

2016
February

Bates-Hendricks Newsletter



Chili Cook-Off February 20 at The Hinge Bureau



Our next Bates-Hendricks Chili Cook-Off fundraiser will be Saturday, **February 20 from 11:30am to 1:30pm at The Hinge Bureau** (719 Virginia Ave, Suite 101) – same place as last year. The cost to attend and taste the chilis is \$5, which includes a beverage. Admission is only \$3 for children 12 and under.

We're still looking for more contestants to enter their chili. The entrance fee is \$10, and that includes the tastings and beverage. To find out more info and to enter your chili, send a message to chilicookoff@bateshendricks.org.

As usual, we plan on having **raffle prizes and prizes for the winners**, including gift certificates to Mama Irma, La Margarita, New Day Craft, and more! Our prize categories are Best Red Chili, Best White Chili, Best Vegetarian Chili, People's Choice Chili, and Best Decorated Table.

Proceeds benefit the Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association, which uses the funds for projects to better the neighborhood.

Info About BlueIndy at Next Association Meeting

Lance Boehmer, Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association's vice president, has recently taken a job at BlueIndy as their new Marketing Manager, where he will lead the organization's community outreach efforts. At the February neighborhood association meeting, Lance will be speaking to the group about how this all-new electric car share service works as well as answer questions.



BlueIndy, Indianapolis' all-electric Car Sharing service is making trips around the city easier than ever. With 70 stations currently and 140 more to come in 2016, BlueIndy offers you a convenient, affordable, and reliable way to get from point A to B.

Did you know that it can cost more than \$11,000 per year just to own a private vehicle? Residents and families living in Indianapolis that have dropped one car and are now using BlueIndy are saving on average more than \$6,000 per year. Think about it: no car payments, free reserved parking at nearly 200 destinations around Indianapolis, airport access (coming early February), vehicles available 24/7, and trips that cost less than a large latte at your local coffee shop!

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The Lincoln Center is Looking for Volunteers

by Brandon Mott

Here at The Lincoln Center, we run After School Programs Monday-Thursday almost all school year. It is a great opportunity for us to give to our neighbors and also for the kids to have a safe, fun place to go after school. With the after school time being a time when a large percentage of kids in our neighborhood are unattended, this program has become very popular. As its popularity has increased, we are beginning to reach our capacity.



We currently have too high a kid-to-adult volunteer ratio. We knew this might become a problem because people are still working at this time, which creates the unattended kids after school problem in the first place. Anyway, all that said, if you or anyone you know would enjoy hanging out with kids for even one hour a week we would LOVE your help. Our time of greatest need is 4:30pm-5:30pm Mon.-Thurs. During this time, we do games, snacks, crafts, and lessons. If you're interested, please call or e-mail Brandon: 840-6702 or brandon@dathouse.org.

Snow Removal

According to the Municipal Code of Indianapolis (Sec. 431-106), property owners and occupants are responsible for keeping sidewalks clear of snow and ice, but it's also just a good, neighborly thing to do. Many people rely on walking and transit as their primary way to get around, and without a wide, clear path through snow and ice, it is especially difficult for people with disabilities, seniors, and children to walk safely. We are all pedestrians and benefit from having a safe, clear, and continuous path to travel.

The Code also stipulates when snow should be removed. If the snow stops falling after 7:00pm, you have until 9:00am the next morning to clear the sidewalk. If the snow stops falling after 9:00am, you have until 7:00pm that evening to clear the sidewalk. You should clear a 5-foot-wide path along the sidewalk, where conditions allow.

Individuals and businesses who do not comply with the sidewalk snow removal ordinance can technically face fines of \$50, but in practice that probably won't happen. Violations can be reported to the Mayor's Action Center through RequestIndy or by calling (317) 327-4622, but please consider helping your neighbor with the snow removal instead.

Indy Snow Force's mission is to keep the City's streets passable and safe for driving (note that they won't plow neighborhood streets with less than 6" of snow). As a result of plowing, snow from travel lanes may be thrown in sidewalks and yards. If a property owner has made every effort to clear his or her sidewalk in accordance with the Code, that property owner will be considered in compliance.

You can keep track of the real-time snow removal on city streets with the Indy Snow Force Viewer at: maps.indy.gov/IndySnowForceViewer

Letter from the President

With almost 15 years of living in downtown Indianapolis, I know that urban living isn't always perfect, but I've learned a few simple tricks to make it easier. Broken Window Theory (BWT) and Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) discuss many simple ways that slight changes to our surroundings can have big effects.

BWT is about the way you maintain the environment around you. The thought behind Broken Window Theory is that when broken windows are left in disrepair for a long time, vandals are more likely to break more windows and cause additional property damage. Have you ever noticed when you see one piece of graffiti that it builds upon itself? More and more graffiti will be layered on that, yet on the next building where there is no graffiti, no one bothers it. It's the same idea. How does this apply to us as neighbors? When you see a house with a broken window (or other damage), let the owner know. If you can't get ahold of the property owner, report it through RequestIndy (maps.indy.gov/RequestIndy or download the app for iOS or Android) or call the Mayors Action Center (327-4622). On a smaller level, when you see trash on the streets, pick it up. Similarly, areas with trash strewn about are more likely to have passersby throw trash on the ground as well.

