighborhood Solutions, Nick's English Hut, and Yu-

Tunes. A special thanks to Nick's English Hut for once again donating their famous burgers, hotdogs, veggie burgers, buns and condiments.

Photo Gallery:

1. Some of BPNA's younger members.
2. Silent auction items waiting for bids.
3. The food...
4. A great view of the sun.
5. The 2014 grill-masters.
6. Clowning around with Joe Lee.



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Darryl Neher



Councilman Neher holds monthly constituent meetings for interested neighbors in

District 5. They are held once a month on Saturday at 11am in the McCloskey Room of City Hall. If there are specific concerns you wish to discuss, please let him know. Darryl Neher at: neherd@bloomington.in.gov

Help Needed at Neighborhood "Little Free Libraries"



BPNA is looking for a volunteer who could rebuild the door on the Davis Street library. The door is damaged and allows water to seep in to the box which has damaged some of the books. If you have the skills and are willing to donate your time, please contact the BPNA!--we will pay for materials!!!

Don't forget to check out our ever changing free books at our two "Little Free Libraries":

- 1 Davis Street at the Davis Street Garden area.
- 2 On tree at 1018 S. Lincoln Street.

A Little Free Library is a "take a book, return a book" place where neighbors share their favorite books. Anyone may stop by and pick up a book (or two) and leave another book to share.



Stepping into Mary Lou and Dick Mitchell's living room, you feel as if you've entered into a storybook. An intricate mural on the wall sets a backdrop for a fun and whimsical Christmas village filled with music and light that radiates the warm and cozy feeling people yearn for during the cold winter evenings. Among the rows of beautiful miniature Victorian homes and rowhouses sit a variety of storefronts and community institutions including a Cracker Barrel, White Castle, movie theater, hospital, Catholic church, synagogue, even a cemetery...and more!

About thirty years ago, Mary Lou fell in love with some miniature homes she saw in a catalog, and has been collecting new pieces ever since. Though the village is not meant to represent a specific town, Mary Lou points out certain local Indiana landmarks such as Lucas Oil Stadium, a B-Line trail, and even construction of I-69. The I-69 pieces, Mary Lou explains, are set up on a table that in previous years was arranged as farmland - an example of Mary Lou's ability to combine her strong sense of place and history and her social consciousness with a touch of humor.

Mary Lou has even incorporated her family into the village! Figurines depicting the Nativity, which were purchased by her parents during their first year of marriage in 1932, are proudly

Signed in red and green ink for the holidays, Mayor Kruzan proclaimed December 20, 2014, "Mitchell Christmas Village Day" in honor of our neighbor.

Mayor Kruzan Honors Mary Lou Mitchell's Christmas Village



displayed on the fireplace mantle. And

don't forget to visit Nick's hot-dog stand, Tony's pizzeria, and Rick's music store, named after each of Mary Lou's sons.

Visit the Mitchells' village to hear Mary Lou's stories behind so many of these pieces and more, and experience some humorous surprises! Some of the interactive pieces will be enjoyable for the kids as well! The village opens shortly after Thanksgiving each year.

So reserve some time next year to visit our neighborhood's very own storybook village.

Become a BPNA member I want to join my neighbors in helping make the Bryan Park neighborhood a better place to live. Annual suggested minimum dues are \$10 per household, \$5 per student/senior household. However, any amount is appreciated and we gladly except more!

Name: _____

Address: _____

Phone: _____

E-mail: _____

Please return this coupon with your annual dues to Mary Lou Mitchell, 1202 S. Palmer, Bloomington IN 47401. Thank you for your support.