

2010
July

Bates-Hendricks Newsletter



Mayor Launches RequestIndy

Online portal provides new avenue for citizens to connect to City services.

On June 16, Mayor Greg Ballard joined Director of Constituent Services, Sarah Taylor, to launch RequestIndy, a new online portal that allows residents to report problems in their



neighborhoods, such as high weeds and grass, potholes, and stray animals. The first-of-its-kind portal for the City of Indianapolis uses GIS mapping technology to provide a user-friendly means of connecting with city agencies. RequestIndy allows citizens to request services, report issues, and open service requests online, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, 365 days a year. Citizens can access an aerial street level view of an area to report locations of potholes, graffiti, high weeds and grass, and any other problems. Citizens' requests will arrive within moments of being submitted to the correct agencies, regardless of day or time, and users will have the option to look up the status of submitted requests.

To access RequestIndy, visit the Mayor's Action Center web site at www.indy.gov/mac. Citizens will continue to have the option to report similar issues to the Mayor's Action Center by calling 317-327-4MAC.

Southeast Congress Comes To Bates-Hendricks

The second Southeast Congress will be held at the Immanuel United Church of Christ on Thursday, July 22nd from 7:00-9:00 p.m. This event gathers residents from nine neighborhood associations, business people, and service providers to examine emerging issues on the southeast side of Indianapolis. Everyone who attends can speak to, and vote on, new initiatives. Those actions that are adopted by the Congress become part of the Southeast Quality of Life Plan. To see the plan, go to southeastneighborhood.org.



It is fitting that Bates-Hendricks is the host for this Congress since one of the actions being considered by the Congress will be to expand our efforts on abandoned and vacant housing to the entire southeast side. Bates-Hendricks has developed an assessment/inventory tool that has allowed us to push properties through the legal system in about half the time. In addition, the Congress will consider new actions around supporting the Fountain Square Library branch and the establishment of a food co-op.

Finally, the Congress will discuss several new concerns. We will be asked to consider adding an adjoining neighborhood to the Southeast, to address the problem of animal welfare, and to look at the issue of crime and safety in our public parks. Plan to be a part of this important gathering!

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New Jersey Street Wins National Recognition

The 2008 New Jersey Street Project won third place in the nation in the Revitalization Project of the Year competition at the 2010 Neighborhoods USA conference in Little Rock, AK on May 28th, 2010. Neighborhood residents Greg Allen, Pat Neylon, Jim Mulholland, and SEND Vice President Julie Beaubien attended the conference and gave a 30-minute presentation on the project. The presentation highlighted this impressive transformation of the 1400-1500 blocks of S. New Jersey Street.



Bates-Hendricks was presented with the third place plaque at an Awards Banquet that featured President Bill Clinton as the keynote speaker. In addition to a handsome plaque, Bates-Hendricks received a check for \$200. The NUSA conference is an annual national conference of grassroots neighborhood organizations. This conference may be held in Indianapolis in 2012.

We want to thank Indianapolis Neighborhood Center, SEND, and LISC for providing the funding necessary for our representatives to attend this national conference.

Alabama Street Transformation Begins

On Saturday, June 5th, approximately 25 volunteers from the neighborhood and across the city gathered to dig flower beds, plant trees, and add plants and flowers to the South Alabama Street esplanade. Over 15 trees and 120 plants were added during the work day and two subsequent evenings.



This is the first of several phases in the transformation of the 1500 block of Alabama Street. Two homes have already received major facelifts. Another home was demolished. Three of the four historic lights have been installed. In July, the city will be adding a plaza with trees and rain gardens to the south end of the esplanade. In addition, two houses will see picket fences added. This fall, one house will be rehabbed on the street and public art will be added to the plaza. This effort is another partnership between the Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association and SEND. Special thanks to Lisa Moore, Frank Ballard, Marilyn Keener, and Michelle Riddle for all their work this past year to make this possible.

Pleasant Run Grocer Co-Op

The Pleasant Run Grocer is currently seeking members for their member-owned, community-based, full-service grocery store on the Southeast side of Indianapolis. They plan on offering fresh, local food to residents. For more information, visit their Facebook page at: www.facebook.com/pages/Pleasant-Run-Grocer/343891713445.



