

2011
September

Bates-Hendricks Newsletter



September Meeting is a Cookout in Hendricks Park

On Monday, September 12 at 6:30pm, the Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association will host its September meeting at the shelter house at Hendricks Park at the corner of Madison Avenue and Orange Street. While there will be some brief reports, the focus of the meeting will be good food and getting to know your neighbors. The Association will provide hot dogs, drinks, and paper products. You can bring a side dish or dessert, a lawn chair, and a good appetite. Bring a neighbor too! The October 3rd meeting will be at 6:30pm at Immanuel United Church of Christ, as usual.



Paint the Town in Bates-Hendricks Again

Paint the Town will be painting two homes on Saturday, September 24 in partnership with Southeast Neighborhood Development's (SEND) revitalization effort in the Bates-Hendricks neighborhood and they need your help!

Paint the Town is in its second year in Indianapolis and they have already painted seven homes in the Southeast area. Painting houses and removing dangerous peeling paint will help improve the neighborhood and bring the community together. Paint the Town has identified homeowners that

are in need of a fresh coat of paint and for a number of reasons have been unable to complete the project on their own. Paint the Town will provide volunteers, supplies, and expertise to homeowners in order to repaint their home's exterior. Please sign up to help between 12:30 and 5:00pm on Saturday, September 24!



Contact Matt Impink at (317) 345-8988 or mrimpink@gmail.com to sign up.

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Bates-Hendricks 2011 Abandoned Housing Report

Every August for the past three years, Bates-Hendricks residents have fanned out across the neighborhood to identify, count, and rate the vacant and abandoned housing in our neighborhood. This information has allowed us to create an annual “dirty thirty” list of worst properties as well as keep abreast of trends in our neighborhood. In addition, it has positioned us to better inform and influence City policy around demolition and rehabilitation in our neighborhood. Based on the recent survey, we can draw many conclusions about housing trends.



In August of 2010, there were 195 vacant or abandoned houses in our neighborhood. In the past year:

- 10 were rehabbed, repaired, and are now occupied.
- 7 were rehabbed and are awaiting occupancy.
- 15 are in the process of being rehabbed.
- 13 were demolished.
- 48 are occupied, though some were not repaired.

All in all, 93 of the original 195 had some positive movement. 122 remain vacant or abandoned.

This August, we found 211 vacant and abandoned houses, with 89 houses becoming vacant or abandoned in the past twelve months. With 96 becoming vacant or abandoned in the previous year, this was a slight improvement. Of the present 211 vacant or abandoned houses:

- 66 are in serious disrepair.
- 69 are in some disrepair.
- 76 are vacant, but in repair.

Of these 211 vacant and abandoned houses, 17 are scheduled to be demolished in the next six months. This will mean we will have had 30 homes demolished in our neighborhood in eighteen months.

While demolition is a very sad answer to our housing crisis, the fact that we have 66 houses in serious disrepair suggests it may be a necessary evil for several years. Our biggest challenge is addressing the 145 vacant or abandoned houses that are not in serious disrepair yet.

One way to do this is through the SEND Transfer and Transform program which allows residents and developers to buy city properties for \$3,500 as long as they rehab the house within eighteen months. SEND has already completed this transaction on three Bates-Hendricks properties. Those interested in seeing the list of potential homes can find the list at www.sendcdc.org.

For more information about the abandoned housing program or the Transfer and Transform program, contact Jim Mulholland at jim@sendcdc.org, or call 503-5852.

Southeast Indianapolis We Care Pledge



On July 28, the Southeast Neighborhood Congress unveiled a new program to address trash and litter in our neighborhoods. The We Care Campaign is a resident-driven campaign to improve and maintain the beauty and appearance of Southeast neighborhoods' yards, streets, and alleys through regular maintenance and monitoring. It reminds residents that they are legally responsible for maintaining and cleaning their property from the middle of the street to the middle of the alley.

We Care focuses on trash and litter control, cleaning curbs, unblocking storm drains, maintaining yards, and keeping sidewalks unobstructed.

Participants sign a simple pledge promising to pick up trash daily, clean curbs weekly, unblock storm drains, and maintain yards and sidewalks. Participants receive a window decal, sign, or garden sign to proclaim their care for their neighborhood. By proclaiming their commitment, they encourage other residents to join the campaign.

Those interested in participating in the campaign can download a petition from the Bates-Hendricks website at bateshendricks.org/news or contact Jim Mulholland at 503-5852 for a pledge.

Art Squared

September 17, 11:00am to 6:00pm.

The Fountain Square Arts Council (FSAC) presents Art Squared, bringing together three fun, cultural experiences including Masterpiece in a Day, Fountain Square Art Fair, and the Fountain Square Art Parade all in one day and free to the public.



MAKE ART. Make art, make music, make up a story or poem, and win cash prizes at Masterpiece in a Day. Participating is easy (and FREE)! Bring your art supplies, your instrument, or your favorite pencil (or laptop). Categories this year include Visual Arts, Music, Writing, and Youth. The Fountain Square Arts Council is giving away over \$3,000 in prizes (including parade entries) to winning participants. Registration begins at 9:00am at Wheeler Arts Community (1035 Sanders Street) in Fountain Square. Details and registration information can be found at discoverfountainsquare.com/masterpiece.

BUY ART. Dozens of artists and crafters will be selling arts and crafts. Are you an artist with something to sell? Register now for one of the City's emerging art fairs with one of the lowest registration fees, \$70, at discoverfountainsquare.com/artfair. The fair runs from 11:00am to 5:00pm.

BE ART. Join the Fountain Square Art Parade and be a part of a moving work of art. Build a float, wear an outfit, and make a statement. Or just watch the art move...and maybe even move you. The parade starts after Masterpiece in a Day, so there's no reason not to participate in both events. The rules are simple: whatever you do has to be family-friendly and has to be able to move along the entire parade route. The parade begins at 5:00pm and concludes with the announcements of the day's winners at 6:00pm. \$1,000 in cash prizes will be awarded. Register at discoverfountainsquare.com/artparade.

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 6:30pm. 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

- Sept 9-10 & 16-17** The Garfield Shakespeare Company, a volunteer community theatre group, will present Hamlet at Garfield Park's historic MacAllister Amphitheater, 2432 Conservatory Drive. Shows begin at 8:00pm, Free.
- Sept 11** Indy Parks free outdoor concert series, Watkins Park, 2360 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Johnny Dial & Friends, 4:00pm.
- Sept 12** **Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association Cookout, 6:30pm, Hendricks Park, 1313 Madison Avenue.**
- Sept 17** Art Squared (Masterpiece in a Day, Fountain Square Art Fair, and the Fountain Square Art Parade), Fountain Square, 11:00am to 6:00pm, Free. More information on page 3.
- Sept 24** Indy Parks free outdoor concert series, Garfield Park Sunken Garden, 2505 Conservatory Drive, "Music in the Garden" featuring the Indianapolis Jazz Orchestra. Concert begins at 5:30pm.
- Sept 24** Paint the Town painting in Bates-Hendricks, 12:30pm to 5:00pm. More information on page 1.
- Sept 25** Indy Parks free outdoor concert series, Watkins Park, 2360 Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Street, Clifford Ratliff & The Indy Jazz Company, 4:00pm.