CPTED goes further by addressing more proactive methods for creating a safer environment. For example, think about lines of sight. If you have tall and overgrown bushes, this leaves plenty of space for people to hide. Similarly, trees can be trimmed-up to provide easy sight lines, allowing you to see what's going on around you. Generally, you want to keep bushes 3 to 4 feet tall and trees no lower than 5 feet, allowing the ability to see what's going on. Privacy fences can become a potential area of issue as well. Once someone gets behind the fence, they can have all day to work their way into a building with no one seeing them. Next, think about lighting at night. Not only should you have exterior lights keeping the area around you well lit, but make sure you don't inadvertently cause blind spots with the lighting where people can hide.

Another useful tool that many neighbors have been implementing along with the above strategies is the use of cameras. A few neighbors in Bates-Hendricks have offered their services in understanding the different types of cameras and some guidance for installing them. If you're interested in having help, contact Laura at security@bateshendricks.org. Remember, the best way to stay safe is to stay visible. Using these simple strategies helps you, your neighbors, and security cameras catch everything happening in the neighborhood. However, if trees, bushes, or tall fences impede your ability to see, then all the people and cameras in the world won't be able to catch a criminal!

In addition to these tips, we can do simple things with our cars too. Keeping valuables in the house rather than the car (or in the trunk when necessary) is a great first step. Also, even though it's winter out, don't leave your car running and unlocked on the street. This becomes a very easy target for criminals since the keys are already in the ignition! Finally, for those with convertibles, keep your doors unlocked. While it's never fun for someone to go through your car, it's even worse for them to do it through the top!

Of course we won't be able to stop everything, but the more common-sense security measures we take, the safer our neighborhood will be!



BHNA President, John Winter

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 Laura Tease, 402 Orange Street, Indianapolis, IN 46225. More information about the neighborhood can be found online at bateshendricks.org.



Like Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association on Facebook!
www.facebook.com/bateshendricks

Newsletters Online

This newsletter and previous newsletters available online at bateshendricks.org/news

Monthly Calendar

- Feb 1** Bates-Hendricks Neighborhood Association Meeting, 6:30pm, Immanuel United Church of Christ.
- Feb 6** Make and Take Valentines, Garfield Park Conservatory, 11:00am to Noon, \$5, ages 3-10. Make unique Valentine's Day cards using natural materials.
- Feb 11** Afternoon Book Discussion, Fountain Square Library, 1:30pm, adults only. The book to be discussed is "The Poor With Me" by Philip E. Johnston, MD, who will be in attendance to discuss the book.
- Feb 12 & 26** Senior Euchre, The Burrello Family Center at Garfield Park, 1:00pm, Free or \$1 to play in prize fund.
- Feb 12 & 26** Friday Night Swing Dance, Fountain Square Theatre (1111 Prospect Street), 7:30pm to 11:30pm, Lesson & Dance: \$12, Dance only: \$10, all ages. Beginning dance lesson with Naptown Stomp from 7:30pm to 8:30pm, with live entertainment from 8:30pm to 11:30pm. Cash bar available.
- Feb 13** Tribute to Dr. Seuss Magic Show, Fountain Square Library, 3:30pm. Children of all ages and families are invited to celebrate the wonderful worlds created by Dr. Seuss in this magical tribute show presented by magician Don Miller. Registration required.
- Feb 14** Southeast Community Services Fire & Ice Fundraiser Dinner, Biltwell Event Center (950 S. White River Parkway West Drive), 5:00pm to 8:00pm. Visit the website for details and to purchase tickets: secsfireandice.eventbrite.com. RSVP deadline is February 8.
- Feb 14** Sweets for Your Sweetie, Garfield Park Conservatory, Session 1: 6:30pm to 8:00pm, Session 2: 8:00pm to 9:30pm, \$10, adults only. Celebrate Valentine's Day with treats from the tropics including chocolate and coffee, all while enjoying the candlelit romantic atmosphere of the Conservatory. Reserve by February 12.
- Feb 20** Bates-Hendricks Chili Cook-Off fundraiser, The Hinge Bureau, 11:30am to 1:30pm. See page 1 for details.
- Feb 22** Parent and Preschooler Yoga, Fountain Square Library, 11:00am. Preschoolers and their parents are invited to enjoy the health benefits that yoga can offer during this 45-minute program presented by certified yoga instructors from the Greater Indianapolis YMCA.
- Feb 27** Herb of the Year: Ornamental Peppers, Garfield Park Conservatory, 10:00am to 11:00am, \$5, adults only. Join the Herb Society of Central Indiana in celebrating the herb of the year: ornamental peppers! Learn all about gardening this plant and its uses. Each participant will go home with a seeded pot of peppers.
- Feb 27** Grow a Plant Pal, Garfield Park Conservatory, 2:00pm to 3:00pm, \$5, ages 3-12. Green-up the indoors this winter and make a grassy plant pal for your windowsill. Decorate and plant your "pet" and take it home to grow green hair that you can cut and style. Registration required.