The membership form can be downloaded from the Bates-Hendricks web site at bateshendricks.org/news or hard copies may be obtained at SEND (1030 Orange), SECS (901 Shelby), or in the Fountain Square Library.

Delectable Dishes

This new section will be featured from time to time as space is available. While it probably won't appear as regularly as the often-missed Recipe of the Month, it will hopefully satiate the desire for new, tasty dishes. Submit your recipe for consideration via e-mail to news@bateshendricks.org.

Chicken Vegetable Alfredo

A quick, nutritious, weeknight dish for two

- 1 crown broccoli
- ½ cup walnut halves (coarsely chopped if desired)
- 2 tablespoons olive oil
- ½ box whole grain spinach spaghetti, or 2 servings of pasta of choice
- ½ jar Alfredo sauce, or 8 oz homemade
- 1 cup sliced baby Portabella mushrooms
- 1-2 pre-baked/left-over chicken breasts
- 1 chopped tomato
- Fresh basil and Parmesan to taste



Preheat oven to 425 °F. Wash the broccoli and cut it into manageable florets. In a 9x9 baking dish, toss the broccoli and walnuts with olive oil until evenly coated. Roast for 10-15 minutes or until tender-crisp (not limp or brown-green). Meanwhile, boil water and cook pasta as per package instructions. Warm Alfredo sauce in a medium-sized saucepan and stir in sliced mushrooms. Slice chicken breast (1-2 depending on your preference) into bite-sized strips and add to Alfredo sauce. Salt and pepper to taste. Let simmer until mushrooms are soft and chicken is thoroughly warmed.

Arrange cooked pasta on plates or large shallow bowls. Top with roasted broccoli and walnuts and pour Alfredo over, evenly distributing mushrooms and chicken. Layer with fresh tomato, basil, and Parmesan if desired.

Submitted by Lydia Spotts

Help Needed to Deliver the Newsletter

We need to find someone willing to deliver the newsletter for Sanders, Morris, and Prospect Streets from East Street east to the Interstate. Anyone willing to do this please contact Lydia Brasher at 636-0831 or lydia.brasher@gmail.com.

Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association

The Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association strives to improve the quality of life of those living in the neighborhood through efforts to assure safety, to maintain or improve the living environment, and to enhance the spirit of cooperation and neighborliness among all residents. We meet monthly on the first Monday of the month at the Immanuel United Church of Christ at the corner of East and Prospect at 6:30 p.m. Annual dues are \$3 for individuals, \$5 for families, and \$25 for businesses. Please mail dues to Emily Vanest, 720 Sanders, Indianapolis, IN 46203.

Monthly Calendar



- July 1, 8, 15, & 22** Thursdays in July: Garden Stories, 2-3pm, FREE, Garfield Park Conservatory. Bring a blanket or lawn chair and relax in the shade while enjoying a story show-and-tell in the Garden. Ages 3-12.
- July 1, 8, 15, & 22** Thursdays in July: Family Scavenger Hunt, 3-5pm, FREE, Garfield Park Conservatory. Stop by the Conservatory and pick up a Family Scavenger Hunt. This hunt will send you all over the grounds with your eyes peeled. Bring your finished hunt back and receive a prize! All Ages.
- July 3** Film Series: American Teen, 2pm, Fountain Square Library.
- July 4** Regions Bank Freedom Blast, 9:45pm, FREE. Fireworks launched off the top of the Regions bank building in downtown Indianapolis.
- July 7** G-Force (movie), 6:00pm, Fountain Square Library.
- July 8** Afternoon Book Discussion, 1:30pm, Fountain Square Library. This month's book is "God Never Blinks: 50 Lessons for Life's Little Detours" by Regina Brett.
- July 10** Backyard Naturalist, 1:30-2:30pm, \$5 (includes admission for 1 child + adult), Garfield Park Conservatory. Come learn about the different wildlife that can be found right in your backyard habitat. Afterwards, see live bugs in the Backyard Butterflies and Bugs display. Ages: 6-12.
- July 12** **Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 6:30-7:30pm.**
- July 14** Monsters vs. Aliens (movie), 6:00pm, Fountain Square Library.
- July 22** Southeast Congress at Immanuel United Church of Christ, 7-9pm.